

New evidence of ADL spying for Israel

by Jeffrey Steinberg

New revelations in the San Francisco Anti-Defamation League spy scandal confirm that the ADL has long been in collusion with Israeli intelligence agents in illegal espionage operations against American citizens. According to *SF Weekly*, when police raided the ADL's San Francisco offices on April 8, among the nine cartons of documents seized were Israeli government surveillance reports on American citizens who had traveled in the Middle East.

"There's some stuff in the latest round of documents the DA [district attorney] has obtained that came from another country, probably Israel," a source involved in the probe told reporters George Cothran and Peter Hegarty. "There's observations about people's activities that occurred in another country. Now, that could have come from tourists, but who knows? The DA is still looking at it."

A lengthy article in the May 11 *Village Voice* by Robert Friedman provides further new evidence of ADL-Israeli collusion. Friedman is the author of a critical biography of the late Rabbi Meir Kahane which exposed ADL-Mossad collaboration in deploying the terrorist Jewish Defense League. In his article, he reveals that the ADL worked closely with Israeli officials in spreading disinformation about Arab-American sponsorship of the Palestinian fundamentalist group Hamas in the Israeli Occupied Territories. According to Friedman, a New York City-based ADL "fact-finder" named Yehudit Barsky worked with Israeli officials and ADL moles inside the Chicago Police Department to cook up a report about the U.S. funding of Hamas. The report was issued in early February, shortly after Israeli police arrested an Arab-American, Mohammed Jarad, on charges that he was funneling money to Hamas.

Jarad is among over 12,000 people whose names show up in an ADL computer index seized from San Francisco "fact-finder" Roy Bullock during the first Dec. 10, 1992 raids on the West Coast offices of the ADL. That discovery, which was revealed in a mid-February 1993 court hearing by San Francisco Assistant District Attorney John Dwyer, sparked protests by Arab-American groups who charged that the ADL was fronting for the Mossad.

In December, the ADL published another report on Iranian terrorism; this one was circulated with much fanfare during Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's February trip to Washington to meet with President Clinton. Israeli Defense Ministry officials admitted at that time that the report had

been actually prepared by the Israeli Army intelligence unit and passed on to the ADL for publication under its letterhead.

According to Gregory Slabodkin, a longtime dirty trickster for the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), who quit the group last year in protest over its spying on Jewish activists, ADL's Barsky passed him an Israeli police dossier on Sha'wan Jabarin, a Palestinian activist in the Occupied Territories who won a human rights award in 1990. The Israeli report was provided to Barsky by an official of the Israeli embassy.

Pollard scandal revisited

Friedman revives reports first published by *EIR* in 1986 that the ADL was involved in the Jonathan Pollard spy scandal. "In 1987," he writes, "the ADL came under FBI scrutiny in the wake of the Pollard spy scandal. While assigned to the Navy's Anti-Terrorist Alert Center, where he had access to the most closely guarded U.S. secrets, Jonathan Pollard stole thousands of pages of classified documents for Israel, which, according to federal prosecutors, 'could fill a room the size of a large closet . . . ten feet by six feet by six feet.' Pollard's handler was Avi Sella, an Israeli Air Force colonel whose wife worked for the New York ADL as a lawyer. Pollard later wrote to friends that a prominent ADL leader was deeply involved in the Israeli spy operation."

Indeed, several "prominent ADL leaders" were implicated in the Pollard espionage program. Then-National Chairman Kenneth Bialkin flew to Israel to confer with top government and intelligence officials on how to avert U.S. extradition of Sella, who fled to Israel within hours of Pollard's arrest. ADL Washington, D.C. Fact-Finding director Mira Lansky Boland was a classmate of Pollard's at Tufts University's Fletcher School of Diplomacy in the late 1970s, and reportedly maintained contact with the spy right up until the time of his arrest.

Lansky Boland and Pollard were graduate school protégés of Uri Ra'an'an, an Israeli national who ran an elite training school at Tufts University for would-be government intelligence officers. Ra'an'an placed both Pollard and Lansky Boland in jobs with U.S. intelligence following their graduation in 1978. Pollard went to work for the Navy and Lansky Boland went into the CIA. Earlier, Ra'an'an had been an Israeli intelligence liaison to the B'nai B'rith, while posted as a public affairs officer at the Israeli embassy and United Nations mission. Details of Ra'an'an's Israeli spy work in league with the ADL came out in a late 1960s civil suit filed by former B'nai B'rith official Saul Joftes (see *EIR's* May 14 *Feature*).

Despite all the evidence, ADL officials continue to lie that they have no ties whatsoever to the Israeli government or its intelligence services. As a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization, ADL is expressly forbidden to operate as a foreign spy agency. IRS officials have so far refused to open an investigation into the League's tax status, despite official requests from San Francisco prosecutors.