

# ADL caught in spy scandal of the decade

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Henry Schwartzschild waited a long time to go public with his personal horror story about the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. Today an employee of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), he resigned from a high-ranking position in the ADL's publicity office in the mid-1960s when he discovered, to his shock, that the ADL was spying on Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. on behalf of J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI. It was not until the spring of 1993—nearly 30 years after he quit the ADL—that Schwartzschild came forward and told about the League's efforts against Dr. King.

In an April 28, 1993 interview, Schwartzschild told *San Francisco Weekly*: "They [ADL] thought King was sort of a loose cannon. He was a Baptist preacher and nobody could be quite sure what he would do next. The ADL was very anxious about having an unguided missile out there."

Perhaps Schwartzschild felt vindicated by the recent San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) raids on the ADL's offices in San Francisco and Los Angeles, in which police seized evidence that the ADL had been illegally spying on 1,000 political, religious, labor, and civil rights organizations all across America, and had maintained dossiers on hundreds of thousands of activists—an Assistant District Attorney in San Francisco confided to an *EIR* investigator that, in its New York City headquarters, the ADL maintains active dossiers on over a million American citizens. Perhaps he went public when he learned that the ADL had been spying on his current employer, the ACLU.

Schwartzschild's revelations added another nail to the coffin of the ADL, further confirming that the League, for a long time, has been little more than a right-wing, racist hate-group masquerading as a Jewish civil rights lobby. To call the ADL a "Jewish civil rights" group, is like calling the Ku Klux Klan a Southern Christian men's association.

The SFPD and Assistant San Francisco District Attorney John Dwyer deserve credit for bringing the ugly truth about the ADL to public light. On Dec. 10, 1992, SFPD officers raided the Bay Area and Los Angeles offices of the ADL, on the basis of evidence that at least one longtime ADL paid operator, Roy Bullock, had been passing classified government files to agents of the South African government, in return for cash payments that totaled more than \$16,000. The SFPD inherited the spy probe from the FBI, which discovered back in 1990 that a confidential FBI investigative file on the Nation of Islam had been sold to intelligence agents of South Af-

rica—during the bad-old-days of the apartheid regime.

The FBI probe ran into a serious diplomatic snag the moment that agents discovered that the conduit of the pilfered FBI file to the South Africans was a full-time ADL employee, who had, at one point, doubled as a paid undercover agent for the FBI. However, this arrangement was not a fluke. In a Feb. 4, 1985 memo to special agents in charge of the Bureau's 25 biggest field offices, Director William Webster had *ordered* agents to enter into collaboration with the ADL to "monitor and report the activities of domestic terrorist groups." Webster wrote: "Each receiving office should contact the Regional ADL Director(s) listed in your Division and establish this liaison. FBIHQ need not be notified of the results of these contacts with the exception of any significant cases or problems." The Webster memo had been released to *EIR* investigator Scott Thompson prior to the FBI's discovery of Bullock's South Africa spying, so there was no denying the ADL-FBI collusion.

## The ADL-Pollard spy ring

Nine months after the Webster memo was sent out, the FBI snagged foreign spy Jonathan Jay Pollard, a Naval Investigative Service researcher who passed some of the Pentagon's most valuable secrets on to an Israeli intelligence unit headed by Ariel Sharon's sidekick and longtime senior Mossad operator, Rafi Eytan. Eytan and Sharon used the pilfered U.S. data to trade with the Soviet KGB and GRU. The overall damage to U.S. national security was stunning. (Our updated profile on Sharon appears on p. 57.)

Top officials of the ADL were deeply implicated in the Pollard spy affair, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense would eventually compile a list of suspected Pollard accomplices that read like a who's who of the neo-conservative apparatus, including such ADL allies as DOD officials Richard Perle, Douglas Feith, Fred Iklé, Albert Wohlstetter, Steven Bryen, and Andrew Marshall.

Then-ADL National Chairman Kenneth Bialkin flew to Israel within hours of Pollard's arrest, and arranged to cover up a key aspect of the ADL's involvement in the Pollard spy ring. Col. Aviem Sella, an Israeli Air Force officer posted in New York City, was Pollard's initial recruiter and early case-officer. Sella's wife, Ruth, was, according to several sources, a fulltime employee of the ADL's legal department throughout the period of Pollard's spying. The Justice Department, following Pollard's arrest, had asked the Israeli government to extradite Sella to the United States to stand trial. After Bialkin's consultations, the Israeli government refused.

The ADL's links to Pollard also involved Mira Lansky Boland, the head of the ADL's Washington "fact-finding" efforts who had been a graduate school classmate and chum of Pollard's, and remained in contact with the spy. Both Pollard and Boland had been placed in sensitive U.S. government intelligence posts (she worked for the CIA and the Pentagon before joining the ADL staff) through Dr. Uri Ra'an of the

Tufts Fletcher School of Diplomacy. A former Mossad officer who was assigned to be the liaison with ADL's parent organization, B'nai B'rith, Ra'anah is today a fixture in the ADL's lecture circuit, where he is a leading opponent of the Rabin-Peres peace initiatives.

### **Burying the San Francisco scandal**

Despite all of these ADL spy links, the Bureau never shut down its collusion with the ADL. The ADL's top spymaster, fact-finding director Irwin Suall, himself a British-trained neo-conservative, was a periodic lecturer at the FBI's training academy in Quantico, Virginia.

The FBI apparently tried to bury this embarrassing scandal, by passing the San Francisco probe of the pilfered FBI file on to the local police, in the hope that the case would simply fall between the cracks.

But, Bullock's accomplice in the South Africa espionage program, which also involved infiltrating anti-apartheid groups on the West Coast, was a San Francisco police officer, Tom Gerard. Police officials did not appreciate that one of their own inspectors in the elite Special Investigations Division was moonlighting for a foreign government. The SFPD probe rapidly turned up evidence that Gerard had been accessing confidential department computer records, Department of Motor Vehicles files, etc., and passing them on to Bullock.

The vast majority of the tens of thousands of police and state confidential files that went from Gerard to Bullock, however, were not shipped off to Pretoria. They went into the ADL's computerized database, and ultimately were funneled into the League's centralized files at its New York City headquarters at United Nations Plaza.

On Dec. 10, 1992, San Francisco police raided the ADL offices in San Francisco and Los Angeles. League officials offered to "voluntarily" provide all the documents cited in the initial search warrant; however, after four months of ADL stonewalling, the SFPD carried out a second series of raids on April 8, 1993, carting off thousands of pages of ADL files and computer disks from the offices, and from the homes of Bullock and Gerard.

The profile that emerged from those seized files was one of a vast, nationwide spy operation. And, in stark contrast with the ADL's claims that they monitor only "extremist" and "anti-Semitic" organizations, investigators found that the ADL was, in fact, collaborating with, and, in some cases, running the hate-groups, and deploying them against religious, political, and civil rights organizations.

The files showed that the ADL had infiltrated paid informants into such groups as the White Aryan Resistance (WAR), the KKK, and various West Coast skinhead gangs. Bullock, who handled these informants, in some cases, in league with the FBI and the Treasury Department Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, ordered them to solicit members of these groups to join Arab-American civil liberties groups, such as the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination

Committee (AADC). Bullock then turned around and planted stories in the press, accusing the Arab-American groups of being tied to neo-Nazis! The proof? Pilfered copies of their membership lists, with the names of the prominent neo-Nazis included. (When the Jewish Defense League blew up the southern California headquarters of the AADC in 1985, killing its director, Alex Odeh, Bullock was an active "member" of the group. He was one of a handful of trusted AADC activists who had a key to the office at the time of the bombing. Paradoxically, FBI Director Webster denounced the "Jewish underground" at that time, as the greatest terrorist threat to the United States, while simultaneously pushing for ADL-FBI collusion!)

Similar dirty tricks were used against groups such as the ACLU, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the New Jewish Agenda, the United Auto Workers, Greenpeace, the Christic Institute (an outfit in Washington, D.C. that filed a lawsuit against Oliver North, Richard Secord, Ted Shackley, and other figures in the George Bush-led Iran-Contra apparatus), and the Rainbow Coalition. The ADL launched similar dirty tricks against U.S. Reps. Ron Dellums (D-Calif.), a leader of the Congressional Black Caucus, and Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), and Sen. Allan Cranston (D-Calif.). They even spied on Yigal Arens, the son of former Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens, because he was part of the Israeli peace lobby. Portland's Jewish mayor, Vera Katz, who had lived on a kibbutz in Israel for years and set up a sister city program, was also a target of ADL spying.

When San Francisco's African-American community radio station KPOO-FM aired interviews with several victims of the ADL spy program, they received a series of threatening phone calls, labeling them "Jew-hating niggers" and "nigger Nazis."

In the case of the rival Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, Bullock's dirty tricks nearly turned deadly. When the ADL's Los Angeles "fact-finder," David Gurvitz, a protégé of Bullock, was turned down for a better-paying job at the Wiesenthal Center, Bullock and Gurvitz leaked the name of the center's chief investigator, Rick Eaton, to their agent provocateur inside WAR, a West Coast-headquartered white supremacy group tied to violent skinhead gangs. The informant, code-named "Scumbag," was given Eaton's home address, details on his car, etc. Unbeknownst to Bullock and Gurvitz, the FBI, still involved in the South Africa spy probe, was tapping Bullock's phone. The FBI went to the Wiesenthal Center and to the Los Angeles office of the ADL to warn them about a feared violent attack against Eaton—courtesy of the Bullock-Gurvitz dirty trick.

Ultimately, intense political pressure, from both the ADL and its "friends in high places," including inside the permanent bureaucracy at the U.S. Department of Justice, blocked felony indictments. The ADL paid out \$75,000 into a fund to "combat hate crimes"!