

showed Suchomel a photograph of Demjanjuk, the immigration photo which made Demjanjuk 32 years old and Suchomel failed to identify Demjanjuk as this Ivan the Terrible.

In this complaint we are asking the Justice Department to produce the statements of Suchomel, also the statements of Kurt Franz who was the commandant, the second lieutenant in Treblinka wholly responsible for what they call the Ukrainian guard unit, although there is much wondering if they didn't distinguish between Ukrainian or Russian.

Now Kurt Franz also knew Ivan the Terrible very well. We've learned that in the past and recently the OSI had gone to see Kurt Franz in 1979 before Mr. Demjanjuk was denaturalized. They showed him an older picture of Mr. Demjanjuk and Kurt Franz failed to identify him as Ivan the Terrible. We want the record of interview report as to what Franz told them exactly. Also we want the interview report of Richard Glazar who is a Jewish Treblinka survivor who now lives in Switzerland.

The third part of our request was to have the Attorney General of the United States contact the Ministry of Justice of the State of Israel, either directly or through the State Department as may be appropriate, and tell them that the U.S. Department of Justice OSI has withheld relevant documents regarding the Demjanjuk case from also the State of Israel, and in case these documents have been destroyed, a detailed explanation as to the destruction of these documents. A description of these documents will be given to the Ministry of Justice of the State of Israel when it is supplied to us, the plaintiffs, and the court.

The OSI and Neal Sher are now accusing me of having knowledge of an "unknown confederate" working inside of the OSI and planting garbage bags into dumpsters for people to retrieve.

These latest allegations indicate just how desperate the OSI is getting. I now learn that the garbage situation has been the subject of a year-long investigation by the Justice Department's Office of Professional Responsibility and the FBI. Evidently, Neal Sher claimed that the documents were stolen. I believe Mr. Sher knows that his claims and assertions are total fabrications or a figment of his imagination.

Perhaps the most effective way to get to the truth in this late stage of the Demjanjuk proceedings is to have both Mr. Sher and myself subject ourselves to the most sophisticated lie detector test available. I believe that then everyone would see who is telling the truth.

EIR: Is there a law suit against you?

Nishnic: No. Evidently, there is a continuing investigation concerning these trashed documents. The OSI is arrogant and obviously they feel they will not be held accountable for any of their misdeeds. However, the wheels of justice turn slowly. In our case, it has already been 13 years. In the end, we feel that our system of justice will prove that nobody, including the OSI, is above the law.

Lockerbie coverup may be cracking

by Jeffrey Steinberg

On Nov. 18, CBS News's "Saturday Night with Connie Chung" aired an interview with Rep. Jim Traficant (D-Oh.) in which the congressman repeated his demands for a full-scale probe into the CIA's coverup of the PanAm 103 bombing. Last Dec. 21, some 270 people were killed when the Pan American jet was blown out of the skies over Lockerbie, Scotland by a terrorist bomb. According to information first developed by investigators working for PanAm, Frankfurt-based agents of the CIA, the Israeli Mossad, and the West German Bundeskriminalamt (BKA) all had advance warning of the bomb plot by radical Arab terrorists sponsored by Syria and Iran, but failed to preempt the attack.

In the case of the CIA, Traficant charged that the local agents were actually protecting a drug running network run by a Syrian named Mansur al-Kassar. A well-known international arms dealer, al-Kassar has been publicly identified as an intimate of Syrian President Hafez al-Assad and his brother Rifaat.

While it initially appeared that the al-Kassar ring was protected as part of a continued effort by U.S. intelligence to obtain the release of the American hostages in Lebanon through intervention by Damascus, new evidence now suggests that even more sinister motives may have been involved in the coverup of the PanAm tragedy.

In several recent press conferences on Capitol Hill, Traficant charged that the Frankfurt-based CIA team may have wittingly permitted the massacre of hundreds of innocent citizens in order to silence a rival CIA team that had unearthed evidence of drug payoffs to the Frankfurt-based operatives. At least three CIA officials, including the deputy station chief in Beirut and a highly decorated Green Beret major, perished aboard Flight 103.

According to the PanAm investigators' report, which has now been widely circulated within the international press corps, Major McKee and CIA officer Gannon were in Lebanon directing an eight man "secret team" assigned to locate the American hostages and determine whether a rescue operation might be possible. According to sources close to the PanAm probe, the team unearthed extensive evidence showing that the CIA Frankfurt unit was profiteering from its deal with al-Kassar, and that al-Kassar was a major player in the Syrian drug-running operations built up in the Bekaa Valley since the late 1970s.

Reportedly, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration has assembled extensive evidence, including videotape foot-

age, of massive opium production in the valley under the tight control of Syrian military intelligence. DEA estimates that the Bekaa Valley accounts for over \$1 billion a year in heroin profits. Further, investigations by a variety of anti-drug agencies in the United States, Western Europe, and Ibero-America indicate that al-Kassar, along with Rifaat al-Assad, have maintained longstanding business ties to the Medellín and Cali Cartels in Colombia. Reportedly, tapes and documents also exist of meetings between al-Kassar and Pablo Escobar Gaviria, the head of the Medellín Cartel.

Early this year, U.S. Customs and DEA investigators in Berne, Switzerland developed evidence linking a Syrian-Bulgarian drug money-laundering ring to a Los Angeles and New York-based ring known as "La Mina" which serviced the Medellín Cartel.

One of the questions which Traficant is apparently intent on answering, is whether the PanAm tragedy was the work of a corrupted and desperate team of CIA agents who sought to bury the evidence of their drug profiteering in the wreckage of PanAm 103. If that proves to be the case, then how far up the chain of command inside the CIA and the Bush administration does the coverup go?

Curious Israeli angle

Although the major American press—with the sole exception of the CBS interview with Representative Traficant—has buried the Lockerbie story altogether, some diligent regional investigative reporters have unearthed key pieces of the puzzle.

In mid-November, the Syracuse, New York *Post Standard* ran a series of articles which, among other things, identified the PanAm investigator as a former Israeli commando named Juval Aviv. Aviv today runs a private security firm in New York City called Interfor. According to the *Post Standard*, Aviv was a member of a secret Israeli hit team that stalked the Arab terrorists who slaughtered the Israeli team participating in the 1972 Munich Olympics. Apparently utilizing existing Israeli anti-terrorist networks in Western Europe, Aviv put together much of the material on the Frankfurt Airport smuggling ring and its links to Palestinian terrorist groups including Abu Nidal's Black September and Ahmed Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC).

With Congress in recess until the new year, the question of momentum becomes critical. So far, no one has taken up Traficant's call for a full congressional investigation into the Lockerbie disaster. President Bush just appointed a special panel to probe the crash. CIA director William Webster is reportedly scrambling to get on top of the case and is out to hermetically seal the agency against leaks until he personally sorts out the full extent of the mess. His career, and that of some other senior officials in the current and past administrations, may very well be on the line when Congress reopens its doors in January 1990.

Car-bomb in Beirut: Will Lebanon survive?

It may take weeks or months before the ultimate culprits behind the assassination of René Moawad and some 17 of his associates on Nov. 22, are found—if they ever are. And perhaps only two elements can be asserted with certainty. The timing of the car-bombing, coinciding with the 46th anniversary of Lebanon's Independence, was carefully chosen. The timing ensured that Moawad and his dignitaries would be part of the ceremonies, and above all, it struck at the symbol of Lebanese independence. Second, this violent death of a former parliamentarian, chosen only two weeks before by some of his colleagues to be the President of a truncated Lebanon, was contained within the logic of the Taif agreement.

Of course, most participants in the Taif agreement would deny this, arguing that it represented a chance for stability and putting an end to the last 12 months of heavy fighting around Beirut. In reality, the Taif process was an agreement among dupes, each bargaining the best for himself, at the expense not only of the others, but of Lebanon. Since it gave the appearance of stability, and set into motion an appearance of diplomatic negotiations which could, in some remote future, tackle the issue of the foreign occupation of Lebanon, most foreign powers were all too happy to support it and wash their hands of the country. And this was the success of the Taif agreement: It allowed all those who wanted to believe it, or at least to seem to believe it, to acquiesce to a piece of paper signed by all, according to which Syria, renowned for its fair and democratic elections, would allow a process of constitutional, political, and electoral reforms within Lebanon, and thereafter start negotiating its withdrawal!

Most powers choose to play the game by cynicism, others in the vain hope that concessions to the Syrians may gain them some respite to develop a "wait and see" policy. For those who refused to play the game, Goebbels-style propaganda was set into motion to discredit them. A heavy dose of such propaganda has been witnessed throughout all major international media since Moawad's death.

A major lie for example, since Taif took place, has been to repeat ad nauseam that all parties but Prime Minister Gen. Michel Aoun had accepted the terms of the agreement. Only Aoun stood in the way of peace, it was said. Yet, while Aoun did oppose the Taif agreement, from the standpoint that it represented an unacceptable violation of Lebanese sovereignty and dangerous concessions of Lebanese integrity, others opposed it too.