
Sharon's Government

A Rogues' Gallery of Fascist War Criminals

by Scott Thompson

On Oct. 28, the Israeli newspaper *Ha'aretz* published an extraordinary commentary by Knesset Member and Meretz party head Yossi Sarid, "Before Jewish Fascism Takes Over." It warned that the Ariel Sharon-led radical right wing in Israel was evolving into a full-blown fascist movement. Drawing a parallel between the Sharonists in Israel today, and the Jewish Zealots who burned Jerusalem and destroyed the Second Commonwealth during the First Century A.D., Sarid all but urged armed resistance to the Jewish fascists, who were at that moment creating a caretaker government under Prime Minister Sharon, following the collapse of Sharon's "national unity" government, and pending the results of new elections in early 2003 (see accompanying article). "If today's zealots continue on the path of their ancestors," Sarid wrote, "I'm not sure the opposing camp will continue the tradition of surrender and panic exhibited by the moderates of the Second Commonwealth. We have the right of self-defense from the likes of [new Infrastructure Minister] Effi Eitam, his rabbis and pupils, before they bring down the horrors upon us, before Jewish fascism runs over us all."

The Sharon-Netanyahu interim government is a nest of fascist evil, which could easily bring the Mideast to war before new elections occur. The validity of Sarid's warnings was underlined when newly appointed Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz was warned not to travel through Great Britain en route home to Israel, to avoid being arrested, and sent to The Hague for war crimes prosecution before the International Criminal Court. *Ha'aretz* reported on Oct. 31 that British lawyer Imran

Khan had filed a 17-page dossier with prosecutors, demanding Mofaz's arrest for violating the Geneva Convention, by ordering targeted assassinations, wanton property destruction, and murders of innocent women and children.

As you will see in the profiles below, every single member of the interim Sharon regime is a hardened war criminal, who could and should be put on trial before an appropriately convened "Nuremberg II" tribunal. Both Sharon and his interim Foreign Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, are longstanding criminals, whose policy is the Nazi-modelled "ethnic cleansing" of all Arabs from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and their mass transfer across the Jordan River. Their battle cry is "Jordan is Palestine," and they have devised a series of murderous counterinsurgency programs to exterminate the legitimate Palestinian leadership.

The Fascist Seven

Maj. Gen. Meir Dagan

(ret.) (a.k.a. "Dracula" and "Hitler"). On Sept. 9, 2002, Sharon named Dagan to head the Mossad, Israel's foreign intelligence service, suggesting that Sharon was contemplating a revival of "Operation Caesarea," an assassination program that dates back to the 1970s. Dagan, who had been a Sharon protégé in the military, demonstrated his loyalty by defying orders from then-Prime Minister and Defense Minister Menachem Begin, being the first to drive his tank into Beirut, Lebanon, although Begin had issued explicit orders for the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) to stop at the Litani River. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, Dagan ran "Operation Caesarea," whereby, in Gaza and Lebanon, his 40-man hit squad of IDF commandos would frequently disguise themselves as Palestinians and assassinate Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) leaders. (Often, the targets of these assassinations were moderate Palestinians, who were more open to peace talks.) When Sharon was Defense Minister, and again since he became Prime Minister in March 2001, these assassination squads have been given a free hand, with over 60 known assassinations during his Prime Ministership alone.

But in early 1994, Dagan—as the newspaper *Yediot Aharanot* exposed on Oct. 24, 1997—threatened then-Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin with insubordination in a closed-door meeting of IDF generals with Rabin. "Don't take it for granted that soldiers will obey orders to withdraw from the [occupied] territories," Dagan warned.

Dagan succeeded "Dirty Rafi" Eytan as head of "Terror Against Terror," and was terrorism adviser to Prime Ministers Netanyahu, Ehud Barak, and Sharon. It was Dagan and Sharon who were responsible for bringing Hamas' spiritual leader, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, back to Gaza from his impris-



Meir Dagan

onment in Israel in 1997: an action taken to undo Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat's successful crackdown on the Hamas terrorists in 1996-97. (Notably, Henry Siegman, who heads the Council on Foreign Relations Mideast Section, admits that Sharon created Hamas to undermine Arafat.)

Before Sharon became Prime Minister, *Yediot Aharonot* (Dec. 14-15, 2000) and *Le Monde* (Dec. 18, 2000) reported that the "Dagan Plan" had been hatched, to isolate Arafat politically and diplomatically, while using the full force of the IDF to transform what the Oslo peace accords had characterized as "Palestinian-controlled Area A" into many little "Warsaw ghettos." This Dagan Plan fits with many others of Israeli right-wing fascists—some of which are presented here—that have been largely accomplished, except for the last step of "mass transfer" of Palestinians to Jordan.

Just as this Dagan Plan was going into effect through IDF "rolling operations," on Dec. 14, 2001—one day after the Israeli Security Cabinet had proclaimed Arafat "irrelevant"—Foreign Minister Shimon Peres (Labor) told *Yediot Aharonot* that the Cabinet's actions might lead to "an international court for war crimes trials" against Israel. "If liquidations are further expanded, the day is not far away when we will be classified by the international community as war criminals," Peres added.

'National Infrastructure' of Deportations

Brig. Gen. Efraim "Effi" Eitam (res.). This new leader of the fascist National Religious Party (NRP), which became a part of Sharon's now-defunct "unity government," was appointed Minister of National Infrastructure on Sept. 18, 2002, an appointment which gives Eitam a significant opportunity to expand settlements in the West Bank. On July 5, 2002, Eitam told a press conference that Arafat "ought to be liquidated."

On Feb. 15, 2002, *EIR*'s Dean Andromidas reported that a group of senior reserve officers of the IDF, and senior members of the Israeli defense establishment led by Eitam, had drafted a "security-political plan": "It includes reoccupying the Occupied Territories, destroying the Palestinian Authority, and ethnic 'cleansing' of the Palestinian territory. . . . Eitam's 'solution' intends to be final. . . . The move would include destruction of the Palestinian Authority and possibly physical elimination of its President, Yasser Arafat."

Eitam's "mass transfer" plan was revealed in the Jan. 27, 2002 issue of *Ha'aretz*, which also carried a report by respected Israeli military correspondent Amir Oren, revealing that the IDF was studying the Nazi SS methods of destruction of the Warsaw Ghetto. Queried by this author on the matter, Sharon's spokesman Ra'anana Gissin gave the Orwellian response that "this is legitimate," because "Israel is a democracy." Gissin added: "Some officers may have been looking at that. They thought that it was similar, because you would be fighting street-by-street against the Palestinian Authority."

Unlike Likudnik Sharon, Eitam is a "religious Zionist,"

and in April 2002 he became head of the National Religious Party. While mainstream Zionism is a secularly based political ideology, the NRP believes in establishing a Jewish state that combines messianic Judaism with nationalism. Not only is the NRP strong in the settlements, but it has a growing base in the IDF.

Uzi Landau. Landau, a Likud Member of the Knesset, has been Minister of Public Safety since the start of the Sharon government. This thug, who has repeatedly tried to trigger a religious "Thirty Years War" by threatening the Islamic holy sites on Jerusalem's al-Haram al-Sharif (Temple Mount,) holds a PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he specialized in systems analysis. His thuggishness was on display in May 2001, when he spoke to Jewish leaders in New York City as an Israeli government official, saying of the Palestinians: "I believe that eventually we will have to start and combat them all-out."



Uzi Landau

Under the leadership of professional assassin Meir Dagan, Sharon appointed Landau to be one of those who would negotiate with U.S. envoy Gen. Anthony Zinni (USMC, ret.); at the time of the meetings, Landau appeared on Israeli Army radio and heaped scorn on Zinni and his peace effort. On Dec. 11, 2001, Landau said: "It must be absolutely forbidden, that these talks bring us to a point where we do not take more action, with greater forcefulness, against the targets that create the infrastructure of terror. . . . Israel's operations facing the terrorism of Arafat must only increase and grow more intensive from day to day. They must be systematic, they must cause them much greater damage. The struggle must be constant, not a response to their attacks, . . . striking at them all the time."

It was Landau who insisted, on July 8, 2002, on shutting down the Al Quds University President's Office of Sari Nusseibeh, the moderate PLO representative in Jerusalem who had initiated a peace dialogue between Jews and Palestinians. Even White House spokesman Ari Fleischer rebuked Landau for this.

Landau was also party to the July 18, 2002 decision of the Rabbinical Council of Judea, Samaria, and Gaza, to permit Jews unfettered access to Islam's holy site al-Haram al-Sharif. Sharon's Sept. 28, 2000 trip there, with hundreds of bodyguards, triggered the "Al-Aqsa Intifada."

Russian Mafia Input

Rabbi Yitzhak Levy. This former head of the NRP stepped down, so that Eitam, who believes in mass transfer, could lead the NRP and enter Sharon's Cabinet in April 2002.

The opposition leader and chairman of the pro-peace Meretz party, Yossi Sarid, said of this development: "By choosing 'Effi' Eitam as its chair, the National Religious Party has become a party of false messianists and transfer. This is the end of the national religious movement." When Levy stepped down, he was named a Minister Without Portfolio by Sharon, and then, in September 2002, was appointed Minister of Tourism, to bind the NRP more closely to the "unity government."

Avigdor Lieberman. This Member of the Knesset from the fascist National Union-Yisrael Beiteinu Party (NU-YBP) had been appointed at the start of Sharon's government, to be Minister of National Infrastructure, a post critical for the expansion of settlements, but Lieberman stepped down in March 2002. His appointment had been a sop to those who came to Israel from the former Soviet Union, as Lieberman was a Russian Jew.

Prior to founding NU-YBP in 1999, and running for the Knesset, Lieberman had been a poster boy of the Likud, with strong ties to Netanyahu. From 1993-96, Lieberman was Director General of the Likud, and from 1996-1997 he was Director General of the Prime Minister's Office. It is widely believed that the NU-YBP is merely a front for Netanyahu in the large Russian emigré community.

According to *Ha'aretz* on March 27, 2001, no sooner had Lieberman become Minister of National Infrastructure, than two people were arrested (one of whom with a 20% stake in the government telecom firm, Bezeq), who had alleged ties with the Russian mafia. Lieberman so viciously attacked the Israeli police for the arrest, that even Sharon had to make a statement denouncing what Lieberman had said.

In *Ha'aretz* of March 11, 2002, it was reported that Lieberman decided to pull his party out of the "unity government," because Sharon had agreed to talks with the Palestinian Authority without there first being "seven days of calm." Sharon had released Arafat from "house arrest." When the NU-YBP pulled out of the government, Sharon brought the even more fascist Eitam into it.

Lt. Gen. Shaul Mofaz (ret.). Mofaz, who had been appointed Chief of Staff by Netanyahu, has now been appointed by Sharon to be Minister of Defense. At the beginning of the Sharon government in March 2001, Mofaz said on Israel radio that the Palestinian Authority was a "terrorist entity." After the Israeli Security Cabinet approved Operation Defensive Shield, for dismantling the Palestinian Authority, Jenin, on the West Bank, became the site of street-by-street fighting, and whole sections of houses were leveled by IDF tanks and bulldozers. The Palestinians proclaimed that it had been a "massacre," but Sharon refused to permit an international investigation, because he had been advised by attorneys that both he and IDF officers might be indicted for war crimes. On July 9, 2002, Mofaz called for Arafat to be "expelled."



Shaul Mofaz (right foreground), meeting with U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz in 2001. Mofaz, who is Defense Minister in Ariel Sharon's interim government, was warned not to travel abroad, lest he be arrested for war crimes.

Then-Foreign Minister Shimon Peres tried repeatedly to have Mofaz and his deputy, Moshe Ya'alon, muzzled, but on Aug. 24, 2001, Mofaz was on Israeli radio, boasting that "about 600 Palestinians have been killed, 1,200 arrested and 10,000 wounded" in the past 11 months in the IDF's "war against terror."

Designating Palestinians 'a Cancer'

Lt. Gen. Moshe Ya'alon. Ya'alon was Mofaz's deputy throughout the period of Sharon's government, and after Mofaz had finished his four-year tour, the even more bloodthirsty Ya'alon replaced him as IDF Chief of Staff. If anything, Ya'alon's public comments have been even more inflammatory than those of Mofaz. On Aug. 25, 2002, according to *Ha'aretz*, Ya'alon told a religious meeting in Jerusalem: "If we do not win this war [against the Palestinians], we'll find ourselves facing a cancerous threat. . . . This is a cancerous threat because it is not visible to the naked eye." As Israeli commentators remarked, this statement was much like the Nazis' statements that Jews were "lice" to be exterminated.

As early as 1996, when Ya'alon was Chief of Israeli Military Intelligence (Amman), he began drafting a liquidation/deportation plan which he called "Field of Thorns" (see *EIR*, Oct. 4, 2002). This plan is now far advanced in its implementation. Only two steps remain to be carried out. After the near-total destruction of the Palestinian Authority, the entire Palestinian political leadership is marked for arrest or murder. This has already been partially implemented. The second step is the deportation of Palestinians from "sensitive areas;" that is, the entire West Bank of "Judea and Samaria." According to highly placed U.S. and Israeli sources, this "final solution" would occur within the context of either a war with Iraq, or a war with Syria over Lebanon.