



Another Lebanese leader interviewed is the nationalist parliament member Najah Wakim who had this to say: «The Palestinian cause is much older in years than the Palestinian people, the Palestinian people are greater in number than the Palestinian resistance and the Palestinian resistance is greater than any single organization. The issue of Palestine is not looked upon through the actions of an individual or any single organization. The issue here is greater than mere violations. Unfortunately, some people consider some non-nationalist positions as just violations. The Palestinian people must not be subjected to restriction. We must seek a permanent coordinating relation between the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese national forces, based on one joint nationalist responsibility.»

Concerning the Palestinian revolution operating in Lebanon, he said: «We are one revolution this principle should not be put for discussion. The Palestinian movement should be rather free to do so. On the other hand, Palestinian national forces must refuse the tribal relations with any Palestinian figure. For instance Abu Ammar is bribing people to achieve his own goals and create sectarian conflicts in Lebanon. The Palestinian people must be organized. The true revolutionary organizations should not be prevented from their work but rather encouraged to move closer to the areas where Palestinian masses are found. This ought to be achieved through the coordination and dialogue with the Lebanese national forces. The true revolutionary forces in the Palestinian revolution should struggle against any wrong practices and reject any tribal practices. No one is allowed to impose tutelage on others. No one should impose security on the camps. When we have a good Lebanese state the crimes will be fought in the camp as well as all neighbourhoods of Beirut. This is a police task, the political task is the responsibility of the Palestinian revolution.»

On the question of the PLO office in Beirut, Wakim answered: «What steps did the PLO take to reopen its office? This is its right, but what had it done for it?» To what extent does this right concern it? To what extent is it really concerned about the Palestinian people in Lebanon? When the Palestinian people were subjected to the most humiliating treatment and had no jobs, what did the PLO do? Many were full time workers in the PLO. What did the PLO do for them? As conflicts intensified in the Palestinian revolution, who paid attention to the Palestinian people? I support the presence of the Palestinian revolution in Lebanon to fight. However, I would like to ask, who really remained in the PLO office in Beirut? The defeatists, the person in charge of the office fled whenever a problem arose, instead of defending the people and their rights.

If the decision to open the PLO office was mine, I would be willing to open my house for the PLO. However if the decision was with Amin Gemayel, then Abu Ammar and Abu Iyad are closer friends to him and should work to resolve it.»

Occupied Palestine

The Day of Um al-Fahm

Wednesday the 29th of August marked another historical day of resistance by our Palestinian masses under occupation. This was the day Meir Kahane, head of the racist extremist Kach movement decided to march into the Arab town of Um al-Fahm. Kahane and about 200 of his supporters, some of whom were armed tried to force their way in to attack the 23,000 residents of this town.

Um al-Fahm, which Kahane calls the «viper nest», is the initial target of the newly elected Knesset member, who plans to expel all Arabs from Palestine through terrorist activities. Soon after his election which gave him a parliamentary immunity for his terrorism and fascism,

Kahane renewed his plans to set up an «emigration office» in Um al-Fahm to «persuade» the residents to leave their village.

Al Fajr weekly reported in its issues of August 10, and 31 that over 10,000 Palestinians along with thousands of progressive Jews gathered in the town to prevent Kahane from entering. The protesters marched through the town which observed a general strike and gathered in the football stadium to hear solidarity speeches in support of the Arab-Jewish coexistence and against racism.

The Mayor of the town, Hashem Mahamid spoke in both Hebrew and Arabic, thanked the participants and

affirmed that Kahane would not drive the people of Um al-Fahm out of their homes. He later told *Al-Fajr*: «We name this historical day 'the Day of Um al-Fahm' in which our people achieved a great victory. This day will be commemorated by both Palestinian people and Jewish anti-fascist forces.»

Several speakers pointed out that Kahane was a symptom of a deeper Israeli social problem. Gush Emunim's Moshe Levinger, Tehiya's Geula Kohen and Yuval Ne'eman, former army chiefs of staff Rafael Eitan, Likud MK Ariel Sharon, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and former PM Menachem Begin were all castigated for their part in creating a situation where Kahane could receive