Pollard is an enemy of Israel, too, not just of the United States

by Michele Steinberg

In early January, Israeli Gen. Ehud Barak, the Labor Party’s candidate for Prime Minister in the May 17 elections, took the courageous step of refusing to sign a joint letter to President Clinton demanding the release from U.S. prison of confessed Israeli spy Jonathan Jay Pollard. Barak’s move helps to blow a huge hole in the lie that Pollard, who was sentenced to life in prison in the United States for espionage, is some “Israeli war hero.” Earlier, the Israeli Supreme Court refused to entertain a motion by Pollard’s cheering section that Benjamin Netanyahu’s government had “pledged” in a contract to withhold the release of any Palestinian prisoners, until Pollard is freed. Israelis are becoming far more aware, as the facts demonstrate, that Pollard is as much an enemy of Israel, as he is of the United States.

As the pressure mounted from the Netanyahu camp, after the Wye River accords in October, 58-60 U.S. Senators signed an appeal to President Clinton demanding that he reject any consideration of freeing or commuting the life sentence of Pollard, who had used his position as civilian specialist at the U.S. Naval Investigative Service’s Anti-Terrorist Alert Center, to spy for Israel. Leading the names on that bipartisan letter were right-winger Richard Shelby of Alabama, the chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, and the committee’s ranking Democrat, Bob Kerrey from Nebraska. Moreover, President Clinton had requested reports on the matter by Jan. 11 from his intelligence, defense, and law enforcement agencies. All but one came to the same conclusion as the Senators had. Noticeable, was the absence of the Justice Department, where Attorney General Janet Reno capitulated to the “Free Jay Pollard” campaign and agreed to meet with a delegation of the spy’s advocates. The letter from the agencies to President Clinton made clear without qualification, that the damage Pollard had inflicted on the United States was massive and unprecedented, and, as some have noted, that its effects continue to be measurable.

Peace forces under attack in Israel

The intense scramble to free Pollard occurred at the same time that the political divisions in Israel began to heat up over the Netanyahu government’s war threats against the Palestine territories and Lebanon, and its increasing threats of use nuclear retaliation against any enemy (Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon’s crazies have named Iraq and Iran on occasion). On Jan. 13, the Israeli daily Haaretz reported that Israel is conducting mock nuclear tests at the Dead Sea.

As growing numbers of Israelis were turning against Netanyahu’s antics to violently blow up the peace agreements, the Israeli offices of Stanley Greenberg, a U.S. media consultant advising General Barak’s campaign, were broken into. Greenberg’s home offices in Washington, D.C. were also burglarized, twice in one week, by operatives who took great care to defeat the alarm systems and motion detectors. All that was stolen were the computer disks and files involving international clients, including the Barak campaign. Some media have made the rather obvious, if shallow, comparison to the Watergate break-in, which set off Henry Kissinger’s operation to bring down President Nixon. Netanyahu loyalists protest that the break-ins might be an attempt to discredit Likud.

Ongoing espionage rings

But there is a bigger picture of espionage and treason: Explosive new revelations in the New Yorker by veteran investigative journalist Seymour Hersh demonstrated that Pollard’s Israeli handlers were using him to provide information that was of use only to the Soviets, and that he was backed up by a network of high-level moles run by Israeli intelligence, who have never been uncovered — and most likely, have never been de-activated. Hersh reports that a number of U.S. citizens, many involved in protecting U.S. national security through intelligence operations, asked him to write the true story of Pollard’s espionage operations. These individuals feared that combined pressure from the Zionist mafia and the impeachment trial, would force President Clinton to capitulate to Netanyahu’s blackmail.

Hersh’s article confirms what EIR reported when Pollard was arrested in November 1985, and in our March 1, 1986 Special Report, “Moscow’s Secret Weapon: Ariel Sharon and the Israeli Mafia.” In the introduction, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. wrote: “The two arrested Israeli spies, Jonathan Pollard, and his wife Anne (née Henderson) Pollard are merely third-level figures in a ring working under the sponsorship of Israeli bully-boy Ariel Sharon, and the direction of Sharon’s wellworks specialist, Rafael ‘Dirty Rafi’ Eytan. The ring reaches high into the ranks of the Executive Branch of the U.S. government, into the Congress, and extends its wicked influence into the Federal courts. This is not merely an Israeli spy-ring; it is
a spy-ring operating under Israeli flag, but controlled by a network of Soviet agents, centered around the notorious Armand Hammer and the Bronfman family interests. Behind the ring, is the second generation of the Irgun apparatus of the late 1940s. The two Pollards are merely the proverbial tip of the iceberg.” (The Irgun terrorists were devotees of Zionist ideologue Vladimir Jabotinsky, whom Israel’s first Prime Minister, David Ben-Gurion, referred to as “Vladimir Hitler.”)

Hersh’s article shocked both U.S. political circles and the hard-core Zionist mafia, with his demonstration that Israel had passed U.S. secrets on to the Soviets. He reveals that, in December 1985, President Reagan’s close friend, then-CIA director William Casey, “who was known for his close ties to the Israeli leadership, stunned one of his station chiefs by suddenly complaining about the Israelis . . . and urged increased monitoring of the Israelis.” Quoting an active-duty official who had been close to Casey, Hersh writes: “Casey had added, ‘For your information, the Israelis used Pollard to obtain our attack plan against the U.S.S.R.—all of it. The coordinates, the firing locations, the sequences. And for guess who? The Soviets.’” Casey had then explained that the Israelis had traded Pollard’s data for Soviet emigres.”

Hersh gives elaborated descriptions of the U.S. intelligence that Pollard stole, making crystal clear that his spying not only cost lives some 14 years ago, but that the damage may be continuing today: The detail and volume of documents that Pollard gleaned, included “one entire year’s worth” of daily documents on naval signal information, “most important[ly], the nuclear-armed submarines of the Soviet Union on patrol in the Mediterranean.”

According to Hersh, Pollard “told the Americans [who helped him work out his guilty plea, in expectation of a light sentence] that at one point in 1985, the Israelis had nagged him when he missed several days of work because of illness and had failed to deliver the [the Sixth Fleet Ocean Surveillance Information Facility] FOSIF reports for those days. One of his handlers, Joseph Yagur, had complained twice about the missed messages and had asked him to find a way to retrieve them.” Pollard said that, from then on, he never missed a delivery of the FOSIF reports.

Pollard, says Hersh, came to be known as a “serial spy, the Ted Bundy of the intelligence world.” Vital to U.S. defense, and to its NATO allies, writes Hersh, is “signal intelligence,” or SIGINT, which monitors and deciphers coded signals. This crucial operation is “kept in order by an in-house manual which is classified ‘top secret Umbra,’ fills ten volumes, is constantly updated, and lists the physical parameters of every known signal. Pollard took it all.” But this could not have been a one-man operation, according to one intelligence hand who spoke to Hersh; the Israelis gave Jay a “sausage” full of high-speed copying equipment, he said. “ ‘Safehouses and special Xeroxes . . .? This was not the first guy they recruited,’ ” writes Hersh. “During [Pollard’s] year and half of spying, his Israeli handlers requested specific documents, which were only identified by top secret control numbers. After much internal assessment, the government’s intelligence experts concluded that it was ‘highly unlikely’ . . . that any of the other American spies of that era would have had access to the specific control numbers. ‘There is only one conclusion,’ the expert told me. The Israelis ‘got the numbers from somebody else in the government.’ ” (See “The Israeli Spy Network that Jonathan Pollard Left Behind,” EIR, Nov. 6, 1998.)

Pollard stole and delivered documents that “would create a stack 6 feet wide, 6 feet long and 10 feet high,” writes Hersh, and the information was so specific that his controllers would hand him a “wish list” that listed according to their “top secret control numbers.” But most interesting, the “wish list” was for information on submarine monitoring, especially in the Mediterranean, which was vital, not for Israel, but for the Soviet Union.

Pollard’s controllers, under the leadership of Col. Aviem Sella, an Israeli Air Force officer who had commanded the 1981 bombing attack against the Iraqi Osirak nuclear reactor, were paying Pollard $25,000 per month, plus expense accounts for fancy hotels and restaurants. Hersh points out that the Israelis have never turned over to the Americans, the other officials who were indicted; never returned the stolen documents; never acknowledged getting documents; never disclosed what documents they had received; and never identified where the documents went afterwards.

The U.S. investigated Yagur, a member of Sella’s team, and even named Yagur, by then in Israel, as an unindicted co-conspirator; but the Israeli government, then deeply involved with George Bush and Ollie North in the Executive Order 12333 covert operations of swapping guns for drugs for hostages in Central America, Afghanistan, and Iran, was allowed to turn down any requests to cooperate in the investigation of Pollard.

No wonder, Hersh reports that the Israelis were getting the Soviets to release Jewish emigres to Israel, many of whom were top nuclear scientists, needed by Israel for its secret “doomsday” nuclear weapons program. That nuclear capability stands today as one of the greatest threats of nuclear global showdown.

Hersh’s article wrung an hysterical response from Pollard’s defenders. Lawyer Alan Dershowitz, who is on the three-man delegation meeting with Janet Reno to pressure the Attorney General to come over to the “free Pollard” side, bristled, “I have asked the Justice Department to commence a criminal investigation of all those that leaked classified information to Mr. Hersh. It’s a crime to leak classified information to a journalist. They have done considerable damage to the national security of the United States.” Another member of the delegation is Edgar Bronfman, whom EIR named in its 1986 Special Report as a principal controller of the Pollard network.

The Pollard stay-behind network is not a single “mole.” To stop the treason, start investigating those who demand that Pollard be released.