

Is there a connection between Pollard and Ledeen?

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Shock spread from Washington to Tel Aviv when the Department of Justice announced the expected indictment of Israeli Brig. Gen. Aviem Sella and the stripping of immunity from prosecution for three other Israeli officials, including "Dirty" Rafi Eytan, for their involvement in the spy ring surrounding convicted Israeli agent Jonathan Jay Pollard. Spymaster and "wetworks" specialist Eytan, former science attaché Joseph Yagur, and former embassy secretary Irit Erb were formally notified by the Justice Department on Feb. 9 that their immunity agreement had been lifted: The three had lied to U.S. investigators in an effort to cover up the role of General Sella as the initial "handler" of agent Pollard.

The reopening of the Pollard affair, and specifically, the targeting of Eytan, opens a "second front" in the effort by a faction of U.S. intelligence to uproot Israeli intelligence's ability to interfere in U.S. national security affairs—with always disastrous consequences. Eytan is the former chief of operations of the Mossad, and went on to head the Prime Minister's Office of Terror Against Terror. Subsequently, he ran the LEKEM scientific espionage unit, which was directed principally against the United States.

With Eytan on the firing line, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir will shortly travel to Washington in the weakest position of any Israeli-head-of state ever on the eve of negotiations over Israel's U.S. aid package. And former Defense Minister Ariel Sharon, the would-be dictator of an Israeli garrison-state, has been severely weakened. He is Eytan's closest political associate.

Enter: Michael Ledeen

The question buzzing around Washington is: What busted up the well orchestrated cover-up of the Pollard affair? Be-

tween the State Department office of Abraham Sofaer, and the Justice Department office of Mark Richard, Pollard had successfully been pronounced a "rogue" operative. Efforts to get at the Israeli higher-ups had been suppressed for months.

According to sources contacted by *EIR*, the key development was the opening of a serious probe by Irangate special prosecutor Lawrence Walsh into the role of Michael Ledeen in the Iran-Contra mess. A thorough probe of Ledeen, these sources speculated, would reveal a direct link to the Pollard spy ring, including Ledeen's personal role in helping Pollard to get his job as a counter-terrorism consultant to the Office of Naval Intelligence. According to these sources, those Justice and State Department officials who were involved in the cover-up of the Pollard affair lost their nerve in the face of the Ledeen probe, which was bound to unravel the Pollard case and thus reveal their own obstruction of justice. They moved to save their own hides by letting the probe proceed.

In early February, the Senate Intelligence Committee released its preliminary probe into "Irangate." Ledeen's prominent role became a subject of great public attention. Sen. David Boren (D-Ok.), in a nationwide television interview with Ted Koppel, blasted White House Chief of Staff Donald T. Regan for letting "low-level" consultants and NSC officials, notably Ledeen and Lt. Col. Oliver North, dominate the President's appointment calendar while the secretaries of state and defense could scarcely grab a moment of Regan's time.

What emerged was a picture of a private, "parallel government"—Boren's term—with its own diplomatic corps, treasury, and military logistics command, independent of any constitutional checks and balances. This parallel government was producing a string of policy disasters, each accompanied

by phenomenal diversions of funds. At the dead center of this parallel government—its de facto secretary of state—was the murky figure of Michael Ledeen.

As *EIR* has reported, Ledeen, a “part-time consultant” to both McFarlane’s and Poindexter’s NSC, is suspected of working on behalf of a secret Mossad agenda to guarantee an Iranian victory in the seven-year-old Persian Gulf War—by delivering an endless supply of Israeli and American arms to the Khomeini regime. Iran’s victory was in turn intended to secure Islamic fundamentalist cooperation with a “Jewish fundamentalist” grouping inside Israel, committed to provoking a holy war against the Arab part of the Muslim world. The principal option for provoking such a war was the destruction of the Dome of the Rock, the second holiest site of Islam, located atop Temple Mount in the Old City of Jerusalem.

The Temple Mount project, has been financed by networks of Christian fundamentalists inside the United States, who have provided millions to Rabbi Meir Kahane’s Jewish underground, an underground secretly controlled by Sharon and Eytan’s circles.

Michael Ledeen’s wife Barbara, herself a full-time employee of the Department of Defense’s foreign munitions sales office and an alleged Mossad courier, is an editor of *Biblical Archaeological Review*, one of the “academic” journals pushing the Temple Mount plot.

It was on behalf of the Temple Mount project, and related Israeli support for Iran in the Gulf war, that the Pollard espionage effort was deployed.

Enter: the KGB

There is another dimension to the Ledeen-Pollard link raised by *EIR*’s sources: Soviet-Israeli collusion.

In his sentencing memorandum in the Pollard case, U.S. Attorney Joseph E. DiGenova of the District of Columbia, made direct reference to the practice of using “false flag” agents. That is, Pollard—and Eytan’s entire LEKEM unit—was an instrument of the Soviet KGB under Israeli cover: “A common technique used by foreign agents seeking U.S. classified information is the so-called ‘false-flag’ approach. This technique refers to instances where the U.S. source is falsely persuaded that the foreign agent is acting on behalf of a friendly or allied country; implicit in this approach is the assurance that the likelihood of a substantial prison sentence is remote where the U.S. source does not intend to aid a hostile country by his unauthorized disclosures. Whether a potential U.S. source is the target of a ‘false-flag’ approach, or is wittingly advised by his ‘handler’ to merely pretend an intent to benefit a friendly foreign power, the deterrent effect of certain, substantial jail sentences would be the same.”

Evidence presented in a March 1985 *EIR* special report, *Moscow’s secret weapon: Ariel Sharon and the Israeli mafia*, shows that Pollard was precisely that kind of “false-flag” agent: The ultimate user of the data stolen by Pollard was the KGB.

An ongoing *EIR* investigation shows that Michael Ledeen—and his wife, Pentagon consultant Barbara—have the same Soviet-Israeli pedigree as their suspected associate Pollard. As early as March 15, 1982, the counterintelligence newsletter *Investigative Leads* had reported on Ledeen’s close ties to Luigi Scricciolo and his wife, Paola Elia, now both in an Italian jail for their involvement with the terrorist Red Brigades.

Scricciolo was the international affairs director of the Italian socialist trade union federation, UIL. He was fingered by his cousin, Loris, and by Antonio Savasta, both Red Brigade members involved in the kidnaping of American Gen. James Dozier in December 1981. Luigi Scricciolo was a Red Brigades leader who maintained liaison to Cuban and Bulgarian intelligence agents in Rome. Similar information on Scricciolo’s ties to both terrorist groups and East bloc intelligence services had been provided to Italian military intelligence in 1979. That information was suppressed by then-SISMI chief General Santovito, a member of the outlawed P-2 Freemasonic Lodge. General Santovito was also a sponsor of Michael Ledeen during his lengthy stay in Italy in the late 1970s. The Ledeens were reportedly in frequent, intimate contact with Luigi Scricciolo and Paola Elia.

A Mossad agent

According to a series of articles that appeared in the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* on Feb. 2, Ledeen’s lengthy stay in Italy was the result of a scandal that broke out when he attempted to secure tenure on the faculty of Washington University in St. Louis in the early 1970s. Ledeen was apparently guilty of plagiarism. His tenure was blocked and he was forced to leave St. Louis.

Early in his career, Ledeen was sponsored by Prof. Walter Lacqueur, a German Jewish emigré from the early Frankfurt School circles, who has authored numerous historical pieces on Nazi and other intelligence networks. Lacqueur steered Ledeen to Italy in the late 1960s to complete his doctoral dissertation on “the universal aspects of Mussolini’s fascism,” a study that later appeared under the title, *Universal Fascism*. Apparently, Ledeen’s contacts with the neo-fascist circles of the P-2 Lodge and his intimate channels into the Italian Communist Party and the emerging terrorist underground all began during the Lacqueur-sponsored trip.

Not coincidentally, the same Walter Lacqueur wrote a lengthy article for *Society* magazine in the summer of 1986, in praise of the literary efforts of Julian Semyonov, a top Soviet GRU (military intelligence) official operating under cover as spy novelist and investigative journalist. Semyonov is one of the leading figures in Raisa Gorbachova’s Great White Russian “cultural revolution.”

Thus, Michael Ledeen and Jonathan J. Pollard are leading U.S. investigators to a KGB-Mossad network that has penetrated the U.S. national security apparatus at its deepest level. It is perhaps the most significant counterintelligence probe of the postwar period.