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FBI Still Tapping JDL Phones; Lawyer-Client Conversations Overheard

NEW YORK, July 6 (JTA)--The Federal Bureau of Investigation is still wiretapping the Jewish Defense League despite the possibility of overhearing lawyer-client conversations and the attendant legal problems, the Justice Department disclosed today. The Justice Department attorney told U.S. District Court Judge Jack Weinstein that the FBI had been listening in on and recording conversations on the six telephone lines coming into the JDL switchboard in New York between Oct. 1-31, 1970 and since January 1971. The surveillance continued beyond the May 12 indictments of 13 JDL members on gun conspiracy charges although there were lawyer-client conversations on the wiretapped lines.

The Justice Department told Judge Weinstein in response to his expression of concern that lawyer-client privileges were compromised, that it "felt reasonably confident" that agents were careful not to record lawyer-client conversations after May 12. However, the logs so far given to the defense counsel include conversations between lawyers and clients, it was revealed in court. No logs before October 5, 1970 or after May 12, 1971 were given to the defendants. The Government gave only logs or summaries of conversations between defendants and other parties, but not logs of conversations of other parties even if they were about the defendants.

The defense counsel asked the Judge for all original recordings as well as logs of conversations of other parties overheard on the JDL telephone lines. Judge Weinstein ordered the Government to give the defense counsel access to all logs after May 12. The attorneys for the Justice Department said they had to consult with the Attorney General before they could turn over any records beyond those already released. The Justice Department said it had turned over logs of conversations between defendants and other parties, but not logs of conversations of other parties even if they were about the defendants. The Justice Department contended that the evidence gathered on the gun conspiracy charges was not gathered by the FBI, but by the Alcohol and Tobacco unit of the Treasury Department, which deals with gun control, without knowledge of the FBI taps or the evidence contained in them. The defense said it intends to prove that the indictments were a direct or indirect result of the information obtained by the wiretaps. The counsel also requested all internal memos and communications on the taps but Judge Weinstein did not rule on that point this morning.

Today's hearing was a prelude to the trial to decide how much of the Government's evidence is admissible. It was conducted on the assumption that the wiretaps were illegal although the Judge made no final ruling on that question and the Government did not admit to any illegality. The Government maintains that since the FBI taps were independent of the Treasury Department investigations, the legality aspect is irrelevant to the case. The defense counsel concurred, expecting to be able to show that the evidence was indeed related to the wiretaps making the legality issue arguable at that time.

Claims Conference Will Continue To Press For Payments To Jews From Eastern Europe

GENEVA, July 6 (JTA)--Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, said here today that notwithstanding the "Schlussgesetz"--the West German law that terminated the payment of claims to victims of Nazism--the Conference will continue to press the claims of Jews who left Eastern Europe after 1965. Addressing the opening of the Conference's board of directors meeting, Dr. Goldmann reported that the Bonn Government has paid out about \$12.7 billion in compensation and indemnification so far but still has some \$6.25 billion to pay in individual claims. He said there was no basis for West Germany's fear that "millions of Russian Jews may soon go to Israel and file claims amounting to vast sums." He noted that most of the Jews who have left Russia or are expected to leave were young people or in early middle age and would not qualify for indemnification for losses suffered under the Nazis.

Mark Uliver, secretary of the Claims Conference, reported on the program to aid non-Jews who saved Jews at the risk of their lives during the Nazi era and are now in need. Such persons are known as "Hassidai Hamout." Uliver said the program has been operating since 1963. It has aided 187 persons in 11 countries, a majority of them--122--in Poland. He also reported on aid to the former leaders of Jewish communities which were destroyed by the Nazis. This category totals 50 persons in 12 countries, most of them over 76 and 11 between 76 and 80. Louis D. Horowitz, director general of the Joint Distribution Committee reported on the Jewish Student Center in Paris which he said would be completed in 1973.

Dr. Goldmann was re-elected president of the Claims Conference. Elected vice-presidents were Dr. Morton K. Blaustein; Jules Braunschvig; Lord Janner; Dr. Siegfried Moses; Louis A. Pinous; and Dr. William Wexler.

Israelis Fire On Egyptian Planes Overflying Canal Positions

TEL AVIV, July 6 (JTA)--Israeli anti-aircraft gunners opened fire on two Egyptian Sukhoi-7 fighter-bombers that overflew Israeli positions in the central sector of the Suez Canal zone today. There was no indication that the planes were hit. Israel complained to the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) that the latest overflight violations occurred at 11:30 a.m. local time.

International Symposium Explores Israel's Role In Occupied Territories

TEL AVIV, July 6 (JTA)--A grim picture of the situation of the Jews in Arab countries was presented today by Israeli Chief Justice Chaim Cohn, addressing the International Symposium on Human Rights and Minorities' Rights in Times of War and in Occupied Territories. Dr. Binjamin Eliaz, deputy editor of the Encyclopedia Judaica, spoke of the repression of Soviet Jewry. Mrs. Rita E. Hauser, the United States representative to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, said that since

World War II the right of self-determination has not been "limited to people rising against colonial rule." Rather, she said, "it is frequently an issue between compatriots, which, if unresolved, contains the seed of civil and international conflict." Dr. Natan Lerner of the World Jewish Congress' Israeli Executive lectured on the plight of minorities during World War II. The participants in the symposium toured cities and refugee camps in the West Bank on Saturday after two days of discussions at Tel Aviv University.

The host on the tour, Gen. Shlomo Gazit, coordinator of occupied-territory activities, charged that "the good record of the Israeli administration in the territories occupied since the Six-Day War weighed less in the eyes of the UN, the U.S.A. and Dr. (Gunnar V.) Jarring than the allegations of Egypt and the Fatah spokesman." Ridiculing the allegations of Israeli "concentration camps" in the administered areas, Gazit declared there was more freedom of speech in those areas than in any Arab state except Lebanon. He noted that tens of thousands of Arabs seek admittance into Israel during their summer vacations. "Who ever heard of so many people voluntarily entering into concentration camps?" he asked. Gazit rejected Mrs. Hauser's comparison of the behavior of American soldiers in Vietnam with that of Israeli soldiers in the occupied territories. He pointed out that 40,000 Arabs of those territories pass into Israel daily to work, and that the stationing of 30-to-40-year-old reserve soldiers there, an hour's ride from their families, has a sobering and pacifying influence.

A number of Jordanian Bedouin chieftains recently visited the West Bank briefly after their trip was approved by the Jordanian authorities. Three of them were of the influential Adwan tribe, which controls considerable stretches of land in the Jordan Valley. Other recent Jordanian visitors included a former Interior Minister who for several years held high administrative posts in the West Bank during the Jordanian occupation and an official of a Jordanian Embassy in a major Western capital.

Rabbi Polish Ready To Meet Critics Over Criticism

NEW YORK, July 6 (JTA)--Rabbi David Polish, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Thursday that he hoped to meet "for a frank and personal exchange" with Louis A. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency, who bitterly assailed a message by Rabbi Polish and Rabbi Roland B. Gittelsohn to the recent 82nd convention of the CCAR in St. Louis. Pincus, addressing the Zionist General Council in Jerusalem last week, lashed out at the two Reform rabbis for their criticism of Zionist leaders who "openly and officially embrace America's most reactionary politicians." Rabbi Polish said, "I am sorry that Mr. Pincus issued a commentary on a statement made by Rabbi Gittelsohn and myself without having the benefit of a full text. The issues discussed are important and require complete attention and free debate by both American and Israeli leaders." Rabbi Polish said he has forwarded the complete text of the message to Pincus along with other articles relating to the same theme.

Bayh Hits Nixon Administration Delay On Israeli Arms Requests

WASHINGTON, July 6 (JTA)--Sen. Birch Bayh, Indiana Democrat, doesn't believe that an American troop cut-back in Western Europe, which he advocates, would be construed by Moscow as a curtailment of the American commitment to Israel, as long as the U.S. continues to ship Phantom jets and other military equipment to that country. Current U.S. military shipments to Israel ended Wednesday. Bayh accused the Nixon Administration of delaying answers to Israel's arms requests thereby "jeopardizing" the balance of power in the Middle East.

(Sen. Robert Packwood, Republican of Oregon who is visiting Israel as a guest of the Government, said in Tel Aviv Friday that the Nixon Administration was delaying arms shipments to Israel and he didn't think the delay was justified. Sen. Packwood said he understood the reason for the delay in responding to Israeli requests for additional arms but did not amplify that comment. He expressed the hope that the weapons supply "necessary to ensure Israel's survival" will never be jeopardized.)

Sen. Bayh said "The Administration is wrong in giving the appearance if not the effect" of using military aid to "blackmail Israel" into concession on an interim peace settlement. He added that realizing the Israeli "economic bind" and Soviet support of the Arabs, he favored approving Israel's first request for a military assistance grant of \$200 million. He said that the recent Soviet-Egyptian pact did "not change anything" and "is symbolic in that it does not mean any more or less in practical terms."

Lansky Files Libel Suit Against Israeli Paper

TEL AVIV, July 6 (JTA)--Meir Lansky, who has been described as the kingpin of American gambling rackets, filed a \$350,000 libel suit against the newspaper Yediot Achronot yesterday charging defamation of character. Lansky's lawyer, Yoram Alroi, claimed that a series of articles by three of the paper's correspondents presented such a negative image of his client that many people refuse to associate with Lansky. The lawyer also contended that the articles were bound to influence Israeli authorities now considering Lansky's application for Israeli citizenship. Lansky, who describes himself as a retired businessman, has been living in Israel for over a year on a tourist visa which expires at the end of this month.

His U.S. passport has been revoked and he is seeking permission to remain in Israel under the Law of Return which grants any Jew citizenship unless the Minister of Interior decides otherwise. If citizenship is denied and his visa is not renewed, Lansky may face deportation to the U.S. where he faces charges on alleged gambling violations. Lansky claims it was untrue to describe him as "one of the leaders of organized crime" in America. He denies any connection with the Mafia.

Israeli Sailor Sentenced For Spying

TEL AVIV, July 6 (JTA)--A 32-year-old Israeli merchant marine seaman was sentenced today to six years in prison for spying for Egypt. The prosecution protested what it called the lenient penalty imposed on Albert Melech by the Tel Aviv District Court, and said it would appeal to a higher court. Melech was convicted of contacting Egyptian intelligence in New York and Paris and giving them details of Israeli Army depots and training.

Jews Demonstrate in Tbilisi; Soviet Embassy Will Accept Petitions

LONDON, July 6 (JTA)--More than 300 Jews demonstrated outside Communist Party headquarters in Tbilisi, capital of the Soviet Georgian Republic, yesterday, according to information reaching here. They were protesting the Soviet authorities' failure to process their applications for visas to go to Israel. A similar demonstration took place last Thursday, when more than 200 Tbilisi Jews stood outside Party headquarters and harassed personnel. They dispersed when promised that an official from Moscow would come to deal with their cases. The official who arrived last Friday met with the Jews but failed to satisfy them.

The Soviet Embassy here, the scene of almost daily demonstrations of sympathy with Soviet Jews, informed police commissioner, Sir John Waldron today, that it will receive deputations and petitions two days a week, Mondays and Thursdays. The Soviets gave no reason for the move, which appeared to stem from the continuing demonstrations.

Deny Interrogation Of Soviet Jews Was Discussed With Helms

JERUSALEM, July 6 (JTA)--Israeli authorities questioned by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, have categorically denied reports that the interrogation of Jewish emigres from the Soviet Union was a subject discussed with CIA chief Richard Helms during his visit to Israel last week. Earlier reports said one of the reasons for Helms' visit was to secure permission for American agents to question the new arrivals from the USSR. The JTA learned after an exhaustive investigation that Israeli authorities have not deviated from their long-standing policy of not permitting Soviet immigrants to be questioned by Israeli or foreign agents.

U.S. Urged To Play Mideast Role At July 4 Fete

TEL AVIV, July 6 (JTA)--Israel's Transport Minister Shimon Peres, who is said to favor a written Israeli-American friendship agreement, said last night that the United States must play a role in enabling the people of the Middle East to negotiate their mutual problems and to prevent the region's becoming an extension of the "Brezhnev Doctrine." Speaking at the traditional American Independence Day celebration at headquarters of the Zionist Organization of America, Peres declared: "We do not look to America to save us, nor to fight in our place. We do not seek American dependency so as to balance a Russian dependency (in Egypt). But America must play a role in this region." He explained that both the U.S. and Israel faced the same challenge in the Mideast and were equally determined to repel aggression there. Walworth Barbour, who was hailed at the celebration for strengthening Israeli-American friendship in his decade as U.S. Ambassador to Israel, stressed that the two nations agreed on the main goal of peace, though they differed on tactics. He contended that despite press reports, there has never been a dark moment in Washington-Jerusalem relations.

Sapir To Visit Washington Next Sept.; Seeking U.S. Economic Aid

JERUSALEM, July 6 (JTA)--Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir told visiting American trade union leaders today that he planned to go to Washington at the end of September to seek further U.S. Government aid. Discussing Israel's financial problems, Sapir said it would take six or seven years after peace comes to the Middle East for Israel to correct its balance of payments deficit. But once peace comes, he predicted the way would be open for a great economic boom for the entire region.

Labor Minister Joseph Almog referred to Israel's recent labor troubles. He said "We will fight small pressure groups holding key positions who strike and tie up vital factories and organizations." Almog didn't name the groups. In recent weeks Israel has had to contend with strikes by civil aviation employees, electric power station workers, customs officers, government hospital personnel and dock workers.

Israel's \$200 Million Request Under Consideration, State Dept. Says

JERUSALEM, July 6 (JTA)--Israel's request for another \$200 million in aid is under consideration by the United States Government, Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir was told yesterday by Dr. John A. Hannah, administrator of the Agency for International Development, a branch of the U.S. State Department. Dr. Hannah, here on a two-day visit as the Minister's guest said the Agency's pledge of a loan to assist Israeli housing construction has finally been approved, and that a proposal for a joint Israeli-American fund to strengthen scientific research here is being studied "sympathetically." The capital for that fund would come from Israel's debt to the U.S., and the proceeds would consist of the interest which has been increased for this particular purpose.

Sharaf To Study Pre-Fab Housing In U.S.

JERUSALEM, July 6 (JTA)--Housing Minister Zeev Sharaf will visit the United States next week to study rapid home-building methods which could be applied to solving Israel's acute housing shortage, it was announced today. He was invited to make the study by the housing committee of the reconstituted Jewish Agency headed by Jack D. Weller, a prominent New York builder. A major innovation the committee would like to see introduced into Israel is American-style pre-fabricated homes. Of the two million homes constructed in the U.S. last year, 400,000 were factory-built pre-fabs. Nearly 50 percent of all new homes in Pennsylvania last year were of that type.

3,000 Panthers' At Peaceful Rally Against Poverty

JERUSALEM, July 6 (JTA)--About 3,000 "Black Panthers" from all over Israel participated in an orderly demonstration here last night. Two hours of speeches, slogans and marching was followed by the singing of "Haukvan." The speakers emphasized the need for quicker governmental action on the roots of Israeli poverty. Yesterday, for the first time, a poster depicting a clenched-fist salute was displayed; heretofore, there had been no identification by the Panthers, except in name, with the black militant organization in the United States. Asked about the poster, Panther leader Kochavi Shmush explained: "We copied it from the Jewish Defense League," which also uses a clenched-fist insignia.

AJCongress Suits Called 'Coup de Grace' For Day Schools

NEW YORK, July 6 (JTA)--The National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA) accused the American Jewish Congress today of seeking to administer "the coup de grace to the day school movement following the body blow delivered by the Supreme Court last week." The charge, leveled by COLPA president Julius Berman, referred to last week's announcement by the AJCongress that it was joining the American Civil Liberties Union in sponsoring suits in six states to halt the use of tax monies to aid parochial schools. The AJCongress announcement said the Supreme Court decision of June 28 halting such aid would be the basis of the suits in Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, New York, Ohio and Vermont. Berman said, "This collaboration between the American Jewish Congress and the ACLU is another sign of the increasing secularization of American society." Contending that "the continued vitality of religious Jewish life in America is directly dependent on the Jewish Day School movement," Berman added, "We can only hope that the Congress, which contends that ample funds are available in the Jewish community, will move within its own membership to secure these funds for the desperate day schools and join with other groups in similar efforts directed to the Jewish community at large."

The Religious Zionists of America, meeting here, urged "Federal and State agencies to find the necessary legal and constitutional instruments for providing massive aid to the parochial school system" in the aftermath of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision striking down such aid. Dr. Bernard A. Poupko, RZA president, authorized Dr. Bernard Bergman, president of its national Torah education council, to "meet with Government and State officials in an effort to devise a program of political action to reverse the deleterious effects of the Supreme Court decision." Poupko said such action would be taken "before embarking upon a nationwide campaign, in conjunction with other religious bodies, to enlist massive public support for a correction of this injustice." Bergman called the Supreme Court decision "a defeat for equality within our educational system and a blow to the thousands of youngsters who are entitled to the support they so desperately need."

AJCongress Official Says Supreme Court Averted Public School Collapse

CHICAGO, July 6 (JTA)--Walter Roth, president of the American Jewish Congress Council of Greater Chicago, said here that the Supreme Court's voiding of the Pennsylvania and Rhode Island aid-to-private-schools plans "clearly applies to the legislation recently enacted by the Illinois legislature granting \$30 million in state aid to non-public schools." Roth said the "logic" of the Court's decision "casts grave doubts on the constitutionality of any type of aid other than for construction, textbooks and bus transportation." The Court, he said, has by its ruling "averted" the "danger" of the "imminent collapse" of the public school system "because of an apparent willingness to fund private schools with public dollars and hasten the exodus of the middle class from the public schools."

Roth said the ruling "cannot help but strengthen religious liberty, for it assures the American citizen that his tax funds may not be used to support a religion in which he does not believe." The AJCongress official promised that the organization would "redouble our efforts in urging the Jewish community to increase its support for Jewish education and Jewish schools," and would "continue to support all efforts to increase public aid for public education."

'Jewish Naders Raiders' Incorporate In Washington

WASHINGTON, July 6 (JTA)--The National Center for Jewish Policy Studies, nicknamed "Nats Gnats" for Nathan Lewin, Supreme Court expert and vice president of the National Committee on Law and Public Affairs (COLPA), who is their head advisor, has announced its incorporation. The Board of Directors includes Myer Feldman, a Johnson - Kennedy White House advisor; Marshall Nirenberg, a Nobel laureate; Ben Wattenberg, author and political scientist; author Victor Lasky; Steven Levisohn, a National Institute of Health researcher, and Harvey Lieber, professor and political scientist.

In mid-May the group placed A. David Stern of Brooklyn in the office of Sen. Henry Jackson (Dem., Wash.) as a researcher on Russian Jewry problems. Stern put together an extensive study of Voice of America broadcasting programs, policies and scheduling. Suzanne Last, a Princeton sophomore, joined Stern last month. "I was sick and tired of yelling about Soviet Jewry and going to rallies--I wanted to do something to really help," she told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. She is studying Jewish financial support of politicians to see if large Jewish contributors necessarily support politicians with the best records on matters of Jewish interest. One of the directors and founders, Steven Levisohn, views the Gnats as "Jewish Naders Raiders" who will research and analyze the quality of Jewish life and culture here and abroad. He says that they are focusing on the problems of Russian Jewry and related projects like Voice of America broadcasting in Yiddish.

David Butler of Pittsburgh who is president of the Yeshiva College Student Council, Henry Feuerstein, a Bostonian who also attends Yeshiva University, and Harvey Stone, a Harvard law student, joined Gnats last month. The group made its headquarters in Lewin's office. They brief groups and individuals visiting Washington on the status of efforts on behalf of Soviet Jews in government and what can be done. The Gnats receive no salaries, but get free room and board, a courtesy of the Washington Jewish community. Feuerstein and Butler house-sit for a vacationing director, Allen Schick, an economist at Brookings Institution. The Gnats don't see themselves in competition with established Jewish organization efforts. Miss Last told the JTA that the organizations have neither the time nor the resources for extensive directed research. The directors hope other Jewish organizations will use Policy Center studies to effect change and help Russian Jews.

Itzhak Tabenkin, Veteran Zionist, Dies At 62

TEL AVIV, July 6 (JTA)--Itzhak Tabenkin, veteran Zionist and labor leader who co-founded Histadrut, the Achdut Haavoda Party and the Palmach, died this morning of a blood ailment at the age of 62. At his bedside was Minister-Without-Portfolio Israel Galili, a close friend. Tabenkin was hospitalized here three days ago. Premier Golda Meir expressed deep sorrow at his death and praised him as a great man of Israel. Mr. Tabenkin, who was born in Russia, founded Kibbutz Ein Harod, where he lived, and was a member of the Knesset from 1949 to 1951, representing Mapam.