

## مجددًا.. قناة الجزيرة تترجع على الصفحات الأولى لجرائد العالم



خطفت قناة الجزيرة القطرية الأضواء مجددًا وتربعت على صدر الصفحات الأولى لعدد من الصحف العالمية وأغلب المواقع الاخبارية الكبرى على الانترنت الأحد بسبب سبق الصحفي التاريخي الذي انفردت به والذي فضح اللوبي الصهيوني في بريطانيا، وكشف أن السفارات الاسرائيلية في الدول الغربية تعمل وتتآمر على المسؤولين السياسيين الذين لا يروقون لها.

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**ISRAEL PLOT TO 'TAKE DOWN' TORY MINISTER**

Astonishing undercover video captures diplomat conspiring with rival MP's aide to smear Deputy Foreign Secretary

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واستيقظ ملايين البريطانيين صباح الأحد على فضيحة من العيار الثقيل من المحتمل أن تشعل أزمة دبلوماسية بين لندن وتل أبيب خلال الأيام القليلة المقبلة، وذلك بعد أن تبين بأن مسؤولا كبيرا في السفارة الاسرائيلية يتآمر مع "عميلة" له من كبار الموظفين في الحكومة البريطانية من أجل تدبير

فضيحة أو مصيبة تُطيح بوزير في حكومة حزب المحافظين ببريطانيا، وذلك عقابا لهذا الوزير على موقفه الرافض للاستيطان الاسرائيلي في الأراضي الفلسطينية، وهي الفضيحة التي تصدرت الصفحات الأولى للصحف في يوم العطلة الأسبوعية، وشغلت أيضا مئات المواقع الالكترونية الاخبارية في بريطانيا والولايات المتحدة واسرائيل ومختلف أنحاء العالم.

وجاءت تفاصيل الفضيحة عبر تسجيل فيديو مدته ثلاث دقائق ونصف تمكنت قناة الجزيرة من تصويره أو تكليف من يقوم بتصويره سراً، ووصل الى وسائل الاعلام البريطانية صباح الأحد، وسرعان ما تسبب باستقالة الموظفة في الحكومة البريطانية من منصبها، فيما لا يُمثل هذا الفيديو سوى ثلاث دقائق ونصف فقط من أصل فلم وثائقي مدته 120 دقيقة قامت وحدة التحقيقات في قناة الجزيرة بانتاجه ومن المقرر أن تبثه على مشاهديها الأسبوع المقبل، لتكشف به مزيداً من تفاصيل الفضيحة التي قد تتحول الى منعطف خطير في العلاقات البريطانية الاسرائيلية.

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# The Observer

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## May urged to get a grip on NHS as winter crisis spirals

Call for emergency statement to MPs 'We're back to dark days of 1990s'

by Toby Helm  
Denis Campbell

Theresa May is under intense pressure over the weekend to announce an emergency NHS rescue plan to parliament – amid a chorus of warnings that hospitals and services across England have finally reached breaking point.

The Liberal Democrats tonight demanded the prime minister, Jeremy Hunt, the health secretary, appear before MPs tomorrow – when parliament returns from the Christmas break – as doctors and medical organisations said the winter crisis was reminiscent of the chaos that engulfed the service in the dark days of the 1990s. Last

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night former Tory health minister and practising NHS doctor Dan Poulter said it was essential that ministers disclosed the extent of the problems, because there was an urgent need to focus minds and build momentum behind the search for a cross-party solution.

In a further sign of spiralling pressures on health and social care services, the president of the Society for Acute Medicine, Dr Mark Holland, called on May to convene a special version of

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## Fresh as a Daisy Top model makes a colourful start on London's catwalk



Daisy Lowe, left, with designer Katie Eary on the runway at the start of London Fashion Week Men's. Photograph by Eamonn McCormack/Getty

## Israeli envoy in plot to 'take down MPs'

by Ian Cobain and Ewen MacAskill

An Israeli embassy official has been caught on camera in an undercover sting plotting to "take down" MPs regarded as hostile, including foreign office minister Sir Alan Duncan, an outspoken supporter of a Palestinian state.

In an extraordinary breach of diplomatic protocol, Shai Masot, who describes himself as an officer in the Israel Defence Forces and is serving as a senior political officer at the

**ON OTHER PAGES**

How loose talk in a restaurant ended with egg on the face of Israeli diplomats 5

London embassy, was recorded by an undercover reporter from al-Jazeera's investigative unit speaking about a number of British MPs.

The Israeli ambassador, Mark Reggev, apologised to Duncan on Friday. An Israeli spokesman said Reggev made clear that "the embassy considered the remarks completely unacceptable".

Although the embassy declined to comment on internal disciplinary matters, it is understood Masot has been reprimanded. Masot declined to comment, or elaborate about what he meant when he said he wanted to "take down"

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ورغم أن اللوبي الصهيوني يعمل بحرية في بريطانيا وبشكل قانوني، إلا أن القوانين لا تجيز بطبيعة الحال له أن يتلقى الأوامر والتوجيهات أو التمويل من السفارات في لندن، كما أن الاعراف والقوانين الدبلوماسية تحظر على سفارة أي دولة أن تتدخل في الشؤون الداخلية للدولة المضيفة، أو تتآمر على

حكومتها، أو على أي من موظفيها العموميين.

واستعرضت "عربي 21" صباح الأحد قائمة طويلة من كبرى الصحف الأجنبية والمواقع الإلكترونية العالمية لتجد أن خبر الفضيحة الاسرائيلية التي كشفتها قناة الجزيرة الانجليزية يتصدر أغلب الصفحات الأولى والمواقع، بما في ذلك الصحف والمواقع اليمينية المحسوبة المتعاطفة مع اسرائيل، فضلاً عن أن كافة المواقع الصحافية الاسرائيلية اضطرت لنشر الفضيحة مع فيديو الجزيرة ذاته بعد أن تحول الى الخبر الأول في صحف بريطانيا، وبعد أن أصبحت العلاقات الدبلوماسية بين لندن وتل أبيب مهددة بالتوتر.

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## Israeli envoy in plot to 'take down MPs'

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n Fashion

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وخصصت جريدة "ميل أون صنداي" صفحتها الأولى بالكامل للفضيحة دون أن تضع معها أي خبر آخر، وعنونت تقول: "مؤامرة اسرائيلية لإسقاط وزير من حزب المحافظين"، فيما تجدر الإشارة الى أن "ميل أون صنداي" هي الصحيفة الأوسع انتشاراً والأكثر توزيعاً في بريطانيا من بين نظيراتها من صحف آخر الأسبوع.

# How loose talk in a restaurant ended with egg on the face for Israeli diplomats

Embassy official Shai Masot was expecting an innocent meal with friends but one of them was an undercover reporter planning a sting

by Ewen MacAskill and Ian Cobain

In the upper reaches of the Conservative party, politicians such as foreign office minister Sir Alan Duncan and Crispin Blunt are a rarity: they are prepared to be vocal in support of the Palestinian cause. This, it seems, is why a senior political officer at the Israeli embassy talked about his desire to "take down" Duncan and agreed Blunt was on some sort of "hitlist".

While the Israeli ambassador, Mark Regev, has now apologised to Duncan for the comments made by embassy official Shai Masot, they came to light only because of an undercover operation by al-Jazeera.

Masot made the comments at a London restaurant in a conversation with Maria Strizzolo, a civil servant who previously worked as a Conservative party aide. Also present was a man they knew as "Robin", and whom they believed to be working for Labour Friends of Israel. In fact, "Robin" was an undercover reporter. Although the embassy insists Masot was a junior official and not a diplomat, his business card describes him as "a senior political officer" while his LinkedIn page lists him as having worked for the embassy since November 2014.

He describes his work as being the chief point of contact between the embassy and MPs, and liaising with ministers and officials at the Foreign Office. He also describes him-

Sir Alan Duncan, right, and Crispin Blunt.



## Minister named in sting tapes

Continued from page 1

a number of MPs. The embassy later said Masot "will be ending his term of employment with the embassy shortly".

Masot had been speaking to Maria Strizzolo, a civil servant and formerly an aide to another Conservative minister. Strizzolo, discussing with Masot how to discredit MPs, said: "Well, you know, if you look hard enough, I'm sure that there is something that they're trying to hide." Later she added: "A little scandal, maybe." Masot was filmed at the Aubaine restaurant near the embassy in London in October.

Other prominent Conservatives named included Crispin Blunt, chairman of the Commons foreign affairs select committee, who is also a vocal supporter of the Palestinians. Blunt said last night: "While this apparent activity of a diplomat of a foreign state in the politics of the United Kingdom is outrageous and deserving of investigation, the real questions should be for Israel itself. Israel's future peace and security is not being served by ignoring the substantial peace lobby in Israel and working to undermine community and working to undermine those foreign politicians who share that perspective." Duncan declined to comment. UK ministers are understood to consider such comments as a matter of internal security.

self as having been a major in the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) between 2004 and 2011 and as being still employed by the IDF as deputy head of the international organisations sector.

The comments about Duncan came during a conversation that began about something else. At the restaurant, during a meeting in late October, Strizzolo claimed she had helped to secure a promotion for her boss, Conservative MP Robert Halfon. She had been his chief of staff when he was deputy chairman of the Conservative party. Last year Halfon was appointed education minister and Strizzolo was appointed to a position as a senior manager at the Skills Funding Agency. She continues to work part-time for Halfon.

In the footage, Masot agreed that she had assisted Halfon and then asked whether she could also achieve the opposite effect. "Can I give you some MPs that I would suggest you can take down?" he said. He went on to say she knew which MPs he was referring to. She asked him to remind her. "The deputy foreign minister," Masot said. She said: "You still want to go for it?" Masot's reply is ambiguous but he said Duncan was still causing problems. "I thought we had, you know, neutralised him just a little bit, no?" she said. "No," he said.

Masot does not elaborate on what he meant by "take down" but it is normally used as meaning to engineer a downfall, possibly through discrediting a person.

The conversation turned to foreign secretary Boris Johnson. Strizzolo

at a sensitive moment, just over a week after Theresa May put herself at odds with the Obama administration by voicing strong support for Israel in a dispute over West Bank settlements.

The sting operation, which began in June and ran to November, recorded conversations on a number of occasions with British politicians and Israeli embassy staff. The recordings form the basis of four documentaries that al-Jazeera is to broadcast from 15 January.

Strizzolo said: "The implications [the Observer] is seeking to draw from a few out-of-context snippets of a conversation, obtained by subterfuge, over a social dinner are absurd. The context of the conversation was light, tongue-in-cheek and gossipy. Any suggestion that I, as a civil servant working in education, could ever exert the type of influence you are suggesting is risible. Hence you are suggesting I know Shai Masot is someone I know purely socially and as a friend. He is not someone with whom I have ever worked or had any political dealings beyond chatting about politics."

A Foreign Office spokesman said: "The Israeli ambassador has apologised and is clear these comments do not reflect the views of the embassy or government of Israel. The UK has a strong relationship with Israel and we consider the matter closed."



Israeli embassy worker Shai Masot, who was caught on tape in a sting carried out for an al-Jazeera documentary.

said he was solid on Israel. Masot agreed, adding that Johnson just did not care. "You know he is an idiot..." Masot said. Strizzolo returned to Duncan later in the conversation, suggesting that he had had a run-in with Halfon in the past and that Halfon had reported Duncan to the whips. So never say never, she added. Masot replied: "Never say never, yeah, but..." Strizzolo: "A little scandal, maybe."

In another conversation, about his historical antisemitism in the Conservative party, Masot agreed that Blunt was among MPs that are "strongly

pro-Arab rather than pro-Israel". Strizzolo refers to him being on a "hitlist".

Duncan has found himself in trouble with the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the Israeli embassy. Both the Board of Deputies and the embassy protested in 2011 after Duncan, on a visit to the West Bank as international development minister, accused Israel in a video of a "land grab" of Palestinian territory.

He was in the middle of another dispute in 2014 after a speech at the London's Royal United Services Institute describing illegal Israeli settlements on the West Bank as a "wicked cocktail" and

criticising the scale of pro-Israeli lobbying. Masot, in one of the recorded conversations refers to Duncan as an Arabist with a background in oil and gas who is "totally into Gulf states".

Blunt, who is joint chairman of the Palestine all-party parliamentary group took issue with Theresa May a week for her criticism of the American secretary of state, John Kerry.

Blunt, lining up with Kerry, that the prime minister appeared positioning herself closer to press select Donald Trump, who is seen pro-Israel.



'I am alone. I'm not having an existential crisis. Jesus isn't calling, I am just bored' Jay Rayner on his silent retreat

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## 'MPS I WANT TO TAKE DOWN' Israel plot to 'take down' Boris Johnson's deputy Sir Alan Duncan in shocking undercover footage that brands Foreign Secretary an 'idiot'

Astonishing footage, filmed by Al Jazeera, shows Israeli official Shai Masot claim the government has "infiltrated" both the Conservative and Labour parties

VIDEO

BY ELLIE FLYNN | 8th January 2017, 12:47 am

وبثت كل من قناة "سكاي نيوز" وقناة "آي تي في" البريطانيتين أيضا تسجيل الفيديو الذي يُمثل فضيحة على مستوى العلاقات الدبلوماسية بين بلدين.

ولاحقا لذلك نشرت جريدة "واشنطن بوست" الأمريكية تقريرًا قالت فيه إن السفارة الاسرائيلية في لندن قدمت اعتذارا رسميا للحكومة البريطانية عما بدر من المسؤول فيها وعن ضلوعه في مؤامرة لإسقاط وزير من منصبه بسبب انتقاده للاستيطان الاسرائيلي في الأراضي الفلسطينية.

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## Israeli Embassy official vows to 'take down' Tory minister

MUST READ



Simon Robb for Metro.co.uk Sunday 8 Jan 2017 10:32 am

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Can I give you some MPs that I would

يشار الى أنّ هذا السبق الصحفي الجديد يعيد التأكيد على المكانة العالمية لقناة الجزيرة على الرغم من محاولات الكثيرين التشكيك في دورها خلال الفترة الماضية، كما أن هذا السبق يعيد التأكيد على قدرة الجزيرة فرض نفسها على كبرى الصحف العالمية، والتفوق على الاعلام الغربي.

المصدر: عربي 21

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