

ADL still target of West Coast spy probe

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Despite its lying denials, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL) is still a primary target of an espionage probe involving the theft of classified files from the San Francisco Police Department and their sale to the governments of South Africa and Israel. Last Dec. 10, the ADL's offices in San Francisco and Los Angeles were searched by FBI agents and local police. The searches, based on a sealed warrant signed by San Francisco Superior Court Judge Lenard Louie, resulted in the seizure of classified police computer records.

The spy scandal—nothing new for the ADL, which was deeply implicated in the Jonathan Jay Pollard espionage case in 1985—involves a longtime San Francisco police intelligence inspector, Sgt. Tom Gerard, and a Bay Area private investigator named Roy Bullock who has been a paid operative for the ADL for more than a decade.

In November, after senior SFPD officials learned about Gerard's alleged sale of police files to Bullock for more than \$20,000 and launched an internal investigation, the 25-year police department veteran and onetime CIA contract agent fled to the Philippines.

In a Jan. 22, 1993 telephone interview with the *San Francisco Examiner* from Palawan, Philippines, Gerard discussed his dealings with Bullock and the ADL. As reported in the *Examiner*, "In 1985, when Gerard rejoined the SFPD after his CIA employment and moved into the intelligence unit, he met Bullock during a visit to the local office of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, he says.

"Bullock was a paid investigator for the ADL, says Gerard, and the two men shared a professional interest in gathering intelligence on right-wing extremists and Arab American groups. . . . 'We sat there one morning with everyone in the (ADL) office, shook hands and made friends,' Gerard said."

Gerard believes that the FBI, to whom he had introduced Bullock in the late 1980s, became furious when they learned that bureau files on the Nation of Islam and other groups had been stolen and possibly sold to the South Africans. At the time the files disappeared, Bullock was working as a paid informant for both the ADL and the FBI.

While some civil liberties groups have sought to focus the scandal on the San Francisco Police Department and its possible illegal surveillance activities, the real target of the ongoing probe is the ADL. In 1991, the ADL brought Sergeant Gerard to Israel as part of a "law enforcement mission." The ADL typically uses such all-expenses-paid junkets to

insinuate operatives into the police community and provide Israeli intelligence with an opportunity to recruit agents-of-influence. As early as 1985, Gerard was telling department colleagues that he was working with the Mossad. On Jan. 28, the *Examiner* revealed that former police chief and current San Francisco Mayor Frank Jordan went on another ADL junket to Israel in 1987.

The ADL's regional director for Northern California, Richard Hirschhaut, has publicly denied that the ADL engages in spying for Israel or any other government. He has also denied that the ADL even monitors the activities of Arab-American groups.

Violence against Arabs, Muslims

Yet, in 1991, the ADL published a research report titled "The Anti-Israel Lobby Today," which included profiles of 10 separate Arab and Palestinian groups, including the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (AADC). In 1985, the head of the AADC's West Coast region, Alex Odeh, was assassinated in a bomb attack by members of the Jewish Defense League (JDL). Although the FBI knew the identities of all the bombers, they were able to escape to Israel and have yet to be brought to justice. According to journalist Robert Friedman, who authored a biography of JDL founder Rabbi Meir Kahane, the Jewish terrorist group was run from behind the scenes by a trio of Israeli intelligence operators, including former Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Bernard Deutsch, the head of the ADL's powerful Brooklyn, New York branch. The numerous links between the ADL and the JDL raise profound questions about the ADL's alleged pilfering of police files, including surveillance reports on Arab-Americans and Nation of Islam members (in June 1992, the ADL published another research report titled "The Anti-Semitism of Black Demagogues and Extremists," which focused heavily on the Nation of Islam and its leader, Minister Louis Farrakhan).

Is the ADL buying and pilfering classified police files and passing them on to foreign intelligence agencies and covert action teams? Some answers to that question could emerge when federal and local police agencies complete their San Francisco probe and Judge Louie unseals the affidavits and other documents submitted to obtain the search warrants for Gerard and Bullock's residences and the ADL offices.

A possibly related scandal is emerging in Boston, where another undercover spy, Hollis Mosher, was exposed in a recent issue of the New York City Jewish weekly, *Forward*. While Mosher, who has been infiltrating a variety of left- and right-wing groups for 40 years, claims that he has always worked on his own, top officials of the FBI, the ADL, and Political Research Associates, a group closely aligned with the ADL, were quick to jump to his aid when he was named as a spy. Jewish Defense League members offered to provide Mosher with round-the-clock security, now that his concealed weapon permit had been lifted by local police.