

## The Middle East after Shultz's shuttle hoax

by Nora Hamerman

George Shultz may have spent all of his remaining credibility with the White House on getting a "peace settlement" in the scalding Syria-Israel confrontation in occupied Lebanon during his two-week trip to the Middle East. No sooner had he departed from the region on May 8, with a half-baked "settlement" to which one major party, Syria, had refused to agree, than the Israeli government became more defiant than ever of U.S. peace efforts, and the worst fighting in months broke out between Lebanese forces backed by the Syrian and Israeli sides. As *EIR* has been warning all along, the Shultz trip was a hoax—and Shultz is now exposed as nothing more than the dummy of the ventriloquist, Henry Kissinger.

The U.S. Secretary of State is looking more and more like his predecessor Alexander Haig one year ago when Haig was discovered double-crossing President Reagan in the Malvinas war and the Middle East, and was abruptly fired.

When Shultz left for Paris on May 8, he told the press that the burden of responsibility rests with Syria to make a simultaneous troop withdrawal with Israel, in accordance with the Israel-Lebanon accord he had just arranged. But Syria is unlikely to heed his request, for two reasons.

First, the Damascus government is concerned about secret agreements Shultz concluded with Israel which give Israel the right to re-invade Lebanon should Israel's security be threatened. This would give Israel a big military advantage over Syria whose capital, Damascus, is only 20 kilometers from the current Israel troop position in Lebanon. Secondly, the Soviet Union, which has sent more than \$2 billion in arms to Syria over recent months, is restraining Syria's President Hafez al-Assad from making any deals with the United States.

Washington insiders say Shultz gave away the proverbial kitchen sink to Israel in order to secure Prime Minister Be-

gin's "agreement in principle" to the terms of a future Israel troop withdrawal from Lebanon. Shultz is reported to have assured Israel that the embargo on the 75 F-16s, which President Reagan imposed in response to Israel's refusal to cooperate with him in his peace efforts, would be lifted. Moreover, Shultz is thought to have agreed to the reconstitution of the Strategic Memorandum of Understanding, an accord effectively making Israel an extension of the Rapid Deployment Force in the Middle East. The memorandum, which was drafted by former Secretary of State Alexander Haig and his Israeli counterpart Ariel Sharon in 1981, had been cancelled by President Reagan shortly after the Israeli annexation of the Golan Heights in December of 1981.

As Shultz was leaving Israel, Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir told the press on May 8 that the entire situation now rests with Syria and whether the Damascus regime accepts the terms of the Shultz agreement. Israel's attitude that it is now free to pursue its war aims in Lebanon was summed up by the *Washington Post*, which gloated editorially that after Shultz's shuttle mission, "in this stage at least, Israel . . . is home free. If there is a breakdown, the blame will be Syria's."

### The Lavie scandal explodes

Revelations are now surfacing about the character of the military faction in Israel with whom Shultz is working.

Less than one week before his departure to the Middle East, Shultz agreed to release sensitive components for the construction of the Israeli-made Lavie jet, including alloys for the body of the jet which would make it invisible to radar. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger quickly intervened to block the transfer of this technology to Israel. The transfer would allow Israel to become the third largest arms exporter

within this decade.

While the Reagan White House and Caspar Weinberger's Department of Defense appear to be strongly opposed to giving Israel these technologies, Secretary of State George Shultz and the "High Frontier" faction among the U.S. military are applying enormous pressure on behalf of Israel.

*Executive Intelligence Review's* research division released on May 12 a limited-circulation report titled "The Military, Economic, and Political Implications of Israel's Lavie Jet Project." The report documents that the Lavie jet project is at the center of a grand strategy by Israel's current leaders to use their arms exporting activity to finance the creation of an independent weapons-manufacturing industrial base of a technological depth compatible with projected 21st-century technologies.

According to the explosive *EIR* report, the conclusions of which are circulating in Washington and other capitals, Israel's leaders plan to transform Israel from a miniature thermonuclear Sparta into the world's third largest military complex by 1990. The facts of the case add a chilling dimension to Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir's defiance of the Reagan effort to get the Israeli and Syrian armies out of Lebanon.

The controversy over the manufacture of the Lavie jet by Israel's aircraft industry is merely a smokescreen, concludes the *EIR* research team headed by editor-in-chief Criton Zoakos and counterintelligence editor Jeffrey Steinberg. The technologies obtained from the West for the manufacture of this jet are to be used for the manufacture of Intermediate Range Ballistic Missiles, *armed with nuclear warheads*.

The *EIR* report documents that Israel is in possession of a satellite system which could be used for target acquisition and guidance tasks on behalf of such an IRBM force. Israel is also shown to have atomic and thermonuclear weapons.

Since the 1978 Camp David negotiations Israel has been transformed into a military monstrosity, a society bearing no resemblance to the state created in 1948 by the survivors of the Nazi holocaust. Between the 1970s and the present, Israel's arms exports increased 16-fold, its defense budget more than doubled, and its military expenditures per inhabitant increased by over 60 percent.

The Lavie jet and IRBM programs, to a large extent, are based on a military alliance between Israel and South Africa, which was sealed with then-Prime Minister Vorster's 1976 visit to Israel. In the fall of 1982, Israel, South Africa, and Taiwan successfully tested jointly produced cruise missiles. South Africa, too, will provide part of the financing for the Lavie jet project through advance purchases of the aircraft. Unofficially, there are hopes to drive the American F-16 totally out of the market, given that the Lavie's projected price is around \$10.8 million and the F-16's over \$20 million.

In the spring of 1983, a final squeeze play was launched to force the United States to make available those aeronautical technologies essential for the manufacture of both the Lavie jet and the Lavie II IRBM missile.

The April 18, 1983 murder of the CIA's entire senior

Middle East team, with the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, is considered to be connected with this as yet unresolved struggle.

The core team of Israeli leaders who are managing this transition of Israel to nuclear superpower status includes the key figures of the current Begin regime, with whom Shultz was working in his recent fraudulent "peace trip" to the Middle East. Among others, the *EIR* dossier names: Yuval Ne'eman, minister of science and development; Moshe Arens, minister of defense; Ezer Weizman, former defense minister; Meir Amit, former chief of the Mossad; Adolph Schwimmer, former chief of Israeli aircraft industries; Ariel Sharon, former defense minister; Chaim Herzog, president of Israel; Yitzhak Shamir, foreign minister; and Yoram Aridor, minister of the treasury.

In summarizing their conclusions, the editors of the report note that "the Lavie Plan can best be understood if one reviews the map showing Israeli nuclear delivery capability [appended to the report], in conjunction with Lord Carrington and Henry Kissinger's stated plan to reduce United States global power to 25 percent of its present extent, and to Lord Carrington and Margaret Thatcher's commitment to shape Western Europe into a 'Third Force,' theoretically aligned (but not allied) with the United States, and in practice 'equidistant' from the United States and the U.S.S.R.

"The projected 1990s nuclear delivery capacity of Israel transforms it into the sole military arbiter over the Arab world and most of black Africa. A similar circle drawn with its center at Johannesburg covers all of Africa with redundancy. Moreover, Moscow and the outskirts of Leningrad come within the range of this intended nuclear delivery capability.

"There is no doubt that the current Israeli leadership is absolutely committed to carrying out this deployment under the rubric of the Lavie Plan. The strategic implications of this commitment are impossible to comprehend from the standpoint of even the most far-fetched interpretation of Israeli national interests. Comprehensibility is attained only if Israel's commitment to the Lavie Plan is viewed from the greater context of British long-term grand strategy."

## The Soviet game

Despite a flurry of public protestations against Shultz's alliance with the Israelis, the Soviet regime of Secretary General Yuri Andropov is encouraging the process of strategic breakdown in the Middle East.

Hours after Shultz's departure from Lebanon, the Soviet news agency TASS issued a statement that the "winds of war are blowing in the Middle East," and on May 9 the Soviets announced they were evacuating dependents of Soviet diplomats from Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan for the summer. These actions drew a counterattack from Shultz's State Department, which accused Moscow of having irresponsibly "chosen to play to historical fears and animosities" by keeping Syria from agreeing to the U.S. withdrawal plan.

Behind the theater, there is a plan for an early war between Syria and Israel which would have the effect of driving

the United States out of the Middle East—a perspective equally relished, although for different reasons, by both London and Moscow. A likely date for the war would be June 6, the first anniversary of Israel's last Lebanon invasion and also the anniversary of the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens, the former ambassador to Washington, has been the most aggressive member of the Begin cabinet in feeding the atmosphere of war, and he has contacts with both the Anglo-Americans and the Soviets.

Arens's contacts with the Soviet KGB are facilitated through channels at Oxford and Cambridge Universities, the "mothers" of British intelligence agents H.R. "Kim" Philby and Donald Maclean, who defected to Russia, where Philby now heads the KGB. (It should not be forgotten, of course, that Andropov's career was built in the KGB.) Through the British universities and the New York-based Institute for East-West Studies, the Soviets have been offering to increase Soviet Jewish emigration to Israel in exchange for Israel's support for the Soviets entering Middle East negotiations.

Shortly after he was named defense minister, replacing Ariel Sharon, Arens became the first Israeli official to threaten that Israel intended to knock out Soviet-installed and -manned SAM-5 anti-aircraft missiles in Syria.

Yuri Andropov would not object to such an attack on Syria if it resulted in an expulsion of the U.S. presence in the region. This is the context in which each of the signals on the prospective war operation must be viewed.

Andropov will make up his mind whether to follow through with the war, depending on the developments around the arms control negotiations later this month between the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. If the Western Europeans should indicate that they will break their pledges on the NATO "double track" decision to emplace Pershing missiles in Europe, and break solidarity with the United States, then Andropov will be encouraged to give a green light to the Israeli Middle East adventure.

## 'Reagan should halt aid unless Israel leaves Lebanon'

*EIR founder Lyndon H. LaRouche, U.S. Democratic Party leader and world-renowned strategist, issued the following statement on May 10:*

"I have recently been informed of the existence of a Syrian-Israeli deal, on the level of governments, to arrange the assassination of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel by June of this year, as a prelude to a Syrian-Israeli partition of

Lebanon.

"On the basis of this received information, I urge President Reagan to go on national television and to declare that if anything happens to President Gemayel, the United States will immediately send 100,000 troops to Lebanon, to force the immediate withdrawal of *all* foreign troops, both Israeli and Syrian, from Lebanese soil.

"The United States could readily accomplish this task," LaRouche emphasized, "since it would win the support of all the Lebanese population. The population of Lebanon does not want to see the partition of Lebanon, which is now looming under the Syrian-Israeli deal.

"In his television address," LaRouche continued, "the President should tell Israel that it should, without a moment's hesitation, withdraw each and every one of its troops out of Lebanon. Israel has violated all outstanding commitments with the United States by its invasion of Lebanon in the first place. If Israel doesn't withdraw, it will be evaluated to have broken its word with the United States. This is especially the case since Israel violated restrictions on American-supplied weaponry and used this weaponry to kill Lebanese civilians.

"If the Israeli troops don't leave Lebanon, President Reagan should make it clear that the United States won't give Israel one penny of aid," LaRouche advised.

The Democratic Party leader continued: "I further recommend to President Reagan, that, in the case that Israel refuses to withdraw all its troops from Lebanon, he embargo all currency exchange, credits, and financing to Israel by private parties.

"The President should not be apprehensive that the Israelis would turn to the Soviets for aid, since the Soviets would not agree to provide similar aid to Israel."

LaRouche elaborated on Israel's abuse of its "client-state" relationship to the United States: "Given the massive amount of aid Israel has received from the United States over the past years, it is true to say that Israel is a client-state, effectively a lackey of the United States, since Israel could not survive more than a matter of weeks without this massive assistance. If Israel wants to continue receiving such levels of aid, it had better act in conformity with what President Reagan says. If Israel is so interested in acting independently, let it do so: independently, but without being subsidized by the United States. Let Israel finance its own 'independence.'

"U.S. aid is contingent not only on Israel ceasing its occupation of parts of Lebanon immediately, but also ceasing all settlements on the West Bank territory.

"Frankly," LaRouche underscored, "I am fed up with bombs exploding in American embassies and killing the top intelligence officers of the United States. I'm fed up with Arab agents of the Mossad killing officials in American embassies, as was the case when Mossad double-agents entered the American embassy in Beirut April 18 under false cover and had the embassy demolished from within.

"I am also fed up with Israel's meddling in U.S. internal affairs. This meddling should stop forthwith."