36 -/

Honorary Presidents
Trygve Bratteli
Walter Bringolf
Tage Erlander
Jos van Eynde
David Lewis
Sicco Mansholt
Daniel Mayer
Alfred Nau
Pietro Nenni
Rafael Paasio
Bruno Pittermann
Giuseppe Saragat
Eki Sone

Vice Presidents
Ichio Asukata
Gonzalo Barrios
Edward Broadbent
Bettino Craxi
Felipe González
Bruno Kreisky
Michael Manley
Ian Mikardo
François Mitterrand
Daniel Oduber
Olof Palme
Shimon Peres
Irène Pétry
William Rowling
Léopold S. Senghor
Mário Soares
Reiulf Steen
Anselmo Sule
Joop den Uyl

Socialist International,
88a St John's Wood High Street
London NW8 7SJ Great Britain

Phone 01-586 1101 Telex 261735
Cables INTESOCON LONDON NW8

President
Willy Brandt

General Secretary
Bernt Carlsson

October 23, 1980.

Mr Reiulf Steen
Vice-president of the Socialist International

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear comrade,

For information and consideration, I am sending you attached a copy of a letter from Isam A. Sartawi, PLO.

Fraternal regards,

Bernt Carlsson

Bernt Carlsson

ISAM A. SARTAWI

Paris, September 9, 1980.

Mr Bernt Carlson,
Secretary General,
Socialist International,
88a St. John Wood High St.,
London N.W.8 7SJ.

12 SEP 1980
SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL

Dear Bernt:

Inaccurate press reporting, aided by deliberate Israeli misrepresentation, created the impression that the recently held 4th Congress of Fateh, passed a resolution calling for "the liquidqtion of the Zionist entity in all its manifestations". I am empowered to notify the Socialist International officially, through you, that no such resolution was taken. A Sub-committee did indeed draft a preamble to the political resolutions which contained this passage, but the draft was neither submitted to the Congress nor was it approved. It was leaked instead to the Lebanese daily 'Al-Liwa', one day ahead of the official publication of the resolutions of the Congress, and was subsequently widely disseminated by Israeli sources as a valid document. Chairman Arafat publicly repudiated this preamble in an exclusive interview which was published by the International Herald Tribune on July 31, 1980. Internal corrective measures were also taken. Chairman Brandt, Chancellor Kreisky, President Senghor, Chairman Palme and Chairman Den Uyl, were duly informed, in the strictest confidence, of these measures.

The situation in the Middle East continues to deteriorate to the point where a new war is becoming highly probable. A major contributing factor has been the escalated Israeli military activity in the South of Lebanon. Equally important are the intransigent Israeli policies in the occupied territories. Against a background of harsh collective punishments, came the expulsion of Mayors Qawasmeh and Milhem and the attempted assassination of Mayors Shakaa and Khalaf. Subsequent measures included the passage of the Knesset bill annexing East Jerusalem and the ruling of the Israeli Supreme Court against the return of the ujustly expelled Mayors. The Israeli press is reporting now that a second bill is under preperation for the annexation of Golan.

The Israeli Labour Party, whose members, including Chairman Peres, voted for the annexation bill, has maintained a complete silence in the face of these grave violations of human rights and contravention of International law.This amounts to a clear cut support to the inhumane and dangerously belligerent policies of the extreme Israeli right which are pushing the Middle East to the edge of the abyss. One can easily understand that the Israeli right, while acting

within the limits of its ideological committment, needs a new war to escape its mounting domestic problems and retain its hold on power. What is beyond comprehension is the fact that Labour is lending the Likud a helping hand, while violating in this self destructive process, its assumed committment to Socialist principles.

The Jerusalem Committee which convened recently in Casablanca, under the Chairmanship of King Hassan and with the participation of Chairman Arafat, took a clear note of this position and issued an appeal to the Socialist International to help restitute the status ante of Jerusalem, and to warn that the vote of the Labour Party in favour of the annexation amounts to a violation of the moral principles of the S.I and to urge some remedial action. I have been entrusted with the task of conveying to the S.I. this appeal and I hope that this communication will serve as a formal notification.

The Casablanca appeal was particularly gratifying for me as it reflected mounting recognition, by the Arab and Islamic nations, of the moral and political importance of the S.I. in international affairs. I am particularly pleased with the role which the PLO played in contributing to this recognition. I hope that the S.I. will live up to these expectations by excercising its good offices to contribute to the solution of the previously stated problems. Hopefully the forthcoming Madrid Congress of the S.I., may pass a unanimous resolution on Jerusalem and the status of the occupied territories, including an appeal for the return of the expelled Mayors.

With my best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Isam Sartawi

Isam Sartawi.

Enclosures:

1. Chairman Arafat's interview: IHT 31.7.1980.
2. Letter and Fateh resolutions circulated by the Israeli Ambassador to the UN 4 June 1980.
3. Israeli statement : IHT 2 August 1980.
4. 2nd Israeli statement : IHT 6 August 1980.
5. Statement of PLO's office London: Al-Safir 2 August 1980.
6. Statement of PLO's spokesman: Al-Safir 9 August 1980.

CC

1. Chairman Willy Brandt.
2. Chancellor Bruno Kreisky.
3. President Léopold Sédar Senghor.
4. Chairman Olaf Palme.
5. Chairman Joop Den Uyl.

Herald Tribune

Published with The New York Times and The Washington Post

**R · ZURICH, THURSDAY, JULY 31, 1980

Arafat Denies PLO Policy Seeks Israel's Destruction

By Joseph Fitchett

BEIRUT, July 30 (IHT) — In an effort to defend the Palestine Liberation Organization's political gains and credibility in Europe, Yasser Arafat denied today diplomatic and press reports dating back to May that his guerrilla group recently called for the destruction of Israel and had abandoned any interest in negotiating for a Palestinian mini-state to co-exist alongside Israel.

In response to a question in an interview, he said that he had let the report stand unchallenged for weeks because he had been too preoccupied by other issues, although there were disavowals of the strong anti-Israel statement by other PLO officials.

In the interview, Mr. Arafat accused Israel of carrying out an international operation to misrepresent the PLO, based on misleading documents widely publicized in Western newspapers and circulated at the United Nations purporting to prove that the PLO had reverted to its old hardline goal of never compromising with Israel.

"It is the latest part in a long series of attempts by Begin to falsify and denigrate the Palestinian political position," he said, in accusing by name Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

In consenting to the interview, Mr. Arafat appeared anxious by his personal involvement in the issue to send a strong signal to Europe that he is still able to command majority support in the PLO for his comparatively moderate views.

Mr. Arafat's statement today on PLO objectives underscored his sensitivity to the potential political damage of charges that he has misled European leaders about the extent of his movement's ultimate readiness to accept a negotiated Middle East solution.

As initially reported in May, a congress of the el-Fatah guerrilla organization in Damascus vowed "to liquidate the Zionist entity politically, economically, militarily, culturally and ideologically."

Fatah is the largest guerrilla group in the PLO and, like the PLO, it is headed by Mr. Arafat.

Arab and Western commentators concluded that the PLO, frustrated by Israeli intransigence and disappointed with Western attitudes, had obliged Mr. Arafat to abandon his diplomacy of moderation and join the radical Arab minority.

Consternation spread among European supporters of the PLO. Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, the first Western European leader to meet Mr. Arafat officially, said that

Yasser Arafat

he could no longer continue supporting wider European contacts with the PLO. Despite significant recent PLO gains such as the Common Market countries' decision not to vote against the latest UN resolution calling for a Palestinian state, the outcome of the Fatah

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

(Continued from Page 1)

congress undermined European plans for closer PLO liaison, diplomats report in Paris.

Expressing disappointment about the level of recent European support, Mr. Arafat said he had expected the Common Market nations' decision to break ranks with Washington and abstain yesterday when the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution setting a deadline for Israel's withdrawal from occupied West Bank territory.

"But it was a scandal — and the result of U.S. blackmail — that they did not vote in favor of it," he said.

The PLO image was also hurt by allegations of Palestinian involvement in renewed terrorism in Europe, including the attempt in Iranian exile leader Shahpour Bakhtiar in Paris and the grenade attack on young Jews in Antwerp. Denying that the PLO has resumed terrorism in Europe, Mr. Arafat said that Israel had exploited erroneous press reports to distort Palestinian intentions.

The Security Council circulated a letter on June 4 from Israel's permanent representative reproducing this paragraph from what the Israeli official said was the "political program of the Fatah murder organization ... showing its true character and aims."

The controversial paragraph has been the centerpiece of an advertising campaign in U.S. and European newspapers aimed, diplomats in Europe have said, at justifying Israel's refusal to consider negotiating with the PLO — precisely the negotiations which many European leaders believe are desirable.

Mr. Arafat said today that the controversial text was never approved by Fatah. "It was a draft, put forward by a small group, but it was never adopted by the Fatah congress," he said.

Then he gave his account of the congress, which clearly was a stormy session reflecting the tensions within the organization. Flanked by two top aides to witness the conversation, he referred to official texts amended in his own handwriting and frequently broke into English to clarify points as he sought to dispel any impression that the radicals had forced a change in Fatah policy.

According to Mr. Arafat, the text advocating Israel's destruction was leaked by a radical Palestinian journalist to a Beirut newspaper, Al-Liwa, which published it as a scoop giving Fatah's political platform.

At the congress, however, this text was only one of several competing drafts that were all referred to another committee, the so-called Revolutionary Command, for consideration at some future date.

Dominated by Loyalists

Aides to Mr. Arafat said that this draft, put forward by an extremist faction, will not be adopted by the Revolutionary Command, which is dominated by Arafat loyalists.

But the damage was already done for the PLO in propaganda terms.

However, the Fatah congress became a political football in subsequent weeks as Israel's representatives played up the contested platform. The available evidence appears to support Mr. Arafat's version. Beirut newspapers close to the PLO, including at least one which sometimes is critical of its policies, did not reprint the Al-Liwa version. The PLO did not include it in the official version of the congress.

In the Israeli submission to the UN, the platform advocating liquidation is quoted from Al-Liwa, whereas the congress's resolutions, which also appear in the Israeli report but do not call for Israel's destruction, are quoted from the PLO's official radio in Beirut.

The resolutions, Mr. Arafat said, confirm the PLO's earlier cautious political evolution toward a more flexible position about possible solutions with Israel.

Summoning an aide to bring a file, he pointed to an item drafted in his own hand and stipulating that Fatah accepts earlier resolutions — widely regarded as Palestinian interest in settling for a mini-state — adopted by the PLO's main body, the Palestine National Council.

Secrecy and Confusion

In assessing Fatah congress, Western diplomats have been cautious, partly because of the secrecy and confusion which surrounded the Damascus meeting. Changes in the composition of Fatah's leadership appear to have reinforced Mr. Arafat's personal position, but he unmistakably is under pressure to show more results for his Western-oriented diplomacy, diplmats say.

Responding to this mood of frustration, the EEC is sending Luxembourg Foreign Minister Gaston Thorn here to see Mr. Arafat next week on the second leg of a fact-finding trip which takes Mr. Thorn to Israel tomorrow.

While Mr. Arafat said simply that he will listen to Mr. Thorn to see the potential scope of a European initiative, aides said he clearly is hoping for stepped-up European recognition of the PLO as the Palestinians' negotiating body.

Asked if he was repudiating the Fatah congress to restore European backing at this critical juncture, Mr. Arafat said:

"I am not denying anything of the congress. I stand by the resolutions, but the so-called platform was only rumors."

He said that a detailed explanation was being supplied to European leaders, including Mr. Kreisky. "There are no clouds in my relations with Mr. Kreisky, who is a friend of my people," he said, and scoffed at newspaper reports of Fatah involvement in recent European terrorism. "The assailant of Mr. Bakhtiar says that I personally gave him the order: Would I, if I wanted the mission, personally meet the man assigned to it and liable to be caught and interrogated?".

He said that the PLO had asked France to publish full details about the Bakhtiar attempt and to let the PLO investigate any alleged direct or indirect Palestinian involvement.

Mr. Arafat's concern about the PLO's image in Europe is unmistakable. PLO strategists here said that they expect Western Europe slowly to adopt a more pro-PLO policy course.

UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL

Distr.
GENERAL

S/13985
4 June 1980

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 4 JUNE 1980 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In connexion with the forthcoming debate in the Security Council, I wish to draw your attention to the attached excerpts from the "political programme" and the "resolutions" adopted at the Fourth Congress of the al-Fatah murder organization which was held in Damascus at the end of May.

As is well-known, al-Fatah, headed by Yasser Arafat, is the largest single component in the terrorist PLO. Its aim has been consistently in accord with that set out in the so-called "Palestinian National Covenant": namely, the destruction of the State of Israel.

As will be seen from its "political programme", as published by the Beirut newspaper, al-Liwa, on 2 June 1980, al-Fatah's aim is said to be

"to liquidate the Zionist entity politically, economically, militarily, culturally and ideologically."

The liquidation of Israel is advocated two more times in the course of this "programme".

The documents provide further proof, if such were necessary, of the true character and aims of the organization in question, and, inter alia, of the concrete purpose of its activities within the United Nations system.

I have the honour to request that this letter and its attachments be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yehuda Z. BLUM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations

Annex I

Excerpts from the political programme approved by the al-Fatah Congress and published by "al-Liwa" (Beirut) on 2 June 1980

Since the launching of al-Fatah, "international imperialism, led by the U.S.A., which is strategically allied to international Zionism taking its base in Palestine, has been trying to destroy our armed revolution." These attempts took the form of direct military strikes at one time, and "the form of conspiracies and liquidative schemes" at another. Among the conspiracies during the past ten years were the war in Jordan in 1971 and the war in Lebanon.

In the present stage, the programme said, "the imperialist offensive against the region has intensified" by presenting a variety of "settlement schemes." The al-Fatah Congress "believes that resisting these schemes is the duty of all Arab liberation forces."

"Al-Fatah is an independent national revolutionary movement, whose aim is to liberate Palestine completely and to liquidate the Zionist entity politically, economically, militarily, culturally and ideologically.

"The battle for liberating Palestine is part of the nationalist (pan-Arab) struggle and, therefore, it is the duty of the entire Arab nation to support this battle with all its moral and material means.

"The only way to achieve our aim is through the armed popular revolution. The armed revolution of the Palestinian Arab people is a decisive factor in the battle of liberation and the liquidation of the Zionist presence.

"This struggle will not stop until the Zionist entity is liquidated and Palestine is liberated."

/...

S/
Eng
Ar
Fr

Annex II

Resolutions of the Fourth Congress of al-Fatah

(Radio Falastin, Beirut, 1 June 1980)

Part One: Palestine

On the basis of the unity of the Palestinian people, its land and politi representation, and in order to express the independent national will for the complete success of the revolution,

Whereas the popular armed revolution is the only and inevitable way to t liberation of Palestine, with liberation through unity, establishing democracy the correct and dominant system of Palestinian ties,

The Fourth Congress of al-Fatah emphasizes the following points:

(1) National Palestinian unity within and without the occupied land unde our leadership, within the PLO framework, with the aim of continually escalati all forms of Palestinian struggle.

(2) Developing the movement as the major factor within the PLO, as an independent organization.

(3) Escalation of the armed struggle inside the occupied territory and ac all frontiers of confrontation with the Zionist enemy.

(4) Increased effort to organize our people wherever they reside, expansi of professional and national organizations, defence of the temporary Palestini presence in these places against oppression, exploitation or assimilation.

(5) Strengthening of the steadfastness of our people in the occupied lan all levels, to escalate its struggle and develop its national organizations, wi a special effort to strengthen ties with our Palestinian masses in the land captured in 1948, to enable them to withstand plots aimed at impairing their uni and blurring their Arab identity.

(6) Independence of Palestinian decision-making and action, enabling the various Palestinian factions to assert Palestinian independence of action.

(7) Given the leadership of al-Fatah and the legitimacy of the PLO, the Palestinian National Council Resolutions are part of the political programme of al-Fatah.

(8) The role of the Palestinian woman will be enhanced in all fields.

/.

Part Two: Inter-Arab Affairs

Palestine is part of the Arab fatherland, its people part of the Arab nation, its revolution - the vanguard of the Arab struggle to liberate Palestine.

(1) Our ties with the Arab masses are strategically important, their participation is crucial for the revolution, and they must wage all forms of struggle against the Zionist-imperialist base in Palestine, against all our enemies and they must destroy imperialist and colonialist interests in the region.

(2) Solidarity with all Arab nationalist and progressive movements for a joint battle for the liberation of Palestine and the attainment of Arab goals: liberation and a progressive society.

(3) Solidarity with the Lebanese national movement against common foes, for a united Arab Lebanon. All negative factors must be eliminated.

(4) Collaboration with the heroic Lebanese, to prove to all Arabs the validity of alliance with the Palestinians.

(5) The Jordanian front is of vital importance to the revolution as a main base for struggle against the Zionist enemy.

(6) Joint struggle with the people of Egypt to foil the Camp David Accords and return Egypt to Arab ranks, where she will resume her proper place in the Arab struggle.

Part Three: Relations with Arab States

Relations with Arab régimes will be defined in positive terms, as follows:

(1) The principles of al-Fatah spell out its aims and methods.

(2) There is no contradiction with the strategic ties to the Arab masses.

(3) The attitude of each régime to the PLO, to the armed struggle and to the defence of the PLO (will determine al-Fatah's relationship to those régimes).

(4) Non-intervention in our internal affairs. Prevention of any attempt to control our people or exploit it, negation of any attempt to resettle (Palestinians) outside Palestine.

(5) Prevention of any attempt to deny freedom of action for the revolution wherever our people may be living.

(6) The revolution will carry out its struggle through all Arab territories in order to regain the lands of Palestine, and will utilize the full Arab potential including oil, as a weapon towards these ends.

/...

(7) The Steadfastness Front will be strengthened, to bolster the PLO, to continue the struggle with the enemy, to negate all attempts to eliminate and solve the (Palestine) question, to reject all forms of (peaceful) settlement and to denounce any attempt to grant legitimacy to the Camp David Agreements.

(8) A broad national front will be established as defined by the Steadfastness Front to withstand imperialism, Zionism and Camp David.

Part Four: The International Arena

Palestine is the major cause of the Arab nation in its just struggle against the Zionist-imperialist enemy. It is also in the strategic Middle East, where a struggle is going on between the camp of our friends and the camp of our enemies.

Al-Fatah is part of the international liberation movement which struggles against imperialism, Zionism, racism and their lackeys, in accordance with its principles and the Palestinian National Covenant.

International Organizations

(1) The PLO will utilize all resolutions relating to the Palestinian people's rights in all international fora, to isolate the Zionist and American enemy in these bodies.

(2) The General Assembly resolution condemning Zionism as a form of racism and discrimination will be translated into action for sanctions against the Zionist base in Palestine according to the United Nations Charter.

(3) United Nations positions rejecting Camp David will be defended and developed to prevent any form of settlement at the expense of our cause.

Friendly Forces

(1) Strengthening the strategic alliance with the Socialist countries led by the U.S.S.R. This alliance is necessary in order to effectively block American-Zionist plots against Palestine and world liberation.

(2) Strengtheing our ties in the struggle with the world liberation movement as we stand together against U.S. imperialism, racist Zionism, fascism and reaction, to fight oppression everywhere.

(3) Strengtheing our external relations, increasing our political activity, making alliances with democratic and progressive forces that support us.

(4) Strengthening ties with the Islamic revolution in Iran, which overthrew an American base and stands with us to liberate Palestine.

(5) Strengthening our ties with the Islamic world, Africa, the non-Aligned Bloc, to encourage their support of Palestine and the struggle, as well as

/...

recognition of the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The American Position

The U.S.A. is the leader of the enemies of our people and nation. It pursues a hostile policy to our nation, revolution, and Arab nation, strengthens the Zionist entity and makes military alliances designed to subjugate the region militarily, to despoil our national treasures. We have no choice but to strengthen the international front against the U.S.A., wage war on its policies and strike at U.S. interests in the region.

As for the position of Western Europe, the Common Market, Japan and Canada political efforts will be made to utilize the support of democratic progressive forces there to reduce and eventually eliminate support for the Zionist entity, isolating it by obtaining the recognition of the PLO by these countries as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and getting maximal political and material help for the Palestinian cause and struggle.

The States of Western Europe and Canada still follow policies that do not recognize our national rights, thus identifying with U.S. policies and plots in the region.

Japan is not far from this policy. There is no choice but to intensify efforts to oppose and topple any scheme or initiative that does not correspond with our national rights.

Finally, the Congress stresses the need to defend political gains worldwide which have made the Palestinian question the vanguard of the international liberation movement.

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, SATURDAY-SUNDAY, AUGU

Israel Issues a Rebuttal To Arafat on Fatah Goals

By Larry Thorson

TEL AVIV, Aug. 1 (AP) — Israel today said it disbelieves an assertion by Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasser Arafat that his el-Fatah group has not resolved to liquidate Israel.

A senior Israeli Foreign Ministry offical said Mr. Arafat's comments in Beirut, contained in an interview published in the International Herald Tribune yesterday, were a deliberate attempt to mislead Europe. The conflicting claims between the PLO chief and Israel centered around resolutions considered in late May at the Damascus conference of Fatah, Mr. Arafat's central power base in the PLO.

According to Mr. Arafat, the closed-door conference merely sent to committee a proposed resolution "to liquidate the Zionist entity politically, economically, militarily, culturally and ideologically."

But the Israeli official said the resolution clearly had been reaffirmed as policy because it was broadcast on the PLO radio and had been confirmed at least twice by Fatah spokesman in press interviews.

Israel Version

Israel circulated its version of the Fatah decision to European nations and to all delegations, including the PLO observers, at the United Nations, the official said. "Not one of the PLO observers refuted these resolutions or dissociated themselves from them in any way before Arafat gave the interview," he said.

[However, other PLO officials, including Mahmoud Labadi, the organization's chief spokesman in Beirut, did seek to play down the reports of a new, harsher attitude within the week following the Fatah congress.]

Another Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman commented: "We are concerned all the time that the Europeans will believe what PLO leaders say in public instead of what they say when they're at home among themselves."

In Israel's view, the Fatah conference reasserted the PLO's desire to destroy Israel and build a Palestinian Arab state in all of Palestine, and indicated that the PLO's diplomatic drive to present an image of moderation is a fake. "The PLO is as interested in the destruction of Israel now as it has been since it was founded in 1964," the official said.

European Friends

The Israeli said Mr. Arafat gave the interview two months after the Fatah conference because European friends of the PLO, such as Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, were reconsidering their support in light of the reports from the Fatah conference.

Israel expressed outrage in June when the European Common Market declared its support for including the PLO in Mideast peace negotiations. Israeli officials said that the Fatah's hard-line resolution in Damascus made it clear that the PLO never could be a partner in peace talks.

Israel released its riposte to the Arafat interview as Luxembourg Foreign Minister Gaston Thorn completed a one-day visit. Mr. Thorn met in Jerusalem with Prime Minister Menachem Begin, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and the chief negotiator on Palestinian autonomy, Interior Minister Yosef Burg.

Mr. Thorn also took a helicopter tour of the occupied West Bank with Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon. His visit is part of a European attempt to see whether its Mideast declaration could be the basis of peace talks, but Israel declared in advance of his arrival that it wouldn't negotiate on that basis.

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 198

Arafat Stand Is Harmful, Israelis Say

By William Claiborne

JERUSALEM, Aug. 5 (WP) — Government officials said today that they regard Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasser Arafat's recent disavowal of any intent to liquidate Israel as damaging to the Middle East peace process because it provides Western European leaders with an opening to step up their diplomatic contact with the PLO and undercut the Camp David negotiations.

Apparently troubled by Mr. Arafat's reported turnabout, the Israeli government has gone to some lengths to counter it, starting with a briefing of foreign journalists on Friday by a Foreign Ministry intelligence analyst. The ministry's second-highest-ranking official sought to reinforce Israel's skepticism today in an interview.

David Kimche, director-general of the ministry, said that, despite Mr. Arafat's disavowal, the PLO's el-Fatah guerrilla wing has reaffirmed its commitment to an open armed struggle against the Jewish state and has rejected Mr. Arafat's plan to pursue a "soft tactical line," the director-general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

Mr. Arafat heads both the PLO and Fatah, its largest guerrilla group.

Vote Is Reported

Mr. Kimche said unspecified Western intelligence sources had told him that the Fatah executive committee voted 12-4 in a June meeting to reject Mr. Arafat's strategy of furthering the PLO's political gains in Europe by continuing a policy of diplomatic moderation instead of guerrilla warfare.

This was after a congress of Fatah met in Damascus in May and — according to widespread diplomatic and press reports — adopted a resolution to "liquidate the Zionist entity politically, economically, militarily, culturally and ideologically."

In an interview published in the International Herald Tribune Thursday, Mr. Arafat denied that the Fatah congress had adopted the resolution, which he said was contained in a draft put foward by a splinter faction but never approved. He accused Israel of carrying out an international campaign to misrepresent the PLO and said he had left the Damascus reports unchallenged only because he had been preoccupied by other issues.

Mr. Kimche termed the Arafat interview with the Herald Tribune a "desperate" attempt to contain the damage caused in Europe by the Damascus resolution.

According to Israel's intelligence sources, Mr. Kimche said, the opposition to Mr. Arafat's soft tactical approach was led by top PLO official Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad) and reflected disunity not only in the PLO umbrella organization but also within Fatah itself.

Mr. Kimche, who before becoming Foreign Ministry director-general two weeks ago, served for more than 20 years in Israel's intelligence service, the Mossad. He said open conflicts in Fatah between Mr. Arafat and aides such as Mr. Khalaf have become more commonplace in recent months because of the disputes over tactics.

He said Mr. Arafat has shown signs of losing control over even Fatah, the comparatively moderate wing of the PLO.

السفير السبت ٢/٨/١٩٨٠

منظمة التحرير بلندن:
"فتح" لم تدع لتدمير اسرائيل

وزع مكتب منظمة التحرير الفلسطينية في لندن امس بيانا صحافيا اورد فيه تصريحات لرئيس اللجنة التنفيذية للمنظمة ياسر عرفات يعلن فيها "ان التصريحات التي تدعو لتدمير اسرائيل ليست رسمية كما انها لم تقرر من قبل المؤتمر الاخير لحركة "فتح".

واضاف البيان الذي جاء تعقيبا على التصريحات التي ادلى بها عرفات لصحيفة "الهيرالدتريبيون" امس ان هذه الوثائق والتصريحات التي تستخدم من قبل اسرائيل كجزء من الحملة ضد المنظمة في الغرب، لم يقرها مؤتمر "فتح" بل هي وثائق قدمت للمؤتمر لبحثها.

وقال البيان ان منظمة التحرير ترى ان هناك حاجة طارئة لوضع نهاية لحمام الدم المتواصل في الشرق الاوسط ولازالة امكانية اندلاع حرب جديدة في المنطقة.

Al-Safir 2.8.1980 (Beirut Daily)

"The London office of the PLO distributed yesterday an official press release quoting Chairman Arafat and declaring that 'the statements calling for the destruction of Israel are not official and were not resolved in the last Congress of Fateh'.

نفي فلسطيني لانباء اسرائيل عن نيات لتدميرها

نفى مسؤول الاعلام الخارجي في منظمة التحرير الفلسطينية محمود اللبدي امس مزاعم وزارة الخارجية الاسرائيلية المتعلقة بوثيقة نسبت الى منظمة "فتح" تنص على تدمير الدولة الاسرائيلية.

وقال اللبدي ان هذه محاولات دنيئة تهدف الى تحويل انتباه الراي العام العالمي عن ضم اسرائيل لمدينة القدس واعلانها عاصمة ابدية لها.

واضاف ان هؤلاء النادبين الاسرائيليين يحاولون الايحاء بان الدولة الصهيونية التي هي اكبر قوة عسكرية في الشرق الاوسط مهددة بالابادة.

وكان المتحدث باسم وزارة الخارجية الاسرائيلية نفتالي لافي قد قدم مساء امس الاول وثيقة للصحافيين الاجانب زعم انها احدى الوثائق "السرية" لحركة "فتح" وأنها تنص على تصفية وتدمير اسرائيل والكيان الصهيوني.

وذكر لافي ان الوثيقة صيغت في خلال المؤتمر الذي عقدته حركة "فتح" مؤخرا في دمشق وأنها تنص على تصفية الكيان الصهيوني، بالكامل على المستويات العسكرية والاقتصادية والاجتماعية والثقافية والايديولوجية.

AL-Safir 9.8.1980 (Beirut Daily)

PLO spokesman Mahmoud Labadi denied yesterday the validity of a docume circulated by the Israeli Foreign Ministry and attributed to Fateh as calling for the destruction of Israel. Labadi said that Israel is try through this unprincipled excercise to divert world opinion from its decision of incorporating East Jerusalem and declaring it the eternal Capital of Israel..... Naftali Lafi, the spokesman of the Israeli Fore Ministry, distributed to foreign Journalists what he described as a "secret" document of the Congress of Fateh calling for the destruction Israel.