

# CIVIL CONFLICT IN PALESTINE AND PLIGHT OF NAZI VICTIMS

An outbreak of civil strife is rocking Palestine. Jewish armed groups have dynamited bridges and kidnapped British officers. The British imperialist rulers of Palestine have responded with a curfew and brutal house-to-house searches, hunting down leaders of the direct actionists.

These violent incidents have grown out of Britain's refusal to permit more emigration to Palestine of Hitler's victims.

The frightful slaughter of the Jews by the Nazis left the survivors with an overpowering urge—get out of Europe. Nothing the Allied conquerors have done has served to allay the deep fear of these people that new pogroms might not flare up. Many hoped to go to Palestine since the doors of all other countries were fastened against them. With Palestine barred by the British, Jewish armed groups took to direct action.

But more is involved in the plight of the Jewish people than the perfidy of British imperialism. Emigration to Palestine has run up against the resistance of the Arab nationalists and the Arabs constitute the majority of the population of Palestine.

Thus most of the survivors of Hitler's terror are still trapped in Europe while those who succeeded in entering Palestine are caught between Arab resentment and British reaction.

During the Second World War, the Zionist leaders supported Anglo-American imperialism. They counted on the Wall Street and London bandits living up to their promises of a national

homeland for the Jews in Palestine. But these carvers of colonial empires did not have the slightest intention of living up to their promises.

Consequently the hope of Hitler's victims to find peace and a country of their own in Palestine has proved to be nothing but a treacherous mirage. Where to turn?

One thing is clear. Capitalism offers no solution. For it is this system that produces the Hitlers and their Allied counterparts. It is this system which prevents a few million hounded, persecuted people from finding a haven anywhere on earth.

The fate of the Jews, like the fate of the Negroes and all oppressed nationalities and minorities, is bound up with the fate of the world labor movement. In common with the labor movement an immediate struggle must be launched for the elementary right of refuge.

This means opening up the doors of all the great powers to unlimited immigration of the survivors of Hitler's terror. And in common with the labor movement the Jewish people in Europe must fight for full democratic rights and against capitalist exploitation and oppression which breed anti-Semitism today.