

## Israeli Hawks Jeopardizing Geneva

As the governments of the United States, the Soviet Union, and Western Europe proceeded this week to create conditions for the reconvening of a Geneva conference for a Middle East peace settlement (see *U.S. Report*), warhawk factions in Israel are preparing a contingency plan to launch "a war of annihilation against Egypt and Syria," according to the Oct. 26 *Washington Post*. *Post* reporter Jim Hoagland claims that Israeli Defense Minister Ezer Weizman's strategy in a new war "will be to destroy the two main Arab armies so quickly and completely that the Arabs will not present a military threat to Israel for the next ten years." The article also states that the intent of the Israeli strategy is "to make its armed forces invulnerable to pressure from Washington."

Arab response has been unequivocal. Unless Israeli intransigence on the crucial Palestinian issue is reduced, said Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud in Washington Oct. 25-26, "a general breakdown and war, possibly even triggering World War III," will occur, reports the Overseas News Agency. In meetings last week with President Carter and Administration officials in Washington, Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud reaffirmed his country's commitment to the Palestine Liberation Organization and called for a new United Nations resolution to support Palestinian rights.

Pressure on the Israelis is coming from all sides. The Soviet Ambassador to Bonn announced that the USSR is prepared to reestablish relations with the Israeli government — severed since the 1967 war — provided that the shape of a fair settlement is accepted by Israel. PLO Foreign Minister Farouk Kaddoumi will visit Moscow in the near future to discuss the formation of a Palestinian government-in-exile, which could open the way for a West Bank state. Israel has so far shown no willingness to discuss such an option.

Exacerbating Israel's refusal to negotiate is the official entry into Israeli Prime Minister Begin's government of the Democratic Movement for Change, led by former Gen. Yigal Yadin and composed of veterans from Israeli military intelligence known for their advocacy of a strike against Arab oil fields.

### Saudi Foreign Minister: Palestinian State a Necessity

*The following excerpts are from the interview by Newsweek Magazine with Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud:*

**Q:** Do you believe that we will see a Geneva conference this year?

**A:** I see some signs for optimism. America's seriousness and your joint statement with the USSR, coupled with the serious attitude of the Arab countries, all mean that there is something new and positive in the air.

**Q:** How should the Palestinians be represented at Geneva?

**A:** By the PLO, either sitting individually or in an Arab delegation. . . . The legitimate representatives of the Palestinians have to be at Geneva or it will be a meaningless exercise.

**Q:** What is your definition of real peace?

**A:** Israel has to achieve acceptance in the area and then identify with its own region, the Middle East. The basic criterion . . . is a settlement with the Palestinians — the creation of an independent Palestinian state. That will lead to the normalization of the Palestinian-Israeli relations, which is essential to normalization with the rest of the Arab world. Without it, there is no possibility for . . . normalization.

**Q:** Could such a state be viable?

**A:** All Arab states, Saudi Arabia included, would help ensure such a state's viability with economic aid.

**Q:** Surely such a state would be a twin time bomb ticking away against both Israel and . . . Jordan?

**A:** I can't speak for the Israelis. But from discussions I have held with His Majesty King Hussein, such a state would not necessarily be a time bomb.

**Q:** What can you say that you think would convince the world that Saudi Arabia and the three Arab confrontation states are ready for real peace treaties if the Israelis were to pull back to the 1967 lines with the minor rectifications envisaged by President Carter?

**A:** I can vouch on the basis of my own private conversations that they could not be more serious about peace. Take, for instance, President Sadat's commitment to peace in the area. It is obvious that Egypt's internal situation dictates real peace.

**Q:** What about Syria?

**A:** President Assad has said and told me that if the Israelis are ready to withdraw from the occupied territories and give the Palestinians real rights, there will be real peace throughout the region. Compare that to Israeli statements which repeatedly make clear they will not negotiate with the Palestinians or agree to a Palestinian state or entity.

## Yadin: A Branch of Military Intelligence

*The following excerpts from an interview with the chairman of the department of political science at a major east coast university indicate that Yigal Yadin's Democratic Movement for Change is less of a political party than it is an intelligence operation:*

"Yadin and others, like Gen. Tal, are from the academic, professorial Tel Aviv University and Hebrew University circles. They represent the old Intelligence Division of the military. They are a different breed than Dayan and Sharon, the career generals. The Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) people generally, including Meir Amit (former chief of military intelligence) are part of this Intelligence Division group. It is a closed circle. When I was there I talked to them, and I asked them: 'Aren't you isolating yourselves?' And they said, 'No, we're trying to form a broad-based movement, and that's why we're including people like Amnon Rubinstein (who just quit the DMC over Yadin's decision to join the government — ed.) in the DMC.' Yariv (former head of intelligence), although he is a close friend of theirs, is not directly in the inner group.

"Last week, in Washington, Yadin's people asked me:

'Should we go into the government?' I told them that I thought that if they wanted to curb Dayan, then they'd have to go in. 'You have to oppose Dayan's Debating Society,' I told them.

"As for Dayan, he believes in the status quo: no changes in the West Bank; the Palestinians do not exist, just villagers; leave the open bridges open, and stay put. But the DMC, while they are more moderate, will not accept a Palestinian state. They favor the old Allon Plan. They want the West Bank to be under Israeli security, and to bring Jordan back onto the West Bank — and to keep the PLO out. They want to satisfy the Syrians by mediating that relationship through Jordan, through the Jordan-Syria confederation. They want to *channel* the energy of the Palestinians. Dayan wants to sit on them.

"No, Yadin is not backed by Brzezinski. Not at all. . . .

"Amit is not the only one who has called for moving against the oil fields. Hebrew University is the center of that stuff. And the DMC people, as Intelligence people, must have been involved when the plans for that were drawn up in 1973-74 — but that, you see, was under Dayan as Defense Minister. So they worked together. Do you know that in 1973 or so the Israelis sent a Reshev-class missile boat to the very mouth of the Persian Gulf, to 'show the flag'? Just to let the Saudis and the Sultan of Oman know. . . ."

---

## Gulf States Close Ranks Against Threat Of Terrorism, Invasion

U.S. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal arrived in Kuwait this week only days after his hosts and their oil-producing neighbors in the United Arab Emirates had begun a public, if diplomatic, stink about Energy Czar James Schlesinger's mooted plans to invade the Persian Gulf oilfields. Blumenthal began the Kuwaiti leg of his tour of Mideast oil-producing nations as the Kuwaiti press also warned of a possible terrorist attack on an oil tanker passing through the narrow Straits of Hormuz at the mouth of the Persian Gulf — an incident which could easily block oil flows from the region. With either a foreign invasion or such a terrorist act as options available to London and its U. S. allies like Schlesinger and Blumenthal, the Gulf states have begun to take strident security measures. The urgency of the situation is prompting increased cooperation among the eight Arab Gulf states and their erstwhile regional adversary Iran.

According to the Weekly *Arabia and the Gulf*, Kuwait has established agreements with Iran and its Arab Gulf neighbors to jointly secure the sea lanes of the Gulf from future terrorism. Noteworthy in such an effort is Iran's

role in working with West Germany and France in establishing an international body through the United Nations to combat terrorism.

The assassination this week of the highly respected Deputy Foreign Minister of the UAE capital of Abu Dhabi underscores the imminent terrorist threat in the Gulf. Banking sources have confirmed that the murder, reported as intended for the visiting Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam, was an expression of Britain's strong desire to force its rival, France, out of the Persian Gulf. The United Emirates have recently signed significant cooperation deals with the French state-owned oil company CFP, pledging a sizeable expansion of oil output. At the same time, both the UAE and Saudi Arabia have given their respective oil concessionaires the word that official government policy is expanded oil production for additional future crude output. Iran too has engaged in new exploration. Such developments do not bode well for the energy conservationist faction of either London or Washington.