



ASSOCIATION FOR



THE TOM SMITH NEW MEXICO CHAPTER

Dick Callaghan
President

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2007

New Mexico Chapter
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BOB CLARK

With 1st Vice President, Ron Cuellar, in Texas for cancer treatment, Dick Callaghan has asked Bob Clark to assume temporarily some of Ron's Chapter duties, including arranging for luncheon speakers.

UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETING

We will again meet at 1100 hours on Wednesday, 26 September 2007, at the Calico Café/Vernon's Steak House, located about ½ mile north of Osuna on the west side of 4th Street, immediately adjacent to the old El Camino Motel. The meeting place is in the "Back Room" behind the package store.

GUEST SPEAKER

This month our guest speaker will be New Mexico's Homeland Security Chief, **Tim Manning**. With homeland security continuing to be on the front burner everywhere, this is one luncheon you won't want to miss.

REPORT of CHAPTER MEETING, 22 AUGUST 2007

Our Chapter luncheon saw an above average turnout of some 20 Chapter members. Long-time Chapter member, Richard Sullivan, arranged for Ronald J. Olive, an associate and friend of his from Naval Intelligence, to speak to us about the infamous spy for Israel, Jonathan Pollard.

About the speaker:

Ronald J. Olive is a retired Special Agent of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service. He is currently a part-time instructor with the Department of Energy's Counterintelligence Training Academy here at Kirtland Air Force Base. He also provides support for counterintelligence awareness training throughout the Department of Energy. While on active duty, Mr. Olive was a key investigator assigned to the Pollard Case.

Jonathan Pollard

Our speaker described Jonathan Pollard as brilliant, but eccentric, and someone who lived in a kind of double agent fantasy world. Pollard has also been described by others as a "spy of spies", hiding behind an Inspector Clouseau-like tradecraft.

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AGENCY

Unbelievable bureaucratic bungling within Naval Intelligence, coupled with security rules and regulations ignored or waived, permitted Pollard to operate at his own speed, relatively unimpeded.

A distinguished Stanford University student, Pollard was turned down by CIA recruiters because of his addiction to marijuana. He later applied for a job with Naval Intelligence and was hired after passing a back-ground check conducted by the Defense Investigative Service. Pollard always stood out as some kind of odd ball within Naval Intelligence, but somehow managed to survive because of a breakdown in adherence to standard security procedures by his supervisors. Referred to by a 3-star Navy admiral as a nut case who should be fired on the spot, Pollard managed to hang on and only had his security clearance downgraded from Top Secret to Secret.

Even then, he continued demanding increased responsibility and higher clearances, frequently threatening to sue the Navy for not clearing him for work requiring access to more sensitive intelligence. As incredulous as it seems, Pollard passed his civilian intelligence analyst probation period with the Navy and was promoted from GS-7 to GS-9.

Pollard then began a campaign to get promoted to GS-11 with access to sensitive compartmented information and set up a Monday morning meeting with a senior naval officer to plead his case. Not showing up for that meeting, he excused himself with the story that his wife had been kidnapped the previous Friday evening by agents of the Irish Republican Army and he had to spend three days negotiating her release.

During the 18 months that Pollard had access to classified information, he provided the Israeli Consulate in Potomac, Maryland, with *more than one million pages of classified materials*, more than enough to fill a six-by-ten foot room stacked six feet high. No other spy in the history of the United States has stolen so many secrets in such a short period of time.

Frequently working at night, his spying went undetected until by a fluke, one Friday night a coworker happened by and saw him loading up his wife's car with boxes of highly classified documents. Apparently, whenever challenged, Pollard would explain to various naval security guards at the intelligence compound that he was merely moving materials and supplies to a new office.

In an aside, Mr. Olive mentioned how an Israeli Defense Ministry official once remarked how they appreciated everything Pollard was providing but that they really had no need for material on terrorists. If this comment was a genuine slip of the tongue, it somewhat confirms what many of us had always suspected: that the Israeli Mossad had spies imbedded at the highest echelons of most Arab/Islamic governments in the Middle East and around the world, to include the Islamic terrorist group, Hamas.

This concluded one of our most interesting and informative luncheon presentations.

WEEKEND READING

Since our last meeting, former CIA Director, ***George Tenet's*** recent book caught our attention. Titled: ***At the Center of the Storm (My Years at the CIA)*** and published by Harper Collins, New York, 549 pages, the book provides the reader with a fascinating look at the inner workings of the Washington intelligence establishment from the perspective of the top man. The book reveals insider details and background about events and decision-making relating to the terrorist threat of the past decade which we continue to face today. Director Tenet's narrative is fairly even-handed, accepting blame for his own shortcomings and those of his agency. At the same time, he doesn't hesitate to praise the accomplishments of rival agencies such as the FBI for work well-done.

Overall, after reading this book, one gets the impression that our security establishment is disorganized, poorly managed and bloated with far too many people attempting to accomplish the same overlapping tasks.

One chapter that raised our eyebrows described a marathon week-long Israeli-Palestinian pow-wow in Maryland, attended by King Hussein, President Clinton, Yasser Arafat, Prime Minister “Bibi” Netanyahu, and George Tenet, to name a few of the main

players. Throughout these sensitive diplomatic negotiations that were at least a year in the planning, the Israeli side kept asking that Jonathan Pollard be released to them.

Considering that the Pollard case had no connection whatsoever to the on-going diplomatic negotiations, George Tenet was incredulous that this was happening and told the President that he would resign in a minute if Pollard were released or if the matter were even taken under consideration. Since Pollard virtually gave away the store to the Israelis when he worked for Naval Intelligence, one has to wonder what the Israelis wanted from him that would cause them to create such a ruckus at this very high-level conference. As a guess, it might have been something that Pollard learned pertaining to side deals that the U.S. had made with Israel’s Middle East neighbors that may not have been, from their perspective, in the best interests of the State of Israel. Or, perhaps, it could have been just a way to showcase Pollard as a super Jewish patriot whom they were obliged to protect and help, thus signaling to potential future spies for Israel that it would pull out all stops to protect them.

