

مجلس / ١٠ / ١٩٧٧

The Association of Arab-American University Graduates, assembled on the occasion of its Tenth Annual Convention at the Michigan Inn, Southfield, Michigan, on 21-23 October, 1977, resolves as follows:

1 -- The Association is gratified to note that the Palestine Liberation Organization has reaffirmed the commitment of the Palestinian people to thwart the applicability of Security Council Resolution 242 to the settlement of the Palestinian struggle against Zionist colonialism in Palestine. It further salutes the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole representative of the Palestinian people, for its continuing <sup>armed struggle</sup> determination to obtain the unconditional liberation of Palestine, in its entirety, and the establishment of a truly liberated, independent, sovereign, democratic <sup>Secular</sup> Palestinian state therein. ~~Secular~~

2 -- The Association salutes the P.L.O. for its adherence to and implementation of the principles embodied in the Palestine National Charter; for its continued efforts to strengthen Palestinian National unity and ties with Arab liberation forces; and for its continuing efforts to resist the harmful pressures from reactionary Arab regimes pressing for American Liquidationist solutions.

3 -- The Association calls upon the Carter Administration and the American media to publicly note that Israel's increasingly vocal references to the Old Testament as justification for Israel's expropriation of Arab lands must be understood as revealing Israel's consistent historic policy of expansionism and exclusivism. The concept of Divine Right is an anachronism long since repudiated.

4 -- The Association notes with dismay the Carter Administration's silence on Israeli violation of Palestinian and Arab human rights in all areas controlled by Israel. It views such silence as collusive support of these widespread and consistent violations, and invites Americans of good will to disassociate themselves from their government's indifference to Palestinian human rights.

5 -- The Association condemns continuing American military, political and financial support to the Israeli regime. This support enables Israeli military forces to continue occupation and exploitation of Arab lands, to confiscate such lands and establish colonial settlements. American support thus underwrites and sustains Israeli expansionism and racism, actively promoting conflict, oppression and war in the Middle East. Accordingly, the Association strongly urges the immediate termination of American military, economic and political support to Israel. By doing so, the United States will contribute to peace and justice for all the people of the region and will be more consistent with the basic beliefs of the American people and with legislation provided to the Congress.

- Control Act of 1975 and the Foreign Assistance Act withholding aid to the government of which engages in a consistent pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights. The Association also deplores the massive military sales to reactionary governments in the region which continue to repress and deny intellectual freedom and human rights to their people.
- 6 -- The Association condemns the continuous establishment of Jewish settlements in occupied Arab lands in violation of the Geneva convention on military occupation and denounces in the strongest terms the plan for ghettoization of the Arab Palestinian community in the West Bank and Gaza. Moreover, the Association views with grave concern the Carter Administration's acquiescence in the Begin-Sharon scheme of rapid colonization in the occupied territories and calls upon the United States government to take effective measures toward the dissolution of the settlements.
- 7 -- The Association views with grave concern President Carter's entertaining the Zionist war criminal, and principal perpetrator of the Deir Yassin massacre, Menachem Begin, at the White House. The Association views this hospitality as degrading to the American people, and an insult to the survivors of Zionist massacres and persecutions.
- 8 -- The Association condemns categorically the policies of certain reactionary Arab regimes and those of the Carter Administration which together contributed to the disintegration of Lebanon and its military occupation by outside forces. The Association reiterates its position that only by unification of the progressive Arab forces will the Arab people be able to overcome the combined reactionary Arab, imperialist, Zionist, isolationist alliance in the Arab World.
- 9 -- The Association denounces the attempt to pass laws in some countries of the Arab World which would impose penalties on persons exercising the free choice of religious belief. Such laws cannot be construed but as an unenlightened interference by the state in the religious beliefs of its citizens.
- 10 -- The Association views with grave alarm the violence in Arab countries involved in the suppression of the rights of national minorities and, likewise, the use by imperialism of ethnic and national differences to undermine nationalist and anti-imperialist forces in the area. The Association calls upon nationalist and anti-imperialist forces to address the question of national minorities in the Middle East in a fashion that will lead to national integration, equal rights, and preservation of the cultural and religious freedom of minorities.
- 11 -- The Association stands with the Arab peoples in their demands and struggles for social, political, and economic justice. In particular, the Association salutes the firm opposition of the Egyptian people to the efforts of the incumbent

Egyptian people of the basic necessities of life.

12 -- The Association condemns the perpetuation of sectarianism in Lebanon by regressive forces of the traditional feudal leadership and by the Zionist-isolationist alliance, and reaffirms its unqualified support of the progressive Lebanese-Palestinian struggle for a democratic, secular Lebanon.

13 -- The Association condemns those Arab regimes that allow themselves to be manipulated by imperialist forces determined to contain radical social change in Africa and the Arab world. It further urges these Arab regimes to refrain from attacking fellow Arabs and Africans and prepare, instead, for the defense of the Arab World and the liberation of all Arab lands from Zionist occupation.

14 -- The Association views with grave alarm the violation of human rights in Arab countries and reaffirms the inalienability of such rights. It further calls upon those governments to cease and desist from such violations. The Association calls upon progressive forces in the Arab World to address the question of human rights in a fashion that will lead to the institutionalization of the inviolability of these rights.

15 -- The Association encourages the governments of wealthy Arab countries to invest productively in the Arab World, rather than investing Arab resources in non-productive enterprises in the Western industrial countries which have traditionally been inimical to Arab liberation and social transformation.

16 -- The Association remains concerned about the persistence in some of the American media of incorrect and stereotypic views of the Arab people, and deplores, in particular, their uncritical support of the Israeli-Zionist perspective resulting in gross distortion of the facts of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Association calls upon the media to stem the tide of anti-Arab racism in their coverage, and urges fair-minded Americans to join in combatting defamation of Arabs and other ethnic groups.

17 -- The Association calls attention to acts of discrimination against Americans of Arab ancestry in the United States, resolves that Arab-Americans be designated as an ethnic minority for purposes of compliance reporting and record keeping by the Office of Management and Budget, and calls for evaluation of current practices by recipients of financial assistance with regard to their discrimination against Arab-Americans under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

18 -- Sensitized by its concern for Arab and especially Palestinian struggles for self-determination, the Association expresses its sympathy and support for peoples struggling for self-determination elsewhere. In particular, the

Association:

- reaffirms its support for the just aspirations of the people of Eritrea, even while viewing with deep concern external attempts to alter the progressive direction in the Horn of Africa.
- salutes the African peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia in their struggles to free their countries from military control by the regimes of Smith and Vorster.
- lauds the struggle of the African people of Azania to transform the Pretoria regime into a non-racist, democratic state, and expresses outrage at the current escalation of state terrorism by the Vorster regime.

19 -- The Association expresses solidarity with its fellow Americans of Black and Native American ancestry who are struggling for civil, political, social, and economic rights in the face of long-established patterns of discrimination.

20 -- The A.A.U.C. denounces the decision of Illinois courts to allow the American Nazi Party to march through Skokie, Illinois, and we stand in solidarity with our Jewish neighbors in their denunciation of the increase of anti-Semitism in the United States and of their denunciation of racism everywhere.

21 -- The Association commends the Carter Administration for the joint U.S. - U.S.S.R. declaration recognizing Palestinian rights, but bitterly regrets the subsequent capitulation to Israeli-Zionist pressures which effectively nullified the purpose and intent of the communique.