

According to the CIA report, Eitan repeatedly promised that Israel would take care of Pollard.

The last time the two men met, in a meeting that lasted only 15 to 20 minutes, Pollard once again told Eitan of his concern about detection. Eitan, who appeared very angry, once again told Pollard that he had nothing to worry about insofar as his personal security was concerned.

## WASHINGTON D.C., NOVEMBER 21, 1985

When it became clear that the Americans had become aware of the operation, Pollard followed the instructions he had been given. After he stalled the FBI long enough for the entire Israeli team to flee the country, Pollard called his contact number for his own instructions.

It was only then that he found out — to his utter shock — that there was no escape plan in place for him. Instead, he was told to come to the Israeli embassy in Washington.

While being followed by the FBI, Pollard and his former wife made their way to the embassy.

The guards were awaiting him, and after he identified himself, the gates opened and he was allowed to drive into the embassy compound — an extrajurisdictional jurisdiction into which the FBI could not follow him.

For the first few moments it appeared that all was well, that the Israelis would keep their word and offer refuge to their agent.

Then someone came out of the embassy building and whispered something into the ear of the chief of security. He glanced at Pollard and then avoided his gaze.

What Pollard did not know at the time was that embassy officials had contacted Eitan and asked him what to do.

In a 2014 interview with *Ha'aretz* newspaper, Eitan recounted his response.

**"I immediately said — throw him out," he recalled. "I don't regret it," Eitan added.**

"Do you know who I am?" Pollard asked the guards who had been tasked with throwing out their own agent.

They nodded.

"Do you know what they are going to do to me?" he queried.

They nodded again.

"I have an instruction to ask for your last report," the chief of security told Pollard.

For a moment, Pollard didn't know whether the man was joking. He shrugged and gave in his last report.

The guard then pointed to the gate and told him, "You have to leave the embassy and walk in through the front door." Dozens of FBI agents had now massed outside the embassy, awaiting their prey. Pollard pleaded with the guards, but to no avail. He was forced to leave the compound and was immediately taken into custody by the FBI.

In the days and weeks after his arrest, FBI and CIA agents who interrogated Pollard told him repeatedly that they were shocked by his handler's "callousness" and "lack of tradecraft." His interrogators expressed disgust for a handler who would leave an agent without emergency training or instructions and then abandon him to his fate.

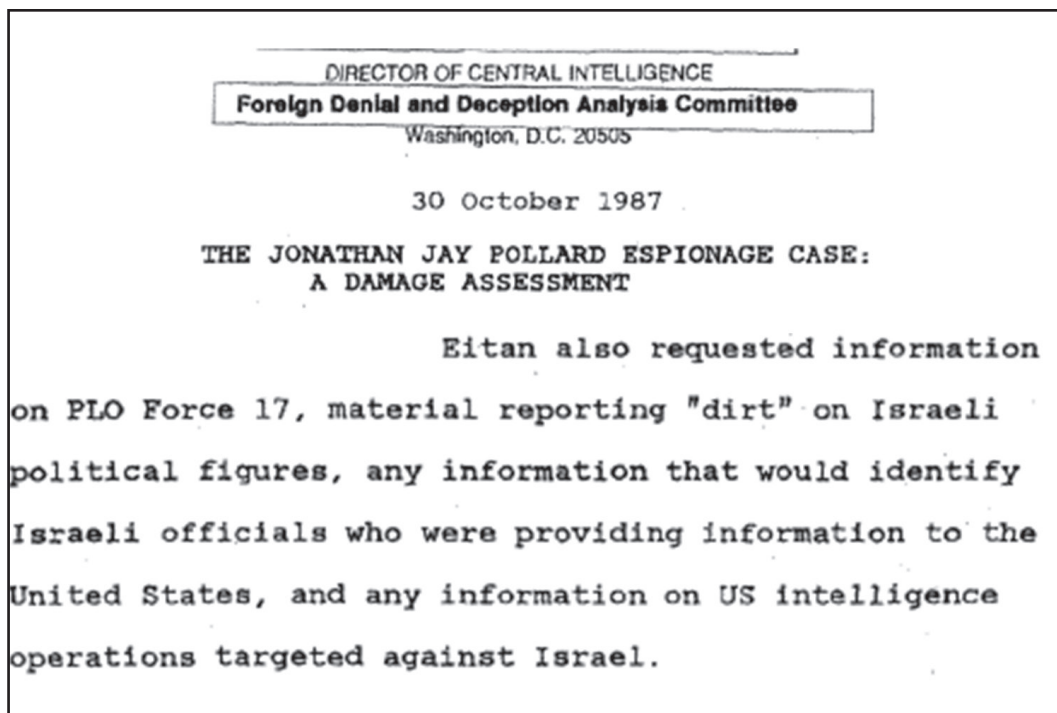
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Eitan didn't stop with having Pollard thrown out of the embassy. In a 2012 interview with *Yediot Acharonot*, Eitan revealed how he personally handed over incriminating evidence to the Americans, knowing full well it would be used to seal the fate of his own agent, Jonathan Pollard.

**"It was not an easy moment," Eitan told the newspaper, "The government made the decision, and I cooperated with the Americans against my agent."**

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Following his arrest, Pollard initially remained silent.



Composite image of a CIA "damage assessment," dated October 30, 1987.

Hamodia



Mr. Jonathan Pollard in his Manhattan apartment. The GPS is visible on his wrist.

When the investigators showed Pollard the box of material that Eitan had handed to the Americans — with Pollard's fingerprints still on it — they told him, "Here is your reward for your silence, a present from your friend Rafi Eitan."

In spite of this incriminating evidence, Pollard would only implicate himself and refused to testify against anyone else.

Eitan was well aware of the crucial importance of Pollard's activities.

In a 2006 interview with Ronen Bergman of *Yediot Acharonot*, Eitan said, "We're talking about information that was of such high quality, so accurate, so good and so important to the country's security ... After first looking through the information, and following a thorough examination of the materials by security experts, we realized the information was of critical significance to the country's security."

**"I would certainly say that, had a war broken out, the material Pollard relayed would have greatly boosted the IDF and had a fundamental impact on the battlefield," Eitan added.**

Nor did he have any doubts about Pollard's motives.

"The man made an exceptional impression on me with his intellectual ability, the detailed memory, the understanding of what was going on in the Middle East, and his attachment and desire to help Israel," Eitan told Bergman. "There's no doubt he placed himself in huge risk, and he fully realized that, even without our explanations."

"Despite this, his motivation to help us, the State of Israel, was above and beyond ... I had great appreciation for an American Jew willing to risk everything — his position in the U.S. Navy and in American society, and even his freedom, in order to help Israel and save the lives of Israelis."

## SOMEWHERE IN ISRAEL.

### 1998

For years, whenever Jonathan's wife Esther, who for decades led an international effort to gain her husband's freedom, asked to meet with Eitan, the latter refused.

Finally in 1998, Eitan consented and met with Mrs. Pollard, joined