

**CABINET MINISTERS, PRESS DEMAND  
FULL-SCALE ISRAELI PROBE INTO  
POLLARD'S ESPIONAGE IN U.S.**  
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 8 (JTA) -- Pressure is mounting rapidly within the government and from the media for a full-scale investigation into the affair of Jonathan Pollard, the U.S. Navy civilian intelligence analyst who was sentenced to life imprisonment in Washington last Wednesday for spying for Israel.

The subject of an inquiry was forcefully raised by several Ministers at Sunday's Cabinet meeting. Premier Yitzhak Shamir fended off aggressive questioning by pledging that the Inner Cabinet (five Labor and five Likud Ministers, headed by the Premier) would convene in closed session Wednesday to consider the issue in depth.

Until now, calls for a probe met solid resistance from Shamir, Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, the so-called "Prime Ministers Club," as all hold or have held that office.

They were the "crisis managers" beginning on the day in November 1985 when Pollard and his wife, Anne Henderson-Pollard, were arrested by federal agents in the U.S. capital after the Israel Embassy denied them asylum.

**U.S. Accepted Israel's Explanation**

The U.S. officially accepted Israel's plea that Pollard's espionage was a "rogue operation" of which the ministerial level in Israel was completely unaware. But there was a souring of U.S.-Israel relations over the affair. This was made more evident by the severity of the sentence imposed on Pollard--his wife was sentenced to five years as an accessory -- and by the unconcealed anger in Washington over the benefits heaped on the two senior Israeli officials most closely involved with Pollard.

One of the Ministers demanding an inquiry was Ezer Weizman, who recently merged his Yahad Party with Labor and is a member of the Inner Cabinet. Another was Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein of the Shinui Party. He told reporters he was not satisfied with Shamir's promise because only the full Cabinet should decide policy in a matter as grave as the Pollard affair.

The pressures for a full-scale probe are not confined to the leftwing. Likud-Herut Minister of Labor Moshe Katzav said after Sunday's Cabinet meeting that some form of inquiry is urgently needed because the damage caused by the affair was "enormous."

**Israelis Nervous**

Many Israelis are unnerved by what they see as a crisis of confidence in Israel by the U.S. over the recent elevation to a senior post of Col. Aviem Sella, the Israel Air Force officer who recruited and allegedly supervised Pollard. Sella was sworn in as commander of the Tel Nof Air Force base, one of Israel's largest, on February 28, only a few days before Pollard was sentenced.

The Pentagon has officially informed Israel that it will have nothing to do with Sella or the

base he commands. A federal grand jury indicted Sella in absentia last week on espionage charges. Rabin, in belated recognition of American displeasure, withheld Sella's scheduled promotion to the rank of brigadier general, but the Defense Minister has come under attack at home and abroad for ineptness and insensitivity.

Long before Sella's elevation, Israel rewarded Rafael Eitan, the intelligence operative who ran Pollard's now disbanded spy unit, "Lekem," appointing him chairman of Israel Chemicals, the largest government-owned corporation. This was done despite promises by Shamir, Peres and Rabin that everyone responsible for Pollard's activities would be "held to account."

Eitan's appointment reportedly was engineered by Herut Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon, and endorsed, as required by law, by the then Finance Minister, Yitzhak Modai, a Likud Liberal. Peres and Rabin maintain they could not interfere in this Likud appointment.

**Discrepancy Alleged**

Nevertheless, opposition parties lost no time in pointing to the apparent discrepancies between the leaders' solemn commitment to the U.S. and the blossoming careers of Sella and Eitan.

Two leading newspapers, Haaretz and the Jerusalem Post, called Sunday for a full-scale judicial commission of inquiry similar to the one appointed in the aftermath of the Yom Kippur War.

This is supported by several public figures, notably Isser Harel, who headed Mossad and Shin Bet, Israel's overseas and domestic secret service agencies in the 1950s and '60s. In a radio interview over the weekend, Harel said the Pollard affair was the gravest intelligence mishap in Israel's history.

"We must know how it happened and what happened so that it never happens again," Harel said.

**LAWYER SAYS HE'LL CALL 7 WITNESSES  
TO VERIFY DEMJANJUK ISN'T 'IVAN'**  
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 8 (JTA) -- Mark O'Connor, the American lawyer defending accused war criminal John Demjanjuk, said he plans to call seven witnesses to verify Demjanjuk's claim that he was a German prisoner of war during most of World War II and never was near the Treblinka death camp where he is alleged to have been the sadistic guard known as "Ivan the Terrible."

O'Connor refused to divulge the names of the witnesses in the course of a wide-ranging interview with Tom Segev, editor of the political weekly Koteret Rashit. "Naturally, they fear for their welfare," he said, adding that they come from different countries and "are people who were with him (Demjanjuk) during the whole war."

Four Treblinka survivors have positively identified Demjanjuk as "Ivan the Terrible," pointing to the prisoner in Jerusalem district court where the trial finished its third week last Thursday. In addition, a senior police officer, Alex Ish-Shalom, who headed the team that interrogated the Ukrainian-born Demjanjuk before the trial, testified Thursday that Demjanjuk was

unable to recall the name of even one of his fellow Ukrainians he claimed were in the POW camp with him.

Nevertheless, O'Connor said he has "not a shadow of a doubt" that Demjanjuk is an innocent victim of mistaken identity. He insisted that the SS identification card of Demjanjuk placed in evidence last week was a Soviet forgery. He charged that the prosecution has refused to allow independent experts to examine and test it for authenticity.

#### Says He Can't View Card

"They won't let my expert touch the document. They maintain that we'll destroy it," O'Connor said. Proof of forgery will put Israel in a "very embarrassing" position, O'Connor warned. "This is a very delicate moment in negotiations between Israel and the Soviet Union" and the problem of the card's authenticity is "a great political question," he said.

O'Connor rejected Segev's charge that the implied collusion between Israel and the USSR served the interests of anti-Semitic Ukrainian exile organizations. "I do not represent" the Ukrainians he said. They "are working against Mark O'Connor." He was apparently referring to Ukrainian groups in the U.S. which had lobbied against Demjanjuk's extradition to Israel more than a year ago.

O'Connor said he plans to test the memories of the Treblinka survivors testifying at the trial "to examine their mental state at the time they absorbed into their memories the information they now impart . . . what happened to that information during the half century that has passed since then, and what was added meanwhile to the reservoir of their memory." He said in doing this he would "unfold the story of the Holocaust in more detail than the prosecution."

O'Connor would not answer directly when asked if he believes in the independence of the Israeli court hearing the case. "It's not a question of whether I believe or not . . . I maintain that an Israeli court has never stood before a question with such far-reaching political meaning . . . The independence of an Israeli court has never been placed before such a difficult test."

O'Connor was joined in Israel Saturday by his three children, who will remain with him for the duration of the trial. He said he believed "it is more important that they should experience this historic trial together with me than to have another years' schooling."

#### **U.S. DOESN'T SEEM READY TO HALT GIVING REFUGEE STATUS TO SOVIET JEWS** By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 8 (JTA) -- The Israeli government's efforts to get the United States to end the practice of providing refugee status for Soviet Jewish emigrants who do not go to Israel does not appear to have much chance of succeeding in the foreseeable future.

During his recent visit to the U.S., Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir strongly urged that Soviet Jews no longer be considered refugees since they all automatically become Israeli citizens once they leave the USSR. He made this plea directly to the Reagan Administration during his talks here and in public addresses to Jewish leaders.

But the Administration rejected his request, arguing that the U.S. believed in "freedom of choice."

The position was reinforced last Tuesday by Warren Zimmerman, chief of the U.S. delegation to the follow-up meeting on the Helsinki Accords, now going on in Vienna; and Rep. Steny Hoyer (D. Md.), chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which monitors compliance with the Helsinki Accords.

They appeared in Washington on the U.S. Information Agency's "Washnet" program, on which they answered questions from reporters in several European cities and Tel Aviv.

"I think the climate in the Congress of the United States is focused on the rights of individuals to leave, as guaranteed by the Helsinki Final Act," Hoyer said.

#### 'Their Own Judgment'

"The destination of those persons are really, from our perspective, in their own judgment," he added. "They will have to make that option."

Zimmerman rejected the view that the Soviets have reduced Jewish emigration because so many of the departing Jews go the U.S. rather than Israel.

"We have not heard an argument from the Soviet delegation (in Vienna) about the abuse of visas because of emigrants going to the United States instead of Israel," he said. "That is not an argument they use."

Instead, the Soviets claim that few Jews want to emigrate, Zimmerman noted.

"Of course, the new emigration legislation tends to limit the right of emigration to those who have very close family ties outside the Soviet Union," he said. "Of course that is a smaller pool than those who would like to emigrate."

Zimmerman added that the U.S. urges free emigration and "we are looking at what they are doing, rather than what they are saying, or what their new regulations are saying. What they are doing tends to be, so far, very disappointing, and they don't justify it in any new or more open terms."

Hoyer said there "are some 400,000 Jews in the Soviet Union who wish to emigrate. We know that there are at least 11,000 individuals who have asked to emigrate and who have been refused."

#### **CONGRESSMEN URGE DEPORTATION OF NAZI CRIMINAL LINNAS** By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, March 8 (JTA) -- Moves for the deportation of convicted Nazi war criminal Carl Linnas picked up fresh support on Capital Hill Friday as several Congressmen signed a letter to Attorney General Edwin Meese III urging he act immediately.

Meese told the House Judiciary Committee Thursday that Linnas' deportation was being delayed for 30 days on a plea from Linnas' lawyer, Ramsey Clark, who is seeking to find a country that will accept him. Linnas, a New York resident, faces deportation to the Soviet Union, where he faces the death penalty.

"I don't think that's our responsibility," said Rep. William Lehman (D. Fla.), who along with Sen. Lawton Chiles (D. Fla.), initiated the letter. "I understand Clark's (point), but we have laws and legislation in this country and we can't predicate our justice system on someone else's."

Lehman said he would consider further action if Meese does not respond to the letter.

world "Justice has been delayed and thus denied far too longer," said Rep. Bill Green (R-N.Y.). "Further delay is inexcusable, this man must be deported for trial."

Linnas lost his U.S. citizenship five years ago when a federal court found that he had lied about his Estonian past. The Supreme Court has refused to review the case.

#### **GORBACHEV HASN'T KEPT HIS LIBERALIZING PROMISES: SHARANSKY** By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, March 8 (JTA) -- Natan Sharansky accused the Soviet Union of "massive" violations of human rights and charged it has "taken a new and sinister turn" under the leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev.

Sharansky, who came to Israel last year after nine years in the Soviet Gulag, delivered a stinging indictment of Gorbachev's performance as compared to his promises. He spoke last Thursday at the conference of the United Nations Human Rights Commission. He also rebuked the Commission. "Human rights violations in the Soviet Union are as serious today as they were 10 years ago when I was arrested and when this Commission found no place to discuss them on its agenda," he said.

"The truth is that under the new leadership of Mr. Gorbachev, almost nobody is allowed out," Sharansky declared, noting that more than 30,000 Jews were permitted to leave the USSR in 1973 and more than 50,000 in 1979.

"But under the new 'liberal' leadership of Mr. Gorbachev in 1986, less than a thousand (left). Even while the mass release of prisoners was taking place a few weeks ago in the full glare of publicity, many long-term refuseniks were once again receiving refusals and some were even told -- despite Mr. Gorbachev's promise of a maximum 10-year wait -- not to bother re-applying until the year 2000," Sharansky said.

Sharansky added that, "At the beginning of January he introduced a new decree on emigration which violates the Soviet Union's own laws and procedures and is a flagrant abuse of their international agreements.

"The decree arbitrarily limits the right to emigrate only to those Soviet citizens who already have immediate family living abroad. This decree is cruel and unjust, it is illegal. It must be condemned by all the civilized nations of the world ..."

He observed that "even if the decree is cancelled, the present rate of emigration is so low that it will take forever for all those who want to leave to do so. And even if the Soviet authorities were to fulfill the promises made here in Geneva by Mr. (Samuil) Zivs (a member of the Soviet delegation) just last week that 500 people will be allowed to leave each month, that still only brings us to 6,000 a year."

He addressed the Commission in time allotted to the World Union for Progressive Judaism, a non-governmental body. The Israeli delegation preferred that he not appear as a member.

#### **FAMILY OF ALLEGED NUCLEAR TATTLER VANUNU SACKS DEFENSE COUNSEL**

TEL AVIV, March 8 (JTA) -- The dismissal of Mordechai Vanunu's lawyer may force a postponement of the trial of the former Dimona technician accused of selling classified information

about Israel's alleged nuclear weapons capabilities to a British newspaper.

The trial was scheduled to open in Jerusalem this week. Vanunu's family fired defense counsel Amnon Zichroni Sunday in an apparent dispute over how the defense should be conducted. Zichroni said he would not withdraw from the case unless asked to by his client, and then only with the court's consent.

Zichroni is reported to have prepared a purely legal defense at the trial which will be held in secret. The defendant's brother, Meir Vanunu of Boston, demands that the trial be in an open court, and insists that the defense focus mainly on the principles of opposing nuclear research and weapons production.

According to the local media, he wants to turn the trial into a cause celebre aimed at applying world-wide pressure for Vanunu's release.

#### **REFUSENIKS' MOTHERS END HUNGER STRIKE AFTER THREE COLLAPSE**

TEL AVIV, March 8 (JTA) -- The mothers of 11 refuseniks in the Soviet Union ended their hunger strike Sunday, its fifth day, when three of them collapsed. They had been protesting outside the Prime Ministers Office over the continued refusal by the Soviet authorities to grant visas to their families to join them in Israel.

Meanwhile, 72 Jewish women in Moscow began a protest hunger strike which they said would last six days, concurrent with the International Mothers' Week celebrations. In Vienna, Ilana Friedman began a hunger strike in support of her sister, Ida Nudel, who has been denied permission to join her in Israel.

#### **WHITE HOUSE FIRES COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR WHO HAD JOINED HITLER YOUTH**

WASHINGTON, March 8 (JTA) -- German-born John Koehler, who was a member of the Hitler Youth as a child, was dismissed from his White House job Friday, only five days after becoming President Reagan's communications director.

He was sacked by the new White House Chief of Staff, former Sen. Howard Baker, who took over from Donald Regan just a week ago. Baker reportedly told Koehler that in reorganizing the White House staff his job classification might be eliminated.

#### **HADASSAH CELEBRATES EN MASSE**

TEL AVIV, March 8 (JTA) -- About 2,500 Hadassah members arrived in Israel from the U.S. Sunday for a week of celebration marking the 75th anniversary of the women's Zionist organization in America.

They are filling seven of Jerusalem's largest hotels. A convoy of 50 buses will take them on tours of the country this week. Anniversary celebrations open officially Tuesday at Jerusalem's Binyanei Hauma Convention Center.

The Nahum Goldmann Museum of the Diaspora in Tel Aviv is holding a special exhibition this week, titled "Women of Valor--The Story of Hadassah, 1912-1987." It opens Monday with a festive ceremony to be addressed by Charlotte Jacobson, chairman of Hadassah's 75th Anniversary year, and museum director Aharon Doron.

**FRENCH JEWISH LEADER RIPS AMERICAN PEERS FOR MEETING FRENCH EXTREMIST; U.S. LEADERS CLAIM FAULTY INVITATION**  
By Margie Olster (In New York)  
and Edwin Eytan (In Paris)

March 8 (JTA) -- A leader of the French Jewish community has vilified 20 American Jewish officials who met recently with the head of an extremist rightwing party in France accused of racism and anti-Semitism.

The officials, including representatives of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL), the American Jewish Committee, World Jewish Congress and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, met with Jean Marie Le Pen, the leader of the National Front Party of France, on February 20.

They were attending a luncheon at Four Seasons restaurant in New York City as guests of Jacques Torczyner, a member of the World Zionist Organization Executive and veteran American Zionist leader. Some of the Jewish leaders said they did not know who the "guest of honor" was until they arrived at the restaurant. Many also said they attended not in their official capacities, but as private guests.

**'Irresponsible And Dangerous'**

In France, Theo Klein, president of the European Jewish Congress and head of the Representative Council of Major French Jewish organizations, accused the officials of being "irresponsible and dangerous." He rapped the leaders for neglecting to consult with or inform the French and West European Jewish communities of the meeting.

French, Belgian and Italian Jewish organizations have boycotted Le Pen, charging him with spreading racist and anti-Semitic ideology. Le Pen's National Front party garnered 10 percent of the popular vote in the March 1986 legislative elections in France, which gave it 35 seats in the 577-seat National Assembly, according to an ADL report on Le Pen, published last year.

So why were American Jewish leaders dining with Le Pen in one of New York's finest restaurants? For Torczyner, the answer is simple.

"Mr. Le Pen has 15 percent of the vote in France. There are Jews among his voters. I have always invited people from the extreme left to the extreme right to meet with American Jews. I think it's important to hear these points of view," he said.

Torczyner added that Le Pen and his party support Israel in the French and European parliaments, and that Le Pen favors closing the Palestine Liberation Organization offices in France.

Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress, said he was invited to the luncheon, but was not told Le Pen also would attend. Steinberg said Le Pen's platform is "clearly racist." But Le Pen claimed at the luncheon that he is not anti-Semitic, Steinberg said. Steinberg noted he agreed with Klein's condemnation of Le Pen.

Others who attended gave similar accounts. George Gruen, AJCommittee director of Israel and Middle Eastern Affairs, said Torczyner told him some rightwing members of the French Parliament would also attend the luncheon, but gave no names.

"I didn't know who would be there," Gruen said. "I was not going as a delegate of the AJCommittee, I was invited as an individual."

Gruen said had he known Le Pen would be there, he would have checked his background with others in AJCommittee and probably sent someone more knowledgeable on European matters.

Gruen said Le Pen's presentation was supportive of Israel and anti-PLO. "He denied he was anti-Semitic. He denied he sanctioned anti-Semitic publications ... I don't know if he was telling the truth or not," Gruen said.

Torczyner said it was "not true" that the officials were not informed Le Pen would be at the luncheon, and noted that they could have left in protest. "They all stayed until the end. They all shook his hand. They all spoke to him," Torczyner said.

Several who attended said they were told that the meeting and its contents would be off the record. But the story leaked to the French newspaper Le Figaro and the French Jewish community was outraged.

**Long-Running Animosity**

The French and West European Jews' animosity for Le Pen goes back to his rise in popularity following the Paris student revolt in May 1968.

For many years, Le Pen subsisted politically on the fringe. He boasts frequently of fighting the Nazis in the French resistance, serving in the 1956 Suez campaign (where he claims he met and befriended Israelis) and then fighting with the French in Algiers to repress the popular revolt against French presence.

After Algiers he spent about 20 years with a minute extremist following. He lectured, ran a record firm which specialized in war songs and marches, and published books.

Following the student revolt, Le Pen founded the National Front, allied with neo-Nazi and neo-fascist elements. Some Le Pen followers were former Nazis, others vehemently anti-Semitic. Le Pen now prefers to disassociate himself from his early supporters.

He once told the JTA, "I am not to be held responsible, however, for what some of the people who supported me, generally without my formal approval, said."

Charges that Le Pen and his party are racist stem from an anti-Arab platform. It is largely on this that he has gained some 10 to 15 percent of popular support in France, a good deal of it among the working class which competes with Arab and North African immigrants for jobs.

Some French political leaders, including former Health Minister Simone Veil, who is Jewish, refuse to form coalitions with Le Pen's party.

**Some Jewish Support**

In the Jewish community, Le Pen's anti-Arab diatribes attracted a small pocket of Jewish rightwing extremists. But the Jewish mainstream has denounced his racism reminiscent of Nazism.

Anti-Semitism within the party also troubles French Jews. The ADL report stated, "Since its establishment in 1981, the National Front's daily newspaper Present ... has become a major organ in France for publishing anti-Semitic attacks."

Abraham Foxman, ADL associate national director, said the luncheon will lend Le Pen credibility abroad. "I was disappointed that I was not informed that this would be a meeting of 20 Jewish leaders," Foxman said. Theo Klein "has a right to be angry," Foxman added. "The meeting was not appropriate for leaders of the Jewish community."