

The dead: Cui prodest?

The following is a preliminary and incomplete list of the deaths that have occurred within the framework of the Iran-Contra scandal and coverup:

- 1) **William Casey**, U.S. Director of Central Intelligence, died in early 1987.
- 2) **Amiram Nir**, Israeli Mossad agent; met Bush in Jerusalem; died in crash of light plane, Mexico, December 1988.
- 3) **Donald Fortier**, National Security Council Staff.
- 4) French General **René Audran**, killed by terrorists Jan. 26, 1985. General Audran was engineer of armaments and head of the international department at the French Defense Ministry. According to the Babra report, he was knowledgeable about the arms shipments to Iran of the Luchoire Company, and may have been trying to stop them.
- 5) **Herbert Amry**, Austrian Ambassador to Athens, Greece; death attributed to heart attack in July 1985. Amry had told a commission of inquiry in Vienna that field guns sold to Greece by the Austrian company Voest-Alpina were being channeled to Iran.
- 6) **Heribert Apfalter**, General Director of the Austrian state-owned armaments company Voest-Alpina, death on Aug. 26, 1987 attributed to heart attack. Apfalter was

stricken several days before scheduled testimony before the Austrian government commission of inquiry into Voest-Alpina artillery shipments to Iran.

7) Austrian arms dealer **Alois Weichselbaumer**, death in Linz on Feb. 8, 1989 attributed to heart attack.

8) Swedish Prime Minister **Olof Palme**, assassinated on Feb. 28, 1986. Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, former prime minister of Iran, told the Swedish daily *Aftonbladet* on Nov. 3, 1987: "Olof Palme was murdered because he knew about, and wanted to investigate, Sweden's weapons and gunpowder deals with Iran."

9) **Cyrus Hashemi**, the Iranian arms dealer and U.S. CIA and Customs agent exposed by *EIR* in 1979; Hashemi died in July 1986 of a case of acute leukemia.

10) Italian General **Licio Giorgieri**, assassinated by terrorists on March 21, 1987 in Rome. On Nov. 6, 1987 *La Stampa* of Turin connected the murders of Palme, Giorgieri, and Audran with illegal arms dealings with Iran. *La Stampa* said that Giorgieri and Audran had close working relations.

11) Rear Adm. **Carl Algernon** of Sweden, who is alleged to have fallen to his death beneath the wheels of a Stockholm subway train on Jan. 15, 1987. Algernon was the War Materiel Inspector of the Trade Department of the Swedish Foreign Ministry, in charge of issuing export licenses for weapons shipments. He died a few days before scheduled testimony concerning the illegal Bofors arms sales to Iran.

12) **Uwe Barschel**, ex-governor of the state of Schleswig-Holstein in the Federal Republic of Germany. Barschel was found dead in a bathtub of the Beau Rivage

zo, Bush told Suazo that President Reagan had directed expedited delivery of U.S. military items to Honduras. Vice President Bush also informed Suazo that President Reagan had directed that currently withheld economic assistance for Honduras should be released; that the United States would provide from its own military stocks critical security assistance items that had been ordered by Honduran armed forces; and that several security systems underway for Honduran security forces would be enhanced."

Later, in mid-January 1986, Colonel North "prepared talking points for a meeting between Admiral Poindexter, Vice President Bush, and Honduran President Azcona. North recommended that Admiral Poindexter and Vice President Bush tell President Azcona of the need for Honduras to work with the U.S. government on increasing regional involvement with and support for the Resistance. Poindexter and Bush were also to raise the subject of better U.S. government support for the states bordering Nicaragua."

Also in mid-January 1986, the State Department sent Bush national security adviser Donald Gregg a memo for

Bush's meeting with Azcona. "The memorandum alerted Gregg that Azcona would insist on receiving clear economic and social benefits from its cooperation with the United States." John D. Negroponete was the U.S. ambassador to Honduras in 1985, and attended the meeting of Bush and Suazo; Negroponete is now the Bush nominee to be ambassador to Mexico.

If Bush was the "discreet emissary," this raises the question of offenses under the Boland and Pell amendments. In the President's news conference of April 7, 1989, it was clear that the tactical decision had been made in the White House, on the advice of C. Boyden Gray, to stonewall on the "discreet emissary" issue, refusing to discuss under the pretext that the North trial is *sub judice*. But even in his thrice-repeated refusal to comment on the issue, Bush nevertheless managed to lie, asserting that the matter had already been examined for any special significance by the congressional Iran-Contra investigating committees and by the Special Prosecutor. Even one member of the Tower Commission, former Senator Muskie, stated that the material in question

Hotel in Geneva, a traditional meeting point for those involved in the illegal arms trade with Iran. In May 1987 Barschel had survived a suspicious airplane crash. Just before his death, Barschel had traveled to the Canary Islands to meet with Saudi Arabian arms merchant Adnan Khashoggi. Barschel's body contained five different kinds of tranquilizers or sleeping pills, and presented the characteristic signs of a Freemasonic ritual killing.

13) **Stefan Ruedell**, death attributed to suicide on Oct. 29, 1987. Ruedell had reportedly been spying on the SPD leadership in Schleswig-Holstein on behalf of the Christian Democrats; his death is thus linked to that of Barschel.

14) **Hans-Joachim Knack**, death attributed to heart attack on Nov. 9, 1987. Knack, the undersecretary of the Interior Ministry of Schleswig-Holstein, was about to testify before a state parliament committee in Kiel on the Barschel affair.

15) **Rashid al Jarrah** of Saudi Arabia, death attributed to heart attack (the victim was 25 years old) in Lugano, Switzerland, Oct. 12, 1987. He was part of an arms trading ring that operated in Italy, Lebanon, and Yugoslavia. Rashid al Jarrah worked with the Swiss-Hungarian Peter Jenney, who has in turn been implicated in the Iran arms deliveries of the Italian company, Borletti.

16) Col. **Gerald Clarke**, head of G-2 Army Intelligence for the U.S. Southern Command in the Panama Canal Zone, with oversight for the entire Caribbean and Central American region. Clarke died on Feb. 28, 1989.

17) Gen. **Gustavo Alvarez** of Honduras, killed in early 1989. General Alvarez had knowledge about support operations for the Contras in Honduras, perhaps including

the *quid pro quo* incentive operations set up by "discreet emissary" George Bush.

18) **Glenn Souham**, President Reagan's European coordinator of the board of advisers on private sector initiatives, killed in Paris after arranging deliveries of East bloc weapons for the Contras.

19) **Barry Seal**, a.k.a. Adler Berriman Seal, Contra mercenary pilot who turned DEA informant but was denied proper security protection.

20) **Steve Carr**, another Contra mercenary who knew too much. He was found dead from a drug overdose.

21) A Contra footsoldier known only as **David**, who witnessed CIA drug cargoes transiting the Costa Rican ranch of John Hull. After revealing what he knew to two U.S. journalists, "David" was tortured and killed by Hull's retainers.

22) **William Buckley**, CIA station chief in Beirut, Lebanon, who was taken hostage and later tortured to death by his pro-Iranian captors. Buckley was deeply involved in Iran-Contra weapons trafficking; he shows up in the circles around Michael and Leslie Aspin; Heinrich Rupp reported to Buckley when he was flying for the CIA in the Middle East. Why was he singled out for death from among the hostages held in Lebanon?

23) **Abbie Hoffman**, 52-year-old American radical whose last major published writing targeted Bush's role in Iran-Contra, died April 12, 1989 of an overdose of sedatives.

Finally, **Robert McFarlane**, the former Reagan National Security Adviser and special secret envoy to Tehran in 1986, survived an alleged suicide attempt.

is new and constitutes something of a "revelation." Mark Belnik, the former counsel for the congressional committees, stated that the Capitol Hill probers had not examined the *quid pro quo* dealings.

According to the stipulations, at least 11 countries were offered *quid pro quo* deals to secure aid to the Contras. These included: Israel, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Taiwan, China, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, and three others, possibly in Asia or Europe.

Bush's meeting with Amiram Nir

In the preliminary report of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence signed by Senators Boren and William Cohen (R-Me.) on Jan. 29, 1987, page 32, we read:

"On the same day [July 29, 1986], Vice President Bush was given a briefing in Jerusalem by Mr. [Amiram] Nir. The Vice President attended the meeting at the suggestion of Lt. Col. North, according to a memorandum dated a week later by an official who was present at the briefing. Nir indicated he was briefing the Vice President at the request of Prime

Minister Peres. He conceded the problems encountered in the program, but argued that the Iranians with whom they were dealing were ones who could 'deliver.' He also discussed the problem of the sequence of release of additional hostages. According to the memo, the Vice President made no commitments and gave no direction to Nir. Apparently in response to the approval of President Reagan, the HAWK parts reached Iran on August 3."

The memo in question is the one by Craig Fuller that was suppressed. The *Washington Post* of Jan. 9, 1987 published a front-page picture of Amiram Nir with the caption: "Israeli Met Bush About Deal." Relevant paragraphs are as follows:

"White House officials also disclosed yesterday that Vice President Bush met last July with Amiram Nir, a key Israeli official on the arms sales, while Bush was in Jerusalem. Nir made it clear to Bush that the arms shipments were meant, at least in part, to lead to freedom for the American hostages. He told Bush that some elements in Iran were resisting the release of all the hostages, apparently seeking to use the remaining captives as leverage for additional weapons ship-