

## Hawatmeh Fears Sellout of Palestinians



**NAYEF HAWATMEH**

Nayef Hawatmeh, leader of the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DPF], believes that an at-

tempt will soon be made to force the Palestinian people to accept an imperialist "political solution" and give up their struggle for freedom. He expressed this view in an interview given in Beirut, Lebanon, and reported in the March 19 issue of the Boston daily *Christian Science Monitor*.

"A political solution is coming in the Middle East, of that you can be sure," Hawatmeh said. "Our people must keep out of all these negotiations because they will end by completely liquidating the Palestine question."

Explaining the basis of his opposition to the projected peace plans, he said: "We are drawing closer to a point in the international and Arab-Israeli situations where Israel will be recognized within 'secure and recognized' boundaries.

"This is a historic concession. It means abandonment of a part of Palestinian soil in the interests of Israel and the recognition of its government. This can only be a temporary solution because there will still be a racist, expansionist state linked to imperialism."

The DPF, Hawatmeh said, is struggling for a Palestine "linked to a larger Arab anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist pan-Arab state which must be nonchauvinist.

Hawatmeh indicated that the DPF sought contacts with anti-imperialist or-

ganizations in other countries, including inside Israel:

"We will work with all those progressive forces which are anti-Zionist and anti-imperialist. We already have relations with Matzpen [*The Compass*, publication of the Israeli Socialist Organization], the Rakah [the predominantly Arab faction

of the Israeli Communist party], and leftists in Israel, including professors and students at the Hebrew University."

Hawatmeh said that since the Jordanian civil war of September 1970, "every possible attempt has been taking place to push the Palestinians, both inside and outside the resistance movement, to take

part in the present or future political solution" by agreeing to the formation of a Palestinian state in the Israeli-occupied West Bank area. Hawatmeh said that he thought these pressures would continue, in order to convince the Palestinians to abandon their struggle to liberate all of Palestine. □