

**Tusk - CIA prisons from 4**

Zbigniew Ziobro, state prosecutor Janusz Kaczmarek and special services coordinator Zbigniew Wasserman.

Another radio station, RMF FM, reported, in 2006 a secret meeting on the CIA prisons took place in Wasserman's office. According to the radio station, the then head of the Foreign Intelligence Agency, Zbigniew Nowek, brought information on the CIA prisons in Poland which was seen by all of those present.

According to the daily newspaper Gazeta Wyborcza, Roman Giertych informed Donald Tusk just after he became Prime Minister about a note which was prepared by the Foreign Intelligence Agency concerning the prisons. Tusk said that the information sent to him by Giertych was vague and denied being informed about the note. Since the allegations of the existence of CIA prisons was made back in late 2005 by the NGO (Non-governmental Organization) Human Rights Watch and reported in The Washington Post, government ministers past and present - denied any knowledge of a prison based at the Szymon airport not far from the capital city, radio marks.

**I have not seen any document about CIA prisons as Prime Minister:****Poland's Kaczyński**

Former Polish Prime Minister Jarosław Kaczyński stated yesterday that during his term as the head of the Polish government he had never come across any official paper indicative of existence in Poland of the clandestine CIA prisons, news agency PAP reports.

In an interview to radio RMF FM and weekly Newsweek, Jarosław Kaczyński told that the issue of secret detention facilities appeared during his discussion with the then Minister-Coordinator of special services in his government, Zbigniew Wassermann.

"Later I spoke to different people on the matter what it might be. Was all this chatter invented or not? However, we came to conclusion then that it was fabricated," - added Kaczyński. He pointed out that his personal viewpoint remained the same.

**Polish secret service agents confirm existence of clandestine CIA base in north Poland**

The Polish daily newspaper Dziennik newspaper reported yesterday about the existence of a CIA-run clandestine facility in northern Poland where terror suspects are believed to be held since 2002. The paper quoted Polish intelligence agency circles that have for the first time confirmed that the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) ran a secret prison facility on Polish soil.

One of anonymous intelligence officers told the daily that between 2002 and 2005 the CIA held terror suspects inside a military intelligence training base in Stare Kiejkuty in north-eastern Poland. The officer says only the CIA had exclusive access to the isolated zone, which was used because it was a secure site far from major towns and was close to a former military airport.

Supplies for the US staff and detainees were sent directly from the south German city of Frankfurt. American personnel had a 'free hand' and their activities were not controlled by Polish authorities, the Polish intelligence source was cited saying.

Another unnamed Polish secret service officer said transport vehicles with darkened windows were often sighted in the American zone of the base.

Both the then Prime Minister, Leszek Miller, and President, Aleksander Kwaśniewski, knew about the base, the newspaper reports. However the officer says it was unlikely either man knew if the prisoners were being tortured because the Poles had no control over the Americans' activities. Both leaders have always denied the existence of any such base.

Last month, Poland's judiciary launched reportedly an investigation over the existence of secret CIA jails in Poland. According to the spokesman of the Polish prosecutor's office, Maciej Kujaweski, the probe was only in its early phase. He did not reveal any further details, citing confidentiality.

Poland's chief prosecutor, Marek Staszak is heading the sensitive investigation, the private Polish radio ZET was quoted saying earlier.

International human rights groups have accused Poland and Romania of tolerating secret CIA jails where alleged terror suspects were interrogated and tortured. Based on a report by the lead investigator for the Council of Europe, Dick Marty, the existence of CIA prisons in Eastern Europe had been proven. Marty's 100-page report said the prisons were operated exclusively by Americans in Poland and Romania from 2003 to 2006. The report relied primarily on testimony from CIA operatives.

**CIA secret prisons in Poland: State Prosecutor's Office has no evidence of substance**

Investigation in the matter of the "clandestine CIA prisons" in Poland might be burdened with instructions on remission from bearing of state secret, daily Gazeta Wyborcza writes.

The State Prosecutor's Office of Poland admitted yesterday the fact of launching a secret investigation over the existence of the CIA jails in Poland in 2002-05.

- I am ready to testify before the prosecutor if I will be released from bearing of state secret in this certain matter, - the former coordinator of special services, Zbigniew Wassermann told Gazeta Wyborcza yesterday. A similar statement was also made by the former head of the Intelligence Agency (AW), Zbigniew Siemiatkowski.

The politicians speak in this manner as they well know the content of the AW and ABW charters which determine in what cases an official or an employee of the secret services can be released of bearing of state secret before the prosecutor. Instructions clearly say that there can be only two particular cases: in case of "a crime against human life or action against human life or health that has caused human death", or in the case of "a crime against peace, humanity, or war crimes".

At present according to information possessed by the Gazeta Wyborcza the investigation held by the State Prosecutor's Office of Poland is connected only with the misuse of authority or nonperformance of duties of the Polish office-holders. The point is that the Americans were authorized to go their own way regarding the prisoners on Polish soil without the control of Polish authorities.

The prosecutor has not named particular names of the officials involved in the case. State Prosecutor Marek Staszak has refused to confirm or deny allegations by a commercial Polish radio station that government ministers from Law and Justice knew of the existence of secret CIA jails in Poland, where Al Qaeda suspects were kept, Polish Radio adds. According to the State Prosecutor's Office of Poland, there is no evidence or plausible reason to suspect that crimes

were committed in the facilities under American supervision.

**Popular Polish daily looks back at story of revelation about CIA prisons in Poland**

Politicians of almost all parties in Poland have kept denying whether the CIA illegally held terrorists in secret prisons in Poland, daily newspaper Gazeta Wyborcza writes. The first to report about secret Central Intelligence Agency prisons in Europe where alleged Al Qaeda members were held was The Washington Post on November 2, 2005. The story was based on anonymous sources within the CIA.

The history of the article's publication (Dana Priest won a Pulitzer for it) is dramatic, according to Gazeta Wyborcza. President George W. Bush intervened when the newspaper was to go to print, asking for certain details - the names of the countries where the detention centres were located, and the names of the prisoners - to be withheld.

On November 7, the human rights organization Human Rights Watch said the prisoners had been held in Poland and Romania, among other places.

In December, ABC News reported the names of twelve terrorists who had supposedly been held in Poland, among them Khalid Sheik Mohammad, the mastermind of the World Trade Centre attack.

At the same time, European press reported on a whole 'global network of secret CIA prisons', mentioning countries not only in Europe, but also in Africa and the Middle East. Newspapers wrote about EU governments cooperating with the Americans and handing terrorist suspects over to them.

The whole story was presented in Ewa Ewart's BBC documentary about secret landings of CIA airplanes in Europe. EU institutions started investigating the matter. Three reports were drawn up confirming the prisons' existence in Poland and Romania: the Council of Europe's (June 2006), the European Parliament's (November 2006), and the European Commission's (November 2007). All three were based on circumstantial evidence and anonymous sources.

In September 2006, President George W. Bush admitted that the US had indeed used facilities in countries - members of the anti-terrorist alliance. He refused to name the countries and denied whether the detainees had been tortured.

Poland was named most emphatically by The New York Times in a June 2008 report that described in detail the interrogations at the military intelligence training centre in Stare Kiejkuty in north-eastern Poland. It even stated the name of one of the interrogators - Deuce Martinez. The report's author, Scott Shane, talked to a number of former CIA officers. According to them, the Polish prison was 'the most important one' for the CIA. 'Many' Al Qaeda terrorists were held there for months.

Last year a Council of Europe report quoted unnamed CIA sources as saying that "high-value detainees", including Khalid Sheik Mohammed - the alleged mastermind of the 9/11 attacks on the US in 2001 - had been interrogated in Poland. According to the report's author, Khalid Sheik Mohammed was tortured. Special interrogation tactics, such as sleep deprivation, frigid temperatures, fear, pain, simulated drowning - were used about one hundred times on Mohammad over two weeks.

The current Polish government says it has no knowledge of the base but it has sanctioned a new investigation into the claims. □

**Scientist returns to Poland from 5**

hierarchies, a young scientist would never be allowed to head her own laboratory. "In Poland, change goes pretty slow, I was disappointed to learn," she says. "A few months after I came back, I was really not sure it was a good decision in terms of my career. And I was kind of thinking about [going] back to the United States."

Her worries were short-lived. In 2006, Dobrzyn learned that the Nencki Institute was running a competition to hire Poland's best young biologists--demonstrating, Dobrzyn says, that it's "one of the very few Polish institutes trying to change this very old-fashioned way that science is organized." Part of the institute's strategy is to hire young scientists through international competitions, then make them group leaders with the same independence and flexibility that they could expect in the United States or Western Europe. Habilitation isn't required. The institute gave Dobrzyn €100,000 in start-up funds, in addition to salaries for herself and four lab members. "It is one of the best [packages] you can get in Poland," she says.

Almost a year and a half later, Dobrzyn's string of successes has continued. In December, she won a prestigious Installation Grant from the European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO). In June, the Polish government announced a new grant for young scientists who earned high scores in an international funding competition; Dobrzyn is one of only 10 scientists who qualify. Dobrzyn's real excitement, though, is about what the grant symbolizes: "The Polish government saw the need to support young scientists in Poland and finally responded to it!!!" she writes in an e-mail.

Dobrzyn's husband is a member of her lab, her partner in research as well as in life. "I wasn't sure that [working together] would work for us," she says, "but once we started it was pretty nice." Nonetheless, he hopes to finish his habilitation and get his own lab, in which he too would work on lipogenic enzymes such as SCD, which have become a passion for them both. Feeling secure for the first time in years, she says that children may be in the picture soon. "I am pretty confident that I would be able to share the PI [principal investigator] duties and the mother duties," she says.

All has not been perfect. Just after she started at the Nencki Institute, Dobrzyn was emotionally floored by the hassles of ordering office furniture from an uncooperative provider. She saw it as typical of the indifference that remains in many Polish bureaucracies. And although her small group is close and colleagues have been welcoming, she still feels like a rookie and misses the camaraderie developed in Wisconsin.

This makes her all the more grateful for the networking opportunities offered by EMBO, which held a conference for grantees in June. "Scientists at the early stages of their careers frequently feel isolated," says Gerlind Wallon, program manager for the EMBO program. "Meeting others in a similar situation creates a special atmosphere of belonging and trust."

Today, Dobrzyn is certain that she made the right decision by returning to Poland. She hopes that her success will serve not only herself but also her country--by helping to lure other scientists back to Poland. □

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