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## Israel

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# Fall of government means more bloodshed

by Joseph Brewda

The Jan. 19 collapse of Israel's ruling coalition is the latest sign that the Israeli establishment is intent on committing bloody atrocities in the Occupied Territories in the near term. The resignations of two ministers, and the withdrawal of their tiny parties, have stripped Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud coalition of a majority. Elections will probably be held in May.

The election campaign will be dominated by a debate as to whether or not the 1.7 million Palestinians living in the Occupied Territories should be "expelled." While the politicians rant, the Israeli government will continue a policy of expanding settlements, demolishing Arab homes, and creating new *faits accomplis*. Simultaneously, the government will deploy vigilante squads of Jewish settlers on killing sprees.

The Israelis hope that such actions will provoke a violent counterreaction that they could use to justify further repression; while setting the stage for a war against Jordan, Lebanon, or Syria. The collapse of the government is meant to give the impression that neither the Israeli establishment, nor the U.S. or British governments, has control over the violence that may lead to war.

### Coalition theatrics provide pretext

The Israeli coalition fell apart after Gen. Rehavam Zeevi, the leader of the Moledet Party, and Yuval Neeman, the leader of the Tehiya Party, resigned in a huff over Shamir's offer at the U.S.-brokered "peace talks" to grant "autonomy" to the Palestinians. Zeevi and Neeman advocate the expulsion of all Arabs from Israeli-occupied lands, and claim there has been a sellout by Shamir.

According to the Shamir plan, all Jewish settlements and administered lands in the territories will be formally annexed by Israel. The Palestinians will be restricted to four or five population centers, each surrounded by what would be the new, extended Israel. Self-administered garbage collection would be the extent of autonomy under this plan. It is a provocation no Palestinian leader could accept, and, if it were accepted, it would benefit only Israeli expansionists, as Zeevi and Neeman know.

Rehavam Zeevi is a former head of the Terror Against Terror advisory office to the Israeli prime minister. The office

is charged with committing terrorism against alleged Arab terrorist groups in the territories and elsewhere, and with infiltrating Arab groups. Yuval Neeman is the former head of Israeli military intelligence—and it is the military which oversees the territories. Prime Minister Shamir himself is the former operations director of Israeli intelligence (the Mossad). The threesome are not conniving politicians per se, but intelligence animals who have carried out operations together for decades.

Now that the government has collapsed, Zeevi and Neeman's parties, together with other police-run sects, will carry out their assigned role of mobilizing the settlers to defend themselves from "Arab terrorists" and a "sellout government," while Shamir, portraying himself as a man of peace, will continue the policy of repression that has always characterized Israel.

In December, the Defense Ministry, which administers the territories, suddenly decided to arm Jewish-settler militias there, and give them official police powers, to prepare for the coming slaughter. These same militias have long been involved in the killing of Arabs, largely under the covert direction of the Terror Against Terror office that Zeevi once led. The Housing Ministry, run by would-be prime minister Gen. Ariel Sharon, and the Agricultural Ministry, now run by Sharon's ally Michael Dekel, will also be involved in coordinating the coming killings.

### Other wars, massacres planned

While the Israelis plot massacres and possible war, their controllers in Washington and London are plotting other military actions in the region. This Anglo-American drive for a new Mideast war is considered necessary for implementing the next phase of the "new world order." It is also seen as necessary to sustain the faltering re-election campaign of George Bush, to whom London and its allies are still apparently committed.

One war on the drawing boards is a military strike against Libya, under the pretext that Libya has not handed over to London two alleged terrorists for trial in the 1988 Pan Am bombing. On Jan. 21, the U.N. Security Council passed a resolution which demanded that Libya fork over these individuals, despite the fact that there is no extradition treaty with the states concerned, or even an indication that they are guilty. A strike against Libya modeled on that against Iraq is one of the next steps.

Similarly, the Anglo-Americans may provoke an "uprising" in Iraq which they would militarily support. There could also be U.S.-supported Israeli strikes against Syria, Lebanon, or even Jordan, after some real or alleged Arab terrorist incident in the territories.

Since U.S. electoral politics has a great deal to do with this slaughter, this spring's presidential primary season defines the likely timing of the various alternative atrocities which are being considered.