

press review

THE ALBANIAN PEOPLE ENERGETICALLY SUPPORT THE JUST STRUGGLE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

From the speech of the Albanian representative at the 7th extraordinary urgent session of the UN General Assembly

In these days the 7th extraordinary urgent session of the UN General Assembly held its proceedings in New York over the question of Palestine, at which the representative of the PSR of Albania Abdi Babela also intervened. Among other things he said:

«With the recent barbarous attack on Lebanon the imperialist-zionist aggression in the Middle East assumed a new criminal escalation and very dangerous proportions. The crimes and massacres, the terror and real genocide which the military machine of the zionists is perpetrating against the Lebanese and the Palestinian people have deeply angered the peoples and progressive opinion.

«The Albanian people and the PSR of Albania condemn these new crimes of Israel and American imperialism against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples with the most profound indignation.

«The bloody events in Lebanon once more prove that the Israeli zionists and the American imperialists do not hesitate to set in motion huge military forces and use large amounts of modern and lethal weapons to destroy a small country like Lebanon, to drown a whole people in blood, to kill thousands of people within a few hours in order to

realize their expansionist ambitions and aims.

«The aggression of the Israeli zionists against Lebanon is a component part of the general plan the United States and the other imperialists have long since been trying to carry out in the Middle East in order to put this region under control. By encouraging zionist expansion, they use Israel as a striking force to carry out their aims. As confirmed by the facts, the aggression against Lebanon is, at the same time, a consequence of the ceaseless fierce rivalry and bargaining over the Middle East between the United States and the Soviet Union. This aggression is another link that is being added to the chain of the destructive consequences of the various plots hatched up by the imperialist superpowers jointly or separately against the Palestinian and the other Arab peoples to prevent the finding of a just and permanent settlement of the problem of Palestine and the Middle East in general. It is clear that the aggression against Lebanon is planned and implemented in the series of efforts to complete that process that began with the notorious Camp David agreement. The Israeli zionists unleashed their attack

after they were supplied with great amounts of American armaments of all kinds, after they had worked out down to the smallest detail the military campaign and the political, diplomatic and propaganda game they would play, together with the United States.

«Whereas the zionist aggressors were throwing any amount of American-made bombs on the women, old men and children of Beyrouth and other Lebanese cities, the emissary of American imperialism in the Middle East employed every intrigue and wile to serve the interests of Israel and the United States to the detriment of their victims.

«The unleashing of the Israeli zionist aggression against Lebanon is encouraged by the anti-Arab activities and intrigues of the Soviet social-imperialists in the Middle East. In words the Soviet Union has expressed its support of Lebanon and the Palestinians, but this cannot hide the fact that in the present case the Soviet Union is only stabbing the victims of the zionist aggression in the back. The stand of the Soviet Union, like that of the United States in the Middle East, is dictated by its expansionist and hegemony-seeking interests. The So-

viet social-imperialists have openly declared that the Middle East is situated near the southern borders of the Soviet Union and any development in this region affects Soviet interests.

«The zionist aggressors and their imperialist bosses intend to suppress the liberation struggle of the Palestinian people and liquidate their just cause. They want to extend the area of Arab lands under zionist occupation so as to force the Arab peoples into renouncing their rights on the lands that already are under Israeli occupation for some years now and oblige them to abandon the cause of the Palestinian people, and definiti-

vely submit to the dictate of zionism and imperialism.»

The Albanian representative pointed out, among other things, that the zionists, imperialists and the other enemies of the Arab peoples will not succeed in achieving their aims. The cause of the Palestinian people and of the other Arab peoples and their struggle is a just cause. The experience of the people's struggles throughout history teaches us that when people fight for their rights, for self-determination, and national freedom, there is no force that can subdue them.

The Albanian people energetically support the just struggle of the fraternal Palesti-

nian people to return to their Homeland, to take back their hearths and to fully restore all their national rights. They have always admired and continue to admire the superhuman efforts of the Palestinian people to maintain their national identity, regardless of all the sacrifices they have had to make and the suffering they have endured.

The Albanian people support the just struggle of the Lebanese people against zionist aggression which must cease immediately with the restoration and respect of Lebanese sovereignty.

Taken from the newspaper «Zëri i popullit» of August 22, 1982.