

Panama Report by Carlos Wesley

New proof of U.S. agents' drug ties

Israeli weapons were shipped to the Colombian drug lords as part of the Iran-Contra deals—with Endara's complicity.

The U.S.-installed President of Panama, Guillermo Endara, was involved with the cargo of weapons sent from Israel to Colombian drug lord Gonzalo Rodríguez Gacha in 1989.

According to information obtained by *EIR*, Endara and his law partners Menalco Solís, who runs Endara's CIA-trained intelligence service, and Hernán Delgado, the chief presidential adviser, were the agents for the *Seapoint*, the Colombian-owned vessel, registered in Panama, that picked up the weapons from the Caribbean island of Antigua, where they had been sent by the Israeli government-owned Israeli Military Industries (IMI) aboard the Danish ship *Else TH*; they were then delivered to the cocaine kingpin.

Those weapons figured in the murder of Luis Carlos Galán, the anti-drug crusader who was expected to win Colombia's last presidential elections. Galán's assassination in August 1989 set the stage for the current surrender of the Colombian government to the narco-terrorists.

The discovery that Endara—who also shared ownership of Panama's Banco Interoceánico with Rodríguez Gacha—is tied to the weapons traffic, undermines the Anglo-American attempts at a coverup. Endara is just one of several agents or officials of the U.S. government whose names have been linked to the arms deals.

Those weapons were purchased for an operation against Gen. Manuel Noriega. Former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams, a major player in the Iran-Contra scandal, financed the operation using Panamanian

money confiscated by the U.S. government, which was then conducted through a fictitious "Panamanian government in exile" nominally headed by former Panamanian President Eric Delvalle.

On Feb. 8, 1989, on Abrams's orders, the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank in Richmond, Virginia transferred \$100,000 from the Delvalle Panamanian embassy account, to the personal account of Col. Eduardo Herrera at American Security Bank in Washington. An admitted CIA contract employee and likely Mossad agent who was later to serve as Endara's chief of police, Herrera said last year that he had organized a force of "Panamanian, Israeli, and South American commandos to overthrow Noriega." The operation was canceled when Bush opted to invade Panama in December 1989.

Herrera wired the money to the U.S. Bank Hapoalim account of Israeli reserve general Pinchas Sachar, an IMI representative, on Feb. 13. Sachar, in turn, forwarded the money to Israeli reserve colonel Yair Klein.

Both Sachar and Klein say that the money was a down payment on the weapons. But, incredibly, a minority report issued by the U.S. Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, after hearings held by Republican William Roth of Delaware on Feb. 27 and 28 of this year, concludes that "the \$100,000 in fact, had nothing to do with the weapons down payment, since the down payment on the weapons had already been made." The report then lists other payments to Klein, one wired in November 1988

and one on Feb. 3, 1989, from an account his company, Spearhead, had at Panama's Banco Aleman-Panameno, to Sachar's account at Bank Hapoalim in the U.S., which forwarded it to IMI in Israel.

It was this money, supposedly from Rodríguez Gacha, who employed Klein to train assassins—not the money from Elliott Abrams via Herrera—which was used to buy the weapons, says the committee, as if the Colombian kingpin and his Panamanian partners were distinct entities. More incredible, the Senate investigators say they "found no evidence of involvement by United States government officials in this affair."

The Senate committee relied on the testimony of Britisher Geoffrey Robertson and the coverup he and Louis Blom-Cooper perpetrated on the case last year in Antigua. After the world's press began to report on the CIA's involvement in the Klein affair, Robertson, without addressing the substantive issues, said on Aug. 27, 1990 that the charges originated with *EIR*, which, he said, "is associated with Mr. Lyndon LaRouche . . . who is best remembered, for alleging a few years ago that the world's largest drug runner was none other than Queen Elizabeth II, the Queen of Antigua."

Robertson and Blom-Cooper are operatives of Amnesty International, an organization which its founder, Peter Benenson, was forced to abandon when he discovered "British intelligence's infiltration of the organization's leadership," according to an official history.

The U.S. Senate committee also relied on U.S. lawyer Lawrence Barcellona, even though he helped to arrange the deal by which Republican political operative John Zagame was contracted to serve as the intermediary between Colonel Klein and the anti-Noriega forces.