

Lockerbie – The plot thickens.

On 28 June 2007 the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (SCCRC) referred the case of Abdelbaset Ali Mohmed Al Megrahi to the High Court of Justiciary. As a result of the Commission's decision Mr. Megrahi 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 December 21, 1988.

This was an extremely important decision for the increasing number of influential people who believe that Mr. Megrahi is innocent of this crime.

It has also allegedly prompted a witness at the original trial to sign an affidavit that he lied in his evidence.

As with every piece of new evidence about Lockerbie caution must be taken in evaluating it. If true however this information throws into doubt the SCCRC's absolution of the investigating authorities of any wrongdoing.

To assist understanding I have reproduced three documents below.

1. Scotland on Sunday article by Marcello Mega referring to an allegation by a senior police officer involved in the Lockerbie investigation that evidence had been faked.
2. An alleged affidavit by Ulrich Lumpert a Swiss citizen and Lockerbie witness.
3. The response to that affidavit by Dr. Hans Koechler, international observer appointed by the United Nations at the Scottish Court in the Netherlands.

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Document 1:

Scotland on Sunday 28 August 2005

Police chief- Lockerbie evidence was faked

Marcello Mega

A FORMER Scottish police chief has given lawyers a signed statement claiming that key evidence in the Lockerbie bombing trial was fabricated.

Reader note:

The SCCRC in its June 2007 judgement specifically ruled out this allegation of fabrication.

'The additional submissions also sought to 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 MST-13 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 of the fragment.'

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/News-Extras/lockerbiecasesccrc>

The retired officer - of assistant chief constable rank or higher - has testified that the CIA planted the tiny fragment of circuit board crucial in convicting a Libyan for the 1989 mass murder of 270 people.

The police chief, whose identity has not yet been revealed, gave the statement to lawyers representing Abdelbaset Ali Mohamed Al Megrahi, currently serving a life sentence in Greenock Prison.

The evidence will form a crucial part of Megrahi's attempt to have a retrial ordered by the Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission (SCCRC). The claims pose a potentially devastating threat to the reputation of the entire Scottish legal system.

The officer, who was a member of the Association of Chief Police Officers Scotland, is supporting earlier claims by a former CIA agent that his bosses "wrote the script" to incriminate Libya.

Last night, George Esson, who was Chief Constable of Dumfries and Galloway when Megrahi was indicted for mass murder, confirmed he was aware of the development.

But Esson, who retired in 1994, questioned the officer's motives. He said: "Any police officer who believed they had knowledge of any element of fabrication in any criminal case would have a duty to act on that. Failure to do so would call into question their integrity, and I can't help but question their motive for raising the matter now."

Other important questions remain unanswered, such as how the officer learned of the alleged conspiracy and whether he was directly involved in the inquiry. But sources close to Megrahi's legal team believe they may have finally discovered the evidence that could demolish the case against him.

An insider told Scotland on Sunday that the retired officer approached them after Megrahi's appeal - before a bench of five Scottish judges - was dismissed in 2002.

The insider said: "He said he believed he had crucial information. A meeting was set up and he gave a statement that supported the long-standing rumours that the key piece of evidence, a fragment of circuit board from a timing device that implicated Libya, had been planted by US agents.

"Asked why he had not come forward before, he admitted he'd been wary of breaking ranks, afraid of being vilified.

"He also said that at the time he became aware of the matter, no one really believed there would ever be a trial. When it did come about, he believed both accused would be acquitted. When Megrahi was convicted, he told himself he'd be cleared at appeal."

The source added: "When that also failed, he explained he felt he had to come forward.

"He has confirmed that parts of the case were fabricated and that evidence was planted. At first he requested anonymity, but has backed down and will be identified if and when the case returns to the appeal court."

The vital evidence that linked the bombing of Pan Am 103 to Megrahi was a tiny fragment of circuit board which investigators found in a wooded area many miles from Lockerbie months after the atrocity.

The fragment was later identified by the FBI's Thomas Thurman as being part of a sophisticated timer device used to detonate explosives, and manufactured by the Swiss firm Mebo, which supplied it only to Libya and the East German Stasi.

At one time, Megrahi, a Libyan intelligence agent, was such a regular visitor to Mebo that he had his own office in the firm's headquarters.

The fragment of circuit board therefore enabled Libya - and Megrahi - to be placed at the heart of the investigation. However, Thurman was later unmasked as a fraud who had given false

evidence in American murder trials, and it emerged that he had little in the way of scientific qualifications.

Then, in 2003, a retired CIA officer gave a statement to Megrahi's lawyers in which he alleged evidence had been planted.

The decision of a former Scottish police chief to back this claim could add enormous weight to what has previously been dismissed as a wild conspiracy theory. It has long been rumoured the fragment was planted to implicate Libya for political reasons.

The first suspects in the case were the Syrian-led Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine - General Command (PFLP-GC), a terror group backed by Iranian cash. But the first Gulf War altered diplomatic relations with Middle East nations, and Libya became the pariah state. Following the trial, legal observers from around the world, including senior United Nations officials, expressed disquiet about the verdict and the conduct of the proceedings at Camp Zeist, Holland. Those doubts were first fuelled when internal documents emerged from the offices of the US Defence Intelligence Agency. Dated 1994, more than two years after the Libyans were identified to the world as the bombers, they still described the PFLP-GC as the Lockerbie bombers.

A source close to Megrahi's defence said: "Britain and the US were telling the world it was Libya, but in their private communications they acknowledged that they knew it was the PFLP-GC.

"The case is starting to unravel largely because when they wrote the script, they never expected to have to act it out. Nobody expected agreement for a trial to be reached, but it was, and in preparing a manufactured case, mistakes were made."

Dr Jim Swire, who has publicly expressed his belief in Megrahi's innocence, said it was quite right that all relevant information now be put to the SCCRC.

Swire, whose daughter Flora was killed in the atrocity, said last night: "I am aware that there have been doubts about how some of the evidence in the case came to be presented in court.

"It is in all our interests that areas of doubt are thoroughly examined."

A spokeswoman for the Crown Office said: "As this case is currently being examined by the SCCRC, it would be inappropriate to comment."

No one from the Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland was available to comment.

This article: <http://news.scotsman.com/scotland.cfm?id=1855852005>

Note:

Document 2:

AFFIDAVIT:

[English translation: Re. the Original Affidavit is in German language.](#)

ULRICH LUMPERT, 8122 Binz / Kt. Zurich, Switzerland

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For the LIBYA Department of State

The Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

Zurich 18th July, 2007

AFFIDAVIT:

of Mr. Ulrich Lumpert, electronic engineer, ex of employees at company MEBO Ltd Telecommunication 8004 Zurich / Switzerland, between 1978 to1994. Ex a witness during the process 'Fhimah, Al Megrahi' (Lockerbie-case) 2000 in Kamp van Zeist NL.

Personal data:

Name: Ulrich Lumpert;

Date of birth: 20 September 1942;

Occupation: electronic engineer;

Residence:8122 Binz, Kt.Zurich / Switzerland

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AFFIDAVIT:

The following facts, which correspond to the truth, were signed by Mr. Ulrich Lumpert on 18th July 2007.

1. During the examination by the Bundespolizei (Federal Police) "BUPO" Switzerland, FBI und Scottish Police present in Zurich in 1991; and the examination of the Bundeskriminalamt (BKA)(Federal Bureau of Criminal Investigation) by Com-missioner Fuhl in Konstanz / Germany 1991; as well as in the "Lockerbie Trial" in Kamp van Zeist 2000. I had testified as witness No.550 and stated in the record, that of the 3 pieces of hand-made prototypes MST-13 Timer PC-Boards the third MST-13 PC-Board was broken and I had thrown it away.

[ULRICH LUMPERT, 8122 Binz / Kt. Zurich / Switzerland](#)

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I built two functioning MST-13 Timers with the remaining 2 PC-Boards, which were delivered to the GDR State Security Service (STASI) by Mr. Bollier The MST-13 PC-Boards consisted of 8 layers of fiber-glass and were brown in colour.

2. These statements recorded by me were not correct! I confirm today on 18th July 2007 that I stole the third hand manufactured MST-13 Timer PC-Board consisting of 8 layers of fiberglass from MEBO Ltd. and gave it without permission on *22nd June 1989 to a person officially-investigated in the "Lockerbie case".

Reader note: The Lockerbie disaster took place the previous year in 1988.

3. At this *time I did not know , that the MST-13 Timer PC-Board was used for a specific purpose in connection with the attack on PanAm 103, otherwise I would have requested permission from one of the owners of M/S Mebo Ltd (Meister or Bollier) to release the MST-13 PC-Board.

4. In addition I have handed over without permission a summary of the production films, hand-stuck templates and the blueprints of the MST-13 Timer production in a yellow envelope to Det. Superintendent James Gilchrist, Scottish Police during a *visit to Zurich in June 1991.

(* according to Mebo: without the necessary sanction of the Swiss law enforcement).

5. Reason why I did not explain the true background before the court proceedings. I have been living in an indescribable condition of depression of and fear since my second examination by the police in 1991. I got a shock and was in a significant state of anxiety when I was shown the photograph with the apparent MST-13 Timer fragment by the "BUPO", FBI and the Scottish Police, surprisingly for the first time in *midJanuary 1991, which was apparently found in Lockerbie and they confronted me with the fact that this MST-13 Timer fragment was found in Lockerbie and was a part of the ignition device of the suitcase with explosives, which caused the Boeing 747 PanAm Flight 103 to crash, killing 270 people...

[ULRICH LUMPERT, 8122 Binz / Kt. Zurich / Switzerland](#)

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*According to Mr. Bollier's statement he was shown photographs of the MST-13 Timer fragment (No. PT/35, PT/35(b) etc.) on 23rd April 1990 by "BUPO" and on 15th November 1990 by FBI and the Scottish Police.

Although the portrayed MST-13 fragment at this time itself, had been sawed into two pieces apparently for forensic reasons, it did not escape me that the MST-13 fragment on the police photograph (No. PT/35(b) came from the non-operational MST-13 prototype PC-board **that I had stolen**; this because there are clear characteristics e.g. on a specific soldering terminal, a relay had never been soldered.

Reader note: Effectively Mr Lumpert is alleging that the fragment of the board allegedly recovered by the investigating authorities in 1988 was in fact part of the board he stole and handed over to the investigating authorities on **22nd June 1989**.

The soldering terminal was flat and clean at this place. Take note: I saw the photograph with the illustration of the non-processed originals, apparently the MST-13 Timer fragment under "Evidence No. PT-35, image 9 from Crownoffice, gov. UK", for the first time at MEBO Ltd after the "Lockerbie- Appeal 2001", before my first Affidavit. I clearly recognize the scratched remnants of the soldering tracts on this enlarged digital police photograph. I had nothing to do with the letter "M" (possibly an abbreviation of Muster 'sample'), which appears. 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.

[ULRICH LUMPERT, 8122 Binz / Kt. Zurich, Switzerland](#)

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With the information known to me I would like to put an end to the accusation that Libya is responsible for the Lockerbie Tragedy by "manufacturing" MST-13 Timer-Link with criminal intent.

6. The reason why I reveal this fundamentally important information only today : I would like to use this opportunity to clear my conscience, because I cannot be prosecuted for stealing, delivering and making false statements about the MST-13 Timer PC-board, on grounds of statutory limitation.

7. The time is right for this, because action for a 2nd Appeal has been granted in the "Lockerbie Case" on account of "Miscarriage of Justice" I would also like to apologize to Mr. Meister and Mr. Bollier, MEBO Ltd for the damage caused to their prestige. I herewith declare that the contents of the Affidavit are true.

4 pages.

Zürich, 18.07.2007

Unterschrift:

(U.L.) Ulrich Lumpert

Only valid for the

German Affidavit

Official Certification

This is to certify that this copy corresponds exactly with the document (4 single pages) shown to us this day and declared to be the original.

Zurich, this 18. 07. 2007

B No. 2070

Fee: Fr. 35.-- NOTARIAT ALTSTETTEN- ZÜRICH

Signature:

Walter Wieland, certifying officer

Document 3:

I.P.O. Information Service

Lockerbie case: new accusations of manipulation of key forensic evidence

Statement of Dr. Hans Koechler, 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.

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." 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).

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.)

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.

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. 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.

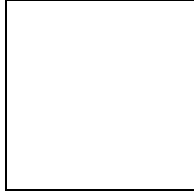
Those responsible for the midair explosion of PanAm flight 103 will have to be identified and brought to justice. If there was any wrongdoing, criminal and/or due to incompetence, of the judicial authorities in the investigation and prosecution of the Lockerbie case, this will also have to be dealt with 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.

- Dr. Koechler's Lockerbie trial report
- Dr. Koechler's Lockerbie appeal report of 26 March 2002
- Dr. Koechler's statement of 23 August 2003 on the agreements between

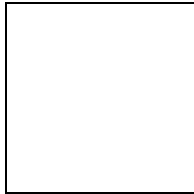
the UK, the USA and Libya
- Dr. Koechler's statement on new Lockerbie revelations of 14 October

2005

- Dr. Koechler's statement on the referral of the case of Abdelbaset Ali Mohamed Al Megrahi to the High Court of Justiciary



- Web Site of the Lockerbie Observer Mission of Dr. Hans Koechler



END/Lockerbie case: new accusations of manipulation of key forensic evidence/2007-07-04/20559c-is

International Progress Organization

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