

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
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FOI/PA# 1177948-1

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NY 65-15301

DETAILS:

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised that as of January, 1949 the Israeli Intelligence in the United States

was to be handled by four persons, namely ^{member} TEDDY, GIDEON ROPER, NAHUM BERNSTEIN and T. M. S

(U) The TEDDY mentioned by Confidential Informant T-1 was subsequently identified as more than likely identical with THEODORE KOLLEK who at that time, January, 1949, was a member of the Israeli Supply Mission in New York City. He departed for Israel on April 5, 1949 and through the physical surveillance of EFRAIM BEN-ARZI it was determined that his position was more than likely taken over by ARYEAH MENZEL, aka ARYEAH MANOR who presently holds the position of technical advisor of the Israeli Supply Mission in New York. S

(U) GIDEON ROPER was subsequently identified as more than likely identical with GIDEON RAFAEL who is listed as Counsellor to the Israeli Delegation of the United Nations. S

(U) T. M. has been identified as more than likely identical with Col. EFRAIM BEN-ARZI who in January, 1949, was the Israeli Military Attache of the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D. C. He departed for Israel on March 17, 1950. It was understood at the time he departed from the United States that he was returning to Israel permanently to be assigned to a new post there. S

The NAHUM BERNSTEIN referred to by Confidential Informant T-1 is more than likely identical with the subject of this investigation. It is known through previous investigation of BERNSTEIN'S activities that he has been associated very closely with the affairs of Israel, prior to that the affairs of Palestine. S(u)

Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, made available the following background information concerning NAHUM BERNSTEIN:

He was born September 5, 1907 at New York City. His mother, JENNIE BERNSTEIN, nee STEINBERG, and his father, CHARLES BERNSTEIN, were born in Russia. The subject received his primary education in New York public schools and subsequently attended the College of the City of New York receiving his B.S. in social science in 1929. In 1931 he received his L.L.B. degree at Columbia University Law School. He was admitted to the Bar in the State of New York on June 13, 1932. From the date of his birth, 1907, until the present time, he has resided in the New York City area. He presently resides at 136 East 67th Street, New York, New York.

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[redacted] Superintendent at 136 East 67th Street, New York City, advised that he has known NAHUM BERNSTEIN since November, 1949. [redacted] advised that BERNSTEIN and his wife and two children have resided at 136 East 67th Street for a number of years but that he himself has only been superintendent there since November of 1949. [redacted] advised that he has spoken to BERNSTEIN on several occasions and that he ascertained from his conversations with BERNSTEIN that he, BERNSTEIN, was very active in Israeli affairs. In fact BERNSTEIN told [redacted] he had made two trips to Israel since November of 1949. U

NAHUM BERNSTEIN is presently connected with the law firm of ~~SILVER~~ and BERNSTEIN, 20 Pine Street, New York, New York. The following announcement was sent out by this firm to many leading attorneys of the New York area. This announcement is dated March 31, 1950, and reads as follows: U

"We announce the opening of an Israeli Office at 26 Rothschild Boulevard, Tel-Aviv. Mr. ARNON R. ~~ROJANSKY~~ of the Israeli Bar is Counsel in Charge." U

This announcement was signed by EDWARD S. ~~SILVER~~, NAHUM BERNSTEIN, GEORGE H. ~~KAPLAN~~ and DONALD R. ~~SEAWELL~~.

On January 13, 1948, NAHUM BERNSTEIN was interviewed by SA [redacted] and SA [redacted] at his office, 20 Pine Street, New York City. At the very outset of this interview, BERNSTEIN stated that he presumed that the visit of the agents to his office was occasioned by an investigation into the affairs of the Foundry Associates, Inc. In this regard, BERNSTEIN stated that in November of 1947 he received a telephone call from LEONARD ~~WEISMAN~~ whom he had known for some years who like himself was active in the Zionist Cause. On this occasion WEISMAN told BERNSTEIN that he had been requested to assist in a project to acquire a stock pile of material for eventual shipment to Palestine. WEISMAN told BERNSTEIN that he had consented to assist in this project and that now it was necessary that a reputable well-known person act as dispersing officer for the funds available to finance this project. WEISMAN requested BERNSTEIN to function in this capacity and to this BERNSTEIN agreed. WEISMAN indicated to BERNSTEIN that the sum of \$750,000.00 was available to finance this project and that such funds would be made available by the Jewish Agency for Palestine. U

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According to BERNSTEIN, shortly after his talk with WEISMAN he received a verification of this proposition from GOTTLIEB ~~HAMMER~~, Dispersing

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Officer, Jewish Agency for Palestine. WEISMAN told BERNSTEIN that when purchases were made by either himself or his associates, BERNSTEIN would be notified of the amount of money necessary for the particular transaction and BERNSTEIN should then request HAMMER to forward a check to him for this amount. BERNSTEIN would in turn issue a check for the same amount to the payee named by WEISMAN. According to BERNSTEIN, the above outlined plan was followed in connection with the purchase of materials. U

On May 12, 1948, NAHUM BERNSTEIN was again interviewed by SA'S

b6 [redacted] and [redacted] at his office, 20 Pine Street, New
b7C York City. He advised that he himself was active in Jewish affairs and that he was secretary at that time for the Americans for Haganah, Inc. and that he was well acquainted with the principles of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in the United States and in Palestine itself. As a lawyer he stated he had been called upon on numerous occasions by various sections of the Jewish Agency for legal advice in matters pertaining to operation. He stated that in the fall of 1947, it was decided by the police level members to instigate an organization that could, if Palestine was partitioned, step in and relieve the other governments of considerable effort and manpower. It was decided that certain funds should be allotted for the purchase of desired aircraft. The services of Jewish persons in the United States who had proper education and other background should be employed. U

A. W. SCHWIMMER was designated as the individual who should purchase and reconvert whatever aircraft believed necessary to institute a fair-size airline. Approximately \$120,000.00 was deposited with BERNSTEIN which funds came from the Jewish Agency for Palestine. At the request of SCHWIMMER, BERNSTEIN would forward whatever money the former requested. U

In the course of this interview, BERNSTEIN stated that in March, 1948, Rabbi HILLEL SILVER suggested to JOHN HAROLD CARTER who was attempting to offer his services as a flyer in the conflict that was raging in Palestine, that he should contact a Jewish agency in New York City. According to BERNSTEIN, as a result of this contact, the suggestion was made to CARTER that he speak to TED KOLLEK. BERNSTEIN described KOLLEK as a Palestinian who spent a great deal of time in the United States and who had a small office in the Hotel 14, New York City. BERNSTEIN related that he became acquainted with KOLLEK through the publication "Haganah Speaks", a monthly publication put out by the Americans for Haganah, Inc. It appears that KOLLEK acted in an advisory capacity relative to articles appearing in the pamphlet. BERNSTEIN stated that several months prior to this interview KOLLEK got in touch with him and advised that he had been talking to an

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individual by the name of CARTER who had been with the Flying Tigers in Burma and that this CARTER had a great deal of experience as a flyer. KOLLEK requested BERNSTEIN to check CARTER'S background to determine if CARTER had the experience in flying that he stated he had. BERNSTEIN then related that he contacted one of his associates in the law firm of SILVER and BERNSTEIN who had been in the Air Force and made inquiries concerning CARTER. It was determined that CARTER was unknown to several former members of the Flying Tigers. BERNSTEIN relayed this information to TED KOLLEK. U

Confidential Informant T-5, of known reliability, made available the following information concerning correspondence received by NAHUM BERNSTEIN at his office, 20 Pine Street, New York City: X(u)

X Correspondence was received by BERNSTEIN at this address from the Israeli Consulate, 11 East 70th Street, New York City, on April 5, 15, 20 May 9, 20, 1950. X(u)

Correspondence was received on the following dates from the organization Materials for Israel, Inc., 250 West 57th Street, New York City. (This organization has space on the seventeenth floor at this address and according to [redacted] Superintendent of this building, this space is one and the same with the Israeli Supply Mission which occupies most of the seventeenth floor of 250 West 57th Street): X(u)

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copies prepared as

March 29, April 5, 18, May 10, 17, 19, 1950.

Set out herewith is a list of other pertinent return addresses that appeared on correspondence received by NAHUM BERNSTEIN at 20 Pine Street, New York, New York. This list includes only return addresses on domestic mail: X(u)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
3/27/50	X American Funds for Israel, 260 West 71st Street, New York 23, New York.
3/29/50, 4/7/50, 4/17/50	Union Bank and Trust Company, Eighth and Hills Streets, Los Angeles 55, California.
3/30/50	X Synagogue Council of America, 110 West 42nd Street, New York 18, New York.

X(u)

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
4/3/50	Chase National Bank, 11 Broad Street, New York, New York.
4/3/50, 4/27/50	Cleveland Trust Company, Euclid and East Ninth, Cleveland, Ohio.
4/4/50, 4/6/50	* National Laywers Guild, 1050 Sixth Avenue, New York, New York.
4/11/50	Corn Exchange Bank and Trust Company, 60th Street and Lexington Avenue, New York 21, New York.
4/11/50	Chase National Bank, Canal Street, Post Office Station, New York 5, New York.
4/12/50	* Israel National Airlines, 250 West 57th Street, New York 19, New York.
4/13/50	Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Federal Reserve Post Office Station, New York 45, New York.
4/14/50	A. V. * SCHWIMMER, Park Sheriton Hotel, New York, New York.
4/14/50	* American Palestine Trading Corporation, 17 East 71st Street, New York 21, New York.
4/14/50	* Overseas New Agency, 101 Park Avenue, New York 17, New York.

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Date

Name

4/16/50

~~✓~~ American Zionist Council,
342 Madison Avenue,
New York 17, New York.

4/19/50

Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

5/4/50

~~✓~~ A. MANOR,
c/o Government of Israel Supply Mission,
250 West 57th Street,
New York, New York.

5/9/50

~~✓~~ Israel Purchasing Service,
17 East 71st Street,
New York 21, New York.

5/10/50

~~✓~~ Ampal House,
17 East 71st Street,
New York, New York.

5/11/50

~~✓~~ Israel Speaks, Inc.,
250 West 57th Street,
New York 19, New York.

5/15/50

~~✓~~ Jewish Center of Pompton Lakes,
Pompton Lakes,
New Jersey.

5/18/50

[Redacted Box]

New York, New York.

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5/22/50

~~✓~~ Ampal House,
Suite 2B,
17 East 71st Street,
New York, New York

5/24/50

~~✓~~ Progressive Israel Projects,
200 West 72nd Street,
New York 23, New York.

(u)
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It should be noted that A. MANOR is the same individual previously mentioned who holds the position of Technical Advisor to the Israeli Supply Mission in New York and who has been observed on many occasions in the company of EFFRAIM BEN ARZI, former Military Attache of the Israeli Embassy, Washington, D.C. It is believed that MANOR may have succeeded to the position of TED KOLLEK who was previously mentioned as possibly identical with "TEDDY" who was one of the four individuals named to manage Israeli Intelligence in the United States. This belief is based on the position that MANOR holds in the Israeli Supply Mission and to the fact that he was observed so many times in the company of EFFRAIM BEN ARZI in the course of the physical surveillance of BEN ARZI that was maintained by agents during BEN ARZI'S frequent visits to New York City during 1949 and up until his departure for Israel on May 17, 1950. ~~(S)~~

March

It also should be noted that the publication "Israel Speaks" is the successor publication of "Haganah Speaks" of which NAHUM BERNSTEIN advised that he himself was secretary. ~~(S)~~

According to Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, NAHUM BERNSTEIN is presently the Secretary of the organization known as Israel Speaks, Inc. which organization publishes the publication "Israel Speaks." DAVID R. WAHL is the Executive Director of this organization. ~~(S)~~ (u)

The following is a list of foreign mail that has been received by NAHUM BERNSTEIN at his office at 20 Pine Street, New York, New York: ~~(S)~~ (u)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
3/27/50	[Redacted] Post Office Box [Redacted] Jerusalem.
3/29/50	Israeli Industries, Inc. 26 Rothschild Boulevard, Tel Aviv, Israel.
4/14/50	[Redacted] Hotel Reynolds, 6th Ave., Bertie Albrecht, Paris, France.

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Date

Name

4/17/50

[Redacted]

Paris, France

4/21/50, 5/5/50,
5/15/50

~~X~~ Israeli Industries, Inc.,
9 Jaffa,
T. Ard,
Tel Aviv, Israel.

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4/21/50, 5/19/50

Post Office Box 367,
Tel Aviv, Israel.

X address

~~X~~ (u)

4/27/50

[Redacted]
[Redacted] Denmark.

5/19/50

[Redacted]
Hotel Ritz,
Tel Aviv, Israel.

Confidential Informant T-4, of known reliability, advised that NAHUM BERNSTEIN was in contact with NATHAN KOHN, who resides at 18 Lincoln Avenue, Patterson, New Jersey, on the following dates: ~~X~~ (u)

October 22, December 23, 30, 1949, January 15, 1950. ~~X~~

These contacts were all made from the residence of NAHUM BERNSTEIN, 136 East 67th Street, to the home of NATHAN KOHN at 18 Lincoln Avenue, Patterson, New Jersey. ~~X~~ (u)

NAHUM BERNSTEIN was again in contact with NATHAN KOHN on November 22, 1949. On this occasion, NAHUM BERNSTEIN was in his office at the law office of Silver and Bernstein, 20 Pine Street, New York City. ~~X~~ (u)

On January 7, 1950, the same informant advised that NAHUM BERNSTEIN was in contact with NATHAN KOHN and that NATHAN KOHN at that time was staying at the Gaylord Hotel in Miami Beach, Florida. ~~X~~ (u)

NATHAN ~~X~~ KOHN is identical with NATHAN STOLZAR ~~X~~ KOHN who, according to the records of the Protocol Division, Department of State, is listed as employed as an advisor to the Israeli Supply Mission. KOHN is listed as a

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United States citizen, born in St. Louis, Missouri, October 31, 1909, residence 18 Lincoln Avenue, Patterson, New Jersey. According to these records, KOHN was a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Air Force from 1942 to 1946. It is also likely that he is identical with the individual who has been active in Israeli activities in this area. He has been prominently identified in connection with an organization known as Ultramar Corporation. *(u)*

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LEADS

NEWARK

At Patterson, New Jersey

Will, upon receipt of Bureau approval, conduct investigation relative to the background of NATHAN KOHN.

Will ascertain his present activities.

LOS ANGELES

At Los Angeles, California

Will ascertain the relationship between NAHUM BERNSTEIN and the Union Bank and Trust Company, Eighth and Hills Streets. It is to be noted that BERNSTEIN has received several communications from this bank. (This lead was previously set out [redacted] in report of SA [redacted] at New York dated May 8, 1950). (S)

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(u) (S) (w)

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CLEVELAND

At Cleveland, Ohio

Will ascertain the relationship between NAHUM BERNSTEIN and the Cleveland Trust Company, Euclid and East 9th Streets. It will be noted that BERNSTEIN received communications from this bank.

covered serial 14

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will follow the activities of NAHUM BERNSTEIN.

Two copies of this report have been designated for the Washington Field Office since Washington is the office of origin in the control case, [redacted] Espionage - Is. (S)

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of SA [redacted] [redacted] dated June 13, 1950 at New York are as follows: (u)

- * T-1
- T-2
- T-3
- T-4
- * T-5

Anonymous.

[redacted]

[redacted]

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Mail cover on mail received by NAHUM BERNSTEIN at the office of SILVER and BERNSTEIN, 20 Pine Street, New York City.

(u)

REFERENCE:

(U) Letter from Bureau to New York dated April 12, 1950 in case entitled [redacted] Espionage - IS. (u)

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Supervisor Wannall Room 1649

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Date _____

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Subj: Bournestein

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Supervisor Wannall Room 1649

Subj: BORNSTIEN,

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SEARCH SLIP

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Supervisor Wannall Room 1649

Subj: BORINSTEIN,

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Supervisor Wannall Room 1649

Subj: BORENSTIN,

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Supervisor Wannall Room 1649

Subj: Borenstein

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