

Unfriendly Skies

20th and 21st Centuries



Author Rodney Stich's Other Books

Drugging America
Defrauding America
Iraq, Lies and Cover-Up
Blowback, 9/11, and Cover-Ups
Subverting America: A Trojan Horse Legacy
Lawyers & Judges—American Trojan Horse
Terrorism Against America: External & "Internal Terrorists"

The following is one chapter out of a book of 680 pages.

It is provided at no cost at one of many examples of corruption that continues to inflict a worsening series of tragedies upon the American people.

This chapter relates to the downing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, and the recent release of a Libyan that had been charged with the murder of 270 people.

For those who want the truth, documented, this chapter should be an awakening for those who take the time to read and understand the contents.

Among the documented major felonies committed by a combination of FBI personnel, Scottish prosecutors, police and judges, were the following:

- For political and other reasons, the actual group responsible for the bombing of Flight 103 were protected!
- Evidence was falsified to blame Libya and a Libyan.
- FBI personnel:
 - Planted evidence.
 - Paid two primary witnesses to falsely testify.
 - Threatened to charge non-involved witness with murder if he failed to falsely testify.
- Scottish police and judges became part of the hoax.
- U.S. lawyers covered up for the criminal acts, enabling them, and the families of Flight 103 victims to obtain huge financial sums by covering up for the real bombers and placing the blame on innocent parties.
- U.S. media, again, kept the information on the crimes associated with Britain and the U.S. greatest airline terrorist attack from the American public.
- British media, and many British citizens, showed greater honesty, published numerous articles on the pattern of corrupt activities and showed outrage.

- Results: The mass of criminal acts set the stage for other successful terrorist attacks. And what is shown here is only one example of what former federal agent Rodney Stich and his coalition of other government agents and insiders have made available for the few people who still read these types of books that affects national security and the lives of everyone.

If this information does not shock the American people out of their blissful contentment, maybe the ripple effects from this FBI culture in the subsequent downing of TWA Flight 800, might do it. And if that doesn't, then maybe the terrorist downing of 9/11 might, possibly do it. Information on these later two terrorist attacks—helped by the FBI culture seen in this chapter—found partly in later pages of *Unfriendly Skies: 20th & 21st Centuries*, and more thoroughly in *Crimes of the FBI-DOJ, Mafia, and al Qaeda*.

With the blissful unconcern of most Americans with these matters, even worse will occur.

More information at:

www.defraudingamerica.com

www.unfriendlyskies.com

www.defraudingamericablog.com

Books that address these matters, and the fallout, include:

Unfriendly Skies: 20th & 21st Centuries

Crimes of the FBI-DOJ, Mafia, and al Qaeda

(These not-for-profit books available at amazon.com in print and e-book/Kindle formats, and elsewhere.)

And from there, many others, authored by former federal agent Rodney Stich.

CHAPTER FIVE

Lockerbie: The Ugly Sides to a Great Tragedy

As the United States was monitoring the Iraq-Iran war, on April 3, 1988, sailors on the U.S. Navy ship U.S.S. Vincennes shot down an Iranian airliner, Iran Air Flight 655, shortly after it had taken off from Abadan and while it was climbing through 10,000 feet. The flight was a scheduled flight on a well-traveled civil airway. The death toll was 290 people. Understandably, Iranians were irate at the irresponsible act.

Repeated U.S. Attacks on Libya

Libya had suffered numerous military attacks by the United States, which resulted in them having a motive for placing a bomb on Flight 103. In the 1980s, in the Gulf of Sidra, which Libya claimed as its territorial waters, the US Navy in what was called the Gulf of Sidra incident (1981), shot down two Libyan fighter aircraft. Thereafter, two Libyan radio ships were sunk in the Gulf of Sidra.

On June 27, 1980, U.S. and French aircraft shot several air-to-air missiles at what they thought was a passenger aircraft carrying Libyan Col. Muammar Gaddafi. Instead of killing the head of a foreign country, the attempted assassination succeeded in killing everyone on board an Italian passenger plane over the island of Ustica, just north of Sicily. Eighty-one people were killed by that scheme. The London *Independent* reported this sequence of events in a January 8, 1996, article, based upon documents obtained from the retired head of Italy's counterintelligence agency. (January 8, 1996)

President Reagan ordered the bombing of Tripoli and Benghazi in Libya, including the residence of Libya's leader, Col. Kaddafi, that killed dozens of people, including one of Kaddafi's daughters. The motive for the attack was the April 5, 1986 bombing of a café in West Berlin that killed two U.S. service personnel. Reagan claimed, as support for the military attack upon a much smaller nation, that in March 1986 Libyan leader Muammar al-Gaddafi ordered the bombing of the La Belle nightclub in West Berlin on April 5, 1986, which killed two U.S. military personnel and injured over 200.

Similar attacks ordered by President Ronald Reagan were the invasion of the island of Grenada on the basis Russian contractors

were enlarging the runway to prepare for more tourist flights; and Reagan's invasion of Panama on the basis that it was a transit point for drugs—including considerable drug smuggling by CIA assets and the Mossad (see *Defrauding America*, *Drugging America*, and many other



books on the subject).

Warning for Future U.S. and Israeli Air Travelers

After the United States bombed Tripoli and Benghazi in 1986, and shot down the Iranian airliner in 1988, Ahmed Jibril of the Damascus-Syria based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP-GC) warned at a press conference: “There will be no safety for any traveler on an Israeli or U.S. airliner.

Sudden Increase in Activities of the Terrorist Group

After the downing of the Iranian airliner, intelligence sources discovered considerable activity involving the PFLP-GC group and started heavy surveillance in Germany. It was discovered that Jibril’s aide, Hafez Dalkamoni, had established a PFLP-GC cell in the Frankfurt area in October 1988.

Discovery of IEDs Useful for Aircraft Downing

It was discovered that the group had fabricated several improvised explosive devices (IEDs) placed within common household equipment, including Toshiba radio cassette recorders. The group contained Jordanian experts in bomb-making, Marwan Khreesat and Abu Elias. Fearing an imminent terrorist action, German police arrested numerous PFLP-GC members on October 26, 1988, but some escaped. This information was discovered by Germany’s internal security service, BfV, during an operation called Autumn Leaves.

During the raids, several IEDs were discovered, and several were thought to have been already taken by PFLP-GC members that escaped. Within a short time, the fate of one of those missing IEDs would be known.

Operation Autumn Leaves

Operation Autumn Leaves was described in a *Canada Free Press* article:¹

In 1988, the Bundesnachrichtendienst [BND] received information from Israel regarding the presence of PFLP-GC cells in Western Europe, including West Germany. The BND forwarded the information to the headquarters of the Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz [BfV] in Pullach, near Munich. In turn, the BfV forwarded the documents to the Chancellor Security advisers in Bonn and to the Anti-terrorism Department of GC in West Germany.

In late September, a BKIA intelligence summary stated that the PFLP-GC appeared to be gearing up for a major operation. The report was allegedly based on an analysis by MOSSAD of Palestinian documents seized by the Israeli Security Force during a recent raid on a PFLP-GC base in Southern Lebanon.

Increasingly preoccupied by these reports, Klink decides to pay a visit to the federal prosecutor in Karlsruhe. By the end of the meeting, the two men had decided to set up a round the clock surveillance of 6 targets in six cities.

The operation,, codenamed Herbslaub or Autumn Leaves, was the largest of its kind ever mounted in West Germany. By Oct. 10,

¹ <http://canadafreepress.com>; October 2, 1988.

the squads were monitoring, among other targets, an apartment, located at 16 Isarstrasse. The flat is rented to Hassem Abassi and occupied by Hafez Dalkamoni.

Warning that a Bomb Would be Placed on a Pan Am Flight

On December 5, 1988, the U.S. embassy in Helsinki received a phone tip from a man with an Arabic accent, warning that the Abu Nidal group, a known terrorist organization, would be placing a bomb on board a Pan Am flight at Frankfurt leaving for New York in a couple of weeks. Abu Nidal was a terrorist group involved in attacks during the 1980s on Western, Palestinian and Israeli targets. They sought to undermine the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and advocated the destruction of Israel.

In response to that warning, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) distributed a bulletin providing that information. The State Department sent a cable to dozens of U.S. embassies, which was posted on bulletin boards, advising of the threat.

As a result of the warnings, many people cancelled their reservations and booked on other airlines. As a result of the sudden drop in passengers, Pan American made the trips available to airline consolidators at cheap fares so as to fill the seats.

Catastrophic End to 270 Lives

Shortly before Christmas, December 21, 1988, passengers boarded a Pan Am Flight 727 aircraft, Flight 103A at Frankfurt, and at London's Heathrow Airport, changed to a Boeing 747, Flight 103. The flight was originally booked solid, but a series of last-minute cancellations by U.S. State Department personnel reduced the passenger count. The people cancelling had inside knowledge of a possible bombing on Pan Am, provided by a state department memorandum that suggested using another airline. That warning was not made available to other passengers.

After departing London's Heathrow Airport, approaching Lockerbie, Scotland, cruising at 31,000 feet, a bomb exploded in a cargo compartment, ripping the 747 into several major sections. On the way down, the people on Flight 103 had a long time to think of the impending impact.

The main portion of the 747, with the wings and fuel tanks attached, crashed into the center of Lockerbie, Scotland, digging an enormous crater into the ground. A total of 270 people on flight 103 were killed, plus 11 on the ground in Lockerbie.

The cockpit containing the crew crashed to the ground ten miles from where the main fuselage fell. The tail section fell fifteen miles away. The cockpit voice recorder was recovered, but revealed only the initial sound of the bomb explosion before electrical power halted the recording. The flight data recorder also stopped recording with the loss of electrical power.

Payment for A Successful Operation

Shortly after the downing of Pan Am Flight 103, CIA personnel

reportedly intercepted a telephone conversation between the Iranian Interior Ministry in Tehran and the Iranian embassy in Beirut, authorizing the payment of \$11 million to Jibril and congratulating him on a successful operation. Ahmed Jibril was the founder and leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC). It engaged in numerous attacks against military and civilian targets in Israel.

Greatest Criminal Investigation in Great Britain History

The downing of Flight 103 was the United Kingdom's largest criminal inquiry ever, and conducted by the smallest and most inexperienced and least competent of any police force in Great Britain: the constabulary in Dumfries and Galloway. The investigation was conducted by U.S. Department of Justice personnel with British personnel tagging along.

Discovery of Poor Security at Pan American Airlines

The status of Pan American security against terrorist attacks during this period was obtained during litigation several years later. During discovery in a civil lawsuit, the Lee Kreindler's law firm² obtained the deposition of Oliver Koch, who worked for Alert Management Systems, Pan Am's security affiliate at the Frankfurt Airport. Koch worked in Pan Am's baggage security, and was responsible for training and supervising security personnel who checked baggage for explosives. Koch testified that he had not seen the "Helsinki warning," the name given to the reported bomb plot alert, until the morning after the Lockerbie tragedy. Withholding this knowledge from Koch prevented extra security measures being implemented that might have discovered the bomb in the cassette player.

A federal judge ordered Koch's testimony sealed, acquiescing to Pan Am's motion, protecting Pan Am from public criticism. Lee Kreindler, a lawyer for many of the relatives of Flight 103 victims, summarized the deposition before U.S. District Judge Thomas Platt, stating:

The night of Lockerbie he [Koch] got an emergency call from his boss, [Ulrich] Weber. And Weber said come in early the next morning. And he comes in early the next morning, and there is, obviously, confusion and concern. And he is asked to work on Weber's desk with his computer.

And he looks down and he sees the Helsinki warning on Weber's desk. And he goes crazy. And he says, "What is this?" And Weber says: "Oh, my God, don't worry, don't worry, it's nothing, forget it." So Koch says, "How can I forget it? This is a warning of a potential bomb. It is my job." "Just forget it. Be quiet or you will get in trouble."

It was standard procedure at Frankfurt to date-stamp all correspondence on the date received. Koch testified there was no date stamp on

² Jack Anderson Column, July 28, 1989, appearing in *San Francisco Chronicle*.

the Helsinki warning when he found it the morning after the Lockerbie disaster. Kreindler continued:

A few days later the FAA was supposed to arrive, and in Koch's presence Weber takes out a date stamp, backdates it to December 9, which is when he received it, and stamps it. And that apparently was the one given to the FAA. Koch has the original one without the date stamp.

A year after the crash, meaning well, but using questionable judgment, Pan Am promoted a barbecue party at Lockerbie for those who missed their Christmas because of the crash. The barbecue site was 200 yards from where many of the bodies were cremated in the crash of Flight 103. Many thought the idea ghoulish, and public outrage caused Pan Am to cancel the event.

An article in London's *The Independent* (March 29, 1990) stated that Pan Am's security team at Frankfurt discovered the Helsinki bomb warning on a desk under a pile of papers the day after the bombing. The article stated that one of the Frankfurt security screeners, while being interviewed 11 months later by ABC, whose responsibility was to look for explosives through X-ray screening, stated that she had never heard of the plastic explosive used to bring down Flight 103: Semtex.

Slowly the Facts Leaked Out

On the second anniversary of the Lockerbie disaster, two media publications provided further information about what may really have caused the tragedy. *Barron's* published an explosive article with the headline: "Pan Am 103: Who's Covering Up What?" The article gave further support to CIA involvement in the aviation holocaust. The article stated that terrorists infiltrated a CIA-protected Syrian drug-smuggling operation at Frankfurt Airport, and substituted a suitcase that contained the bomb for an identical one containing heroin.

The heroin was on a regular shipment to the United States with CIA's forbearance. The article reinforced an *NBC News* report in late October 1990, that a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) operation flying suitcases of heroin from Frankfurt to the United States had been used by Middle East terrorists to smuggle the bomb aboard the plane. These regular shipments were exempted from normal airport security checks and therefore would not have been detected even if the security had been adequate.

Barron's quoted a government source as saying that the leak to NBC News was part of an ongoing cover-up of the CIA's more culpable role in the Lockerbie disaster. The cover-up by federal officials had two parts. One, a Syrian drug dealer and terrorist supplier whom the CIA was protecting in the Frankfurt airport heroin operation was Manzer al-Kassar, an infamous figure in the Iran-contra affair with Lt. Col. Oliver North.

The Syrian drug trafficker reportedly was paid \$2.5 million by North's associate, Albert Hakim, to deliver arms to Iranians holding U.S. hostages during the Iran-Contra operations. But the CIA let al-

Kassar bring drugs into America via the Frankfurt baggage loop in the hope that he would use his influence with the Iranians to free the U.S. hostages, as he had previously done for the French. At the same time, in late 1986 and 1987, al-Kassar was reportedly using his drug-smuggling network to ship arms to the Contras.

The *Barron's* article described the danger to federal officials, and to Bush, if there was an exposure of a CIA-al Kassar connection to Pan Am Flight 103. The article described the danger of an exposure of this drug-connection, how it would bring back memories of Iran-Contra and President Bush's own involvement in the scandal, both as vice-president and as ex-CIA Director.

Pan Am's insurance company commissioned an investigation conducted by Interfor, Inc., a New York corporate private eye firm headed by a former Israeli intelligence officer, Juval Aviv. The report concluded that the CIA not only used and protected the Syrian drug smuggling operations out of Frankfurt, but also had a report warning from a German intelligence agent privy to the operation, who noticed "something wrong" about the bomb-containing suitcase that had been switched for the one containing the drugs. The CIA operative assumed this was the routine switching that had been occurring in the past.

Pan Am then conducted an independent investigation into the Interfor report and uncovered "independent corroboration" of the report that the CIA had secretly used Pan Am planes to run drugs and that to keep the lid on its seamy arrangement. It did not warn the airline that the flight might be in imminent danger.

In December 1990, Pan Am filed a financial claim against the U.S. government charging it with using "criminals, terrorists and terrorist organizations" to facilitate a secret-drug-intelligence operation out of Frankfurt when the government "knew that the operation seriously endangered Pan Am passengers, crews, and aircraft; nevertheless, the United States never informed Pan Am of its existence."

Pan Am had previously subpoenaed eight government agencies, including the CIA, the DEA, and the National Security Council, for documents relating to an undercover drug operation. Federal officials refused to provide the documents on the phony grounds of national security.

U.S. District Chief Judge Thomas Platt, who presided over the lawsuits filed by the relatives of the Flight 103 victims against the airline, reviewed some of the documents the government refused to make public. He stated: "I am troubled about certain parts. ... depending on what is behind that material, ... it might change the case completely."

If the public knew of the CIA's involvement in smuggling drugs into the United States, their perception of the drug war would surely change. The knowledge gained from talking to numerous CIA-front airline pilots makes it clear that this preposterous situation does, in fact, exist. More and more, the scandals in the *Unfriendly Skies* do not seem out of the ordinary.

Pan Am sought to defend itself against more than \$300 million in

lawsuits by filing documents with the court that the United States received warnings from West German and Israeli intelligence about the bomb, and failed to relay the information to Pan Am. The Justice Department blocked discovery by lawyers representing the victims' families, who tried to determine if the government actually received information concerning the warnings, and failed to act.

Pressure generated by the relatives caused President George H.W. Bush to appoint a Presidential Commission on Aviation Security and Terrorism, which conducted its first hearing in November 1989. Relatives of victims testified that their inquiries into the bombing had been met with "lies, half-truths, denials, allegations, revelations, and enormous amounts of buck-passing and finger-pointing" by numerous government agencies and the Bush Administration.³

Bomb Detectors

As the bomb threat increased, the FAA gave more attention to detecting bombs. Prior to Lockerbie, the bomb detectors were conventional X-ray machines and dog-sniffers. But the increasing use of plastic-type explosives by terrorists requires more sophisticated detection equipment.

The plastic explosives make detection very difficult. They can be easily molded into literally any shape, even as flat as a sheet of paper. It is a mud-like material that can be easily molded by hand. Unsuspecting carriers can bring these bombs on the aircraft in baggage, radios, or other objects. The plastic explosives are almost odorless and dogs can't sniff them out. A pound of plastic explosives, easily concealed, can bring down the largest aircraft. Plastic-type explosives are approximately twice as powerful as dynamite.

High technology has developed equipment to detect plastic explosives. However the machines that were installed in airport terminals in the early 1990s could not reliably detect small amounts of plastic explosives. One machine, called a thermal neutron analysis detector (TNA)⁴ was programmed to sound an alarm for two and a half pounds of plastic explosives. But less than one pound can destroy a Boeing 747. Further, many items commonly found in luggage also sound the alarm, including boots, cheese, wool, nylon stockings, and other material.

Several Major Reasons for Controlling the Investigation and Protecting the Guilty

There were multiple reasons why U.S. politicians had to control the investigation and the ultimate assignment of blame. Some were politi-

³ *Aviation Week & Space Technology*, November 27, 1989.

⁴ These machines sense, rather than see, the explosive material. One type of machine bombards the explosives with low energy neutrons to make them give off identifying radiation. The elements become temporarily radioactive after bombardment by the nuclear radiation, and this radioactivity is then detected by electronic sniffers.

cal, and others were to cover up for a drug smuggling operation involving CIA personnel and Pan Am aircraft.

The CIA and DEA had an ongoing drug-smuggling operation with Lebanese and Syrian drug traffickers, using Pan Am aircraft out of Frankfurt that were departing for the United States. It was that drug smuggling operation that made possible the placement of the bomb on Pan Am Flight 103.

As I described in *Defrauding America* and *Drugging America* years earlier, this is how the drug smuggling operation worked: A courier would check his bags at Pan Am in Frankfurt, and the bags would pass inspection. However, before the bags were placed on the aircraft, baggage handlers replaced one of the previously inspected bags with another bag containing approximately 200 pounds of heroin. The group that actually placed the suitcase containing the bomb utilized that suitcase-switching operation.

DIA Contract Agent Lester Coleman

Lester Coleman, a former agent for the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), worked for the DIA in the Middle East, including the DEA office in Nicosia from where the drug smuggling operation was monitored. Coleman worked alongside DEA agent-in-charge Michael Hurley, and according to Coleman and his book, Hurley monitored the CIA-DEA drug operation using Pan Am aircraft. Coleman and LeWinter said that Hurley was the DEA agent-in-charge of the area including world-famous CIA drug trafficking at Mena, Arkansas.

Tentacles of Inslaw Software and DOJ Involvement

While working alongside Hurley, Coleman discovered that the PROMIS software, stolen by Justice Department officials from the Inslaw Company, was being sold by the DEA's Nicosia office. The sales involved a company called Eurame, which also dealt in the sale of drugs and arms. Coleman saw boxes of PROMIS software labeled PROMIS Ltd, Toronto, Canada in the DEA office at Nicosia. The software was installed by a CIA front-company, Link Systems, Ltd. The sale of this stolen software was another enterprise involving Michael Hurley, in addition to his role in the drug trafficking. PROMIS software sales had been made to Jordan, Iran, Iraq, Egypt, Turkey, Pakistan, and other countries.

In my book, *Defrauding America*, I describe the role of several Department of Justice lawyers and a future federal judge stealing the software for self-gain.

Multiple Responsibilities

Ironically, the same DEA agent, Michael Hurley, in charge of the DEA office in Nicosia, where Coleman said the drug operation was controlled, was subsequently transferred to Portland, Oregon to testify against Michael Riconosciuto after Riconosciuto ignored Justice Department threats and testified to Congress concerning a scandal known as Inslaw.

Exposing Government Corruption Via a Book

Disturbed about the government's involvement in downing Pan Am

103, and in drug smuggling, Coleman co-authored a book with Donald Goddard that was published in Great Britain, *Trail of the Octopus*, exposing the truth behind the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103.⁵ Much of this information coincided with information that CIA agents had told me several years earlier.

Standard Government Retaliation

A week before the book's publicized release date, Justice Department prosecutor Sean O'Shea filed two false charges against Coleman, intending to discredit what he was revealing. One charge was for an alleged passport violation and the other charge was for making an alleged false statement in the civil law suit involving the relatives against Pan American Airlines.

Justice Department Setting Up Coleman

Shortly before being charged with the passport violation, his DIA handlers instructed him to return to Beirut after first obtaining a passport using a forged birth certificate given to him years earlier as a cover. After Coleman did this, Justice Department prosecutors charged him with making false statements on the passport application. The DIA either backed off from providing Coleman a defense, or was part of the scheme to silence and discredit Coleman.

Perjury Charge for Reporting the Truth

Coleman had prepared an affidavit that was to be entered into the litigation against Pan Am by the relatives of the dead. Coleman had stated in the affidavit details of the CIA-DEA drug smuggling operation using Pan Am aircraft, and Justice Department prosecutors then charged him with perjury for revealing these criminal activities.

Without funds to hire legal counsel, and recognizing the slim chance of defending himself against the sham Justice Department charges, Coleman fled with his family to Sweden, where he was given political asylum.

In 1997 he decided to return and fight the charges, assisted by old friend, Alabama Governor Forrest James, who arranged passage for the Coleman family and paid for the flight to the United States. Coleman was immediately arrested upon arriving in the United States, spending more time in prison waiting to be tried than the normal incarceration for such a violation.

Filing False Charges Against Former Mossad Agent

Juval Aviv was head of the international security firm, Interfor, based in New York, that was hired by Pan Am and its insurance carrier, U.S. Underwriters, to investigate how the bomb was placed on Pan Am Flight 103. Aviv and his firm discovered what Coleman had sought to expose, and wrote a detailed report to this effect. Pan Am's attorneys tried to introduce this evidence into the civil trial filed by relatives of the dead.

Justice Department prosecutors and the federal judge in the Pan Am

⁵ *Trail of the Octopus*, authored by Donald Goddard, Bloomsbury Publications, England. 1994.

litigation acted to prevent this information being presented to the jury. The next of kin probably preferred it this way. By withholding knowledge of the CIA-DEA drug operation, the relative's attorneys could argue that Pan Am's willful negligence permitted the bomb to be put on the aircraft and was therefore responsible for the deaths.

Justice Department prosecutors retaliated against Aviv for exposing the CIA-DEA drug pipeline. They filed sham charges against Juval Avid in 1995, claiming that he made false claims in an investigative report submitted to the General Electric Company five years earlier. General Electric never complained about the report and was very pleased with it. A federal jury in New York acquitted Aviv in early 1997, taking ten minutes to reach a decision.

No End to the False Prosecution

Justice Department prosecutors filed sham charges against lobbyist William Chasey, after Chasey sought to obtain meetings between Libya and the United States to show the errors behind the Justice Department's Pan Am 103 charges.

Justice Department prosecutors misused the power of that federal agency to silence or discredit others who sought to expose the truth behind the Pan Am bombing. They filed false charges against John Brennan, president of U.S. Underwriters, Pan Am's insurance carrier, after Brennan had authorized using information showing what really happened that allowed the bomb to be placed on board the ill-fated flight.

Sham charges were filed against the lead attorney defending Pan Am, Jim Shaughnessy. Even the head of the insurance company that paid for Aviv's investigation and hiring of legal counsel suffered government retaliation.

British Television Producer Exposing the Truth

In 1995, I started communicating with European film producer Allan Francovich who had produced a 1994 documentary film, *The Maltese Doublecross*, revealing the truth associated with the downing of Pan Am Flight 103. The film showed the falsity of the evidence fabricated by Justice Department officials and showed that Libya and Libyans were not involved in the bombing. Appearing in the television documentary was one of my CIA sources, Oswald LeWinter, providing additional support to the CIA-DEA drug pipeline using Pan Am aircraft.

I had met Francovich when he was in Berkeley, California, unsuccessfully trying to find a station that would air his television documentary. We were in frequent contact thereafter on matters of mutual interest.

Censorship in the United States

Francovich tried to have his television documentary played in the United States, but could not find any television station or cable operator who would handle such a sensitive matter despite its success in Europe.

Coleman experienced the same refusal by U.S. distributors to handle the distribution of his book, *Trail of the Octopus*. Several distributors had initially agreed to handle it, and then inexplicably backed

down.

Even in Europe, the book was removed from bookstores and reportedly the unsold books were shredded. As in many behind-the-scene activities, British authorities worked with the United States to cover up the truth behind the Pan Am deaths.

Mysterious Death of Francovich and Disappearance of Documents

On April 22, 1997, Francovich was going through U.S. Customs in Houston, Texas, carrying documents for Coleman's defense and Aviv's civil damage trial against the government. During questioning by Customs agents he suddenly suffered a fatal heart attack. The highly sensitive papers that he was carrying then disappeared. Francovich's body was then taken by friends for a private autopsy to determine if he had been injected prior to his death by any of the drugs used to bring about a fatal heart attack. The private laboratory reported three small pin marks on the back of his neck.

Mossad agents were reported to have carried out an assassination attempt on a Palestinian in a similar manner, as reported on *Frontline*.

Foreign Media Started Exposing the Truth

Stories started appearing in European media based upon reports from intelligence personnel that revealed who and why the bomb was placed on a U.S. airliner. A partial English translation from the German magazine, *Focus*, was sent to me in 1996, revealing an interview between a *Focus* reporter and a CIA official in Washington. The article read:

Revenge Was the Motive

"For the sake of the relatives of the 270 dead, find some culprits."

In Potomac in the US State of Maryland, FOCUS spoke with a section chief of the CIA about the Lockerbie disaster and its background. The CIA staffer had been working during the past ten years in the field of the Middle East and in counter-terrorism. Without the assurance that his identity would not be revealed, the interview would not have taken place.

FOCUS: When did you find out who was responsible for the Lockerbie disaster?

CIA: From the beginning we had information about the Damascus-based PFLP-GC of Ahmed Jibril. The information said that this group blew up the airplane on orders of the Iranians, out of revenge for the shooting down of an Iranian civil airliner over the Persian Gulf by the US Navy. We got the first proof for this story in February 1989. One of our Near Eastern agents, a member of a Palestinian group, took part in an Islamic conference in Tehran. He had been invited by the then Iranian Interior Minister, Al Akbar Mohtashemi. Earlier, he had been ambassador in Damascus and helped to build up the Lebanese terrorist organization Hizbollah.

FOCUS: What happened at this meeting in Tehran?

CIA: It was a meeting of the ten groups of so-called Palestinian re-

jectionist; the opponents of peace, and a Hizbollah delegation. Abu Nidal's people were also represented. Mohtashemi demanded more action from his guests against the USA and Israel. He criticized them because he considered them too lazy. That was like a whiplash for them. As sugar coating, he offered further financial support. Suddenly, he portrayed the PFLP-GC as a shining example. Ahmed Jibril looked around proudly.

FOCUS: What did this praise have to do with Lockerbie?

CIA: The others asked Jibril later on what Mohtashemi meant, in personal conversations. Jibril finally admitted that he was responsible for the attack on Pan Am 103.

FOCUS: Did he confirm this to your agent too?

CIA: Yes.

FOCUS: Couldn't this just be a case of a terrorist who wanted to make himself look important? Did you learn more?

CIA: Our knowledge was very extensive. We learned, for example, that the Lockerbie bomb was built in Lebanon, in a camp of the PFLP-GC in the Bakaa Valley. The device was flown from Damascus to Berlin aboard Syrian Arab Airlines and given there to the German commando branch of Jibril's organization. This was led by Hafer Qessan Daikamouni, who the German police later arrested. An American staffer of Pan Am [baggage handler?] smuggled the bomb on board Pan Am 103 in Frankfurt.

FOCUS: What was his motive?

CIA: Money and drugs from Lebanon. He was a drug addict.

FOCUS: Why this airliner specifically?

CIA: On board the jumbo there were drug investigators and intelligence colleagues. They were coming from the Middle East and wanted to fly home to their families for Christmas. The terrorists knew this.

FOCUS: Does your information on the real background come from one single Arab source?

CIA: No, of course not. We had many contacts, especially in Damascus.

FOCUS: Why didn't you simply confront the Syrians with this and demand that they take decisive measures against Jibril?

CIA: We did. Secretary of State James Baker flew to Damascus. He said to his colleague [Syrian Foreign Minister] Farouk al-Sharaa: "We know who it was." Sharaa answered: "Then prove it to me." We couldn't.

FOCUS: And that was that?

CIA: No, of course not. We took tougher political measures. But then overnight, the policy changed. Saddam Hussein had steamrolled over Kuwait, and Syria was needed in the grand coalition against its neighbor Iraq. We compelled Assad to take part in the Gulf war against Iraq.

FOCUS: The coalition won the war. Months later, Washington suddenly accused two Libyan secret agents and the entire regime from Colonel Qaddafi of having blown up the Pan Am Airliner. How does

this all track?

CIA: Its Realpolitik. How could we unmask our partner during the tough weeks of the war as being behind one of the worst crimes of all times? We had to spare Syria, but at the same time, also for the sake of the relatives of those 270 dead, come up with a culprit. So we used the Libyans, with whom we have a traditionally tense relationship anyhow.

FOCUS: The US Navy wanted to bomb Qaddafi to death in 1985. Do you think that some day the truth about Lockerbie will be officially confirmed?

CIA: It's very doubtful whether my government can part ways with the Libya version. Too much has happened since 1991. The fronts have all grown too hard. The United Nations embargo has caused a lot of damage. And Syria? The country is on the threshold of peace with Israel. I don't exclude the possibility that this peace will be paid for with the knowledge about Lockerbie

FBI Personnel Discovery of Suitcase Containing the Bomb

A hoard of FBI-CIA personnel descended upon Scotland immediately after the bombing. Information appearing in British media stated that FBI and CIA personnel were removing evidence from the hills around Lockerbie and were planting evidence and also replaced items suitcases with the contents removed. Years later, in 2005, a retired senior Scottish police chief gave defense lawyers a signed statement confirming the claims made in 20003 by a former CIA agent that his CIA bosses actually wrote the script to incriminate Libya after the bombing of Flight 103.

FBI and CIA personnel found a suitcase that appeared to contain the explosives, estimated to consist of one pound of plastic Semtex, embedded in a Toshiba radio cassette player.

The "Miraculous" Finding of a Thumb-Size Circuit Board Miles from the Main Crash Scene in Rain-Soaked Ground

In June 1990—18 months after the bombing—FBI personnel reportedly found in rain-soaked ground miles from the crash scene, a thumb-size fragment of a circuit board that they claimed was used to detonate the bomb. They identified the fragment as one made by the Swiss firm of Mebo in Zurich and identified as part of a circuitry from a MST 13 timer. Amazing feat for the FBI!

Although the MST 13 timers were sold to sources in different countries, FBI agents claimed it was from a shipment made to Libya.

FBI Bribe to Identify the Timer Fragment

A former engineer employee of Mebo, Ulrich Lumpert, testified during the trial that the thumb-size portion of a circuit board was part of the MST-13 timer. This testimony was critical to the prosecutors.

Another person that testified was a co-owner of the Swiss company, Mebo, that made the circuit board, Edwin Bollier. He testified that the circuit board remnant found by FBI personnel had been sold to Libya. His testimony and that of a Maltese merchant, Tony Gauci, would be the basic for charging Libya with organizing the

downing of Flight 103 with the help of two Libyans.

As will be shown in later pages, several years after the end of the trial, both Lumpert and Bollier admitted that they lied. Lumpert stated that he actually stole the circuit board and—six months after the downing of Flight 103—gave it on June 22, 1989, to “an official person investigating the Lockerbie case.”

Bollier would reveal at a later date that in 1991, over two years after the downing of Flight 103, that FBI agents offered him \$4 million to testify that the timer fragment was part of a Mebo MST-13 timer that was supplied to Libya years earlier. Bollier refused the offer.

Reason Why Bollier Remained Silent During the Trial

During the early stages of the investigation, Scottish police showed Bollier a photograph of a prototype timer fragment that had never been sent to Libya. During the trial, Bollier was asked to identify the timer fragment from an MST-13 timer. As Bollier tried to dispute the evidence, one of the trial judges, Lord Sutherland, prevented him from doing it.

One of the prosecutors, Alan Turnbull, stated that Bollier was being considered as one of the people to be charged with the Libyans, which Bollier then recognized as a threat to charged him in a conspiracy in the Flight 103 murders if he were to dispute the prosecutor’s claim. Turnbull stated, as the judge blocked Bollier from stating that the timer had never been shipped to anyone, “The decision not to include him as a co-conspirator is ... yet to be developed in evidence.”

FBI Offering \$4 Million and New Identity in United States

Several years later, in October 2007, Bollier told Dr. Hans Kochler, a United Nations observer during the trial, that FBI personnel had offered him \$4 million and a new identify in the United States, if he would agree to “write in a police statement” that the timer fragment to be presented at trial was actually part of a Mebo MST-13 timer that his firm had supplied to Libya. He rejected the offer.

Miraculous Survival of Clothes and

Uncanny Trace to a Far Away Shopkeeper

FBI personnel reportedly found clothes that were in the suitcase that allegedly contained the bomb and timing device. at suitcase—that had been subjected to a bomb blast that destroyed the aircraft. Incredibly, after being exposed to blast temperatures that ordinarily would vaporize the clothes, FBI personnel were even able to claim that the clothes came from a particular shopkeeper, Tony Gauci, hundreds of miles away in Malta. A miraculous survival and tracing!!

Primary Witness for Proving People Guilty Of Horrific Aviation Disaster: Shopkeeper Tony Gauci

The prosecutors used a Malta shopkeeper, Tony Gauci, as the other witness to blame Libya and a Libyan for the deaths of 270 people. Eve-

ryone in the prosecution team knew that Gauci had several times earlier stated that Megrahi was not the purchaser of the clothes, he was repeatedly pressured—and then paid—to testify falsely, as demanded by FBI and Scottish personnel. The most he could do, years later, that “he resembles him a lot.” In any court other than a Kangaroo Court proceeding, that pattern of identification would exclude Megrahi as the person that purchased the clothes.

In addition, 12 years passed between the date of the purchase of clothing, by a stranger, to the identification at trial. Virtually no one would be capable of such identification relating to such a routine purchase of clothes that probably involved hundreds of other purchasers. Would you, as a sales person, be able to identify a person 12 years later that purchased a pair of common hose!

At the initial identification by FBI agents, three years after the downing of Flight 103, upon being show a number of pictures, including Megrahi, Gauci stated that the person who purchased the clothes was much taller and older than shown.

Determined to obtain a positive match, the FBI agents told him to ignore their age. Against, Gauci failed to identify Megrahi. They rearranged the pictures and asked if the picture of Al Megrahi was the one. Gauci replied that there were some resemblances. It is probably safe to say that the entire population of any given country has some type of similar features to each other. As will be shown later, a King’s ransom can alter a person’s memory!

British Prosecutors, in Partnership with FBI Personnel, Charges Two Libyans—and Libya—With Mass Murders

After an investigation controlled by FBI personnel, Dumfries and Galloway constable personnel filed murder indictments on November 13, 1991, against two Libyans: Abdelbaset Ali al-Megrahi, the head of security for Libyan Arab Airlines (LAA), who allegedly purchased the clothes found in the alleged suitcase containing the alleged timer and bomb. The other defendant was Lamin Khalifah Fhimah, the LAA airline station manager at Luqa Airport in Malta.

Without any evidence to support their claims, prosecutors charged that Megrahi allegedly purchased the clothes, and put them in a suitcase that contained a Toshiba radio cassette recorder and MST-13 timer, along with one pound of Semtex explosives; and Fhimah provided baggage tags to Megrahi that facilitated placement of an unaccompanied suitcase containing the bomb on board the Libyan airline leaving for Frankfurt. At Frankfurt, the suitcase was placed on a Pan American airlines 727 flight to London, where the suitcase was transferred to a Pan American 747, Flight 103. Using their fertile prosecutorial imagination, FBI agents and Scottish prosecutors “supported” this entire scenario on the statements of the Maltese shopkeeper who repeatedly stated Megrahi was not the person; and then finally, that Megrahi had similar features.

Libya Obviously Refused to Extradite the Two Libyans

After Scottish authorities charged the two Libyans, Libya’s Col.

Kaddafi refused to extradite them. The United States then pressured the United Nations to apply financial sanctions against Libya. The United States kept the sanctions in place but they were removed by the United Nations. After negotiations, in April 1999, Libyan leader Colonel Muammar al-Gaddafi agreed to turn the accused over for trial at a neutral country, for trial at Camp Zeist, Netherlands, before three Scottish judges acting as jury and judges—and as would be seen, prosecutors.

Small Time Judges in Kangaroo Court Proceedings

Acting as Prosecutors, Jury, and Judge

In addition to inexperienced and easily manipulated Scottish investigators having responsibility for Britain's worst aviation disaster, controlled by personnel from the political U.S. Department of Justice, there was the further problem of three Scottish judges, acting as jury and judge, making decisions in a political charade that was over their heads. As facts would show, they were easily manipulated to play the game.

Textbook Example of Kangaroo Court: British Style

The trial started on May 3, 2000, and lasted eight months. The conduct of the three Scottish judges met the definition of a Kangaroo Court. Cover-ups, unsupported assumptions, were rampant with due process violations. The three-judge panel refused to allow key testimony and facts to be entered into the trial record concerning the overwhelming evidence of involvement by the Liberation of Palestine, General Command, GC group led by Ahmed Jibril. The three judges acted as prosecutors, jury, and judge; the Mafia couldn't have done any better. They made preposterous inferences of guilt that would be instantly dismissed in most courts, including the United States.

Rejecting Evidence of the Actual Bomb Perpetrators

At the very start, the three Scottish judges rejected the evidence showing the involvement of the PFLP-GC, claiming,, without a shred of support, "There was no evidence that the cell had the materials necessary to manufacture an explosive device of the type that destroyed PA103. In particular there was no evidence that they had an MST-13 timer."⁶

Operation Autumn Leaves Identified The

PFLP-GC as Having the Identical Explosive Devices

Evidence entered into the trial and an appeal brief showed the following capabilities of the PFLP-GC group:

- PFLP-GC had the personnel, skills and materials necessary to place the bomb on Flight 103.
- PFLP-GC had the ability and the intention to place a bomb on Flight 103, and the lack of evidence showing possession on the timer did not negate the other evidence.
- East Germany's Stasi had identical timers; also, MST-13 timers had previously been found in Senegal and Togo.

⁶ Trial Court Opinion at paragraph 74.

- PFLP-GC could obtain the widely available timers.

Throughout the trial, the three Scottish judges ruled as if they were prosecutors, viewing everything as if the defendants were guilty, drawing hypothetical inferences to support a verdict.

Entire Murder Charges Based Upon Incredible Series of Unsupported Possibilities

The entire case relied upon the prosecutors' claim that:

- Al-Megrahi purchased the clothes;
- That allegedly were in a particular suitcase found at the crash scene;
- That allegedly carried the MST-13 triggering device and bomb;
- That unaccompanied the suitcase that was loaded on a Libyan airliner at Malta;
- Using baggage tags provided by a Libyan airline security employee, Lamin Khalifah Fhimah;
- That was then flown to Frankfurt where the suitcase was transferred to a Pan American 727 that flew to London's Heathrow airport, where the suitcase was transferred to a Pan American 747, Flight 103.
- All of these events were based on the contradictory statements and testimony of the Malta shopkeeper, Tony Gauci, whose first questioning occurred nearly two years after the downing of Flight 103.

The case then went to trial before three Scottish judges⁷ acting as jury and judge—and in many ways, as prosecutors. By their background, and during trial, it became obvious that they were in over their heads, including their attempts to engineer a guilty verdict against the Libyans.

Primary Witness: Shopkeeper Tony Gauci

The prosecutor's primary witness was Malta merchant Tony Gauci, and his identity of the person who purchased, several years earlier, items of clothing that a merchant could be expected to sell hundreds of times to different people. That would be a daunting—if not impossible—task for anyone. Money could probably change the impossible into the possible.

Spanning about three dozen interviews, Gauci's statements and testimony went from denying that Megrahi was much younger than the tall person that purchased the clothes, to resembling in some areas the purchaser. Initially, when shown pictures, Gauci denied that Megrahi was the purchaser, stating that the purchaser was a tall person and older. Then, when told to ignore age, to look again, Gauci tried to placate the questioners by stating there were some resemblance. That last response could probably apply to anyone of a particular race and ethnic group!

Even Gauci's testimony about the date of purchase was contrary to

⁷ Lord Sutherland; Lord Coulsfield; Lord Maclean.

facts. He testified that it was raining on that day, when testimony by a meteorologist during trial indicated there was no rain on that day. The response of the three judges to that contradiction was that there *might* have been very light rain.

Another contradiction as to the date of purchase: Gauci testified that Malta's Christmas lights had *not* been on when the clothes had been purchased. Records showed that the lights *had* been on since December 6, the day before Megrahi had been in Malta. As will be seen in later pages, FBI personnel had paid Gauci to give the testimony that they wanted him to give—not the truth.

Testimony Relating to the Thumb Size MST-13 Timer Board

The only reference by the prosecutors relating to the MST-13 timer board was that:

- Libya had purchased a number of timers years earlier. This fact would be of no value since identical timers were purchased by other people and groups, and that identical timers had been found in other countries. Charging Libya with complicity on that basis would be like charging anyone who had purchased a Toshiba cassette recorder—as found in the wreckage of Flight 103—with being guilty for that horrendous crime.
- Testimony of Ulrich Lumpert, a former employee of the Swiss company that made the timer, testified during trial that the fragmented UST-13 timer shown to him was one that was sold to Libya. Years later, Lumpert testified that FBI personnel paid him for it—six months after the downing of Flight 103—and for him to testify falsely at the trial.

Further, as evidence would surface after the trial, a co-owner of Mebo, Edwin Bollier, testified that Scottish prosecutors threatened to charge him as a defendant in the Lockerbie murder trial if he revealed that the timer fragment produced during trial was a prototype that was never released.

Scottish Judges Played Their Role: Guilty Verdict

The three Scottish judges, acting as jury and judge, handed down a verdict on January 31, 2001, declaring al-Megrahi guilty, without any evidence of guilt, and sentenced him to life imprisonment, with a minimum of 27 years.

Despite trying, the absence of even fabricated “evidence” required that Al Amin Khalifa Frimah be found innocent. A question arose as to how Frimah could be found innocent and Megrahi guilty, when it allegedly took both of them to place the suitcase on the flight at Malta.

Filing of Appeal

Megrahi's lawyers filed an appeal of that judgment on January 23, 2002. The issues raised in that appeal included:

- The three-judge verdict sought support in pathetically flawed and defective reasoning.
- Illogical and perverse reasoning.
- There was no actual identification of the purchaser of the clothing.
- If, for argument, Megrahi was the purchaser, there was nothing to

indicate that he was aware of the use of such purchase.

- [Contradicting the testimony of the shopkeeper Tony Gauci in establishing the day of the purchase] Meteorologists testified that there was no rain the alleged date of the purchase, while the store keeper testified there was rain.
- The only tie to 103 was Megrahi's alleged purchase of clothes that were allegedly found in the suitcase that allegedly contained the bomb.
- The three-judge panel repeatedly rejected facts that contradicted their inferences of guilt.
- No proof that the unaccompanied suitcase was loaded at Malta, of which there were several unaccompanied suitcases on board PAA Flight 103.
- The panel relied upon the assumption that a suitcase loaded at Malta was the suitcase that existed on Flight 103 after first being transferred to another airplane at Frankfurt.
- The judges inference was that the downing of 103 was a concerted play by the Libyan government using Libyans.
- The purchase of clothing cannot link the bombing to the Libyan government.
- [Contradicting the prosecutors that only Libya had the timers] The supply of MST-13 timers were sent to many locations other than to the Libyan government.
- No forensic tests were made on the circuits board associated with the timer, to determine if it had been exposed to explosives, which would have been necessary to determine if it was in fact involved in the 103 bombing. Surely the omission of that test could not have been accidental, since such determination would be basic for that board to be suitable evidence.
- Throughout the reasoning of the three British judges was that Libya was involved in the bombing.

The five Scottish judges⁸ issued a decision in March 2002 denying the appeal. Delight in the United States, where U.S. media covered up for the obvious fraud. But in Europe, where the media and respected authorities showed outrage, an uproar started that threatened to expose for criminal tactics of FBI personnel and their counterparts in Scotland and Great Britain.

**Start of Massive Outrage in Europe:
In United States, Blissfully Uninformed**

An article (June 19, 2001) in London's respected *Guardian* newspaper stated much of what I had discovered:

On January 31, after an eight-month trial, three Scottish judges, sitting in a special court at Camp Zeist in the Netherlands, found a Libyan intelligence officer, Ali Al-Megrahi, guilty of the Lockerbie

⁸ Lord Justice General; Lord Kirkwood; Lord Osborne; Lord Macfadyen; Lord Nimmo Smith.

bombing—Britain’s biggest mass murder—acquitting his colleague, Khalifa Fhiamah.

[Top Officials Expected Innocent Verdict]

Two days earlier, senior Foreign Office Officials briefed a group of journalists in London. They painted a picture of a bright new chapter in Britain’s relations with Colonel Gadafy’s regime. They made it quite clear they assumed both the Libyans in the dock would be acquitted.

The Foreign Office officials were not alone. Most independent observers believed it was impossible for the courts to find the prosecution had proved its case against Megrahi beyond reasonable doubt. It was not only the lack of hard evidence, something the judges admitted in their lengthy judgment. The case was entwined, if the judges were right, in a sequence of remarkable coincidences.

Doubts about the prosecution’s case and the judges’ verdict are spelled out in *Cover-Up of Convenience*, published this week. Two journalists, John Ashton and Ian Ferguson, examine in detail what Paul Foots has already succinctly written in *Private Eye*’s special report, *Lockerbie, The Flight from Justice*.

For more than a year, western intelligence agencies pointed to the Popular Fronts for the Liberation of Palestine, General Command, led by Ahmed Jibril. It is not hard to see why. Two months before the Lockerbie disaster, German police arrested members of the PFLP-GC near Frankfurt where, according to the prosecution, the bag containing the bomb was placed on the Pan Am airliner.

Among those arrested was Marwan Khreesat, who was found with explosives and a Toshiba cassette player similar to the one said to have contained the bomb. Khreesat was released. It was later revealed he was a Jordanian double agent.

The Jordanians did not allow him to appear as a witness at the trial. Instead, he was interviewed by an FBI agent, Edward Marshman. Marshman described how Khreesat told him how he infiltrated the PFLY-GC, how a second Toshiba bomb had gone missing, and about his contacts with another member of Jibril’s group, Abu Elias, said to be an expert in airline security.

Elias is mentioned in a report written by Mobdi Goban, another member of the PFLP-GC, shortly before he died. The Goban memorandum claims Elias planted the bomb in the luggage of Khalid Jaafar, a Lebanese American passenger allegedly involved in a CIA-approved heroin-smuggling operation. The luggage used for these operations, it is claimed, bypassed normal security screening.

The prosecution asked a “foreign government”, believed to be Syria, to hand over information about Goban’s allegations. Syria refused. Syria was central to the original explanation. This was that the bombing was funded by Iran in retaliation for the shooting down of an Iranian airliner by an American warship, the USS Vincennes, over the Persian Gulf in July 1988.

[Changing Identity of Murderers for Political Purposes]

There is a widespread view that the US and Britain changed their tack when they badly needed Syria's support, and Iran's quiescence, for the Gulf War after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990. They thus fingered the two Libyans, insisting they placed the bomb in an unaccompanied bag at Malta's Luqa airport, where it was transferred to the Pan Am plane at Frankfurt. An earlier Palestinian suspect, Abu Talb, had also visited Malta. He was later held in Sweden on terrorist charges and identified by the British as a prime suspect.

You don't have to look for conspiracies; maybe Jaafar's presence on the plane has an entirely innocent explanation, to question the prosecution's version of events. US authorities issued a series of specific warnings about a bomb threat before Lockerbie. These, and intelligence reports implicating Iran, were dismissed as speculative or hoaxes [by the United States and Britain].

The evidence of Tony Gauci, the Maltese shop owner was extremely shaky. He was uncertain about dates and the weather that day. He told the police the purchaser was "six foot or more" and over 50. Megrahi was five foot eight inches and 37 at the time.

According to Ashton and Ferguson, replica MST-13 timers, implicating Megrahi but only presented as evidence after a long delay were manufactured by the CIA but that information was not passed to the defence. The evidence of Abdul Giaka, a Libyan who defected to the CIA and star prosecution witness, was described by the judges as "at best exaggerated, at worst simply untrue."

The judgment is littered with assumptions and criticisms of prosecutor witnesses. They refer to a "mass of conflicting evidence". Megrahi has lodged an appeal. The Scottish appeal judges surely owe it to the victims' families to explain the string of unanswered questions.

Another article in the *Guardian* (June 27, 2001), titled, *Flight from the Truth*, stated in part:

The Lockerbie trial was meant to end the saga of Pan Am flight 103. But it didn't take into accounts the wads of US dollars, or the heroin, or the Hizbullah T-shirt found in the wreckage. As the man convicted of the bombing prepares to appeal, John Ashton and Lan Ferguson argue that there has been a top-level cover-up.

Special Report: Lockerbie

There are two versions of the Lockerbie story. One, told at the trial. The other, which we believe is the true story, is far less comfortable. In the official version it was bad guys against good: Muammar Gadafy and his recently convicted henchman Abdel Baset al-Megrahi versus the heroic international investigation led by the tiny Dumfries and Galloway police force. It ends with the triumph of justice over terror. In the alternative version the heroics

of the cops are obscured by dirty politics. It ends with a dreadful miscarriage of justice.

The conviction of Megrahi (his co-accused, Al-Amin Khalifah Fhimah, was acquitted) supposedly proved the official version and drew a line under the Lockerbie saga. But the case will not go away: Megrahi is planning an appeal and the relatives of the British passengers are determined to hold the Labour government to their promise, made in opposition of an independent inquiry. If the relatives get their way, a huge can of worms will be opened for, as our book reveals, almost from the night the plane went down, vital evidence was suppressed.

Massive Dissents from Informed Professionals

Robert Black, a law professor from the University of Edinburgh, was the architect of the Lockerbie trial at Camp Zeist in the Netherlands. He stated that “no reasonable tribunal could have convicted Megrahi on the evidence that was presented. Black called the 2001 conviction of al-Megrahi “an absolute and utter outrage.” He mocked the three Scottish judges by comparing them to the White Queen in “Through the Looking Glass” that “believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast.”

The UN-appointed observer at the trial, Hans Köchler, stated “there is not one single piece of material evidence linking the two accused to the crime ...the court’s verdict was a spectacular miscarriage of justice.”

Dr. Jim Swire, whose daughter was among the people killed on Flight 103, and who stayed informed on the trial proceedings, called the charges by the prosecutors against the two defendants a “cock and bull story.” So outraged was he about the cover-up and false charges that he provided money to hire lawyers for Megrahi’s legal defense.

Libya Gave in to the Harmful Economic Sanctions

Sixteen months after Megrahi’s conviction, Libya and its people suffered severe financial losses due to the economic sanctions imposed by the United States and followed by the United Nations. Without accepting blame for the downing of Flight 103, Libya agreed on May 29, 2002, to pay \$10 million in damages to the families of each of the 270 victims, for a total of \$2.7 billion.

Libya agreed to make the payments in stages as the sanctions were lifted. Forty percent upon cancellation of the United Nations sanctions; forty percent when U.S. trade sanctions were removed, and the final twenty percent when the U.S. state department removed Libya from the list of states sponsoring terrorism.

Appearing on London’s BBC’s Radio 4 (February 24, 2004), Libyan Prime Minister Shukri Ghanem stated that Libya paid the money to lift the sanctions. During an interview on BBC (August 31, 2008), Saif al-Gaddafi, the son of Col. Gaddafi, stated why Libya was paying, and then referred to the Flight 103 families as greedy, stating “They were asking for more money and more money and more

money”.¹

Lawyers Also Feasted On the Fraud Played on Libya

The U.S. aviation litigation firm of Kreindler feasted on the scheme. The scheme shifting blame to Libya and Megrahi provided a deep-pocket defendant that paid the firm tens of millions of dollars. Speaking on December 3, 2003, Jim Kreindler stated that his law firm would receive an initial contingency fee of approximately one million from each of the 128 American families the firm represented, for a total of over \$300 million.

Kreindler claimed the fees were justified: “Over the past seven years we have had a dedicated team working tirelessly on this and we deserve the contingency fee we have worked so hard for, and I think we have provided the relatives with value for money.”

[Profitable Joining of Cover-Up Conspiracy]

By that statement, he implied that he knew of the evidence showing that Libya and al Megrahi were victims of the scheme by U.S. and British personnel to divert attention away from the actual bombers.

Another U.S. aviation law firm, Speiser Krause, had 60 relatives as clients. That law firm made even more from the families’ settlement. The firm’s charges were up to 35 percent of the money awarded to each of the relatives.

One of their lawyers, Frank Granito, admitted that “the rewards [lawyer compensation] in the U.S. are more substantial than anywhere else in the world but nobody has questioned the fee while the work has been going on; it is only now as we approach a resolution when the criticism comes your way.”

Another \$2 Million Taken Out by Lobbying Firm

Also with the fingers in the pot, taking money from the relatives, was the U.S. lobbying firm of Quinn Gillespie & Associates. In March of 2009, they received two million in fees for work they did from 2006 through 2008 for helping relatives obtain payment from Libya.

Nearly half of the amount paid by Libya each family went to lawyers and lobbying firms. All of them—who knew Libya and Megrahi were not guilty of the crime—had reason for covering up for the real bombers and having innocent parties pay for the financial gains they received by remaining quiet—or becoming accessories after the fact.

But There was Still More Money from Pan Am’s Insurance

A federal court in 1992 found Pan Am Airlines, along with two Pan Am subsidiaries guilty of willful misconduct due to lax security screening, Alert Management Inc. and Pan American World Services, that handled Pan Am’s security at foreign airports. More financial windfalls for the victims’ families and lawyers.

The crash and other problems resulted in Pan American Airlines going out of business, after having started America’s international aviation travel.

Lockerbie Court to Hear New Evidence

Armed with the new information, Megrahi's lawyers filed papers to have the appeal reopened for presentation of new evidence that surfaced. A Scottish newspaper article (April 2, 2002) described the actions of a Scottish appellate panel addressing the Libyan previously held guilty for conspiracy in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103:

New evidence that could undermine the case against the Libyan intelligence officer convicted of the Lockerbie bombing was admitted yesterday by the court hearing his appeal. The defense claimed the Boeing 747 was blown up above the Scottish town by a rogue Palestinian group, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine—General Command.

Abu Nidal was killed in his Baghdad residence in August 2002, ending a long career as a terrorist. An *Associated Press* article (August 23, 2002) reported the claim by a close aide to Abu Nidal, Atef Abu Bakr, from Cairo, that Nidal had told him that he was behind the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie in 1988.

This would fit in with the information showing that the terrorist group based in Syria, PFLP-GC, placed the bomb on Flight 103. Bakr was a former spokesman for the Nidal group and one of Nidal's closest aides from 1985 to 1989, until he split with the group over policies. The *Associated Press* article described a series of interviews published in the Arabic *Al Hayat* newspaper. Bakr is stated in the Arabic paper as stating:

Abu Nidal told a meeting of the Revolutionary Council leadership, "I have very important and serious things to say. The reports that attribute Lockerbie to others are lies. We are behind it. If any one of you lets this out, I will kill him even if he was in his wife's arms."

Abu Bakr was quoted as saying in the interview to be published in the paper's Friday edition, "The meeting was attended by five members of the council, including Abu Bakr and Abu Nidal."

An article in the *Sunday Herald*, Scotland (March 3, 2002) headlined, CIA Evidence "clears Libya" of Lockerbie."

INVESTIGATION: By Neil Mackay, Home Affairs Editor, John Ashton in Washington and Ian Ferguson in Camp Zeist. One of the CIA's leading Lockerbie bomb investigators has come forward with compelling evidence that Libya was not behind the downing of Pan Am 103 which killed 270 people. Robert Baer, a retired senior CIA agent, offered to meet the defense team leading the appeal of Abdelbaset Ali Mohamed Al Megrahi, who was convicted last year of the bombing. However, his offer was not accepted and the new evidence never raised in court.

[CIA Agent Identified the Actual Bombers]

The new evidence, according to Baer, shows Iran masterminded and funded the bombing; implicates the Palestinian terrorist unit, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), as the group behind the plot; and reveals

that just two days after the December 21, 1988 bombing the PFLP-GC received \$11 million (£7.6m), paid into a Swiss bank account by Iran.

Legal experts say the new evidence should have been brought before the court, and are asking why Megrahi's defense didn't take up the offer. Megrahi's appeal, which took place at a special Scottish court sitting at Camp Zeist in Holland, adjourned on Thursday for judges to consider whether to overturn the original verdict. Baer claims he is breaking his silence now because of growing disillusionment with the CIA's counter-terrorist operations and the war on terror.

Baer, an anti-terrorist specialist, was one of the key CIA officers investigating Lockerbie. He says the CIA received definitive evidence that the PFLP-GC struck a deal with Iranian intelligence agents in July 1988 to take down an American airliner.

[Money Paid to Actual Bombers]

Baer also has details of an \$11 million payment made to the PFLP-GC. On December 23, 1988, the money was paid into a bank account used by the terror group in Lausanne, Switzerland. It was transferred to another PFLP-GC account at the Banque Nationale de Paris and moved to the Hungarian Trade Development Bank.

A terrorist linked to the PFLP-GC, Abu Talb, who was later jailed for terrorist offences in Sweden, was also paid \$500,000 (£350,000). The money went into an account in Talb's name in Frankfurt four months after the bombing, on April 25 1989. Germany was a key base for the PFLP-GC in the late 1980s. Baer has the number of at least one of these bank accounts.

Talb and the PFLP-GC were to have been implicated by lawyers working for Megrahi and his co-accused, Al Amin Khalifa Fhimah, at the original trial, but little evidence was ever raised to show they were part of the Lockerbie plot. On legal advice, Baer is not disclosing his Lockerbie records, but the *Sunday Herald* has seen CIA paperwork that supports his claims. British and US intelligence have always publicly denied that the PFLP-GC played a part in the Lockerbie plot, saying raids by German police two months before the Lockerbie bombing took the terror group out of action.

Baer says, however, that these arrests were a mere hiccup in PFLP-GC plans as other members of the German unit remained at large. This theory also fits with claims that the bomb began its journey in Frankfurt, rather than Malta, where Megrahi was based. PFLP-GC leader Hafez Dalkamoni and the group's chief bomb-maker, Marwan Khreesat, were arrested in Germany in October 1988 in possession of a Toshiba radio-cassette player containing a bomb. Pan Am 103 flew from Frankfurt and was destroyed by a bomb built inside a Toshiba radio-cassette.

Timers matching the one used in the Lockerbie device were sold to both Libya and the East German secret service, the Stasi,

which had close links to the PFLP-GC. "I don't know what components the bomb contained," Baer said, "but there was very reliable information from multiple sources that the PFLP-GC) were running around between East and West Germany and Sweden, trying to get the operation back on track. It's conceivable that the Stasi supplied components during a trip to East Germany."

Baer said the components for the bomb were supplied by a terrorist known as Abu Elias, who was for a time the CIA's prime suspect but was never caught. "He was the big centre of the investigation, but he was very elusive," Baer said. Khreesat and Dalkamoni were on their way to meet Abu Elias when they were arrested in Germany. Abu Elias was a close associate of Abu Talb. Both lived in Sweden.

Talb had made a trip to Malta just weeks before the Lockerbie bombing. Clothes from a shop in Malta were packed in the suitcase which contained the Pan Am 103 bomb. Baer also claims the CIA has irrefutable intelligence that Talb and Dalkamoni were Iranian agents and were on a government roll of honor for their services to the "Islamic revolutionary struggle against the west," Baer added: "Although it was not specific, Dalkamoni's citation praised him for achieving Iran's greatest-ever strike against the west."

Iran had vowed "the skies would rain with American blood" after a US battle cruiser, the USS Vincennes, shot down an Iranian Airbus over the Persian Gulf, killing 290 people, six months before the Lockerbie bombing.

"It doesn't take a genius to figure out where the \$11 million came from," says Baer. He added that "the information [would] be useful to the defense as much of it was of a type that would be admissible in court. Once the investigators had the timer evidence, which seemed to point to Libya, they stopped pursuing other leads; that's the way most criminal investigations work. People sleep better at night if they think they have justice. Who wants an unsolved airplane bombing?"

Edinburgh University law professor Robert Black, the architect of the Lockerbie trial, said of Megrahi's defense not seeking to interview Baer: "I don't know why they would act like this. Real hard evidence of a money transfer from Iran to the PFLP-GC is so supportive of the alternative theory behind the bombing that I'm at a loss to explain their actions. At the very least, you would interview the source of the information and make a decision once you have spoken to him. A lawyer's job is to provide a belt-and-braces defense for his client, so to refuse to even meet with Baer requires a lot of explaining."

Filing Papers for Review of Evidence

Megrahi's lawyers filed papers (September 23, 2003) with the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (SCCRC) to have Megrahi's case returned to the Court of Criminal Appeal for a fresh

appeal. The request was based upon additional information being made available, including the articles in various European media. by the UN observer at the trial in Camp Zeist, Netherlands, Hans Köchler. He had been designated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

UN Observer Described Spectacular Miscarriage of Justice

Köchler referred to the decision by the Scottish judges as a “spectacular miscarriage of justice.” He had issued deploring the injustice for several years and demanding an independent international investigation into the matter. Kochler also criticized the SCCRC judges for excluding Scottish police, prosecutors and forensic staff from blame related to Megrahi’s wrongful conviction. He also blamed the role of intelligence service personnel in the wrongful conviction.

One British Article Was More Direct About

Lawyers and Victims Families Primary Interest

Despite Britain’s onerous libel laws, one British article was more direct about the interests of lawyers and the Flight 103 victims’ families:

Lawyers for the victims’ families, nor the families the lawyers represented, were interested in the true perpetrators being identified, as the true perpetrators had no money to pay. But continuing to blame the Libyan government satisfied these two groups, and provided the government with ammunition to find fault with a government whose ideas were not in synch with White House politicians.

Courageous People—in Europe—Demanded the Truth

Dr. Jim Swire, a spokesman for a group demanding that the truth be revealed, known as UK Families-Flight 103 (UKF103), sent a letter to *The Herald* (October 13, 2005):

If Megrahi were to be transferred to Libya he would be something of a hero and might lose his keenness for further appeal. Should that happen, as one of the many deeply involved parties, I will not be alone in demanding of the SCCRC that they continue their decision-making process. It remains our right both to know why our loved ones were not protected and to see the Scottish judicial process completed without government interference of any kind.

An article in London’s *Sunday Times* reported (October 23, 2005) that former Lord Advocate, Lord Fraser, who had issued the arrest warrant for Megrahi, believe a great injustice had occurred. He had doubts on the reliability of the Malta shopkeeper, Tony Gauci, the main witness at the trial.

Following an interview with Professor Robert Black of Edinburgh University, the architect of the PAA Flight 103 bombing trial, *The Scotsman* newspaper reported (November 1, 2005) that he vowed to ensure that Megrahi’s case be reviewed. He stated, “It was the most disgraceful miscarriage of justice in Scotland for 100 years. I won’t let it go.”

In another article that same day, The Scotsman reported that Dr. Jim Swire of UKF-103 met Megrahi for the purpose of asking him whether he would still press for the SCCRC to continue to review his case if he was to be released. Dr. Swire stated:

“Megrahi was happy for me to make it known that he is determined to pursue a review of the case, no matter what might evolve concerning his future detention.”

Dr. Swire⁹ stated, “It is very important to the members of UKF-103 campaign group that there be a full review of the entire Lockerbie scenario through an appropriately empowered and independent inquiry, but the absence of a further review of the court case would also damage our search for justice.” Dr. Swire stated that if Megrahi did not continue his appeal, the group would press the SCCRC to review the case as interested parties.

Publicity and Evidence Finally Forced Scottish Judicial Commission to Authorize Second Appeal

The massive evidence and publicity finally forced the Review Commission of the Scottish Criminal Court (SCCRC) to issue a News Release on June 28, 2007. That release addressed the evidence that the Libyan agent charged with the bombing of PAA Flight 103 was innocent and that he was a victim of a massive fraud involving large numbers of people under the direction of U.S. Department of Justice personnel.

The SCCRC decision referred Megrahi’s case to the High Court for a second appeal. That decision was based on a 800-page report that determined “a miscarriage of justice may have occurred.” The decision rejected prior decisions in that new evidence could be introduced, including key evidence sequestered by the prosecutor. The decision stated:

NEWS RELEASE

ABDELBASET ALI MOHMED AL MEGRAHI

28 June 2007

The Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (“the Commission”) has today referred the case of Abdelbaset Ali Mohamed Al Megrahi (“the applicant”) to the High Court of Justiciary.

As a result of the Commission’s decision the applicant is entitled to a further appeal against his conviction for the murder of 270 people who died following the bombing of Pam Am flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland on 21 December 1988.

In accordance with the Commission’s statutory obligations, a statement of the reasons for its decision has been sent to the High Court, the applicant, his solicitor, and Crown Office. The Commission has no power under statute to make copies of its statements of reasons available to the public. However, given the worldwide in-

⁹ One of several Internet sites relating to Dr. Swire: <http://plane-truth.com/Aoude/geocities/flora.html>

terest in this case, and the fact that there has been a great deal of press and media speculation as to the nature of the grounds of review, the Commission has decided to provide a fuller news release than normal. Accordingly, a brief summary of some of the Commission's main findings in the case is given below.

As the full statement of reasons extends to over 800 pages and is accompanied by a further thirteen volumes of appendices it is not possible to reflect the detail or complexity of the issues that have been addressed by the Commission. This news release is intended therefore merely to assist in an understanding of the nature of the Commission's main investigations and findings and does not form part of its decision in the case.

[Evidence was presented that] cast doubt on the origin of a fragment of circuit board recovered by forensic scientists which the trial court accepted had been part of the MST13 timer that triggered the bomb. Underlying those submissions was the allegation that evidence of the timer fragment had been fabricated in order to implicate Libya in the bombing. The Commission undertook extensive enquiries in this area but found nothing to support that allegation or to undermine the trial court's conclusions in respect to the fragment.

The Commission also investigated claims that a former police officer who was involved in searches of the area around Lockerbie after the crash had found a "CIA badge" but had been told by colleagues that such items were not to be recorded as evidence. As part of its enquiries into this allegation the Commission interviewed the officer concerned. It also took statements from another officer who it was alleged had been present when the badge was found, and from the senior investigating officer at the time. Both of these witnesses disputed the officer's claims and the Commission's other enquiries established nothing that might support the claims. Accordingly the Commission was not prepared to accept the officer's allegations.

[CIA Involvement in Evidence Tampering]

It was also alleged in the submissions that items found at the scene of the crash had been "spirited away" and that there had been "unofficial CIA involvement" in the recovery and examination of these. One such item was a suitcase belonging to one of the passengers on PA103,

5.1 The following is a brief summary of some of the Commission's main findings on the grounds of review which formed the basis of the grounds of referral:

A number of the submissions made on behalf of the applicant challenged the reasonableness of the trial court's verdict, based on the legal test contained in section 106(3)(b) of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995. The Commission formed the view that there is no reasonable basis in the trial court's judgment for its conclusion that the purchase of the items from Mary's House, took

place on 7 December 1988. Although it was proved that the applicant was in Malta on several occasions in December 1988, in terms of the evidence 7 December was the only date on which he would have had the opportunity to purchase the items.

The finding as to the date of purchase was therefore important to the trial court's conclusion that the applicant was the purchaser. Likewise, the trial court's conclusion that the applicant was the purchaser was important to the verdict against him. Because of these factors the Commission has reached the view that the requirements of the legal test may be satisfied in the applicant's case.

New evidence not heard at the trial concerned the date on which the Christmas lights were illuminated in the area of Sliema in which Mary's House is situated. In the Commission's view, taken together with Mr. Gauci's evidence at trial and the contents of his police statements, this additional evidence indicates that the purchase of the items took place prior to 6 December 1988. In other words, it indicates that the purchase took place at a time when there was no evidence at trial that the applicant was in Malta.

Additional evidence, not made available to the defence, which indicates that four days prior to the identification parade at which Mr. Gauci picked out the applicant, he saw a photograph of the applicant in a magazine article linking him to the bombing. In the Commission's view evidence of Mr. Gauci's exposure to this photograph in such close proximity to the parade undermines the reliability of his identification of the applicant at that time and at the trial itself.

Other evidence, not made available to the defence, which the Commission believes may further undermine Mr. Gauci's identification of the applicant as the purchaser and the trial court's finding as to the date of purchase.

Details of the tests, and how they may be applied, can be found on the Commission's website, www.sccre.org.uk.

A decision by the Commission to refer a case to the High Court does not guarantee the success of the subsequent appeal. A reference is simply an indication to the court that a miscarriage of justice may have occurred and that it is in the interests of justice for the court to consider the case. Once a decision is made by the Commission to refer a case its role in the matter is at an end and it is the responsibility of the applicant or his legal representatives to decide upon and formulate the grounds of appeal and thereafter to present the appeal.

FBI-Funded Perjury Related to Source Of the Bomb Timer and Perjury

"Lockerbie Bombing Case Faces U-turn after Perjury Confession" stated the heading on a Sofia, *Bulgaria News Agency* article (August 20, 2007):

The Lockerbie bombing case, which has often been linked to the trial of the six Bulgarian medics in Libya, is about to make a historic U-turn after a key witness confessed to perjury, Darik radio reported.

Ulrich Lumpert, a Swiss electronic engineer and former employee at the Zurich-based MEBO Ltd Telecommunication, has admitted that he stole from the company a hand manufactured MST-13 Timer PC-Board that was later used as evidence against the defendant, Libyan agent Abdel Basset al-Megrahi. The confession was made in a letter sent to dozens of organizations and individuals, including Darik radio journalist Svetoslav Ivanov. The hand-over happened on June 22, 1989.

Megrahi was found guilty in 2001 of the bombing of a Pan Am flight over the Scottish town of Lockerbie, which killed 270 people. He is serving a life sentence in a Scottish prison but in June won the right to launch an appeal.

Lumpert, who was summoned to testify as witness No. 550, says he did not know that the MST-13 Timer PC-Board was used for a specific purpose in connection with the attack on Pan Am 103. "I have been living in an indescribable condition of depression and fear since my second examination by the police in 1991," Lumpert says in the letter.

He claims he was shocked when he was shown the photograph with the apparent MST-13 Timer fragment by the "BUPO", FBI and the Scottish Police, for the first time in mid January 1991.

"They confronted me with the fact that this MST-13 Timer fragment was found in Lockerbie and was part of the ignition device of the suitcase with explosives, which caused the Boeing 747 Pan Am Flight 103 to crash," Lumpert recalls.

"When I realized that the MST-13 PC-board, after it was handed over by me without permission was misused for deliberate politically criminal "action", it was clear to me that I was stuck "in the middle of it" and decided to keep quiet, for it could have been extremely dangerous for me as an unintentional "bearer of secrets".

"I am sorry for the consequences of my silence at that time for the innocent Libyan Mr. Abdelbaset Al Megrahi, sentenced to life imprisonment, and for the country of Libya," says Lumpert's letter, which has been officially certified in Switzerland.

It concludes with a call for putting an end to the accusation that Libya is responsible for the Lockerbie Tragedy by "manufacturing" MST-13 Timer-Link with criminal intent.

At the beginning of August the son of Libyan leader Seif al-Islam told French newspaper Le Monde there was a link between the case of the jailed agent, Abdel Basset al-Megrahi, and Libya's freeing last month of six foreign medics convicted of deliberately infecting Libyan children with HIV. Al-Islam said Libya will soon have an extradition agreement with Britain and stressed he was

confident of his early return.

A *Dallas News* article (July 29, 2008) related to the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 stated:

**FBI Offered me \$4m: Lockerbie bomb witness
Michael Howie home affairs correspondent**

A witness in the Lockerbie case has claimed he was offered \$4 million (£2 million) by American investigators to lie to the trial judges. Edwin Bollier, head of the Swiss company MEBO that was said to have manufactured the timer used to detonate the Pan Am bomb, claims he was offered the money by the FBI at its Washington HQ in exchange for making a statement that supported the main line of inquiry—that Libya was responsible for the bombing.

He has told Dr Hans Koechler, who was a UN observer during the trial of Abdelbaset Ali Mohmed al-Megrahi in the Netherlands, that he was offered a “new life” in the United States if he testified that the timer found in the plane wreckage had been supplied to Libya. “I rejected this and said this could not possibly be the case,” he said. He added that there was a “loud dispute” after he rejected the offer.

The claim follows news that the Maltese shopkeeper Tony Gauci, whose evidence led to Megrahi’s conviction, was offered \$2 million by the CIA.

FBI Forensic Lab Falsified Evidence

In an April 27, 2009, British document called “Lockerbie Revisited,” narrator Gideon Levey interviewed officials involved with the 103 case. Former FBI laboratory scientist Fred Whitehurst described the FBI laboratory itself as a “crime scene,” with FBI personnel routinely altering the scientific reports. Further, the interview revealed that the timer fragment had never been tested for explosives residue, making it inadmissible. That was the only evidence that FBI and British authorities used to link Libya with the bombing. In an earlier edition of *Unfriendly Skies* published in 1980, I had cited reports revealing the same FBI forensic lab fraud.

When asked about the importance of the timer, FBI Task Force Chief Richard Marquise stated: “It would be a very difficult case to prove. I don’t think we would ever (have) had an indictment.”

Additional Evidence of Innocence

Another of many articles appearing in a European newspaper and Internet sites (August 29, 2007) describing the corrupt manipulation of evidence by FBI personnel involving Lumpert:

The Lumpert Affidavit

Ulrich Lumpert, an engineer at one time employed by MEBO in Zurich, gave evidence at the Lockerbie trial that a fragment of circuit board allegedly found amongst the aircraft debris (and which was absolutely crucial to the prosecution contention that the bomb which destroyed Pan Am 103 was linked to Libya) was part

of an operative MST-13 timer manufactured by MEBO.

In an affidavit sworn in Switzerland in July 2007 (available on the website www.lockerbie.ch) Lumpert now states that the fragment produced in court was in fact part of a non-operational demonstration circuit board that he himself had removed from the premises of MEBO and had handed over to a Lockerbie investigator on 22 June 1989 (six months AFTER the destruction of Pan Am 103).

If this is true, then it totally demolishes the prosecution version of how the aircraft was destroyed, as well, of course, as demonstrating deliberate fabrication of evidence laid before the court.

At the forthcoming appeal resulting from the SCCRC's report on the Megrahi conviction, will the appeal court have an opportunity to assess the truth of Lumpert's revised version of events? The hurdles are formidable. Section 106 (3C) of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995 provides that an appeal may not be founded upon evidence from a witness at the original trial which is different from, or additional to, the evidence that he gave at that trial, unless there is a reasonable explanation as to why the new evidence was not given by him at the original trial and that explanation is itself supported by independent evidence.

In this context "independent evidence" means evidence which was not heard at the original trial; which comes from a source other than the witness himself; and which is accepted by the appeal court as credible and reliable. It might well be extremely difficult to convince a court that these conditions were satisfied in Lumpert's case.

US Paid Bribes for Desired Witness Testimony

The title in a *Guardian* article (October 2, 2009), referring to the payment for perjury by U.S. Department of Justice personnel, "US paid reward to Lockerbie witness," stated:

Scottish detectives discussed secret payments of up to \$3 million made to witness and his brother, documents claim. Abdelbaset al-Megrahi's documents would have formed part of an appeal against his conviction for the Lockerbie bombing.

Photograph: Danny Lawson/PA

The man convicted of the Lockerbie bombing released evidence today claiming to show that a key witness at his trial received payments from the US after giving evidence.

The claim is made in documents published online by Abdelbaset al-Megrahi in support of his attempt to clear his name of involvement in the worst terrorist attack on British soil. It refers to concerns raised by the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (SCCRC) about the safety of Megrahi's conviction for killing 270 people in the Lockerbie bombing on 21 December 1988. The documents would have formed part of an appeal, which Megrahi, who is terminally ill, agreed to drop in return for his release on compassionate grounds.

The commission found police memos suggesting that Tony Gauci, the only witness to link the Libyan to the alleged plot, expressed an interest in being paid to give evidence. He also received payments from the US department of justice after the trial, the new documents claim to show.

The commission said the documents should have been disclosed to Megrahi's defence team, and that the failure to do so made Megrahi's conviction false. The papers allege that Gauci was paid two million for Megrahi's conviction, and one million to his brother Paul, for assistance in causing his brother to testify falsely.

There is a difference between paying unknown witnesses to come forward, and paying a known witness to alter their testimony. The later is a crime.

Primary Witness Recants Prior Testimony

European I.P.O. Information Services had the following article relating to the primary witness U.S. and UK prosecutors used to place the blame on a Libyan for the bombing of PAA Flight 103:

Lockerbie revelations:

Statement of Dr. Hans Koechler, International Observer at the Lockerbie Trial, on Recent Reports in the Scottish and British Media Vienna, 14 October 2005/P/RE/19402c-is

The Austrian professor who was appointed by the United Nations as international observer at the Lockerbie trial in the Netherlands today commented on reports in the Scottish and British media about new doubts on the handling of the case by the judicial authorities.

Dr. Hans Koechler said that the dramatic shortcomings and errors in the conduct of the trial that have been brought to the attention of the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (SCCRC) confirm his earlier assessment that the Lockerbie trial resulted in a "spectacular miscarriage of justice." (BBC News, 14 March 2002) Dr. Koechler pointed to the following information that transpired in the media and that puts in doubt the very integrity of the judicial process in the Lockerbie case:

[Circuit board planted]

1. The credibility of a key forensic expert in the trial, Mr. Allen Feraday (UK), has been shattered. It was revealed that "in three separate cases men against whom Mr. Feraday gave evidence have now had their convictions overturned" (BBC, 19 August 2005). Mr. Feraday had told the Lockerbie court that a circuit board fragment found after the disaster was part of the detonator used in the bomb on board Pan Am flight 103. In the first case where Mr. Feraday's credibility had been questioned the Lord Chief Justice had stated that Mr. Feraday should not be allowed to present himself an expert in electronics.

[Fabricating Testimony]

2. A retired Scottish police officer has signed a statement confirming that the evidence that found Al-Megrahi guilty was fabricated. The police chief, whose identity has not yet been revealed, testified “that the CIA planted the tiny fragment of circuit board crucial in convicting a Libyan” for the bombing of the Pan Am jet (Scotland on Sunday, 28 August 2005). The fragment was supposedly part of the timing device that triggered the bomb. The circumstances of its discovery—in a wooded area many miles from Lockerbie months after the atrocity—have been mysterious from the very beginning.

[FBI Forensic Lab Fraud]

3. Much earlier, a forensic specialist of the American FBI, Tom Thurman, who was publicly credited with figuring out the fragment’s evidentiary importance, was later discredited as a forensic expert. A 1997 report by the US Justice Department’s Office of the Inspector General found “that in a number of cases other than Lockerbie, Thurman rewrote lab reports, making them more favorable to the prosecution. The report also recommended Thurman be reassigned to a non-scientific job because he lacked a background in science.” (*American RadioWorks* / Public Radio, March 2000)

[Falsifying Clothes Evidence]

4. The most recent revelation relates to a mix-up of forensic evidence recovered on the ground in Lockerbie with material used during a series of test explosions in the course of the investigation. In one case, a garment which was damaged in a test explosion was presented as if it was the original garment found on the ground (which was completely undamaged). This garment was supposedly placed in the suitcase containing the bomb. “It casts serious doubts over the prosecution case because certain items that should have been destroyed if they were in the case containing the bomb are now known to have survived the blast.” (*The Observer*, London, 9 October 2005)

All these facts—which are now before the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission—confirm the serious doubts about the Lockerbie proceedings originally raised by the UN-appointed observer, Dr. Hans Koechler. In his comprehensive reports on and evaluation of the Lockerbie trial (2001) and appeal (2002) as well as in his statement on the compensation deal made between the US, UK and Libya in 2003, Dr. Koechler had criticized the highly politicized circumstances in which the case was handled and drew the attention of the international public to the possible interference of intelligence services from more than one country.

New light is being shed on his original conclusion that the trial was not fair and that the basic requirements of due process had been neglected by what *The Herald* (Glasgow) most recently has referred to as a “distasteful political fix” (12 October 2005). It has been reported that secret talks are under way to transfer the con-

victed Libyan national to a North African country, which may frustrate the efforts at a retrial under Scottish law.

[US and Britain Desperate to Avoid Retrial Evidence]

It is worthy to note, in that regard, that the decision of the SCCRC about a retrial or new appeal has again been delayed until some time next year, Dr. Koechler said. As reported by *The Herald*, it appears that the key players—the three countries involved in the Lockerbie dispute—“are so anxious to avoid a retrial that officials are said to have held secret talks to secure a get-out clause.”

Commenting on these revelations, Dr. Koechler stated that only a retrial, if conducted in a fair, impartial and transparent manner according to the requirements set by UN Security Council resolution 1192 (1998), including the presence of international observers, will do justice to the convicted Libyan national and to the victims’ families who deserve to know the full truth about the case. This is also imperative under the fair trial standards set by the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, he said.

[Falsification of Evidence, Criminal Offenses]

Dr. Koechler reiterated his call for an independent public inquiry about the background of the terrorist crime as well as the criminal investigation and prosecution by the Scottish judiciary and the institutions of the United Kingdom. He stated that the falsification of evidence, selective presentation of evidence, manipulation of reports, interference into the conduct of judicial proceedings by intelligence services, etc. are criminal offenses in any country.

In view of the above new revelations and in regard to previously known facts as reported in Dr. Koechler’s reports, the question of possible criminal responsibility, under Scots law, of people involved in the Lockerbie trial should be carefully studied by the competent prosecutorial authorities.

In a TV talk with Anne Mackenzie for BBC *Newsnight* Scotland (1 September 2005) Dr. Koechler said that, while he does not question the integrity of Scots law as such, the handling of the Lockerbie trial has nevertheless seriously damaged the reputation of the Scottish legal system. A “political fix” such as the one reported last week in the Scottish and British media would confirm these doubts and further undermine the confidence in the integrity of the Scottish judicial system. He also said that he is afraid that, because of the political interests involved in the case, the full truth—including the identity of those responsible for the planning, financing and actual perpetration of the crime—may never be known.

In today’s statement Dr. Koechler emphasized that the “global war on terror” cannot be fought credibly and with a chance of success if—in the worst case of terrorism in the history of the United Kingdom—the search for truth is abandoned for political expedi-

edny and criminal justice, i.e. the rule of law, is sacrificed on the altar of political and commercial interests.

Another Reference to Koechler and Bollier

Statement of Dr. Hans Koechler, an international observer appointed by the United Nations at the Scottish Court in the Netherlands (2000-2002), on a key witness's admission of perjury in the Lockerbie Trial, Vienna, Austria, 28 August 2007 P/RE/20559c-is:

On 4 August 2007 Dr. Hans Koechler received from Mr. Edwin Bollier, head of the Swiss-based company MEBO AG, a copy of the German original of an Affidavit, dated 18 July 2007 and signed by Mr. Ulrich Lumpert, former employee (electronics engineer) of MEBO AG, Zurich, related to the Lockerbie case. In a statement released today, Dr. Hans Koechler, who has followed the Lockerbie proceedings since the beginning of the trial in the Netherlands in May 2000, highlighted basic aspects and questions of this new revelation that appear to be of relevance not only in connection with the upcoming second appeal of the convicted Libyan national, but also for new prosecutorial action ex officio by the Scottish authorities.

[FBI Presentation of Timer Another Fraud]

In his affidavit, Mr. Lumpert implicitly admits having committed perjury as witness No. 550 before the Scottish Court in the Netherlands. He states (Par. 2) that he has stolen a handmade (by him) sample of an "MST-13 Timer PC-board" from MEBO company in Zurich and handed it over, on 22 June 1989 (!), to an "official person investigating the Lockerbie case."

[Fearing for his life: courtesy of FBI personnel]

He further states (in Par. 5) that the fragment of the MST-13 timer, cut into two pieces for "supposedly forensic reasons," which was presented in Court as vital part of evidence, stemmed from the piece which he had stolen and handed over to an investigator in 1989. He further states that when he became aware that this piece was used for an "intentional politically motivated criminal undertaking" (vorsätzliche politisch kriminelle "Machenschaft") he decided, out of fear for his life, to keep silent on the matter.

The rather late admission of Mr. Lumpert is consistent with an earlier revelation in the British and Scottish media according to which a former Scottish police officer (whose identity has not yet been disclosed to the public) stated "that the CIA planted the tiny fragment of circuit board crucial in convicting a Libyan" for the bombing of the Pan Am jet (Scotland on Sunday, 28 August 2005).

[Investigate FBI Criminal Manipulation of Evidence]

Upon receipt of the document, Dr. Koechler informed the owner of MEBO AG on 7 August 2007 that Mr. Lumpert will have to submit his affidavit under oath before the competent judicial authorities of Scotland. In the meantime (22 August 2007), the owner of MEBO AG has requested the Scottish judicial authorities—by

way of the Swiss Prosecutor's office and on the basis of the agreement on mutual judicial assistance between the UK and Switzerland—to investigate the alleged criminal manipulations referred to in Mr. Lumpert's statement.

In his capacity as UN-appointed observer of the Lockerbie trial, Dr. Hans Koechler has repeatedly raised the issue of the timer fragment and expressed his amazement at the Defense team's refusal to look into the matter during Mr. Megrahi's appeal when questions as to the reliability of forensic evidence had already been raised. (See Dr. Koechler's appeal report, Par. 10 [c] of 26 March 2002; his statement of 23 August 2003, Par. 10; and his statement of 14 October 2005, Par. 2.)

[Scottish Judge Protecting Manipulation of Evidence]

It is to be recalled that, as witness before the Lockerbie court, Mr. Edwin Bollier had raised the issue of the manipulation of the timer fragments, but was brusquely interrupted in his testimony by the presiding Judge and prevented from giving further information in this matter.

In the meantime (information received on 26 August 2007), Mr. Lumpert has revised part of his Affidavit (Par. 5); he now states that the letter "M" on the timer fragment (supposedly for the German word *Muster*: sample), unlike previously stated, has been engraved by himself. In view of this and earlier statements, Mr. Lumpert's credibility will have to be assessed very carefully by the competent judicial authorities and he will have to be made aware of the consequences, in terms of criminal law, of lying to the Court.

[Credibility of Scottish Judges]

At the same time, the credibility of the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (SCCRC) is also at stake. In its News Release of 28 June 2007, in which it had announced the referral of Mr. Al-Megrahi's case to the Scottish High Court for a second appeal, the SCCRC found it necessary to "absolve" the investigating authorities of any suspicion of wrongdoing.

Should Mr. Lumpert's confession be proven to be true, the SCCRC's statement—"The Commission undertook extensive enquiries in this area but found nothing to support that allegation or to undermine the trial court's conclusions in respect of the fragment"—will appear highly questionable, even dubious.

[Widespread corruption in Scottish Judicial System]

The public will have to ask why a supposedly independent judicial review body would try to exonerate "preventively" officials in a case which is being returned to the High Court for a second appeal because of suspicions of a miscarriage of justice. If it is indeed the rule of law that governs the Scottish polity, the Scottish judicial authorities will have to deal with this new revelation *ex officio*, independently of how the appeal court in Mr. Megrahi's case will evaluate this witness's confession of perjury.

[Continuation of obvious cover-up]

Those responsible for the midair explosion of Pan Am flight 103 will have to be identified and brought to justice. If there was any wrongdoing, criminal and/or due to incompetence, of the judicial authorities in the investigation and prosecution of the Lockerbie case, this will also have to be dealt with through proper procedures of criminal law. A continuation of the rather obvious cover-up which we have witnessed up until now is neither acceptable for the citizens of Scotland nor for the international public, Dr. Koechler stated.

Another earlier report (August 29, 2007) relating to the Lumpert affidavits stated:

Ulrich Lumpert, an engineer at one time employed by MEBO in Zurich, gave evidence at the Lockerbie trial that a fragment of circuit board allegedly found amongst the aircraft debris (and which was absolutely crucial to the prosecution contention that the bomb which destroyed Pan Am 103 was linked to Libya) was part of an operative MST-13 timer manufactured by MEBO.

In an affidavit sworn in Switzerland in July 2007 (available on the website www.lockerbie.ch) Lumpert now states that the fragment produced in court was in fact part of a non-operational demonstration circuit board that he himself had removed from the premises of MEBO and had handed over to a Lockerbie investigator on 22 June 1989 (six months AFTER the destruction of Pan Am 103).

[Fraud Covers Up How Bombing Occurred]

If this is true, then it totally demolishes the prosecution version of how the aircraft was destroyed, as well, of course, as demonstrating deliberate fabrication of evidence laid before the court.

Five Scottish Judges Blocking Evidence of Fraud

In January 2009, the second appeal was scheduled to be heard by the Court of Criminal Appeal, consisting of five judges in Edinburgh. They refused to submit the appeal to the Crown Office, and ruled that the scope of evidence presented at the second appeal should be limited to what was earlier referred to, ignoring the major evidence that had since surfaced. The limit to the evidence was critical to protect the perpetrators of the massive fraud that involved FBI agents, Scottish police, investigators, prosecutors and judges.

SCCRC Judges Overturned Prior Judges Decision

A decision issued on October 15, 2008, by the SCCRC judges unanimously rejected the decision by the Crown Office to limit the evidence to be heard in Megrahi's second appeal. The start of hearing appeal evidence was set for April 28, 2009 and estimated to require 12 months due to the massive amount of evidence and the complexity of the case.

The SCCRC believed that there were enough trial irregularities that it ordered the appeal sent by to the trial court. A hearing was due in

November 2009. Among the issues to be determined were:

- The way in which identification evidence was given by Tony Gauci, the store keeper, that testified about the purchaser of the clothing.
- Whether Gauci was paid for his testimony.
- The numerous contradictions in his testimony identifying the purchaser, and the final qualification that he provided.
- The withholding of information by the British government on the basis of Public Interest Immunity, that deprived Megrahi of due process and denied the public the right to know who actually was responsible for the downing of Flight 103.
- Concerns with the forensic evidence and its defective presentation.
- Megrahi was charged with being an active part of a criminal plan with others to down Flight 103, but no one else was charged other than Fhimah, who was found innocent. His only role was placing the suitcase on board a LL airline flight at Malta, an event for which there was nothing but speculation.
- The only alleged act of Megrahi was to purchase clothes in Malta that were allegedly found in the suitcase containing the explosive device.
- Megrahi's lawyers argued:
 - The identification by the store keeper was incredibly flawed.
 - No evidence showing that Megrahi was part of any criminal act.
 - No evidence of any specific act except for the purchase of the clothing allegedly found in the suitcase believed to have contained the explosive device.
 - No evidence of Megrahi's connection to any terrorist activity or explosives.
 - No evidence connecting the various purchasers of the MST-13 timing devices to Flight 103.
 - No evidence connecting Megrahi to the timing devices or any explosive.
 - No evidence as to the source of the Samsonite suitcase allegedly carrying the explosive device.
 - No reliable evidence that Megrahi was the purchaser of the clothing.
 - No evidence that the date of purchase was the December 7, 1988 claimed by the prosecutors.
 - No evidence that the suitcase allegedly loaded at Malta was the suitcase found in a third flight, that being 103.
 - No evidence that the alleged suitcase loaded at Malta contained the IED device.
- The sole evidence was the statements and testimony of the Maltese shopkeeper, Tony Gauci. The three judges relied upon:
 - The identification by Gauci.
 - The purchase date being December 7, 1988.
- Uselessness of Gauci's identification:

- The appeal brief stated:
- “On February 15, 1991, over two years after the purchase, Gauci rejected all the photographs because they showed men who were younger than the purchaser. He was then asked to discount age and to look again. Then he selected the photograph of the appellant saying it was “similar” but “younger.” [That was an obvious negative identification.]
- An identification Parade on 13th April 1999 was held at Kamp Zeist in the Netherlands. The defence made a number of objections that the parade was unfair. These were noted. The parade went ahead. Mr. Gauci selected the appellant and said “Not exactly the man I saw in the shop. Ten years ago I saw him, but the man who looked a little bit like exactly is the number 5”.
- In court at the trial, having been shown a press photograph of the appellant which identified him as the bomber, the witness was then asked if he saw the purchaser in court and he pointed to the appellant and stated “He is the man in this side. He resembles him a lot....That is the man I see resembles the man who came.”

Rehearing Threatens U.S. and Scottish Personnel Involved in World’s Worst Aviation Disaster

Twenty years after the bombing of Flight 103, on April 28, 2009, a panel of five judges in Edinburgh began hearing the case. Clearly at risk were the British and U.S. governments and the people involved in diverting attention from the actual bombers to an innocent Libyan. All of these happenings were kept from the American people by U.S. media personnel, government officials, and members of Congress

Future Defenses Against Aviation Terrorism Undermined by Culture of Corruption

If—and that is a big IF—if the evidence available to the appeal because known—and understood—it would reveal that the existing culture would enable other acts of aviation terrorism to succeed.

- The culture of corruption endemic of those in control of the U.S. Department of Justice would be revealed.
- The collusion of large numbers of people in the British government, and particularly in Scotland, would be revealed.
- The combined fraud that protected the people who actually were responsible for the 270 deaths would be revealed.
- The combined fraud that made victimized one lone individuals, using the massive resources of the United States and British governments.
- An indication of how the truth is manipulated relating to terrorism, with the danger of being repeated in such a way that future terrorist attacks would be enabled.
- Revealed the willingness of these people to engage in lies to the people.
- Many people profiting on the criminal perjury and criminal fraud

by people in the U.S. Department of Justice, and their skills, were able to financially profit: the lawyers representing families of the victims, and the families, who would not have received the many millions they received if the fraud had not taken place.

- U.S. media personnel would have been revealed for their cover-ups of evidence that European media sources and experts were reporting.

**Solution to a Major Problem for US and British Conspirators:
Offer Megrahi His Release If He Drops His Appeal**

If the appeal was dropped, that would greatly reduce the enormous fallout from the massive fraud involving large numbers of people in the U.S. Department of Justice and in various government entities of the British government. Negotiations behind the scenes resulted in pressure on Megrahi to drop the appeal and in exchange he would be released.

Megrahi's defense team stated in a press conference that Megrahi was being pressured into dropping the appeal and accepting a compassionate release. Since he was suffering from prostrate cancer, it became relatively easy to justify the release, especially to people that have been kept ignorant of the fraud that had been inflicted. Desperate to see his wife and children before he died, Megrahi applied to have his appeal dropped, which would then result in his release.

Continuing the fraud, Scottish authorities argued that it was necessary for Megrahi to drop the appeal as a pre-condition to be released under the Prisoner Transfer Scheme. But that was not a requirement as a matter of law. Justice Secretary Kenny MacAskill stated that the decision had been entirely Megrahi's own choice, contrary to what Megrahi and his lawyers had stated. His release occurred in August 2009.

Flag-Waving Home-Coming for Victim of Multi-Nation Fraud

Newspapers showed thousands of Libyans, many of whom had been kept informed of the evidence and its cover-up, welcomed the arrival in Libya of Ali al-Megrahi. But in the United States, where U.S. media had kept the information about the appeal and the massive evidence of fraud from the people, the reaction was entirely different.

Instead of showing concern for the victim of the massive hoax, in the United States, they continued to call him a mass murderer. Encouraging this deception were employees of the U.S. Department of Justice, media people involved in the cover-ups, political pundits, and politicians such as President Barack Obama, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and Britain's Gordon Brown. So much for the blissful state of ignorance!

**DOJ Personnel Paying Witness to Commit Perjury and
Obstruct Justice in Major Terrorist Attack**

An article in the *Guardian* (October 2, 2009), titled, "US Paid Reward to Lockerbie Witness, Abdel Baset al-Megrahi Papers Claim," stated in part:

Two key figures in the conviction of the Lockerbie bomber were secretly given rewards of up to \$3 million in a deal discussed by Scottish detectives and the US government, according to legal papers released today. The claims about the payments were revealed in a dossier of evidence that was intended to be used in an appeal by Abdelbaset al-Megrahi, the Libyan convicted of murdering 270 people in the bombing of Pan Am flight 103 in 1988.

Megrahi abandoned his appeal last month after the Libyan and Scottish governments struck a deal to free him on compassionate grounds because he is terminally ill with prostate cancer. Now in a hospital in Tripoli, Megrahi said he wanted the public to see the evidence which he claims would have cleared him.

“I continue to protest my innocence; how could I fail to do so?,” he said. “I have no desire to add to the upset of many people I know are profoundly affected by what happened in Lockerbie. My intention is only for the truth to be made known.”

The documents published online by Megrahi’s lawyers today show that the US Department of Justice (DOJ) was asked to pay \$2m to Tony Gauci, the Maltese shopkeeper who gave crucial evidence at the trial suggesting that Megrahi had bought clothes later used in the suitcase that allegedly held the Lockerbie bomb.

The DOJ was also asked to pay a further \$1m to his brother, Paul Gauci, who did not give evidence but played a major role in identifying the clothing and in “maintaining the resolve of his brother”. The DOJ said their rewards could be increased and that the brothers were also eligible for the US witness protection programme, according to the documents.

The previously secret payments were uncovered by the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (SCCRC), which returned Megrahi’s conviction to the court of appeal in 2007 as a suspected miscarriage of justice. Many references were in private diaries kept by the detectives involved, Megrahi’s lawyers said, but not their official notebooks.

The SCCRC was unable to establish exactly how much the brothers received under the DOJ’s “reward-for-justice” programme but found it was after Megrahi’s trial and his first appeal in 1992 was thrown out.

A memo written by “DI Dalglish” to “ACC Graham” in 2007 confirms the men received “substantial payments from the American authorities”. The inspector claims the rewards were “engineered” after Megrahi’s trial and appeal were over, but said there was “a real danger that if [the] SCCRC’s statement of reasons is leaked to the media, Anthony Gauci could be portrayed as having given flawed evidence for financial reward.” Instead, he claimed, the reward was intended to ensure the Gauci could afford to leave Malta and start new lives “to avoid media and other unwanted attention”.

[FBI Offering Bribes for Perjury Testimony]

However, the documents disclose that in 1989 the FBI told Dumfries and Galloway police that they wanted to offer Gauci “unlimited money” and \$10,000 immediately. Gauci began talking of a possible reward in meetings with Dumfries and Galloway detectives in 1991, when a reward application was first made to the DOJ.

The evidence, which was due to be heard by the appeal court next month, also discloses that Gauci was visited 50 times by Scottish detectives before the trial and new testimony contradicting the prosecution’s claims that Megrahi bought the clothes on 7 December 1988, the only day he was in Malta during the critical period.

In 23 police interviews, Gauci gave contradictory evidence about who he believed bought the clothes, the person’s age, appearance and the date of purchase. Two identification experts hired by Megrahi’s appeal team said the police and prosecution breached the rules on witness interviews, using “suggestive” lines of questioning and allowing “irregular” identification line-ups.

Two new witnesses also disproved the prosecution claim that Megrahi was in Gauci’s shop on 7 December, his lawyers said. Gauci said the area’s Christmas lights were not on when the clothes were bought. The current Maltese high commissioner to the UK, Michael Rufalo, then the local MP, told the SCCRC the lights were switched on on 6 December, raising further inconsistencies in the prosecution case.

It has also emerged that Scottish police did not tell Megrahi’s lawyers that another witness, David Wright, had seen two different Libyan men buying very similar clothes on a different day, and again clouded the prosecution case.

A spokesman for the US Department of Justice also refused to comment, since Megrahi had voluntarily withdrawn his appeal. He said: “None of the allegations in the SCCRC referral, or the grounds of appeal filed by Megrahi, were finally adjudicated by the Scottish High Court of Justiciary (the appropriate judicial forum) because Megrahi withdrew his appeal before the court could rule. Consequently, the U.S. Department of Justice will not comment further on his aborted appeal.”

Post-Release Attempt to Prove His Innocence and Expose the Massive Frauds

Most people being released, if they were not innocent, would let the matter lie. But al-Megrahi had the character to show the world that he was innocent. He was outraged by the group-fraud perpetrated upon him, which also had adverse effects elsewhere. Megrahi vigorously acted to reveal the truth before he died from prostate cancer. His efforts were reported in a *Wall Street Journal* article (September 21, 2009), one of the few U.S. newspapers daring to expose the hoax that involved

U.S. Department of Justice personnel and U.S. politicians:

Lockerbie Bomber Disputes Conviction

London: Abdel Baset al-Megrahi, the recently released Libyan agent convicted in the Lockerbie bombing, posted documents online arguing the case for his innocence, in an effort to clear his name. Mr. al-Megrahi dropped an appeal last month, removing a legal hurdle to his transfer to a prison in his homeland. Days later, Scotland released Mr. al-Megrahi, who is terminally ill with cancer, on compassionate grounds.

Mr. al-Megrahi's release unleashed anger from relatives of many victims who say he should have been kept behind bars. But some relatives of British victims said they believed his conviction was botched, and that Scotland sent him back to Libya to cover up deficiencies in the investigation, a charge Scotland [naturally!] denies.

On Friday, Mr. al-Megrahi released a 298-page legal brief that laid the grounds on which his attorneys argued the prosecution/s case had been weak and that "no reasonable jury" could have convicted him. The documents released Friday were part of an appeals-court hearing that took place earlier this year, but hadn't previously been made public.

"As a result of the abandonment of my appeal, I have been deprived of the opportunity to clear my name through the formal appeal process. I have vowed to continue my attempts to clear my name," Mr. Al-Megrahi said in a statement.

Key evidence in the prosecution's case included the remains of clothing from a suitcase thought to have carried the bomb. Investigators traced the clothing to a shop in Malta, where shop owner, Tony Gauci, identified Mr. Al-Megrahi as the man who purchased it.

Seeking to Clear His Name Before His Death

Shortly after his release, Megrahi was rushed to the hospital for a flare-up of his terminal cancer. Despite his pain, after he was released in August 2009, Megrahi prepared a web site and released 298 pages of legal papers that were part of his appeal. These were some of the evidence that Scottish authorities sought to keep from the public. Megrahi continued to protest his innocence long after he could have simply let the matter lie. Megrahi wrote: "In releasing this information I have no desire to add to the upset of many people I know are profoundly affected by what happened in Lockerbie. My intention is only for the truth to be made known."

On October 2, 2009, Megrahi released a 170-page legal brief containing previously undisclosed evidence, including some uncovered by a Scottish review panel of his 1998 conviction

British Cover-Up Until Hell Freezes Over!

In reaction to those releases, the Scottish prosecutors in the Scottish Crown Office stated: "The only place to determine these issues is the

criminal court. All of these issues could have been raised during the course of the appeal which Mr. al-Megrahi abandoned.” Continuing in the cover-up charade was Scottish Justice Secretary Kenny MacAskill, who stated he continued to support the conviction.

The enormity of the aviation disaster, the importance of getting to the truth so as to prevent a repeat, and the enormity of the crimes perpetrated by people in government positions, dictated that the Scottish and British officials conduct an immediate investigation by people within a cover-up agenda and without prior involvement. That was not done, being indicative of the intent to keep information from the people as to the people that actually committed the bombing, and the people who covered up for the 270 deaths.

Like the Mafia, Scottish Police Involved In Paying Bribes for Perjured Testimony

In one of the writings released by Megrahi and his lawyers after Megrahi’s release, attention was focused on Scottish police officers discussing the deal made by FBI employees offering a huge amount of money to Gauci in order to have him alter his testimony. The Scottish police felt that Gauci “could be portrayed [by the media] as having given flawed evidence [perjured testimony] for financial reward” if the commission released this information.

British Authorities Ignored Responsibility to Expose the Truth—That Implicated Them and U.S. Personnel

Another indication that the goal was to prevent the truth from being revealed was the halting of the appeal. Despite the release of Megrahi, Scottish and British officials had a duty to allow the evidence cited in the appeal to be heard so as to allow the truth behind the bombing of Flight 103 to come out. But under pressure from America’s politicians and U.S. Department of Justice personnel, this important issue was blocked.

Despite the massive evidence of cover-ups and crimes such as bribing witnesses to testify falsely, the British government refused to order an independent inquiry. Even the U.S. presidential commission reported the disaster could have been prevented and recommended an independent investigation.

Long Pattern of Corruption and Consequences

The culture of Department of Justice personnel that diverted attention from the actual bombers to an innocent person would play a role in another terrorist downing of a U.S. airliner, and after that, in terrorist attacks involving four airliners in a single day.

As revealed in earlier pages, Department of Justice personnel covered up, and even retaliated against—the federal airline safety inspector that was reporting the corruption responsible for a long series of preventable and forewarned airline disasters. They could be thankful for the many people covering up for their misconduct, and the American public’s lack of curiosity and reading interests. And to this day, the American public remains as uninformed as ever, insuring that this worsening pattern would continue.

What This Culture of Arrogance and Corruption Means for Americans and National Security

The massive fraud originating from FBI-DOJ personnel was not simply of academic interest. The fraud was a deep culture of the people that have been in control of the Department of Justice for years, and that culture would result in still more, and bigger catastrophic events. Staye tuned for even worse—courtesy of your protectors in the FBI and other Department of Justice offices.

British Libel Laws Discouraged Exposing and Describing the Enormous Frauds

Britain's libel laws discourage writers and media from reporting the massive corruption related to Britain's worst aviation disaster in history, as well as the worst terrorist attack upon a U.S. airliner. As told to me by Alan Francovich, it was the threat of being sued that kept his publisher from publishing his book.

An reference to this obstacle to revealing scandals was in a *New York Times* article (May 25, 2009) titled, "A Fight to Protect Americans From British Libel Law," that stated in part:

London has gained a reputation as the libel capital of the world. Saudi businessmen have sued there to complain about American reports that they engaged in terrorist financing; Russian and Ukrainian oligarchs have sued in Britain over accusations of unsavory business activities; and Hollywood celebrities have gone to London to seek redress over reports of wayward kisses.

Critics of British defamation law say it chills free speech in several ways. Defendants have to prove that their published allegations were true, unlike in the United States, where the burden rests with plaintiffs to demonstrate that allegations were false.

Also, defendants in Britain face a heavy financial burden. They have to pay their lawyers regardless of whether they win or lose. The claimants, by contrast, generally sue under "no win, no fee" arrangements. If they win, the defendants often have to pick up the claimants' costs, too.

Rather than fighting against these odds, many people accused of libel in Britain settle without trials. Or, in suits involving foreign defendants, they simply do not show up.

American publishers with operations in Britain are potentially more vulnerable to an effort to collect an award, lawyers say, and newspapers like *The Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times*, as well as *The Times's* global edition, *The International Herald Tribune*, have faced British libel actions recently.

National differences in libel laws have always existed, but the borderless nature of the Internet has increasingly brought them into conflict. In the case of "Funding Evil," for instance, the first chapter of the book was published on the ABC News Web site, giving it a far wider circulation in Britain than the 23 copies that were sold there, according to Judge Eady.

With the age of the Internet, everything appearing in print in the United States is promptly available in Great Britain, making anyone in the United States reporting corruption subject to British libel laws, which is preposterous.

But this targeting of people exposing corruption is done to a limited extent in the United States. I became a victim of that in 2001, as a hoard of lawyers, starting with a law firm in South Carolina, filed a sham libel action against me in a small Sought Carolina community where control of judges is even worse than in most other U.S. communities. The intent was to halt my exposure of corruption that directly affected multi-aircraft hijackings on a day that became infamous. Information on this matter is at www.defraudingamerica.com and in the book, *Crimes of the FBI-DOJ, Mafia, and al Qaeda*. And it could be argued, the culture of people in control of the U.S. Department of Justice, described in small part here, played a major enabling role.

Reference Material

For those people with an especially strong interest in learning about the massive evidence of corruption described in this chapter, the following are among the Internet sites containing more evidence. Notice that they are all in non-U.S. media and government locations. Talk about censorship, the U.S. certainly has it.

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pan_Am_Flight_103
- <http://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/library/lockerbie/index.asp>
- <http://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/library/lockerbie/docs/lockerbiejudgement.pdf>
- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Megrahi>
- <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB125327832757222965.html>
- <http://canadafreepress.com/index.php/article/5475>
- <http://lockerbiecase.blogspot.com/2007/08/lumpert-affidavit.html>
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pan_Am_Flight_103
- <http://plane-truth.com/Aoude/geocities/flora.html>