

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
400TH CIC DETACHMENT
A. M. E. T.

Cairo, Egypt
9 May 1945

Subject: Activities of the Stern Group in Egypt as revealed
by the interrogation of Raphael Sadowsky.

Summary of Information:

1. Sadowsky was arrested on 22 Mar 45 in a Jewish secretary near Cairo while looking for the location of the graves of Makin and Bet Suri, the Moyne murderers. Under interrogation by the Egyptian Police authorities, he admitted membership of the Stern Group to which he was recruited in 1943 by Joseph Sytner, leader of the Group in Egypt.

2. Until the period immediately before the murder of Lord Moyne, Sadowsky's main function appears to have been that of liaison and his task was principally to keep the members of the gang in touch with one another through meetings with Sytner, leader of the Group in Egypt, and other members of the Group.

3. Over four months before the Moyne murder Sadowsky had been told by Sytner that two members of the Group would be arriving in Egypt to carry out an important job and he was asked to try and find a room for them. Sadowsky was the first contact of both Makin and Bet Suri on their arrival in Cairo and kept them in touch with Sytner.

4. Sytner came to Cairo twice during Makin's stay in Egypt. On the first occasion Sytner, Sadowsky, Makin and an A.F.S. auxiliary, Cassia Lourie, met in a Cairo cafe and Sytner announced that the Stern headquarters had decided to kill Lord Moyne. Immediately after this meeting Sytner, Makin and Sadowsky reconnoitered the area where Lord Moyne's offices were situated.

5. After the crime, had the two managed to escape, they were to leave Cairo in uniforms, leaving their civilian clothes to be collected by Sadowsky from a Cairo flower shop.

6. The main feature of Sadowsky's interrogation has been the number of names he has provided of persons who are members of or connected with the Stern Group in Egypt. The most important are listed below and fitted as far as possible into their proper places in the Sadowsky case. All the military personnel concerned are Palestinian, the civilians either Egyptian or domiciled in Egypt.

a. No. 774333 Lt. Col. Josef Sytner, alias Joseph Sytner, alias Ben Zwi.

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DATE 2006

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(1) According to Sadowsky, Sytner until recently was the leader of the Stern Group in Egypt. He had been three years with the R.A.F. in Cairo and one year in Alexandria and frequented the Jewish clubs in these two towns where he was known as Ben Zvi. He was an expert gun runner, arranged the distribution in Egypt of the Stern Group pamphlet "Front de Combat Hebreu" and arranged the forging of leave passes and documents for members of the Group to enter various camps. He is said to have had direct access to the leader of the Group in Palestine.

(2) In Sept 44 information received from Jewish Agency sources indicated that an attempt was to be made against the Delegates to the Pan-Arab Congress which opened at Alexandria on 27 Sept. Sytner, with two Jewish Naval personnel, was arrested and interrogated in Alexandria, but it was not possible to prove that he had any intention of committing any crime against the Congress. He was therefore released. Sadowsky has confirmed that an attack on the Congress was in fact planned and that Sytner would take part in it.

(3) At the request of SIME he was posted to an R.F. Station in Palestine in Nov 44. On the day after the arrest of Sadowsky, he disappeared from his unit and has not so far been traced.

b. No. Pal/17382 Pte. S.H. Strussman.

Sadowsky described Strussman as a close contact of Joseph Sytner both in Egypt and in Palestine. Strussman's main pre-occupation before he was posted to C.R.F. was the collection of arms, detonators, dynamite, hand-grenades, etc., which he passed to Sytner to hide and transport to Palestine. Arrangements are at present being made for his discharge from the armed Forces and internment in Palestine.

c. No. W/Pal/195201 Rova Cecilia Harkis. S.E.A.F. C/195201

(1) Louie, even before Sadowsky joined the group 18 months ago, was in very close touch with Sytner and was in fact his personal assistant. She acted as messenger for the group between Egypt and Palestine and was engaged in gun-running and the distribution of the Stern Group publication "Khasite".

(2) She attended the first meeting which took place between Sadowsky, Harkis and Sytner in Cairo, and was almost certainly aware of the plan to murder Lord Moyne. At this meeting she announced her intention of leaving the group, but Sadowsky would not say whether or not she was allowed to leave, although he never heard of her afterwards.

(3) She was recently discharged from the Forces and interned in Palestine.

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d. No. W/Pal/203416 Yaffa

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(1) Sadowsky states that Yaffa was one of the most active members of the Stern Group in Egypt and was placed under the orders of Sytner by the H.Q. of the Group. She also acted as messenger between Sytner and Zvi Feinberg, a member of the Group stationed at Kassar, who was killed in a train accident on 6 Dec 44.

(2) She was allotted by Sytner to Hakim as a companion during his stay in Cairo and on at least one occasion accompanied Hakim on a reconnaissance of Lord Moyne's house. She has recently been discharged from the Forces for internment in Palestine.

e. No. Pal/4547 Sgt. Genial

(1) Previous to Mar 45 Gerner was employed on commando work for I.S.9 in Italy. He carried out his work extremely well and was discharged from the Army in Mar 45 because of an infection of the eyes.

(2) It was afterwards reported to SIMS that Gerner was a member of the Stern Group and this information Sadowsky confirmed.

(3) Prior to his departure for C.M.F. in Sept 44 he was in very close contact with Sytner and Cassia Lourie in Egypt.

(4) He was on leave in Cairo during the trial of the Moyne murderers and took to Stern H.Q. in Palestine a complete and uncensored account of the trial which had been prepared by Albert Staraselsky, a Cairo journalist and President of the H.L.O. in Cairo.

(5) He also told Sadowsky that he had brought back from Italy in Jan 45 a V/T transmitting set for use by the Stern Group H.Q. This has been confirmed by Mrs. Borakimado, a Force House in Cairo the V/T set was left behind its despatch to Palestine. He has now been interned in Palestine.

f. No. Pal/13259 Sgt. Eitan Franco

(1) In Dec 44 Franco arrived at C.S.D.I.C. Sub-Centre M.E.F., Haadi, from C.M.F.

(2) Sadowsky states that while Franco was employed at C.S.D.I.C. 30 terrorists released from Asmara passed through Haadi on their way to Palestine, and claims that Franco was able to inform them of the existence of a special listening apparatus in the Camp. *Casualty member of Stern Group in Egypt*

(3) The interrogation of Mrs. Sarah Ar is revealed that Sgt. Franco delivered Gerner's V/T set at H.Q. *36 lines - might be ...*

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(4) Franco has recently been discharged from the Forces and interned in Palestine.

g. No. Pal/2697 Iavi Feinberg.

(1) Feinberg was killed in a train accident at Haascar on 6 Dec 44.

(2) His death was investigated at the time but there was nothing to indicate that he was a member of a terrorist organization.

(3) Sadowsky, however, has thrown a new light on Feinberg. He states that he was one of the Stern Group leaders in Egypt, that it was he who brought from Palestine the revolvers used to kill Lord Moyne, and was an important link in the smuggling of arms through Imsilia from Egypt to Palestine.

h. No. Pal/3934 Bar. Avrah Kuritzky.

Kuritzky, according to Sadowsky, was a close friend of Gepner and was also employed in the running of arms between Palestine and Egypt. He was Feinberg's second-in-command in Imsilia prior to Feinberg's death in Dec 44. Kuritzky carried the Moyne murderers' arms from Feinberg in Imsilia to Sadowsky at whose house he delivered them in Sept 44. Sadowsky in his turn delivered them to Hakim.

i. Albert Staraselsky.

Staraselsky has been a known member of the New Zionist Organization in Cairo for some considerable time. Sadowsky is vague as to whether or not he was a member of the Stern Group, but considers on the whole that he was not. He has, however, been for some time in touch with members of the Stern Group, was friendly with Gepner and Franco and has admitted under interrogation, supplying Gepner with a copy of the account of the trial of the Moyne murderers. This account was subsequently delivered by Gepner to Stern H.Q. in Palestine. He is at present under interrogation by the Cairo City Police.

j. H/EX 591954 EIA'S Nathan Horowitz, C-136487 3

(1) Horowitz was interrogated at the same time as Sytner in Alexandria in connection with the proposed attempt on the Pan-Arab Congress. There was no evidence to support his participation in this and he was released.

(2) Sadowsky, however, states that he was without a doubt a member of the Stern Group and that he had at one time been in command in Alexandria. He used Jewish servicemen's clubs in

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Alexandria as post-boxes for arms and explosives and was a specialist in the distribution of leaflets and other propaganda material. Horowitz is at present interned in Palestine.

R. No. 2992391 LACW. Ruth Grossbard. SEX: F CITIZENSHIP:

(1) During the stay of Hakin in Cairo, Grossbard, with Yaffa Greenberg, was seen by Sadowsky in the company of Sytner and Hakin. Sadowsky states that in Sept 44 when Sytner was arrested in Alexandria she helped to hide material which was in his possession and which would have incriminated him very seriously.

(2) On at least one occasion she went with Hakin to reconnoiter the neighborhood of Lord Moyne's house.

(3) She has recently been discharged from the service and interned in Palestine.

*Collected material from Hakin's workshop
to Captain Sadowsky in Sept 44
in the presence of Hakin and some other persons
him*

Previous Distribution:

None.

Distribution:

ACQS. A-T, WDGS 3 copies

--of source

Evaluation

--of information

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