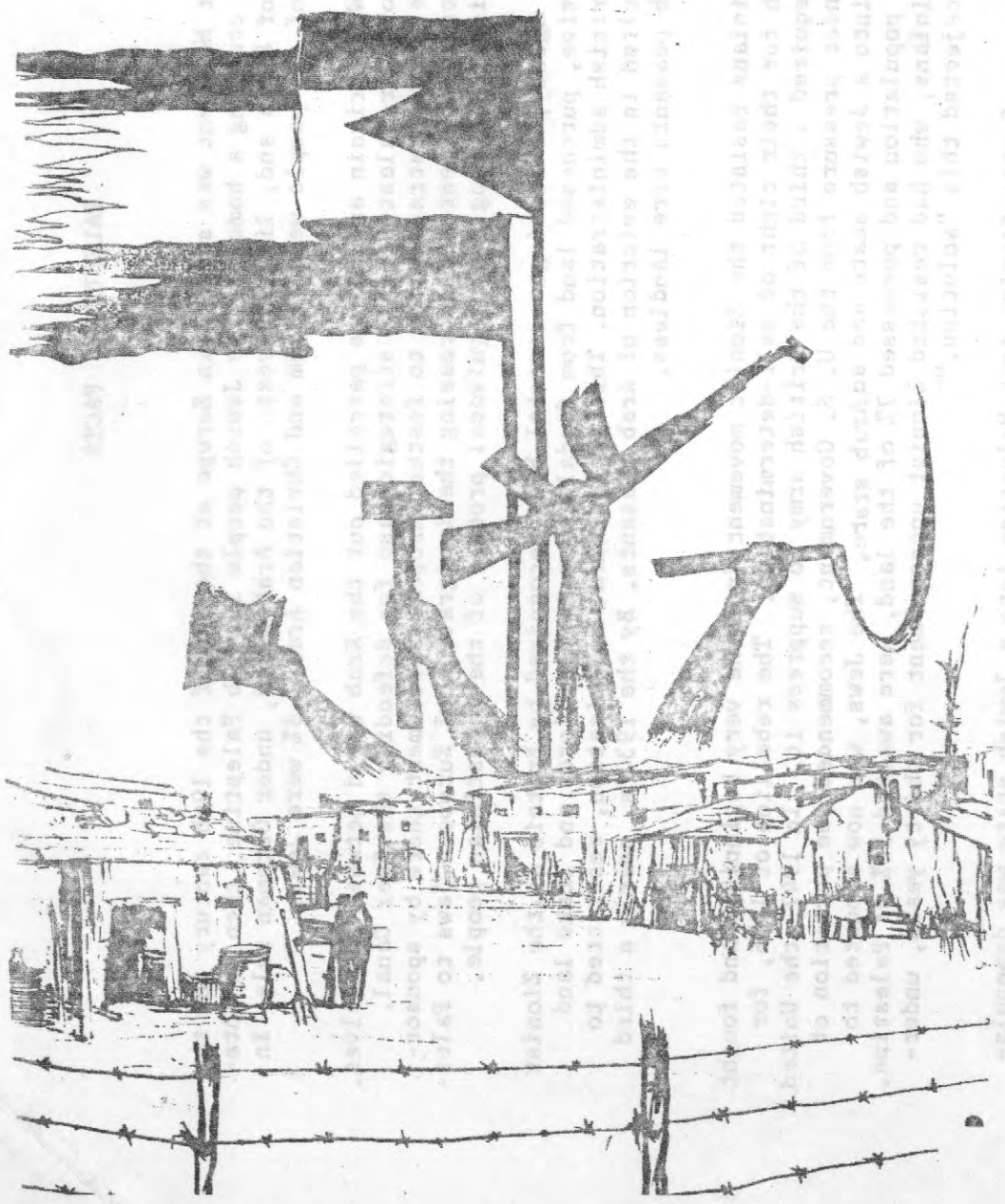


LCPSD

# PALESTINE and VIET NAM :



## PEOPLE'S WAR

WHY DOES THE U.S. GOVERNMENT SUPPORT THIEU & KY AGAINST THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE?

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Last September, King Hussein's U.S. equipped troops moved to annihilate the armed Palestinian resistance forces. The American and Israeli governments stood ready to intervene militarily. U.S. global strategy requires keeping those rulers in control who serve American political, economic, and military interests. The struggle of the Palestinian people, like the Indo-Chinese people, is a struggle for self-determination in an ancient homeland.

Committee for Palestine Solidarity

## PALESTINE FACTS

The Zionist Movement was started in Europe at the end of the 19th century for the purpose of creating a home for the Jewish people in Arab Palestine, then an integral part of Syria and, like the rest of the Arab world, under Ottoman rule. In 1900, 92% of the people were Moslem and Christian Arabs; 8% were Jews.

Following WWI, Britain and France parcelled out the Arab world between themselves. Britain took over Palestine as a strategic base for defending the Suez Canal. Part of the British strategy was to foster European settlement there by sponsoring the Zionist movement and increasing the immigration of European Jews to Palestine, despite the strong and unequivocal protest of the Palestinian people.

The Jewish Agency, a quasi-governmental body recognized by Britain as the Zionist representative, purchased land from feudal, absentee landlords and state land from the British administration. This agricultural colonization, restricted to Jews, resulted in the eviction of Arab peasants. By the 1930's, nearly a third of the Arab peasants were landless.

The Palestinians resisted the Zionist movement from the very beginning, and fought the British for their right of self-determination. The rebellion of 1936, for example, required a third of the British army to suppress it. In 1947, the United Nations, under pressure from the U. S. Government, recommended the partition of Palestine into a Jewish state and an Arab state. The Jews, who now amounted to 30% of the population and possessed 7% of the land, were awarded 56% of Palestine. The Palestinians, who had resisted Zionist encroachment for thirty years, understandably rejected this "solution."

The final means of transforming Arab Palestine into a Jewish state was depopulation. As the British withdrew from Palestine, Zionist forces, which had been armed and trained by the British during the war, moved in. They occupied towns and land and evicted the defenseless Arab inhabitants, who had been systematically disarmed by the British following the rebellion of 1936. The unarmed population fled from the terror of what the Zionists call their "war of independence."

On May 14-15, 1948, the Zionist community unilaterally proclaimed itself a state, and Arab states intervened to prevent further Zionist expansion.

The Arab armies failed to prevent the establishment of the Zionist state on Arab land. In the subsequent years Israel occupied the demilitarized zones, invaded Egypt in 1956, and occupied Gaza, the West Bank, the Golan heights and the Sinai Peninsula in 1967.

Israel, in Weizman's words, continued to "create facts." One of the facts is that a million and a half Palestinians have been made refugees, and another million live under hostile and repressive military occupation. Those Arabs who did not leave in 1948 live as fourth-class citizens in a world of discrimination, suppression and alienation.

It is in answer to all of this that the Palestinian Liberation Movement was born. Armed struggle was started to deal with the "facts." It will continue until Palestinian people and Palestinian land are liberated.