

foundation of the State of Israel with a general strike, the radio noted. Riots on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem were dispersed by police 13 May, resulting in a number of injuries and arrests, according to the radio. In a statement carried by Baghdad Voice of the PLO radio, the PLO accused the Israeli security forces of using poisonous gas and live ammunition against the demonstrators, causing "more than 140 casualties, some of which were serious." A MAPAM Knesset member has asked the authorities to investigate reports that Israeli high school students participated in beating Arab detainees in a detention center near Ramallah, Jerusalem radio disclosed. The incident reportedly occurred when the students visited the center during their paramilitary training at a military base. In another development, the radio noted that the authorities have returned press credentials to U.S. journalist Glenn Frankel.

Egypt

Iran must not believe that the Arabs will not retaliate if it attacks any Gulf state, President Husni Mubarak warned in an interview with Kuwait's AL-SIYASAH carried by MENA. The Arabs will definitely not remain idle in face of a strong Iranian attack on a Gulf state, and they will provide the Gulf countries with the "necessary assistance," he added. On the Palestinian issue, Mubarak stressed the need to be "realistic," and he said it would be "unreasonable" for the Arabs to say that all of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' proposals are unacceptable. The Arabs will lose the world's sympathy if they continue to reject everything, he said, particularly since their cause is called one of "wasted opportunities." As for relations with Libya, Mubarak reaffirmed his view that Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi cannot be trusted, claiming that even President al-Asad does not trust the Libyan leader.

Discussing Egypt's military strategy in a lengthy interview with AL-MUSAWWAR, Defense Minister Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah stressed that Egypt might need to fight "any country," adding that "even a nation with which you have a peace agreement is in the long run a potential enemy when there is a clash of strategic interests." Egypt might also have to take military action if "a certain group seized power in a country on the River Nile and then decided to harm Egypt's strategic interests in the Nile waters." Abu

Ghazalah also strongly defended the recent U.S.-Egyptian military memorandum of understanding, asserting that it does not violate Egypt's sovereignty and does not contain secret clauses. On the M-1 tank program, he disclosed that Egypt plans to produce 550 over the next 5 years, manufacturing 80 percent of the parts. He denied a British newspaper's claim that Egypt is manufacturing a surface-to-surface missile, indicating that this report stemmed from test launches of a domestically produced version of the Soviet SA-2 anti-aircraft missile. The tests were successful, he said, but Egypt lacks the funds to mass-produce such missiles.

Syria

In a 12 March speech reported by Damascus radio, President Hafiz al-Asad insisted on the need to continue making "economic and material sacrifices" to confront the "looming danger" of Israel, whose desire for all the land from the Nile to the Euphrates is "as clear as the sun." If Syria cannot prevent the "Zionist expansion," no other Arab state can, he said, adding that "we are looking forward to the fateful battle with the Zionist enemy."

Iran

Elections—Tehran radio broadcast results of the second round of Majlis elections, in which around 79 candidates were elected in over 50 constituencies. Sixteen members were elected in Tehran. IRNA noted that Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni participated in the vote, which took place 13 May.

Islamic Punishment—Persons committing a "sinful" act in public or offending "public decency" are liable to receive 74 lashes under articles of the Islamic Punishment Act, IRNA reported. The punishment will apply to women appearing in public without religious dress.

Tunisia

Rached Gannouchi, the Islamic Tendency Movement leader who in September 1987 was sentenced to life imprisonment for crimes against state security, was prominent among the 234 convicts pardoned by President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali on the occasion of 'Id al-Fitr, Tunis radio announced 14 May. The president also restored the civil rights of 1,154 people, and he granted a "conditional discharge" to 250 prisoners.