

illegitimate act by a legitimate government," he said. He attributed this to "poor leadership, defective intelligence, and confusion."

Littell's critique sounded all the more convincing, as he himself is now working at Baylor University in Waco. To those aware of the role of the ADL and such of its allies as the Cult Awareness Network in cooking up the "defective intelligence," Littell's words take on an added meaning.

He next read out an impassioned letter from an Israeli colleague who was supposed to have come to Berlin, but decided not to because, "since the massacre in Hebron, my heart is broken," he wrote, expressing astonishment and dismay that "a person claiming to be a religious Jew killed 50 Muslims on Ramadan, killing them in the holy place where Abraham lived." The letter drew the irony that such an action was a "terrible result of the Holocaust," and insisted that "world Judaism should expel such people from Judaism," and that they must be expelled from Israel as well. Warning that if extremist groups, Jewish and Arab, were not stopped, "there will be terrible bloodshed worse than anything that has happened before," he made a desperate appeal to those attending the conference in Berlin. "Please help us!" he wrote.

Littell insisted that religion today must act to bring about a "disciplined standard of ethics and morals," to strengthen the kind of "civil discourse" based on the notion of "government of the people, by the people, and for the people." What had to be reinforced was the concept of "love, what the Christians call *agapē*," as well as the notion known in German as *Menschlichkeit*, or humanity.

This message was not exactly what some of the more hysterical attendees in Berlin wanted to hear, and murmurings of dismay could be heard in such quarters.

Littell was followed by Genscher, who gave a *pro forma* speech about the growing dangers of nationalism and ethnic conflicts in Europe. Then came the turn of Israeli Consul General Mordechai Levy. Here, too, there was an interesting effect. While insisting that there was no connection between the Nazi Holocaust and what had happened in Hebron, Levy took pains to announce that, on that very day, the Israeli government had outlawed Kach and defined its members as terrorists. This announcement drew an enthusiastic round of applause.

In the next days, plenary speakers continued to draw the parallels between the Kach fanatics and the Nazis, even in speeches that might otherwise have had profoundly irrational elements. The oft-repeated reminders of the "Jewish Nazis" short-circuited the usual discussions on "German collective guilt," "the unique German crimes of this century," and so on. It was in such an environment, where reality intruded into deliberations that in the past were most often characterized by hysteria, mudslinging, and mindless emotionalism, that ADL thug Leonard Dinnerstein could not keep himself from cracking up.

## Israel bans Kach Party as terrorist

by Adam East and Dean Andromidas

The Israeli cabinet, in a unanimous decision on March 13, announced the banning of the Kach Party and the Kahane Chai (Kahane Lives) organizations. The ban came in response to the Feb. 25 Hebron massacre, in which over 50 Palestinians praying in a mosque associated with the Tomb of Abraham were gunned down by Baruch Goldstein, a leading member of the Kach organization. The move is an opening step by the Israeli government against an operation initiated by Anglo-American circles committed to derailing the peace process and throwing Israel and the region into chaos.

*EIR* has documented (see *EIR*, March 11) how these organizations were created, deployed, and systematically protected since 1963 when their founder, the late Rabbi Meir Kahane, began working as an informant for the FBI. The patrons include the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, and are connected with the British networks in the United States known as the "neo-conservatives."

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, on the eve of his trip to the United States for talks with President Bill Clinton, denounced the two Kahane groups as "terrorist organizations" which, he said, are "just like the Palestinian terror groups." Israeli Attorney General Michael Ben-Yair described the two groups as being on a par with the Islamic Hamas movement.

Rabin, who led the cabinet's action, told reporters that "we must condemn them and spit them out." On Feb. 28, while addressing the Knesset (parliament), Rabin, in attacking the actions of Goldstein and his followers at Hebron, made an unprecedented attack on the American networks behind the Hebron massacre. (Goldstein, a Brooklyn transplant, was a Jewish Defense League/Kach leader from the settlement of Kiryat Arba in the Occupied Territories.)

Said Rabin, "To [Goldstein] and those like him we say: You are a foreign implant . . . an errant weed. Sensible Judaism spits you out."

### What the ban does

The ban by the Israeli attorney general's office was in response to a government request to "examine and propose possible ways of declaring the Kach and Kahane Chai organizations to be illegal." According to an official statement, the attorney general "was convinced" that these groups constitute "a group of individuals who in their activities employ violence, and are liable to cause death or injury, or who threaten



*The late Meir Kahane at a demonstration in New York in 1982. Speaking of Kahane's Israeli terrorist friends, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said, "We must condemn them and spit them out."*

such violent acts" and therefore constitute a "terrorist organization." Under the Prevention of Terrorism Law of 1948, "those who are members of a terrorist organization, who perform functions in it, or who verbally, actually, or financially support these organizations are guilty of an offense whose punishment is imprisonment or the imposition of a fine. The state is authorized to confiscate the property of the organization, and the police inspector general is authorized to order the closure of any place which is used by a terrorist organization or by its members." The judgment is not narrowly confined to these organizations, but applies to "any organization carrying out the goals of those organizations," and "the establishment of a theocracy in the Biblical Land of Israel and the violent expulsion of Arabs from that land will also be considered a terror organization."

The ban took effect immediately in Israel, and in the Occupied Territories once the Israeli Army commanders issued the orders. The law provides for jail sentences of up to 20 years for members and/or financial fines for individuals and other organizations that support them.

Thus, the judgment gives the government authority to take action against the so-called moderates in the broader opposition who show solidarity with these movements. More importantly, the outlawing of these groups enables the Israeli government to approach U.S. authorities to take legal action against the networks in the United States which have been extending massive financial and logistical support. Ac-

cording to Israeli government sources, such an approach has been made.

In a separate resolution, the Israeli government announced that it "reaffirms its commitment to promote maximum security" for the Jewish and Arab populations in the Occupied Territories, and promised to "act with full authority to prevent a recurrence of any acts of murder." At the same time, the Israeli Army changed what had been a standing order prohibiting Israeli soldiers from firing on Jewish settlers in the Occupied Territories, even if the settlers were engaged in indiscriminate firing on Palestinians. Now, Israeli soldiers can fire on settlers.

Within Israel, the government has closed and sealed the offices of both organizations, made several arrests, issued warrants for others who have gone underground, and has disarmed others. It has also arrested Rabbi Moshe Levinger, a founder of the Hebron settlement, although not an official member of either organization. Levinger was indicted on a relatively minor charge and was released on bail, but the move is seen as a warning to other extremist organizations. Several years ago, Levinger was convicted for the killing of a Palestinian.

### **Kahane groups rave**

In a statement, the Kach Party expressed its "disgust at the fascist decision of the government," calling it "a surrender to PLO demands." Michael Guzofsky, leader of the U.S.

branch of Kahane Chai, called the ban "an obscene, anti-democratic, anti-Jewish, anti-Zionist witchhunt." After the bloodletting at Hebron, Guzofsky had warmly praised Goldstein, whom he called "a good Jew, a healthy Jew who understood that the Arabs of Israel want to destroy the state of Israel and drive the Jews into the sea."

In Tel Aviv, 30,000 right-wing demonstrators clashed with police at a rally denouncing the government on March 15. Such developments underline fear of broader radicalization of the settlers movement, whose leaders are threatening the government with the specter of a civil war in the territories and the launching of an armed opposition movement modeled on France's extremist Secret Army Organization. The Anglo-American-backed OAS attempted to assassinate and overthrow the government of Charles de Gaulle during the Algerian war for independence.

Hebrew University professor Aviezer Ravitsky, an expert on these organizations, expressed fear in recent interviews that the Gush Emunim will become even more radicalized. Gush Emunim, which interfaces with Kach, is much larger and one of the principal organizations in the settlers movement. Its supporters number in the tens of thousands and are represented in the Knesset through the National Religious Party.

Playing into right-wing Jewish provocations, the militant Islamic Hamas movement issued a warning to the 13,000 settlers in the West Bank settlement of Ariel and four other settlements in the West Bank and Gaza to move out or face attacks in revenge for the Hebron massacre.

### **Saving the Gaza-Jericho accord**

Israeli supporters of the peace process underscore the need for the government to act quickly if the peace process is to be saved. One Israeli professor involved with the peace process pointed out that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat needs all the support he can get, and that implementation of the Gaza-Jericho accord should be accelerated as quickly as possible. Another Israeli from a joint Israeli/Palestinian political research institute said, "On the ground the situation is very tense. The Occupied Territories have been beefed up so much that it looks like one huge military camp." He added that everyone is expecting acts of retribution by both Jews and Palestinians. He pointed out that a 24-hour curfew is still in effect in Hebron and the territories still remain closed, barring Palestinians from their jobs in Israel. While this source believed all the settlements should be dismantled, he pointed out the necessity to immediately dismantle the Kach stronghold in Hebron, an obvious flashpoint once the curfew is lifted.

Although Rabin continues to act cautiously on the settlements, this source reported that public opinion would support the government if it acted forcefully. He pointed out that over one-third of the settlers would leave the territories if offered compensation for their investments.

## **South Africa faces bloody times ahead**

by David Hammer

The events of March 12-15 in the black homeland of Bophuthatswana are a harbinger of things to come in the "new, democratic South Africa." The government of President Lucas Mangope had decided not to participate in the April 27 national election, deeming it "illegitimate." The African National Congress threatened Mangope that unless he decided to participate, he would be overthrown. In a joint deployment by the ANC and the South African government, in which dozens were killed, he was overthrown.

Periodically throughout the negotiations on a new constitution, which took place during 1992-93 at the World Trade Center in Kempton Park, the African National Congress had threatened to "send in the tanks" to Bophuthatswana as soon as they had the power. On Dec. 6, the ANC became co-rulers of the country through the Transitional Executive Council. After various meetings and negotiations with Mangope, ANC head Nelson Mandela declared on March 8, "It seems I'm talking to a stone. I think we've given him enough time. . . . If he continues to be arrogant, we will have to take action against him, it's a matter of time."

### **Mangope forced out**

The "action" began Thursday afternoon, March 12, after an "all-clear" signal delivered by South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha, who announced on radio that Pretoria "would not rescue [Mangope] again," but would intervene only if South African lives were threatened. Civil servants began demonstrating with a series of impossible demands, such as immediate salary increases of 50% and full payment of pensions before April 27, while students from the University of Bophuthatswana took to the streets. It was generally acknowledged, particularly in the South African electronic media, that the ANC had orchestrated the events. Widespread rioting soon broke out, led, according to some accounts, by cadre of the ANC's armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK).

Amidst chaos and the defections of part of his police force and army, Mangope fled the capital the night of March 12. The South African government sent in the South African Defense Force to "restore order." Despite Mangope's announcement on the evening of March 13 that he had agreed