

intelligence." Brzezinski's position virtually ensures that the Israeli right will rally against any moves by Rabin to lead the country toward peace, for which a Palestinian state is considered a *sine qua non*.

A national security advisor close to Schlesinger said of Rabin's moves, "Of course, Rabin will run on a peace platform in the elections. But the Likud will run on a program of no withdrawals, and if they win only six seats they can establish themselves as the leading party and form a government."

Backing the Likud motion to upset the chances for peace are a rash of rightist splinter parties. The most prominent backed by the New York Times, is an "independent" candidacy of Yigal Yadin, a former chief of staff of the Israeli army. Yadin, in consultation with a core group of former Israeli generals, has formed the Movement for Democratic Change, and includes among its supporters the ex-Director of Israeli Intelligence Isser Harel. Two weeks ago, Moshe Dayan endorsed the Yadin movement, in a statement over Israeli radio. Rabin has labeled Yadin's Movement as a "threat to Israeli democracy." The threat of a coup d'etat — or at least a quiet ultimatum from the General Staff — is implicit in Yadin and the other shadowy movements like that of Sharon and Dayan's Rafi.

Internal Crisis

At the present time, it is not clear to what extent the fascist grouplets of Sharon, Yadin, Dayan et al. have found actual support within the Israeli population. Most observers believe that the bulk of the Israeli electorate would eagerly support Rabin if he chose to announce a real campaign for peace. Eban, who is supporting Rabin's peace moves, has announced plans to launch a

national campaign beginning Dec. 14, according to the Jerusalem Post, for "national recovery." The planned Eban action is viewed as testing the waters for measuring the political support Eban has, within or outside an alliance with Rabin.

Two internal factors are feeding the organizing of the hawks. The first and most important is the grave economic crisis in Israel, which has reached the stage of a national emergency. The country has just weathered a series of national strikes, and the balance of payments is so lopsided as to make actual accounting seem almost pointless. The fascist splinter parties are using the crisis to undermine the traditional centers of power in Israel that support the Rabin-led center of Mapai, such as the trade-union organization Histadrut. The right wing has cheered a number of corruption scandals that have discredited some of Rabin's supporters, including the Rabin nominee to head the Israeli Central Bank, Asher Yadlin. Yadlin is now in jail after being convicted of bribery charges.

The second internal crisis is the simmering Arab-Israeli conflict on the occupied West Bank. For two years, riots and demonstrations have flared consistently on the West Bank, almost always as the result of deliberate provocations on orders from Peres' Defense Ministry, which administers the area. Although Rabin has attempted to challenge Peres' authority in the West Bank, he has so far not managed to assume control there. The spreading chaos on the West Bank is used to feed the fears of Israelis against the Arabs, and an armed fascist-religious movement called Gush Emunim has sprung up, with Peres' support, to march in support of annexation of the West Bank.

AFRICA

Geneva Conference on Rhodesia: "Progressing Too Fast"

Dec. 10 (NSIPS) — At the Geneva Conference on Rhodesia this week, Britain moved toward setting up a transitional government for that nation and received support from other members of the Commonwealth. In direct proportion to the increase in the prospects for peace in the region, U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger and his allies are increasing their efforts at fomenting war, either directly or through muscling into the transition process with their own agents.

The British government is now considering specific working papers presented to them by the "moderate" governments and the black delegation around Joseph Nkomo for staffing the transitional government. The External Affairs Minister of Canada, Donald Jameson, said that his government favored a Commonwealth presence in Rhodesia during the transition, and added

that Canada would be willing to contribute to a fund for the development of a black-ruled Rhodesia, but that they were *not* prepared to allow that money to be used for reimbursing whites who wanted to leave the country.

Arriving Dec. 8 in Geneva, Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith expressed his shock and dismay at the progress of the conference. Referring to the Kissinger agreement, Smith said "Once you break the agreement, it could have serious consequences." At the same time the Rhodesian government announced the killing of 18 "terrorists" near Salisbury, the latest in near daily kill-announcements from the government.

After Smith arrived in Geneva, Kissinger arrived in London to meet with British Foreign Secretary Crosland.

The threat of violence in South Africa itself is also imminent with new outbreaks of urban terrorism