

Mira Boland: I was a vigilante for Project Democracy

by Herbert Quinde

Mira Boland, nominally employed as the Fact-Finding Director in Washington, D.C. for the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), has dedicated a substantial portion of her professional career to attempting to destroy Lyndon H. LaRouche and those associated with the political movement he has inspired, according to her testimony in a Virginia court on May 24.

Dripping with the animus of a yuppie turned vigilante, Boland testified that since 1982, she was the central figure in the nation's capital for the ADL's "counteraction" program directed at LaRouche and associates.

"You will be known by the company that you keep," seems an appropriate bit of motherly wisdom, when one reviews Boland's *curriculum vitae*:

In 1978, she graduated, with a specialization in Soviet affairs, from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. **Jonathan Pollard**, now serving a life sentence for espionage in a maximum security federal prison in Marion, Illinois, was a classmate and colleague of Boland.

Reagan administration Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger said that Pollard's espionage was the "most damaging" case to U.S. national security. Although Pollard was publicly accused of being a "mole" for Israel, it was determined that the same U.S. secrets he stole were finding their way into the hands of Soviet intelligence. But the Labor Party government of Israel, up to its eyeballs in the Iran-Contra arms deals, took the rap, under duress. Why? To protect a larger "mole hill" of social democrats (better known as neo-conservatives) who were exercising substantial policy influence by the second Reagan administration, say some intelligence experts. Pollard was a "sanctioned" courier working for what is today the pro-Gorbachov wing of U.S. intelligence, an arrangement initially formalized under Reagan's first secretary of state, Alexander Haig.

The Pollard case seems strange to those accustomed to the "spy vs. spy" formulas of the Cold War—and Cold War scenario novels. Pollard and Israel were in fact elements that mediated a back-channel of diplomatic and intelligence intrigue, Venetian-style, which helped transform U.S. policy from the days when President Reagan denounced the "evil empire," to the appeasement politics of the most recent "We Love Gorbys" summit in Washington.

Mira Boland's professional associates include a cast of

allegedly pro-Israeli anti-communists, but recently converted pro-Gorbachov "spooks."

The Fletcher School Class of 1978 was a rather small group of 251, which permitted not only much student interaction but intensive student-faculty exchanges. Boland was taken under the wing of **Prof. Uri Ra'an**, director of the International Security Studies Program. His offspring Gavriel, also a member of the Class of 1978, became Boland's close friend, but died of cancer several years later.

Professor Ra'an was born **Heinz Felix Frischwasser**, in Central Europe. Ra'an/Frischwasser was picked up and given a career by the Kim Philby, i.e., pro-Soviet, wing of British intelligence, giving him the credentials to join the superpower condominium wing of the CIA as a consultant and recruiter.

During the Pollard spy investigation, beginning in 1985, Ra'an came under suspicion. He was the "talent spotter" who had helped the young Pollard initiate his career as a naval intelligence analyst, with the high-level security clearance that allowed him to betray U.S. national security secrets. In the Nov. 27, 1985 *New York Times*, Ra'an praised Pollard as "bright and articulate."

Pollard's Israeli controller was Col. Aviem Sella, who was indicted in the espionage scandal, but never extradited to the United States. Colonel Sella's wife worked in the legal department of the ADL in New York City. Both escaped to Israel when Pollard was exposed.

In 1976, two years before Boland joined Ra'an, his true colors were briefly revealed. He urged the FBI to investigate the "LaRouche organization" as alleged Soviet agents, according to a document obtained through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Having been well trained and with the recommendation of the likes of Professor Ra'an, Mira Boland landed a job at the CIA. From there she did some contract work for the Pentagon's Office of Net Assessment, which was set up under Defense Secretary Robert McNamara, and since that time has been primarily staffed by Rand Corp.-linked strategists who always manage to cook up ideas to undermine U.S. defense posture while selling them to the Pentagon brass as anti-communist.

Project Democracy's Mata Hari

By 1982, Boland's association with "spooks" led her to a full-time job with the ADL. Besides spending a lot of time on the LaRouche case, she would concentrate her energies in support of the Reagan administration's pet project—the Contras. This was the operation that Oliver North referred to as "Project Democracy."

In 1983, the Contra policy in Central America didn't make sense to many people. The administration needed to create an "aura of support" for the Nicaraguan rebels. Under the direction of **Walter Raymond**, a career CIA propaganda and psychological warfare specialist, the Reagan National Security Council and State Department launched a "public diplomacy" campaign, cynically aimed at the U.S. Jewish population. The theme of the propaganda drive was that the Sandinistas were not only communists, but anti-Semites to boot.

Rabbi Morton Rosenthal, head of the Latin American Division of the ADL and a published co-author with Boland, took the point in the propaganda campaign. The U.S. ambassador in Nicaragua sent a cable to Washington saying that there were many bad things to be said about the Sandinistas, but accusing them of anti-Semitism was absurd. Leaders of the American Jewish Committee and the World Jewish Congress denounced the ADL for its partisan political stance. Oliver North's notebooks, recently declassified, confirm the story and even cite Rabbi Rosenthal to that effect.

'Active measures'

In candid conversation, Boland would brag about her work in support of the Contras. It is alleged by knowledgeable sources that part of that job included "counteraction" programs aimed at left-wing groups critical of the administration's Central American policy. Suggestive is the fact that Boland is acknowledged as having been "particularly helpful," along with other ADL staff members, in the production of the book *Far Left of Center: The American Radical Left Today*, ostensibly written by Harvey Klehr. The book is a series of dossiers about the Communist Party, U.S.A., Trotskyist and Maoist sects, as well as the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador, Clergy and Laity Concerned, Mobilization for Survival, National Lawyers Guild, the Rainbow Coalition, and the Institute for Policy Studies. The book was funded through a grant from the ADL.

The FBI and CIA ran such a program, known as Cointelpro. The KGB calls it "active measures."

The ADL is not new to such activity. A 1969 ADL letter sent to the FBI as part of a "counteraction" program aimed at the Black Panthers, civil rights activists, and anti-war organizations was obtained through FOIA. One of the authors of the letter, **Carl Gershman**, then a young staffer in the Research Division, is today the head of the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), principal funding conduit for Project Democracy.

On Nov. 17, 1988, near Washington, Boland and a col-

league attended a "Who's Who in Terrorism" conference, where a participant asked one speaker his opinion of the "LaRouche organization." The speaker said that it was wrong to label LaRouche a "neo-Nazi" and stated his opinion that the "LaRouche organization" was being unfairly harassed by the government, something he did not approve of, as a civil libertarian. Boland argued with the speaker, denouncing him. A colleague followed up and let the cat out of the bag: "You have a suggestion that there was this secret agenda on the part of the government to go after the organization. . . . Isn't it a fact that the organization in some parts of Central and South America was influencing government officials there in a way that was not in line with what the U.S. was all about? Wouldn't that make them legitimate targets of interest on the part of the United States government?" The speaker responded, "It shouldn't make them targets of a malicious prosecution."

Boland testified that in April 1983, she attended a "Get LaRouche" task force meeting in New York, at which **Prof. Roy Godson** was also present. Godson, an intelligence community gadfly who aspired to the post of CIA congressional liaison but was denied the appointment because of his dubious background, according to intelligence community sources, eventually received a contract as an NSC consultant. His major function was as co-chairman of the "private donors committee" of wealthy businessmen that Walter Raymond had set up to finance "public diplomacy" dirty tricks in support of the Contras.

Raymond and Godson's committee counted on several prominent ADL-affiliated individuals, according to documents released by the congressional committee that probed the Iran-Contra fiasco. **Leonard Sussman**, an ADL board member and executive director of Freedom House, along with ADL financial angels **Dwayne Andreas** and **John Kluge**, respectively the chief executive officer of Archer Daniels Midland Co. and *Forbes* magazine's anointed "Richest Man in America," were described as "on board" in Raymond's NSC memoranda.

The meeting was hosted by **John Train**, a Wall Street investment banker financially tied to the Rothschild family and a Swedish company that figured in the story of Irangate. Sol Sanders, a neo-conservative writer and participant at one "Get LaRouche" task force meeting, described Train as "one of the last remaining intelligence community 'old boys' on Wall Street."

Train is known as the "*noblesse oblige* banker" for the social democracy, and is reportedly a major contributor to Freedom House, a New York-based think tank which is funded by the NED and is alleged by some to be a front group for the CIA. Freedom House and its personnel figure prominently throughout the Iran-Contra affair. Boland's husband, **John Boland**, a financial writer and investment adviser, is a business associate of Wall Street trader **Walter Schloss**, the treasurer of Freedom House.