

Irangate gambits wrecking Mossad's Fifth Column

by Webster G. Tarpley

At the outset of the New Year, a series of explosive turns in the Irangate scandal have once more focused attention on the unique instigating, initiating, and mediating role of the Israeli Mossad in U.S. arms shipments to Iran. The new revelations strike at the guts of the so-called U.S.-Israeli "special relationship," that outrageous, and often treasonous, subservience of official Washington to Tel Aviv machinations which has been the hallmark of Kissinger-Brzezinski-Trilateral management of U.S. foreign affairs. With 1987 just getting under way, the Mossad agents of influence have suffered a series of signal reverses.

A look at how the Israeli tail wags the U.S. dog was provided at the White House morning briefing session of Jan. 9, with the distribution of photocopies of a top secret "action memorandum" to President Reagan that had been dictated at Israeli behest on Jan. 17, 1986, by the then NSC chief, Adm. John Poindexter, to Col. Oliver North, and then presented orally to the President at a meeting also attended by Vice-President Bush, White House Chief of Staff Don Regan, and the late Don Fortier, also an NSC official. This memorandum and an accompanying "Finding" dated that same day and signed by the President were released by the White House in response to the televising of parts of the Senate Intelligence Committee's report on Irangate.

The Poindexter memorandum shows the "special relationship" at work, and underlines that Poindexter, North, and other NSC officials like Howard Teicher had been functioning as a virtual Mossad cell. In reading the following excerpts from the memo, one seems to hear the satanic laughter of Mossad controllers like the infamous "Dirty" Rafi Eytan as they play the government of the United States of America like the proverbial yo-yo: "Prime Minister Peres of Israel secretly dispatched his special adviser on terrorism [probably

Amiran Nir—WGT] with instructions to propose a plan by which Israel, with limited assistance from the U.S., can create conditions to help bring about a more moderate government in Iran. The Israelis are very concerned that Iran's deteriorating position in the war with Iraq, the potential for further radicalization in Iran, and the possibility of enhanced Soviet influence in the Gulf all pose significant threats to the security of Israel. They believe it is essential that they act to at least preserve a balance of power in the region.

"The Israeli plan is premised on the assumption that moderate elements in Iran can come to power if these factions demonstrate their credibility in defending Iran against Iraq and in deterring Soviet intervention. To achieve the strategic goal of a more moderate Iranian government, the Israelis are prepared to unilaterally commence selling military material to Western-oriented Iranian factions. It is their belief that by so doing they can achieve a heretofore unobtainable penetration of the Iranian governing hierarchy. . . ."

The memo then suggests that the arms shipments be kept secret from Congress, citing a previous opinion of former Attorney General William French Smith to argue that a Presidential Finding would make it possible for the CIA to ship 4,000 TOW missiles for launchers already in the hands of the Iranians.

Media coverage of this memo has fixated on the issue of the President's explicitly exchanging arms for hostages, a matter that has long been obvious to any observer. But it should be stressed that in the memo the hostage question is a sweetener added as an afterthought following the long string of considerations premised explicitly on Israeli national security interest. The point is to elicit U.S. aid for our deadly enemy, Iran.

The memo reminds the President that while Defense Sec-

retary Weinberger and Secretary of State Shultz are opposed to this plan, Attorney General Meese and CIA Director Casey are for it. The CIA is frequently mentioned as the lead agency in transferring the arms. The conclusions to be drawn on Casey are clear enough.

The entire memo is a tissue of lies, since the moderate anti-Soviet mullahs never existed, and the Israeli and U.S. shipments of war materiel to Iran had started under the Carter administration. Poindexter was simply repeating Mossad lies to the President. These lies served the Ariel Sharon policy of supporting the Khomeini regime for reasons of geopolitics, hostility to Arab states, and out of a deep ideological affinity for what Khomeini and his associates represent. The Mossad resold the President that policy.

In addition to dictating such suicidal policies to the White House, the Mossad is also engaged in direct espionage against this country. This has been demonstrated in the case of Jonathan Jay Pollard and his wife, who have been convicted of spying for Israel, specifically for Dirty Rafi Eytan of the Sharon faction of the Mossad, and who are now awaiting sentencing. U.S. prosecutors, led by Joseph E. DiGenova, have forwarded sentencing memoranda for both Pollards to the federal bench, urging the judge to throw the book at both defendants. The sentencing memoranda stress that the Pollards provided Israel with thousands of classified U.S. documents, more than 800 of them top secret, with many documents running into hundreds of pages. Of these, the Israeli government has returned copies of a mere 163.

Pollard, who worked at the Navy's Anti-Terrorist Alert Center, was told by the Mossad to concentrate on obtaining material on U.S. weapons systems as well as cable traffic regarding U.S. ships, aircraft stations, tactics, and training operations, plus analysis of Soviet missile systems. Pollard's controllers were adamant that they had no interest whatsoever in classified U.S. intelligence on terrorism. The sentencing memoranda point out that the Soviet intelligence sold by the sybaritic Pollards to the Mossad could "reveal much about the way the United States collects information, including information from human sources whose identity could be inferred by a reasonably competent intelligence analyst." It goes without saying that some secrets Pollard stole were traded by Sharon to his Soviet partners, compromising U.S. security and wiping out U.S. intelligence networks in the Soviet bloc.

Sources close to the ongoing investigation suggest that the government will seek to revoke immunity and indict the Pollards' Israeli co-conspirators, including covert operations specialist Eytan, Israeli Air Force Gen. Aviem Sella (who led the Israeli strike on the Iraqi nuclear reactor in 1981, and who was promoted for his role in the Pollard affair), Joseph Yagur of the Israeli consulate in New York, and Irit Erb, a secretary at the Israeli embassy in Washington. Pollard has shown no contrition for his spying for "the Brothers," Rafi, Avi, Yossi, and Uzi. In an interview with Wolf Blitzer of the

Jerusalem Post of last Nov. 21, he says, "I feel the same way one of Israel's pilots would feel if after he was shot down, nobody made an effort to get him out."

Hashemi revelations at center-stage

On Jan. 6, Edward Spannaus, the Law Editor of *EIR*, appeared at a press conference in this magazine's Washington offices to announce his delivery to Special Prosecutor Lawrence Walsh of a memorandum detailing the Department of Justice-FBI role in the cover-up of Iran arms shipments over many years, especially in regard to the case of the late Cyrus Hashemi. On that same day, some of the "major media" offered belated confirmation of what the *EIR* had revealed years before about Hashemi. In the New York case of Israeli General Bar-Am on charges of running guns to Iran, lawyers for co-defendant Samuel Evans are reportedly prepared to argue that Lloyd Cutler, the legal counsel of the Carter White House, and Assistant Secretary of State Harold Saunders authorized secret U.S. arms shipments to Iran during the 1979-81 hostage crisis, and that these shipments were mediated by Hashemi. In court papers, the Evans defense describes a July 1985 meeting to discuss arms smuggling to Iran attended by the then Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Saudi magnate Adnan Kashoggi, and Cyrus Hashemi.

As for Special Prosecutor Walsh, he spent the week of Jan. 5 recruiting a staff, several of whom come from the office of U.S. Attorney Rudolph Giuliani in New York, and setting up his Washington and New York offices. Walsh met with Stephen Trott and William Weld, both of them deeply incriminated in the Department of Justice Irangate cover-up, to take over virtually all of the ongoing investigations on the affair. "At the moment, I have them all," said Walsh after the meeting. Walsh overruled resistance by Justice as he assumed control of a Miami probe into drug smuggling by the Nicaraguan Contras. One witness had seen bags of cocaine loaded on board a plane owned by Ted Shackley's Southern Air Transport on a Colombian airstrip, and the plane turned out to be the same one shot down in Nicaragua on Oct. 5 with Eugene Hasenfus among the crew. Walsh also took over the internal Justice examination of Stephen Trott's stalling of an FBI inquiry into Southern Air Transport. Trott is described by Justice Department insiders as being "in deep trouble." Weld is awaiting with some trepidation the testimony of U.S. Ambassador to Switzerland Faith Whittlesley, a pal of North for whom Weld covered.

The House and Senate set up their select Irangate committees the week of Jan. 5, with instructions to report by the end of October at the latest. Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Ha.), the chairman of the Senate panel, says he wants to arrange testimony by the heads of foreign governments, including Israel. The Pentagon is souring on Israel's Lavi jet, which had been touted as a trapping of "superpower" status, and in which the United States had sunk a cool billion. The day of reckoning for the Mossad's U.S. caper is approaching.