

# CC PLENUM OF THE JORDANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY

Below we give extracts from the third section of the report adopted at the CC Plenum in May 1973.

## I. PRESENT SITUATION IN JORDAN

The situation in Jordan, one of the countries resisting aggression, and which more than any other is linked with the Palestinian people and its problems, influences, positively or negatively, the entire course of the struggle against imperialist Israeli aggression, and for the liberation of the occupied Arab territories and the re-establishment of the lawful rights of the Palestinian Arabs. On the the other hand, Jordan's future is dependent on the success of the general Arab struggle against imperialist and Zionist attack, the struggle to eliminate the consequences of aggression and defeat the aggressive and expansionist plans of the Tel-Aviv rulers, in which the whole of Jordan, the West and the East banks, is one of their main objectives. There is no need to cite examples proving that the appetites of the Israeli aggressors are not limited only to the West Bank, but extend also to the East Bank. If the aggressors succeed in securing their positions on the occupied West Bank, then the East Bank will become the target of their future expansionist aspirations.

The loss of the West Bank would increase the danger threatening

the East bank. The greedy appetites of the Israeli aggressors grow with every fresh piece of territory they swallow. After all the concessions to the Tel-Aviv rulers made in 1948 and 1949, particularly by the terms of the Rodhos Agreement, their predatory seizures of new lands continued and as a result they grabbed the whole of the West Bank.

The Zionist movement and the rulers of Tel-Aviv make no secret of their intention to create a "Great Israeli State." The East Bank of the Jordan is included on their map of this state.

Therefore the joint struggle of the fraternal Jordanian and Palesinian peoples, side by side with other fraternal Arab peoples against the Israeli aggressors, for the liberation of the occupied Arab territories is the only possible way to avoid the loss of the East Bank, to save its population from the danger of losing their native land.

### **WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR WORSENING SITUATION IN JORDAN?**

From the first days of Israeli imperialist aggression and the subsequent occupation of the West Bank, our Party pointed out that the main task of the Jordanian people was to liquidate the consequences of the aggression and liberate the occupied territories. To achieve this a broad national front is needed of all the forces opposing the occupation, and also a government of national unity, which would undertake to mobilize all the material and human resources and potentialities of the country to execute this great task in cooperation with fraternal Arab countries.

However, this sincere call from our Party met with strong opposition from two main trends: the capitulatory and the adventurist trends. Because no national front for struggle against the occupation was set up, nor a government of national unity formed, the country came up against enormously complicated difficulties and dangers. The gravest of these were the bloody events of September 1970 and the liquidation of the Palestine resistance movement, with Jordan quitting the Arab front.

These events showed that links with imperialism, a hostile attitude to the national movement, refusal to rely on the popular masses and their energy, unwillingness to solve the task of uniting and mobilizing the forces of the country, refusal to take advantage of the possibilities offered by the strengthening of Arab solidarity and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, with all the liberation forces of the world—all this inevitably encourages further flagrant demands by the Israeli aggressors and leads to an even greater fall into the abyss of capitulation.

Basically, this tendency is a reflection of the interests of those ruling class forces of big landlords, capitalists and bureaucratic

bourgeoisie, who endeavor to satisfy their narrow, selfish interests at the expense of the national interests. The obstinate adherence to this course, contrary to the country's national interests, is symptomatic of their fear of the mounting struggle of the masses against the occupation and its likely results in the future. They realize that once the main task of the moment, the return of the occupied territories, has been solved, this could influence the course of the subsequent political and social struggle.

The struggle in Jordan prior to the 1967 aggression developed mainly around the choice of path of the country's further development. In other words, the struggle was to advance Jordan along the path of economic independence and social progress. The aggression of 1967 did not cancel this problem. It simply became intertwined with the main task of liquidating the consequences of the imperialist Israeli aggression and liberating the occupied Arab territories. More, the aggression itself, with its fearful consequences, still further underlined the need to solve this problem, particularly after the military defeat and the collapse of the Jordanian administration on the West Bank, after the masses there had been left completely unarmed, deprived not only of weapons, but of any democratic, political and cultural organizations capable of mobilizing the masses and leading their struggle against the occupation. These are the fruits of a policy of repression, terror and territorial discrimination pursued by the Jordanian authorities for many years. The nature of this policy can be judged by the fact that the Israeli occupation forces found in some groupings that formed the social basis of the regime on the West Bank, and in the laws limiting elementary democratic rights, a ready-made tool which they used, and continue to use against the masses in the occupied territories.

The serious threat to the future, not only of the West Bank, but also of the East Bank lies in the policy of hostility to the popular masses and the national movement in Jordan, and the terror of the big landlords, capitalists and bureaucratic bourgeoisie in the face of the developing struggle and Jordan's eventual entry on the path of economic independence and social progress.

### PEOPLE'S OPPOSITION IS GROWING

The present policy of the Jordanian rulers is in sharp contradiction to the interests and aspirations of the people. It is meeting increasing opposition by the popular masses and various national and democratic forces. In view of the terror and repressive measures, this opposition is frequently of a passive nature. It is expressed in the growing alarm of the people, in a non-acceptance by the national-democratic forces of the policy of dependence and

capitulation, in their rejection of the plan for a "United Arab Kingdom," their indifference to the "National Union," despite the great hullabaloo surrounding it.

Despite strict censorship, the majority of newspapers publish many articles and commentaries by people who represent different political and social groupings, that in one form or another criticize government policy, the curbing of democratic rights, corruption, bribery, and nepotism which are widespread in the government apparatus. Biting cartoons appear criticizing and satirizing many aspects of government policy.

Furthermore, workers, peasants, intellectuals, employees and artisans express their indignation and dissatisfaction at the terribly high cost of living, the continuing increases in the prices of food and other goods, and rising rents.

Although acquiescent Right-wing trade union leaders are in the Executive Committee of the Federation of Trade Unions and head a number of unions, the workers conduct a struggle against the employers' attacks on wages and the workers' earlier gains, for increased wages and improved conditions and democratic labor legislation. They are increasingly protesting against interference in trade union affairs, and demand that the unions should be free.

Students of the Jordanian University have organized protest marches on the campus against high fees, and government security forces have intervened to suppress these protests.

Inside Jordan, in the Arab countries and internationally, the wave of protest is increasing against measures designed to suppress the opposition movement and various progressive and national forces. Hundreds of letters and telegrams are sent to the Jordanian Government demanding the release of political prisoners and democratic rights for the people. In Arab and other countries of the world, committees for the defense of political prisoners in Jordan have been established.

Broad Arab and international campaigns of protest against the arrest of several Party leaders have been organized, and the policy of the Jordanian Government is subjected to sharp criticism in the national-democratic press of the Arab countries.

As before, the main task of the moment is the creation of a broad national front, the need for which is constantly emphasized by our Party and which would include representatives of all social classes and strata fighting against the Israeli occupation, and also the fight for the establishment of a national unity government. There is no other way to rid Jordan of the policy of dependence and submission to imperialism, of sliding into capitulation, other than the path of conscious and organized popular struggle.

But, although our Party's policy meets with a response and

support of increasingly greater masses of the people, and of national-democratic and progressive forces, many obstacles and difficulties remain. Our Party will have to conduct a hard and difficult battle in order to achieve any appreciable progress in this sphere.

Apart from all else, the creation of a national front is impeded by widespread territorial discrimination and intense terror, on the one hand, and by the spread of feelings of despair, bewilderment, fear and adventurist tendencies, on the other. Another obstacle is the numerous negative aspects of the present situation within the Arab countries.

However, no matter how important these negative factors, various difficulties and complications, they must not be allowed to hide from us the objective conditions, especially the provocative actions by the Israeli aggressors, their monstrous aggressive terroristic acts, their greedy expansionist aims.

The growing understanding among the masses of the danger presented by Israel, and the fact that the Jordanian government's policy of capitulation and dependence is leading us up a blind alley, increase dissatisfaction and indignation, and lead to an intensification of the struggle and to a greater understanding of the need to create a national front for carrying out the necessary changes with the aid of a national unity government.

## II. SITUATION IN OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES

The Israeli invaders, who for more than six years occupy Arab territories, continue to suppress, terrorize and murder the people remaining there. Not a day passes without the occupation forces conducting mass searches, arresting scores of people, killing some of them, driving out others from the country and throwing still others into jail. Seldom does one meet a family which has not suffered from the bestial actions of the occupying forces, who terrorize women and children. More than 4,000 people have been arrested and thrown into jail in the occupied territories. They are kept in the most cruel conditions, many are subjected to the most refined physical and moral tortures. Many have died under torture or have been left crippled. As a protest many have gone on hunger-strikes.

All this is accompanied by destruction of houses and whole villages. Seven thousand houses were destroyed before the end of last year. Tens of villages and refugee camps on the West Bank and in the Gaza sector have been wiped off the face of the earth. Thousands of inhabitants have been transferred to other regions. And all this under the pretext of security and on the plea that these sacrifices are due to the Palestinian resistance.

The occupation authorities refused to permit a special UN commission to visit the territories under their control and to investigate their crimes. But this did not prevent the exposure of the crimes, murders, tortures and destruction in the occupied territories. Throughout the world the campaign of protest and condemnation is growing against the Israeli crimes which violate the elementary rights of man. International democratic organizations are campaigning widely to expose Israeli crimes and bestialities and for solidarity with the victims of aggression and invasion.

Within Israel itself there is a growing democratic movement opposed to Israeli aggression and condemning the acts of suppression and terror against the Palestinian Arabs. At the head of the movement stands the Communist Party of Israel, which from the very first adopted an internationalist position of struggle against an aggressive war and against the expansionist aims of the Tel-Aviv rulers. The Communist Party conducts a decisive struggle against the occupation policy, demands a peaceful solution of the Middle East crisis in accordance with the Security Council resolution No. 242 and advocates the lawful rights of the Palestinian Arabs and their right to self-determination.

In his speech at the Seventh Congress of the Communist Party of Israel the General Secretary Comrade Meir Vilner said:

"The record of Israeli rule in the occupied regions is stained with blood and tears. It is a terrible indictment against the Israeli government. In the eyes of the military authorities it is a crime to speak out against the occupation or to give a glass of water to anyone suspected of any kind of misdeed. It is a crime if someone fails to denounce one's father or brother, or expresses grief at the death of relatives. Young boys and girls have stood before a military tribunal accused of bringing the newspaper *Al-Ittihad* to the West Bank and reading it; of belonging to student youth and women's organizations, or of collecting money for the afflicted families; of carrying the Palestinian flag on demonstrations, or of breaking up classes.

The trumpeters of Zionist propaganda endeavor to convince the masses on the West Bank that they are faced with a dilemma: either to remain under the rule of the Israeli occupation, or return to the rule of a reactionary Jordanian regime, alleging that there is no other way. Their propaganda invokes the history of the Jordanian regime, citing territorial discrimination, the bloody events of September, and the oppression of the mass of the Palestinian people, as well as referring to the inability of some Arab countries to oppose the occupation.

In the economic sphere the occupationists continue to execute their plans for economic annexation and transforming the occupied territories into an appendage of the Israeli economy. They have

complete monopoly of the supply of raw materials, equipment and fuel to the few branches of industry and trades existing in the occupied territories, and the majority of traders become agents for Israeli economic organizations. Israeli industrialists set up industrial and trading enterprises jointly with the capitalists of the occupied lands. The occupied territories have become a market for industrial, and some types of agricultural products of Israel.

Economic reports show that the deficit in the trade balance of the West Bank with Israel in 1969 amounted to 169 million Israeli pounds and in 1970 to 217 million pounds.

Israel has converted the occupied territories into a market of cheap labor. There are nearly 50,000 workers from the West Bank and Gaza sector employed in Israel. Their wages are half those paid the Israeli workers. The vast majority perform unskilled work under harsh conditions. They are denied all rights, social or health security. The wages of Arab workers at mixed Israeli-Arab enterprises set up in the occupied territories are even lower.

The most dangerous aspect of the economic policies of Israel's rulers in the occupied Arab lands is the breaking down of the agricultural sector of the economy. Such extensive use of Arab workers in Israel causes Arab peasants to abandon their lands and landowners to reduce cultivation because of the manpower shortage and relatively high wages of industrial workers — all of which threatens the reduction and destruction of agricultural production. When the occupation authorities no longer need Arab workers, most of whom are farmers, and throw them out into the streets, into the ranks of the unemployed, they will be left without work and without land, which will force many to leave the country in search of work and subsistence.

The occupation authorities make no secret of their plans to take over Arab lands and evict Arab citizens. To date they have, under various pretexts, taken over more than 1.5 million donums (1 donum = 910 sq.m.) of Arab lands. The land takeover campaign takes various forms, from confiscation to open or covert buying. The Israeli government's latest decision "banning" Israelis from acquiring land in the occupied regions and restricting land purchases by official organizations is no more than an attempt to mislead public opinion. In addition to the takeover of lands the occupation authorities are setting up dozens of Jewish settlements in strategically important areas.

Our Party is waging a heroic and selfless struggle on the West Bank against the occupation and its monstrous crimes. The Party is in the front ranks of the defenders of the people's rights, in the front ranks of the struggle for preserving the land. The Party is winning the respect and recognition of the masses and the national-

democratic forces on the occupied territories and outside. Our press does an important job in the occupied territories, conducting explanatory work among the masses, defending them and exposing the crimes and expansionist plans of the invaders.

Our Party is working actively to establish a broad Palestinian front on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip. The report of the Party's Executive Committee for the West Bank shows how "the Zionist occupation, the plunder of the land, the building of Jewish settlements, the annexation of our economy and its merger with the Israeli economy in industry, trade and agriculture, the tremendous profits obtained from this operation, the employment of tens of thousands of workers on unfair conditions, the subversion of our national culture and persecution of intellectuals . . . , the racist character of the Zionist occupation, their disrespect for our national honor, religious feelings and holy places, their efforts to dispose of our fate — all this arouses the hate of our people, of its different social strata and classes. All these facts move different classes and social strata to the struggle against the occupation. This is the objective basis for the creation of a broad front of struggle against the invader."

Lately much has been done to set up such a front, and these efforts meet with extensive support on the part of various national forces. The first practical steps have already been taken.

The creation of a broad national front has become especially urgent and necessary in view of the mounting dangers emanating from the occupation regime and its feverish activity aimed at the Hebrewization of Jerusalem, the takeover of lands, the organization of Jewish settlements, eviction of the population and liquidation of the refugee problem. Spontaneous action must be replaced by conscious, organized action. The all-round struggle against the occupation demands the immediate mobilization of the broadest sections of the people in town and country, their unification in all kinds of organizations in keeping with existing conditions and characterized by efficiency, activity and mobility.

It is most important to do everything possible to raise the level of trade union organization among the workers, draw more members into existing unions and set up new ones in various spheres of labor. Special attention should be given to the personal qualities of union leaders, their patriotism, loyalty to the workers and readiness to uphold their rights. In the villages it is necessary to set up land defense committees, committees for the defense of national culture and the Arab legacy, human rights committees, committees for the defense of arrested patriots and help to their families. Trade unions must be expanded and vitalized. It is necessary to set up refugee committees, committees in defense of the national

economy, student, youth and women's committees, cultural and sports clubs, etc. Through joint struggle and activity these different committees can subsequently set up a supreme body to coordinate their actions and struggle. The creation of such organizations and committees, along with the creation of national front committees, would greatly facilitate the transformation of the national front into a broadly organized, active mass movement capable of becoming an insurmountable barrier for the enemy, through which the masses would be able to contribute brave fighters for the struggle and provide it with conscious, trustworthy national cadres.

In this connection it would be useful to disseminate the resistance experience gained in the struggle against German and Japanese occupation in World War II, as well as the rich experience of the heroic Vietnamese people in organizing resistance to, and the defeat of, the American interventionists and their stooges in Saigon.

The Arab people of Palestine, tempered in more than half a century of struggle against imperialism and Zionism, tempered in trials and hardship, will never bow to the invaders. Despite all hardships, despite all sacrifices, their resolve is mounting to continue their heroic struggle to the victorious end.

The Palestinian masses outside the occupied lands support the struggle of those in the occupied territories and join hands with them in the fight against the aggressors. The masses in the Arab countries and their national-democratic forces, all forces of peace, freedom and socialism throughout the world headed by the great Soviet Union, view with admiration the struggle of the Palestinian people and the Palestinian resistance movement in the occupied territories and support the Palestinian people's heroic struggle and just cause. All of this is a firm guarantee that victory over the Israeli invaders and their patrons, the American imperialists, will be won.

### III. PALESTINE RESISTANCE MOVEMENT

The Palestine resistance movement, which emerged and gained strength in the struggle against Israeli occupation, in the struggle for the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine and their right to self-determination, is today an important militant detachment in the Arab peoples' fight against imperialist Israeli aggression, for the liberation of occupied Arab territories.

An important demonstration of Arab and world support for the cause of the Palestinian people and their resistance movement was the conference in support of the PRM held at the end of last year in Beirut with the participation of dozens of delegations from Arab and socialist countries, from Asia, Africa, Latin America

and Europe. It is also an indication of the close ties of the Arab people of Palestine and their movement with other Arab peoples, with their movements for national and social liberation, with the world revolutionary movement.

Because of their heroic, stubborn struggle, resistance movement and armed action against the policy of capitulation and cowardice, the Arab people of Palestine are fiercely attacked by American imperialism, the Zionist movement and the Israeli aggressors, both within and outside the occupied territories. The hundreds of inhuman attacks undertaken by the Israeli military against Palestine refugee camps and resistance bases in Lebanon and Syria are an indication of ferocious hate and criminal plans to eradicate the Palestine resistance movement and destroy the Arab people of Palestine. The piratical operation organized April 10, 1973, by Israeli bands with the support and encouragement of American circles, during which bandits penetrated into the center of Beirut and committed heinous crimes against Palestinians and Lebanese which resulted in the murder of three prominent Palestinian leaders, as well as other Palestinians and Lebanese, is one of many thousands of testimonies to the evil criminal designs of U.S. imperialists and the Tel-Aviv rulers against the Arab people of Palestine and the PRM.

Our Party, which initially appeared in Palestine and remains at the hub of the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people, wants to see the national movement of the Arab people of Palestine, which includes the PRM, firm and united, to see it closely bound with the Arab peoples, the movement for their national and social liberation, with the world revolutionary movement and its prime force, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

Proceeding from this joint militant basis and the best interests of the Arab people of Palestine, their just cause and struggle, our Party holds that it is urgently necessary to examine all mistakes and shortcomings still besetting the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and the PRM. Accordingly, our Party submits the following proposals to the PLO and the PRM and all their detachments.

1. Strive with devotion, earnestly and perseveringly, with a keen sense of national responsibility, to complete the unification of all PRM contingents on the basis of a realistic program of struggle.

2. Unite all the forces of the Arab people of Palestine in and outside the occupied areas. This should be done on democratic lines to ensure that the Palestinian National Council comprises genuine representatives of all national democratic classes and social strata — workers, peasants, intellectuals, students and the national bourgeoisie. The Council should elect an executive or central committee of the PLO as the legitimate spokesman of the Arab people of

Palestine, the real leader of their struggle and their every activity, as well as the activities of their other organizations.

3. Revise the PLO program and draft a new program to be freely and democratically discussed and approved by the new National Council. The draft should take into account:

(a) changes importantly related to the Palestine problem and which have come about over the past quarter of a century in Palestine, the Arab world and the international arena; the primary need is to reconsider the attitude to the UN resolutions on the Palestinian question.

(b) the need to confirm in the new program that the national movement of the Arab people of Palestine is inseparable from the Arab peoples' movement for national and social liberation and that the interests of the Palestinian people do not clash with those of other Arab peoples.

4. Define the main task of the current stage, which is to eliminate the effects of the imperialist Israeli aggression committed in June 1967, to fight for the implementation of Security Council Resolution No. 242, first of all as regards the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories, and safeguard the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine and their right to self-determination.

To bring about the implementation of the above resolution of the Security Council would in present conditions be an important achievement of the Arab people of Palestine and other Arab peoples and of their movement for national and social liberation. It would deal a strong blow to the U.S.-Zionist alliance, the Tel-Aviv rulers and their plans for aggression and expansion in the region. The implementation of the Security Council resolution would create a more favorable climate for the Arab people of Palestine to continue their fight for the restoration of their legitimate rights. It would also provide more favorable conditions for the Arab peoples' movement for national and social liberation to advance towards consolidation of the political independence of the countries representing the movement, so that it might advance all the more rapidly along the path of economic independence, democracy and social progress.

5. Support every effort towards establishing in the occupied areas a broad national front uniting all national democratic forces on the basis of a national program. The chief task of this program should be to counter Israeli aggression, preserve the land, prevent land seizures for Jewish settlements and resist the eviction of Palestinian Arabs from the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

6. Work to organize an armed resistance movement in the occupied territories with due regard to local conditions. This movement should use the vast experience gained by the resistance movement in the past six years. It should be well organized, disciplined,

politically conscious, and efficient and should lean on the masses for support.

7. Renounce all adventurist methods which are prompted by desperation, and actions which contradict the nature of the movement of the Arab people of Palestine and which, far from being appreciated by the world revolutionary movement and international democratic opinion, harm the reputation of the Arab people of Palestine, their struggle and just cause.

Continuing the activity of the PLO and the Palestinian resistance in Jordan is the paramount and imperative task of the Arab people of Palestine, the Jordanian people and the national movement in Jordan, and also of the entire Arab national liberation movement, of the struggle against imperialist Israeli aggression, resistance to Israeli aggression and liberation of the Arab territories.

In view of the foregoing, it is necessary to seek — with a keen sense of responsibility — a settlement of the conflict between the PLO and the Jordanian government. All divergences and contradictions between all concerned should be subordinated to the solution of the main task which is to end the Israeli occupation and free the occupied Arab areas. This means, first of all, discarding unrealistic, adventurist slogans and refraining from attempts to fan existing differences and conflicts.

It is necessary to begin on these lines, proceeding from these points of departure, bring into being a large body of Arab opinion seeking the return of the PRM to Jordan, call on the Arab states governed by national anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist regimes and on all national democratic and progressive forces of the Arab world to play an active role in this matter, and also appeal on a proper and realistic basis to the masses in East Jordan. All this, coupled with the struggle of the national democratic forces in Jordan, will provide favorable conditions for the solution of the problem and the return of the PRM to Jordan to take up its positions in the fight against Israeli occupation.

The struggle against the U.S.-Zionist alliance and the Tel-Aviv rulers will be protracted and intricate and will abound in difficulties and obstacles. However, these difficulties and obstacles can be overcome provided the PLO, PRM and Palestinian national democratic and progressive forces realize the nature and scope of the struggle, rally together, become aware of their great responsibility and work steadfastly in order to eliminate mistakes and shortcomings with courage and determination.

Our Party, which is committed to the joint fraternal struggle of the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples, to the fight against the U.S.-Zionist alliance, against the brutal occupation forces, for the liberation of the occupied Arab lands, the unity of the two brother peoples and their free and happy future, is fully convinced that the

just cause of the Arab people of Palestine, the Jordanian people and fraternal Arab peoples will prevail.

#### IV. THE PARTY'S TASKS AT THIS STAGE

The trend of development over the past six years has confirmed the correctness of the principles and main tenets of our Party's policy as defined in the Party program formulated shortly after the imperialist Israeli aggression and later, in resolutions of the 1970 Party conference and in Central Committee decisions.

Every document and all the activities of our Party point clearly to the main task facing our people which is to eliminate the effects of the imperialist Israeli aggression and free the occupied Arab territories.

Our Party, taking sober stock of the situation in Jordan and the Arab world, backed Security Council Resolution No. 242 and a peaceful settlement of the Mideast crisis in keeping with the above resolution, implying, first of all, Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territories.

With a view to accomplishing this main task, our Party called for the following actions:

1. Fighting by various means against the Israeli occupation troops.
2. Establishing a national front in Jordan that would unite the two banks and comprise spokesmen of all classes and social strata opposed to occupation.
3. Forming a national unity government that would grant democratic freedoms, set out to combat territorial discrimination, mobilize all of the country's forces and potentialities, all its manpower and material resources, and put them in the service of the fight and the solution of the main task.
4. Achieving Arab solidarity in the fight against occupation, imperialism and Zionism.
5. Promoting friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, with all forces advocating peace, freedom and progress throughout the world.

In the three years that have passed since the September bloodshed, it has been necessary to work for the settlement of the conflict between the Jordanian government and the PLO, so that the PRM might return to Jordan and take vantage positions in the fight against occupation.

This Central Committee considers that all these tasks are correct and retain their validity and that the events which Jordan has gone through and the present situation in the country and the Arab

world make it imperative for the Party and all national-democratic forces on either bank of the Jordan to persevere in the effort for their fulfilment.

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### LCP STATEMENT ON SITUATION IN ARAB WORLD

Following is the slightly abridged text of the statement which appeared in full in *Al Akhbar*, August 30, 1973.

The Central Committee of the Lebanese Communist Party met in plenary session in the middle of last August to discuss the situation in the world, in particular the Arab world, in the light of the Political Bureau report, as well as recent developments. On the basis of the debate, the CC described the main features of the international situation and the situation in the Arab world as follows:

#### SITUATION IN THE ARAB WORLD

The positive aspects of the new international situation find no reflection in the Middle East due to the policy of retreat and concessions pursued by Rightists in the leadership of the Arab national liberation movement, who prevent the movement from taking advantage of the changes in favor of peace, liberation and socialism occurring in the world.

Over six years have passed since the June 1967 aggression and yet the Arab peoples are faced with the same problems plus new ones arising from the increased dominance of Rightists and from concessions which these elements make in various home and foreign policy spheres. These concessions express themselves in suspending social progress, going back on what was achieved, suppressing patriotic and democratic mass activity, dividing the national liberation forces through anti-Communist and anti-Left slogans, severing the bonds of solidarity with the Palestinian resistance, maintaining a conciliatory stance towards Arab reaction and U.S. imperialism, and loosening Arab-Soviet friendship.

#### DANGEROUS TREND TOWARDS RETREAT AND CONCESSIONS IN EGYPT. ITS MANIFESTATIONS

The Central Committee reaffirms the conclusions set forth in the Party Program and the political thesis of the Third Congress