

Memo on meeting at home of Counsellor of Emb. of Netherlands, Como Hubar, Herzliyya, June 15, 1992. Present: Yossi Beilin, Yair Hirschfeld, N. Kassis, R. Khalidi, C. Hubar.

YB began by speaking about his electoral meetings with Pals. inside Israel. He said of about 350,000 eligible Arab voters in last elections, 68% or about 240,000 voted, 20% for Zionist parties, with Labor getting largest share, 60% for CP, and rest for Miari and Darawsha. He is surprised that Darawsha is less acceptable among some 1948 Pals. than Miari, even though Miari is less effective in Knesset than "my friend" Darawsha, (we noted that perhaps it is because D. was once in the Labor Party). YB added that some say it is because of his uncle's bad reputation, which he found strange. NK and RK pointed out that "traditional" behaviour among 1948 Pals. was partly the result of traditional social structure which Israel had preserved to control population.

YB said that if Labor formed coalition with Meretz and perhaps Moda'i and Rafal (which was possible because all wanted to avoid the religious parties' blackmail), there would be a unilateral freeze on settlements (later YH asked if such a freeze must be unilateral, to which NK replied yes, as settlements are illegal), and acceleration of peace process. YH asked if Israel's recent health proposals are acceptable, and NK and RK said they are not serious. RK and KN raised issues which have arisen in negotiations, and YB stated that Labor, including Rabin, understand that a real self-governing authority will lead to a Palestinian state, and have no problem with that. When NK and RK mentioned new Israeli measures, including some which cut Jerusalem off further from the West Bank, YB said that Likud desires no difference between Jer. and the rest of Palestine. RK said that in fact there is no difference between Jer. and other parts of the OPT and that some of these issues must be negotiated now, but there should be no further Israeli challenges to status quo in Jer. while talks are underway. YB said that we should present new government with list of regulations recently imposed by Israel, as bureaucracy would not be helpful to new political masters at the outset. NK stressed the importance of a greater European role, but CH said the Eur. role should be to support the US: RK said it could still play a larger role. YB said D. Rothschild is a dove in spite of the position he is in, and asked about Rubinstein's behaviour during negs.

YB said that Labor's latest polls show them getting 42-46 seats, and Meretz 11. When RK said that a coalition with Likud was likely, YB said he personally would prefer a coalition without Likud, although Rabin and most of the party prefer a coalition with Likud to being out of power, or even to one with the religious parties. He said a coalition government would be paralyzed, would be constantly fighting about the peace process, and that there would be two Israeli delegations in the negotiations, one from each party. He personally would prefer a pure Likud government to a coalition govt., because of the pressure which would continue to be exerted on it by the US, the pressure which got Shamir to Madrid.