

Spy arrests:

U.S. intelligence community braces for the aftermath of recent scandals

By WILLIAM M. WELCH
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A former CIA intelligence analyst was charged Saturday with selling U.S. secrets to China for more than \$140,000 since 1952 and giving the communists information on Chinese soldiers taken prisoner during the Korean War.

In a complaint released Saturday, the FBI said Larry Wu-Tai Chin, 63, was paid by the Chinese for information he obtained over more than 30 years while working for the U.S. embassy in Hong Kong and CIA's Foreign Broadcast Information Service.

The Chin case was the latest in a series of blows to U.S. intelligence services, and the, third espionage arrest in the Washington area in three days.

'It's been going on a long, long time.'

— Federal law enforcement official on the latest spy scandals.

Chin, who retired from the Central Intelligence Agency in 1981, was arrested at his Alexandria, Va., home and was arraigned on charges of espionage and conspiracy, the FBI said.

"It's been going on a long, long time," said one federal law enforcement source, who spoke only on condition he not be identified. He said authorities are considering the possibility Chin was spying as far back as the early 1940s, before communist forces won control of China.

Details of information that may

have been compromised were not immediately available. At the time of his retirement, Chin worked in the Foreign Broadcast Information Service at the CIA's headquarters in Langley, Va., where foreign government radio services are monitored and transcribed.

As a CIA employee, Chin would have carried a "top secret" clearance, officials said.

Justice Department sources said Chin worked for the U.S. government in various capacities since the early 1940s and had worked for CIA for at least 11 years. Chin also did work for the agency as a translator, and had been employed at the U.S. embassy in China in the early 1940s, the sources said.

In another espionage case, the wife of a Navy intelligence officer charged with selling U.S. military secrets was arrested Friday night and was arraigned Saturday. Anne L. Henderson-Pollard, 25, wife of Navy intelligence analyst Jonathan J. Pollard, was ordered held without bail on a federal charge of gathering or delivering defense information.

Federal prosecutors said the charge carried a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine.

According to an affidavit filed by prosecutors, Pollard called his wife Monday while he was being interrogated by federal agents and asked her to remove "certain articles" from their apartment.

The affidavit said later that day Mrs. Pollard gave a friend a suitcase she said contained classified documents that "must be destroyed" because "something had happened to her husband."

The affidavit said the suitcase bearing the name tag J. Pollard and containing classified documents was

recovered by federal agents the next day.

Officials said Jonathan Pollard admitted selling U.S. secrets to Israel and Pakistan and receiving nearly \$50,000. But a Justice Department official said they were skeptical of his remarks about Pakistan.

FBI Director William Webster said in a prepared statement that Chin, a naturalized U.S. citizen, was a recruited intelligence agent of the People's Republic of China. He said Chin provided numerous classified CIA documents to China both during and after he was employed by the CIA.

A Justice Department source said it was believed Chin was paid a substantial amount of money by the Chinese over that period.

Chin lives at a high-rise apartment complex in Alexandria, Va. He is married and has three children.

An FBI official, insisting on anonymity, said Chin has given a statement to authorities Friday night after he was questioned beginning around 5 p.m. He was arrested just before midnight and was being questioned again Saturday.

If convicted of espionage, Chin

could face a maximum penalty of life in prison.

"This case probably parallels the Walker case in duration," said the law-enforcement source. He was referring to retired Navy communications specialist John A. Walker Jr., who pleaded guilty late last month to running a spy ring for the Soviet Union in the U.S. Navy for 18 years — a ring that included his son, his brother, and allegedly a friend.

Pollard's arrest, ironically, came on the same day the Pentagon unveiled a study commission's report recommending more than 60 changes

aimed at tightening security — including greater use of polygraph testing for people handling classified documents — in light of the Walker case.

The Oakland Tribune in a copyright story published in Saturday editions reported that Pollard boasted to college friends at Stanford University 10 years ago that he was an Israeli intelligence agent.

In October, the FBI issued a warrant for another former CIA officer, Edward Lee Howard, accused of conspiring to deliver defense information

Israel tries to contain damage to U.S. ties in wake of Pollard arrest

By ALLYN FISHER
Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM — The Israeli government pledged a thorough investigation and possible dismissals yesterday over a spy scandal that threatened to damage its relations with the United States, its closest ally.

The Foreign Ministry statement was the first time Israel has conceded that it might be linked in some way to the Jonathan J. Pollard case, although high-ranking officials said the government had not been involved.

Previously, government officials have denied any knowledge or involvement with Pollard, a civilian U.S. Navy analyst arrested Friday and accused of selling classified military documents to Israel and Pakistan for \$50,000 in the past two years.

High-ranking officials stressed Sunday that if Israel was involved, the government knew nothing about it.

"The orders didn't come from Jerusalem," said one official, speaking on condition of anonymity. "We are checking whether it was a local initiative... We are checking how something like that could have happened without our knowledge."

Said a second senior official: "What is clear

today is that the political echelons knew nothing about this incident."

The ministry statement said Israel's policy "is to refrain from any intelligence activity in the United States" because of the traditionally close ties between the two countries.

"A thorough examination is being undertaken to determine whether there has been a deviation of any kind from this policy. Should such a deviation be found to have occurred, the necessary conclusions will be drawn," said the statement, using a phrase indicating severe punishment.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres received a preliminary report on the investigation earlier Sunday and consulted with his top Cabinet ministers.

"Actions of this kind against the United States stand in total contradiction to the policy of the Israeli government," said the statement, which was coordinated between Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

An Israeli official, who insisted upon anonymity, said he expected "heads to roll" if an unauthorized intelligence operation was conducted in the United States.

Secretary of State George Shultz, said in a meeting Friday with visiting Cabinet member Moshe Arens that he was shocked by the case, which violates a gentleman's agreement between

Israel and the United States not to spy on each other.

In wording apparently aimed at soothing anger in the Reagan administration, the Foreign Ministry statement said Israeli policy forbade spying against the United States "because of the close relations and the special and traditional friendship between the two countries."

Some Israeli officials suggested that Israel's intelligence agency may have hired an agent in the United States without Cabinet-level approval.

Espionage against the Americans "would be a breach of trust," said Isser Harel, who created Israel's Mossad intelligence agency.

"The United States is the only major power that supports us, all the way up the line from defense to the president," Harel said in a radio interview.

In a 1981 accord, the two nations agreed to share intelligence. They have had an informal agreement since the 1950s not to spy on each other.

But Israel is known to have conducted covert operations in the United States.

Last May a California businessman, Richard Smyth, was indicted on charges of illegally exporting 800 krytons to Israel since 1980. Krytons are electronic switches used for lasers and to ignite explosions. They could be used to detonate a nuclear bomb.

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