

Demjanjuk verdict may end phony Nazi-hunt

by Jeffrey Steinberg

The July 29 decision by the Israeli Supreme Court to overturn the conviction of John Demjanjuk on the charge that he was the Treblinka concentration camp motor man known as "Ivan the Terrible," could bring to a conclusion one of the worst travesties of justice in American history — the two-decade witchhunt against eastern European- and German-origin naturalized American citizens by a collection of Soviet fellow travelers led by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and Henry Kissinger.

The U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals is now completing a year-long review of evidence that officials of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of Special Investigations (OSI) knew all along that Demjanjuk was the wrong man, but chose to hide that evidence from Demjanjuk's attorneys and sought to send him to his death in Israel. The Demjanjuk case is the latest in a string of attempted "judicial executions" perpetrated by the OSI. But whereas the earlier cases, involving Karl Linnas, Tscherim Soobzokov, Dr. Arthur Rudolph, and others, were largely carried out in the shadows, the Demjanjuk case — largely due to the persistent efforts of his family and a few allies in the Congress and the media — has grabbed worldwide attention.

In early August, Yosef Harish, the attorney general of Israel, told an Israeli Supreme Court panel that he had no intention of re-prosecuting Demjanjuk on allegations that he had served at other Nazi concentration camps. However, Demjanjuk remains in an Israeli prison awaiting his release and return to the United States, pending a decision on petitions filed by supporters of the late Rabbi Meir Kahane to have the retired Cleveland auto worker tried for these other war-crime allegations.

On Aug. 9 the DOJ filed a motion to force the Sixth Circuit to review *en banc* the three-judge panel's Aug. 3 decision to allow Demjanjuk to return temporarily to the United States. In arguing to block Demjanjuk's return, OSI attorneys continued their lying misrepresentations of the evidence, once again citing an identification card from the Trawniki SS training camp as "proof" that Demjanjuk committed war crimes. In fact, the ID card is a KGB forgery already discredited by experts. The card was hand-delivered to Israeli prosecutors on the eve of the Demjanjuk trial by lifelong Soviet agent Armand Hammer.

The DOJ's hysteria at the prospect of Demjanjuk re-

turning to the United States underscores the fact that his case has turned into a potential all-or-nothing situation for the OSI so-called "Nazi hunters."

Lyndon LaRouche, himself a victim of DOJ tyranny during the Reagan and Bush years, addressed this broader context for the Demjanjuk case in an Aug. 11 interview with *New Federalist* newspaper. LaRouche told the weekly: "To understand the case of John Demjanjuk, one has to look at the process which goes back to the early 1970s, under then-Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger.

"Kissinger, working closely with Soviet Ambassador [Anatoly] Dobrynin in Washington, and with the Moscow procurator, made a rotten deal with the Brezhnev government in Russia, under which the United States would allow the Soviet government to target anti-Soviet American citizens for prosecution as war criminals or tantamount offenses of the World War II period.

"The agreement . . . introduced Soviet proceedings into the U.S. Justice Department, State Department, and court system as if they were true facts; and the victims of these Soviet attacks had no right, under Kissinger's deal, to resist those facts.

"At Kissinger's prompting, this arrangement . . . was backed up through legislation sponsored by Elizabeth Holtzman, then a representative from New York, which led to the reconstitution of the Office of Special Investigations in the Justice Department as the center of these collaborations with the Soviet KGB against targeted U.S. citizens.

"To date, there is not a single case of prosecutions under this Kissinger-Holtzman arrangement which is not fraudulent. Every person has been victimized, from Tscherim Soobzokov, later murdered at the behest of the Anti-Defamation League's circles, through Arthur Rudolph, through the Demjanjuk case; there is not a case of legitimate prosecution or related action against any targeted individual, in the entire history of the operation of over nearly 20 years. . . .

"The reason for the Demjanjuk case today, is not that Demjanjuk is guilty of anything. No one who knows anything about the case, honestly believes that John Demjanjuk is guilty of anything. But the fear is, that Demjanjuk's conspicuous exoneration and his return to the United States, would mean that the Justice Department would be forced to clean out that nest of scoundrels, perhaps 100 members or sympathizers or close confederates of this OSI gang inside the Justice Department. And that's where the heat is.

"These guys have a lot of clout, they have a lot of friends, they have a lot of collaborators. And they are fighting tooth and nail to the last ditch, and putting every pressure they can on the Justice Department itself (of which they are a part), in order to prevent justice from being done in the Demjanjuk case. . . . Let's shut it down; and let's use the Demjanjuk case as the last straw, to force a shutdown of that whole bunch of corrupt characters, who are destroying our Constitution from the inside."