

Palestinian and Other Arab Peoples Are Not to Be Intimidated

by "Renmin Ribao" Commentator

AFTER its setbacks in instigating the reactionary military government in Jordan to launch frenzied attacks on the Palestinian guerrillas, U.S. imperialism is stepping up its military deployment in preparation for an armed intervention so as to directly suppress the Palestinian revolutionary armed forces. This cannot but arouse the serious attention of the Arab people and the people the world over.

While making its troop deployment, the Nixon government is taking pains to fabricate pretexts for an armed intervention. U.S. Secretary of State William Rogers made a statement on September 20, alleging that forces "have invaded Jordan from Syria," and clamouring that there is "the danger of a broadened conflict" in Jordan. The Associated Press conceded that Rogers' statement "did appear to be a step in diplomatic preparation for a later American intervention." It is a shameless act of intimidation on the part of U.S. imperialism against the Palestinian people, the Syrian people and people of other Arab countries, which completely unmask its ferocious features as a gangster.

The counter-attack made by the Palestinian guerrillas in self-defence against the rabid attacks of the reactionary Jordanian military government is an entirely just action. The Palestinian revolutionary armed forces stationed in Syria and other Arab countries are fully entitled to join in the battle to defend the Palestinian revolutionary cause. The Palestinian Liberation Army, which is an armed force of the Palestinian people themselves, naturally cannot stand by with folded arms and watch their own brothers being massacred at will by the reactionary Jordanian military government under the instigation of U.S. imperialism. It is indeed the height of arrogance that U.S. imperialism should now go so far as to make threats against Syria on the pretext that the Syria-based Palestinian Liberation Army is conducting operations jointly with the Palestinian guerrillas.

The Palestinian people's struggle in valiant resistance to the armed repression by the reactionary Jordanian military government is in essence a struggle against U.S. imperialism and Israeli Zionism. They are defending not only their own right to existence but also the common interests of the Arab nation's cause of liberation. The powerful support given to the Palestinian guerrillas by the Syrian Government and people and by other Arab countries and peoples embodies the fraternal unity between the Syrian people, the people

of other Arab countries and the Palestinian people; it embodies the common will of the Arab people to get united and resolutely oppose the U.S.-Israeli aggressors. Therefore it has won the praise of the people of the world. Is it conceivable that U.S. imperialism is allowed to support the Israeli aggressors and the reactionary Jordanian forces in their onslaught on the Palestinian people while Syria and other Arab countries are forbidden to support the Palestinian people in their counter-attack in self-defence?

Our great leader Chairman Mao has pointed out: **"U.S. imperialism, which looks like a huge monster, is in essence a paper tiger, now in the throes of its deathbed struggle."**

On September 20, Syrian Head of State Nureddin Atassi solemnly refuted the allegation of U.S. imperialism that Syrian forces had entered Jordan, and he pointed out that U.S. imperialism and its lackeys "will never succeed in hiding their crimes by lavishing accusations on Syria." On September 22, a statement by the spokesman of the Syrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs pointed out that "the American intervention shall be met with the stubborn resistance of our people." The heroic Palestinian people are not to be intimidated; nor are the Syrian and other Arab peoples who have a glorious tradition of struggle. The U.S. imperialists' threats of war and armed intervention will never be able to put out the flames of the Palestinian people's revolutionary struggle; nor will they be able to prevent the Syrian people and other Arab peoples from giving militant support to the Palestinian people. A new revolutionary storm against U.S. imperialism is now rising in the Middle East. If U.S. imperialism dares to risk a new military adventure against the Arab countries and people, it will meet with the same staggering blows and disastrous defeat as it did in Indo-China.

The Chinese Government and people resolutely support the Palestinian people in their valiant struggle of self-defence, resolutely support the solemn stand of the Syrian Government and people in assisting the Palestinian people, and resolutely support the people of all Arab countries in their just struggle against the U.S.-Israeli aggressors. U.S. imperialism and its collaborator and running dogs will be defeated! The Palestinian and other Arab peoples will win!

(September 24, 1970)