

from official sources. Of that number, 6,500 were Palestinian or Jordanian, and 40 were very young girls; 220 persons have disappeared. I myself saw American soldiers participating in the looting of the Palestinian Red Crescent. The office of the PLO was looted. I also know of two mass graves.

I will tell you about the torture which is being inflicted on the captured Palestinians and Jordanians, who have been held sometimes 80 to a cell in the Military Prison, also in the Youth Detention Center 15 to a cell, and the Sixth Detention Center. The Military Prison became so filthy, that an official could stand the smell for only one minute. He ordered that the prisoners be taken out of there. People have been burned with cigarettes, pieces of their skin have been cut out and they have been forced to eat that. The nose and ears of five Egyptians were cut. Nails were put into people and electric shock applied to the nails. Fish-scaling knives were put to their backs and salt applied to the wounds. People were put into the trunk of a car and left in the Sun. People were kept without water or food for several days. People have been raped.

In one room called the Room of Rapes, 13 people died; this is known. Their bodies were taken out at night. Amnesty International knows this. In the Youth Prison, people can wash and put on clean dress only when the Red Cross visits. Five people were shot for telling visitors how bad the conditions really are. The family of the Emir works with the vigilante groups, who kidnap people and take them to villas where they are beaten and tortured.

The Army, the volunteers, and the militiamen are all working together. It is an organized campaign. The American Embassy and the Red Cross know about it. Everything that has happened is in full knowledge of the allied troops. Everyone in Kuwait believes that these actions are directed out of the U.S. Embassy.

The Special Courts are kangaroo courts. They are there to rubberstamp sentences.

Press blackout

On June 14, the Commission released a statement referring to the Security Council's decision on June 12 to maintain the embargo. The Commission called for an immediate and total lifting of that blockade, and attacked the proposal to siphon off 30% of Iraq's oil revenue, which would "condemn Iraq to underdevelopment for decades." Only the Flemish-language newspapers in Belgium (*Morgen, Post, and Volk*) covered the press conference and the hearings. Not one word appeared in *Le Soir* and *Libre Belgique*—clearly, for French-speaking Belgium with its ties to Paris, the meeting had never taken place!

More than a footnote to history: your *EIR* reporter was apparently the only British journalist present, nor were there any American reporters to be seen. Furthermore, the act of indictment in 19 counts drawn up by the Commission cites as accused: George Bush, Dan Quayle, James Baker, Richard Cheney, William Webster, Gen. Colin Powell, Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, "and others to be named." In spite of the egre-

gious, indeed shamelessly forward role played by the British government in "stiffening America's resolve" and the personal involvement of the English Queen in pressing for action, not one British name appears on the charge sheet. I do not believe that the Commission could have overlooked England by an oversight. Rather, it is likely that not one Englishman has had the courage to step forward and draw up the charges against his own countrymen. Cannot someone be found with the stomach to remedy this?

'Strange supporters for Kurdistan'

The following article by Tino Delabie originally appeared in the Brussels newspaper Solidaire on April 10.

The present imperialist campaign to "help" the Kurds, brings the idea of "right of interference" and "duty to intervene" one step further. Resolution 688 of the Security Council, authorizing . . . international help to be given the Kurds, is qualified as historic by the bourgeois press. How true! It is an important stride forward for imperialism, because they have gained a "juridical" base for their interventions. Are you surprised to learn that the cunning craftsman behind the resolution is the French Foreign Minister [Roland] Dumas, who last year proposed a similar intervention in Romania? Are you surprised to hear [German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich] Genscher speak of "genocide by Saddam Hussein," when it is the French and the German imperialists in the [European Community] EC who are pushing for a rapid deployment force? . . .

The Trotskyists are calling for the "Iraqi troops to withdraw from Kurdistan," which, as things now stand, boils down to preventing the Iraqi government from resisting the Lebanization of Iraq. Within the pacifist movement, there are people who have been genuinely concerned, for years, about the Kurds. . . . That is exactly the reason why they should not allow themselves to be manipulated by the imperialists now, and should instead take on those who are the true authors of the present crisis. The peace movement must demand that all foreign troops withdraw from Iraq and from the Gulf, that the embargo be lifted, that Iraq be indemnified for all the harm caused by the blockade and by the war, that Iraq's debts to the Allies be canceled, that massive humanitarian aid be brought in to her people. . . .