

Lee Feldman

Zionism and the Jewish people

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Being an American Jew, or Jewish American, my interest in the Middle East is probably more acute than most gentile Americans. My support of the Arab liberation movement, specifically, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, is a complete reversal of prior feelings. Why is this so?

I grew up on the south side of Chicago. The neighborhood was predominantly Jewish, with a lot of Irish and Poles in it. I was equally aware of being a Jew as I was of being an American, maybe more so towards being a Jew. Jewish culture was relatively mild in our household. Judaism as a religion dominated Jewishness as a culture, but a sufficient number of relatives were steeped in Jewish culture for me to assimilate a Jewish soul.

I studied Hebrew and was trained in Jewish history and culture at a Reform Jewish "Sunday School." I fought in Jewish-Irish and Jewish-Polish neighborhood battles. I hold in contempt non-Jews who use such phrases as "I Jewed him down," "I got Jewed," "Some of my best friends are Jews," "The Jews are 'this' or 'that'." I could go on into further refinement of my degree of Jewishness but I'm sure that this short autobiography is enough to imply that my original view of Israel was positive.

Today Israel is very different in my eyes. A brief examination of Israel must begin with Zionism. Zionism is Jewish

nationalism as defined by Jewish Capital. All the other slogans of "Jewish homeland," "return to the Promised Land," etc. are emotional rhetoric used by Jewish Capital to exploit the sufferings of Jews and the associated guilt, if any, of non-Jews for their crimes against the Jews (anti-Semitism, No Jews Allowed, ghetto walls, pogroms, Nazi genocide) for the benefit of Jewish Capital. So, by the end of World War II, the Zionists were able to begin their seizure of Palestine and set up their haven for Jewish Capital.

From barbaric Europe it was easy to recruit a Jewish army to "liberate" the Holy Land and "fulfill God's promise to Moses." The atrocities of the Stern Gang, Irgun, and Palmach of the Haganah are another bright chapter of international capitalism. The Stern Gang were out and out murderers. On down the line, the Haganah were the "voice of reason" and public relations experts for selling this "war of liberation" to world opinion.

By 1948 Israel was a reality and Jewish refugees from Europe "came home." Hundreds of thousands of Palestinian Arabs were uprooted and evicted from their land to be flung into a life of misery. Jewish Capital now had land and labor to complete its prerequisites for further profit. In addition, its labor was highly nationalistic, a bonus for Jewish Capital to step right into fascism. Zionism did in fact become Jewish fascism.

It is a well-known law of economics that Capital must expand and invest its surplus (profits). Jewish Capital is no exception. The ever increasing frontiers of Israel are just another fact of capitalism.

People should also know of Israeli use of napalm, of Israeli officers in Vietnam to observe the Americans, of Israeli dealings with the white racists of South Africa, and of the poor economic status of darker skinned non-European Jews within Israel. These are facts, Zionist facts!

What do you hear?

Now, if you talk to an Israeli stalwart, what do you hear? "Look what we've done with the land." Have you ever heard a white South African? Behind all this lies racist Capital and its exclusive ownership of technology and resources. Given land and labor, Capital flourishes and develops. But look at the socialist countries that have flourished and developed without capitalist exploitation. "But I'm a socialist! Gold Meir is a socialist!" There are all kinds of socialists. The word "Nazi" comes from Nazional Socialist, Hitler's party, the national socialists. In the U.S. today there is socialism among the rich. GM subsidizes Life magazine by buying advertising space. "We want peace." The Israeli bandits steal land, steal more land, then ask for peace. I'm sure that General Custer and all his predecessors and descendants at one time or another said that all that they wanted was peace. "The Grand Mufti of Jerusalem called for a Holy War! We must defend ourselves. The Grand Mufti sided with Hitler!" The Grand Mufti is a pig. King Hussein and King Feisal are feudalists. They mouth their anti-Israeli slop to cover their oppression of the people of Jordan and Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia

is like saying the United States of Nixon America, Saudi being the family name of King Feisal.

These Arab dogs are as great an enemy of the Arab people as Moshe Dayan. Ask a Popular Front commando the next time you see one. "Don't listen to this man, he's not a Jew! He's ashamed to be a Jew! To be a Jew is to be a Zionist!" The "final solution" to the "Jewish Problem" as defined by the Israeli hero. I've never let any Jew-baiting Chicago goon hit me up without laying it back on him. Where was this Israeli hero when I needed him in the streets and alleys of Chicago? Over in Palestine bullying defenseless Arab peasants, I guess. Fool Israeli, to be a Jew is to have a sense of justice and oppose all forms of oppression. It's the Zionists who have erected a new, armed, expanding ghetto in the Middle East. It's the Zionists who perversely thrive on pogrom paranoia as they seek to justify their aggression against their Semite brothers. You've got a lot of nerve to call yourself a Jew.

Today the Middle East seethes with war and all the misery and suffering of war. In the refugee camps and among the slowly awakening Israeli working class a new Palestine is pregnant. Jews and Arabs are Semites. The new Palestine, a nation of Semites, will smash the Zionists and Arab reactionaries. The brave commandos of the Popular Front deserve our support. In the spirit of Semitic solidarity, our new baby is named after Leila Khaled, the beautiful Palestinian commando. Fly Leila, Fly! Light up the Sky! Free Palestine!

Marty Bennett part IV

Domestic reaction to escalation

This is the last in a series of four articles.

The critical question that the government asks each time it considers another escalation of the war is: can we afford (and minimize) the domestic response? Lyndon Johnson gambled time and again and couldn't hold the White House. Nixon giving a new look—Vietnamization—to the same war policy has done better. While the reaction to Cambodia somewhat jolted the government it emerged relatively unrestricted by the domestic political situation.

The news blackout and the restraint from using large amounts of American troops during the Laotian invasion shows the lessons Nixon and Kissinger learned from Cambodia. It also points out how conscious and weary of domestic response they are. Since Tricky Dick took office most of his statements about de-escalation have been carefully timed to deflate anti-war protest. Witness his speech on November 3, 1969, days before the Moratorium—he announced token troop withdrawals and all but said the war has ended.

What puts added credibility to threats of new escalation is that Nixon thinks he can do it without political turmoil at home. Vietnamization—making the war less visible to the American public has solved that problem of "domestic reaction" by making the war "acceptable;" so think Nixon and his advisors. The Laotian invasion seems to verify this. Despite the fact that *Newsweek* says 73 per cent of the American population want a total withdrawal by June of this year, hardly a demonstration was mounted, a rock thrown, or voices heard as the U.S.-ARVN troops, planes, and helicopters invaded Laos.

To put the implications of this bluntly: the only deterrent to a new escalation and possible attempt to completely destroy life in N. Vietnam is the American people. Let there be no misunderstanding. Vietnam will win! As Pham Van Dong has said: "No matter what perfidious designs they may nurture, no matter what crafty moves

they may make, and no matter what quantity of bombs and shells they use, the U.S. imperialists can never shake the iron will of the Vietnamese people to fight them until complete victory." How long this genocidal war will drag on depends on the movement in this country—the extent of the suffering and dying and the destruction of their land and culture that the Vietnamese will endure in their struggle against U.S. imperialism—hinges on the American people. The Vietnamese clearly recognize this as they have appealed directly to the American people to mount demonstrations, actions, and protests which will force the U.S. out of Indo-China; or else the rulers of the American Empire will face widespread and continuous crisis at home. Recall history. French involvement in Indo-China only halted with military defeat at Dien Bien Phu and political crisis which shook French society to its foundations. From Madame Binh's statement to the American people we can infer that there may well be a new offensive in the cities and countryside of S. Vietnam before the rainy season this summer. She says, "therefore at the present juncture, the youths and students of S. Vietnam wish to co-ordinate their actions with their American friends, in playing the role of motive force in the fight of our two peoples, for compelling the Pentagon brass hats to put an end to the criminal war that has caused so much suffering to our two peoples, and the checking the Nixon administration's maneuvers of war extension."

To end genocide in Southeast Asia will take much more than marches, pickets, and peace referendums—though these things play an important part in building and sustaining the anti-war, anti-imperialist movement; the decisive factor will be if the domestic costs of continued escalation: widespread political turmoil, disruption of the normal functioning of the society's institutions, thousands of people in the streets of America—are so great that this govern-

ment will be forced to commit itself to a policy of total withdrawal.

We must put our bodies between the U.S. war machine and the peoples of Indo-China this May. In both words and actions the war criminals who run this country must understand: if the government does not stop the war, we will stop the government.

Letters

New speak vocabulary

Student—A person registered at the University who makes use of the Student Union facilities. Attending class is not a requirement.

A nonstudent—A person not registered at the University who makes use of Student Union facilities.

The community—Two or more non-students.

The people—Combination of students and non-students.

Third World peoples—Two or more students from Africa (except for "whites" from South Africa or Rhodesia), Middle East (except for Israel), Asia (except Taiwan), or Latin America, regardless of their personal class status, income or life style (that is, regardless of whether they drive a Mercedes-Benz or not).

The movement—Any combination of two or more of above claiming to speak for the Community, the People, and Third World Peoples.

Enemy—Any individual—student, non-student or what not—or combination of individuals who have displeased me lately and can be linked up rhetorically to symbolic names representing generally the "power structure." (e.g., Nixon-Agnew, etc.).

Power structure—Those in possession of the things I lack but desire.

Revolutionary consciousness—Wearing a movement button. Higher

These sources were used for this article: "Operation Total Victory" Banning Garrett, Pacific Studies Center 2-71

"Oiling the Escalator" Gabriel Kolko, New Republic 3-13-71

"Murder in Laos" Daniel Ellsberg, N.Y. Review of Books 3-11

"Vietnam and the Pacific Rim Strategy" Peter Wiley, Leviathan 6-69

levels of consciousness, applicable for men: button plus mustache; still higher level—button, mustache, beard. For women—combat boots and extra buttons (of women's liberation, for example).

Revolutionary act—Oral or ambulatory behavior which would put fear in the heart of educational administrators.

An educational administrator—A person easily frightened (ability to administer is not a requirement.).

Martyrdom—Getting yourself locked up in jail for at least an overnight.

Progressive—Providing bail money for the martyrs.

Education—Having read the little Red Book.

Higher Education—Ability to quote from little Red Book.

Activist—Comes in various degrees of intensity but one who at least distributes leaflets and posts them on walls, elevator doors, etc.

A leader—one who at least writes the leaflets distributed by activists.

Sense of humor—Ability to read above with a smile.

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Note

The Emerald will hold endorsement interviews for all candidates in the ASUO elections Sunday starting at 11 a.m. Appointments may be made by calling the Emerald secretary at ext. 3712.

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