

NSC-Linked Generals Move Toward Coup in Israel

June 5 (NSIPS)—A clique of top Israeli ex-generals closely tied to the U.S. National Security Council (NSC) has stepped up its moves toward a coup d'etat in Israel. Nominally led by Israel's first Chief of Staff, Yigal Yadin, the group prominently includes current Defense Minister Shimon Peres, former Defense Minister Moshe Dyan, and several former Chiefs of Staff and heads of intelligence, all united behind the activation of a Kissinger-orchestrate Middle East war that will sacrifice Israel's population in a "Schlesinger Doctrine" nuclear showdown with the Soviet Union.

Capitalizing on the fumbling ineptitude of Israeli Premier, Yitzhak Rabin, the group is actively mobilizing networks within Israel's centrist Labour Party, the fascist Likud and the religious extremist parties toward a showdown that will likely topple Rabin over the next days or weeks.

The Yadin Ploy

A cynical NSC maneuver centering around Yadin is preparing the way for the general's coup d'etat conspiracy against the government. Long "retired" from politics, Yadin, in mid-May suddenly announced that he would move for the premiership and issued a stream of attacks against Rabin's wobbling regime. While presenting an intentionally vague pro-peace platform whose sole intention is to split the increasingly restive dovish camp, Yadin has received almost daily coverage through the NSC's international press network as a potential Israeli "de Gaulle" who could rally the country around a strongman leadership.

A source close to Yadin revealed June 3 that Yadin is solely the "catalyst to end Rabin's Prime Ministership"—"Dayan is in the wings." The London Economist magazine warned this week that Yadin "will eventually join hands" with a group of discontented ex-generals "who are casting about for a political home."

Peres, Dayan, Sharon

The conspiracy is being carried out within the government by Defense Minister Peres, who has been "building up his

political base and collecting friends" in the extremist National Religious Party and in the Likud, the Economist reports. At the same time, Peres is conducting an open and bitter public feud with Rabin. Reliable Israeli sources estimate that the current shaky "truce" between the two cannot last long.

Peres is in fact determined to provoke a crisis this week, demanding a special Cabinet hearing tomorrow to insist that outlays for his Defense Ministry be raised at a time when the state budget is being slashed across the board under the austerity dictates of Finance Minister Rabinowitz, a close political ally of Rabin.

Joining the attack, Dayan announced from London earlier this week that he would never serve in "the government of Rabin, Rabinowitz, and (Foreign Minister) Allon." Israeli newspapers described Dayan's statement as an unprecedented "scathing attack" against the government; the Economist warned that the infamous warhawk is "waiting to pounce."

General Ariel Sharon, a long-standing Dayan ally added his charges June 3 that Rabin was "holding back the truth from the Israeli population" on Israel's security situation, allowing Israel to be "overwhelmed" by Arab armies on two fronts. Sharon is reportedly negotiating with pro-Likud fanatic Ezer Weizman for a joint usurpation of the traditional Likud leadership, to use the Party as a springboard for moves against the government.

At the same time, top architects of the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, Meir Amit, former head of Israeli intelligence, and Aharov Yariv, former head of military intelligence, have formed a group of former senior army men who are "bitterly disappointed" with Rabin's leadership. The Economist ominously reports that the army group would like to see Rabin "replaced by one of their own," since the Premier, himself a former Chief of Staff, has "discredited the whole group" with his indecisive leadership.