

## **The Vanunu Legend**

**Israel's Nuclear Whistleblower's Struggle for Freedom**

by Eileen Fleming

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## [The Vanunu Legend](#)

One upon a time not so very long ago the winners wrote history; but the digital age changed that, which is why you are reading *The Vanunu Legend*, which is only available electronically.

I began documenting the saga of Mordechai Vanunu in 2005 after meeting Israel's Nuclear Whistle-blower 'by chance' on the first evening of summer.

The stories Vanunu told me about his childhood through 18 years in prison, his crisis of faith and identity are included in *Beyond Nuclear: Mordechai Vanunu's FREEDOM of SPEECH Trial and My Life as a Muckraker 2005-2010* which features his under-reported historic trial which began in 2006 and culminated in 78 days back in solitary in 2010.

*The Vanunu Legend* documents Vanunu's struggle since 2010 in his fight through the Supreme Court for his right to leave Israel.

It was while researching for my first book *KEEP HOPE ALIVE* that I stumbled upon Mordechai Vanunu's incredible story and wrote him into my first and so far only historical fiction.

### **In the Chapter: "Thanksgiving Eve, 1987" Dr. Jake Hunter says:**

"I have yet to read or hear a word from the American press about Vanunu who had worked in a very compartmentalized position in the secret underground Dimona nuclear research center in the Negev. The nuclear plant had a sign outside claiming it was a Textile factory and it seems that when Vanunu finally realized he was involved in the horrific work of manufacturing weapons of mass destruction, he shot two rolls of film inside of the restricted areas. Seems security was very lax and this low level tech was able to obtain the keys in the shower room that opened the doors to what Israel has not admitted to.

"Vanunu quit the job and leaves Israel and carried around the undeveloped film for nearly a year as he traveled throughout Europe. He ended up in Sydney, Australia and converted to Christianity. A few weeks later he shared his story with a British reporter and Vanunu and the reporter returned to London. While the London Sunday Times was verifying his story, Vanunu mysteriously disappeared. The photos proved the fact that Israel had become a major nuclear power, but not a word has been heard from my government or press!

"The Sunday Times reports this incredible news that Israel's underground plutonium plant has material for two hundred nuclear warheads of advanced design, but not a word have I read about it or heard from the US media! It makes me wonder about all the iron curtains the media and government have raised as a shield from the truth."

A few months after writing that chapter and during my first of eight trips to both sides of The Wall in Israel Palestine, I met Vanunu and became a reporter because he told me:

"The French were responsible for the actual building of the Dimona. The Germans

gave the money; they were feeling guilty for the Holocaust, and tried to pay their way out.

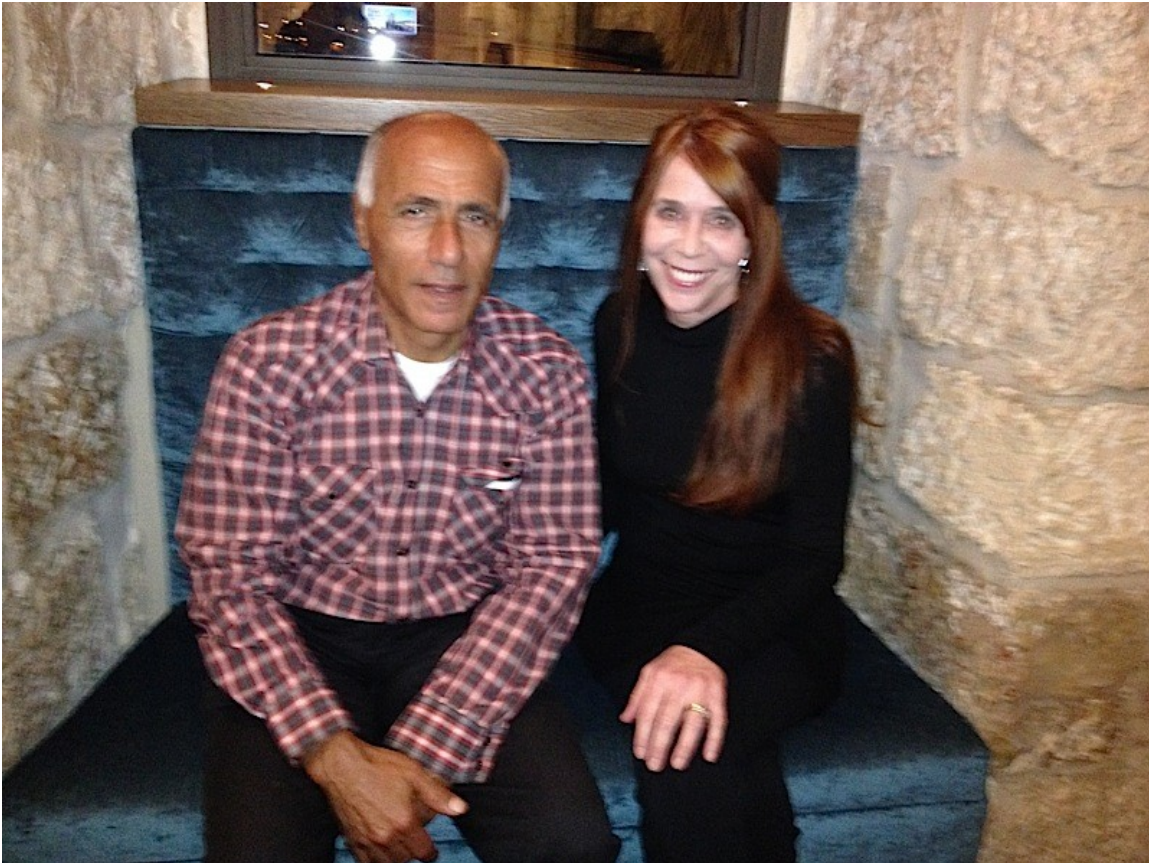
"Did you know that President Kennedy tried to stop Israel from building atomic weapons? In 1963, he forced Prime Minister Ben Guirion to admit the Dimona was not a textile plant, as the sign outside proclaimed, but a nuclear plant. The Prime Minister said, 'The nuclear reactor is only for peace.'

"When Johnson became president, he made an agreement with Israel that two senators would come every year to inspect. Before the senators would visit, the Israelis would build a wall to block the underground elevators and stairways. From 1963 to '69, the senators came, but they never knew about the wall that hid the rest of the Dimona from them.

"Nixon stopped the inspections and agreed to ignore the situation. As a result, Israel increased production. In 1986, there were over two hundred bombs. Today, they may have enough plutonium for ten bombs a year."

**'By chance' I was in Jerusalem on 18 November 2013**, and walked with Vanunu on his "short walk" through east Jerusalem, which included a hike up the Mount of Olives, to The Wall at Abu Dis, through the Valley of Olives and Peace Park to Jaffa Gate.

Afterwards he received a phone call from the police to come and pick up another six-months of restrictions denying his right to leave Israel, which ran through 18 May 2014.



Mordechai Vanunu and Eileen Fleming, 24 November 2013

The day before, I delivered Vanunu some snail mail from a few supporters and a copy of the screen adaptation for *Beyond Nuclear: Mordechai Vanunu's Freedom of Speech Trial and My Life as a Muckraker 2005-2010* from which I excerpt:

Vanunu was born into an Orthodox Jewish home in Marrakech, Morocco in October 1954. Our movie begins in a darkened movie theater and Doris Day is singing, "Whatever Will Be, Will Be (Que Sera, Sera)."

The lights come up and our camera is focused on the eyes of a boy about 9 years old. We follow him into the streets of Marrakesh -and into the very same scene where THE MAN WHO KNEW TOO MUCH began.

We follow Vanunu home and after ritual prayers the father tells the family they are moving to the "land of milk and honey."

Vanunu is soon uprooted from his comfortable home and after a harrowing journey the family learns they have been banished to the ethnically cleansed Palestinian village of Beersheba-one of over 500 Israel has 'wiped off the map' since becoming a state in 1948.

Vanunu suffers his first crisis of faith and alienation from God and society shortly thereafter. At the same time, America mourns the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Eileen and Vanunu meet 'by chance' on the first evening of summer in 2005, after Eileen's harrowing day in Hebron. A nurse by education, she is in the midst of writing her first book based on the memories of a 1948, Palestinian Muslim refugee from the Upper Galilee entwined with her spiritual journey.

Vanunu is on his way out to a meeting as Eileen enters the courtyard at St. Georges Cathedral. Eileen has an experience of the presence of God...

Eileen first learns of Vanunu in 2004, while researching for her first book and writes him into it.

As her research continues her outrage increases over American policies that collude in support of Israel's nuclear arsenal and military occupation of Palestine.

In January 2006, Vanunu's FREEDOM of SPEECH TRIAL begins when the Jerusalem Magistrates Court charges Vanunu with 22 different violations, accusing him of breaking the law by communicating with foreigners [meaning press] and trying to flee Israel when he took a cab to Bethlehem to attend Christmas Eve mass at the Church of the Nativity in 2004.

In June 2009, Eileen visits with Vanunu and when they say goodbye he tells her that he will not email her and she tells him she will continue to email him because she wants SECURITY to know they cannot control the free flow of info or prevent anyone from following their conscience.

Eileen persists reporting on the Internet that Israel refuses to allow Vanunu his right to full freedom because SECURITY has a vendetta against him and corporate media colludes in the injustice by their silence.

In November 2009, Vanunu suffers another crisis of faith and returns to atheism.

His freedom of speech trial concludes with a conviction on 19 charges and he is sentenced to 6 months in prison, which was eventually reduced to seventy-eight days in a high security prison in total solitary confinement during May to August in 2010.

When Vanunu is released from prison, he immediately reactivates his social media accounts, and posts a video message on Youtube "Vanunu Mordechai Freedom of Speech, about all world Media, May 23-2010."

**The Text:**

SHAME ON YOU ISRAEL VERY STUPID SPIES MOSSAD SHABACK FOR PUTTING ME BACK IN PRISON AFTER 24 YEARS FOR SPEAKING THE TRUTH.

SHAME ON YOU ISRAEL MEDIA STUPID SPIES, HAAREZ EDIOT AHARONOT MAARIVE.FOR SELF DECEPTION.

SHAME ON YOU ISRAEL DEMOCRACY KNESET=BET KNESET=SINAGOUGS DEMOCRACY FOR NOT LEARNING IN 2000 YEARS THAT THE BASIC RIGHT IN DEMOCRACY IS FREEDOM OF SPEECH.

SHAME ON YOU.ALL WORLD MEDIA BBC PPC CNN ABC CBS NBC FOX SKY HERALD TRIBUNE NEW YORK TIMES AND ALL THE WORLD MEDIA NRK NHK STA WD ZDF 24 FRANCE ALZAJJIRA.SUNDAY TIMES FOR LET SUCH CASE HAPPENING AND NOT PROTECT FREEDOM OF SPEECH.

SHAME ON YOU ALL THE ARABS STUPID SPIES FROM EGYPT TO DUBAI SAUDI, LEBANON, JORDAN, FOR LET ME GO BACK TO PRISON.

SHAME ON YOU. US SENATE CONGRESS WHITE HOUSE. UN IAEA.MOHAMED ELBARADY FOR NOT PROTECTING MY FREEDOM.

SHAME ON YOU ALL THE RELIGIOUS STUPID SPIES JEWS, CHRISTIAN, MUSLIMS, BIG SHAME ON YOU FOR NOT BRINGING MY RELEASE IN 24 YEARS, RELIGION IS BIG BULLSHIT SHOW,

SHAME ON YOU.ALL THE WORLD STUPID SPIES CIA FBI MI5 MI6 AND ALL THE STUPID SPIES OF EVERY STATE WHO WANT ME BACK IN PRISON YOU WILL NOT GET ANY THING FROM ME.

FREEDOM AND ONLY FREEDOM WILL SURVIVE AND CONTINUE FOR EVER,

MY LAST EMAIL UNTIL OUT OF PRISON. VMJC

**At the YouTube I post the first comment:**

"Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers. -Article 19. UN Universal Declaration HUMAN RIGHTS which Israel's statehood was contingent upon upholding! No shame on e, WeAreWideAwake: THE VANUNU SAGA 2005-2010!"

Vanunu readily replied: "No shame on Eileen, because Eileen is the best of using all her

freedom of speech to the limits of using as a strong power to bring my freedom."



## [A Little History](#)

Israel kidnapped Vanunu on 30 September 1986 from Rome, transported him to Israel and convicted him of espionage and treason in a closed-door trial.

Vanunu spent 18 years in prison, including more than 11 in solitary confinement. Vanunu was also sent back to solitary for 78 days in 2010-the outcome of his FREEDOM of SPEECH Trial.

When Vanunu was released on 21 April 2004 it was to 24/7 surveillance and an array of draconian restrictions including:

- he shall not be able to have contacts with foreigners
- his telephone and Internet use shall be monitored
- he shall not enter Internet chat rooms
- he shall not own cellular phones
- he shall not approach or enter embassies and consulates
- he shall not come within 500 meters of any international border crossing
- he shall not visit any port of entry into Israel
- he shall not leave the State of Israel

As of this writing, Vanunu's phone number and email address are posted on his website and states, "I am now visiting with foreigners. I am ready to meet anyone who is coming here."

On 5 May 2011, Vanunu wrote to Mr. Eli Yishai, Minister of Interior The State of Israel:

### **Re: Revoking my Israeli Citizenship**

I am Mordechai Vanunu that was kidnapped from Rome on September 30, 1986 by The Israeli Secret Services.

I was tried by The Jerusalem District Court and convicted of Aggravated Espionage, High Treason and Assisting the Enemy and I was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment. This followed an interview I gave to the London Sunday Times regarding the secret production of nuclear weapons materials in Israel. I fulfilled the democratic principal of the right of the public to know.

I have served 18 years in Ashkelon Prison, mostly in solitary confinement.

I was released on 21 April 2004 with severe restrictions imposed by the Israeli Government.

Seven years past and the restrictions had been renewed again and again relying on The Emergency Laws from 1945.

Since my release I have lived 6 years in East Jerusalem and since September 2010 I live in Tel Aviv.

On June 1986 I was baptized to the Anglican Church.

Recently, (28.3.2011), the Knesset passed a new law that revokes the citizenship of anyone who was convicted of espionage or treason.

25 years I am demanding and waiting to have my full freedom restored.

This law should be applied to my case and I am willing for my citizenship to be revoked and canceled.

I am writing to you today asking the state of Israel to cancel my citizenship.

This desire is not new and is not recent, but now it is supported by the new law to revoke citizenship.

I am asking and expecting the enforcement of this law to its letter and revoke my Israeli citizenship.

This law applies to me and I am ready for my citizenship to be canceled. I don't have another citizenship but I would be able to get one easily during my forced stay here and for sure at the moment that I am allowed to leave.

In any case I here declare that my wish was and still is to cancel/revoke, in fact, my Israeli citizenship.

After all the 'treatment' that I have received from the State of Israel and its citizens, I do not feel, here, as a citizen or how a citizen should feel, I feel as an unwelcome citizen and treated as such by the state of Israel and its citizens.

In the Israeli media and in the streets of Israel I am called and shouted at as a spy, 'The Atom Spy', and a traitor, I am harassed and persecuted as the enemy of the state for 25 years.

I feel I am still imprisoned, still held as a hostage, by the state and its government.

After 25 years of ongoing, many and very hard punishments by the State of Israel, I wish the end to all punishments and my suffering, and wish the realization of the basic human right of freedom.

I would like to exercise my right to freedom of conscience, my right to choose not to be a citizen of Israel.

I have no interest in Israeli citizenship; I do not want to live here.

I ask you to cancel/revoke my citizenship here and now.

I ask you to let me be free from Israel as our dislike is mutual.

**I HAVE NO SECRETS!**

**EVERYTHING I KNEW THAN, I HAVE PASSED ON TO THE ENGLISH PAPER IN 1986!**

**IT IS TIME TO ALLOW ME TO LEAVE ISRAEL AFTER A QUARTER CENTURY OF IMPRISONMENT!**

Mordechai Vanunu, May 5, 2011

Copies to Prime Minister Netanyahu, Foreign Minister Liberman, Defence Minister Barak, Justice Minister Neaman, President Peres.

**Vanunu's request was denied.**

On 4 September 2014, I snail-mailed the following letter and paper copies of the online **Petition "World Media and Israel: We are not free, until Vanunu is FREE"** to:

Dear Prime Minister Netanyahu, President Rivlin, Supreme Court President Grunis, Interior Minister Sa'ar,

In June 2005, during my first [of 8] trips to both sides of The Wall, I began a series of interviews with Mordechai Vanunu. I became a reporter because Vanunu told me:

"The French were responsible for the actual building of the Dimona. The Germans gave the money; they were feeling guilty for the Holocaust, and tried to pay their way out.

"President Kennedy tried to stop Israel from building atomic weapons. In 1963, he forced Prime Minister Ben Gurion to admit the Dimona was not a textile plant, as the sign outside proclaimed, but a nuclear plant. The Prime Minister said, 'The nuclear reactor is only for peace.'

"When Johnson became president, he made an agreement with Israel that two senators would come every year to inspect. Before the senators would visit, the Israelis would build a wall to block the underground elevators and stairways. From 1963 to '69, the senators came, but they never knew about the wall that hid the rest of the Dimona from them.

"Nixon stopped the inspections and agreed to ignore the situation. As a result, Israel increased production. In 1986, there were over two hundred bombs. Today, they may have enough plutonium for ten bombs a year."

A few weeks after Vanunu's Freedom of Speech trial began in January 2006; we taped "30 Minutes with Vanunu" which is freely streaming at YouTube and my questions were based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

On my last trip to Jerusalem in November 2013, I told Vanunu if he weren't free within a year I would update *Beyond Nuclear: Mordechai Vanunu's FREEDOM of SPEECH Trial and My Life as a Muckraker 2005-2010*.

*The Vanunu Legend* will be published before the end of 2014, the enclosed photo of Vanunu will be the cover and the book will include the enclosed Petition "We are not free until Vanunu is FREE" and this letter to you.

Most sincerely,

Eileen Fleming, Correspondent for The Arab Daily News

## **We are not free until Vanunu is FREE**

Kidnapped in 1986 by Mossad  
18 years behind bars  
10 more under 24/7  
surveillance

Denied the  
RIGHT  
to leave

'The only  
democracy in  
the Middle  
East'

**Vanunu  
Told  
The  
Truth  
About  
Israel's  
Nukes**

**Free Vanunu 2014!**

Facebook.com/FreeMordechaiVanunu  
TNT/Causes.com/VANUNU  
WeAreWideAwake.org The Vanunu Saga

Photo copyright Eileen Fleming, 24 November 2013

**Petition To: World Media and Israel: We are not free, until Vanunu is FREE**

On 25 December 2013, Mordechai Vanunu's 7th Supreme Court Appeal for his right to leave 'the only democracy in the Middle East' was heard.

On 29 December, Supreme Court Justice Asher Grunis denied Vanunu's Appeal stating, "The restrictions are intended to prevent future dissemination of classified material. In recent years the court has examined the necessity of the restrictions several times, and each time has been convinced that they are necessary for state security. The evidence shown here, including the covert evidence indicates that the plaintiff is still a source of classified information, and is not hesitant to disseminate the information."

Vanunu told Eileen Fleming, "All the secrets I had were published in 1989 in an important book, by [Nuclear Physicist] Frank Barnaby, *The Invisible Bomb: Nuclear Arms Race in the Middle East*.

In 1986, Barnaby was hired by London's Sunday Times to vet Vanunu's story and he testified at Vanunu's closed door trial:

"I found Vanunu very straightforward about his motives for violating Israel's secrecy laws he explained to me that he believed that both the Israeli and the world public had the right to know about the information he passed on. He seemed to me to be acting ideologically.

"Israel's political leaders have, he said, consistently lied about Israel's nuclear-weapons programme and he found this unacceptable in a democracy. The knowledge that Vanunu had about Israel's nuclear weapons, about the operations at Dimona, and about security at Dimona could not be of any use to anyone today. He left Dimona in October 1985."

We the undersigned petition the World Media to seek and report the truth about Israel's Nuclear Deceptions and to Israel we say the only way Vanunu can harm 'the only democracy in the Middle East' is with Bad PR!

We the undersigned petition the World Media to seek and report the truth about Israel's Nuclear Deceptions and Vanunu's over ten year struggle for his right to fade into the world instead of continuing to make headlines.

The Establishment of Israel's statehood was contingent upon upholding the UNIVERSAL DECLARATION of HUMAN RIGHTS and every Member State is obligated to hold ALL other Member States to it:

"Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."-Article 19

FREE VANUNU 2014!

Signatures can be viewed at:

[www.causes.com/actions/1765266-a-petition-to-world-media-and-israel-we-are-not-free-until-vanunu-is-free](http://www.causes.com/actions/1765266-a-petition-to-world-media-and-israel-we-are-not-free-until-vanunu-is-free)

### **Secrets, Lies and Presidents**

At the end of August 2014 and after 45 years of top-secret status documenting America's colluding role in Israel's nuclear ambiguity, the worldwide 'secret' ended with declassified papers made public by the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP).

In March, President Obama decided to release the documents revealing American delegates agreeing to Israel's refusal to sign the Non-Proliferation Treaty, [refusing an American inspection of the Dimona nuclear facility and a deal which would have seen the delivery of strategic ground-to-ground Jericho missiles to Israel in exchange for their signing of the treaty.](#) [1]

These declassified documents exposed cabinet secretaries and senior advisers to then President Richard Nixon acceding to Israel becoming a "threshold nuclear state" and withdrawing from a plan to block Israeli nuclearization ahead of a meeting with then Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir at the White House in September 1969.

One of the documents was written by senior officials in the Nixon administration in a working group led by National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger, exploring the nature of the Israeli nuclear weapons program known as "NSSM 40."

The existence of the document and its heading were known but the content had so far been kept 'secret' almost as 'secret' as Obama's previous playing along with the 4-decade-old Israeli nuclear ambiguity/deception policies.

**On 2 October 2009, [The Washington Times](#) reported that Obama agreed to keep Israel's nukes 'secret' and reaffirmed his pledge to maintain the agreement he made when he first hosted Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the White House in May 2009. [2]**

Because of the understanding America has not pressured Israel to disclose its nuclear weapons or to sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which would require Israel to give up its estimated several hundred nuclear bombs.

At a White House meeting on 25 September 1969, between President Richard Nixon and Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir, the United States passively accepted Israel's nuclear weapons status as long as Israel did not unveil publicly its capability or test a weapon.

Israeli born Dr. Avner Cohen is the author of *The Worst-Kept Secret: Israel's Bargain with the Bomb*.

**From his 29 October 2010, [interview with Haaretz](#):**

In a late-1969 meeting between Golda Meir and Richard Nixon, details of which were initially revealed by Aluf Benn in Haaretz, the Americans assented to Israel's interpretation of the word "introduce," according to which Israel would neither conduct nuclear tests, nor declare that it possessed such a weapon, and would generally keep a low profile on nuclear matters.

At that meeting, Cohen posits in his book, Meir acknowledged Israel's nuclear status to Nixon. That is how nuclear ambiguity was officially born...

"In exchange for the low profile Israel promised during that meeting," Cohen explains, "the United States and most of the Western world agreed to accept Israel's special nuclear status.

"In other words, Israel did not join the Non-Proliferation Treaty, but it received special status, and pressure was not exerted on it with regard to this topic.

"Ambiguity is the Israeli-American policy. Without the West's agreement, there



would be no ambiguity." [3]

In 2007, the Nixon library declassified a 19 July 1969, memo from Henry Kissinger, the then national security adviser who stated:

"While we might ideally like to halt actual Israeli possession, what we really want at a minimum may be just to keep Israeli possession from becoming an established international fact."

**The international fact was established in 1986 when London's Sunday Times published Vanunu's photographic proof and told all he knew as a mid-level technician on the night shift within Israel's Weapons of Mass Destruction Facility at Dimona.**



The 2014 declassified documents exposing the birth of US collusion in Israel's Nuclear Ambiguity, reveal that both the Johnson and Nixon administrations concluded [in talks with Yitzhak Rabin] that it had been stated in a manner both "explicit and implicit" that "Israel wants nuclear weapons, for two reasons: First, to deter the Arabs from striking Israel; and second, if deterrence fails and Israel were about to be overrun, to destroy the Arabs in a nuclear Armageddon."

The Nixon administration believed that Israel's acquisition of nuclear weapons would spur the Arab countries to acquire their own such weapons within 10 years through private contracts with scientists and engineers in Europe.

The documents also stated "...deeply rooted in the Arab psyche is the concept that a settlement will be possible only when there is some parity in strength with Israel. A 'kamikaze' strike at the Dimona facilities cannot be ruled out."

Vanunu has always maintained that what he did was not anti-Israeli or anti-Zionist but an attempt to prevent a nuclear holocaust and to raise the issue for debate.

As Vanunu explained in April 2004, "It's not about betraying, it's about reporting. It is about saving Israel from a new holocaust." [4]

**On Christmas Day 2013, [Vanunu](#) wrote on his YouTube Discussion Wall:**

"Dec' 25. The judges hear my lawyer, also hear secret evidence. They will decide later."

I wrote back, "How much time does the Prosecution need before they realize the only way Vanunu can harm Israel is with Bad PR?"

"Or is SECURITY so stupid to miss the facts on the WWW proving that the longer 'the only democracy in the Middle East' denies V his RIGHT to fade into the world the greater the Legend of V will grow at [TNT/FREE Vanunu at Causes](#) and [FREE Vanunu at Facebook](#)."

[Vanunu replied](#), "Until Freedom Now First wait and see, we don't know yet what the judge will decide, it will come in few weeks."

Vanunu's Christmas Day Appeal took place only in the presence of the judges and state representatives: Vanunu had to leave the courtroom!

During Vanunu's [FREEDOM of SPEECH Trial](#), he explained this peculiarity on 22 February 2006, after it was revealed in Court that Israel had asked Microsoft to hand over all the details of his Hotmail account eluding that Vanunu was being investigated for espionage.

**Vanunu wrote:**

"Microsoft obeyed the orders and gave them all the details, three months before I was arrested and my computers were confiscated. It is strange to ask Microsoft to give this information before obtaining the court order to listen to my private conversations. It means they wanted to go through my emails in secret, or maybe, with the help of the secret services, the Shaback, Mossad.

"The State came to the court with two special secret Government orders: Hisaion [documents or information that are deemed confidential by the government and kept from the court, the defendant, and lawyers.]

"This allows the prosecution to keep documents related to my court hearing secret. One was from the Minister for Interior Security and one from the Minister of Defense.

"The policeman did not have any answers and said that he brought all the evidence to the court. When Sfard [Vanunu's attorney] asked him again about any material related to the espionage charge, the policeman had no answers.

"Sfard proved that the police had misled the judges who gave the orders to arrest me: to search my room, to go through my email, to confiscate my computers and misled Microsoft to believe they are helping in a case of espionage."

**On 29 December 2013, [Vanunu wrote](#) on his YouTube Discussion Wall for the last time as of this writing:**

"No justice in Israel democracy. The supreme court by its chief justice Grunis rejected my appeal to be free from Israel state, after 27 years in Israel prison, [Freedom Now First.\(FNF\). VMJC-Vanunu Mordechai](#)"



On 29 July 2010, while Vanunu was back in solitary for 78 days [outcome of his Freedom of Speech Trial] I received my first response from Israel in a PDF file.

What follows is my email response back to the State of Israel Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Foreign Relations Department -which also ENDED our conversation.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Ref: 952

Thank you for your letter dated July 21, 2010, that I received in my Gmail on July 29th.

I would now like to address all "relevant authorities" and the State of Israel Ministry of Justice The Human Rights and Foreign Relations Department regarding points 1-13:

On April 30, 2007, the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court, convicted Vanunu on 14 [out of 21] counts of violating a court order prohibiting him from speaking to foreign journalists in 2004.

Vanunu was also convicted for traveling the four miles from Jerusalem to Bethlehem where he hoped to attend Christmas Eve mass at the Church of the Nativity, his first Christmas after being released from 18 years in jail [most of it in solitary] on April 21, 2004.

On July 2, 2007, Israel sentenced Vanunu to six more months in jail for speaking to foreign media in 2004.

On September 23, 2008, the Jerusalem District Court reduced Vanunu's six-month jail sentence for speaking with foreign media in 2004, to three months: "In light of his ailing health and the absence of claims that his actions put the country's security in jeopardy."

After appealing that sentence, the Israeli Supreme Court returned Vanunu to jail on May 23, 2010, after they refused his counter-offer to do three-months of community service in Arab east Jerusalem, the only community he has known since 21 April 2004.

The Court insisted Vanunu must serve in west Jerusalem, which is 99% Jewish-populated, but Vanunu refused fearing attacks by those who consider him a traitor.

The restrictions that have subjected Vanunu to 24/7 surveillance-his movements, phone calls and emails- come from the Emergency Defense Regulations, which were implemented by Britain against Palestinians and Jews after World War II.

Attorney Yaccov Shapiro, who later became Israel's Minister Of Justice, described the Emergency Defense Regulations as "unparalleled in any civilized country: there were no such laws in Nazi Germany."

Israel also kidnapped Vanunu in 1986, but Article 9 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights states: "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention", including abduction of a person by agents of one state to another state.

Vanunu was charged with, and convicted of, treason and espionage.

Section 99 of the Israeli Penal Code defines treason as "an act calculated to assist (an enemy) in time of war...delivering information with the intention that it fall into the hands of the enemy."

Section 113 defines aggravated espionage as "deliver(ing) any secret information without being authorized to do so and with intent to impair the security of the state".

A sub-clause provides for a penalty of seven years for the unauthorized collection, preparation, recording or holding of secret information if this is done with intent to impair the security of the state and then, the penalty is increased to 15 years.

On 24 November 2006, Vanunu wrote:

"My lawyer succeeded to reveal a few very important facts: This General of the Army also was not allowed to see all the secrets that he is required to protect by these restrictions that they claim I know them.

"So, he gave orders of restrictions without knowing what he is protecting or that he is also following orders blindly, and Mossad Sheen Bet using its authority for just punishing me.

"He testified that it is not a crime for me to talk with foreigners in general anywhere. He testified that I can speak freely to any Israeli citizens about anything; it is not his concern what I am saying to them. These Israelis can give this information to any foreigners.

"It was difficult for the Judge to understand why this dichotomy exists between foreigners and Israelis. It means that it is not about secrecy but about something else."

On 24 April 2004, which was three days after Vanunu was released from 18 years in a windowless tomb-sized cell jail for providing the photographic proof and telling all the truth he knew as a mid-level technician on the night shift within Israel's clandestine seven-story underground WMD Program in the Negev, Uri Avnery wrote:

"Everybody understands that he has no more secrets. What can a technician know after 18 years in jail, during which technology has advanced with giant steps?

"But gradually it becomes clear what the security establishment is really afraid of. Vanunu is in a position to expose the close partnership with the United States in the development of Israel's nuclear armaments.

"This worries Washington so much that the man responsible in the State Department for 'arms control', Under-Secretary John Bolton, has come to Israel in person for the occasion. Vanunu, it appears, can cause severe damage to the mighty super-power.

"The Americans, it seems, are very worried. The Israeli security services have to dance to their tune. The world must be prevented by all available means from hearing, from the lips of a credible witness, that the Americans are full partners in Israel's nuclear arms program, while pretending to be the world's sheriff for the prevention of nuclear proliferation."

Also in 2004, Yossi Melman wrote for Haaretz:

"This is the secret that hasn't yet been told in the affair: the story of the security fiasco that made it possible for Vanunu to do what he did, and the story of the subsequent attempts at cover-up, whitewashing and protection of senior figures in the defense establishment, who were bent on divesting themselves of responsibility for the failure.

"The 18-year prison term to which Vanunu was sentenced is almost exactly the same period as that in which Yehiel Horev has served as chief of internal security in the defense establishment [who has been] involved in the affair as deputy chief of security at the Defense Ministry, and also after Vanunu's abduction and arrest, as a member of an investigative commission.

"Shortly after taking office as chief of security at the Defense Ministry, Horev began to take punitive measures to hobble Vanunu. He is responsible for the harsh conditions in which Vanunu was held, which included years in solitary confinement, and the sharp limitations on the number of visitors he could have...[and has fought] a rearguard battle to prevent Vanunu from leaving Israel and to place him under supervision and restrictions that will be tantamount to house arrest.

"Horev has always been considered the strictest of all the security chiefs in Israel, especially in regard to the protection of institutions such as the Dimona facility and the Biological Institute. He is apprehensive that if Vanunu goes abroad, he will continue to be a nuisance by stimulating the public debate over Israel's nuclear policy and the nuclear weapons he says Israel possesses.

"All the hyperactivity being displayed by Horev and those who support his approach is intended only to divert attention from what has not yet been revealed: the security blunders and their cover-ups."

**On 29 July 2010**, Mordechai Vanunu's American parents, Nick and Mary Eoloff emailed, "Please advise Mr. Radzyner that Mordechai Vanunu has never been told what 'secret information' he holds that 'constitutes a relevant threat to the security of the State of Israel' after the passage of 20 years. At court hearings those matters are dictated to the court in its chamber by the Mossad without Mordechai being present. But, of course, that is how the 'only democracy' in the Middle East operates..."

**On 18 June 2010**, Malcolm Smart, Director of Amnesty International's Middle East Programme issued this statement:

"Mordechai Vanunu should not be in prison at all, let alone be held in solitary confinement in a unit intended for violent criminals.

"He suffered immensely when he was held in solitary confinement for 11 years after his imprisonment in 1986 and to return him to such conditions now is nothing less than cruel, inhuman or degrading.

"Mordechai Vanunu is a prisoner of conscience.

"The prison authorities might claim that he has been put in isolation to protect him from the risk of attack by other inmates, but if the Israeli government is really concerned for his safety it should release him without delay. His re-imprisonment is both harsh and unjustified.

"The restrictions on Mordechai Vanunu arbitrarily limit his rights to freedom of movement, expression and association and are therefore in breach of international law. They should be lifted and he should be allowed to start his life again as a free man."

**More recently, Amnesty issued a Petition to Interior Minister Gideon Sa'ar:**

We, the undersigned, urge you to reconsider Mordechai Vanunu's application for the lifting of his travel ban.

Vanunu has already served his time. Furthermore, he is not a security threat to Israel or its citizens. The information that Vanunu revealed about Israel's nuclear arsenal has been in the public domain for nearly 30 years. He has no more information and the information he does have is completely out of date.

Fifty-four parliamentarians invited Vanunu to speak at the UK parliament on 18 June 2014 about his experiences. Amnesty International also invited him to speak at an event on the protection of whistle-blowers.

We urge you to agree to Vanunu's plea; allow him to leave Israel and lift all restrictions against him. [987 signed before the petition closed.]

**The April 2014 invitation to Mordechai Vanunu to speak to members of the United Kingdom's Houses of Parliament read:**

To mark the tenth anniversary of Mr Mordechai Vanunu's release from prison and the imposition of restrictions on his freedom, it gives us great pleasure to invite Mr Vanunu to the UK to meet with Members of both Houses of Parliament.

The signatories of this letter are from all political parties, representing hundreds of thousands of British constituents, and would be honoured to receive Mr Vanunu to speak about his experience as an anti-nuclear whistle-blower.

On 5 October 1986 the Sunday Times published his report on nuclear weapons that he deemed to be harmful to humanity. As a result, Mr Vanunu was arrested and subsequently tried in Israel, where he served an 18 year sentence, 11 of those years being spent in solitary confinement.

The treatment of Mr Vanunu while in custody raised concerns which were voiced in both houses of the British parliament.

Since his release, the restrictions placed on Mr Vanunu curtailing his freedom of movement, expression, and assembly have been the subject of Early Day Motions and Parliamentary Questions in the House of Commons.

We trust that Mr Vanunu will be able to accept this invitation and look forward to welcoming him as guest and speaker in June 2014.

Signatories: Peter Bottomley, Jeremy Corbyn, Jonathan Edwards, Grahame Morris, Chris Williamson, John McDonnell, Mike Wood, Kelvin Hopkins, Linda Riordan, Sandra Osborne, Glenda Jackson, Nik Dakin, Mark Durkin, Ian Lavery, Yasmin Quereshi, Paul Flynn, Martin Caton, Lord Judd, Dale Campbell Savours, Ann Clwyd, Diane Abbott, Caroline Lucas, Martin Horwood, Elfyn Llwyd, Roger Godsiff, R Burden, K Hoey, Andy Slaughter, Crispin Blunt, Andrew George, Jack Straw, Baroness Jenny Tongue

The event sponsored by Amnesty International at the House of Commons and had been billed as an evening of discussion with Vanunu.

Israel refused to allow Vanunu the freedom to travel to London, so his attorney Avigdor Feldman attended and stated the obvious regarding his clients no show, "I have no doubt that this was a punishment, a revenge of the Israeli authorities against Vanunu."

John Tyrrell, of the UK attended the event and filed the following report. John was also the originator of the Free Vanunu Cause now known as TNT/Telling Nuclear Truths.

### **Tyrrell Reports:**

We learned from Jeremy Corbyn that 68 Members of the 2 Houses of Parliament had signed the letter of invitation to Vanunu. This was a notable increase, although Khalid Mahmood who had assured me he supported, had not signed, nor Gisela Stuart, who said she would consider it. Jeremy said he would make sure they did next time.

I did not identify any MPs there other than Jeremy who himself had to leave for a while, apart from a brief appearance by Baroness Jenny Tonge. Hopefully that would not be the case if Mordechai Vanunu were there himself!

After an introduction by Jeremy, Avigdor Feldman spoke of the 30 years he had represented Mordechai Vanunu after being brought by force to Israel. He said that the Israelis did not want to kidnap him in England. He said it was the most horrific human rights abuse to a single person with the intent of punishing him until the end of his life.

He mentioned the effect of the 11+ years of detention in solitary confinement on Mordechai's mental health and the main restrictions he continues to face including not being allowed to speak with anyone who is not an Israeli citizen.

It is very difficult where he lives in East Jerusalem. He has now approached the court 10 times but they still claim he has some terrible secret. He denies he has any, as he knew the situation 30 years ago.

A book on Israeli armaments 1948-2011 doesn't even mention Vanunu in its 500 pages!

He is a "non-being" and nuclear weapons are not an issue in Israel. How many have been developed since?

Why does Israel go on lying that they don't have nuclear weapons while Vanunu is charged with revealing them?

The Government is continuing to lie to the people living with an air of unreality, yet since the beginning of the development of nuclear weapons in Israel in 1965 some 2-3,000 people worked on it but maintain a "stupid solidarity".

Attorney Feldman is pessimistic about Vanunu's future.

Mordechai remains in solitary isolation. He was a whistleblower before there was any support for such people and he acted on his own initiative.

A clip followed this from the BBC film made by Christopher Mitchell where Mordechai Vanunu speaks of his sacrifice of freedom and life for this case. This was in response to the Chernobyl disaster.

The Sunday Times seriously debated publishing its article in 1986 with Vanunu who is glad that they did and he feels that his mission was accomplished.

When he was released from prison in April 2004, Vanunu spoke to the press in English, breaching the conditions imposed on him. He maintained the price was worth it.

Peter Hounam, a journalist based in Scotland, had spoken the evening before at the Front Line Club. He felt that it would have been difficult to protect Vanunu even if he hadn't

been taken to Rome. He did the right thing because highly destructive fusion weapons were being developed. The press hardly ever covers it.

Israel worked with South Africa on highly sophisticated delivery systems. Each had the same type of weapon. South Africa launched its weapons from a base in the Cape into the South Atlantic. There was close collaboration with South Africa providing fissile materials and Israel technical expertise. (Israel launched medium range missiles onto the Med.)

Israel now had 6 submarines which can fire Cruise Missiles, 5 of which given free by the German Government as part of reparations for WW2.

They were not supposed to be used for nuclear purposes but equipped so they could.

They can reach any part of the world. We were told that NATO was deploying the Israeli submarines, which means that governments within NATO are endorsing Israel's supposedly non-existent nuclear arsenal.

If we are still wondering why governments and media remain silent while Vanunu goes to jail for warning of danger to humanity we know that all are implicated.

We need to think more realistically why countries are not speaking out or helping Mordechai Vanunu.

The Sunday Times should be asked what it is doing to help Vanunu. There was a small piece last Sunday and there will probably be something this weekend.

The British Government has been silent on Vanunu's abduction and has an obligation to see him returned to Britain.

Nancy Walters from Amnesty International said they had been taking the matter seriously for decades and referred to the late Alex York. She asked us to go to the website where there is a petition to get the ban on travel for Vanunu lifted.

There is a need to push the UK Government to tell Israel of their Human Rights commitments and violation of Civil Treaties.

In discussion I pointed out that there were two Causes: Free Mordechai Vanunu at Facebook with over 5,000 supporters and TNT/Tell Nuclear Truths at Causes with over 20,000.

Surely these should be taken into account in any campaign. I said that I had come along on behalf of Eileen Fleming who has been leading campaigns and written extensively in books and articles, some recently published in The Arab Daily News.

Concern was expressed over Germany's actions and it was urged that questions should be asked. Was this recent? Evidently it was about 5 months ago. There had been a political row in Germany, which resulted in a fatality.

Jeremy Corbyn referred to future opportunities to raise issues in the wider context of meetings on restricting nuclear weapons. UN 2015 - last month there had been a failure of NPT to convene a weapon free conference. All have said that they are in favour of it. 142 states are supporting a conference in Vienna in December on the Humanitarian effects of nuclear arms.

One speaker felt the International Trades Union movement should give support and that Vanunu's fate was tied up with that of Palestinians.

Avigdor Feldman said that he had not previously been in favour of associating the two issues but as things are now so bad he had altered his mind.

As for Mordechai Vanunu: he made a decision not to speak to Israeli journalists. It was felt that there were some among them who do support him. It is understood that he is stubborn, but that is what has carried him through this ordeal.

Avigdor Feldman was asked to take our love and support to Mordechai and we were asked to send him e-mails, requesting that he doesn't reply in contravention of the conditions imposed on him.

**Preceding that event, I emailed Amnesty International and Vanunu's Attorney on 5 June 2014, and also published the following at The Arab Daily News:**

Dear John Tackaberry,

RE: Your [June 5 Press Release](#) and as today, [Politics.Co.UK](#) asked: "[Why is Israel stopping Mordechai Vanunu coming to London?](#)"

The USA based [The Arab Daily News](#) responded with many "Reasons WHY Israel denies Whistleblower Mordechai Vanunu FREEDOM".

I am not asking Amnesty or Mr. Feldman for any information, but I am OFFERING it!

Dear Mr. Feldman,

I have been contacting the White House as an American citizen and the US State Department as Media regarding Vanunu for the last 9 years.

At this moment the US based [The Arab Daily News](#) is the only US Media outlet to report on Israel's ongoing torture of Vanunu.

RE: "The Justice Ministry said that in accordance with the court's instructions, it would file a response to the latest petition by June 10."

I want you to know that I received snail mail verification from Judge Grunis and President Peres office that they received copy of the [Petition to World Media and Israel: We are not free until Vanunu is FREE](#).

I also received snail mail from the Offices of Netanyahu and Peres verifying they received copy of *Beyond Nuclear: Mordechai Vanunu's FREEDOM of SPEECH Trial and My Life as a Muckraker 2005-2010*.

I am also responsible for these video interviews with Vanunu:

[WeAreWideAwake interview with Vanunu June2005](#)

[The Spy for We the People](#)

[30 Minutes With Vanunu Part 1](#)

[30 MINUTES With Vanunu Part 2](#)

[Vanunu's Message regarding the real Wailing Wall and Hillary Clinton](#)

[Vanunu nails State Torture by Solitary Confinement](#)

I need you to know that Vanunu NEVER encouraged or "orchestrated" any of my actions; I always acted independently driven by my conscience.

And as much as I want to see a free Vanunu, I am even more driven to end US collusion in Israel's nuclear DECEPTIONS, so no way can I or will I shut up until Vanunu is free.

Most sincerely,

Eileen Fleming



## Reality Check

In April 2014, Secretary of State John Kerry said the U.S. is questioning its role in the Israeli-Palestine peace talks, noting it was "reality-check time" for negotiators from both parties.

In the week previous, Israel cancelled the planned release of a group of Palestinian prisoners and Palestine applied to the United Nations to join 15 international conventions and treaties.

Kerry said that the U.S.'s role in the peace process is not "open-ended," and that the U.S. will "evaluate very carefully exactly where this is and where it might possibly be able to go."

At the same time news regarding Jonathon Pollard's possible connection to extending the "peace talks" thus furthering pieces of Palestine being 'wiped off the map' prompted, Mordechai Vanunu's US adoptive parents, Nick and Mary Eoloff to email me that they, "Will be writing to our Zionist reps in the senate and house to ask that they free Mordechai and allow him to join his new family in Minnesota. Perhaps, you could ask your constituency to write or contact Kerry to ask the Israelis to free Mordechai."

The Eoloffs learned about Vanunu in a 1995 edition of The Progressive.

In a 2003 interview the Eoloffs explained how they came to be Vanunu's new family:

"I read his story, and I thought it was out of the Dark Ages. I mean, to keep someone in this day of age in a six-foot by nine-foot cell. It's unreal.

"He's been in isolation longer than any person in the western world. Just the brutality of that is very moving.

He told us, 'You can't imagine what it's like to see grass after ten years.'"

The Eoloffs began writing to Vanunu and joined the US Campaign to Free Vanunu united by their mutual anti-nuclear views.

Mary noted the obvious; "Here we have this beautiful world [and] the idea of destroying it in an afternoon is insane."

Nick explained that their efforts were focused on petitioning American politicians to put pressure on the Israeli government to free Vanunu and "that all proved fruitless- a dead end. We wanted to help this human being. How do you help?"

They considered adoption and when Vanunu agreed [his biological parents disowned him more for becoming a Christian than for telling the truth about Israel's nukes] the adoption proceedings began in October 1987.

But the law required that Vanunu be present at the adoption hearing (impossible because he was in prison) and that a valid birth certificate be provided for him (impossible because Vanunu was born in Morocco, which did not have the records)!

Miraculously, the Eoloffs managed to get the court to waive these two requirements, but

Vanunu remained captive in east Jerusalem.

After the Eloffs testified before Congress, in April 1999, thirty-six members of the US House of Representatives signed a letter calling for Mordechai Vanunu's release from prison because they believed **"we have a duty to stand up for men and women like Mordechai Vanunu who dare to articulate a brighter vision for humanity."**

President Clinton responded with a public statement expressing concern for Vanunu and the need for Israel and other non-parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty to adhere to it and accept IAEA safeguards.

More recently, the Eloffs cosigned along with others who greeted Vanunu after he emerged from 18 years behind bars the following Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament's statement:

### **Ten years after his release from prison, Israeli nuclear whistleblower Mordechai Vanunu is still not free**

Ten years ago, on 21 April 2004, several hundred of us from around the world waited with great anticipation outside the gates of Israel's Ashkelon Prison, holding up signs saying "Thank you, Mordechai Vanunu: Peace Hero, Nuclear Whistle-blower".

After many years of campaigning for his freedom, the day had finally arrived: Mordechai Vanunu would walk out of the prison where he had spent each day of his 18 year sentence (12 of those years in solitary confinement) for blowing the whistle on Israel's then secret nuclear arsenal. We were there to welcome him to freedom.

Our excitement had been somewhat dimmed a couple of days earlier, when Israel announced a list of oppressive and unjust restrictions on the soon-to-be-released whistleblower. These restrictions continue to this day, having been renewed each April: Mordechai Vanunu remains under restrictions which require him to report and gain approval for any change in residence, to avoid diplomatic missions, to not speak to foreign nationals and which prevent him from leaving Israel, a thing Mordechai has wished to do ever since his release from prison.

Since his release he has been repeatedly harassed and taken in by police for questioning. He has served a further three months in prison for talking to foreigners, which he continues to do in spite of the restrictions.

In December 2013, an appeal to Israel's High Court of Justice against this indefinite punishment for "crimes" for which he has served his full sentence proceeded much as previous appeals had. The government, in secret testimony, persuaded the court that "the evidentiary material suggests that there is still additional privileged information that [could be jeopardized] by the petitioner."

However Vanunu has repeatedly insisted that he has no more secrets to tell, including in his first public statement to the throng of international reporters gathered to cover the moment that he emerged from prison on April 21, 2004. He shared all that he knew with UK Sunday Times journalists back in 1986 (information that is now more than 28 years old) - giving the world its first photographic proof of Israel's clandestine production of nuclear weapons at the remote Dimona factory where he had worked as a technician until 1985.

He strongly believed that in a democratic country, people have the right to know what their government is doing, and, after examining his conscience, felt it was his responsibility to share the information he had. On the eve of publication, Vanunu was lured from London to Rome by a Mossad agent, where he was kidnapped, drugged and bound and put on a freighter to Israel. A secret court convicted him of espionage and treason.

We believe that Mordechai Vanunu is a hero for his courageous act of whistleblowing, not a traitor or a spy. And we think it's likely that Israel would view a potential Iranian nuclear whistle-blower in the same light. In any case, it is time for Israel to stop this endless persecution of Vanunu. He is currently living in East Jerusalem, but very much wishes to leave Israel and start a new life.

As we continue to work for a nuclear-free future, we invite people around the world to join us as we call on Israel to do the right thing, morally and legally, and finally lift Vanunu's restrictions without further delay, ten years after the original court-imposed sentence for his "crime" has expired. Mordechai Vanunu must at last be given his freedom.

List of signatories: (Israel) Yehuda Atai, Ronnie Barkan, Rayna Moss, Gideon Spiro, Meir Vanunu; (UK) Yasmin Alam, Pat Arrowsmith, Geoffrey Austin, Ben Birnberg, Margaret & Jacob Ecclestone, Paul Eisen, Jay Ginn, June Hautot, Ben Inman, Bruce Kent, Bruce Mackenzie, Carmel Martin, Jenny Morgan, Adeline O'Keeffe, David Polden, Ernest Rodker, Sabby Sagall, David Smethurst, Ben Soffa, James Thackera, Barry White; (US) Miriam Adams, Barbara Beesley, Edmond L. Browning, Patti Browning, Felice Cohen-Joppa, Nick and Mary Eoloff, Brian Grieves, Ken Hannaford-Ricardi, Art Laffin, Daniel McGowen, Mary H. Miller, Ronald H. Miller, Kim Redigan, Grace Ritter, Scott Schaeffer-Duffy, Jeanie Shaterian; (Ireland) Kevin Cassidy, Barbara Fabish, Mairead Maguire; (Norway) Fredrik Heffermehl; (Australia) Phillip Mudge, Rev. David Smith. [\[5\]](#)

**On 3 April 2014**, I left a phone message for Secretary of State John Kerry at 202-647-1512 and emailed [PressDuty@state.gov](mailto:PressDuty@state.gov) the following:

Dear Secretary of State John Kerry,

I am the only non-Arab on staff at the US based The Arab Daily News.

The news of Jonathon Pollard's connection to the "peace talks" prompted Mordechai Vanunu's U.S. adoptive parents, Nick and Mary Eoloff to email me that they:

"Will be writing to our Zionist reps in the senate and house to ask that they free Mordechai and allow him to join his new family in Minnesota. Perhaps, you could ask your constituency to write or contact Kerry to ask the Israelis to free Mordechai."

I ran for US HOUSE in 2012 in District 5, Fl. but I became a reporter in June 2005, after my first of eight trips to both sides of The Wall because Vanunu told me:

"The French were responsible for the actual building of the Dimona. The Germans gave the money; they were feeling guilty for the Holocaust, and tried to pay their way out.

"President Kennedy tried to stop Israel from building atomic weapons. In 1963, he

forced Prime Minister Ben Guirion to admit the Dimona was not a textile plant, as the sign outside proclaimed, but a nuclear plant.

"The Prime Minister said, 'The nuclear reactor is only for peace.'

"When Johnson became president; he made an agreement with Israel that two senators would come every year to inspect. Before the senators would visit, the Israelis would build a wall to block the underground elevators and stairways. From 1963 to '69, the senators came, but they never knew about the wall that hid the rest of the Dimona from them.

"Nixon stopped the inspections and agreed to ignore the situation. As a result, Israel increased production. In 1986, there were over two hundred bombs. Today, they may have enough plutonium for ten bombs a year."

Yesterday, the National Union of Journalists cross-posted TNT's Petition "We are not free until Vanunu is FREE".

TNT/Telling Nuclear Truths is dedicated to fully free Vanunu and end Israel's nuclear deceptions.

Despite Vanunu deactivating his Facebook and Causes accounts in 2012, TNT and FREE Vanunu at Facebook continue to grow the Legend of Vanunu.

Will this Administration end Israel's nuclear deceptions and pursue peace by working for justice?

Most Sincerely, Eileen Fleming

**Neither the Eoloff's nor I have ever received a reply.**

On 5 May 2014, I phoned and emailed the U.S. Department of State a follow-up:

Dear Secretary of State John Kerry,

Thank you for [your statement on World Press Freedom Day](#), but [this reporter for the US-based The Arab Daily News](#) is still waiting for a reply from my 4/4/14 phone call and follow-up email inquiry and this Facebook Post:

Hello [U.S. Department of State: Engaging the Community on Foreign Affairs](#) can you tell me what benefit to Americans can be gained by continuing collusion in Israel's Nuclear Deceptions and Occupation of Palestine?

I now take this opportunity to update you regarding the increasing numbers of [Calls for a Free Vanunu](#) and the growing number of [Jews for Justice and their Call](#) regarding British MPs [invitation to Vanunu to speak in UK Parliament June 2014](#).

Are you aware that for the last 10 years, both houses of the British parliament have been calling attention to "the restrictions placed on Mr Vanunu curtailing his freedom of movement, expression, and assembly have been the subject of Early Day Motions and Parliamentary Questions in the House of Commons." [6]

Are you aware that in April 1999, thirty-six members of the US House of Representatives signed a letter calling for Vanunu's release from prison because they believed "we have a duty to stand up for men and women like Mordechai Vanunu who dare to articulate a brighter vision for humanity."

I took the liberty to add the Editor of The Arab Daily News, Vanunu and his USA adoptive parents on this email.

THANK YOU for a reply, Eileen Fleming

In my taped phone message to the Secretary of State I also expressed my irritation over contacting the White House and State Department for the last 9 years regarding US collusion in Israel's nuclear deceptions and the ongoing [state torture Israel inflicts on Vanunu](#) by denying his right to leave Israel and receiving no response.

I made it clear that as MEDIA I have been phoning, emailing, FAXING and snail mailing this [and the previous Administration] but I have never received a reply; and as a tax paying American I deserve and demand a response.

I added that the Israeli Government has at least acknowledged my existence by snail mailing me confirmation they received my Statements; but I can get no satisfaction from Uncle Sam-and still haven't!

***In The Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream Barack Obama called for a new kind of politics that would build upon what Americans share in common.***

It was written that Obama set "out his political convictions and inspires us to trust in the dogged optimism that has long defined us and that is our best hope going forward."

The first definition of Audacity is defined as "the willingness to take bold risks" and the second as "impudence" which is understood as "insulting, rude; saucy, pert; presumptuous, fresh, brazen."

St. Augustine defined HOPE as having two children. The first is ANGER at the way things are. The second is COURAGE to DO SOMETHING about it.

Allen Ginsburg asserted: "FUCK hope! It's not about hope. You don't do what you do because you hope things will get better. It's about getting up every morning and asking yourself what's the right thing to do and doing it."

## **[Helsinki to Haifa](#)**

On 2 May 2014, I wrote for [The Arab Daily News](#): "**Calling for a Free Vanunu and End to Israel's Nuclear Deceptions:**" [\[7\]](#)

On Thursday, a top Iranian diplomat reiterated his country's call for a halt to the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

[Hamid Baeedinejad](#), the director general for political and international affairs at Iran's foreign ministry addressed the third Preparatory Committee of the NPT Review Conference in New York noting;

"Despite the approval of the whole NPT members and the international community's serious call to hold the 2012 conference on the establishment of nuke-free zone in the Middle East, the Zionist regime has disapproved of the conference."

The Obama Administration also disapproved of that conference.

However, Israeli citizens of conscience proclaimed, "**If Israel won't come to Helsinki, Helsinki will come to Israel**" and acted in lieu of the derailed Helsinki conference with one in Israel! [\[8\]](#)

From December 5-6, 2013, current and former Israeli parliamentarians, local and international peace and human rights activists met in Haifa to call for a zone free of nuclear weapons and all weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East and called for a world free of nuclear weapons.

The people-powered Haifa Conference called for the prompt convening of the Helsinki Conference to create a WMD-free zone that was unanimously mandated by the NPT Review Conference at the United Nations in 2010 and 2013; and the General Assembly of the UN reaffirmed it in Dec. 2013.

The members of the Haifa coalition called for the end of Israel's nuclear apartheid citing two options: nuclear weapons for all or a complete WMD disarmament in the region.

**The Haifa coalition also addressed the essentials for achieving a just and lasting peace: end the Israeli occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories.**

They also called for equal participation of women at all levels of discussion, advocacy and diplomacy in implementation of these demands.

Over fifty years have passed since Israel's Nuclear Dimona Reactor was built and twenty-eight years since Mordechai Vanunu informed the World about Israel's clandestine 7-story underground WMD facility in the Negev; but his silencing began in 1986 on the way to his closed-door trial.

**April 28 was Holocaust Remembrance Day.**

At Sunday's opening ceremony at the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial, Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu noted that just like before World War II, there were those in the world today who refused to face uncomfortable truths:

"Has the world learned a lesson from the mistakes of the past? Today we are again faced with clear facts and before a real danger..."

"How is it possible that so many people failed to understand reality? The bitter, tragic truth is this: It is not that they did not see. They did not want to see."

Netanyahu links the Jewish Holocaust with Iran because World War II is still a central part of his psyche-as is his denial of Israel's nuclear duplicity.

That same week, [The Belfast Telegraph](#), published this call for remembrance by Justin Morahan:

TEN years ago, in April 2004, I was proud to be present with 100 international observers at the release of whistleblower Mordechai Vanunu in Ashkelon, Israel. In this prison he had served 18 years - 11 of these in solitary confinement.

I witnessed at first hand the extreme hostility he faced as he emerged from the prison gates. We, his supporters, were pelted with eggs, water bombs and urine bombs.

Since his release, he has been confined to Israel, forced to live in a remote area, where he is hated by the population.

Vanunu is a truth-teller who told the world about Israel's stockpile of nuclear weapons.

As I recall his sacrifice, I am reminded of other brave whistleblowers who have suffered similarly within their own communities for telling the truth.

All whistleblowers are honorable people. They deserve to be cherished by any nation that values decency and integrity.

**In April 2014**, long time UK friends and Vanunu supporters reunited as close as they could to the Israeli embassy in London, reiterating their call for Mordechai's right to leave the country.

Long time friend and Vanunu supporter, David Polden explained:

"We held two-hour vigil and leafleting for Vanunu outside the Israeli Embassy in London every Saturday for over 11 years until his release from prison.

"We've not held the regular weekly Saturday vigil near the Israeli Embassy calling for his freedom since Mordechai was released in 2004.

"In many ways the vigil on Saturday 26th felt to many of us as just like the old days."[\[10\]](#)





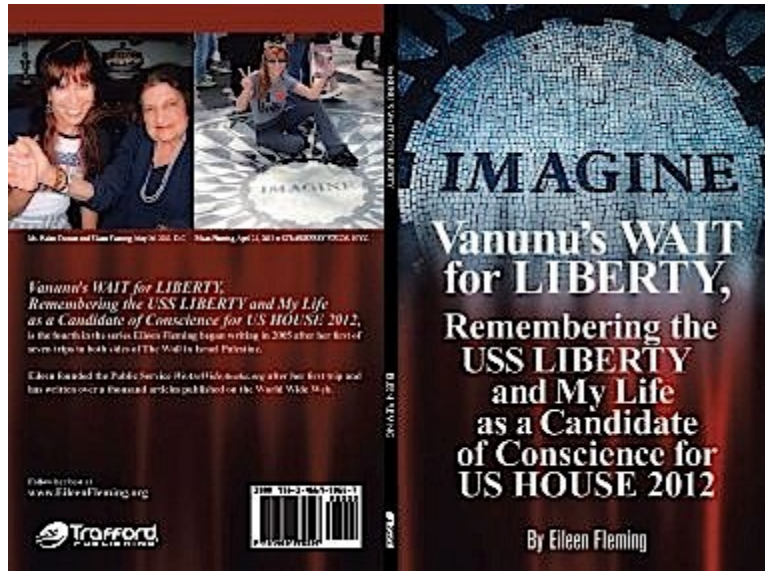
UK supporters photo copyright Adeline O'Keeffe, April 2014

**In the old days, while Vanunu was behind bars,** hundreds of Free Vanunu Vigils were held and thousands of calls for nuclear abolition were delivered in front of Israeli embassies, consulates and other public sites in Wellington, Sydney, Jerusalem, New Delhi, Chennai, Hiroshima, Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Boston, Toronto, Vancouver, London, Salisbury, Leicester, Lisbon, Rome, Stockholm, and Oslo.

### **Mossad and Video**

Exactly four days after I approved the final galley proofs for my fourth book *IMAGINE Vanunu's WAIT for Liberty, Remembering the USS LIBERTY and MY Life as a Candidate of CONSCIENCE for US HOUSE 2012*, Vanunu's 19-month wait for Israel to respond to his then latest Appeal to revoke his Israeli citizenship was heard.





### Vanunu wrote:

"The interior minister answered my letter to him to cancel my Israel citizenship. He wrote, 'I will be happy to do it, but security people don't recommend it because I can damage Israel image and security.'

"He also quotes from the Bible. Isaiah 49:17, 'They that destroy thee and make thee waste shall go out of thee' and Proverbs 13:2, 'From the fruit of his lips a man enjoys good things, but the unfaithful have a craving for violence' ending his letter with Hebrew word Hamas.

"So this you tube "Vanunu Mordechai asking Revoking Israel citizenship 2012" will be here, until Freedom come. vmjc"

### I wrote back:

"Interesting response from the interior minister. I wonder if he and SECURITY ever pay attention to Micah, 'What does God require? He has told you o'man! Be JUST, Be MERCIFUL, and walk humbly with your Lord.' [6:8]

"Or Jeremiah, 'I cannot keep silent...Disaster follows disaster; the land lies in ruins...My people are fools; they do not know me.' [4:19]

"Most interesting he ends with the Hebrew word Hamas-which means warlike valor-boldness and heroic courage."

**I learned about the origins of Hamas on Land Day in 2006**, in the lower Galilee municipality of Sakhnin, an Arab village whose land continues to be grabbed and colonized by settlers.

Aliyah which in Hebrew means "go up" was also the name of the woman who told me:

"My Father was born in Jerusalem and I was a Zionist, but now I am not so sure. I still want the Jewish people to have a state but it must be honest and moral, I don't want a pariah state!

"Before 1967 I was euphoric! My husband and I began to learn that there were Israelis

who you could call prophets, who said we must return the land and make peace. Then a fundamentalist Jewish group, The Gush Emunim began erecting the settlements on the newly possessed land.

"When Israel went into Lebanon I was infuriated! I demonstrated against the massacres at Shatila and Shabra. Eighteen years of Israel in Lebanon is what built up the Hezbollah!

"The Israelis supported the group at first because they hoped the Hezbollah would be against the Palestinian refugees in South Lebanon."

I inquired, "Isn't that what Israel did with Hamas? Didn't they originally support Hamas to be a wedge against the PLO?"

Aliyah replied, "Yes, stupidity repeats itself!"

**"Stupid is as Stupid does"-Forrest Gump**

At the top of my list of STUPID is Israel's failure to imagine that the vacuum left by Mainstream Media who have FAILED to report on Israel's WMD and Israel's Administrative Torture and Lawless Captivity of Vanunu Mordechai could ever be silenced as long as there is a free World Wide Web.

**On 16 June 2014, I wrote, "Protecting The Legend of Israel's Nuclear Whistle Blower Vanunu Mordechai, JC" for [The Arab Daily News](#):**

Among the invited speakers for Amnesty International's "[Protecting Whistleblowers](#)" Conference on Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> are Kathleen McClellan who works for the US Government Accountability Project, Nancy Hollander lead counsel for Chelsea Manning on appeal, Frank La Rue UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and Israel's Nuclear Whistle Blower, [Mordechai Vanunu](#) who has also been asked to address UK Parliament on June 18th.

Will an empty chair symbolize the absence of [Mordechai Vanunu](#) as it did when Vanunu was denied the right to accept the 2010 Carl-von-Ossietszky-Medal.

On 4 October 4, 2010, the International League for Human Rights in Germany announced Vanunu was awarded the 2010 Carl-von-Ossietszky-Medal.

An international campaign was launched to assure he would be at the Award Ceremony in Berlin to receive it on December 12, 2010. But the ceremony was renamed a protest because on 11 October 2010, Vanunu's Supreme Court appeal seeking to lift the restrictions that have denied him the right to leave Israel were denied; so an empty chair stood in Vanunu's place.

The Establishment of Israel's statehood was contingent upon upholding the [UNIVERSAL DECLARATION of HUMAN RIGHTS](#):

Article 13-2 affirms: "Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country."

Article 19 enshrines: "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."

**On 13 June 2013, [Amnesty International UK](#) posted a report by [Billy Briggs](#) who wrote:**

"On September 30, 1986, Vanunu was lured to Rome by a femme fatale called 'Cindy', who turned out to be an Israeli secret agent. Vanunu was kidnapped and drugged before being shipped to Israel, where he was found guilty of espionage and treason; the Sunday Times had printed its article on October 5 under the headline: Revealed: the secrets of Israel's nuclear arsenal."

**In 2006, after this reporter had run out of tape** [but not questions] in the YouTube interview known as "30 Minutes with Vanunu" [taped a few weeks after his Freedom of Speech Trial began] I asked Vanunu what was he thinking when he flew off with Cindy-who he had thought was an American beautician on holiday.

Vanunu looked me in the eye and readily replied:

"It wasn't like THAT! When Maxwell's paper published my photo without ever talking to me and some of the stolen Dimona photos with a very bad story against me, I knew the Mossad was after me. Cindy said she had a sister in Rome and I thought I would be safe there until I could return to London.

"We went to movies and art galleries, I trusted her. But, as soon as I got into the apartment, I was hit on the head and drugged. When I woke up and they took me for interrogation, they threw the Times article on the table and said, 'Look, what you did.'"

What Vanunu did was shoot two rolls of film from Top Secret locations within Israel's 7-story underground WMD facility at Dimona.

What London's Sunday Times did was to publish a front-page photo of the Dimona reactor and a story that spread over three pages revealing Israel's arsenal of upwards of 200 nuclear warheads on 5 Oct. 1986 - five days after the Mossad kidnapped Vanunu

Also, after I ran out of tape Vanunu told me:

"Many journalists come here to the American Colony from CNN and NY Times. They all want to cover my story, but their EDITORS say no.

"CNN wants to interview me; but they say they can't do it because they don't want problems with the Israeli censor. BBC is doing the same thing.

"Sixty Minutes from the United States from the beginning they wanted to do a program, but because of the censor situation they decide not to do it. Also big media from Germany, France, Italy, Japan. None of them wants problems with the Israelis."

Not having any problem with making problems for Israel, I tracked down Vanunu's "honey trap" Cindy/Cheryl Hanin Ben Tov.

Last reported, Cheryl and family were living the American dream in "Alaqua" an exclusive gated community of golf course homes in central Florida, purchased in Cheryl Hanin's name in 1998 at \$528,000.00.

While Cheryl deceived Vanunu with a Judas Kiss, she was also deceiving her sister-in-law Cindy, whose Passport and identity she stole.

Cheryl grew up in Pennsylvania and Orlando in a Jewish family that owed its affluence to tires.

I moved to Orlando in the mid 1970's and still can recall her father, Stanley Hanin, the founder and pitchman for the Allied Discount Tires chain stores, self-produced cheesy TV commercials with the refrain, "Tires ain't pretty, but you gotta have them!"

While her parents went through an acrimonious divorce, Cheryl embarked upon a long love affair with the Zionist State. In 1977, she spent a semester in Israel, studied Hebrew and Jewish history and threw herself into her academic and religious studies in a three-month residential course funded by the World Zionist Organization. Upon graduation in 1978, she joined the Israeli army and was soon recruited by the Mossad.

In 1986, "She left Israel to flee the media and the people who burrowed into her life," a friend in Florida told the Israeli daily, [Yedioth Ahronoth](#).

"This bothered her a lot. She was terrified. She felt the need to run. Since this affair Cheryl only wants one thing: a normal quiet life."

In 1996, [The St. Petersburg Times](#) reported that Cheryl continues to work for the Mossad. [11]

**It is illegal under American-Israeli diplomatic protocols for the Mossad to operate in America.**

[The St. Petersburg Times](#) also reported that in 1985, Hanin married Ofer Ben Tov, six years her senior and soon after she attracted the attention of the Mossad.

Beginning in 1951, [three years after Israel became a nation] the Mossad ranked as one of the world's most skilled and lethal intelligence agencies.

"As a Mossad recruit, Hanin would have gone through a regimen designed to test an agent's mettle under the most challenging of circumstances. She learned to draw a gun while sitting in a chair. To memorize as many names as possible as they flashed across a screen." [Ibid]

Gordon Thomas wrote in *Gideon's Spies: The Secret History of the Mossad* that Cheryl was sent on practice missions - breaking into an occupied hotel room, stealing documents from an office. She was roused from her bed in the dead of night and dispatched on more exercises: picking up a tourist in a nightclub, then disengaging herself outside his hotel. Every move she made was observed by her tutors."

After her training, Hanin joined the Mossad unit that worked with Israeli embassies, where she posed as the wife or girlfriend of other agents. In 1986, she got the assignment ordered by then Prime Minister, Shimon Peres to "bring the son of the bitch back here."

When construction of the Dimona "Textile Plant" began in 1958 so did the rumors that the center's true purpose was to make nuclear weapons. Vanunu was hired as a trainee in 1976 and began a crash course in nuclear physics. All employees were required to sign the Official Secrets Act, which forbid disclosure of sensitive material. Because he was a good worker, Vanunu was cross-trained in many areas and spent nine years on the night shift at the center.

In the daytime, Vanunu graduated with a degree in Philosophy and Geography at Ben-Gurion University, where he also became active in politics and supported Palestinian human rights causes. Vanunu was repeatedly warned by officials at Dimona to halt his

political activities but he ignored them.

In 1985, Vanunu was told he would be transferred or laid off. Instead he quit after he seized the opportunity to photograph models of different types of bombs after a supervisor carelessly left the keys in the shower room.

After a few intense hours and nearly being caught, Vanunu returned the keys and stashed the film and camera back in his locker. A few days later he smuggled out the film and then the camera in his backpack, which was checked twice a day by Dimona Security before entering and departing the nuclear facility.

Vanunu quit Dimona in October 1985 and left Israel in early 1986 with the still undeveloped film. He traveled through Europe and wound up in Sydney, Australia, where he worked as a taxi driver and began to attend a social justice Anglican Church.

Vanunu was born into an Orthodox Zionist home, but had become an atheist in early adolescence. The welcoming he received from parishioners who were already engaged in the struggle to get the Church to oppose nuclear weapons opened Vanunu up to tell his story about Israel's WMD Facility at Dimona.

Among Vanunu's new friends was Oscar Guerrero, a Colombian who had been painting the church.

Guerrero, realizing an expose of Israel's nuclear program could be a gold mine, told Vanunu he was an 'international journalist' who could help get the story published and Guerrero began shopping the story to news organizations.

All rejected him until he approached London's Sunday Times in August 1986 and then Peter Hounam was assigned to determine if his story was credible.

Guerrero was dismissed but as a British physics professor said the Dimona photos appeared genuine Hounam flew to Australia to interview Vanunu.

Over a two-day time span Vanunu described a far more extensive weapons production program than anyone had imagined.

Hounam wrote, "These were weapons that could obliterate a major city - they had no sensible battlefield application. I was utterly absorbed in the wealth of detail he was able to supply."

The Sunday Times would not and did not pay for any information, but they did offer Vanunu \$100,000 for a book deal and serialization in a German magazine.

However, Vanunu never had a chance to sign that contract before being kidnapped by Mossad.

**On 5 October 1986**, a front-page photo of the Dimona reactor and a three-page spread revealed Israel had an arsenal of 200 nuclear warheads. Israel did not deny the story and refused to say anything about Vanunu.

The Press was denied access to Vanunu, but he reached them without speaking a sound!

On way to the courthouse Vanunu asked a Security officer for a pen, which he used to ink his palm:

"Vanunu M was hi-jacked in Rome. I.T.L. 30.9.86. 21.000. Came to Rome by fly

BA504".

**Vanunu**  
Israeli nuclear prisoner of conscience  
**FREE**



Photo copyright <http://edition.presstv.ir/detail/144349.html>

Vanunu's inspired move was caught by a photographer as Vanunu pressed his palm to the car window and Hounam was then able to piece together the story of Vanunu's kidnapping which led to a confrontation with Cheryl; who had purchased the business-class tickets on British Airways Flight 504 flight to Rome.

Vanunu told me that the moment he entered the apartment he was hit and pinned to the ground, drugged, clubbed, bound and flung onto a small yacht or a disguised Israeli navy ship.

Vanunu then endured a closed-door trial, denied the right to speak in his own defense and was convicted of espionage and treason.

His lawyer argued he didn't commit treason because he did not share information with a hostile foreign government but went to The Media in a case of the public's right to know.

Hounam eventually tracked Cheryl to Netanya, a city on Israel's Mediterranean coast and asked her if she was Cindy?

"I deny it, I deny everything," she shouted as Hounam snapped a few photos of her. By that night, the house was deserted.

In 1997, another Sunday Times reporter found Cheryl back in Orlando living in a secluded villa.

Her only concern was that any story about her should not "harm her position in America."

According to the paper, the couple also had a villa in Israel in an area that is home to many security officials.

Cheryl "continues to work for Mossad, according to her Israeli neighbors," the Sunday Times said. She and her husband, they believe, have rented out their house, while she is



engaged in an overseas assignment, and are expected some day to return."

Until recently, Florida state records showed Cheryl "had an active real estate sales license and was employed by CFI Sales & Marketing of Orlando.

But CFI, whose Westgate Resorts is one of the world's largest timeshare companies, said she was terminated in 1997, the same year the Sunday Times found her in Orlando.

After the St. Petersburg Times began looking into Hanin's background, the State records were changed to show her license was inactive and there was no reference to CFI.

Officials could not say who requested the change.

CFI says it did not.

**It is illegal under American-Israeli diplomatic protocols for the Mossad to operate in America, but it does not make it impossible.**

Three days after I snail mailed Cheryl Hanin Ben Tov my [OPEN LETTER to the MOSSAD](#) regarding Vanunu the visits from Israel to my website [<http://wearewideawake.org/>] increased dramatically and continued for many weeks afterwards.

**On 10 July 2012, Vanunu emailed me,** "Hi. You can continue to act and do for my freedom as much as you can-no one can stop you. Freedom NOW!!! vmjc."

**During his Christmas Day 2013 court appearance Vanunu said:**

"Snowden is the best example of what I did 25 years ago - when the government breaks the law and tramples on human rights, people talk. That's what he did, he speaks for everyone, and that's what I did - I spoke for everyone."

On 9 January 2014, the British based [New Statesman](#), published an article by [Mehdi Hasan](#) who asked:

"The left lionizes Edward Snowden, but who will speak up for Israel's Mordechai Vanunu?"

Hasan also claimed Vanunu "has been ignored and forgotten."

Ignored YES.

Forgotten NO and never; because everything is on the Internet!

When I last saw Vanunu in November 2013, he told me a reporter from CNN had recently asked him for an interview but Vanunu told him:

**"No, everything is already on the Internet."**

**Vanunu's website:** <http://vanunu.com/>

**Vanunu's YouTube Channel:** [www.youtube.com/user/vanunuvvmjc/](http://www.youtube.com/user/vanunuvvmjc/)

**Free Vanunu at Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/FreeMordechaiVanunu](http://www.facebook.com/FreeMordechaiVanunu)

**TNT/Free Vanunu at Causes:** [www.causes.com/VANUNU](http://www.causes.com/VANUNU)

## **From the Author**

Before that day we call 911, I was uninformed and misinformed regarding the establishment of Israel's statehood, the Palestinian side of that story and America's role.

The events of September 11, 2001 compelled me to research and also impelled me to journey eight times to both sides of The Wall in Israel Palestine.

In 2012, I ran for US House of Representatives District 5, in Fl. because I believe it is America's foreign policies that most endanger this homeland.

In 2014, I became the first non-Arab correspondent for the US based The Arab Daily News.

Thank you for leaving a review of *The Vanunu Legend* at your favorite retailer and for considering my previous publications:

**KEEP HOPE ALIVE**

**THIRD INTIFADA: NONVIOLENT But With Words Sharper than a Two-Edged Sword**

**Beyond Nuclear: Mordechai Vanunu's FREEDOM of SPEECH Trial and My Life as a Muckraker 2005-2010**

**IMAGINE: Vanunu's Wait for Liberty, Remembering the USS LIBERTY and My Life as a Candidate of Conscience for US HOUSE 2012**

Eileen Fleming, 11 September 2014

[www.eileenfleming.org/](http://www.eileenfleming.org/)



## **Endnotes**

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