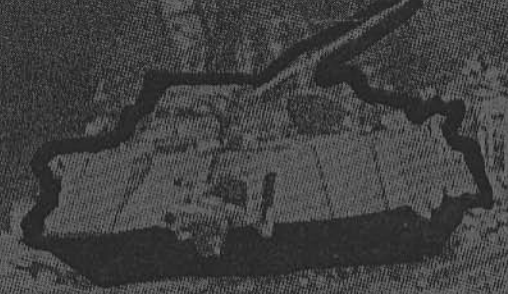


two bucks
anti-copyright



send fan mail to:
p.o. box 71357
pittsburgh, pa 15213
jallayalla@hotmail.com



yalla

727

يالا



Mar Haba

I just spent the months of January and February 2002 in Israel and Palestine. The exact day that I left, the situation rapidly deteriorated. I hope this zine will provide insight about the daily lives of Palestinians, living under a brutal occupation. We say apartheid, colonialism, zionism or whatever you want to call the oppression that plagues all Palestinians. We took part in direct actions, did undercover reporting, international observing, drank a whole lot of tea and ate a whole lot of felafel. We even got the Israeli government to pay for our trip by going on a free zionist propaganda trip and then extending our flights to experience the occupation firsthand. obviously we could never know what it feels like to live in the occupied territories. We were able to see the tanks and soldiers stationed right in the middle of towns and cities. In the following pages you will find information about Ramallah, Hebron, Bethlehem, Gaza, border crossings, checkpoints, home demolitions, Jerusalem/AlQuds, settlements, Israeli peace groups, Zionism, Birthright, Int'l groups, army refusal, U.S. aid to Israel, apartheid in S. Africa and Israel, book reviews, olive trees, collective punishment, holocaust parallels, the right of return, basic arabic, basic history of the conflict, corporations invested in Israel, settler violence and more!

Unless otherwise noted I wrote everything in here. I did most of the drawings and took many of the photos. The other photos like the cover come from Arab newspapers or the internet. Unfortunately most of our film is in Israel at the time but when we get it back we are making a multimedia slide show about the occupation. If you like this zine please contact me and i'll tell you what's up with our other projects.

Ma Salam,
And A. Lusía

welcome to palestine

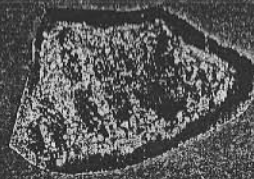
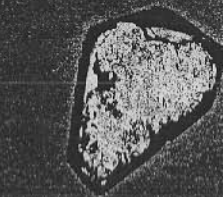
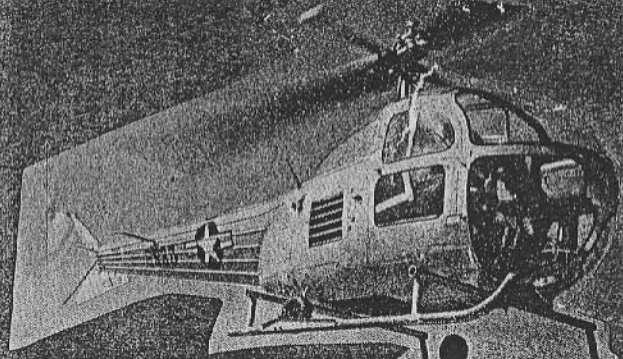
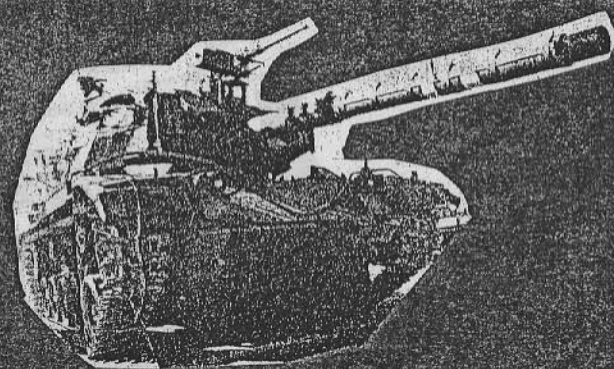
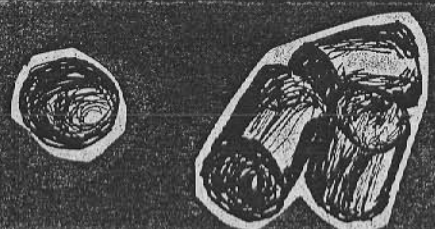


12/18/04

hello,
so this is the third update of this zine. i was copying it recently and felt that i couldnt publish a zine about palestine without talking about the apartheid wall. so i included stories from my friend jonas who worked with ism in areas affected by the wall. i also added a few more websites, updated history and included awesome sten stencils done by erik ruin. since making this zine three years ago i have raised a bunch of money that i donated to the international womens peace service that worked in the village of hares in the west bank all proceeds will continue to be donated to various palestinian projects. if you like this zine- please photocopy and spread far and wide. please contact me if you would like a flat copy that would be easier to copy.

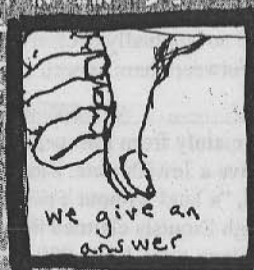
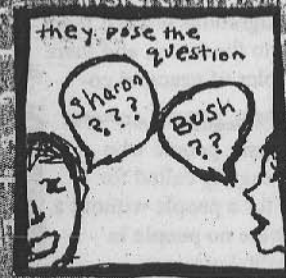
shalom,
andalusia

Battle of the Rock



Beginner's Arabic

With the following words and phrases we were able to get by (kind of) and extend our friendships beyond the usual conversation which went like this:



HELLO -Mar Haba GOODBYE-ma salam GOOD MORNING -sabach al heir
 HOW ARE YOU?-kif halak ? GOOD kwayiss praise be god-HAMDILLILAH
 HOWT GOOD-mish kwayis SO SO-nos nos 100%- mella mella
 WHERE ARE YOUR FROM?-inta min wen? HOW OLD ARE YOU?-kam homrak/?
 WHAT IS YOUR NAME? shu is mach/mich MY NAME IS-isme
 WHO-non WHAT-shu/esh WHEN-mata WHERE-wen WHY- leesh HOW-kif/kam
 THANKYOU shukran YOURWELCOME-afwan SORRY-maleeshEXCUSEME-mih fadlik
 ME-ana YOU-inta/inti WE-nachnu HE- hoa SHE- heeya
 I LOVE YOU ana behebek I HATE - ana bakra AND-wa IN-fi I WANT-ana bidi
 FIX BIKES Ana besela bisculet/ajulet I'M A JOURNALIST ana sufahi
 REALLY-walla ENOUGH-halas YES-ahwa NO-la LET'S GOZHURRY/LEAVE_ yalla
 CRAZY-majnun BEAUTIFUL -hellwue DELICIOUS-zakIGENEROUS- arzin
 FRIEND-sedik STUDENT-talib FATHER-abu MOTHER-mama BOY-walad GIRL-bingt
 WHITE-abiad BLACK-aswad RED-achmar GREEN-achdar
 Political words: INTIFADA-to shake off AL NAQBA - the tragedy (1948)
 SHEBAB- a group of boys usually the ones who throw HUGER -stone
 SHEHID-one who dies in struggle HARAM-forbidden can be used to
 describe a tragedy INSHALA-god willing/we'll see ~~debeo~~ tank
 FOOD: TEA-shay COFFEE awya BREAD BY THE FIRE- hobiz taboon
 WITHOUT MEAT -bedoon lachme FOOD-ochel LEFTOVERS-fadalat
 I DON'T UNDERSTAND- mish faheem I DON'T KNOW - marafshi
 I AM GOING TO NEW YORK TOMORROW- ana reja NY bukra
 1 wahad TRUTH_hekika JOKE-nuchta
 2 tenin little-schwai scarf-kafiya
 3 talata
 4 arba
 5 hameh
 6 sitted
 7 saba
 8 temanyeh
 9 tesha
 10 esharah
 20 eshreen

DISCLAIMER: this is mostly palestinian arabic with soem words in an egyptian accent things are probably spelled wrong but hey that's how we learned it. dont worry if people don't understand you they'll still find it endearing that you are tryngt to speak arabic.

HeBrew:: LEFTOVERS - sheeriot (very useful word at closing time at the market)
 I AM A BAG LADY - ani geverot saquiot DUMPSTER/DOG -tzfardea
 I DON'T GIVE A FUCK- lo sama zain (also means i don't pull a dick)
 wow-wawaweeho goodmorning-boker tov goodnight-lailatov
 vegan-tivonim

History of Palestine/Israel

1918: the British take over what we know now as Israel, Palestine, and Jordan from the Turkish Empire. Britain promises both Palestinians and Jews a state in the land of Israel/Palestine (*One Land, Two Peoples*; Germer). For the next 30 years, there are significant migrations of both Jews and Arabs (these terms are not mutually exclusive) into the region and there are many violent clashes between them as well examples of peaceful co-existence.

The Jewish migrations are mainly from European Zionists, people who believe that Jews should have a Jewish state. Zionists eagerly called for Jews to immigrate to Israel, "a land without a people, for a people without a land." However, even though Zionists claimed there were no people in Israel there were. In 1948, there were 1,300,000 Arabs/Palestinians (Question of Palestine 14-15), and like the pre-48 Jews, Palestinians have never had a state.

1948: (see map on next page) Britain pulls out. The UN devises a Partition plan that divides what we now know as Israel into two states: a Jewish state and a Palestinian state, Jerusalem is an international city. Immediately a war breaks out, Syria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, and Lebanon, attack arguing that Israel has no right to exist. Israel purges the Arabs within its borders, burning villages and attacking civilians. At the end of the war, Israel controls 77% of the land of Israel/Palestine, Jordan and Egypt control the rest. 1 million Palestinian refugees spread throughout the Middle East (Nasser Ibrahim and Dr. Mag'ed Nasser, "Theses on Globalisation and the Palestinian Resistance." *News from Within* vol xix, No. 8, January 2002) and 120,000-150,000 Palestinian Arabs remain in Israel (Germer).

1956: Egypt nationalizes the Suez Canal. Israel, France, and Britain attack. The UN with US support calls for a ceasefire and sends in peace forces.

1967: After high tensions between Israel and its neighbors, Israel attacks Egypt and Syria and Jordan joins. This is referred to as the Six Day War. Israel has a resounding victory and takes over Golan Heights from Syria in the North, the West Bank from Jordan in the East, and the Gaza Strip from Egypt in the South. Right wing Israelis take over land in the Occupied Territory, in what is known as settlements or colonies, with Israel's economic and military support.

1973: Egypt and Syria attack Israel on Yom Kippur, the Jewish High Holiday. After significant Egyptian and Syrian gains, Israel fights back and restores pre-73 borders. US Aid to Israel is increased. Arab nations in OPEC implement refuse to sell to the US and US goes through oil crisis.

1979: the political leaders of Egypt, Israel, and the US meet at Camp David. Egypt and Israel sign a peace plan. Israel pulls out of the Sinai and makes vague promises of Palestinian "autonomy."

1970: Jordan attacks Palestinians in an effort to quell anti-Jordanian as well as anti-Israeli resistance.



Written by a political science prof at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, this book analyzes Israeli culture in the 90s to identify the cultural devices (myths, contradictions, fantasies, hysterias, etc.) that allow Israelis to ruthlessly oppress Palestinians while feeling OK with themselves. Specific examples include the device of rubber bullets they really hurt and kill, but Zionists can feel they are being humane and so Israelis are doing the "civilized" thing by using them.

Said, Edward W. *The end of the peace process : Oslo and after* / Edward W. Said. New York : Pantheon Books, c2000. Many different articles about the farce of the peace process and different criticisms of Arafat and the Palestinian Authority.

A very comprehensive bibliography of books on the Middle East compiled by the Christian Peacemakers Team <http://www.prairienet.org/cpt/hebronbibl.php>

Lots of information can also be found on the internet:

Alternative Media:

Al Jazeera - www.aljazeera.com

Alternative information Center www.alternativenews.org/

BBC News- http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/in_depth/middle_east/2001/israel_and_the_palestinians/

Electronic intifada (media criticism amazing articles and links)- www.electronicintifada.org

If Americans Knew www.ifamericansknew.org documents media bias

Indymedia Palestine Jerusalem indymedia.org

Indymedia Israel <https://israel.indymedia.org>

Ha'aretz (Israeli quasi-liberal media) www.haaretzdaily.com/

Human Rights Groups: B'tselem (human rights reports) [b'tselem.org](http://www.b'tselem.org)

LAW (reports on West Bank) <http://www.lawsociety.org/>

Palestinian Center for Human Rights (reports and maps on Gaza)

<http://www.pchrgaza.org/>

Israeli Groups: Gush-Shalom (Israeli peace group) www.gush-shalom.org

Israeli Committee against House demolitions www.icahd.org

Kav la'oved (worker's rights) <http://www.kavlaoved.org.il/>

Ta-ayush (arab-jewish partnership, humanitarian convoys)

<http://taayush.tripod.com/taayush.html>

Re'ut-Sadaka (arab-jewish youth group)

<http://www.israelpages.co.il/reut/>

Things to get involved with:

Palestine right to return coalition <http://www.al-awda.org>

Jews against the Occupation nyc radical jew group www.jatonyc.org

Jewish Friends Of Palestine - <http://www.jewishfriendspalestine.org>

Not in my name (U.S. Jewish Group) <http://www.nimn.org/>

Stop US Tax-funded Aid to Israel Now! (SUSTAIN)

<http://www.sustaincampaign.org/>

Women in Black <http://www.womeninblack.net>

International Solidarity Movement: www.palsolidarity.org

Christian Peacemakers Team <http://www.prairienet.org/cpt/>

Random: Birzeit university in Ramallah Guide to Palestine

Websites <http://www.birzeit.edu/links/>

Foundation for Middle East Peace (good maps) www.fmep.org/maps

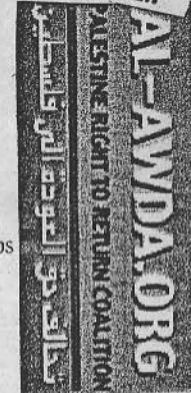
Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of Int'l Affairs Awesome maps

www.passia.org

Army refusal www.couragetorefuse.org

Tom Hurdall site <http://www.tomhurdall.co.uk>

Stop The Wall - www.stophthewall.org great fact sheets and posters



MORE INFORMATION PLEASE!!!!

HOW 'BOUT SOME BOOKS? Reviews by various people

"The New Intifada: Resisting Israel's Apartheid," an excellent new book containing short and very useful articles by Noam Chomsky, Edward Said, Sara Roy, Glen Robinson, Allegra Pacheco, and many others.

"Drinking the Sea at Gaza - Days and Nights in a Land Under Siege" Amira Hass (written in 1996, translated and published by Metropolitan Books (Henry Holt & Co) 1999 - 352 pages)

I usually don't trust books about Palestine, no matter where their from, as no matter how good the material they're usually founded on some confused premise (either accepting Zionism as a legitimate ideology or in taking up a racist/fascist argument under the guise of bringing justice to Palestinians by setting up a Nationalist or undamentalist State). But this is the only book I've read that not only has clear politics I agree with (against capitalism, racism, imperialism, for freeing oppressed people from oppressive conditions) but whose politics come from the everyday experiences of the victims of Zionism and go the distance to indict the whole system, including problems on the Palestinian side. Amira Hass is an Israeli journalist (writes for Ha'aretz) who was born to left-wing Eastern European parents. Amira went to live side-by-side with Palestinians in the Gaza strip, and was very quickly accepted by them. She gives a very readable account of their everyday experiences with occupation, as well as their ideas about themselves, their leaders, Israel, and the so-called Peace Process. Palestinians are really talked about as human beings, not as the two-dimensional characters painted in the mainstream media and leadership of both Israel and the Palestinian Authority (as well as the rest of the West and Arab/Muslim World).

Hebron Journal Stories of Nonviolent Peacemaking by Arthur G. Gish records a moving story of the turmoil and suffering of the Palestinian people, the agony experienced by Israelis, and a vision of hope and new possibilities of reconciliation between Jews, Muslims, and Christians. From 1995 to 2001, Gish, a member of the Christian Peacemaker Team, experiences living with Muslim families, engaging in nonviolent actions with Israelis and Palestinians, and struggling to find creative responses to situations of injustice.

Palestine: A Nation Occupied. Sacco, Joe. Seattle, WA: Fantagraphics Books, 1994. A-mazing!!!! When I read this comic book it gives me the chills because it is so accurate in recreating what it is like to be an American in Palestine learning about the occupation. It focuses a lot on the use of moderate pressure (aka torture.) on administrative detainees. Some cartoons in this zine are from this book

Rubber Bullets - Power and Conscience in Modern Israel Yaron Ezrahi (Published by Farrar, Straus, and Giroux in the US, HarperCollins in Canada, 1997 - 299 pages)



a Don McCullin photo of people in Sabra & Shatila

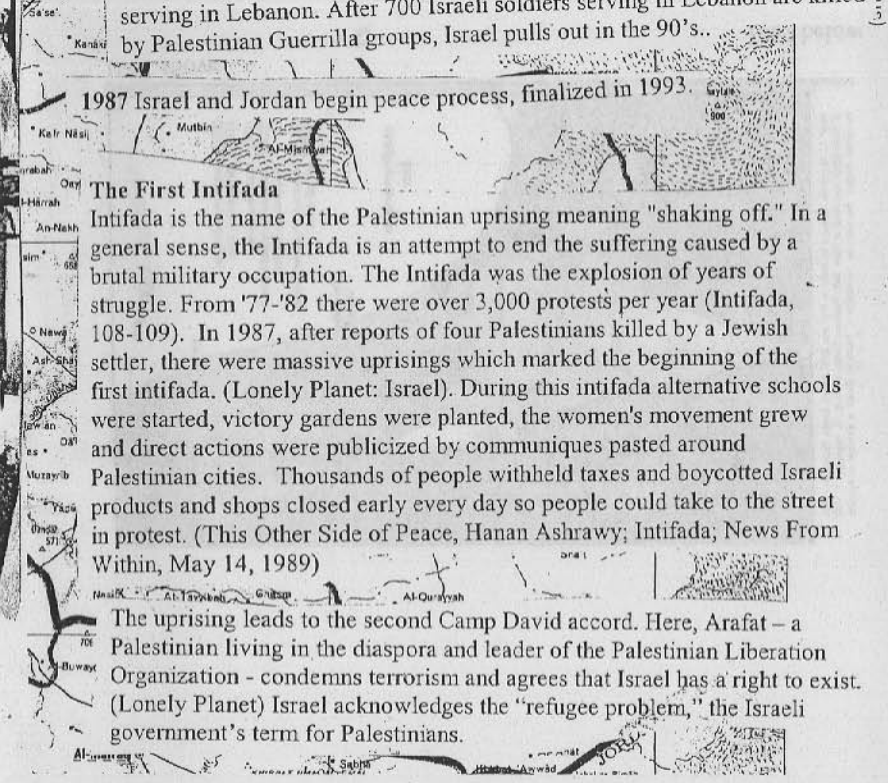
1982: Israel invades Lebanon. It is argued that the invasion was intended to create a buffer zone and force out the PLO from Lebanon. During the initial occupation of Southern Lebanon, the Southern Lebanon Army massacres 1,000 Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatilla refugee camp. An official Israeli governmental committee finds Sharon "indirectly responsible" and called for Israeli compensation of victims. Before and after the massacre, Israel continued to support the army who carried out the massacre. During the 3 month invasion, 15,000-20,000 Palestinians, Lebanese and Syrians die. 500 Israeli soldiers die. (Gerner) After the invasion, Lebanese and Palestinian Guerrilla groups. The main group is Hezbollah and targets Israeli soldiers serving in Lebanon. After 700 Israeli soldiers serving in Lebanon are killed by Palestinian Guerrilla groups, Israel pulls out in the 90's.

1987 Israel and Jordan begin peace process, finalized in 1993.

The First Intifada

Intifada is the name of the Palestinian uprising meaning "shaking off." In a general sense, the Intifada is an attempt to end the suffering caused by a brutal military occupation. The Intifada was the explosion of years of struggle. From '77-'82 there were over 3,000 protests per year (Intifada, 108-109). In 1987, after reports of four Palestinians killed by a Jewish settler, there were massive uprisings which marked the beginning of the first intifada. (Lonely Planet: Israel). During this intifada alternative schools were started, victory gardens were planted, the women's movement grew and direct actions were publicized by communiques pasted around Palestinian cities. Thousands of people withheld taxes and boycotted Israeli products and shops closed early every day so people could take to the street in protest. (This Other Side of Peace, Hanan Ashrawy; Intifada; News From Within, May 14, 1989)

The uprising leads to the second Camp David accord. Here, Arafat - a Palestinian living in the diaspora and leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organization - condemns terrorism and agrees that Israel has a right to exist. (Lonely Planet) Israel acknowledges the "refugee problem," the Israeli government's term for Palestinians.



bring the intifada home.

Target businesses, Zionist organizations, and governments that support the Occupation.

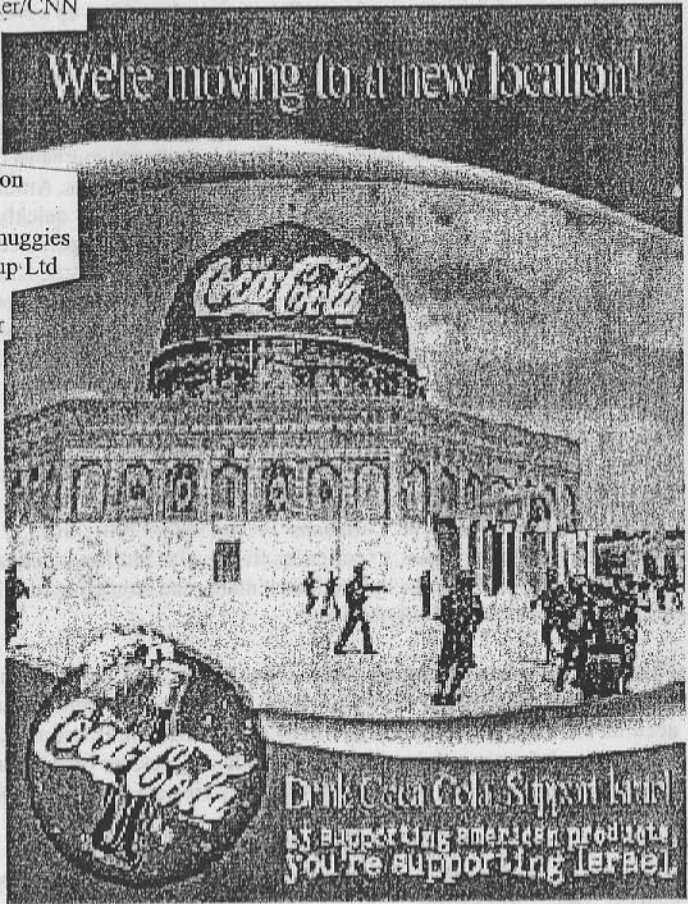
COMPANY LIST

for more info check out:
<http://www.inminds.com/boycott-israel.html>
http://al-awda.org/intel_update.htm



direct action gets the goods

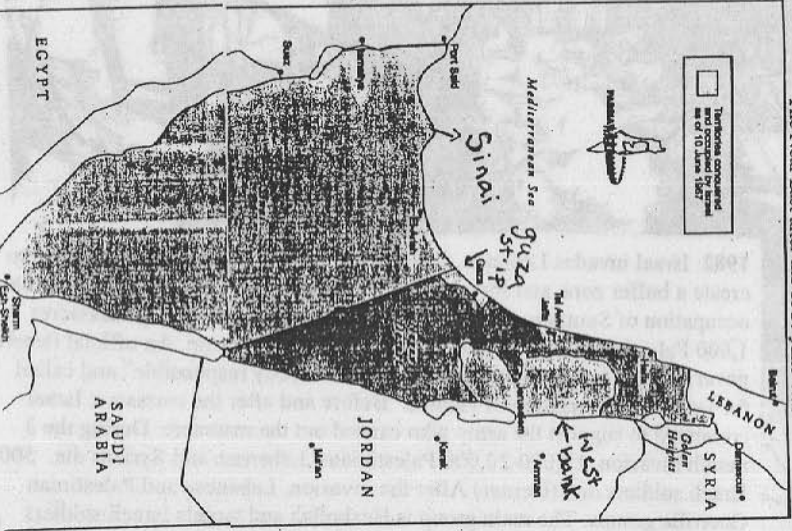
- Apax Partners & Co Ltd
- Sunglass Hut mall chain and Johnny Rockets Restaurant Chain
- Delta Galil
- * Caterpillar* home demolishing armored bulldozers
- marked by sweatshop watch for abuse of Arab workers
- linked to the Gap, J-Crew, Calvin Klien, JCPenney
- The Limited Inc
- Home Depot
- Intel
- News Corporation
- includes fox, new york post, and national geographic
- AOL Time Warner/CNN
- Coca-Cola
- Danone
- Disney
- Estée Lauder
- IBM
- Johnson & Johnson
- Kimberly-Clark
- kleenex, kotex, huggies
- Lewis Trust Group Ltd
- L'Oreal
- Marks & Spencer
- Nestle
- Nokia
- Revlon
- Sara Lee
- Selfridges



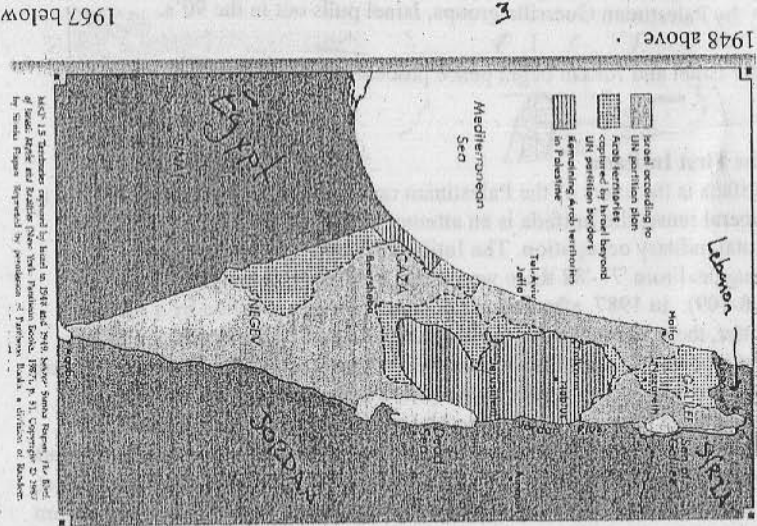
WE'RE MOVING TO A NEW LOCATION
Drink Coca-Cola. Support Israel.
By supporting american products
you're supporting Israel.

This is a real advertisement. Coca-Cola has given the Dome of the Rock – the holiest Muslim sight in Israel/Palestine – a makeover.

this map shows Sinai, Gaza, the West Bank and Golan Heights which were all occupied in 1967. Sinai is now part of Egypt but the rest is still occupied



The Near East after the 1967 June War



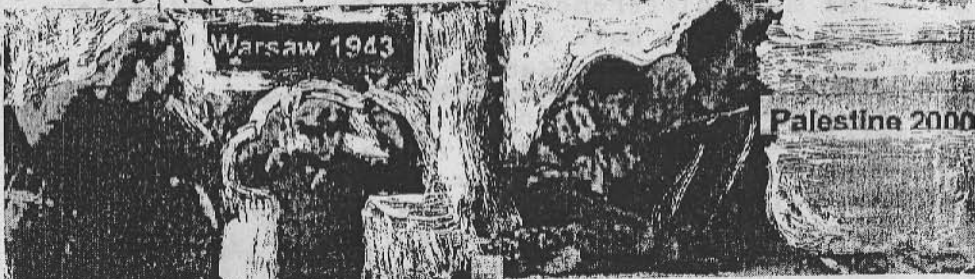
1948 above 1967 below

Map from Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of Intl Affairs (PASSIA)

NAZIS IN Germany

- Belief in the superiority OF the Aryan race
- Displaced Jews, Queers, radicals & disabled people
- Concentration Camps (Death Camps)
- Being detained for being Jewish or non-Aryan
- Militarization of young men
- Denial of the existence of Jews
- Jews were killed in gas chambers
- Thousands of Jews imprisoned in Warsaw Ghetto

compiled by Neo Havok



Zionists in Israel

- Belief in the "Jewish State" to which Jews have a "biblical" right
- Displaced Palestinians & Arabs of other nations (Lebanese, i.e.)
- Refugee Camps (Prison Camps)
- Being detained for being Palestinian, Arab, or Muslim
- Compulsory military service for all Israeli Jewish young adults.
- "Palestinians don't exist"
- Palestinian prisoners get gassed in their cells
- Israeli General calls for looking to Warsaw Ghetto as a tactic for containing Palestinians

1993: Oslo Peace Accords

Israel agrees to withdraw from almost all of the Gaza Strip, parts of the West Bank, and hold Palestinian elections. (Lonely Planet) Israel does not follow through. From 1993-1999, settlements increased by 60%, (Edward Said, NYU Medical Center, 12/17), Israeli troops did not decrease. (Edward Said, 12/17), Israel deports democratically elected mayors and dissolved city councils and Jewish terrorists kill other elected officials (Intifada 108-109).

This period also begins a new political structure in the Occupied Territories. Israel sets up and arms the Palestinian Authority (PA). Arafat is "democratically elected" - although many argue that the election was a sham - to head the PA. Many Palestinians say the Israeli government is their biggest enemy and the PA is their second. The West Bank is divided into Areas A, B, and C. Areas A are controlled by the PA although Israel often invades these parts. Area B is under joint Palestinian and Israeli control, and Area C is controlled by Israel.

The Second Intifada. On September 20, 2000, in what many people see as a purposefully provoking act, Right-Winger Ariel Sharon entered the West Bank with an entourage of military and security personnel and visited the Jewish holy site, The Temple Mount. This is also the location of the Muslim Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock. A riot broke out with several Palestinians killed. Riots continued for months and there was a sharp rise in Palestinian bombings and, recently, shootings. The Israeli Government has responded with violent attacks on Palestinians at large. In addition to the increasing of settlements, a surge in home demolitions, and an intensification of closures has occurred. Over 1200 Palestinians and 200 Israelis have been killed during this recent wave of resistance that is known as the Al-Aqsa Intifada.



In March 2002 Israel severely increased air and sea attacks on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In April Sharon declared an all out war.

Faris was killed on 11 November 2000, one week after this photo was taken.

They say rubber bullets don't kill. They lie. When shot at close range to kids heads they do.

The "Generous" Offer

What About That Peace Treaty?

In 2000, Barak of Israel, Arafat of the PA, and Clinton of the US sat down for peace talks that were never resolved. The PA, with wide support from Palestinians, has been calling for an autonomous Palestinian state.

Mainstream Israelis and Israel supporters - including the dominant US media - claim Barak gave Palestinians everything they wanted, yet this is far from the truth. The treaty gave Palestinians 22% of the 1948 borders (Gush-Shalom "Shedding some light on Barak's generous offer"). This included 69 Israeli settlements and by-pass roads that cut the Palestinian area into several pieces. (Gush Shalom and Edward Said, 12/17). 10% of the 22% also remained in "Temporary Israel Control" with no conditions or timeline for it to be handed over. Israel also remained in control of all the borders. Many critics argue that this plan did not offer an autonomous state but set up the conditions for a continuation of the Occupation.

80% Palestinian Control



Dark color is proposed Palestinian control. The light color is Israeli control.

We asked a Israeli teen what she thought of the peace plan. She compared it to a Prison where "the Prisoners compose 98% of the population yet they are still controlled by the guards who are only 2% of the population. This is how life would be for Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza strip if the plan was passed.

April, 2002 Jenin Massacre: Israel launches full scale military operation in the west bank town of Jenin. Media is barred from entering and therefore no official body count has been declared although some estimate it to be almost 200 people.

June, 2002: Israel begins construction of its 730 km "separation barrier"/apartheid wall annexing Palestinian land and resources in the West Bank. It's projected budget is 3.4 billion and expected completion date is 2005

July, 9 2002: International Court of Justice at the Hague declares the construction of the wall in occupied Palestinian territory illegal

March 16, 2003, an Israeli soldier and his commander ran over American citizen Rachel Corrie with a nine-ton Caterpillar bulldozer while she stood - unarmed, clearly visible in her orange fluorescent jacket - protecting a Palestinian home in Rafah slated for demolition by the Israeli army.

April 10th 2003 Tom Hurndall, 21, was shot in the head in Rafah on 10 April 2003 by Israeli forces when he attempted to protect Palestinian children from Israeli gunfire. HE died 9 months later in an English hospital

Nov 11, 2004 Yassir Arafat dies

Last year the world conference on Racism was held in In Durban, South Africa. Both Israel and the U.S. did not attend because The UN considers zionism a form of racism. Ironically though Israel used to love to have dealings with South Africa. Two apartheid regimes, hand in hand until apartheid in one of the counties ended..

The similarities between the two counties are striking.

South Africa
1948-National Party comes to power and starts passing racist laws which pave the way for apartheid.

Israel/Palestine
1948- State of Israelis formed. zionists come to power and expel Palestinians

Blacks are forced to live on bantustans-Little patches of land completely surrounded by white areas.

Many Palestinian towns are completely surrounded by Israeli settlers or Israeli military S

Whites have 87% of the land even though they are only 14% of the population

Settlers in Gaza are .5% of the population and they control 40% of the land

Blacks could only leave the bantustans to work in white areas

Palestinians could only enter Israel to be a cheap labor force. Now they can't enter Israel at all

Most of the world condemned South African Apartheid

(or at least a lot)
Most of the world supports Israeli apartheid

When most of the world refused to have dealings with South Africa, Israel and S.A. were best friends They even tested nuclear weapons together on a tiny island where the atlantic and Indian ocean meet in 1975 South Africa gave Israel enriched uranium and steel for the famous Merkava tank. Israel provided s. afri with military technology.

The main difference between the two situations is that the Jews have a history of oppression and South African Afrikaners (the whites) did not

people around the world waged a huge campaign against apartheid in South Africa. They were successful. We need a huge campaign to end apartheid in Israel/Palestine hopefully it will be successful

Divest Now!



Out of all the countries in the world, Israel receives the most military funding from the U.S. 1/3 of U.S. foreign aid money goes to Israel. The U.S. gives Israel about \$15 million per day or \$628,000 every hour. Israel has received 100 billion dollars since 1967.

The streets are littered with sound bombs and tear gas canisters that all proudly say "MADE IN THE USA."



Why does the U.S. give Israel so much money? One of the reasons is because the strongest lobby group in the U.S. is AIPAC (The American-Israel Public Affairs Committee). They have offices and campus groups all over the place.

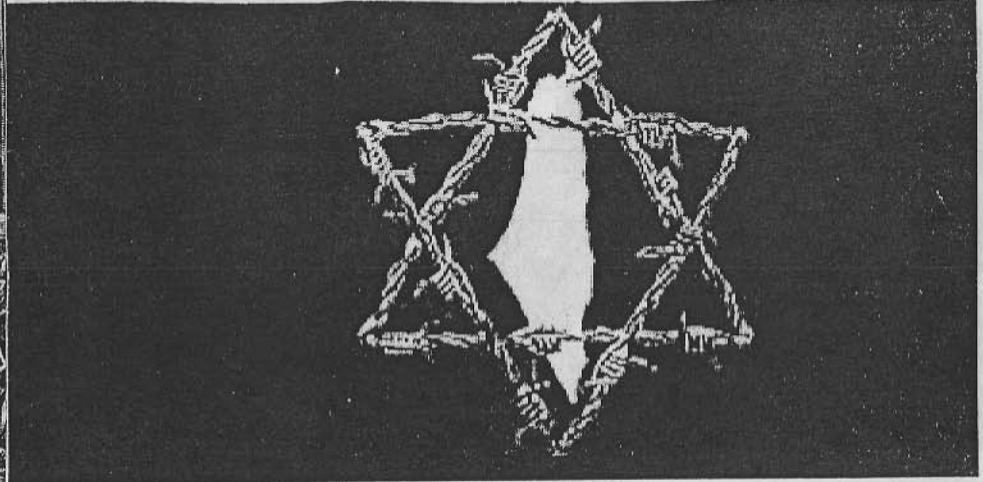
CLASS WAR < ECONOMICS < GLOBALIZATION

by Basil

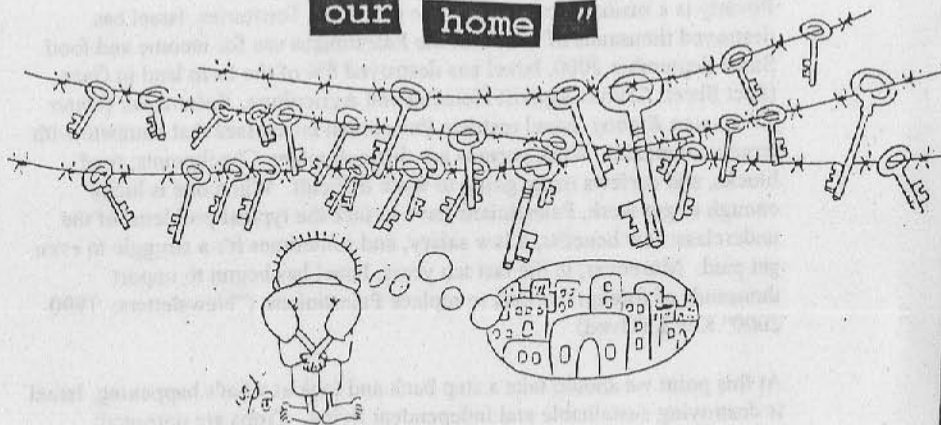
Poverty is a mainstay of living in the Occupied Territories. Israel has destroyed thousands of trees that the Palestinians use for income and food. Since September 2000, Israel has destroyed 8% of the farm land in Gaza. (Fact Sheet: Crimes Against Housing and Agriculture, *Palestinian Center for Human Rights*) Israel restricts Palestinian businesses that compete with Israeli companies. Work permits are difficult to get. Checkpoints, road blocks, and cerfews make going to work difficult. When one is lucky enough to get work, Palestinians have to face the typical problems of the underclass: few benefits, a low salary, and sometimes it's a struggle to even get paid. Moreover, in the last ten years, Israel has begun to import thousands of foreign workers to replace Palestinians. ("Newsletters: 1990-2000" Kav La'Oved)

At this point we should take a step back and look at what's happening. Israel is destroying sustainable and independent living. Crops are uprooted; businesses banned and destroyed. Self-employed Palestinians are forced to go into an exploitative wage labor system that Israel controls. And as you read this, Israel is constructing cheap labor "industrial parks." These capitalist playgrounds are situated outside Arab towns, this way Palestinian labor can be used without the risk of Jewish-Palestinian interaction. When the Palestinian workers become too expensive to employ, Israel can turn to exploiting foreign workers from Eastern Europe and Asia. Chinese building workers pay \$2,800 - \$10,000 to manpower agencies who promise the workers they will be able to pay it off in a year. The workers borrow money from friends and mortgage everything they own. Once they get to Israel their employers confiscate their passports and rarely honor the contract the workers signed. Like the Palestinians, they are left destitute - a mere tool of the industrialists. Pick your word: this is globalization, capitalism, imperialism, and fucked-up.

Given these conditions, it should come as no surprise that 50% of Palestinians are unemployed and 70% live under \$2/day (Edward Said, Speech at NYU Medical Center, 12/17).



" We still have the keys to our home "



Many Palestinians will tell you that they still have their keys to the house they lived in before "Al Naqba" - the tragedy of 1948 when 1 million people became refugees. Currently there are 3.7 million refugees registered by the UN and 2 million unregistered.

Al-Awda-The Right of Return Coalition says that 78% of Israeli's lived on 14 percent of the land. The remaining 86% is mostly land that belongs to the refugees and only 22% of Israeli's live on it. People always say that there's no room for all these refugees and that if they returned the state of Israel would be dissolved. Maybe they just mean that the racist Zionist exclusively Jewish state of Israel would cease to exist.

The right of return for Palestinians is such a contentious issue yet "right of return" for Jewish people who never lived in Israel is fully encouraged. You Jews can even get cash money a house and car for making "aliyah" (immigration) to Israel. PM Ariel Sharon says "we have had 1 million Jews move here in the last 10 years and we should have 1 million more in the next ten years"



Crossing the border from Gaza to Egypt is a totally ridiculous experience. Just to go a few hundred feet takes many hours. The crossing isn't even open half the time. For the majority of Gazans it is closed all the time because they are not allowed to leave the Gaza strip. We had to wait a long time in a taxi at Rafah which took us across a gate into Israel proper. Then we waited on a bus to go from Israel to Egypt. Palestinians on the bus were ecstatic because it was probably the first time in 20 years that they left the 60 km strip.

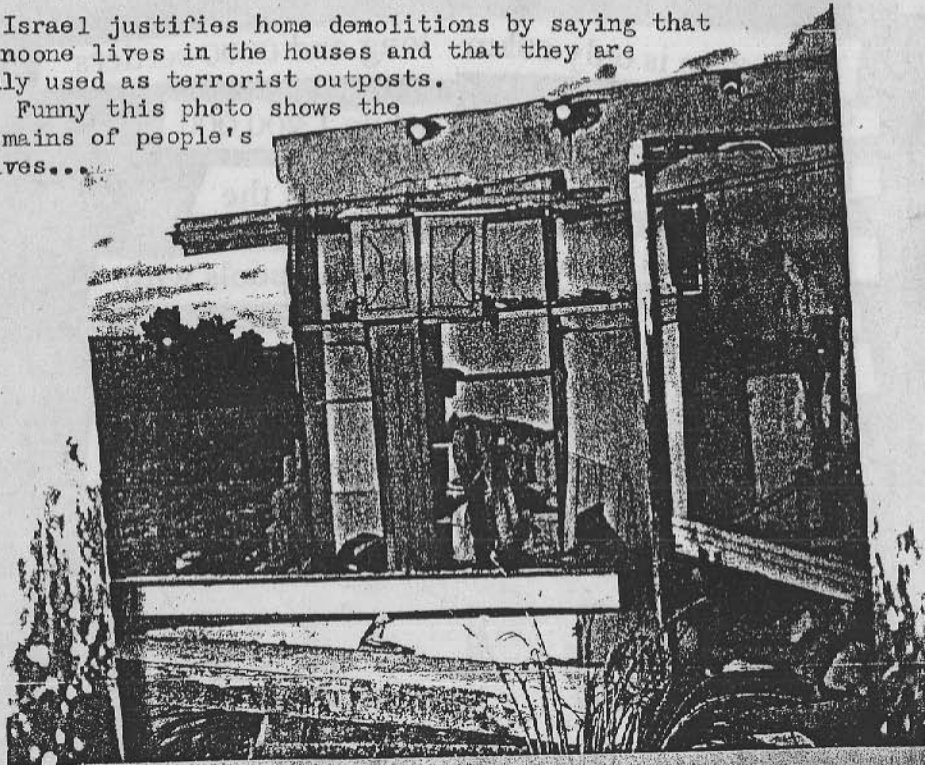
BOMBS ACROSS BORDERS!

We went to Cairo and when we were returning to Israel we had a bit of an incident at the border crossing. In our bags we had souvenirs from the tanks in Ramallah (i.e. empty tear gas canisters and rubber coated bullets.) After a baggage check they emptied our bags and right away they found a tear gas canister. A man brought the canister over to someone else and then a different man came over and grabbed my hands. I immediately thought they were arresting me but really they were just evacuating the building. I had caused a bomb scare!!!! How comical they make these weapons and fire them constantly at Palestinian children and then when you bring it back to them they think it is a bomb. Sadly they took away my rubber bullet necklace made out of rubber tire wires and bullets. Interestingly they interrogated my male traveling partner a lot more than me even though he was not carrying the "contraband" Every single piece of paper with Arabic or the words Palestine or Gaza

they asked about. One woman insisted that she had an obsession with Gaza since we had been there and had information on it. They thought that someone in Gaza had given us these weapons to carry for them. They couldn't understand what we could possibly have done in Gaza and how we weren't scared. We didn't tell them that we were scared when we were there but only because F-16's were flying in the air and refugee camps near us were being bombed. The border guards clearly thought all Palestinians were terrorists. I wanted to tell them that terrorism is an act of desperation that can be a result of 1 million people living in the outdoor prison called the Gaza strip. We were in Jerusalem right after the 1st female suicide bombing. There was an article about her which told how she was a medic who every day would see a wounded child, a youth whose brains were spilled by bullets and one day she decided she had enough.

Israel justifies home demolitions by saying that noone lives in the houses and that they are only used as terrorist outposts.

Funny this photo shows the remains of people's lives...



Rafah Refugee Rubble
Rubble in the Rafah Refugee camp

We toured the ruins as a group of kids played nearby - some coming over and pointing to the rubble of concrete and clothes which had formerly been their home. Israel has been establishing a "no man's land" buffer zone between Egypt and Gaza. Therefore, they continually shoot and tank shell at the houses close to the border establishing a line of swiss cheese which then gets demolished. The cycle repeats with the next line of houses.

Right in the middle of the "no man's land" there is a children's orphanage. we got a tour and the man pretended that everything was perfectly normal and that the walls surrounding the orphanage didn't get tanked at night. sadly they do. When the night is quiet people say it is abnormal. It's much more common for tank shellings and machine gun fire to fill the air and echo throughout the narrow corridors of the refugee camp

There is a Rafah on both sides of the border: one in Egypt and one in Gaza. When Israel gave Sinai back to Egypt they divided the city and divided families. They cannot cross the border to visit each other.



תאגיד ביורייט ישראל
birthright israel
www.birthrightisrael.com

FREE TRIP TO ISRAEL!!!! ITS YOUR BIRTHRIGHT!!!!

We went on a ten day all expense paid trip to Israel!!! This meant a free trip to Palestine for us because after the ten days were up we extended our tickets. We then make a big switchover from listening to Zionist propaganda to hearing stories, seeing and partaking in the Palestinian resistance to Zionism.

You too can go on this trip and we strongly encourage that you do and join the club of Birthright Israel traitors. You just have to consider yourself a member of the Jewish community and be between the ages of 18 and 26. 28,000 of people have already gone on this trip and many more will go on it. So it's important that anti-zionists go on the trip to fuck shit up (but not too much because you do make a \$250 deposit) or at least present a different perspective. So many people on our trip knew very little about Israel before they went on Birthright and now all they know about Israel, is how wonderful it is. There are trips every winter and summer just check the website for more info.

We went on a bike trip. It was cool when we got to rock out on bikes but not so cool when we had to visit places like the first Jewish settlements and our "educators" would continually ask us "could you do it? Could you be this brave?" So if you think you can handle all their brainwashing sign up right now for the summer trips. You can then coordinate it with the Int'l Solidarity Movement Actions going on in Palestine this summer. There are also winter trips. Check the website for more info about dates and all the specific trips. If your really want you could probably even go on the "singles trip where you can find your soulmate"

Yuck!! We do recommend that you go with at least one friend so you'll have someone to fume with about the racist, sexist, classist tours that you'll be given

So you are probably wondering why they have this free trip. It's because it is your birthright as young Jews to visit this land. The Israeli government and wealthy philanthropists will spend \$2500 (an amount 3 times the yearly expenses of the average Palestinian) just for you to visit the Jewish holy land. They are encouraging your "right of return."

This is the right of return for all Jews to move to a land that they never lived in, yet the 6 million Palestinian refugees who formally lived there (or have direct family members who lived there) 50 years ago cannot return.

Youths who go on this trip are not merely tourists but instead tools in their Zionist agenda, which encourages the expulsion of all Palestinians and the triumph of an exclusively Jewish state of Israel.

On the trip you stay at fancy hotels, eat good food, and get carted around in a big bus so you can see all the wonderful tourists sights. For the entire duration of the trip you are enclosed in a Zionist bubble

where you are only spoken to by Israeli or American Jews. You are told that you will hear all different perspectives, but somehow they forget to include the perspective of those 3 million people that live under a brutal military occupation. You also get to have two gunmen who are there to ensure your safety throughout the duration of the trip. When we went to Jerusalem our group only visited the Jewish quarter out of "safety concerns." As we stood by the western wall, which is right next to the dome of the rock and the Al-Aqsa mosque, we were told that Muslims don't need

TEL AVIV-Y

Ashtod

Oran

Lod

Holon

Beer Sheva

Netanya

Haifa

Tel Aviv

Jerusalem

Beersheva

Haifa

Tel Aviv

Beer Sheva

Netanya

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Ashtod

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Holon

Beer Sheva

Haifa

Tel Aviv

Jerusalem because "they have all those other holy cities." Also, we were told that it is dangerous to be in Jerusalem on Friday afternoons because "in all the mosques, Muslims are told to go and kill all Jews." Our tour guide who made this sweeping statement was insinuating that it was not safe for Jews to ever be around Muslims because their religion teaches hatred. As we neared a kibbutz hotel, our tour guide reassured us that there was "no need to worry for there were only Israelis at the kibbutz, not Palestinians." Throughout our trip the notion that all Palestinians were terrorists was continually reinforced.

Whenever we tried to bring up the Palestinian perspective on our trip, we were told that either "all Arabs hate Jews," or reminded about the holocaust and anti-Semitism. It was as if the persecution that Jews have suffered in the past somehow justifies their switchover from the role of the oppressed to the role of the oppressor. It seems so incredulous that people could make sweeping statements about an entire race of people without ever even speaking to them. On our trip we were afforded no opportunities to meet with Palestinians, and therefore could not know their opinions on anything, and certainly not their opinions of all Jewish people.

In the words of Propagandhi "FUCK ZIONISM"

they always say "what about the suicide bombers" as if that justifies everything

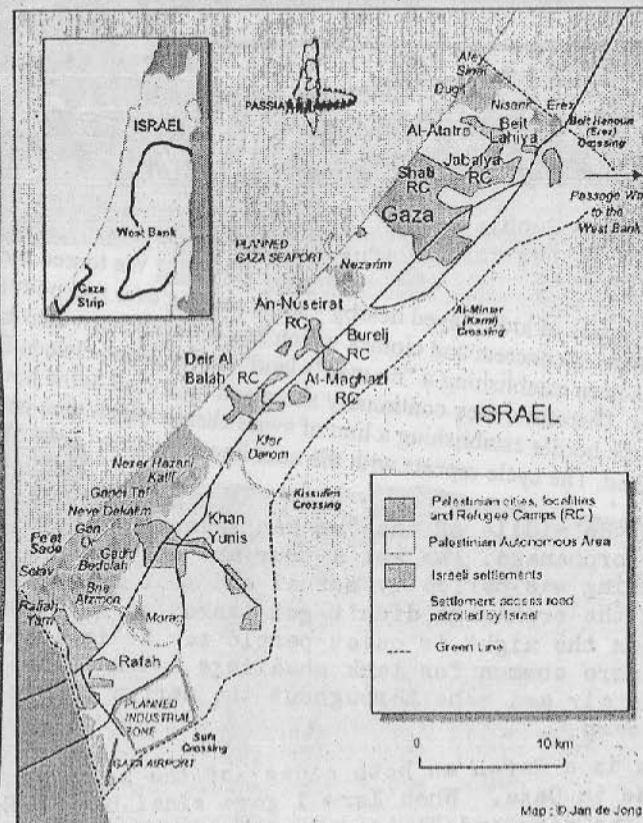
After I finished this zine, myself and two other people gave a talk about Palestine. This talk took place at the squirrel hill library, which is in a predominantly Jewish neighborhood in Pittsburgh. I was going to talk about zionism, birthright and racism but given the climate of the room, it seemed unnecessary. Birthright zionists showed up and their behavior was so ridiculous and racist. The first person who spoke, gave an overview and history of the conflict. Every 20 seconds or so someone would interrupt and tell him he was lying. Instead they continued to make obnoxious comments. Then when the next person started to talk and said that he was just exhibiting the anger towards the first person towards him. They were pretty much saying that it was ok to be rude to the first person because he is a person of color but they felt bad being so rude to a Jew. However, not everyone felt bad and asked him what terrorist organization paid for him to speak. When he told them those like the ones in the zine, they said he was lying, or the people who told him those stories were lying. When they heard about a person getting beat up on the bus for wearing a Palestinian scarf in Israel, they said "that is totally justified. they probably thought she was a suicide bomber." Everyone thought that if we were to talk the most about this whole event, is that everyone tried to justify things in terms of the holocaust. I told them that my relatives had died in the holocaust and that was why I was trying to prevent another one.

The strip is only 60km long and 6000 settlers control 40% of the land while 1,200,000

Palestinians have access to 60% of the land. Settlers fill big swimming pools with water while Palestinians don't even have enough water to drink.

Talk about maldistribution of wealth!

The Gaza Strip, 2000



THE GAZA STRIP

THE MOST CROWDED PLACE ON EARTH!

So they all said don't go to Gaza but we didn't listen. When we got to the Gaza border crossing it was clear that many other people had taken this advice. The area was completely abandoned except for soldiers and lots of barbed wire fences and a couple of signs that say "safe passage to Gaza strip." This safe passage is referring to the road that was supposed to be a passageway between the Gaza strip and the west bank but is completely Israeli-controlled and Palestinians are denied access to it. We stayed in Gaza city and toured Palestinian authority (PA) compounds and Arafat's compound, which he can't go to since he is under house arrest in ramallah. We were shown many of the different buildings that had been bombed in the past week and then when we heard that there were f-16 flying overhead we decided that it was time to get out of the target areas.

In Gaza City we met a man who lived in Rafah and said that we could come stay with him. The ride there is supposed to take 45 minutes but sometimes takes 3 hours because there are two or three settler bypass roads. These settler roads enable the settlers' passage in and out of the settlements without ever seeing Palestinians. At the intersections, Palestinian cars are halted when settler cars are near. Even if there are 100 Palestinian cars and one settler car, the Palestinians must wait and the settlers cruise. Also, each of these roads serve as a checkpoint which can be closed at any time further restricting peoples movement and preventing them from commuting between their home and work. As we drove from Gaza City to Rafah it was shocking to see how beautiful the area is. As you look to the right there are beaches and palm trees and then as you look to the left you see the crowded refugee camps. There used to be a Palestinian road that went all along the coast but then settlements were built all along the southern part of the coast thus preventing Palestinians from traveling there. As we looked out to the sea our host talked about how he has not been able to leave the Gaza Strip, which is only 36 miles long, in 20 years. He told a story of a Palestinian couple getting married in the West Bank and how their relatives from New York were able to attend the wedding but their relatives from Gaza were unable to make it. He was a student at Birzeit University in Ramallah but because of the closure he was never able to go to Birzeit and instead had to take his courses with the few professors who live in Gaza. This made me think of a cartoon I read in Joe Sacco's Palestine where a professor and his students had been arrested and put in the same tent in prison so they just continued classes.



3 BIRTHRIGHT MYTHS DEBUNKED

When we were driving in our big red tour bus through the Negev Desert, we passed many Bedouin villages. The only thing that we were told about them is how the Bedouins are these nomadic people that trade camels for wives.

A week after Birthright we went on a trip with Reut-Sadaka, a group that organizes trips with Jewish Israeli and Arab Israeli youth, to an unrecognized Bedouin village. On this trip we learned that the Israeli Government is trying to "Jewify" the area and take over much of the land belonging to over 50 Bedouin villages.

The government does not recognize these villages and fails to provide them with electricity or water with the hope that they will move out of the villages. That way they can consolidate all the Bedouins into three recognized villages that will have Hebrew name.

A man who had been a soldier during Operation Moses melodramatically told us the story of 400 Ethiopian children that he rescued. He talked about how wonderful it was that these Ethiopian Jews were rescued didn't mention the thousands of others that died because they were not Jewish. He also didn't discuss the conditions in which these Ethiopian Jews live in inside Israel. After the trip we learned that these Ethiopian Jews have been imported by the government only to become "lower class"; citizens who suffer from racist discrimination, poverty, and culture shock.

As we drove through Tel Aviv our tour guide told us to "look at the faces of the people outside. Do you see they are not Israeli. These are foreign workers who come to work in Israel for a few years and make lots of money." After the trip we learned the harsh reality about these workers. We volunteered with the group Kav La'Oved (worker's hotline) and drank tea with some of these Chinese workers that he had spoken about. These people had paid between \$10,000 to an agency so that they could work in Israel for a few years and within 10 days they were fired. Their passports had been taken from them along with the exorbitant amount of money which prevented them from returning home. Israel had started importing these people as a kind of indentured servant once they stopped using Palestinians as a cheap labor force.



ZIONIST TRAITOR

By Basil Moscowitz

After interrupting a speech by Ariel Sharon - Israel's war hawk prime minister and former massacre-leading Defense Minister - with the phrase "you're a murderer," dozens of Jews who had been sitting around me cheering for Sharon turned on me. Immediately, and continuing for hours, I was harrassed, threatened, and spit on. So goes Jewish solidarity.

The scene was the Birthright Israel "Mega-Event." Birthright Israel is a Zionist program supported by philanthropists and the Israeli government that sends thousands of young Jews from around the world on 10-day all expense paid tours of Israel. (Zionism is the philosophy that Israel belongs to the Jews) The Mega-Event is the gathering for all the groups; the event had several thousand in attendance.

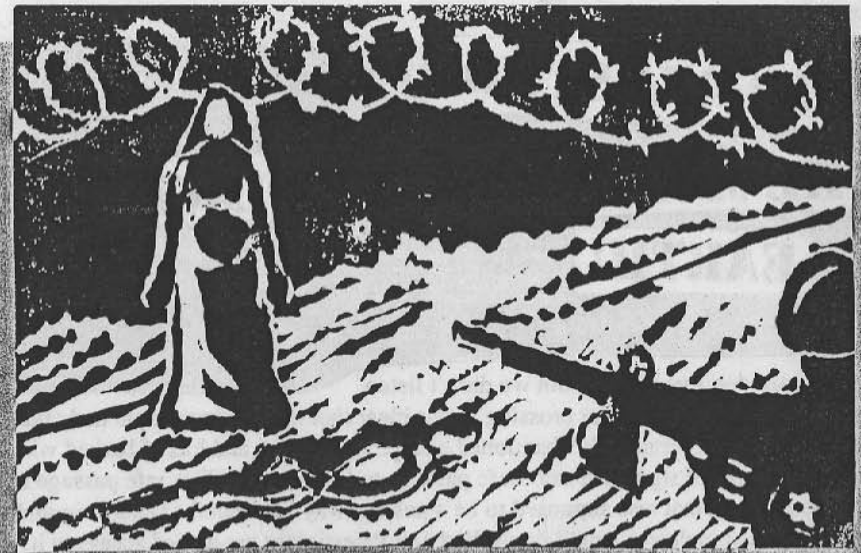
Sharon was the big attraction of the event and was greeted by a standing ovation lasting several minutes. He began his Palestinian/Israeli analysis with "Jews have suffered from 120 years of Palestinian terror."

At this point, I interrupted. People on the other side of the balcony report that after the interjection the crowd turned en masse to look at me. From my side, I had a similar experience, only more aggressive. People immediately started making threats, one person yelling "You deserve to die," punctuated a general sense of yelling, shaking fists, and pointing.

The most violent person attempted to choke me then left the auditoriom and reappeared, pointing me out to other people, and remained at the exit for a long time. Later in the evening, he attempted to attack me but was held off by his friends. He had to content himself by spitting on me and making vague threats of future run-ins in dark alleys.

ZIONIST TRAITOR

Fro the rest of the event, which was several hours, I was terrified. However, with the hindsight that I survived unscathed, I regret nothing. My motivation was to break the Zionist consensus. Along similar lines of Noel Ignatiev's Race Traitor, I was attempting to break the assumed connection between Jewish identity and a racist analysis/complicity of the Jewish/Palestinian conflict. My Jewish identity does not mean I will holistically support the state of Israel and holistically criticize Palestinians. Race Traitor takes this a few steps further. It views whiteness as a social club that parcels out benefits to the members (benefits are synonomous with "white priviledge"). The club operates on the assumption that one can tell who is in the club just by looking at the color of one's skin. Race Traitor advocates a "new abolitionism" that destroys whiteness. This happens when it is impossible for self-identified whites to tell who is in the club, i.e. people percieved as white will actively reject the system of white supremacy and thereby disrupt the basic operation of the white club.



In one week two pregnant woman were shot at the Qalandiya checkpoint outside of Ramallah .. Both women were injured and gave birth to healthy children. The husbands were not so lucky. One died. A day or so later an israeli settler who was pregnant was shot by a palestianian gunmen. She and the baby lived but the husband dying. If pregnant women dont go through checkpoints they may have to take a route that is four times as long. this often results in a miscarriage.

The supposive rationale for these checkpoints is that they will be able to prevent terrorist attacks. This argument is hard to buy after seeing how the checkpoints work. Oftentimes, people get around a checkpoint without actually being searched. They can do this by getting out of their car or taxi and then taking a long walk around the military post. After going around the post, Palestinians get in a new taxi. People willing to be searched or unwilling to break the law can wait in long lines. Either way, it means traveling takes a long time. A trip that used to take 15 minutes now takes 1-4 hours. Many people sleep at their work because it takes too long to commute.

The checkpoints create an intense inconvenience to Palestinians, but we do not believe the extra time will deter a suicide bomber.

On the contrary, checkpoints intensify the problem. They cause hardships for Palestinian, increasing anti-Israeli rage. The checkpoints create physical and mental borders between palestinians and israeli's. Israelis are not allowed to cross these checkpoints because the israeli government says they can not ensure their safety if they do. Therefore the only Israelis many palestinians ever see are the soldiers and settlers occupying their towns.

The Israeli government uses checkpoints as collective punishment against the Palestinians. Checkpoints are constructed and/or tightened without notice. One morning when we were in Bethlehem, the checkpoint was closed causing many people to miss work, visiting their families, etc.



INTERNATIONAL

CHECKPOINT

WATCH

Many internationals become observers at the checkpoints that Palestinians have to cross every day when going between Israel and Palestinian towns and sometimes from Palestinian to Palestinian town. Often at checkpoints you will see lines of men waiting because the soldiers took their id's away. We stood by taking photos and notes while they detained these men to make sure that they were not mistreating them. We would ask the soldiers why they were holding the men up and they would say they have to "check them." They would also search all their bags and bodies. This whole ordeal seemed very humiliating for all the men involved especially since they may go through this everyday. The soldiers were not very nice and when we asked how long they were going to keep the men they told us "however long we want." The difficult part of doing checkpoint watch is that you don't know if you are helping the Palestinians because you may just be annoying the soldiers by making them detain people longer. After a few hours they were released.

I don't think the category "Jewish" needs to be abolished. While whiteness is constructed through the negation of being marked (i.e., not Black, not Native American, not Latino, not Arab, not Other), Judaism is constructed on a history of being oppressed. We are the people of exodus, the survivors of the Holocaust and the Programs (state and right-wing attacks on Jews in Eastern Europe), and - depending on location - modern day anti-Semitism.

Yet there is some things that need to be abolished. We need to destroy the idea that Jews deserve more than Palestinians. We need to destroy Jewish solidarity that ends with Jews and where there is no concern for non-Jews. We need to destroy the collapsing of Jewish identity and Israeli nationalism, being a Jew is not the same thing as being an Israeli nationalist.

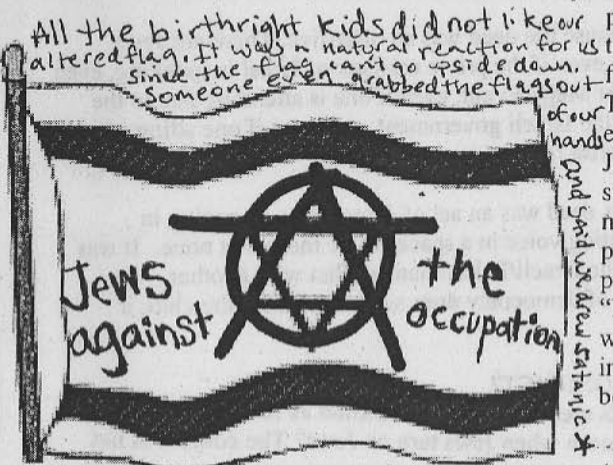
It is these thoughts that motivated me to commint what Berkman calls "the deed." Amid, the thousands of cheers for Sharon there was no discencion. While some refused to clap and others quietly slept in protest, the overall impression of the event was that Jews from around the world support Sharon. The deed was intended to break the consensus. It is clear that Sharon was widely enthusiastically supported, but after the interruption, the thousands of people in the balcony knew that one cannot essentialize and universalize the connection between Jews and Israel's acting prime minister. There are some Jews who are willing to reject the holiness of the prime minister along with the sanctity of the keystone Birthright event.

REACTIONS

Judging from people's reactions, the message was effective. In addition to threats, pointing, and attacks, many people argued with me. I am breaking up criticisms into three categories: I failed to grasp my inner Jewishness, I am pro-Palestinian and anti-Jew, and that the act was inappropriate. I will look at each response individually.

A. Real Jewishness

The first response came from a person who told me that I need to look inside myself and find the Jewishness deep down inside. A few days earlier, two Birthright participants told me the same thing when I criticized Israel's former prime minister, Barak. The arguments imply an essential nature of being Jewish that requires me to be supportive of the Israeli prime minister. A psychological problem is the cause of my politics and the solution is to "look deep down inside." If I were Palestinian, this plea for introspection would not have been made.



We were just showing our jew anarchist pride.

B. Criticizing Israel = Supporting the Enemy

The most common argument rested on the idea that Palestinians and Arabs do bad things too. People have criticized everything from suicide bombers, to Saudi Arabia's classist society, to Arab culture. These criticisms are used to justify Sharon. The criticisms of Arabs are supplemented with accusatory questions: "Why don't you go live in Palestine?" and "Whose side are you on?" These comments imply that there is a dualism, an us/them perspective. If you criticize one side, you must support the totality of the other side. In a democracy, this dualism is absurd. Voters in Israel are legally sanctioned to disagree with Sharon everytime an election comes around. Critiquing public figures is an essential part of democracy and critiquing Sharon does not necessitate supporting the faults of the "other side." Yet, the criticisms people were giving me were not rooted in a love for democracy. Rather, they are borne out of loyalty to a club. In a club, this dualism makes sense. You pick sides, cheer for one – jeer at the other.

C. Inappropriate

Many of the Birthright program organizers said that they disagreed with Sharon but the deed was inappropriate. I ask, inappropriate to who? I think it's inappropriate to have a one-sided political discussion with no space for questions or dissent. It's offensive to have someone like Sharon speak, punctuated by both his history and his speech presenting the conflict as if there are only Palestinian terrorists and Jewish victims. His narrative works to support the increase in Jewish settlements in the Occupied Territories, taking of political prisoners, demolition of Palestinian homes, shooting of non-combatants, and the rest of the terror caused by the Occupation.

In this context, it is an offense to not speak up. But it comes down to a choice. The sanctity of the event or the sanctity of critiquing Sharon. The event serves to foster Jewish support of Israel's prime minister. This purpose has no sanctity to me.

THE ZIONIST CLUB vs DEMOCRACY

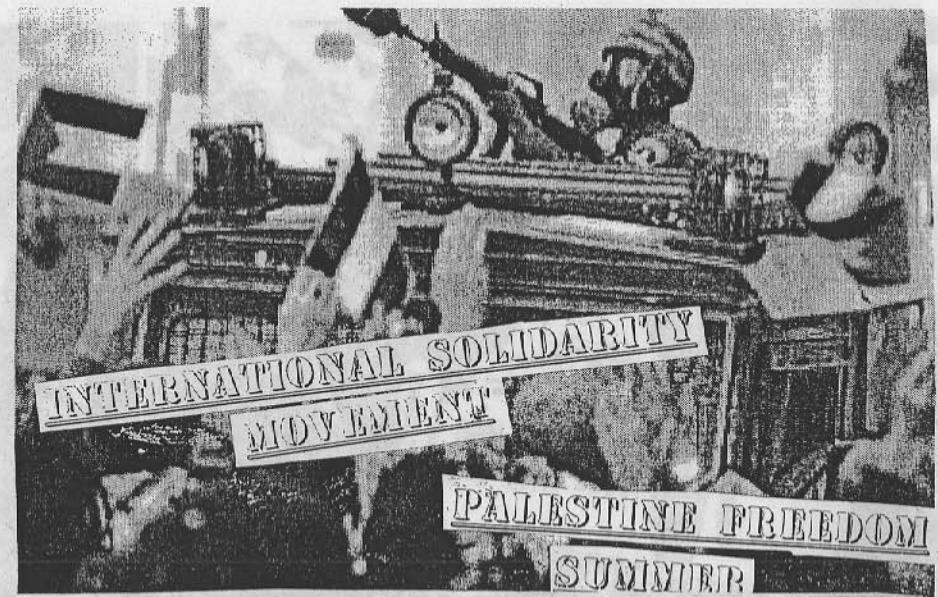
All of these critiques rely on an allegiance to the Club. A club that reserves Israel and free tours of Israel only to Jews while forcing Palestinians into exile. A club that supports Jews around the world while oppressing Palestinians in Israel's backyard.

Many Zionists took offense because the deed was an offensive. There are Jews willing to dissent with the club, even if the prime minister of Israel is speaking, even if he is speaking at the Birthright Mega-Event, even if one is attending due to the "generous gift" of Zionists and the Israeli government, and even if one sitting among thousands of screaming pro-Sharon fans.

From another vantage point, this deed was an act of democracy. Engaging in political debate, adding a dissenting voice in a space where there was none. It was enriching a biased narrative of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict with another perspective. Yet, The narrative of democracy does not compliment the club; it competes with it.

A RACIAL OR POLITICAL CONFLICT?

Zionists, as well as dominant US media, project the conflict as Jews vs. Palestinians. But what does it mean when Jews turn on Jews? The conflict is not merely racial, but political.



The International Solidarity Movement is a Palestinian-led movement of Palestinian and International activists working to raise awareness of the struggle for Palestinian freedom and an end to Israeli occupation. We utilize nonviolent, direct-action methods of resistance to confront and challenge illegal Israeli occupation forces and policies.

As enshrined in international law and UN resolutions, we recognize the Palestinian right to resist Israeli violence and occupation via legitimate armed struggle. However, we believe that nonviolence can be a powerful weapon in fighting oppression and we are committed to the principles of nonviolent resistance.

» We support the Palestinian right to resist the occupation, as provided for by International Law;
» We call for an immediate end to the occupation and immediate compliance and implementation of all relevant UN resolutions;
» We call for immediate international intervention to protect the Palestinian people and ensure Israel's compliance with International Law.

Due to the lack of respect for Palestinian human rights and human life by the Israeli government and occupation forces, an international presence is needed to support Palestinian nonviolent resistance. Palestinian activists trying to work or protest alone face harsh punishment from Israeli forces. This has included beatings, long-term arrests, serious injury and even death. International activists are thus a resource for Palestinians, both in terms of their presence and as witnesses to the daily humiliation and injustice of the Israeli occupation.

1 There are different campaigns all the time ranging from helping olive farmers to escorting red crescent ambulances to staying with people's to prevent their homes from getting demolished. you can go to palsolidarity.org for more info.



We stayed at an International Solidarity tent in Ramallah right outside of Arafat's compound. The area in which we slept is under total siege right now and has turned into a war zone. When we were there we were protesting the Israeli tanks that are stationed right in the middle of the city. Every day we would plan a different action. Sometimes we would march toward the tanks holding signs and reading the statement of the Israeli reservists who refused to serve in the army in the occupied territories. Othertimes we would play soccer or dance the dabqa (a traditional Palestinian dance) with the shebab. We even had a Palestinian air force with kids launching paper airplanes towards the tanks. All of these actions were met with the same response: a constant barrage of tear gas, sound grenades and rubber coated bullets. Some people said that if there werent intenationals they probably would have used live ammo.

Every night 30 or so men would come and sing Palestinian resistance songs around a campfire. Many of them were excited hear about our travels because it was near to impossible for them to even leave Ramallah. Contrary to popular opinion, none of them hated us because we were american or even jewish. Once they knew that we hated Sharon and Bush we became friends.

i asked a soldier if he liked playing video games with real live children.

He said
"yeah!
sega
genesis"



We have seen this before. The Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) was supposedly fighting in an ethnic conflict between Serbs and Kosovar Albanians, yet the KLA killed hundreds of dissenting Albanians. The NAZI's were built on a hatred and oppression of non-Aryans and particularly Jews, yet the NAZI's also killed communists and whites who protected Jews. We are told that the Cold War was a battle between the US and Russia, yet in the name of fighting the Russians the US also turned on American liberals and leftists.

Ironically, the person who told me that I deserved to die called me a fascist. This person along with others who reacted violently use the threat of physical force in attempt to quell the voicing of political dissent. I believe the accusation of "fascist" is over used, but it's important to remember what fascism and the NAZI's really stand for. The fascists in Germany used a racial scapegoat to unify a race and under the guise of a race-war slipped in a political ideology. How is this different from the conservative and reactionary elements of the Zionist movement?

We must recognize the importance of race and nationalism because many people are motivated by them. Yet, there is a politics behind race unity. The politics behind the race is the politics of the Club. The Club is strong enough to give the impression that we have a racialized, us/them problem. Yet when people within the club dissent, we see it is not racial unity but a political unity within a race unity.

People who are recognized to belong to the club will have many privileges. For example, I was invited to join the club when I yelled at Sharon. Some said, "look inside yourself. This is the right place for you." I doubt a Palestinian would have gotten such an invitation if s/he had committed the same act.

On the other hand, traiters to the club may be treated like the enemy. I got a glimpse of this when people threatened to kill me and attempted to assault me based on four words that I yelled. Palestinians feel the effects of living outside the Club everyday.

I am sure that many Jews will take offense to this article. I am not intending to bash all Jews, but call attention to the problems of a Zionist politics and practice. There are many ways to be Jewish, and even Zionist, without assuming racial and ethnic superiority. As an anti-fascist, as an Anarchist, and as a Jew, I will not participate in the Zionist club.



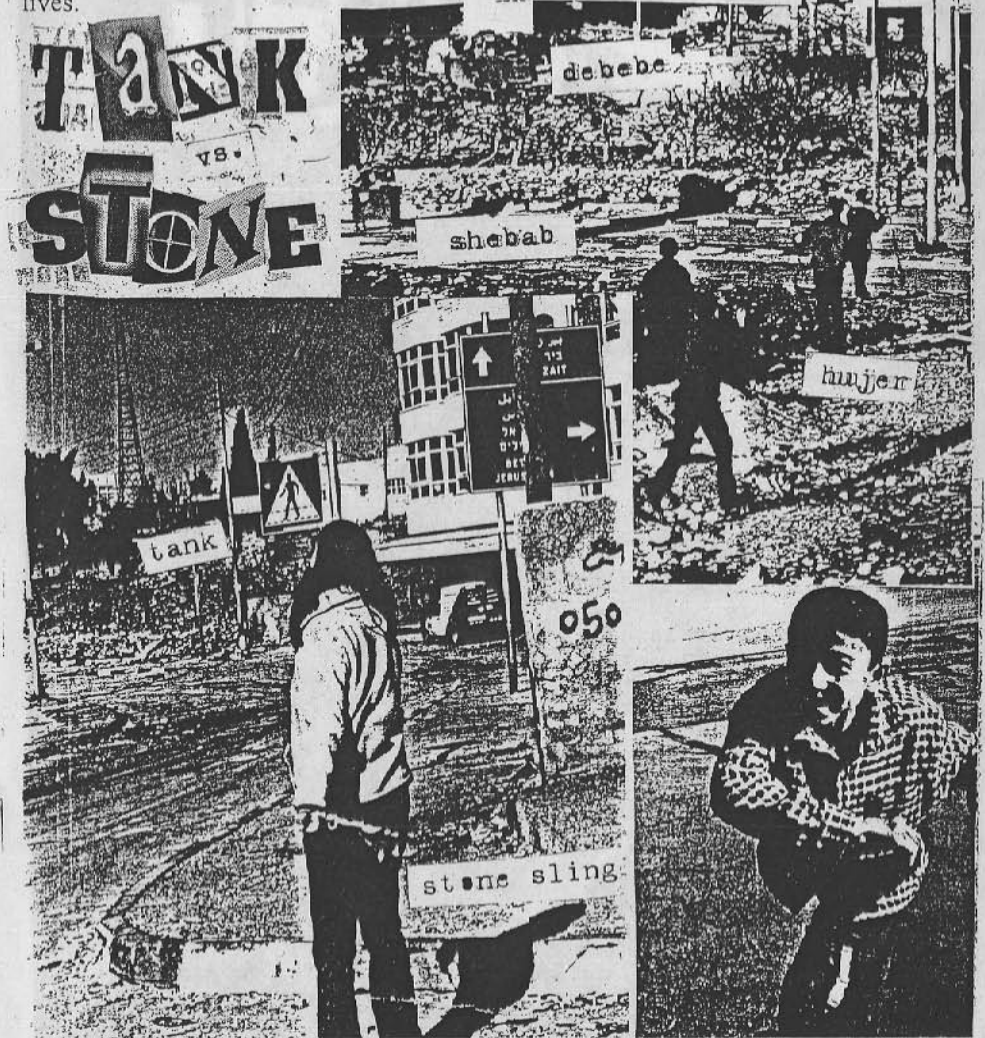
While in Jaffa (a mainly arab city that is connected to Tel Aviv) we stayed at a 1/2 Arab Israeli 1/2 Jewish Israeli commune called Reut Sadaka which means friendship in both Hebrew and Arabic. They organize trips for Jewish & Arab youth to counteract the segregation that exists in Israeli society. People on the trip told us how they lived 2 minutes from a village of the "other" yet they never talked to anyone from their. It was really awesome to see this kind of anti-racist organizing where kids just get together and hang out and visit places like unrecognized bedouin villages or talk about ways to overcome racist stereotypes. I could never imagine a trip like that happening in the U.S. with white youths and youths of color. Racism is so similar here and there. So many Palestinians told us that they would always get harassed by police or soldiers just for being Arab. In Israel you can get arrested for WWP (walking while Palestinian) and here you can get arrested for DWB (driving while black).

When you enter the occupied territories you are entering a war zone. There is an occupying army that likes to fuck with civilians and use violence against them. Almost everyone you talk to has either been injured or spent time in prison or a good friend or relative has. Palestinians don't get fair trials usually and can spend long time in jail for crimes they didn't commit. Funny how much it sounds like the U.S. when you enter communities of color there is an occupying army - the police. People get beaten by them and get locked up for long time periods.

So many people in Palestine thought that the U.S. was bad for giving so much money to Israel but they thought the U.S. was good because everyone was free there. Sadly we had to tell them RACISM IS GLOBAL



Often the Israeli/Palestinian struggle is simplified with the tank vs. the stone and we got to see the reality. Every afternoon the Shebab (literally meaning a group of boys) would come with homemade slings and throw pebbles at the tanks. The kids would stand so far from the tanks that their little stones would not come anywhere near the tanks and even if they did what is a one inch pebble gonna do to a huge armored tank. However the Israeli soldiers seemed to act as if they were threatened and everytime a pebble was tossed they would respond with tear gas, rubber bullets, and sound grenades. From what we hear, live ammunition is often used when there is no international presence. It was extremely intense to see these 10 year old kids getting shot at and often injured and still continuing to throw stones. It becomes a game for them but unfortunately a deadly one. Often Palestinian casualties are children. At first we were really excited to see the youth resistance but as days went on it was sad to see their futile efforts at ending an occupation of their lives.



SWIFT PUNISHMENT! So apparently someone didn't like the great work CPT was doing. CPT received an email which said: KACH INTERNATIONAL WARNING. "It has been learned that three of your members help and assist arab terrorists in smuggling explosives used in recent bombings of the Hebron Jewish Community in Israel."

"For their safety, [the] above-mentioned terrorists are advised to depart from the Land of Israel to their own countries in the next 96 hours," the message concluded.

A phone call: "As [a] humanitarian effort to save their lives, we ask you to evacuate them from Israel before Wednesday. After Wednesday, their lives will be in jeopardy. This is a warning. This is a last warning. Bye."

CPT Responded: It would be more likely that the settlers in Hebron would start serving ham sandwiches at bar mitzvahs than it would be for anyone serving with Christian Peacemaker Teams to become involved with explosives or other objects that could bring harm to others.

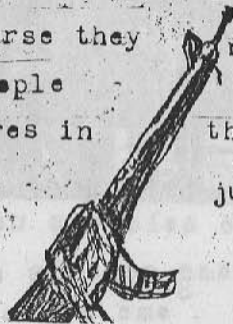
Fortunately no member of the Christian Peacemaker Team was killed. However, Kach has been known to carry out their death threats. David Wilder told us that the Kach is not violent even though the Israeli Government considers them a terrorist organization.

The most famous Kach member would have been Baruch Goldstein. Most people may not know this story though because Israel likes to paint Palestinians as the only terrorists. Baruch Goldstein, like many other fanatical settlers, was born in Brooklyn and decided to move in Hebron. He constantly harassed Muslims at the Al-Ibrahimi/ Abraham mosque which is a holy site for both Jews and Muslims.

Then In 1994 Baruch Goldstein entered the mosque and with the torah in one hand and machine gun in the other opened fire. During this attack he killed 29 Muslim worshippers before he was killed.

In his eulogy it was said "The People of Israel were sick and Goldstein gave us the medication." The really scary part of this is that Goldstein is still hailed as a martyr. Every Purim in Hebron, settlers have a parade and march to his grave. Little children dress up as Baruch Goldstein and there is even a museum in Hebron with a whole section devoted to him. Also, many people still agree with his philosophy that all Arabs should be expelled from Israel. Just recently, a survey was conducted in which half of Jewish Israeli's said they thought Palestinians should be kicked out.

People always say that Islam is a religion that encourages terrorism and of course they never mention that people carry out massacres in the name of judaism



There are Kach supporters all over the U.S. Just look for the nearest Jewish defense league office.

NO BUS IS EVER SAFE!

By Liad

This past Sunday, while on a bus in Tel Aviv, I was physically attacked by the bus driver for wearing a Palestinian kofia.

I got on the bus in Jaffa, which is a mixed Arab-Jewish city. I could tell the bus driver was stressed as he asked me where I was headed to, for no other reason than to hear my Hebrew and ensure I'm not Palestinian, as that seems to be the incriminating factor nowadays. I sat down. Two minutes later, the bus driver stopped the bus and went back to where I was sitting. He began yelling at me to take off my kofia. He began slapping me upside the head, while I covered it with my hands. Then he attempted to remove my kofia, and to drag me off the bus. I refused to take the kofia off I told him that he can search my bag or check my I.D., but that wearing a kofia is my right and he has no right to demand that I leave because of political reasons, or attack me physically. Furthermore, he has a right to ask for an I.D., check me or refuse to let me on the bus when I got on it, but he chose not to do it. I wasn't going to get off the bus, lose my bus fare and be late to where I was going. Enraged, he kept screaming at me for terrorizing the public and scaring the other passengers off the bus at such intense times. After refusing to do as he said, he called to other passengers to help get me off the bus. He only stopped after I was hysterical and in tears, and two other passengers told him to stop. The other passengers ignored what was happening and removed themselves from the portion of the bus I was sitting.

About three minutes later, a police officer got on the bus, approached me and asked to see my I.D. The bus driver was very aware of the fact that I am Israeli, which in today's lingo somewhat equals to "not a terrorist", so it was clear that both his decisions to attack me and to call the police were not based on a motive of safety. Apparently he assumed that wearing a kofia is a crime for which cops will force me off the bus, and punish me accordingly. The officer gave me a tough time though I attempted to abstain from political discussions with her. I was badly shaken up. I told her the driver had attacked me, and she suggested that I go to the police station and file a complaint.

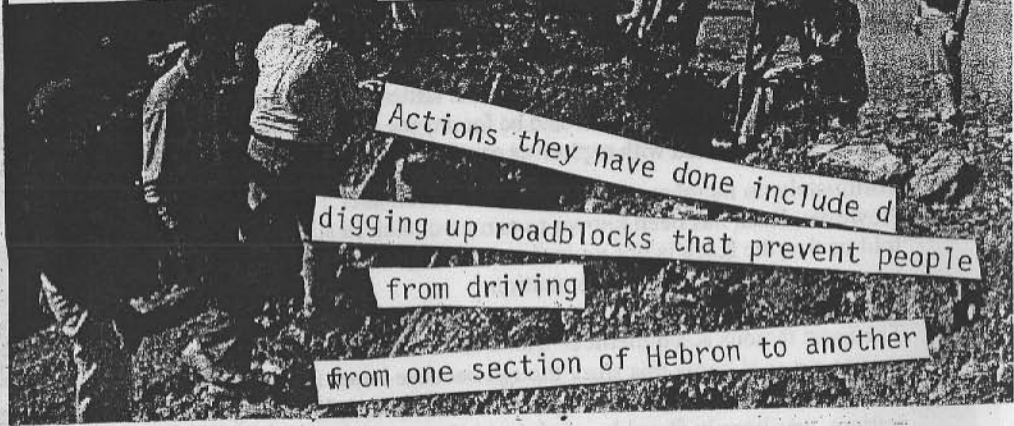
For the rest of the forty-five minute drive I sat shaking by my lonesome self. I wanted to rid myself of the tension and get off the bus, but I refused to lose the bus fare I already paid and get on another bus and give the driver the satisfaction of forcing me off. Plus I was late to school. Right after the assault two guys that witnessed the whole thing started talking to me. I could tell that they didn't want to seem like they sympathized with me after what had just happened, but they wanted to make sure that I was all right and that was the reason for the development of the conversation. They too attacked me for attempting to do such a thing at a time when the Israeli public is walking on eggshells and is afraid of anything that appears to have the slightest resemblance to the Arab world. I tried to answer them diplomatically but I was emotionally distraught and trying not to shake that I'm sure my communication was

not at its finest. Other than that I got lots of dirty looks. Again, people may have been scared, but at a second look at me they could tell I wasn't Palestinian, so mainly they were resentful for me for trying to cause a provocation.

The unfortunate part of all of this is that I got off easy because people could tell I was Israeli, not just by my complexion but by the way I was dressed, aside from the kofia, and by my native Hebrew accent. After telling what had happened to me to a few people I know I received some interesting stories. A friend of mine told me of an Arab friend of hers who was taken off a bus by police after the bus driver called them to "check on him". The officers demanded to see his I.D, and after he showed it to them, refused to believe it was his and forced him off the bus. They beat him up and brought a bomb squad to blow up his backpack. So buses are fully off-limits to anyone looking Palestinian or Arab in any way, regardless of any presence of political symbols or identification. Literally, Arabs are Israel's niggers, who require a bus system of their own because the Israeli bus system and the public of passengers refuse to see them as human beings with equal rights for all eged security reasons, with or without kofias. I'm sure that in a situation like that, a kofia would have gotten that friend of a friend of mine shot by a passenger or by the police, if he'd had been allowed on the bus in the first place.

Seems that Arabs aren't the only people having trouble taking buses these days. Another person I know who is fully Jewish-Israeli and of Eastern-Arabic descent, told me that he refuses to take the bus anymore because of the uncomfortable situation it creates on the bus. Every time he gets on the bus, thirty people get off right at the next stop, and many more glare intensively at the bus driver, giving him signs to "do something before something happens." This leads to policemen coming on the bus to conduct an I.D. check, which leads to more uncomfortable acts: as soon as the cops see the "Jewish" written in his I.D. under "nationality", they stick their tails between their legs and quietly crawl off the bus. Saying "sorry, we thought you were Arab" would just be too insulting, but it's obviously the reason they let him go. Of course it occurred to me that wearing a kofia on a bus was not the safest or most considerate thing to do. Buses are obviously particularly vulnerable places because the Israeli public tends to die while riding in them. Plus Sunday was a day after an attack in Jerusalem, which left eleven Israelis dead, and the Jewish-Israeli public was feeling particularly on-edge. It was also a day of statewide strike amongst the Palestinian population in Israel, due to the near-fifty casualties who lost their lives to the Israeli Army in a single weekend. I had to go to school and couldn't strike, and that's why I wore the kofia. I won't apologize for what I've done. However in discussions I've had with other people, it was brought up that I would come out looking "more politically correct" had I decided to show respect for both sides and wear something which symbolizes the loss of both sides. It might have prevented an attack on me, or should I'd gotten attacked anyway, I would come out looking more justified, at least to the Israeli public. Looking politically correct is not on my agenda. I was horrified at the large numbers of Palestinian casualties. I also have friends in the West Bank whom I spoke with the night before the event happened. I was traumatized by our mere conversation without even being in the West Bank, and my friends are people who

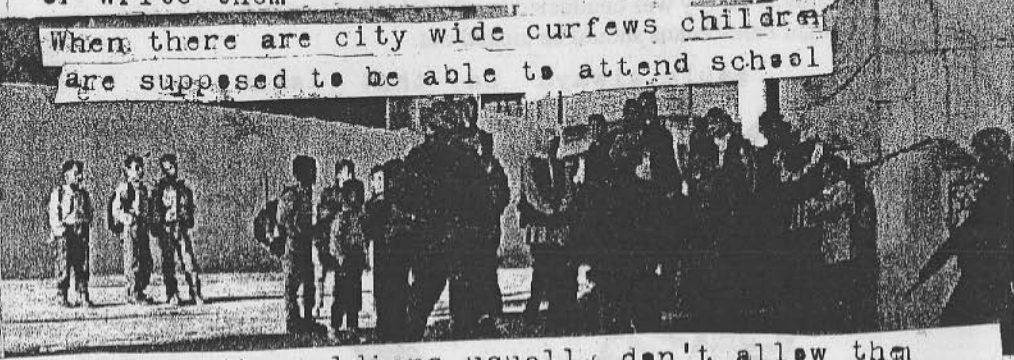
Christian Peacemakers Team They have collectively run office and home where 10 or so Americans live. Some live there for 3 years and some live for 3 months based on the philosophy that if they are opposed to war they must put themselves in situations of conflict and use non-violent direct action to stop the violence.



Actions they have done include digging up roadblocks that prevent people from driving from one section of Hebron to another

"When children want to go to schools, women in labor want to go to a hospital, farmers want to go to their fields. We accompany them if they request it- as int'l's we have a voice and a constituency to back it up.

If you are interested in becoming a CPT volunteer you can look at their website <http://www.peacenet.org/cpt> or write them



When there are city wide curfews children are supposed to be able to attend school yet the soldiers usually don't allow them to. Some schools are closed more than they are open. Some schools have even been turned into military bases

Right outside Hebron is the beautiful Ba'ka valley

We stayed with the Jaber family whose relatives have

lived in the valley for over 400 years but id guess

that doesn't matter because Jews may have lived there

3000 years ago. Therefore its ok to build a settlement road

right through their land and destroy 12000 heads of cabbage it

also makes it ok for the Israeli army to demolish the jabers home

and when they rebuilt it destroy the second one a month

later and also beat and detain atta-the father of the family

after living in a tent for many months and an apartment they

built a third ho me The reason given for the home demolitions is that

they are built on agricultural land yet the hwhole settlement

Kiriati Arba across the street is built on the same agr. land

IN December of 2000 Settlers attacked their home and occupied it

conduct prayer services

the Israeli army wouldn't kick them out because they said they

couldnt interrup their sabbath. After two days the IDF

kicked them out and when the Jaber's returned home

they discovered that their house was a "closed military

zone" and that soldiers were going to live

there during the next 3 months.

during this time the settlers returned to use the house

for a chanukah ceremony .

when the jaber's finally returned

home

they entered a house littered with racist graffiti

and burnt clothes

haven't suffered a loss to property or life in their families. I do think that while both sides are suffering, the difference between the two sides is that life in Israel at this state is similar walking in a minefield outside your house, where you never know when and where things will blow up. By comparison, the Palestinian side is having its houses and streets turn into the battlefield - Nowhere is safe. I'm sorry for keeping score to such a horrendous game, but the whole world now knows that in this bloody football game, the Palestinians are winning. This is not to say that I have no empathy for the Israeli side. For some reason, it appears to the general public that a person identifying in any way with the grave loss of life to the Palestinian public - also known as "the other side", is a traitor to Israel. If you show any empathy or even sympathy to one side, you are disloyal to the other side; By these standards, a traitor like myself deserves to be beaten up at best, and murdered at worse. I know that this is war, but why must I choose sides?

The sad fact is this environment is forming a general de-legitimization of the presence of all Arabs or their supporters this side of the green line. This de-legitimization is founded on fear and inherent racism; the reason people got off the bus when they saw me wearing a kofia is because of an immediate link between this symbol of the Palestinian people and terrorism. It never occurred to anyone that amongst all the violent attacks in the forms of shootings and bombings within Israel since the beginning of the Antiradar or even before then, not a single one was conducted by a person visibly displaying a Muslim or Palestinian symbol of any kind. To this public, a kofia is equivalent to a swastika. By comparison, had I gotten on the bus with a fully loaded semi automatic weapon, I would not even have been bothered, since I'm white. This society rewards the "white", or those who look furthest from the Arab population, while punishing those who even look like "the enemy", though there's nothing that these Palestinian-looking Jews can do to help it. And in the process the interchangeable labels of "terrorism" or a "necessary and legitimate force for protection", which are purely a subject of perception, get tossed around and distorted beyond recognition.



it's easy to dismiss all of this by claiming that the public is scared, so what can we expect. But until we begin to assess our underlying values of a society, which relentlessly whines about shooting itself in the leg at every opportunity, no bus will ever be safe for no one. And so I took it as a vow to myself to continue the work of so-called "terrorizing the public", also known as simply challenging their views (this while keeping in mind that although my code of ethics tells me that I should not back down from fear of getting beaten, there's probably more effective and safer ways to rely the message, so the tactic may be slightly altered). I would seriously like to

encourage the public to not allow this to happen without raising your voices that this is wrong. Israel cannot afford a new bus system for Arabs and those who may look like them. Buses should be safe for everyone.

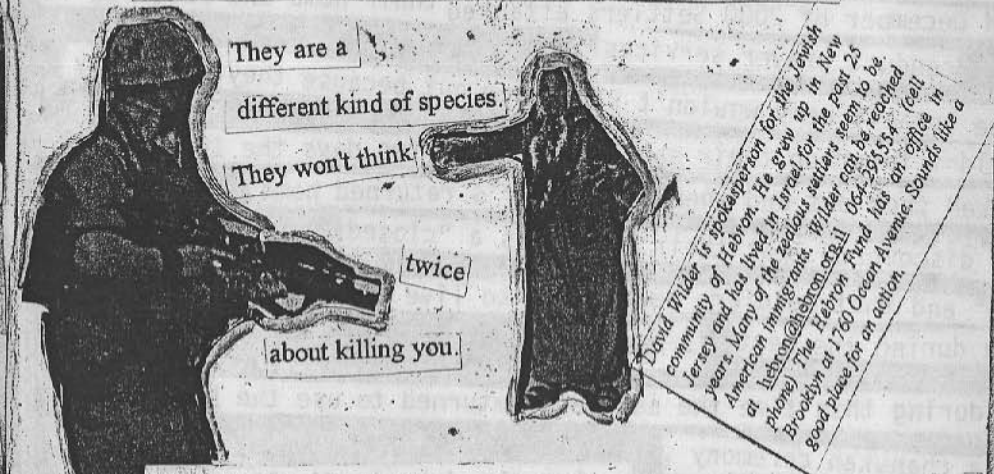
Often when I'm hitchhiking people will ask me if I have a gun and when I say no they'll give me a ride. things are the opposite in Israel. people really like to pick you up if you are sporting a machine gun. That is because it means you are a dutifull Israeli citizen serving in the IDF Israeli Defense forces. All Israelis at the age of 18 have to join the army. women have to go for two years and then one more year for five yrs. Men have to go for three years and six months. All they are 50. people can get out of serving if they are really religious or crazy which is known as profile 219. Women can also get out of serving if they are conscientious objectors. then there are the refusniks: those that refuse to serve for political reasons. these people get to serve in military prisons instead of the army they can get up to 4 months in jail you can write to these prisoners. just look at the couragetoresist.org website for their addresses. sadly there are not that many refusniks it's like refusin to serve means you are blacklisted for the rest of your life ever time you apply for a job they want to see your army record it also decant look good when it says you didnt serve because you are insane its as if you are dropping out of society all together, but hey that doesnt seem like such a bad thing especially when mainstream society is plagued with racism. i read this funny interview in profane existence with the israeli punk band dir yassin and they were talking about how there would be a bustling punk scene and then everyone would get shipped of to the army because they didnt see the correlation between punk & anti-militarism while in the army people would still rock out to crass. often people will tell you that they want to servese they can be the "nice" soldiers and be there in the place of bad soldiers. lots of people dont think that serving has to do with the oppression of palestinians because they get caught up in all the bureaucracy and may just have some weird office job. this is often the case for women who serve in combat less often than men. there is a growing resistan movement with 300 reservists refusing to serve in the occupation the # grows every day.

For example, if we have a land dispute, I say that I have a house and you have a house and we have a dispute of where the border is. We can go to arbitration and take the land that is under dispute and split it in half. Half the land will be yours and half will be his. Neither one of us likes it but you can accept it. The dispute here is not political and it's not economic, it's religious. People are not willing to compromise on religion. That's what we are facing.

Today, we have to understand that when Arafat says he doesn't want us in Hebron and in Jerusalem what he means is that he doesn't want us in Tel Aviv or Haifa. If Arafat was really interested in peace, spelled p-e-a-c-e, then why didn't he accept what Barak offered him. Barak offered more than he could have ever dreamt about in his wildest dreams. He said "No." I've always called the peace process p-i-e-c-e. One piece and then another piece and then another piece.

Q: If you could say one thing to American Jews, what would it be?
 could level it. There are different levels the easiest thing to say, some say it was a cop out, just tell American Jews to come and live here. If there were another 300,000 Jews living in Israel today the situation we have in Yasha, Sumeria, and Gaza would be different. I think that if one looks for a real solution to the problem we spoke about, that means there have to be more Jews living in the land of Israel. Many Jews don't buy that. Many don't think in terms of coming to live here. It just turns them off and they don't hear anything else you say. At least, if you don't think about coming to live here then at least understand what Israel is. Come here, visit it, see it, and understand why those of us who have chosen to be here are here, what's important about Eretz Israel, what's important about Am Israel, why does Am Israel have to live in Eretz Israel, and trying to internalize that. Then somehow find a way to show support - be it political, moral, financial support, whatever - to help those of us that are here keep Eretz Israel Jewish.

But while you are here you got to watch out where you travel.



David Wilder is spokesperson for the Jewish community of Hebron. He grew up in New Jersey and has lived in Israel for the past 25 years. Many of the zealous settlers seem to be American immigrants. Wilder can be reached at bdwyer@hebron.org. Oct. 295-354 (cell phone) The Hebron Fund has an office in Brooklyn at 1760 Ocean Avenue. Search like a good phrase for an action.

Conflict Resolution with the Other:
 According to Wilder, Arabs "are a different kind of species." A species that "have no hesitation about killing you." [If you're Jewish] "They won't think twice about killing you." For Wilder, this conception of Arabs is not based on a particular time period, a geographical area, or political perspective. Daniel Pearl is kidnapped in Pakistan and Wilder feels this incident reflects on the character of all Palestinians. In his office, Wilder has a poster hanging saying, "Don't Arabs Have Enough Countries?" The poster, like Wilder's narrative, casts Arabs as a single entity without political, cultural, or ethnic differences. The singular Arab mentality stretches through time. For Wilder, the massacre of 1929, along with other attacks on Jews, prove that peaceful co-existence is impossible. There are groups like Reut-Sadaka who are working to build understanding and friendships between Arabs and Jews, but Wilder calls that goal "naive." Wilder believes that Arabs are essentially anti-Jewish terrorists.

The standard way people think of conflict resolution is to get people who disagree to talk in hopes they can come to a common understanding and work something out that everyone can live with. Wilder proposes a different solution. Jews should not talk with Palestinians. Peres should not meet with Arafat and, in fear of being killed, Jews shouldn't even walk in Arab neighborhoods. Wilder believes that peace will happen if more Jews assert that "Eretz Israel belongs to us." Wilder believes that peace will happen if more Jews move to Israel. It seems Wilder is unconcerned with assuaging the worries of Palestinians.

state which would be catastrophic to the state of Israel. You would not only have an entity as a terrorist organization, but you would have an internationally accepted state which is another terrorist state. The U.S. and George Bush have declared war on terrorist states and here we would be assisting in the creation of another terrorist state. A contradiction of what the world should be doing today. So I certainly hope that Sharon makes a shift in his policies and that things change.

Q: What could be a solution to stop the violence?

Solutions, everyone looks for solutions. Even when a person goes to a psychiatrist for care, the doctor doesn't necessarily offer a solution. He offers a way in which you help yourself, and I think the same thing is true with what has happened today. There are several roots to the problems which we have today but they don't start with the Arabs. They start with us. First the Jewish people have to understand why we are in Eretz Israel. We have to understand what Eretz Israel is. We have to understand that Eretz Israel belongs to us! If a Jew doesn't understand that Eretz Israel belongs to the Jewish people then how can we expect anyone else to understand it?



2 settlers attack a Palestinian woman

It's very difficult to complain to the US, "why is Colin Powell [US Secretary of State] meeting with Yasser Arafat?" if Shimon Peres Israel's Foreign Minister] is meeting with Yasser Arafat [the head of the PA]. We're doing it, why shouldn't they do it? If there are Israeli's that say that Hebron or Jerusalem or anyplace else doesn't belong to us, then why shouldn't the Arabs say it, why shouldn't the Americans and Europeans say it?

The problem we have today stems from education. People don't understand what it is to be Jewish. They don't understand what Eretz Israel is. They think it is a means to an end. I think that if we want to reach a solution it has to begin with ourselves. If we were united in terms of our understanding and acceptance of the importance and significance of Eretz Israel, we would be on our way to a solution. As long as the Jewish people don't understand why we are here then it is very difficult to see how we start to bring about an end to conflict.

Q: I've seen a couple of groups who are talking about the conflict a little differently. One was a group we saw in Tel Aviv called Reut-Sadaka. They have a house that is half-Arab and half-Jewish and they have youth trips for people in high school. They put 25 Jews and 25 Arabs on a bus. How do you think those kinds of actions fit into-

I think it's all well and good, but it is extremely naive. Go back a few years to 1929 - which really isn't that long ago. You see that in a place like Hebron the community that lived here 450 years with their Arab neighbors. One clear day the neighbors that had lived together with their other neighbors got up and started massacring them. Just like that [Wilder snaps his fingers.]. They raped the women, they tortured the men, they did horrible things to the people. This was done by people's next door neighbors, people that they knew. The people in 1929 in Hebron refused to accept weapons to protect themselves the day before because they said "The Arabs here are our friends. If we take weapons it will be a provocation."

Hebron 1929, another take.

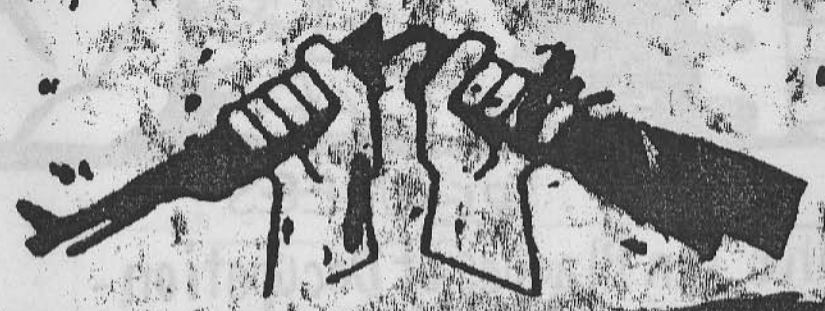
Many people who lived in Hebron during 1929 say that the British had encouraged Arabs from outside of the community to commit the massacre. Dozens of Muslim families within Hebron risked their lives to shelter over 400 Jews. The Jews that remained in Hebron after the massacre left in the 1930's after British encouragement. Descendants of the pre-1929 Jewish community in Hebron have decried the actions of the current settlers and have started a petition saying that the settlers do not represent them. (March 3, 1997, Philadelphia Inquirer: Hebron "Descendants Decry Actions of Current Settlers".)

Getting together a group of 25 kids like this and 25 kids like that, it's a nice idea. I don't know if there's any harm in it except one has to realize that you can't live under illusions. You are dealing with a situation, not just a few people here and there, you are dealing with a mindset, a way of thinking, a way of life.

RESERVISTS REFUSE TO SERVE IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

- We, reserve combat officers and soldiers of the Israel Defense Forces, who were raised upon the principles of Zionism, sacrifice and giving to the people of Israel and to the State of Israel, who have always served in the front lines, and who were the first to carry out any mission, light or heavy, in order to protect the State of Israel and strengthen it.
- We, combat officers and soldiers who have served the State of Israel for long weeks every year, in spite of the dear cost to our personal lives, have been on reserve duty all over the Occupied Territories, and were issued commands and directives that had nothing to do with the security of our country, and that had the sole purpose of perpetuating our control over the Palestinian people. We, whose eyes have seen the bloody toll this Occupation exacts from both sides.
- We, who sensed how the commands issued to us in the Territories, destroy the values we had absorbed while growing up in this country.
- We, who understand now that the price of Occupation is the loss of IDF's human character and the corruption of the entire Israeli society.
- We, who know that the Territories are not Israel, and that all settlements are bound to be evacuated in the end.
- We hereby declare that we shall not continue to fight this War of the Settlements.
- We shall not continue to fight beyond the 1967 borders in order to dominate, expel, starve and humiliate an entire people.
- We hereby declare that we shall continue serving in the Israel Defense Force any mission that serves Israel's defense.
- **The missions of occupation and oppression do not serve this purpose - and we shall take no part in them.**

בנינו בל 21



לא יורדים ולא נוכים



REFUGEES

The Ten Plagues of Occupation -

a series of stencils by Erik Ruin
 used in the Play "Olive on the Seder Plate"
 produced by the Liberty Cabbage Theatre Revue

We conducted this interview under the guise of two American Jews visiting Israel and doing research for a school project. David Wilder was quite alarmed when we asked for directions from the Arab side of town. Here is what happened to us as we walked through town:



David Wilder seemed to have a different impression of the Hebron market. When we arrived at his office, he explains.

They [Arabs] have no hesitation about killing you - like none. I told it to a reporter, a Jewish reporter, who was here from Newsweek. A week and a half later, they kidnapped him. He was lucky. They let him go because they made a lot of noise because it's Newsweek. You got this guy, Pearl, from the Wall Street Journal, who they kidnapped [in Pakistan]. You got to be really careful.

If it's Hamas or somebody like that, then they'll just string you up. They'll just kill you. They don't care. It doesn't make any difference to them. Wherever you go, you have to be really careful. You can't imagine. It's unfortunate - it's just the way it is. I hope it changes, but for the time being that is the way it is.

Q: Could you describe life in Hebron?

Hebron is important for any number of reasons. First and foremost because it is the first Jewish city in the land of Israel. Talk about the roots of the Jewish people: this is it. This is where it all started. All the patriarchs and matriarchs lived here. The tomb of the patriarchs is five minutes from where we are sitting [in David Wilder's office at the Avraham Avino Settlement in downtown Hebron].

Jews lived here until 1929. You want to talk about modern Hebron, we are talking about a community going back to the early 1500's. They lived here until the riots in 1929 in August that left 67 people dead and another 70 wounded and the rest of the community was exiled by the British, who had been ruling here. They threw everyone out of Hebron. That was the end of a community until we came back during the '67 War. When we came back, we didn't come back to a foreign city and occupy it. We came back home. We came back to a place where Jews had lived for many, many hundreds of years prior to the expulsion in '29.

The political situation in Hebron is of course very difficult. 5 years ago, the city was divided into two. The terrorists were given 80% of the city as part of the Hebron accords which was an offshoot of the Oslo Accords. It was supposed to be a paradigm of peace and communities living together. The result of that has been a year and a half of shooting, in which we were attacked. The attacks started a year and a half ago, just before Rosh Hashanah. They continued almost daily up until last Sukkot. With people being injured, children being injured. A 10 month old baby was shot in the head by an Arab sniper. And of course, not just in Hebron, but around Hebron.

My daughter - who is now 10 - last year, she was nine years old, her teacher was killed in a terrorist attack on the way to work. She was killed on a Friday morning. Her principle came into the classroom and told the kids in Fourth grade that their teacher wasn't coming in anymore, she had just been killed in a terrorist attack. Of course that has a tremendous effect. This is the result of this so-called experiment proving how everything will be wonderful together. The terrorists were given among other things the hills that surround the Jewish neighborhoods in Hebron.

This is an example of what has been happening throughout Israel, not just here. We warned that any land transferred to the PA would be used as centers of terrorism, planned terrorist attacks, and as places of refuge following terrorist attacks. Of course this is exactly what happened. This has brought about the murder of over 270 Israelis since this war started.

Q: Do you have policy suggestions that would be different?

Look, I am not a military person. There are people who are experts in that stuff. You ask me what has to be done on a wider scale and the first thing that has to be done is the PA [Palestinian Authority] has to be totally destroyed. The PA is the largest terrorist organization in the world and is clearly a tremendous threat to the safety of the state of Israel. The PA is seen today as a nucleus of a Palestinian

we went undercover into the belly of the beast and interviewed

the lovely racist Head settler of Hebron. David Wilder

How long have you been in the military? Almost a year.

Have you been in Hebron mostly? -No. We do a routine for four months. All of the time it changes. It is our first time in Hebron

So tell me about some of your experiences here?

-What? Like soldiers killing little arabic kids or something like that?

Whatever you want to share. Stories like that or stories like not wanting to hang out with the lieutenant

-Yeah of course we don't want to hang out with the lieutenant. He kills arabic children. We are not like him. We give them food. We give them our bread everyday.

Do you feel like there are good guys and bad guys in the army?

-Of course, the former brigade that was here in Hebron they were really bad guys

Do you have conflicts? Do people give you orders that you don't want to fill?

-No not at this moment I don't think we want to be here. Nobody says you should and you shouldn't.

It's more global, like is it immoral to be here? This is the question. I personally think it is **"How come?"**

-I don't think they should live with army in their streets. I don't think we should stop them on their way to work to check their id's and all. I think that it is better that soldiers like us are here instead of bad soldiers. We don't have any

What do you think of the settlements and the settlers?

-I think they are fucking Nazis and I hate them and I hate to be the one that make sure-

-They don't like us because-

-They know we hate them

-Because if some little kid spits on an Arab we arrest him. So

what if you are a Jew! So what!

It's amazing to see a little kid spit on a 60 year old woman. They said that the ones before us said that they didn't do nothing they didn't care if you want to spit -I heard that they used to hit the Arabs too. **"The settlers?*** -No the soldiers.

-I understand them, but I don't think it's right. I understand they shouldn't kill people or bomb.

-Like you heard about the bat mitzvah?

Kinda crazy stuff yesterday in Beer Sheva two soldiers in a restaurant [were killed] it was called "end of the way"

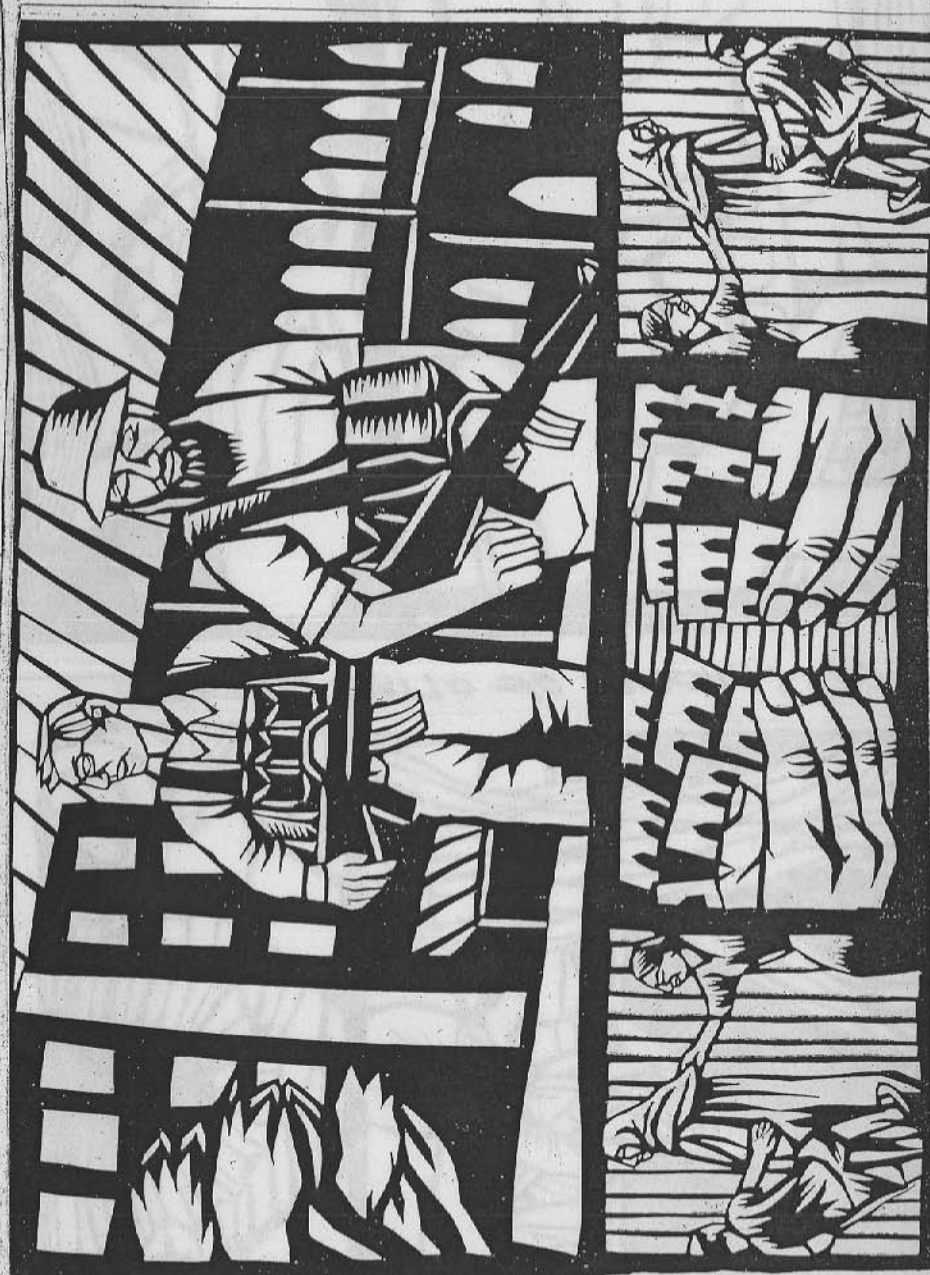
-The thing is that when CPT (Christian Peacemaker Team) they see us and they think that we are the bad guys too because we guard the settlers. We don't.

-We have to be here I don't care if someone gets inside with a "klakschkinov" and kills them all. I'd be happy if it happened but I have to be here.

If you could say one thing to Americans what would you say?

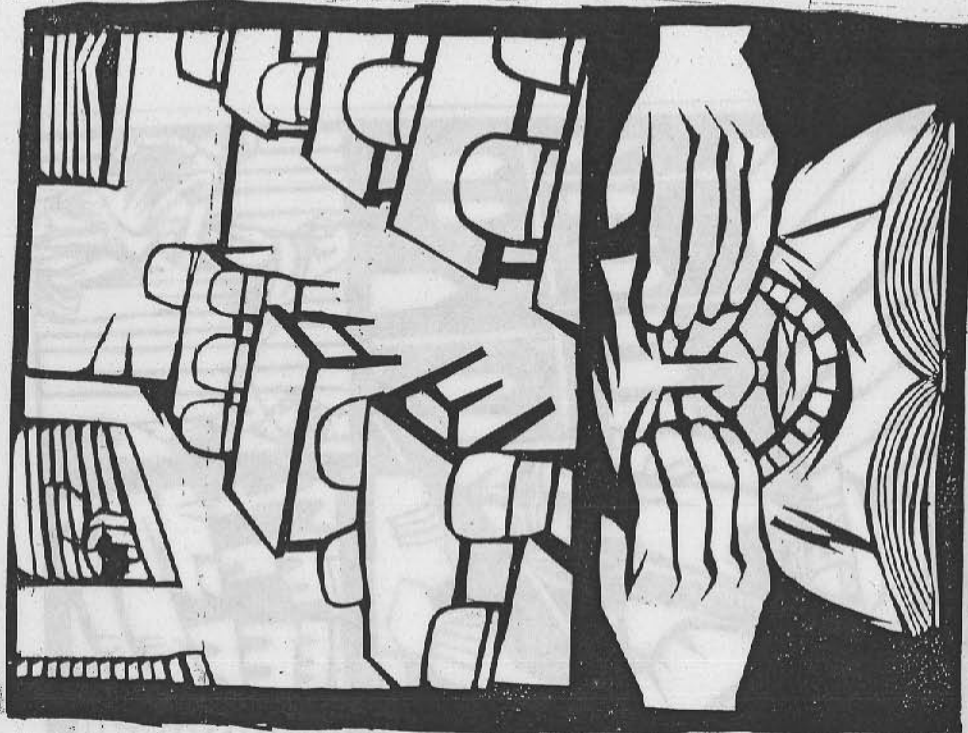
-We are not fascist Nazis we are good guys but we look like it because there are thousands of them the same with them. We think they are the bad guys because there are some bad guys.

I think that people should be more interested in the values that are in this country, the values of the army, the values of the citizens. I think they they will understand more because our orders are not so easy. We can not shoot with the trigger whatever you want. If you do it you will have court and sit in jail.



SETTLEMENTS

LACK OF ACCESS TO EDUCATION



DESTRUCTION OF OLIVE TREES



In Hebron the occupation literally hangs over your head. When you walk in the downtown market and look up you see that a net encases the whole city. This net is supposed to prevent the avraham avino settlers from dropping garbage on the Palestinians down below. The nets do a good job of making people feel caged in but they don't do shit when settlers ~~fee~~ drop concrete blocks and large stones on people. The cage feeling is further enhanced by the large gates blocking entrance to the streets with settler caravans. These gates are always guarded by those 18 year old kids with big machine guns-Israeli soldiers. In fact every direction you look are those gun toting kids. On many a rooftop they are perched as snipers "keeping the peace"

(WHP)

Sometimes they lurk in little enclaves id'ing all people walking by- their crime?? Walking while palestinian. Sometimes they would try to id little kids who don't even have id's. One afternoon we decided to observe the soldiers to make sure they weren't mistreating people beyond the already humiliating experience of being id'd.

Sadly it didn't seem to help much because the

soldiers would just take the palestinians into their little enclave

and search them where we couldn't see them.

Sometimes the crime of WHP is further enforced when there is curfew and Palestinains can only leave there house every few days for a few hours to get groceries.

Last year there was curfew for 10 months±±

yet settlers still roamed the streets setting fires and cutting off palestinians electricity.



As a rule of thumb,
I avoid groups of teenage
boys... I figure, why chance
getting on the wrong side of some
17 year old's testosterone secretion
when I can cross the road instead? And
it's always safest to give kids with this
a wide berth.

HEBRON



Not to
bad-mouth
a settler
based on
his personal
arsenal,
yonderstand
...not out
loud, anyway,
and not
here in par-
ticular. This
has been a
crud town
to Jews - in
the Arab riots
of 1919 upwards
of 60 Hebron
Jews got mar-
sacred - in '36
the small Jew-
ish community
got run out of
town all to-
gether.

cartoon
by SA Sacco

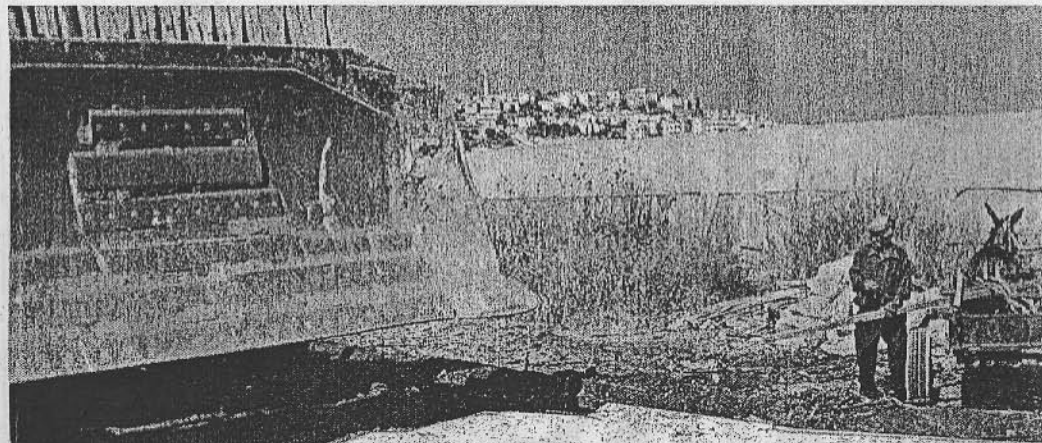
Fortunes change
... Israel nabbed
the West Bank
in the '67 war
and settling
biblical Judea
and Samaria
has been a
religious imper-
ative for fund-
amentalist Jews
ever since.
Their policy's
been: Settle
first and Israeli
government
approval will
follow (and event-
ually the Messiah)
...Such audacity
got them the
nearby (like one-
kilometer nearby)
Kiryat Arba
settlement in '72
...but that wasn't
enough ... in '79
Gush Emunim
zealots squatted
Hebron proper -
downtown...and
they're here to stay,
you better believe it,
with their finger
on the trigger in
case some unruly
"Canaanite" gets
other ideas...



LACK OF ACCESS TO WATER



CHECKPOINTS



The region of Tulkarem contains a village called Baca al-harqia. This village has been devastated by the erection of the Separation Barrier. One farmer, who fled from genocide in 1948 ended up in this village. He and his daughter bought some land here. We went to visit this 87 year old man. As we arrived, we noticed the Israeli bulldozers flattening all of the livelihood he had left. The army had already shut off the water to his crops, which died within days. Now, as the huge machines wreeked through his fields, he gathered small pieces of wood in his tiny donkey cart, attempting to salvage all he had left. His daughter, amongst all of this, made us tea in their little shack. As we sipped, listening to her story, the bulldozers whizzed on by, obliterating their life. Through her sobs, she pleaded, "How are we going to eat? Where are we going to go?" We left after the soldiers threatened us with their mighty guns, watching behind as the bulldozers took all that they could from the 87 year old farmer and his daughter.

There were also 3 days of demonstrations in this region:

The first action was in a village called Ferrouq which is also surrounded by the wall, preventing farmers from reaching their land. The ISM helped in organizing this and the other demonstrations, providing media coverage from many different countries. In this demonstration, a Palestinian labor union worker (who was in Pittsburgh recently on the "Stop the Wall Campaign") and myself, cut down the layers of razor wire that the Israeli army had placed in front of the gate. Several other locals rushed up to the gate, shook it with all of their might, breaking off some pieces of the gate. The demonstrators retreated when the army arrived, attempting to run people over with their jeeps.

The second action was a women's demonstration against the Apartheid Wall in Tulkarem. A couple hundred women protested, in which no men, including ISMers, were present. The action ended with the army throwing tear gas at the peaceful demonstrators.

On the third day, the demonstration was held in Baca al-Sharqia. We marched to the checkpoint where we were halted by the army. Other ISMers and Israeli peace activists were on the opposite side of the checkpoint, protesting in solidarity, and were themselves forbidden to cross, which is what the Palestinians deal with everyday.

One woman we interviewed in Baca al-Sharqia had this to say about life under occupation: *It's not easy watching your children die! Their father hasn't had a job for three years. I have a lot of kids, how are we supposed to support them? Stuck at the checkpoint in the rain - only for humiliation. Please take our story home - let them know our suffering, what's really happening. Nowhere else do women suffer like we do. We don't like violence - but when they are taking your land and killing your children everyday in front of your eyes, it's not easy. This land - it's in our blood.*

Whether they did it because of their sympathetic hearts or because several media outlets were present is unclear, the fact is that together, we helped the Palestinian farmers reach the land that was forbidden to them by the Israeli army.

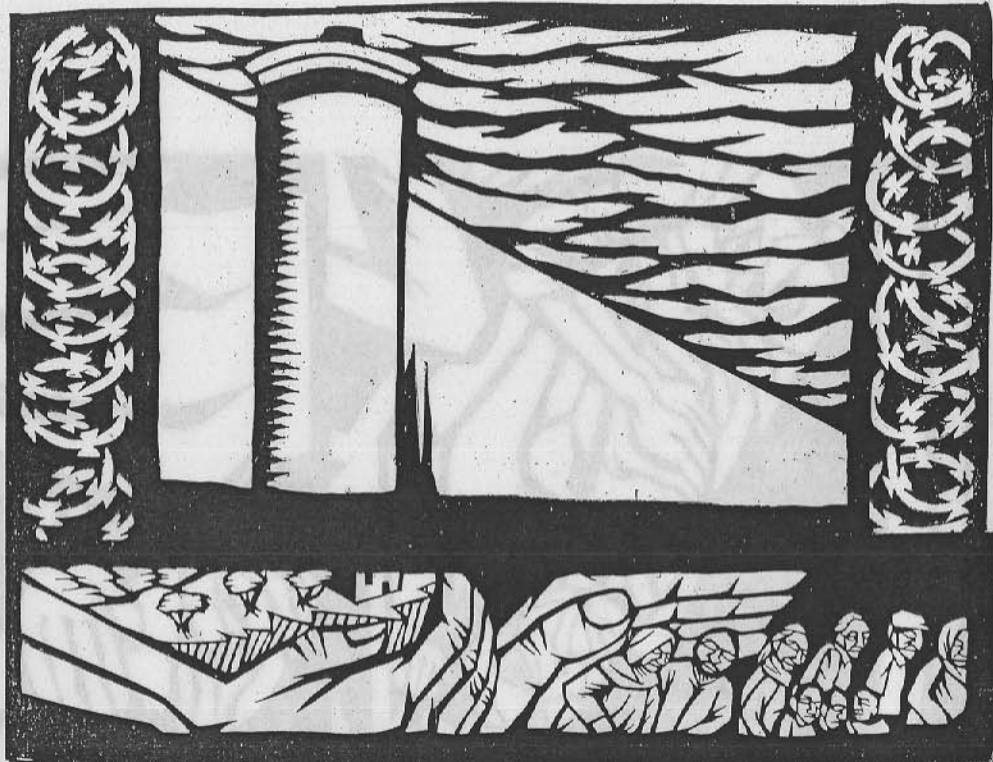
As for Jayyous, what the wall is doing to this land is also appalling. (Facts taken directly from PLO: Negotiations Affairs Department <http://www.nad-plo.org/>)

***Jayyous is located in the governorate of Qalqilia six kilometers east of the Green Line and has a population of approximately 3,100 Palestinians.* Jayyous is a farming town that provides produce to 60,000 Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. *The Israeli Army has built a militarily-fortified barrier 6 kilometers east of the *Green Line, *The wall has been built between Jayyous homes and Jayyous farmland, thereby separating Jayyous farmers from their fields. o Approximately 9,000 dunums of agricultural land are separated from their owners, of which 2,500 dunums are irrigated crop lands on the other side of the wall.* These irrigated crops provide 90% of the town's total economic revenue. o The wall separate Jayyous farmers from 120 greenhouses, 15,000 olive trees and 50,000 citrus trees* All seven of the town's water wells are behind the wall. As a result, the town receives running water only two hours every three days, with an average per capita water consumption of 20 liters per day, five times below the World Health *Organization's daily per capita minimum health standard of 100 liters per day. *Due to the wall and the accompanying travel restrictions, Jayyous residents are denied basic services, such as access to medical care located outside Jayyous. *480 of 550 families (87%) have lost their sole means of livelihood. *180 families are receiving humanitarian aid.* In order to farm their lands, 32 farmers are living in tents on their land, separated from their homes and families.**

Many of the ISM members in Jayyous also belong to JATO (Jews Against the Occupation). Everyday, we get up at the crack of dawn to document what happens at the gate. The soldiers are supposed to come at a set time, unlock the gate for the farmers to get through to their land, and return later in the day to let them back in. However, as I witnessed several times, the soldiers just don't care. They come whenever they feel like it. And if you are not there when they unlock it, you cannot get to your land. Same goes for the night time; if the soldiers decide to unlock the gate early, and you arrive thereafter, you are stuck on the outside. The soldiers one day also decided to not let any donkey carts or vehicles through. One farmer had with him his four young children, all under the age of 10, and denied his car entrance to his fields. The farmer was left with the decision to turn around knowing that convincing the soldier to let he and his children cross was inevitable, or to make his small children carry his heavy farming tools hundreds of meters to his land. He had to turn around. One JATO member said to the soldier, "Why don't you let them cross? They're just kids!" "So am I," said the rather young soldier. She responded, "Yeah, but you're a kid with a gun. Have a heart, you know this is wrong!" At this point, he locked the gate. This happens everyday in Jayyous and other regions, and it is the ISM's job to document such cases and negotiate with the soldiers, which sometimes does prove fruitful.



LACK OF ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE



THE WALL



ECONOMIC DEVASTATION

*Ras Atiya/ Ras Tira : Imagine our neighborhoods of Shadyside and Oakland. They are right next to each other. Pittsburghers can travel easily from them, from home to work, school to the market, without problem. The villages of Ras Tira and Ras Atiya are like this. The one main difference is the Separation Barrier. The fence rips through the once beautiful landscape of these villages, preventing families from traveling from one village to the next to see their relatives, and children cannot even walk what was once a simple road to school. They are now forced to crawl through septic tunnels and climb through mountains of razor wire.

The people of these villages asked the ISM's help in the next demonstration. As we arrived, a couple security forces were already on sight. Moments later, as we stood on the Ras Tira side of the gate, other ISMers and Palestinians from Ras Atiya cornered the mountain, where we could hear them chanting and waving Palestinian flags. The two groups converged at the gate. Palestinians and ISMers spoke about the effects of the Occupation and the Apartheid Wall on the indigenous people. Shortly thereafter, the army arrived. The ISM front line blocked the road as the jeeps arrived. One soldier attempted to arrest a front liner but the others jumped on top of him and were able to release him. Other soldiers threatened arrest and rubber bullets. It was Friday, and at this point, the Moslems decided to pray facing Mecca in the middle of the open gate, preventing soldiers from driving-through. I.D.'s were confiscated and one Israeli peace activist was arrested. In the end, the army decided to close the gate—which eventually turned into 2 weeks that the gate was shut through which the Palestinians could not pass—a form of "punishment" by the IOF for demonstrating peacefully.



Anin, Jayyous It's obvious that the Apartheid Wall is not for security. The wall has been erected through the villages of Anin and Jayyous, where between 75 and 80% of the Palestinians are farmers. In Anin, for instance, the wall has prevented farmers from reaching their olive groves for harvesting in two years. The ISM was asked to participate in an action with local Palestinians and Tayyushi, an Israeli peace group. Together, we tilled the land for the farmers who could not reach it, whom we could see on the other side of the fence with other members of the ISM, carrying signs and flags. For hours under the hot sun, we worked the land with the Palestinian and Israeli brothers and sisters. Eventually, after two years of waiting, the army actually let about 10 of the farmers from the other side of the fence cross-over and till their rightful land.

40 DAYS AND 40 NIGHTS IN THE HOLY LAND

-JONAS MOFFAT

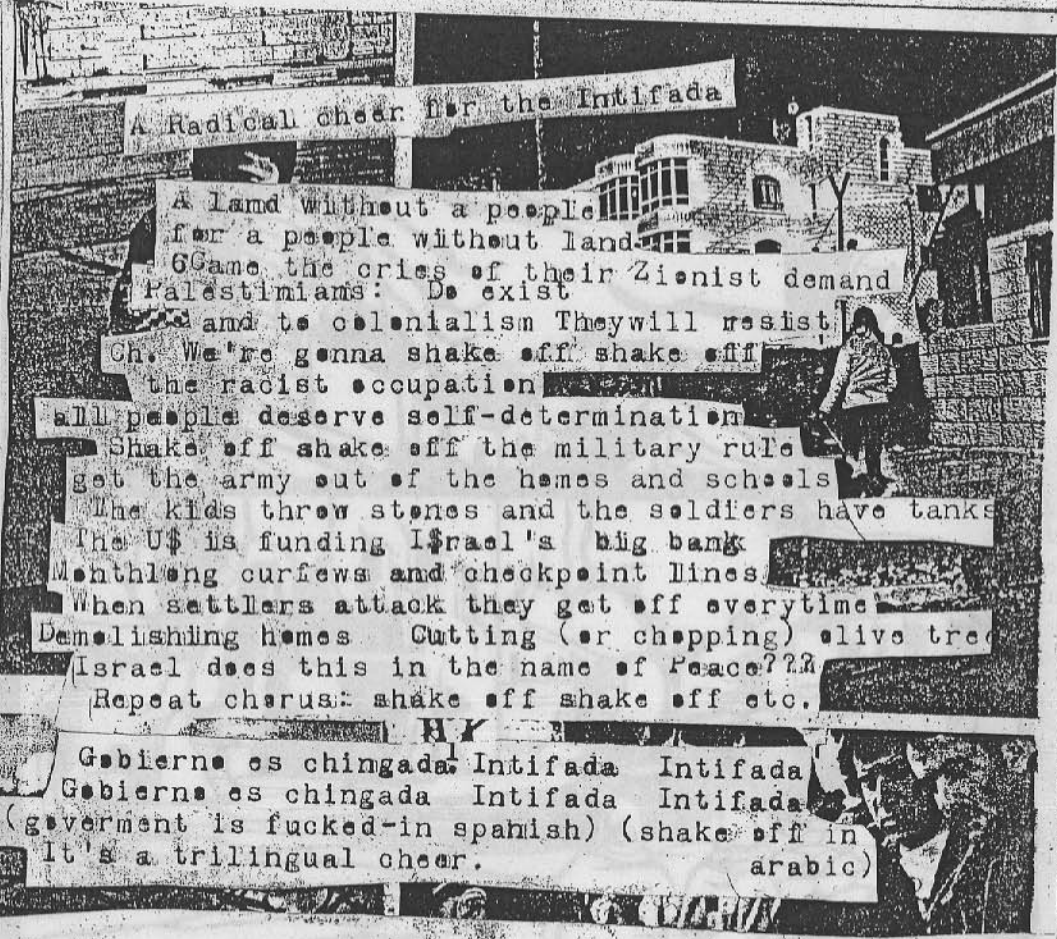
“All we want is peace! We’ll take the 22% of the land
—but just give us peace!”

This is the plea that I heard numerous times during my stay in the intensely disputed territory of the West Bank this summer with the International Solidarity Movement (ISM). The following will focus on the many stories I had heard from both sides—Israelis and Palestinians; and will be accompanied by personal pictures I managed to sneak back here to the United States. It is a first hand account of what is actually happening in the Palestinian Occupied Territories, what has, of course, been going on for years, and unless we open our eyes and speak out against the brutal Israeli Occupation, will continue for years to come.

This article is only an excerpt and if you are interested in the full article or more photos write—jallayalla@hotmail.com



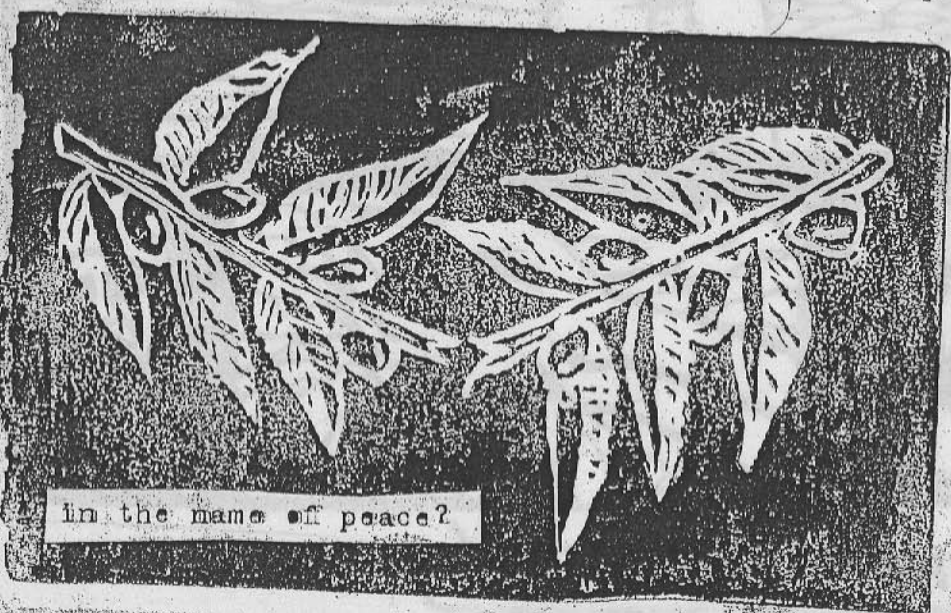
HOME DEMOLITION



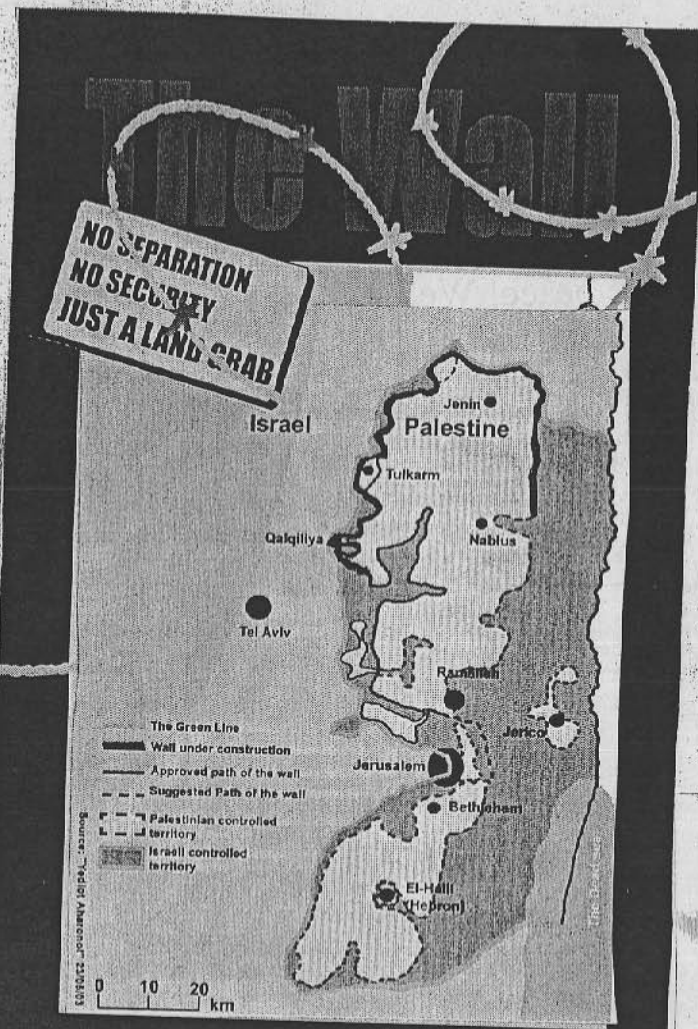
A Radical cheer for the Intifada

A Land without a people
 for a people without land
 GGave the cries of their Zionist demand
 Palestinians: Do exist
 and to colonialism They will resist
 Oh. We're gonna shake off shake off
 the racist occupation
 all people deserve self-determination
 Shake off shake off the military rule
 get the army out of the homes and schools
 The kids throw stones and the soldiers have tanks
 The US is funding Israel's big bank
 Monthlong curfews and checkpoint lines
 When settlers attack they get off everytime
 Demolishing homes Cutting (or chopping) olive trees
 Israel does this in the name of Peace??
 Repeat chorus: shake off shake off etc.

Gobierno es chingada Intifada Intifada
 Gobierno es chingada Intifada Intifada
 (government is fucked-in spanish) (shake off in
 arabic)



In the name of peace?



At the moment, 500 bulldozers and earthmovers are carrying out the largest national project in Israel. An immense complex - walls, patrol routes, trenches, electronic fences and sensors - is erected deep within the Palestinian territories. The Separation Wall is being built with no serious public debate on its real purpose or possible consequences.

A government that invests 2 Million Dollars in every km of a wall is building for posterity. The Sharon Government is trying to redraw the border permanently, far away from the public eye.

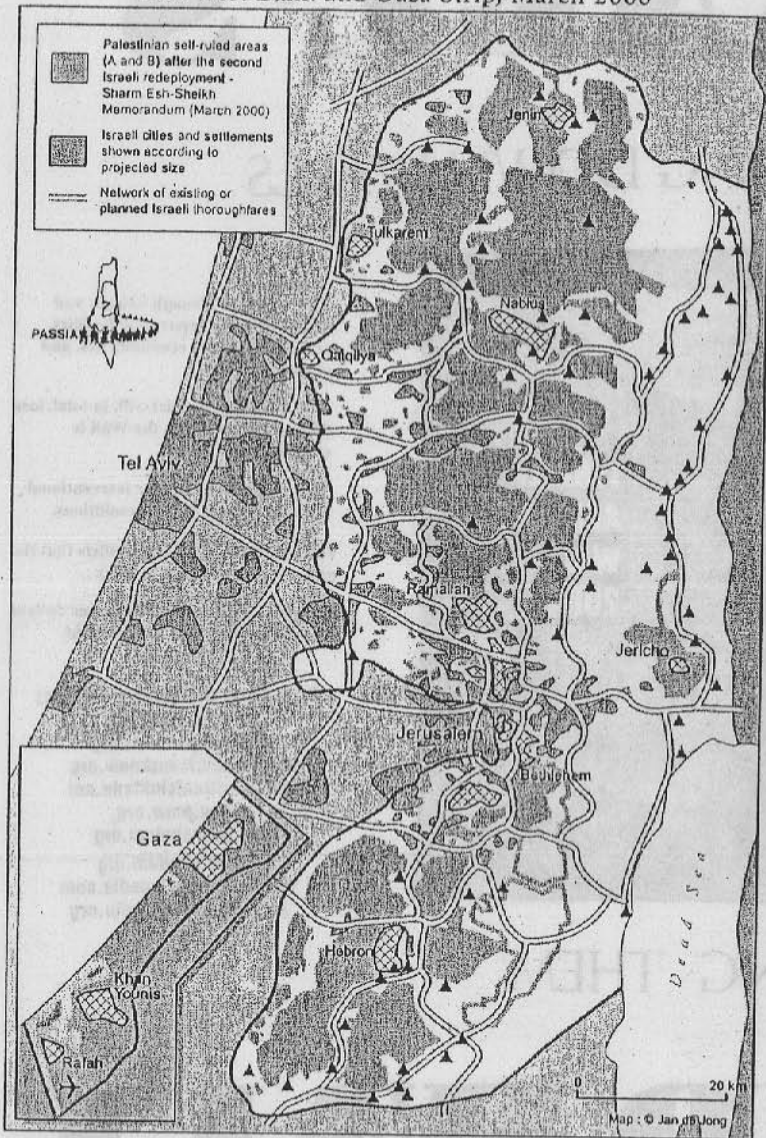
Israelis from Palestinians

taken from a booklet
 from their land.

The wall will not separate

But Palestinians

The West Bank and Gaza Strip, March 2000



Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs (PASSIA)

Jerusalem is at the heart of the conflict. Israel occupied East Jerusalem since 1967. Palestinians want a state with E. Jerusalem as the capitol. This is an extremely contentious issue because at the moment you are not even allowed to fly a Palestinian flag in the city. Yet Sharon just bought a house (which he doesn't live in) in the middle of the muslim quarter in the old city and he flies a huge Israeli flag from his house.

We took a trip to Issawiye - a Palestinian village in Jerusalem and we saw many ~~houses~~ homes that had been destroyed. T Issawiye is right below Hebrew University. They want to expand their campus which probably has something to do with the demolition of homes right below.

Israel has built many settlements right around E. Jerusalem so it will make it easier to completely isolate Jerusalem from the West Bank. There is even one settlement that was built near Bethlehem, yet no one even lives there.

The Israel Committee against housing demolitions does direct action in Jerusalem where they try to block the bulldozers. Sometimes they are successful.

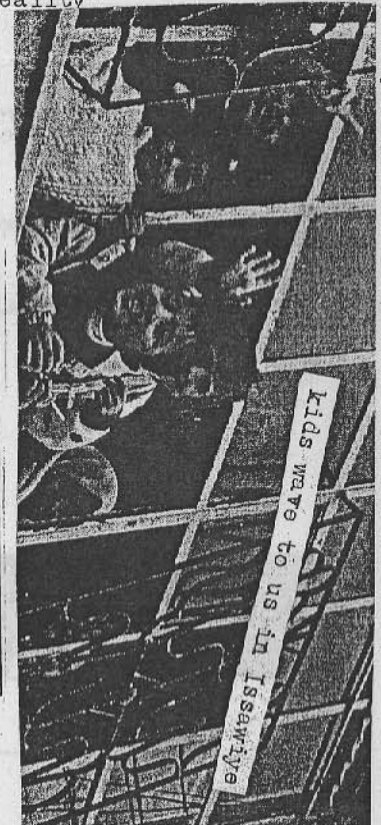
The reasoning that Israel has for demolishing homes is that people don't have permits to build, because it is nearly impossible for Palestinians to even get building permits.

In the original UN plan in 1948 said that Jerusalem would be an international city surrounded by a Palestinian state. This is so far off from the current reality.

Israeli Settlements and Palestinian Neighborhoods in East Jerusalem, 2000



Al Quds = Jerusalem



STOP ISRAEL'S

WHILE SOME PEOPLE ARE TEARING DOWN WALLS

THE WALL:

costs \$3.4 billion (7.5 million per mile)

will be 453 miles long in its completed state

will steal 50% of the West Bank's land

leaves Palestinians with only 12% of historic Palestine

is 8 meters high in some areas -

twice the height of the Berlin Wall

has armed watchtowers and a 30-100 meters "buffer zone" for electric fences, trenches, cameras, sensors, and military patrol

has a "buffer zone" which paves the way for large-scale demolitions and the expulsion of nearby residents

is located just meters away from homes, shops, and schools.

places 16% of Palestinians in the West Bank "outside" the Wall and "inside" Israel



The Wall rips through villages and neighborhoods, separating families, cutting social and economic ties, and ghettoizing areas.

The Jerusalem district will, in total, lose 90% of its land when the Wall is completed.

This wall is illegal under international law and violates 46 UN resolutions.

The Israeli Government predicts that the wall will be completed in 2005.

Each year, 3 billion U.S. taxpayer dollars are sent to the Israeli Government.

For more information:

www.pgh-psc.org
www.stopthewall.org
www.ifamericansknew.org
www.electronicintifada.net
www.pmw.org
www.gushshalom.org
www.btselem.org
www.alternativemedia.com
jerusalem.indymedia.org

OTHERS ARE BUILDING THEM

APARTHEID WALL

- a poster seen plastering pittsburgh street corner. often it would be torn up while many political/radical posters around it would be untouched