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U.S. GRAND JURY INDICTS ISRAELI COL. SELLA FOR CONSPIRING TO SPY ON U.S. WITH POLLARD

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, March 3 (JTA) -- Israeli Air Force Col. Aviem Sella was indicted Tuesday by a federal grand jury on three charges of espionage.

Sella was charged with conspiring to deliver classified U.S. military information to Israel with Jonathan Pollard, a U.S. Navy analyst who has confessed to spying for the Israelis, and several Israelis.

The charge carries a maximum of life imprisonment and a fine of \$500,000. However, Sella is not expected to stand trial, as the U.S. extradition treaty with Israel does not include espionage.

Sella recently was promoted to commander of Israel's second largest air base, a move which angered the U.S. State Department, which said it expected Israel to "call to account" anyone involved in the Pollard case.

Sella was Pollard's first contact in providing Israel with classified national defense documents, according to the indictment. Sella was a graduate student in New York at the time. The other Israelis mentioned in the conspiracy, but not indicted, were Rafi Eitan, an Israeli counterterrorism specialist; Yosef Yagur, who at the time was science attache at the Israeli Consulate in New York; and Irit Erb, who was a secretary in the Israeli Embassy here.

Pollard and his wife, Anne Henderson Pollard, who is charged with helping her husband, are scheduled to be sentenced Wednesday.

IDF GENERAL STAFF REPORTED TO HAVE URGED DROPPING LAVI JET

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 3 (JTA) -- The Israel Defense Force General Staff has recommended abandonment of the Lavi fighter plane project in favor of acquiring additional American-made F-16C jet fighters, according to media reports Tuesday which quoted "well placed sources."

The General Staff proposed that Israel apply the rest of the money slated for the Lavi to other development and procurement programs, the reports said.

The Lavi, Israel's second-generation ground-support fighter aircraft, is being tested by its manufacturer, Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI), which plans to put it into production in two years.

But the fate of the project is clouded by American objections to the Lavi on grounds it is too expensive. The F-16C, an advanced aircraft that Israel has equipped with its own computer systems, is less expensive.

According to reports Tuesday, aides to Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin are examining several alternatives to the Lavi proposed by U.S. Deputy Undersecretary of Defense Dov Zakheim when he visited Israel in January.

They include building F-16s in Israel or purchasing either F-15, F-18 or Harrier jets.

SITE OF CREATION OF 'FINAL SOLUTION' MAY SOON BE HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, March 3 (JTA) -- A 20-year-old idea to turn the site of the formulation of the "Final Solution to the Jewish Question" into a Holocaust documentation center and museum is closer to fruition than ever.

In November, West Berlin is scheduled as the site for a conference with scholars from Germany, Israel, Poland and the United States to plan the memorial in Wannsee Villa, the country house at which over lunch and cocktails on January 20, 1942, Third Reich leaders formulated the idea that resulted in the deaths of millions of Jews.

The plan to establish West Berlin's first Holocaust museum has been controversial since proposed by the German Jewish writer Joseph Wulf. He wrote 18 books on the Third Reich in order to teach the German people their history, but felt compelled to do more.

In August 1974, Wulf wrote to his son David: "I have published 18 books on the Third Reich, and they all had no impact. In Germany you can keep on gathering documents until you die..." The elder Wulf committed suicide two months later.

Series Of Mayors

His predictions seemed at first to be correct. Although the proposal to immortalize the Wannsee Villa was initially approved by West Berlin's former Mayor, Willy Brandt, as well as his successor, Heinrich Albertz, and the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and Free Democratic Party (FDP) members of the House of Deputies, the idea fell through because of second thoughts by Albertz's successor, Klaus Schuetz, who did not want "a macabre cult site."

A former resistance fighter who was at the time Speaker of the Bundestag (Parliament)--Eugen Gerstenmaier -- also resisted the proposal. Gerstenmaier advocated demolishing the 30-room villa "so as to leave no trace of this place of horror."

Five years ago, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Wannsee Conference, the chairman of the West Berlin Jewish community, Heinz Galinski, again proposed turning the villa into a Holocaust memorial. Last September, West Berlin Mayor Eberhard Diepgen approved the suggestion.

In December, Dr. Michael Nutkiewicz, director of the Martyrs Memorial and Museum of the Holocaust of the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, was in West Germany at the invitation of the Foreign Ministry for a first-of-its-kind study tour of the teaching and study of Jewish history in West Germany.

Plans Being Finalized, Mayor Said

In West Berlin, Mayor Diepgen and his aide, Dr. Ekkehard Klaus, told Nutkiewicz's group that plans were being finalized for the Wannsee Villa to be turned into a memorial. Nutkiewicz invited Klaus to Los Angeles for the February opening of the feature film "The Wannsee Conference."

Klaus oblige, and at the premiere in Los Angeles read a letter announcing the opening of the Wannsee Villa Memorial. "Berlin is taking up the responsibility of the Third Reich," he said.

There are expectations that by November more documentation will be available on the history of the villa, which for 30 years has been a youth hostel. It was built as a country house by a businessman, then sold to a German firm, Norddeutsche Grundstueck.

In November 1940, the Wannsee Villa was bought by a front organization for the Reich's Security Headquarters of the SS, known as the NORHAV Foundation. It was a resting place for SS officers until February 1943, at which time it was sold to the Reich's police administration and used as a headquarters of Interpol.

In 1945, the villa was seized by Soviet, then American, troops, and became an officers' club. By 1947, it had been sold once more to the SPD's (Social Democratic Party) August Bebel Foundation, and used for political instruction for two years. Since that time it has turned from a place of political teachings to a way station for German youth.

In order to maintain a youth hostel, the West Berlin Senate has offered an alternate site, thus freeing the villa for a transformation into West Germany's first Holocaust museum. It also has been reported that the former Gestapo compound in West Berlin will be designated a memorial.

BRITISH HOME SECRETARY SAYS HE CAN'T INVESTIGATE 17 ALLEGED WAR CRIMINALS By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, March 3 (JTA) -- Home Secretary Douglas Hurd refused to authorize a police inquiry into alleged Nazi war criminals living in Britain on grounds that the evidence presented is "too sketchy" and the alleged crimes were committed outside British jurisdiction.

Hurd made his position clear at a press conference Monday after receiving a delegation from the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center.

The Center had earlier sent his department a list of 17 Latvians, Ukrainians and White Russians alleged to have collaborated with the Nazis in mass murders and other atrocities during World War II and to have settled in Britain after the war.

Hurd denied that Britain ever gave safe haven to war criminals. "I believe we are acting reasonably and sensibly in the situation," he said.

He told the press conference, which was attended by leaders of British Jewry, that he had asked the Wiesenthal Center delegation to "deepen" the evidence in the documents sent to him. But they were not able to do so, Hurd said.

Extradition To USSR Dismissed

He insisted there were no grounds for prosecution. And extradition, especially to the Soviet Union from whose territories most of the accused originate, is out of the question, the Home Secretary declared.

Earlier, Ephraim Zuroff, 34, of New York, who helped compile the dossiers submitted to Hurd, warned that Britain would "stand alone" if it refused to follow the examples of the U.S., Canada and Australia, which have set up government bodies to examine evidence against alleged Nazi war criminals.

So far, only two of the 17 names on the Wiesenthal Center's list have been published here. But Greville Janner, a Labor Member of Parliament, and a former Nuremberg war crimes investigator, said he would invoke his Parliamentary immunity and disclose more of the names in the House of Commons.

Meanwhile, a Scottish television station has compiled a list of 34 additional names of alleged war criminals which it has turned over to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

NEO-NAZI PARTY SETS ELECTION PLANS

BONN, March 3 (JTA) -- A political party that polls just 0.06 percent of the popular vote in a national election would seem to be headed for oblivion. But the neo-Nazi National Democratic Party (NPD) took encouragement from that showing in January's Bundestag elections and will participate in upcoming local elections, its leaders have announced.

NPD was heartened because under federal law any party which exceeds 0.05 percent in an election is eligible for generous public funding. The 250,000 votes cast for the NPD translates into several million Marks. This will allow it to broaden its organizational structure and advance its political activities.

NPD is expected to enter candidates in the state elections in Hesse, Bremen and possibly Hamburg.

Although the leaders concede they have little chance of winning seats in those legislatures, participation in the elections will give the NPD a chance to show it has solid, though marginal, support among the electorate.

Of the several neo-Nazi political groups in the Federal Republic, the NPD is the most "respectable" and the oldest. It had some success in State parliamentary elections in the 1970s, but soon faded and presently holds no seats in any legislative body.

DENVER TO SEEK BIDS TO MOVE GOLDA'S HOME FROM CITY PARK Intermountain Jewish News

DENVER, Colo., March 3 (JTA) -- Golda Meir's former residence here has again received a temporary reprieve from the wrecking ball.

A hearing scheduled to explore the fate of the house was postponed, and the City and County of Denver agreed to advertise aggressively for the next 60 days for bids to move the house from the city's Sanderson Gulch Park, where it sits on steel beams, in disrepair.

City officials and members of the local Golda Meir Memorial Association have argued whether the house can be moved safely. This action by the city to entertain bids for moving the structure is seen as a small victory by the Association, according to its president, Mel Cohen.

Golda Meir resided in the duplex in 1913-14. Cohen stated that Mrs. Meir noted on more than one occasion that it was during her years in Denver that her interest in Zionism was sparked.

PARLIAMENT REMEMBERS LEBANESE JEWS

NEW YORK, March 3 (JTA) -- The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has welcomed a European Parliament resolution urging the Western democracies to help save the approximately 100 surviving Jews of Lebanon.

The resolution was introduced by Otto Von Habsburg on behalf of the European People's Party, an umbrella group of conservative parties in Europe, and adopted last week by a vote of 124 to one, with two abstentions.

It also asks the member governments of the Community to urge the United States to do "all in its power" on behalf of this small Jewish community and to "inform the Lebanese government of the interest" of the member states in their plight.

Within the past two years, 11 Lebanese Jews, many of them leaders of the one-time large community, have been arrested, according to ADL. Nine of them have been executed and five of the bodies have not been returned for burial. The fate of two remains unknown.

ENTERTAINER KAYE DEAD AT 74

NEW YORK, March 3 (JTA)--Actor, singer, dancer and comedian Danny Kaye of Beverly Hills, Calif., died Tuesday morning in Cedars-Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles from hepatitis and intestinal bleeding. He was 74 years old.

Born David Daniel Kaminsky in Brooklyn, N.Y., to Ukrainian Jewish immigrant parents, the redhead started his entertainment career as a comedian in the "Borscht Belt" hotels in the Catskills.

He starred in dozens of films, among them the classics "Hans Christian Andersen," "White Christmas," "The Inspector General" and "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty."

His TV series "The Danny Kaye Show" earned him an Emmy Award and a Peabody Award. He also won an Emmy for a children's special in 1975. His final TV appearance was in 1981 in CBS-TV's "Skokie" as a Holocaust survivor protesting the scheduled Nazi march in Skokie, Ill.

In addition, the versatile artist appeared on Broadway and conducted some of the world's best known symphony orchestras, including the Israel Philharmonic.

Kaye also was the long-time official ambassador-at-large for UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund. He adored performing for children around the world.

He visited Israel numerous times and often entertained Israeli soldiers.

He was released last week after a three-week hospitalization, and was readmitted Sunday.

BAKER WAS FRIENDLY TO ISRAEL IN SENATE, BUT VOTED FOR ARAB ARMS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 3 (JTA) -- Former Sen. Howard Baker, who began his duties Monday as White House Chief of Staff, was considered friendly toward Israel during his 18 years in the Senate.

However, the 61-year-old Tennessee Republican, was not considered among the leading supporters of Israel in Congress.

In particular, Baker rejected efforts to deny arms to Arab countries that were considered enemies of Israel. As Senate Majority Leader in 1981, he was instrumental in preventing Senate rejection of the Reagan Administration's sale of AWACS and other sophisticated equipment to Saudi Arabia.

In 1978, Baker also voted against the effort to block the Carter Administration's sale of F-15s to the Saudis and F-5Es to Egypt.

Thus, in his new post, Baker is expected to reinforce the Administration's policy of support for Israel while providing arms to such Arab countries as Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

CARTER CAN VISIT SYRIA IF HE WISHES, SAYS STATE DEPARTMENT

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 3 (JTA) -- The State Department maintained Tuesday that it has not tried to dissuade former President Carter from visiting Syria when he goes to the Middle East next week.

At the same time, Department deputy spokesperson Phyllis Oakley stressed that Carter was no doubt "aware" of the Reagan Administration's policy of having limited contact with Syria.

"President Carter is a private citizen," Oakley said. "He makes his own decisions. We're confident that he's aware of our policy toward Syria."

She was responding to a published report that the Administration tried to persuade Carter not to go to Syria on his forthcoming trip, which will include visits to Israel, Egypt, Jordan and Algeria.

"It's not for us to object or not to object" if Carter decides to go to Damascus, Oakley said.

She said that the Reagan Administration announced last November 14 a policy of "limiting our political and economic" contacts with Syria because of Syria's support of terrorism. This included "prohibition on high-level visits between Syrian and U.S. officials."

This does not apply to Carter since the ex-President is not a government official, Oakley noted. She added that there was no prohibition on U.S. citizens travelling to Syria.

Carter, who helped bring about the 1978 Camp David agreements between Israel and Egypt, has kept up his interest in the Mideast since leaving office.

His current trip to the Mideast will be under the auspices of the Carter Center at Emory University, Atlanta.

Oakley said that the State Department briefed Carter on the countries he will visit. She did not know whether he would report back to the State Department on his findings, but noted that the Department "encourages" visits to the Mideast by private citizens. "We feel it serves a useful purpose," she added.

THIRD WITNESS SAYS DEMJANJUK WAS TREBLINKA GUARD 'IVAN'

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 3 (JTA) -- A third witness identified accused war criminal John Demjanjuk Tuesday as the Treblinka death camp guard known as "Ivan the Terrible."

Yosef Tcherny, 61, who was sent to Treblinka from the Warsaw Ghetto when he was 16, told the Jerusalem district court that he had seen Demjanjuk many times operating the gas chambers in which nearly 900,000 Jews perished.

Tcherny said he was put to work sorting out the possessions of those who died and later became the "camp Jew," a servant to the Germans and Ukrainians who ran the camp, the butt of their jokes and target of their kicks and blows.

He wept when he told how a dog the Germans named "Mensch" (Human) was set upon the prisoners with the command, "Mensch, get the

dogs." Two other prosecution witnesses, Eliahu Rosenberg and Pinhas Epstein, identified Demjanjuk as "Ivan the Terrible" earlier in the trial.

MAN WHO KNEW TOO MUCH ABOUT MEAT LEAVES SOVIET UNION AFTER 12 YEARS

By Susan Blinbaum

NEW YORK, March 3 (JTA) -- A man the Soviets claimed knew too much about meat arrived in New York last Thursday after waiting more than 12 years for an exit visa.

Lev Blitshtein stepped off TWA Flight 703 from Vienna at Kennedy Airport here and, to the joyous strains of a klezmer band, fell into a bear hug with his family, who have been living in the New York area since 1976.

Blitshtein was accompanied by his 80-year-old mother, Polina (Pesya) Froimovna, who had refused to leave her son despite her receipt of a visa in 1980.

Because of his alleged possession of "state secrets," the former chief administrator in the Soviet Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry was denied permission to emigrate 25 times, beginning in 1974. To his surprise, he was told he could leave on January 23.

Were Divorced

But in order to allow his wife Buma to emigrate with their children Boris and Galina, the Blitshteins followed the advice of Soviet emigration authorities and were divorced in 1975.

Since early 1976, Buma, Boris and Galina have lived in Queens, N.Y. Boris married Helena, his childhood sweetheart, in 1978 after her arrival in the U.S. Galina was married the following week to Vadim Barshai. Boris and Helena recently moved to Manalapan, N.J.

The arrival party, including the band, was mounted by the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry. Lynn Singer, LICJSJ executive director, has worked for 12 years toward Blitshtein's release. "There's no way to describe this, really," she told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "It has been a Herculean task, like climbing Mt. Everest and being pushed back down repeatedly."

As Blitshtein entered the arrivals area, he was encircled by about 50 people, including family, friends and reporters. Clutching a small American flag, Blitshtein tearfully scooped up the three beautiful grandchildren he had never seen--Galina and Vadim's son, David, 8, and Boris and Helena's children, Marsha, 6, and Allan, 2. A large welcoming banner was held aloft.

The two mothers-in-law, both 80, fell tightly into each other's arms, crying, and speaking to each other in Yiddish. Buma's mother, Mindl Schreiman, has been living here since 1979.

Long, Unexpected Visit

As she awaited her husband's arrival, Buma Blitshtein told the JTA that she and her husband never thought it would take 12 years for him to be allowed to emigrate. When they were separated, Soviet emigration authorities promised, she said, that Lev would follow her within a year.

"In my heart, we were never divorced," she declared.

Later, Lev Blitshtein said he was anticipating a "chuppah" (Jewish wedding) to re-establish the marriage bonds that, he, too, had never felt to be sundered.

Asked why she had chosen to live in the United States rather than Israel, Buma said that

in America she had a better opportunity to publicize her husband's plight worldwide. Also, she said, they had fewer relatives living in Israel.

Soviet Jewry activists in the crowd said that Boris was a "hero. He traveled all over the world to talk about his father."

Blitshtein told reporters at the arrivals terminal that he was "very excited to come here. I didn't dream that this year I would be reunited with my family." But, he added, "My heart was broken a week ago when I left Moscow Airport. I left 100 of my best friends who are refuseniks for over 10 years."

Afghan War Has Impact

Blitshtein said that those who are being allowed to leave now are "people who were stopped in 1979 because of the Afghan War." He feared for those who were refused prior to that time, those who "possess secrets."

He wished to emphasize the plight of those whose children are of military draft age, whose army careers would then hinder all members of their family from emigrating.

Blitshtein spoke specifically about two Moscow refuseniks whose courage and outspokenness have cost them dearly. Natasha Khassina is known as a "guardian angel" in refusenik and Prisoner of Conscience circles. An observant Jew, she has been beaten and, said Blitshtein, she is followed everywhere by the KGB.

In December, she was given what the Soviets called a "final refusal" and told she would not be permitted to reapply to emigrate. Blitshtein said Khassina was told that her daughter would receive permission to leave but was then refused because her mother had access to "state secrets" 18 years ago.

Natalia Bekhman was severely beaten preceding a recent demonstration on behalf of then-prisoner Iosif Begun. She was not a participant, Blitshtein stressed, but had come only to observe.

Said First To Leave With Secrets

Blitshtein stressed that "the pressure from the West is important" to the refuseniks. "I am only the first known man who comes here who has so-called secrets," Blitshtein said. "But nobody else with these 'secrets' has received permission and will come this year or the next."

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's "glasnost," said Blitshtein, "is a big show," because Gorbachev hasn't closed the book on the statute of limitations on having "secrets."

The Soviets hold refuseniks, said Blitshtein, "not because they have secrets but because there's something we can exchange. Your pressure is valuable." Blitshtein said he encourages Westerners to write and visit refuseniks.

Blitshtein said he had met many American Congressmen and other Western visitors, many of whom were present at his arrival. Everyone who had heard about his profession and his purported "meat secrets" laughed, he said.

But the redhead added in the fine English he said he gleaned from all his American visitors in Moscow, "When I met people from the U.S., I did the same thing: I began to laugh. If someone in the underground is laughing, it's a refusenik."

CORRECTION -- The March 3 Daily News Bulletin story "Israeli tourism ministry predicts end to slump in foreign visitors" misstated Israel's 1986 income from tourism. The correct figure is \$950 million.