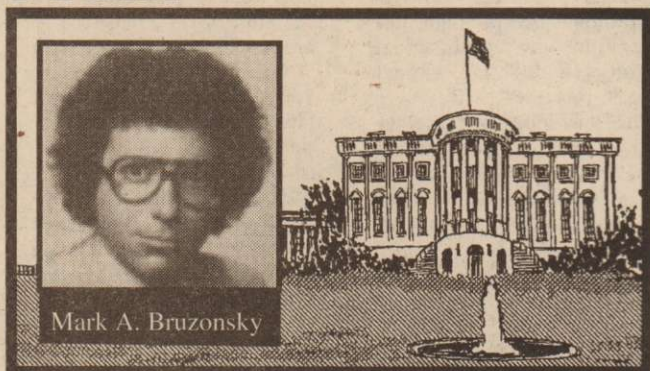


A SPY IN THE OINTMENT

From



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Washington

Reagan aide in Israeli spot

■ *Why did McFarlane resign from the National Security Council less than two weeks after Jonathan Pollard was arrested?*

■ *Just who does the Justice Department think was the other high-level Israeli spy in the US government instructing Pollard what documents to steal?*

■ *Does McFarlane's suicide attempt have anything to do with the possibility that he was about to be exposed, or even charged?*



Robert McFarlane
Unproven charge...but

many questioned are unanswered!

A SMALL nationally-circulated Leftist weekly newspaper published in Chicago, *In These Times*, and another small nationally-circulated Arab American newspaper published in Detroit, have just unleashed a spectacular charge.

Both publications have recently published a story written by an investigative writer by the name of Joel Bleifuss alleging that one of Ronald Reagan's national security advisers, Robert McFarlane — a central figure in the Iran-Contra scandal and a man who rather mysteriously attempted suicide — was in reality an Israeli spy going back to 1978.

Back at the time, the charges go, McFarlane was working for the Senate Armed Services Committee, then chaired by the late senator John Tower who himself was recently killed in a mysterious plane crash.

McFarlane was at that time enlisted as a paid spy for Israel by none other than the infamous Rafael Eitan, the same man who ran notorious Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard.

This story is interesting, plausible, but definitely not proven.

It does, however, raise some questions that now should be answered:

Another scandal of the era of Great Communications

-- Why did McFarlane resign from the National Security Council less than two weeks after Jonathan Pollard was arrested?

-- Just who does the Justice Department think was the other high-level Israeli spy in the US government instructing Pollard what documents to steal?

-- Does McFarlane's suicide attempt have anything to do with the possibility that he was about to be exposed, or even charged?

Though right now just a startling charge, this matter has such potential significance that I want to bring Joel Bleifuss' article to the attention of a wider audience.

Here is the article as published in *In These Times* and *The Arab American News*:

"Is Robert McFarlane currently or was he ever an agent

of Israel? Yes, according to Ari Ben-Menashe, a former Israeli intelligence agent.

"Last week Ben-Menashe told House Judiciary Committee investigators, as he had claimed in a sworn March 21 affidavit in the Inslaw case, that McFarlane was a paid agent of Israel. According to Ben-Menashe, McFarlane entered Israel's service in 1978, having been hired by Rafael Eitan, the anti-terrorism adviser to then-prime minister Menachem Begin. At the time, McFarlane worked for the Senate Armed Services Committee, chaired by the late senator John Tower (Republican-Texas).

"In 1983, McFarlane was named President Ronald Reagan's national security adviser. It was in that capacity that McFarlane came up with the idea of selling arms to Iran to

gain the release of several Americans being held hostage in Lebanon and diverting some of the profits from that deal to covertly fund the Contras. The late-CIA director William Casey gave McFarlane the go ahead for the operation in a March 1984 memo.

"Eitan, whom Ben-Menashe claimed recruited McFarlane, is also the man who in the summer of 1984 hired American Jonathan Jay Pollard, an employee of US Naval Intelligence, to pass US secrets to Israel.

"Pollard was arrested on November 21, 1985 and charged with espionage, for which he was convicted on March 4, 1987. *Jerusalem Post* reporter Wolf Blitzer (of the CNN) wrote in *Territory of Lies*, his 1989 book on the Pollard case, that Justice Department investigators are con-

vinced that 'at least one other American citizen working inside the US government was spying for Israel. During their many hours of interrogating Pollard, they discovered to their absolute horror that the Israelis had been rather specific in "tasking" him to obtain certain top-secret documents. Indeed, Pollard was often asked to obtain classified documents by their code numbers and titles. US counterintelligence agents quickly concluded that Israel must have had at least one other agent on the inside providing the names of the documents'.

"Joseph diGenova, the chief US prosecutor in the Pollard case, told Blitzer, 'Pollard was given, very, very specific tasking instructions by his handlers. He would be told not just areas of information which were required of him.

In many instances, he would be given the names of specific documents and their numbers to retrieve. (Many in the US intelligence community) believe that someone else in the American intelligence community or military establishment was giving the Israelis that information to give to (Pollard)'.

"In light of Ben-Menashe's allegations, one wonders if McFarlane was Israel's 'other agent on the inside'.

"McFarlane resigned from his post as national security adviser on December 4, 1985, 13 days after Pollard was arrested and the same day that then-Israeli prime minister Shimon Peres sent a high-level delegation to Washington to meet with then secretary of state George Shultz to discuss Israeli cooperation in the Pollard investigation." ■