

# Rabbis call for Israeli mutiny

by Joseph Brewda

A group of U.S.-based rabbis meeting in Israel has demanded that Israeli soldiers disobey any potential orders to withdraw from the occupied territories. The meeting took place at the home of the former chief rabbi of Israel, Avraham Shapira, the spiritual leader of the expansionist "settlers' movement" in the occupied territories. According to their July 12 ruling, "The Torah forbids evacuating army camps and transferring them to gentiles, because it nullifies a commandment." The group, the Union of Rabbis for Eretz Yisrael (biblical Land of Israel), claims that the Torah (the first five books of Moses) enjoins Jews to seize and keep that land, which according to them stretches all the way from the Nile river in Egypt to the Euphrates River in Iraq.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin immediately denounced the ruling on state radio. "It is inconceivable that we will turn the State of Israel into a banana republic," he said. "It's unbelievable that in Israel, a very small number of rabbis will take it upon themselves the right to act against the law. To call on a soldier to refuse legitimate orders means anarchy." In earlier remarks to the *Davar* newspaper prior to the ruling, Rabin termed the rabbis "ayatollahs." President Ezer Weizman, a former defense minister, described the ruling as "extremely grave," and said it could lead to "civil war."

Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization have set a July 25 target date for signing a new agreement which would lead to an Israeli army withdrawal from part of the West Bank, as part of a process which will supposedly lead to a total evacuation and eventual creation of a Palestinian state.

Last year, the U.S. rabbis convened hundreds of their Israeli counterparts in a meeting in the West Bank town of Kiryat Arba to rule that assisting the evacuation of Jewish settlements would be as sinful as eating pork.

## Next stop, Guatemala?

Prime Minister Rabin's warning of the danger of Israel becoming a "banana republic," is no exaggeration. For all its fierce claims to sovereignty, Israel was created as a British puppet-state to serve British geopolitical aims, most especially to keep the region in continuous turmoil and near-war. Many of the Arab states in the region have had the same role and status. The 1993 Israeli-PLO peace accords orchestrated by the Clinton administration—so clearly in the true interests

of Israel as well as the Arab states—promise to overturn British games, and to give actual sovereignty to the nations of the region. In response, Britain, and its assets in the U.S. establishment, have been fully committed to drown the peace accords in blood.

Rabbi Avraham Shapira, the chief ayatollah of the group, is typical of the operatives who are acting to create a blood-bath. To understand Shapira requires understanding his mentor, Rabbi Zvi Yehuda Kook, who created the settlers movement following the 1967 war, when Israel seized the territories. He was also the figure who ruled that Jews had the religious duty to destroy the Dome on the Rock and Al Aqsa mosque in occupied East Jerusalem, in order to rebuild Solomon's Temple at the site.

Kook's other followers, notably the late Rabbi Meir Kahane, the founder of the Jewish Defense League, and Rabbi Moshe Levinger, founder of the like-minded Gush Emunim, have repeatedly tried to destroy the Islamic holy sites. A paid informant of the FBI and the Brooklyn office of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, Kahane formed the JDL in 1968 in Brooklyn in the aftermath of the war. He subsequently emigrated to Israel with several of his followers, to assist Kook provocations.

This cultist ideology is not Jewish, as *EIR* has repeatedly exposed. Kook was an operative of the Quatuor Coronati research lodge of the United Grand Lodge of England, as was his father, Avraham, the first chief rabbi of Israel. The masons, who claim to have built Solomon's temple, see in the mosque's destruction an easy way to ensure generations of Jewish-Muslim war. The settlers' movement is their asset. Hollinger Corporation, the owner of the London *Daily Telegraph* and the *Jerusalem Post*, helps run their political operations. The group is pushing former Defense Minister Ariel Sharon as a would-be dictator over Israel.

## Possible killing sprees

Although it is not expected that many soldiers will heed the rabbis' call, the West Bank is full of JDL, Gush Emunim, and other armed groups, easily called on to engage in killing sprees against Arabs.

Kiryat Arba was an appropriate site for last year's meeting of the rabbis. Shortly after their meeting, Kiryat Arba official Baruch Goldstein, a JDLer originally from Brooklyn, entered a mosque in nearby Hebron in February 1994 and killed some 50 Muslim worshippers. Following that incident—which members of Shapiro's group praised—Rabin denounced Goldstein and the JDL as an "errant weed" transplanted to Israel from "across the ocean" (that is, the United States). The Israeli government soon outlawed the JDL and its affiliates. Later that year, the Clinton administration banned JDL fundraising in the United States and formally classified the group as "terrorist." Britain and France continue to refuse Israeli requests to ban JDL fundraising in their own countries.