

New San Francisco ADL spy indictments expected soon

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Former San Francisco police officer Tom Gerard made a brief court appearance on June 2 before Municipal Court Judge Dorothy von Beroldingen to have a hearing date set for July 23 in the ongoing spy case involving the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL). On July 23, a formal date will be set for a preliminary hearing to determine whether Gerard's case will be sent before a jury.

The Gerard appearance was the scene of a noisy demonstration outside the courthouse by a group calling itself the Coalition Against Surveillance. The group, which included the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee, the National Lawyers Guild, the American Civil Liberties Union, and a variety of Arab-American and other ethnic and political groups that were targets of illegal ADL surveillance, demanded full exposure of the nationwide espionage operation, of which the San Francisco case is merely a piece.

Sources close to the San Francisco probe say that the delay in the Gerard trial date will not affect the expected release of further indictments in the San Francisco case sometime before the end of June. Those indictments are expected to hit key officials of the ADL in both the Bay Area and New York City, where the League maintains its national headquarters.

Last month, Assistant District Attorney John Dwyer, who has led the probe of ADL espionage, tax evasion, and theft of classified government data, told reporters that ADL Fact-Finding Division chief Irwin Suall is definitely a target of the probe. Suall hired a local criminal defense lawyer in San Francisco and since late April has refused to talk to any reporters.

The identification of Suall as a kingpin in the spy ring raises important international questions. In 1986, Suall, a leading official of the Socialist International who was trained at the Fabian socialist Ruskin Labor College at Oxford University in England, was caught colluding with Soviet KGB and East German Stasi intelligence officials in a coverup of the assassination of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme.

Suall, who traveled to Sweden immediately after the Palme murder, led the campaign to spread the lie that Swedish associates of Lyndon LaRouche were responsible for the

Palme murder. Much later, in interviews with the Swedish press, a top official of the East German Stasi admitted publicly that the "LaRouche killed Palme" ruse had been designed by East German intelligence to misdirect investigators, and had been conducted into the western media by a core group of secret Soviet bloc intelligence assets. (See *EIR*, Sept. 11, 1992, "Stasi Agent: 'We Spread Lie That LaRouche Killed Palme.' ") Where does that leave Irwin Suall?

A long trial process

Under California law, before a felony case goes to trial before a jury, the judge holds a lengthy evidentiary hearing to determine whether the original grand jury indictment was justified. Such a pre-trial process involves the examination of much of the evidence that will eventually be presented before a jury. Under California procedures, no plea agreements or settlements of a felony case can occur before such a pre-trial evidentiary hearing has taken place. Therefore, if there are felony indictments against the ADL and some of its top officials, as expected, much of the evidence of the League's criminal operations will be made public.

Sources familiar with the San Francisco district attorney's probe forecast that the process of pre-trial hearings and an eventual jury trial could take as long as two years.

Sources close to the ADL in New York City have told *EIR* that the League has already prepared an elaborate damage-control strategy. A number of key officials caught up in the spy web are already expected to resign. These officials reportedly include Irwin Suall, San Francisco regional head Rick Hirshchaut, and national director Abraham Foxman.

Roy Bullock—the ADL spy in the Bay Area who, along with Gerard and other ADL "moles" inside police departments across the western United States, gathered classified data on tens of thousands of American citizens and nearly a thousand political, religious, civil rights, and ethnic groups—has been put out to pasture, according to reliable sources.

Other possible targets of the reported ADL self-purge include Mira Lansky Boland, the Washington, D.C. "fact-finder" and former graduate school classmate of convicted

spy Jonathan Jay Pollard. Lansky Boland, a former CIA and Pentagon intelligence analyst, led a May 1991 ADL all-expenses-paid junket for 11 police intelligence officers to Israel. Indicted ex-San Francisco police officer Gerard was a member of that delegation, along with five police intelligence officers from the greater Washington, D.C. area.

One of those officers, Loudoun County, Virginia Sheriff's Lt. Donald Moore, was fired nine months after the junket for stealing classified department files. An administrative investigation is now being conducted into Moore's possible links to the ADL nationwide spy ring; and if that probe bears fruit, Lansky Boland could find herself in the same position as Bullock.

The Israeli dimension

According to ADL-linked sources, the ongoing spy scandal in the United States is having a significant impact on the Israeli political situation and the efforts by the government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to revive the Middle East peace negotiations. During the 1977-92 period, when the Likud bloc was in power, both the ADL and the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) lined up squarely with the Israeli government in opposing serious concessions to Palestinians on land-for-peace and related issues. ADL's close relations with Gen. Ariel Sharon and spymaster "Dirty" Rafi Eytan, the controller of Pollard, became notorious during the mid-1980s.

Inside the United States, the ADL-Likud alliance expressed itself in the League's deep involvement in the Iran-Contra "secret government" apparatus associated with Lt. Col. Oliver North, the National Endowment for Democracy ("Project Democracy"), and the use of the South American drug cartels in financing covert operations. The ADL immersion in this U.S.-Israeli dirty intelligence alliance was, according to sources, directed by then-ADL national director Nathan Perlmutter. When he was replaced by Abe Foxman, the ADL's profile remained unchanged. While the ADL's spying on the civil rights movement dates back to the 1960s and its monitoring of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the broad-based surveillance against virtually every political activist in America has been linked by sources to the ADL-Likud-Project Democracy marriage.

It is those "neo-conservative" networks in both the United States and Israel that are today committed to wrecking the fragile prospects for some kind of peaceful solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict. Thus, Rabin has a strong, personal vested interest in seeing to it that the ADL and AIPAC figures most closely allied with the radical right wing in Israel and in the international "Jewish lobby" are cut down to size.

This internal struggle within the Israel lobby was reflected in a pair of lengthy editorial-page commentaries published on May 28 in the *New York Times*. The first of the two articles, penned by longtime ADL stringers Dennis King and Chip Berlet, accused the ADL of going wrong during the

Reagan years by jumping in bed with neo-conservatives and anti-communist zealots. The accompanying piece, a defensive article by the ADL's Foxman, dismissed the entire San Francisco spy scandal as one "Big Lie" concocted by the ADL's "anti-Semitic" adversaries.

King and Berlet were used by the ADL throughout the 1980s in the League's multimillion-dollar criminal drive to slander and then frame up Lyndon LaRouche. Both have been longstanding ADL "moles" in the left-liberal community. Berlet is currently financed by commodities speculator and drug legalization guru Richard Dennis of Chicago.

Damage control won't work

The various efforts by the ADL to control the damage from the San Francisco scandal are all destined to fail. Already, efforts to prevent the spread of the scandal to other parts of the country are breaking down. After a district attorney in Portland, Oregon attempted to shut down a probe of local police collusion with the ADL, a local investigative reporter with the *Oregonian* newspaper unearthed documents released by the San Francisco police that had been ignored by the district attorney's investigation. Those documents showed clearly that the police were gathering illegal data on local citizens and passing it regularly to the ADL between 1980 and 1993. That probe has, as a result, been reopened.

Last month, the ADL released a 51-page special report titled "Fact Finding: Protection Against Extremism." The document includes a seven-page section of "questions and answers" about the San Francisco espionage caper, filled with lies and misrepresentations that are already disproven by documents publicly released from the San Francisco police. In the report, the ADL categorically denies that it spied on the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Greenpeace, KQED-FM radio (public radio in San Francisco), the United Farm Workers, the American Civil Liberties Union, and other left-liberal groups.

This kind of "massaging" the public record will only serve to further anger investigators and victims of the ADL's systematic spy operations. A Washington *Jewish Week* editorial defense of the ADL, labeling former congressman Pete McCloskey "one of Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat's chief congressional apologists," will not help the ADL's legal situation either. McCloskey has filed a California state class action suit against the ADL, and among the plaintiffs in the case is Yigal Arens, the son of former Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens and a leading Israeli peace activist.

The public battle—within the Jewish community and Israel, and within the United States as a whole—has just begun. If, as police sources say, the prosecution of the ADL in San Francisco could go on for up to two years, the public spotlight on ADL criminality will remain bright. And whatever kind of damage control efforts the ADL launches will fall far short of their goal of returning to their dirty business as usual.