

# Israel's Dayan Is Main Threat To Geneva Accord

The Israeli Cabinet voted unanimously yesterday to accept the U.S.-Israeli "working paper" on a Middle East peace settlement hammered out between President Carter and Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan of Israel in an all-night meeting two weeks ago in New York.

The Cabinet decision, announced after a reportedly stormy five-hour session chaired by Prime Minister Menachem Begin, signals an important Israeli willingness to continue to explore the possibility of a reconvened Geneva conference later this year chaired by the United States and the Soviet Union.

The "working paper" itself is not the central issue in the ongoing Middle East negotiations, however. According to published reports, the key concept embodied in the paper is a proposal to set up, at a reconvened Geneva meeting, a multilateral Arab-Israel working committee that would include representatives of Israel, the Arab states, and the Palestinians to discuss the issue of the Palestinians. Previously, Israel had refused categorically to negotiate the Palestinian question.

But sharp disagreement — even head-to-head confrontation — prevails over who should represent the Palestinians, and to what end. The hawkish Dayan faction in Israel, and its British and American "Israel Lobby" allies, intends to use the deadlock over the Palestine question to destroy chances for a peace settlement and provoke a Middle East war and an oil crisis.

## *U.S.-Soviet Accord*

The underlying issue in the Middle East negotiations is the continued furor over the Oct. 1 announcement of a joint U.S.-Soviet statement endorsing the "rights of the Palestinian people." That statement not only signalled Washington's shift in the Middle East — previously, the U.S. had spoken only of the "legitimate interests of the Palestinians" — but was a significant part of a much broader U.S.-Soviet rapprochement that included the Middle East, the Strategic Arms Limitations Talks (SALT), and the downplaying of Carter's "human rights" provocations.

## U.S.-Soviet Global Deal In The Works

*The following is an interview with a spokesman close to the American Jewish Congress:*

**Q:** What is your view of the recent U.S.-Soviet communiqué?

**A:** My position is a moderate one that rejects annexation of the West Bank despite protests from the Gush Emunim and Agriculture Minister Sharon, but that opposes Israel's simply giving up the West Bank, because surrendering it would undercut Israel's security. Therefore, one has to *begin* with proposals to make Israel as secure as possible.

There are 14 different ways to maximize Israel's security. The least attractive is to have American troops or joint U.S.-Soviet policing of the area. The best is to have a set of arrangements whereby Israel is defensible.

I have been told by absolutely top-level reliable people that there is a global deal between the U.S. and the Soviets in the making. It involves SALT, a dropping of Carter's human rights, and some kind of settlement in the Mideast. This was the basis of and reason for Brzezinski's secret doings and dealings in Europe recently.

Both sides are being flexible. However, Carter was pretty badly beaten down (by the Israel Lobby — ed.) in a matter of days. The U.S.-Soviet deal

might even be destroyed — there are forces in the U.S. who don't want such a deal, they want a confrontation. *This is against my view.*

I believe that the Russians are like us, despite what you may hear in public. They don't want adventurers running around the Mideast. They want to cool it. They'll support a neutralized West Bank and Jordan. Their position and ours are not as far apart as some may think.

I am searching for a non-confrontationist middle option. I want to reduce the U.S.-Soviet conflict. I support the idea wholeheartedly. I want to increase mutual accommodation. And I also don't want to wake up one morning and have to make painful decisions: the U.S. or Israel.

**Q:** Where is the impetus for the U.S.-Soviet rapprochement coming from within the U.S.?

**A:** It's the Trilateral-Brookings foreign policy establishment, with the profoundly important element of American big business. American business, although this is not always played up front publicly, *wants* to do business with the Arabs and with the Soviets. They are the profoundest prodétente elements in the United States, despite the public appearances of some of their representatives.