

No. 6



60p

LOBSTER



*Secret Societies/Ian MacGregor/Oswald in Mexico/
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Who's afraid of the KGB?/*

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Editorially

Sorry this is late by the schedule we set ourselves of an issue every two months. A number of reasons for this - the summer holidays, a typewriter breakdown - but mainly (a) just a lot of pressure from other areas, and (b) an enormous mountain of copy to be handled. In effect Nos 6 and 7 have been typed simultaneously. We should be back on schedule for No 7.

No 6 marks the end of year 1. We will produce a comprehensive name/subject index for each six issues but we make no promises when we will get it out. Part of the first index has been done but it is a time-consuming chore. Of course, if there is someone out there who just adores doing indexes, we'd like to hear from you.

At the end of the first year we can say that, mostly due to the cheap printing deal we get from the VOICE we are not yet in debt - but getting closer with each issue. We think the Lobster is pretty good by any standards, and for 60p per issue, is ridiculously good value. From odd bits of information we receive, we know our readership is much bigger than our sales - so subscribe! If you are reading this in someone else's copy, put it down and make with the cheque-book. Meanwhile, any of our readers who are burdened with the guilt of affluence - we will gladly take your money.

In this issue are the second parts of the articles we began in Lobster 5. We asked for comment on this splitting of pieces, and it has been almost wholly negative. OK, we won't do it again. And credit where credit is due, Dorril was against the split and Ramsay, who does the typing, was the one who did it.

Robin Ramsay/Steve Dorril

Forthcoming in Lobster 7

In August the American researcher Peter Dale Scott was in London and was kind enough to submit to prolonged tape-recording. (Transcribing this accounts for part of the delay in No 6, as anyone who has attempted to transcribe 3 hours of conversation will appreciate). The edited conversation, ranging across the Vietnam war, the role of 'national security intellectuals' and, of course, the assassination of Kennedy, will be in No 7. To our knowledge this will be the first time Scott - in our opinion the best of the assassination research community of America - has ever been interviewed, in print, on the subject.

Brief Notes On The Political Importance of Secret Societies

Jonathan Marshall

Part 2

United States

Anna Anderson was not the only Anastasia claimant; her chief rival in the United States was Mrs Eugenia Smith. Smith's claims, although considered shaky by the best scholars, were powerfully supported by the testimony of one Michael M. Goleniewski, who hailed from Poland yet claimed to have known Anastasia as a child.

In his Polish identity, Goleniewski was, verifiably, perhaps the most important official from East Bloc intelligence ever to defect into the arms of the CIA. Goleniewski joined the Soviet intelligence apparatus in Poland at the end of WW2, and by 1955 had reached the rank of colonel and deputy chief of Główny Zarząd Informacji, the Polish intelligence agency. His responsibilities included counterintelligence and foreign technical espionage. In April 1958 he contacted the Americans and began passing top secret information to the West. At Christmas, 1960, fearing that his cover was blown, he defected to the United States. In all, he transmitted or brought with him more than five thousand pages of documents on Soviet, East German and Polish intelligence.

His most important contribution was in the field of counterintelligence, the murky world of plugging leaks and catching 'moles' who work secretly for foreign services. According to his admirers, Goleniewski's leads and information led to the capture of a small army of Soviet 'moles' in Britain, Sweden, West Germany, Israel, Denmark and France. His most important catch was the high ranking MI6 official George Blake, whose unmasking led in turn to the exposure of Kim Philby, the most famous 'mole' of all time.

Most disturbing of all, however, for the CIA, was Goleniewski's claim that the East Bloc intelligence services were receiving timely information from a source or sources within the CIA itself. According to one CIA counterintelligence officer, Goleniewski was 'the first and primary source' on a 'mole' in the Agency. In short, if Goleniewski is to be believed, the CIA was as penetrated by Russian agents as the British services had been. His accusations led to a controversy that has raged for more than twenty years over the reliability of US intelligence. The CIA's counterintelligence chief, James Angleton, was convinced that Goleniewski was a KGB plant or provocation agent, and distanced the Agency from the Polish defector. Nonetheless, Angleton came to accept the claim of a later defector, Anatoli Golitsyn, who confirmed that the CIA had indeed been penetrated. (18)

Among the Americans identified by Goleniewski as Soviet agents was none other than Henry Kissinger, whom Goleniewski claimed to have recruited shortly after WW2 while working in the Army's counterintelligence corps in Germany. This claim - supported by former Army intelligence agent Frank A. Capell - naturally undermined Goleniewski's credibility in some circles. More damaging, however, was

Goleniewski's claim not to be Polish at all, but rather the true heir to the Russian throne, the Czarevitch, son of Nicholas 2. According to Goleniewski, he escaped with his father and the entire Imperial Family; the execution was merely a politically-contrived cover story.

Goleniewski's announcement immediately made his position at the CIA all the more untenable, yet he was not without influential supporters. His most highly placed admirer was Herman E Kimsey, a former Army intelligence officer who served as CIA's Chief of Research and Analysis from 1954 to 1962. As Allen Dulles' right-hand man, Kimsey was also said to have been in charge of recruiting assassins for the Agency. Forced out of the CIA with Allan Dulles following the Bay of Pigs fiasco, Kimsey later asserted publicly that Goleniewski had been tested by CIA experts for fingerprints, blood diseases, dental work, and other characteristics, and had been confirmed as the Czarevitch.

Others who supported Goleniewski's lineage included the John Birch Society (through its journal *American Opinion*), the Philadelphia-based lay Catholic Order of the Carmelites (an anti-communist organisation), the conservative journalist Guy Richards, the Synod of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, and the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights of Malta.

In 1981 the Synod of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, the religious arm of the White Russian Community, canonised the Imperial family as martyrs to the Bolsheviks. In short, they do not now recognise Goleniewski's claim that the family survived. In 1964, however, the Synod married him in an Orthodox ceremony under the name of Alexei Nicholaevich Romanov. (19) The Synod's late change of heart may reflect the fact that a major source of its funding, the Tolstoy Foundation, was a leading conduit of funds from the CIA, which had lost faith in, and was trying to discredit Goleniewski.

Goleniewski's most constant defender was the Knights of Malta (SOJ) based in Shickshinny, Pennsylvania, which asserted a rightful lineage back to the original Knights of St. John of Jerusalem who rivalled the Templars as leaders of armed Christendom in the early Middle Ages. The order claimed its legitimacy in 1878 from protection granted it by Czar Peter I of Russia following Napoleon's seizure of Malta, then the home base of the Knights. Peter I was also the alleged founder of the Secret Circle, a group of Church and Army leaders who pledged to protect God and Country. This clandestine patriotic organisation, to which Goleniewski said he belonged, supposedly infiltrated its modern followers into almost every intelligence agency in Europe in order to battle the Bolshevik menace. (20)

The SOJ rests upon an ecclesiastical alliance of Roman Catholics, traditionalist Old Roman Catholics, and Russian Orthodox believers. Its members refer to the New Mass as an "unspeakable abomination" and take violent exception to the "infidel marauders" who have corrupted the Vatican in recent years. The order's former grand master, Col. Thourot Pichel, said the foundations of Christianity were "about ready to face destruction" from the "world menace of Marxism and Moscow" unless the Catholic Traditionalist Movement and the SOJ could turn the tide. (21) Another spokesman refers to the SOJ as "the army of the Catholic Church", and boasts that as an army the SOJ devised a tunnel finder device for use by American troops in Vietnam. (22)

The SOJ's membership reads like a who's who of military and intelligence veterans. Its

'two associate chiefs of international intelligence' in 1970 were Herman Kimsey and former Army intelligence officer, Kyril de Shismarev. Shismarev, whose father had commanded a regiment in Russia's pre-war Imperial Guard, had known Alexei Romanov as a youth and vouched for Goleniewski. (23) On the order's 'military affairs committee' sat, among others, Maj. Gen. Charles A. Willoughby, Douglas MacArthur's chief of G-2 in the Pacific theatre, and a renowned right-winger; Lt. General P.A. del Valle, a member of the neo-Nazi Liberty Lobby and the National States Rights Party (24); Admiral Charles M. Cooke, former commander of the Far Eastern Fleet and an unofficial adviser in 1950 to the armed forces of the Republic of China; and Lt. Col. Philip Corso, a 20-year veteran of Army intelligence (25) who went to work for Senator Strom Thurmond (R-SC) and once sued liberal columnist Drew Pearson for defamation.(26) Finally, the Honorary Grand Admiral of the SOJ is Admiral Sir Barry Domville, a former British intelligence chief who was interned during WW2 as a fascist sympathiser.(27) .

Goleniewski's leading defenders in the SOJ have a curious but important relationship with the unfinished investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. For example, the Army intelligence officer, Philip Corso identified Lee Harvey Oswald as a CIA 'asset' and named the alleged CIA officials whom Oswald allegedly contacted in Moscow during his 'defection' to the Soviet Union. The CIA's Herman Kimsey, right-hand man to Allen Dulles who later served on the Warren Commission, allegedly had first hand information implicating the KGB in Kennedy's assassination. In this scenario Oswald thought he was working for US intelligence when the KGB duped him into joining the plot.

Kimsey, now dead, has a spokesman in Hugh McDonald, former Chief of Detectives of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, who says he also served as an Army intelligence officer and CIA contract agent. In the Fall of 1964, Kimsey, having retired from the CIA with Dulles, was working with McDonald, then Chief of Security for Republican Presidential candidate Barry Goldwater. Kimsey allegedly told McDonald at that time details of the plot to kill Kennedy. The actual assassin, Kimsey maintained, was a contract killer sometimes employed by Kimsey on behalf of the CIA. In his book *Appointment in Dallas* (1975), McDonald says he tracked this killer down in London and learned from him that the paymaster for the hit, codenamed 'Troit', set Oswald up as a patsy.

Who was 'Troit'? McDonald 'reveals' in his later book *LBJ And The JFK Conspiracy*, that the KGB planned the assassination between 1961 and 1963. (Interestingly enough, McDonald's co-author, Robin Moore, produced the film *MacArthur* with funds from the Unification Church of Sun Myung Moon, whose New York newspaper, *News World*, has accepted Goleniewski as the Czarevitch.) The John Birch Society organ *American Opinion*, which also backs Goleniewski, buys the McDonald thesis and suggests that 'Troit' was none other than George De Morenschildt, a White Russian geologist with strong connections to French and American intelligence who became Oswald's patron in Texas in 1962 and '63. *American Opinion* acknowledges as the source of this hypothesis the veteran Army intelligence officer Frank Capell, who succeeded Col. Pichel as head of the Shickshinny order of the SOJ and who, as we have seen, defended Goleniewski's assertion that Kissinger was a Soviet agent. (28)

But Capell was not the first to finger de Morenschildt. In 1967, according to an FBI memo, McDonald himself and his friend Leonard Davidov, a fellow CIA contract agent, friend of Kimsey, and Goldwater security staffer, sought information about de

Morenschildt's involvement in the assassination from I. Irving Davidson, a CIA-connected Washington lobbyist for Haiti, a country where de Morenschildt was actively pursuing business deals and intelligence missions. (29)

In short, the McDonald/Kimsey/Capell network appears to have been a disinformation clique centred around the SOJ, and aiming to smear the Soviets (and Goldwater opponent Lyndon Johnson) with responsibility for one of the great political crimes in American history. But there is a special relevance here for the Goleniewski case. Following the JFK assassination a Soviet defector, Yuri Nosenko, claimed that he had access to the Oswald file in the Soviet Union, and to know that Oswald was never recruited or even questioned by the KGB during his stay in that country. Nosenko's story fell down on numerous points, and the CIA's counterintelligence branch concluded that he was a provocation agent, a KGB agent meant, among other things, to mislead the United States about Oswald's relationship with Soviet intelligence.

This interpretation of Nosenko's defection has been adopted by the journalist Edward Epstein, who concludes in his book *Legend* that Oswald did shoot the president and that both he and de Morenschildt had worked for the KGB. Epstein is now an avid defender of Goleniewski, whom he refers to as Romanov. (30) The fact that Nosenko was ultimately rehabilitated within the CIA, and the counterintelligence bureau decimated in a purge that culminated in late 1974 with the firing of James Angleton, suggests to Epstein that Goleniewski was right: the CIA had been penetrated at the top by one or more Soviet 'moles' who protected Nosenko at the expense of loyal agency officials. Thus the Epstein/Mcdonald/Kimsey scenario for the JFK assassination is intimately supported by their position on the Goleniewski/mole question.

The stakes are high in this controversy: nothing short of blaming the KGB for the assassination and exposing leading CIA officials as traitors. But the matter goes farther than that. In a recent issue of *Commentary* magazine, Epstein argues that the United States should shun arms control negotiations with the Soviet Union because the CIA's ability to verify such an agreement has been neutralised through 'disinformation' and double agents within the agency. Although Epstein does not cite the Goleniewski case directly, his argument is a direct outgrowth of his conclusions reached through conversations with that defector and with veterans of CIA counterintelligence. Thus the twenty-year dispute over Goleniewski's bona fides continues to impinge on the highest levels of national policy.(31)

A Note on SMOM

The SOJ is not recognised by most historians as the legitimate successor to the crusading Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. The 'true' organisation is, instead, generally accepted to be the papal order, Sovereign Military Order of Malta. The 10,000 members of this order, scattered throughout the globe, are pledged to defend the Church and to carry on the hospitaller tradition of the original knights. According to Steven Birmingham, "The Knights of Malta comprise what is perhaps the most exclusive club on earth. They are more than the Catholic aristocracy; they are the nobility, royalty. While the Knights of Columbus are associated with lodge meetings and bingo, the Knights of Malta can pick up a telephone and chat with the Pope." A total of forty countries recognise SMOM's sovereignty and accredit its ambassadors. (The Vatican recently upgraded its relationship with SMOM to ambassadorial level. AP 11 January 1983)

SMOM's membership suggests an occult political significance rivalling that of Italy's P2 lodge. Indeed, there was considerable overlap between the two, even though staunch Catholics like those in SMOM have long been warned away from freemasonry. One of Licio Gelli's closest collaborators was the SMOM ambassador to Montevideo, Umberto Ortolani, who gave Gelli refuge after his flight from Italy. Ortolani was also the Uruguayan representative of the recently failed Banco Ambrosiano in Italy. Other joint members of SMOM and P2 included Admiral Giovanni Torrisi, chief of staff for defence; General Giulio Grassini, head of the internal intelligence agency SISDE; General Giuseppe Santovito, head of military espionage and counterintelligence; General Giovanni Allavena, an officer in the old intelligence agency SIFAR; and Giovanni Guidi, president of the Banco di Roma. Altogether at least three presidents of the Republic, three prime ministers, and five chiefs of staff were members of SMOM.

In the United States the list is no less impressive. Leading businessmen, politicians, and professionals have eagerly joined its ranks; Frank Sinatra even turned to his mafia contacts in an unsuccessful bid to become a member. But a significant number of intelligence veterans are also members. These include William Casey, currently director of the CIA; John McCone, former director of the CIA; and Clare Booth Luce, a member of President Reagan's foreign intelligence advisory board. Two of the highest honours bestowed by the Italian branch of SMOM were awarded in 1946 and 1948 respectively, to James Angleton, then a young veteran of OSS (who would soon take charge of the Vatican desk at the CIA), and Reinhard Gehlen, the Nazi spy who oversaw the post-war reconstruction of German intelligence under CIA auspices. (32)

The Angleton connection to SMOM is suggestive in view of his opposition to the SOJ-backed Michael Goleniewski.(33) The existence of so many intelligence veterans in both Knights of Malta organisations, and their polarisation around the Goleniewski issue, may point to the existence of powerful cliques within the American intelligence community. We have other evidence of just such a phenomenon. Former CIA officer David Atlee Phillips writes of "that small circle of well-bred, highly educated adventurers who were known to some in the CIA as the 'Knights Templars' - Allen Dulles, Frank Wisner, Kermit Roosevelt, Tracey Barnes, Dick Bissell, and kindred spirits. (34) Other CIA veterans have confirmed the existence of similar associations within the agency, with names like the "Century group" and the "Gold Key group". Further research is obviously needed to uncover the membership and significance of these secret societies within the intelligence communities themselves.

These examples of the role of secret societies in Western society are hardly exhaustive. One could mention the fascist-inspired Ordre de Jaques Cartier which ruled the province of Quebec for 30 years and still exercises enormous influence; the Round Table groups in Britain and the Commonwealth countries; or, leaving the West, the Triads and other societies that organise the social and political fabric of overseas Chinese communities.

Even with these few examples, however, it should be clear that secret societies continue to proliferate in the "modern" world and, in some specialised spheres at least, can influence or even decide important policy debates. Their methods, needless to say, are non- or anti-democratic, which explains the authoritarian character of so many of them. Essentially, secret societies like those described here are instruments designed to covertly seize state power. Because they rely so heavily on secrecy as a *modus operandi*, it would seem that, as in Italy, exposure is the best means to dismantle them.

This article is a call for further work in exactly that direction.

Notes

18. David Martin *Wilderness of Mirrors* (New York 1981) p103
19. Peter Koltypin, letter to author 10 October 1981; Guy Richards *Imperial Agent* (New York 1966) p 247
20. Richards pp91-93
21. Col. Thourot Pichel *History of the Hereditary Government of the Sovereign Order of St John of Jerusalem, Knights of Malta* (Shickshinny, Pa. 1970)
22. James Wathen *Is the Order of St. John Masonic?* (Rockford, Ill. Tan Books 1973)
23. Shismarev helped Goleniewski track down the remnants of the Czar's fortune. One of Shismarev's contacts was his "old friend and retired banker" Rudolph Iselin of Basle, whose (son?) Felix was an IG Farben agent before and during WW2.
24. Del Valle has charged - in the spirit of Goleniewski and Frank Capell - that "the conspiracy headed by Dr. Kissinger is clothed in pseudo legality through our surrender ... of our armed forces." (*Washington Observer* 1 May 1971)
25. Guy Richards calls Corso "one of the most remarkable men in Washington." Corso, he writes, "has made personal friends in the CIA, FBI, Defense Intelligence Agency, NSA, Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps whose loyalty to him transcends bureaucratic boundaries whenever they believe the interests of the country are at stake." (*Imperial Agent* p24)
26. Pearson also happened to be one of Goleniewski's detractors, thanks to CIA leaks. Corso was a leading Goleniewski defender. (*Imperial Agent* p267)
27. Col. Pichel *History* op.cit.
28. *American Opinion* March and February 1976 on Goleniewski and the JFK assassination
29. House Select Committee on Assassinations, appendix pp57-59
30. *Houston Post* May 30 1981
31. *Commentary* July 1982
32. Kevin Coogan *The Men Behind Counter-reformation in Parapolitics /USA 6; L'Espresso* 28 June 1981
33. Angleton did, however, have an obscure connection to SOJ through his early literary mentor, Ezra Pound. Pound refers in his later cantos to P.A. del Valle, a member of the SOJ military affairs committee. And Mary Pound de Rachewiltz met her husband Boris at a picnic with the Princess Troubetzkoi, whose husband is one of the leaders of the Pichel order.
34. D.A. Phillips *Night Watch* (New York 1977) p 123

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Ian MacGregor

Part 2: AMAX and armaments

Ian Macgregor and AMAX

We have followed one of Macgregor's leads into the British Establishment; now we return to the man himself. He was born in 1912 in Kinlochleven and graduated from Glasgow University with a BSc in metallurgical engineering. He was a trainee manager at the British Aluminium Co., worked for William Beardmore Co. in Glasgow, and participated in the Mission of the Ministry of Supply to North America in 1940, where it seems likely that he met Brand and/or Marris. After his wartime service he went on to pursue a business career in the US and became a US citizen. By 1957 he had become Vice President of the Climax Molybdenum Co., which later merged with the American Metal Co. to form AMAX Inc. MacGregor held top positions in AMAX during the 1960s and was Chairman from 1969 to 1977, and honorary chairman from 1977 to 1982.(1)

AMAX (we shall examine its ownership later) is a gigantic mining conglomerate, involved in the extraction and refining of molybdenum, coal (3rd largest producer in the US with a bad reputation for its open-cast mining operations and labour relations), tungsten (2nd largest producer in the US), and copper. It is a major nickel producer in the US and mines/refines lead, silver, cadmium and zinc in Africa (including Botswana, Zambia, Namibia and South Africa), and iron ore in Australia. In the latter the company earned itself a very bad reputation for its involvement in destroying the communal lands occupied by the Aborigines - this involved a massive police presence to prevent opposition from the Aborigines and trade unionists. (2)

In its 1982 report AMAX claims to be the western world's largest producer of tungsten and this includes major prospects for future mine developments when needed in the Canadian northwest and Great Britain. It has large silver holdings in Honduras and is getting into gold in a big way. It is the 2nd largest magnesium producer in the US and the 3rd largest in the western world. Also, AMAX owns the only nickel refinery in the US.

AMAX is interlocked with the other big multinational mining companies. For example, in Botswana it jointly owns nickel and copper mines together with Anglo-American Corp. (the South African Oppenheimer monopoly), and Charter Consolidated (a big British mining finance company active in South Africa also). AMAX owns 11% of the French Rothschild mining conglomerate Imetal. which has extensive interests in Africa and elsewhere.

The ownership of AMAX is complex and seems to have changed over the years. During the 1930s American Metal Co. became a large copper miner, refiner and smelter. Although it was an independent group it was linked to Morgan, and Morgan was a powerful influence on the major copper producer Kennecott, which was owned by the Guggenheim family. At that time big copper mines had just opened up in what was then called Rhodesia. Two big interconnected groups dominated there. Morgan was well represented in one and the other was controlled by Rhodesian Selection Trust. Since then things have changed several times (3) During the 1960s Selection Trust (described as a British company) owned 11.5% of American Metal Climax and

had 4 representatives on the board.(4) By the end of the 1970s Selection Trust had only 8% of AMAX and Standard Oil of California owned 21.7% of the stock. SOCAL tried to take over AMAX completely (offering \$4 billion) but were beaten off. (5) By 1983 SOCAL's share of AMAX had fallen to 19.7% but Selection Trust had been taken over by B.P. for \$925 million in 1980 and B.P. now owns 6.5% of AMAX. It is also noteworthy that the B.P.-dominated Standard Oil of Ohio (SOHIO) in America successfully took over the formerly Guggenheim/Morgan preserve, the giant Kennecott Corp. in 1981, so that B.P. now owns what is probably the largest copper producer in the world.

Since SOCAL still owns a major stake in AMAX it is worth looking at the ultimate ownership of SOCAL itself. It is thought by some that no external interests control this company.(6) However, others see a major chunk of this part of the original Rockefeller-Standard Oil empire as being in the hands of the Rockefeller family still (or again). (7) The group is, of course, based in California and has long-standing connections with the banks in that part of America. In particular it has interlocks with the Crocker National Bank. The Crocker family is big in America's largest bank, Bank of America, which is based in San Francisco. (According to SOCAL's 1983 annual report Samuel H. Armacost is a director of SOCAL and president of Bank of America.) But the Crocker National Bank was sold to the Midland Bank group a few years ago. A recent publication lists Midland Bank group, Rockefeller interests and Sarofilm (Fayez) and Co. as the three top shareholders, in that order.(8) Midland, one of Britain's big 4 clearing banks, crops up again, later on.

Ian MacGregor moves in this world of takeover and rivalry and since the end of the 1970s the predatory activities of the giant oil, minerals and financial groups has increased. At the same time as being an inter-industrial reorganisation and rivalry, what has been happening involves both British and American firms. I return to the objectives of this movement that is still going on later, but it undoubtedly involves some kind of rationalisation among the extractive industries. In 1983 it was announced that Charter Consolidated, having divested itself of its interests in Selection Trust, was aiming to take over a loss-making Scottish engineering company, Anderson Strathclyde, which specialises in making long-wall mining equipment for the NCB. The movement also indicates a strong inter-penetration of US and UK capital, as seen with the Midland Bank take-over of Crocker and the BP take-over of Kennecott. American companies have also been moving in on British firms - in 1982 it was announced that Aetna Life and Casualty, the US insurance and pensions giant which has old Morgan connections, was to take over Midland's merchant banking subsidiary, Samuel Montagu.(9)

Ian MacGregor and Armaments

Many of the metals mined and refined by AMAX have military applications. Molybdenum, of which AMAX is the world's leading producer, is used in conjunction with other alloying elements in high-speed cutting tools, propeller shafts, turbine rotors and armour - piercing projectiles etc. Nickel (AMAX is a major producer), which is used to increase steel's toughness, ductility and strength, is used for armour plating and the cycles for its demand follow the fluctuations in demand for armaments - thus demand for nickel rose during World Wars 1 and 2, and during the Korean and Vietnam Wars, falling after these.(10)

International Who's Who lists MacGregor as a director of the Brunswick Corporation

which manufactures marine power and recreational equipment (including sports equipment with the 'MacGregor' label), and technical products for various industries, including the defence department of the USA. In the latter it is listed as producing aircraft radomes, rocket motor cases, missile and rocket tubes, pressure vessels, transportable shelters, camouflage materials, and other products for defensive systems against chemical/biological warfare etc. I can only speculate here that some of the metals it must use are bought from AMAX. It would be interesting to know if Brunswick Corporation makes parts used in the construction of Cruise missiles. The informed reader will have noted already that Lazards in New York has a directoral interlock with the firm which constructs the Cruise missile, General Dynamics. (11)

MacGregor's connections with the armaments business do not end here. He is listed as having been, among other things, a director of the giant conglomerate LTV which, in 1979, was the 26th largest supplier to the US Dept. of Defence. (12) He is also a director of Atlantic Assets Trust an investment trust which, like many British investment trusts, is based in Scotland and is heavily into US companies. While Atlantic Assets is not big - in 1979 the capital employed totalled £147 million - and most of its holdings are in relatively small companies, and are minority stakes only, it aims at representation on the boards of the companies in which it invests and at some control over their corporate plans for future growth.

About 50% of Atlantic Asset's investments are in the US, 40% in the UK and 5.5% in Canada. (13) In America it has a large share in Shared Medical Systems which is involved in the computer-aided financial management of private hospitals in the US. In the UK it owns about one third of the issued share capital of United Scientific Holdings, an armaments firm manufacturing armoured vehicles, optical and electronic equipment. In August 1981 USH acquired Alvis Ltd., manufacturers of armoured vehicles, from British Leyland. USH is a young company competing with older, larger and more established firms like GKN-Sankey. It seems likely that it is being helped along in some way.

One thing which is interesting here is that MacGregor's career through the British State-owned sector did not begin with his appointment at BSC but with his directorship at British Leyland back in 1975. Under Michael Edwardes, he was Deputy Chairman of BL too, from 1977 till 1980.

BL is, of course, not only a commercial automobile manufacturer but is also involved in the manufacture of military vehicles, though with the loss of Alvis to United Scientific this has probably been reduced a bit. It is also interesting that the chairman of United Scientific, Peter Levene, who has stated that his company is "run like a dictatorship ... I'm the dictator" (14), was appointed in January this year to work as an unpaid adviser to Michael Heseltine, the Defence Secretary, for 6 months to help improve the management of the Defence Ministry.(15) Many of Atlantic Assets' other investments are in high-tech firms (including Cable and Wireless), but it also has shares in Pennzoil, which as well as owning oil and mining interests owns molybdenum mines, and Teck Corporation, based in Canada, which owns a copper-molybdenum mine and mines silver, gold and other minerals, as well as oil and gas. (16)

Before we finish with MacGregor's armaments connections we can note one other interesting fact which further indicates the social milieu in which he moves. We have noted the Midland Bank connection via Social with AMAX. One of the directors of

Midland, Sir John Cuckney, was a director of Lazard's from 1964-70. With an impressive set of connections both within business and in the service of the State, Cuckney is currently chairman of the Thomas Cooke group and of Brook Bond, and also of the engineering group John Brown. He has been a director of the Midland Bank since 1978 and of the Royal Insurance since 1979. His most interesting State appointment is as chairman of the International Military Services - the government's undercover arms sales organisation, the sole overseas representative for the weapons manufactured at Royal Ordnance factories - where he has been since 1974. He has also been governor for the Centre for International Briefing at Farnham Castle since 1974. (17)

Ian MacGregor - a man of prudence and principles?

Since Ian MacGregor came to Britain he has made it clear that the giant firms he has been put in control of must be made to "balance their books". The implication, forcefully promoted by the 'monetarist' Thatcher, is that the nationalised industries don't work and privatisation is necessary. But, as we have seen, a massive rationalisation movement has been going throughout the capitalist economies affecting firms whether they be private or State-controlled. Multinational monsters like IT and T have been divided up; indeed, it was Lazard's of New York which enabled IT and T to grow big in the 1960s and after - this is an aspect of Lazard's in New York we have not covered, though IT and T's involvement in the coup in Chile is well known. (18) Ideological arguments are spouted to justify the large-scale plunder that is taking place, but monetarism is merely a facade behind which the giant firms and the financial empires of which they are a part seize the remaining profitable areas of an economy which is sinking deeper into depression.

The effect of the recession is felt nowhere more deeply among the business community than in the minerals sector. According to one publication produced by Lloyds Bank:

"The full impact of the recession hit the minerals sector in early 1982. The metals sector, being the most sensitive to business cycles, moved into a deep trough. With key industries such as housing, construction and motors depressed, production cutbacks were necessary through temporary and some permanent mine closures." (19)

During the 1960s the metals firms were operating at full tilt. AMAX grew tremendously in the 1970s under MacGregor. He transformed the firm from one that was primarily concerned with copper and molybdenum into the mining conglomerate that it is today. Replying to critics who accused him of over-borrowing, MacGregor is said to have replied:

"I don't care what the balance sheet looks like, I'm going to acquire natural resources and someday they'll be valuable." (20)

MacGregor is, therefore, a man of the times. In the boom he is a big spender, speculating on the possibility that demand will exist in the future; in the depression he calls for cuts and pretends to be a paragon of prudence. At the same time, he and his colleagues search for ways in which to increase the demand for metals. The new technologies involving microprocessors are, however, not big enough to satisfy the enormous capacity set up at great cost by the minerals moguls in the post-war years. It

has become increasingly clear to them that their only salvation is an increased demand for armaments. This demand is presently being supplied by Western governments. Civilisation rests of metals, but society's capacity to produce metals has outgrown ordinary consumer needs and they have become inextricably bound up with the production of arms.

AMAX in 1982 was operating the molybdenum end of its empire at less than half capacity. At the beginning of this year it agreed to form a joint venture with Britoil PLC to explore and develop offshore and onshore oil in the US. While this further underlines the close connections which this company has with British business it also shows how badly in the red AMAX is, since it has been argued that the deal was done merely as a means of raising cash to cover its short-term debt. (21)

MacGregor has no qualms about whom he deals with. In April 1983 while chairman of BSC and chairman elect of the NCB, MacGregor flew out to Moscow. His visit to the "evil empire" was "aimed to boost exports of steel and steel products to the Soviet Union." (22) His recent expressions of outrage at the National Union of Mineworkers' contacts with Libya should be viewed in this light.

There is a lot more to say about MacGregor and his connections (23) but it seems clear from all this that he is part of a shadowy network of highly-placed people, allied with other groups (some of which have not been mentioned here) which together dominate the British economy and aim to squeeze the last dregs out of it for themselves. In the process they are intent on building a more authoritarian regime in Britain, a regime which will allow them to push Britain into a more aggressive and war-like stance, one that would secure vast profits for the arms manufacturers and the banks, investment trusts and suppliers which surround them.

E. H.

AMAX personnel

Looking at the board of AMAX (Standard and Poor's 1984 and Who's Who in Finance and Industry) we find that at least 4 of its directorate are Republicans and none of them claim to be Democrats. Of these 4, one is none other than Gerald Ford, ex-President. Ford is also a director of the Twentieth Century Fund (since 1981) and American Express (since 1982) He also sits on the board of Shearson, Loeb, Rodes Inc. A former partner of this firm, which is now merged under American Express and called Shearson/American Express, is C.M. Loeb who was on AMAX from 1932 and held several important positions in the firm. C.M. Loeb Jnr. is listed as a director of AMAX.

Pierre Gousseland, currently chairman and president of AMAX, is French by birth and education and arrived in America in 1948, 8 years after MacGregor. He joined AMAX a year later. He is also a director of American International Gp Inc and French American Banking Corporation (in which the Banque Internationale de Paris appears to dominate). He is also a member of the British Iron and Steel Institute.

Another AMAX director, J.D. Bonney, was born in Blackpool in 1930 and joined AMAX in the sixties. Between 1959 and 1960 he worked for Iraq Petroleum Co, owned by Shell, B.P. and other oil companies. More significantly for us he has been vice president of SOCAL since 1972 (SOCAL Europe, that is.) Since SOCAL owns

about 20% of AMAX it is not surprising that two other names listed in AMAX reports show interlocks with SOCAL - till 1983, Perrin Fay, V.P. of SOCAL and, till 1984, Sellers Stough, another SOCAL vice president.

NOTES

1. International Who's Who 1983/4
2. Information on AMAX is from *Everybody's Business* 1980 edited by Moskowitz, Katz and Levering. Information on AMAX in Australia from the magazine *Natural Peoples' News*, No 5 Spring 1981

- AMAX is also involved in gold and silver extraction in Mexico and Central America and in many other mineral resources including phosphates and sulphuric acid.

3. See Anna Rochester *Rulers of America* pp166 -169. Rhodesian Selection Trust was owned by the American Metal Co.
4. D.M. Kotz *Bank Control of Large Corporations in the US* (1978)
5. *Everybody's Business* (above note 2)
6. For example, see Kotz, above.
7. *Everybody's Business* (above)
8. Berry, Wood and Preusch: *Dollars and Dictators: A Guide to Central America* Zed Press, 1983
9. *Times* 19 January 1983 'Take-over battle that rocked the City'
10. McDivitt and Manners *Minerals and Men* (1974) This work was sponsored by Resources for the Future, of which MacGregor is a director.
11. Details on Brunswick are from Standard and Poor's. Information on Cruise builders from *Guardian* 12 July 1980, by Michael Getler.
12. *Everybody's Business* (above)
13. See *Hambro Company Guide* and *Extel Investment Trust Yearbook 1983*
14. See Extel and McCarthy cards. Levene quote from *Guardian* 1 May 1984. Note that as MacGregor came to work in Britain in 1975 he was, like De Lorean, brought over by a *Labour* government.
15. *Financial Times* 22 November 1983
16. Penzoil information from Standard and Poor's. Teck information from Rowe and Pitman Qrtly Report, Base Metal and Coal, January 1982
17. Who's Who 1983, also *War Lords* (CIS Report)
18. On ITT see Sampson's *The Sovereign State* (1973)
19. Lloyd's Bank Group, Canada Economic Report 1984
20. *Everybody's Business* (above) p 547
21. *Guardian* 7 February 1984 and 6 February 1984
22. *Guardian* 26 April 1983
23. I want to mention only one other here. Who's Who In Finance in Industry lists MacGregor as a director of Resources for the Future. This is a group set up to tackle the problems arising from economic growth - eg pollution, urban expansion and so on. Opposing itself to the 'Limits to Growth' school, it promotes what it calls 'technological optimism' which boils down to finding arguments to justify fast-breeder reactors and so on. The organisation is financed and was set up by the Ford Foundation and the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Board. It also receives substantial grants from the Rockefeller Foundation.

Lee Harvey Oswald in Mexico: new leads

Steve Dorril

The conspiracy trail is littered with unresolved leads, but few can be more important than Lee Harvey Oswald's visit to Mexico shortly before the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. What was the purpose of Oswald's visit to Mexico City? Was it Oswald or an impostor who visited the Cuban and Soviet embassies? And what was the role of the local CIA station in all this?

Such questions remain unanswered partly because the House Select Committee on Assassinations refused to release its 300 page report, *'Lee Harvey Oswald and Mexico City'* (1), which would have resolved some of the queries. We are left to pick the available material clean, a process which still has its rewards, and waiting for the occasional drip of new material from unsuspecting quarters.

In 1976 the HSCA began a search of Department of Justice and FBI files in connection with the assassination inquiry. During the search the Justice Department discovered in FBI files a copy of a memorandum prepared in 1964 for J. Edgar Hoover. In substance the memo stated that the FBI Director had learned from a reliable informant that Oswald had told two officials of the Cuban Consulate, more than a month before the assassination, that he planned to kill the American president. According to the memo (of June 17 1964), the informant said that he learned of Oswald's threat from Fidel Castro. (2)

The memo was addressed to Warren Commission Chief Counsel J. Lee Rankin (3), but nobody on the Commission has owned up to seeing it. The potentially explosive material contained in the memo was secret for 12 years, and even now the full text has not been released. Curiously, support for the memo's claims came in an article written by the British journalist Comer Clark in 1967. (4) Clark claimed to have had an interview with Castro during which Castro said he had known in advance of a threat made by Oswald against Kennedy whilst he was at the Cuban Consulate. Castro said he hadn't taken the threat seriously so didn't bother informing the American authorities.

The House Select Committee decided, in the end, that "On balance, the Committee did not believe that Oswald voiced a threat to Cuban officials." (5) It dismissed Clark's account, largely on the basis that he had written for the 'sensationalist press' in England. On the surface they were correct to be wary. The manner of the supposed interview was peculiar, apparently taking place casually, in the street. Clark's career by then was on the rocks, and since he died in 1972 there appeared to be little chance of checking the facts. But the HSCA should have searched a little deeper.(6)

Clark had been a reasonably respected journalist in Fleet Street in the 1950s working on the *News Chronicle*. In 1954 he joined the hugely successful *Sunday Pictorial*, and later, the *Daily Sketch*. According to colleagues he was a good journalist, producing articles which were well researched. He made the headlines with stories on the terrorist war in Malaya, interviews with Cabinet Ministers and such like. It seems his career started to slide when his wife was taken ill with cancer. He took to drinking

heavily as it became worse.

Much of the background material for the articles was actually provided - so it is claimed - by Nina Gadd, a well-known London 'party girl'. (7) Gadd, a graduate of York University, did the research for four books (8) which Clark wrote in the early sixties. She read out the notes while Clark typed away. The books were completed in a matter of days. They were particularly proud of one of the books, *We The Hangman*, which Clark believed played a part in the anti-hanging movement.

By this time, the early to mid sixties, Clark was not too well-regarded in Fleet Street, though Gadd stoutly defends him against any attack on his journalistic worth. The articles were becoming more and more sensationalist, and, according to one ex-colleague, he lost all credibility. What is important for us is that Gadd claims that it was she who provided Clark with the Oswald story.

Gadd says that she obtained the information from a friend, who was the foreign minister of a Central American country (not a banana republic) of which he was a member of the ruling family. She visited the country from South Africa, though when is not clear. The information on the Oswald threat came up during conversations with the diplomat (who retired in 1982).

It wouldn't be fair to say this story is one hundred per cent reliable as there appears to be little way of checking the facts, and the interviews with Gadd weren't undertaken in the best of circumstances. But it does have a ring of truth about it. The *National Enquirer*, in which the original article appeared, isn't the most respected of journals. They wouldn't have seen it as being too dishonest in concocting a story from various sources, and Clark had been known to put dialogue into peoples' mouths.

Which country Gadd is referring to we don't know yet (she refused to name it), but it is known that some Central American countries were involved in putting out stories linking Oswald to Cuba. A Nicaraguan named Gilberto Alvarado claimed, a few days after the assassination, that he had seen Oswald at the Cuban Consulate receiving a large amount of money after making an offer to kill someone. Alvarado's claims found support from the American Ambassador in Mexico City who believed that "Castro was somehow involved in a plot to assassinate President Kennedy." The story turned out to be a disinformation exercise - Alvarado was a Nicaraguan intelligence officer (9) - though the real reason it was dropped was probably because the Nicaraguan was too close to CIA officers like David Phillips.

Interestingly enough a similar claim was resurrected at about the same time the Clark article appeared, during the Garrison enquiry. Clare Booth Luce, ardent anti-communist and wife of Time-Life publisher, claimed that on the night of the assassination she received a call from New Orleans which informed her that Oswald had returned from Mexico with a substantial sum of money and was the hired gun of a Cuban assassination team. The intriguing part of all this is that at the time Oswald's trip to Mexico City was known only to Oswald himself, possibly Marina, and the intelligence agencies. (10)

If Clark's article was another attempt to throw suspicion back to the Cubans and link Oswald to them, where does it leave the 'reliable informant' of Hoover's original memo? The HSCA chief counsel told a public hearing in 1978 "even though there may be considerable doubt as to the fact of Clark's interview with President Castro, the

Committee has been informed that the substance of the Clark article is supported by highly confidential but reliable sources available to the US government. However reliable the confidential source may be the Committee found it to be in error in this instance." (11)

At first it was believed that the informant was Rolando Cubela, aka Amlash, a high-level Cuban official and Castro intimate who was recruited by the CIA in 1961. It is now known that it was in fact Morris Childs, code-named 'solo'. (12) Childs, a member of the CPUSA, and an informant for the FBI, was sent by Hoover to Cuba in early 1964 as an undercover agent to learn what he could about the assassination from Castro. 'Solo' returned to tell Hoover that Castro said Oswald in Mexico City "vowed in the presence of Cuban Consulate officials to assassinate Kennedy." In 1978 Castro told the HSCA that no one had ever told him that Oswald had made such a statement, denying not only what Childs attributed to him in 1964, but also the Comer Clark interview in 1967. But how could Childs be "in error in this instance"?

Morris Childs and his brother Jack had been long-term members of the CPUSA and were recruited by the FBI sometime between 1951 and 1954 after a bitter internal power battle in the party. They were to provide the FBI with much of its best material on the financial affairs of the party, mainly through Jack who was the conduit for Soviet funds to the party. Morris travelled extensively meeting both Brezhnev and Mao Tse Tung, at one time briefing President Nixon on some of his foreign travels and contacts. All three presidents of the 1960s were aware of the Solo project and Hoover obviously regarded them as vital in his paranoid fight against the CPUSA, and later, Martin Luther King. (13)

It sounds impressive, but as with all Soviet contacts one can't get away from the 'spy' and 'mole' debate, however much one wants to. The Bureau had become worried when another Soviet source 'Fedora' notified the FBI that Jack Childs was about to meet with Soviet contacts. The FBI were worried that this might be a KGB attempt to determine whether the FBI knew about the Childs link in the CPUSA/Soviet financial affairs. In the end the rendezvous went ahead and nothing untoward appeared to happen - or at least that's the official story.

'Fedora', Victor Lessiovski, was a top UN diplomat and had been providing the FBI with information since 1962. He was the person to whom the Bureau went in 1964 to confirm the credentials of Nosenko, the Soviet defector who provided the Warren Commission with details on Oswald's time in the Soviet Union. (14) The problem is, of course, that to all sensible people Nosenko was a Soviet disinformation source providing the FBI with innocuous material on Oswald which supported the 'no conspiracy' line. In the end the FBI had to conclude that Nosenko was a fake defector and it recently had to admit that 'Fedora' was a double agent working for the Soviets. (Really, a triple agent).

But it may not stop there. "One of these days a story of a similar operation (to Fedora) will come out. In 'Solo' we thought we had two men penetrating the Communist Party apparatus. With one of these triple agents (emphasis added) dead, and the other dying, we can only surmise the extent of the disinformation operation." (15) That meeting noted by 'Fedora' now looks a little less 'untoward'.

The CPUSA has since said that the Childs were definitely not informants. It is interesting to note that they were kept on with the FBI at Morris' insistence at a time

when many FBI officials believed that they had been compromised. So it seems from this slim evidence that 'Solo' was not the reliable informant that Hoover believed. It is worth noting that Hoover sent Childs to see Castro after Nosenko's story of Soviet non-involvement in the assassination had been accepted. Perhaps Childs felt he should tell Hoover what he thought he wanted to hear. Perhaps it had to do with CP attitudes to Castro's Cuba. No answers, but certainly more to investigate.

Our own 'mole' hunt in Britain, spurred on by the recent efforts of ex-chief molehunter for MI5, Peter Wright, has recently produced a new piece in the jigsaw of Oswald in Mexico City. In 1963 James Angleton, head of the CIA's counter intelligence branch, following up the revelations of Anatoli Golitsyn, informed MI5 that Harold Wilson, then leader of the Labour Party, was a spy. After a few enquiries Sir Roger Hollis, MI5's boss, told John McCone, then head of the CIA, 'There is nothing in it'. In 1964 Angleton returned to the subject and said that he had new information from a new source whose code-name was 'Oatsheaf'. In 1965 MI5 decided to follow-up the 'Oatsheaf' material. "Angleton convinced us he had some kind of source", one intelligence officer says. " He was a Russian official in Mexico City working for the CIA. We did our own inquiries and found a good candidate - an embassy KGB man who was probably a 'walk-in', volunteering information to the CIA." (16)

So, in 1963, when Oswald went to the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City, it seems that Angleton could have had an agent there. The significance of this is heightened when we learn from high-level internal CIA memos that Angleton was the key CIA official dealing with matters relating to the Kennedy assassination. (17) The 1976 Senate Intelligence Committee reported that at a meeting in December 1963 Angleton had requested that he be allowed to take over CIA responsibility for dealing with the Warren Commission inquiry. "Angleton suggested that his own counterintelligence division take over the investigation and Helms acceded to the suggestion." (18)

Angleton's deputy, Raymond Rocca, served as the CIA case officer in charge of handling all inquiries and issues relating to the assassination.

Angleton handled several controversial CIA matters relating to the assassination, such as the mysterious series of photographs taken in Mexico City by the CIA in which a man, initially identified as Oswald leaving the Soviet Embassy, turned out not to be Oswald at all. (19) It now looks as if Angleton played a role in an even more astonishing episode. According to Anthony Summers (author of *Conspiracy*), who has actually seen the 300 page HSCA report on Oswald in Mexico, there was a photograph taken of Oswald in Mexico City. Its existence was confirmed in the report by five former CIA officers, and by a memoire left by former CIA Mexico Station Chief, Winston Scott. It appears to have been preserved until the station chief's death, along with his written record, when both of these were removed from his Mexico safe by a "senior and renowned counter-intelligence chief." The photograph has now, to all intents and purposes vanished. (20)

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Notes

1. For a good critique of the HSCA's work in this area see *The HSCA Report and Lee Harvey Oswald in Mexico City* by Mark Allen
2. *Washington Post* 13 November 1976; *New York Times* 14 November; *Los*

Angeles Times 17 Nov.

3. FBI 105-82555-4117: AB 465: CD 1354
4. *National Enquirer* 15 October 1967. Clark was not employed by the Enquirer and I believe this was the only article he wrote for it.
5. *Conspiracy*, Anthony Summer (London 1980) pp 389-391 HSCA Report p122/123; HSCA Vol 3 p 283
6. There is an interesting quote from the head of the FBI in London on his retirement, something on the lines of "my most exciting time in London was involved in investigating the assassination of Kennedy." Who knows what that entailed. I cannot find the reference, but I believe it may be Eddowes. Any ideas?
7. I traced Gadd through an ex-colleague of Clark's who worked on the National Enquirer for a time. (Incidentally, he was in Dallas on the day of the assassination and had many tales of anti-Castro groups' involvement in the conspiracy). He is now editor of the Daily Star. I had 3 difficult conversations with Gadd over the telephone.
8. *The War Within, We, The Hangman, If The Nazis Had Come and The Savage Truth* (Worldwide Distributors, Manchester) Gadd mentioned that she believes additional books were published under Clark's wife's maiden name, unknown at this time.
9. *Conspiracy* ibid p440
10. *Conspiracy* ibid p445
11. HSCA Vol 3 p283, September 19 1978
12. It was FBI agent Hosty, involved in the pre-assassination FBI reports on Oswald, who first claimed that it was 'Solo', Morris Childs. AP report in *Washington Post*, May 26/27 1982. Did Hosty know about this or did someone feed him the information? See *Echoes of Conspiracy* Vol 4 No 3 June 28 1982
13. See *The FBI and Martin Luther King Jnr.*, David Garrow, W. W. Norton, New York 1981. p35 onwards.
14. See *Confidential: The FBI's File on JFK*, Earl Golz in *Gallery* November 1982
15. *New York Times* September 17 1981, piece by William Saffire, a right-winger.
16. *Why MI5 Suspected Harold Wilson Was a Soviet Spy Observer* July 22 1984
17. *New York Times* January 17 1975
18. Senate Intelligence Committee Report on the Kennedy Assassination 1975 p65
19. Angleton was also involved with the investigation of the curious phone call to the Cambridge Evening News (See *Unsolved* No 17 1984, Chapman Pincher p346). About 25 minutes before Kennedy was shot an anonymous caller told the newspaper that if it contacted the American Embassy in London it would get some 'big news'. When the information about the call eventually reached CIA headquarters in the States Angleton dealt with it and sent a memo on it to Hoover. It seemed to implicate the Soviet Embassy. Michael Eddowes has taken this up but another investigator could find little confirmation for the story and the staff at the paper knew nothing about it.
20. See transcript (by Paul Hoch 4th December 1983) of WBAI panel November 22 1983: Oswald In Mexico - excerpt, Anthony Summers talking. Summers comes up with many new points which are all worthy of investigation. Unfortunately they seem to have gone unnoticed.
21. It has been rumoured that the National Security Agency bugged the Cuban and Soviet Embassies. One would naturally assume that since it has always claimed that the embassies were the centres of KGB and communist activities in South America. But if they did in 1963 we are unlikely to see the results."... "The existence of NSA's involvement in the James Earl Ray (alleged assassin of

King) investigation seems to have been one of the Agency's best kept secrets. Not only were the NSA's actions never revealed in any subsequent court procedures involving Ray, they were apparently never revealed even to the HSCA." (*The Puzzle Palace*, James Bamford, London 1983, p252)

I find it surprising that, as far as I know, no one has interviewed Philip Agee in connection with Mexico. His *CIA Diary* (London 1975) provides revealing background material on the CIA in Mexico City, and particularly actions against Soviet and Cuban embassies including: photo and audio surveillance, and the use of the Mullen Agency for 'cover'.

Changing the guard: Notes on the Round Table network and its offspring

The journal, *The Round Table*, originally the public face of the secret Round Table network, has reappeared after folding in the late 1970s. It's new editorial board includes MPs Donald Anderson, Guy Barnett, Robert Jackson, Robert Rhodes-James, and Cabinet Minister Timothy Raison. Other well-known names about London's elite circles involved are D.C. Watt and Alexander McCloud of the BBC.

I don't know what the significance of this is yet: I haven't seen a copy. But Jackson, both a Euro MP as well as the Westminster variety, who was the Round Table's last editor, was the author of a series of articles in *The Guardian* recently. In one he finished with this section on Britain's relationship with Europe, which may tell us something about the present orientation of a group which used to be devoted to the propagation of (first) the Empire and then the Commonwealth.

"In the longer sweep of history we have to understand that the basic supposition of our national policy towards the European mainland has been transformed since 1945. For four centuries we secured our independence by playing off the European powers against each other, and by forming combinations to stop any one of them establishing an hegemony by force. But since the war we have faced a new phenomenon: the voluntary union of the West European states and peoples. *This is something we cannot beat - and so, finally, we must join.*" (emphasis added)

One of the Round Table's editorial board in its previous incarnation was Douglas Hurd, now Minister for Northern Ireland. It would be interesting to know if this Round Table connection has anything to do with his promotion within the contemporary Conservative Party despite his role as Heath's private secretary and apologist. A profile of Hurd in the *Sunday Telegraph* (16 September 1984) contains a good deal of that peculiar coded language so typical of the Conservative Party (and British State) politics. We are told that Hurd's career in the Foreign Office included a 'period as private secretary to the Permanent Under Secretary, "a sure sign of a coming man"; that when he wanted to move into politics "a place was found for him in the Conservative Research Department"; that he entered Parliament in 1974 with the reputation of "an alpha-grade high flier"; and that he is expected to go on to fulfil the "predictions made long ago that he will end up as Foreign Secretary." Finally we are informed that his mentors have been their Lordships Carrington and Whitelaw.

(Fronting for whom?)

Hurd's position at the Northern Ireland office comes at a time when, despite the Provisional IRA's recent attempts to remove the British Cabinet, the British State is doing its best to find a way of ditching Northern Ireland. That Telegraph profile refers to the "dismay" felt by Northern Ireland's Unionist circles at Hurd's appointment, who distrust his "Foreign Office-Eton-Arabist background." Some details of Hurd's 'Arabist' inclinations in dealings with the Helen Smith enquiry/cover-up are included in a profile of Hurd in *Private Eye* (21 September 1984).

Such liberal internationalists trace their historical roots back to the formation of the Round Table network at the beginning of the century, and if Carroll Quigley's analysis is accurate, that network "were largely responsible for... the partition of Ireland."

There would be nice ironical overtones to the Northern Irish story if one of the Round Table network's current off-spring were to oversee the reunification of Ireland.

Another current (and past) member of the Round Table's editorial board is D.C. Watt, or plain David Watt as he is known in the new populist *Times* where he has been writing a column on Fridays. (*The Times*, it will be recalled, was, on Quigley's account, an integral part of the Round Table network for the first half of this century.)

Watt's column is sporadically interesting, chiefly for the occasional glimpses of the attitudes of the old elite/managers to the new barbarians running the Conservative Party and the know-nothings in charge in Washington. Watt is no dummy, though, and his books are always worth reading. In his latest, *Succeeding John Bull* (Cambridge University Press 1984), a collection of essays loosely centred on the transition from British Empire to American Empire after WW2, he offers a very interesting defence of what used to be called 'diplomatic history' and is now known variously as 'international history' or 'international relations'. Watt defines such historians' interest as:

"Understanding why, at given moments in time, identifiable individuals in positions of power, authority or influence, chose, recommended or advocated one course of action rather than another." (p3)

This is based on a view of history as:

"happening... in the experiences and memories not of statistically or conceptually identifiable abstractions, but of individual identifiable persons."

This, I suspect, is a view of history which most readers of *The Lobster* would share. The difficulty with someone like Watt is that he excludes so much. He will attempt to tell you who was thinking what at any given juncture, but won't tell you on the boards of which companies that individual was sitting, or which financial interest was his political sponsor, or which companies he held shares in. (Or, for that matter, which secret society he was a member of). In *Succeeding John Bull*, for example - in an essay on the foreign policy-making elites of Britain and America, conspicuous by their absence are the Round Table and its various fronts, CFR, RIIA. Yet this can hardly be because Watt is unaware of their significance for in an earlier book, *Personalities and Politics* (London 1965) various members of the Round Table group were discussed at

some length. Watt certainly knows something of the group's role in 20th century history, and their omission in this new book may reflect what Quigley perceived as a conspiracy of silence on the group's activities.

What is positive in Watt's perspective is the focus on the role of concrete individuals. When Ross, in his book on the Tory Party (see reviews in this issue) makes a great point of "economic and social forces as the driving forces of politics" (p65), the point is, surely, that as Watt suggests, political/diplomatic decisions are made by "identifiable individuals". Parapolitics, if it's anything, is the attempt to identify such individuals more closely. In a sense individuals may be said to be the representatives of "economic and social forces", but without knowing which ones, and then which organisations embodying such "forces", any account is going to be partial at best. In this American researchers like Peter Dale Scott have much to teach us.

The difficulty with the view of history as "forces" is actually pinning down how such "forces" end up in particular shapes. One obvious current example in this country is the recent resurgence of popular interest in 'things Imperial' - the endless TV dramas set in India, the Falklands episode, Sir Keith Joseph's talk of instituting a 'patriotic' history curriculum in secondary schools, and, arguably, the reappearance of The Round Table. All have taken place since the Thatcher Government removed exchange controls and allowed the current flood of UK capital abroad to take place. (About £60 billion has gone since 1979). As the core of the British Empire was the exportation of British capital, it is tempting to see the present capital exports and all this Imperiana as linked. But how are they linked? How does a decision to adapt a Paul Scott novel about the British Raj connect to another decision to asset-strip this country once more? Anything resembling a decent quasi-causal picture of this series of events will have to start with economic interests (perhaps with 'forces' then working on to specific interests) and then down, through the layers of perception formation in a culture like ours to the individual BBC executive who makes the decision to go ahead with Paul Scott. The extreme difficulty of such a job is indicative of how much of our political and historical analysis is mere surface scratching; and the E.H pieces on MacGregor show just how intricate going beneath the surface has to be.

SDP's David Owen's membership of the Trilateral Commission is rarely mentioned in this country, but there he is, writing on the Commission's future, in *International Herald Tribune* (14 April). In a profile of Owen in the *Sunday Times Magazine* (16 September) Owen, sounding off about Britain's economic problems, gives indications of seeing himself as some kind of future British 'strong man'.

"What I fear is when North Sea oil revenues are totally blown we'll suddenly realise that we're in absolute decline and at that time this country is going to require a degree of leadership which will have to tell people some pretty unpalatable truths."

Owen as the Oswald Moseley of the 1990s? The parallels are quite interesting. Both quit the Labour Party with a 'solution' the party as a whole wouldn't accept; both formed a new party; both talked of 'leadership' and 'unpalatable truths'. Maybe the British left, obsessed with theoretical and historical considerations which lead them to expect a dictatorship of the right as the outcome of the present crisis, may yet discover that in the classic British manner, it is a dictatorship of the middle that we end up with - a technocratic, meritocratic authoritarian state. And where better to learn such moves than in the Trilateral Commission?

Turner, the 'heir apparent' to Pierre Trudeau in Canada, who lost the election in September, is another Rhodes Scholar. A story in *The Times* (15 June 1984) on Turner headlined 'Raised to be the nation's ruler'. John Flint in his biography of Cecil Rhodes described the Rhodes Scholar network in Canada as a "recognisable elite".

On Rhodes Scholars an interesting remark in *The Economist* (3 March 1984) that the 'special relationship' between the US and the UK "is rooted not just in past history, shared language and Rhodes Scholarships." I've never seen a more explicit reference to the Round Table-initiated Rhodes Scholarship's role in the UK/US relationship in any mainstream journal.

A minor example of that network was given in the *Times* obituary (14 July 1984) of one M.J. Davies, born in South Africa, a Rhodes Scholar, who had a career in British colonial administration between 1940 and 1962.

In a profile of Lord Rothschild (he of 'Think Tank' fame) by Peter Hennessy (*Times* 22 May 1984) Rothschild is described as "a modern-day version of Lord Milner, the charismatic imperialist whose proteges ran large chunks of the Empire in the first half of this century."

Substitute the Round Table network for Milner's 'charisma' - one thing he plainly didn't have, as his various biographers make clear - and you have Quigley's thesis about the Round Table.

And the *Times* obituary of Lord Astor notes that he succeeded his father as Chairman of the Commonwealth Press Union (CPU). The father, the first Lord Astor, was a member of the Round Table's inner group, and this CPU, new to me, sounds like another piece in the network. (see *Times* 29 June 1984)

Is it my imagination or are we seeing more and more of the detritus of the Round Table's activities in public view?

RR

Kincoragate: parapolitics

Steve Dorril

Parapolitics: "Generally, covert politics, the conduct of public affairs not by rational debate and responsible decision-making but by indirection, collusion and deceit." - Peter Dale Scott

The Watergate tag is appropriate to Kincora because, like that epic affair, an initial minor offence was the key that unlocked many secret doors. As James Angleton noted: "A mansion has many rooms." The continuing leaks and revelations in Northern Ireland are gradually drawing in the higher echelons of Britain's secret state. As the net becomes wider the covert war of the last 14 years is made gradually clearer. The latest inquiry under Judge Hughes, late of the English southern circuit, and resident of Norfolk, has concentrated on social work issues at nine hostels, including Kincora. It has tried to keep clear of controversy but, though unreported on the mainland, it seems to have a habit of courting it.

The inquiry started off well. In a complete change of tack from the Terry investigation, Judge Hughes praised the press for their work in exposing the scandal. "I think they did make a valuable contribution in the past by their research and their reports. And I say that because I have the advantage of reading every press cutting, which is pretty well everything which has been written about it. This stood me in good stead in understanding what are pretty complicated matters." (*Irish News* 4 May 1984) Unfortunately that early promise turned out to be nothing more than a public relations exercise.

The inquiry only lasted one day before there was a threat of a High Court appeal and an immediate adjournment. The Northern Ireland Public Service Alliance (NIPSA) claimed that it had been given the voluminous evidence the day before, without time to study it. (*Social Work Today* 2 July 1984). When that was sorted out the inquiry got going again only to run into more problems. Two key figures in the Kincora scandal, William McGrath and Colin Wallace, were excused from giving evidence to the committee of inquiry. Stephen Quinn, Secretary to the committee - which has the power to impose a three months' prison sentence on people who fail to comply with the standby notice to appear - said "The Committee has no intention of calling McGrath on the grounds of having full information to the evidence at his committal. We don't regard it as necessary to call him." (*Sunday News* 9 September 1984) This has the sound of background deals being done to keep the men away from the committee.

McGrath's guilty plea at his trial was regarded as a surprise as he was threatening to plead not guilty and 'blow the gaffe' right up until the last minute. (*Social Work Today* 12 January 1982) It must be said that the original evidence against him was quite flimsy, and it was never proved conclusively that he was a homosexual, let alone a child molester. It could be that McGrath has been offered protection in return for not appearing. A former resident of Kincora Boys Home stated "Some of the boys, and some of the paramilitaries too, will be waiting for McGrath and the others when they get out of jail next year." (*Phoenix* 11 November 1983)

As reported in *Lobster* 4, efforts were being made by Lord Avebury (Eric Lubbock) and the Duke of Norfolk to clear Wallace of the 'It's A Knock Out' murder. Mrs Anne Wallace met her husband Colin whilst she was assistant in Conmower intelligence office of MI6 in Belfast. She is now personal secretary to the Duke of Norfolk, who retired as Director of Military Intelligence, M.O.D. in 1967. The Duke is a close friend of Sir Francis Brooks Richards and has been known to have regular sessions with him in White's Club. Richards, a former co-ordinator of intelligence in the Cabinet Office, replaced Maurice Oldfield in May 1980 as overall co-ordinator of security in Ulster, and is now head of the Joint Intelligence Committee. Good connections for Wallace, still in prison. In September it was revealed that the Home Office had renewed its interest in Wallace. It has ordered a new investigation of the case and referred the matter to the Director of Public Prosecutions. The DPP has asked the detectives of the Sussex police force who investigated the killing to make a new report and review their former evidence. A report had already been sent in February "But no new information has been included." (*Sunday News* 9 September 1984) Wallace claimed to have had access to information from a secret military file on Kincora. According to Quinn, "He is outside our jurisdiction, but we have no information that he has information relevant to the inquiry."

Captain Holroyd, former member of the Special Military Intelligence Unit (SMIU),

besides his revelations to Duncan Campbell in the *New Statesman*, has also been talking to Frank Doherty of the Irish *Sunday News*. He revealed (30 September 1984) that he handed over a notebook dated May 1973 which showed that the sexual abuse of boys at Kincora was known to Army Intelligence. The notebook was marked 'Kincora queers'. It named two prominent Belfast politicians, and was handed over to a Detective Chief Inspector in the Royal Ulster Constabulary. Holroyd claims Wallace was given the boot from the army because he disagreed with things which were going on. "I can say that Capt. Wallace - the Captain rank was a cover, Colin Wallace was a civil servant - was a victim of the system he suffered dismissal, later changed to resignation, because he spoke out against the methods being used by intelligence staff." Holroyd says Wallace was 'neutralised' by MI5 because of what he knew. Did that go as far as fitting him for murder?

Wallace's precise position in Northern Ireland still isn't clear. It was said that he was the assistant of Major Ronnie Sampson, CO of British Army's Psy Ops unit. But Holroyd claims that Wallace, the press man at Army HQ, "had little or nothing to do with the Psy Ops Unit, although he often liked to hint to journalists that he did. The nearest he got to it was when he passed it on his way to work on the Army press desk further along the same corridor." (*Sunday News* 12 June 1983)

The 'black propaganda' operations were run from an office on the ground floor of the operations block at Thiepval Barracks in Lisburn, Northern Ireland. According to Holroyd the propaganda was carefully controlled and directed from London, run by a section of IRD, the Information and Research Department, formed in the days of the cold war as a propaganda unit. It was directly linked to MI6.

One of those linked to IRD was *Sunday Times* reporter, David Holden, who was a regular resident at Belfast's Europa Hotel. Holden, who was shot dead in mysterious circumstances in Cairo in 1976, was an MI6 officer working in Ireland under cover as a *Sunday Times* journalist. He was a close friend of Sir Frank Howard Smith with whom he served in Washington at the time of the Guy Burgess defection. Smith was a career MI6 officer who served as UK civil representative in Northern Ireland from 1970, and who set up the contemporary British intelligence system in Ireland. He was head of MI5, retiring in June, 1981.

It may be relevant that the head of IRD from 1972 to 1976, Thomas Christopher Barker, spent a few months in Northern Ireland in 1976 as Under Secretary at the Northern Ireland office in Belfast. He retired on leaving the post, in 1976. Was this a special operation?

Sir Brooks Richards came up in another *Sunday News* Kincora article (22 April 1984). It was claimed that one Michael Bettaney was going to reveal at his trial that Sir Maurice Oldfield, former head of MI6 and Ulster security co-ordinator, was heavily involved in Kincora. This failed when, on orders from Richards, head of the Joint Intelligence Committee, it was arranged to hold the trial in secret session.

Bettaney was posted to Stormont in 1976 when British intelligence knew precisely what was happening at Kincora. Two of his colleagues were Peter England, MI5, who was later charged with an offence against a boy, and another 'civil servant' intelligence man who was stabbed to death in his London flat by a boyfriend. Bettaney operated from Thiepval Barracks in a first floor office known as the 'Box 500 suite'. One of his cover names was Mr Edmond. He often met local politicians and policemen who

thought he was a Home Office official. One of his favourite haunts was a hotel near Hollywood where he drank with civil servants. Another was a small restaurant at Hillsborough.

Bettaney knew Northern Ireland from top to bottom. He was the number 2 man in the MI5 at Lisburn. He had access to every 'P' (personnel) computer file on almost half a million people in Northern Ireland, and to every Special Branch or Military Intelligence 'source' report. He also trained many intelligence men who are still serving in the province.

Albert Christopher Johnston, a British Army sergeant in charge of cadet force training, admitted more than 30 sexual offences against boys over a 15 year period. He was a Paisleyite 'born again' Christian and a friend of William McGrath. Johnson doubled up as a youth leader at the Manor Street Boys Club in North Belfast. When charged it was said that about 300 people would be questioned in what was described as a 'massive investigation'. (*Phoenix* 14 Oct.1983)

Billy Harte, Irish national organiser of the YMCA and sometime evangelical preacher, quit his post after the discovery by vice detectives of him stuck in a compromising position with a young Algerian schoolmaster. Harte is another long-term friend of McGrath's and alleged visitor to Kincora. When arrested Harte initially claimed to police in London that he was a senior civil servant at Stormont, hoping perhaps to secure immunity from prosecution. (*Phoenix* 5 Aug. 1983)

Tommy Edgar, bachelor friend of John McKeague, was found dead with a gunshot wound behind the ear, the hallmark of a professional kill. (*Phoenix* 21 January 1983). An RUC spokesman said the killing was not sectarian and the UDA denied it was connected to a loyalist feud. Edgar (29) was a leading figure in the Woodvale Defence Association which was founded by McKeague. He was a friend of Michael Wright, also dead. (See *Lobster* 3)

Lt. Alan Gingles, ex UDR, who was blown up by a bomb he was planting in Mozambique in 1982, had been a prominent figure in Tara, the paramilitary group linked to Kincora. Gingles was still a reserve officer in the British forces while a lieutenant in the South African Army.

Another UDR man who died in Southern Africa was John McLaurin, from Belfast. He moved to South Africa before joining the Rhodesian SAS in 1979. He died a few weeks later in another mysterious explosion. (*Phoenix* 18 March 1983)

See *Lobsters* 1 / 3 / 4 for previous Kincora coverage.

SD

Who's afraid of the KGB?

As a number of people have pointed out, in the first 5 *Lobsters* - something like 100,000 words - there has been hardly a mention of the Soviet and Soviet satellite intelligence activities. There are reasons.

No-one has offered us anything on this subject, and neither of us (ie Ramsay/Dorril)

know much about it. What little there is in the British press is almost exclusively the routine nonsense of espionage - expulsions and counter expulsions. The recent great brouhaha about Oleg Bitov rather makes the point. What did we learn? The British intelligence services have 'safe houses' and defector procedures: the KGB are willing to have all kinds of nonsense talked on their behalf. So what?

The books that are available are mostly rubbish, tales from defectors now in the embrace of the West's intelligence services; and there are too many obvious examples of such defectors having their scripts written for them for anyone with critical faculties to do anything but be suspicious of them all.

Victor Suvorov's books exemplify this. (Suvorov is a pseudonym). His first, *The Liberators* (London 1981) was a sardonic inside account of life in the Red Army which he presents as a large, drunken, corrupt brutal shambles, occasionally putting on charades for the visiting top brass from Moscow. (1) Precisely because this was such a refreshing blast of fresh air on the subject, it seemed 'real' to me - I believed it. (Mostly I believed it because it seemed consonant with my view of wider Soviet society - drunken, brutal, charade-mounting.) A year later Suvorov produced *Inside The Red Army* (1982) which tells the opposite story. Here, in great detail, is the super-efficient, super-dangerous Red Army beloved of the Pentagon's estimators. So striking was the reversal that even mild-mannered 'Kremlin watcher' Andrew Crankshaw was moved to ask in his review if "Suvorov has been persuaded by his new American friends that he must not make fun of such a solemn subject." (*Observer* 24 Oct. 1984)

A year later Suvorov produces a third, *Soviet Military Intelligence* (London 1984) which drove the *Times*' reviewer Iain Elliot to wonder "Could the same man who, as a young tank commander, participated in the 'liberation' of Czechoslovakia in '68, really be so expert in the inner workings of the GRU to produce such a comprehensive manual?" (10 July 1984)

Defectors' stories are bound to be suspect. How much credence would the world have given to Phillip Agee had he published his book on the CIA while living in Moscow?

The non-defector books are hardly more encouraging. Take two recent examples, John Barron's *KGB Today: The Hidden Hand* (London 1983) and *Dezinformatzia* by Goodson and Schultz (London 1984). Barron's book consists almost entirely of 'interviews' with Soviet defectors, tarted-up with reconstructed 'dialogue'. Those sections of it which are believable are banal. Barron's books on the KGB (this is the second: the earlier one was *KGB* (1974)), like his UK counterparts, Pincher and Deacon, aspire to be scare stories without ever being remotely frightening. But then with the US, UK, much of Western Europe, and recently Canada, all lurching to the right, it is difficult to make the KGB (or the Soviet Union) seem convincingly scary.

Dezinformatzia, the work of a couple of the newer right-wing 'intellectuals', manages little better. Despite the gaudy trappings of pseudo-social science - 'a longitudinal study' etc, complete with graphs and diagrams - the authors repeatedly shoot themselves in the foot (feet?) by citing examples of Soviet propaganda 'falsehoods' which are, to anyone outside the ranks of the fruit-cake right-wing, manifestly true.

For example, in the study of Soviet propaganda themes 1976-1979, they tell us of:

"the Kremlin's major campaign against the CIA... defaming (sic) the

Agency by portraying it as an arm of American imperialism, assisting only dictatorial regimes and employing the most devious and draconian regimes."

(Agreed the use - if true - of 'only dictatorial regimes' would be wrong, but the rest of it?)

To support this claim the authors quote from the Soviet weekly *New Times* (available in this country from the Novosti press agency in London, but hardly worth the bother - it is awful) which describes the CIA as:

"one of the main tools of the US ruling elite, who would like to remake the world in a way that best suits their purposes."

This is defamatory?

In their section on disinformation - 'active measures' is the new buzz word - all the authors can find to terrify us with is the dear old World Peace Council (which I'm old enough to remember as something of a joke during CND's first wave, back in the sixties), a French newsletter with a circulation smaller than *The Lobster's*, and some forged Army manuals and documents which don't appear to have ever fooled anybody. The authors, in short, singularly fail to support their conclusion that:

"the Kremlin gained the ability to conduct active measures on a massive, world-wide scale against the US and NATO (as well as other targets)."

This may be true, and I have no doubt that the Kremlin would like it to be true. But where is the evidence? Not here, at any rate. (2)

Perhaps I am just citing the shoddy end of all this. Perhaps there are good, serious-minded books on the KGB et al which I haven't come across yet. If there are I hope someone will point them out. But at the moment R.W. Johnson's comments in the *London Review of Books* (6 September 1984) strike me as the nub:

"Of KGB covert action there is almost no hard evidence at all. Not a single major KGB covert action - comparable, say, to the Bay of Pigs or the Chile destabilisation - has been uncovered." (3)

Maybe it comes down to this. Were I living in the Soviet bloc I would be extremely interested in - and fearful of - that bloc's intelligence/security agencies. Living in Britain I can see little reason to be interested in, let alone fearful of, their activities. But looking at Northern Ireland, or the policing of the miners, I can see every reason to be interested in and fearful of this State's machinery of repression. And looking at Italy, every reason to keep on reading books about the CIA.

RR

Notes

1. This view was confirmed by Alexander Cockburn's *The Threat* (London 1983) based on interviews with emigre Soviet Jews who had been through the Red Army. The major difference which seems to emerge between the Soviet armed

forces and those of the United States is the US soldier's access to a wider variety of drugs. His Soviet counterpart seems stuck with alcohol and its substitutes such as boot polish. Maybe the occupation of Afghanistan will introduce hashish to a wider section of Soviet society.

2. On this it is worth looking at Stephen de Mowbray's *Soviet Deception and the Onset of the Cold War* in *Encounter* (July/August 1984). De Mowbray, ex MI6, is one of the quartet who wrote the introduction to Golitsyn's *New Lies For Old*, discussed in *Lobster* 5. He argues that the Soviet Union misled the other allies during WW2 as to its post-war plans for Eastern Europe (with a little help from one or two friends in the British government at the time.) It's hard to understand why this thesis is so interesting to *Encounter's* editor. All the Allies were playing complex games during the war; all had secret plans for the post-war years; all ran deceptions on allies as well as enemies. On this, on the British side, see, for example, the sections on SOE in Verrier's *Through The Looking Glass* (reviewed in *Lobster* 3); on the American side see the account of the Council on Foreign Relations war-time planning in *Imperial Brain Trust*, Shoup and Minter (Monthly Review Press, London 1977). The biggest single deception operation run during the war was probably the US plans to take-over the British Empire, dressed up as 'anti colonialism'.
3. This view is (reluctantly) confirmed by the studiously anti-Soviet journal *Survey* (Autumn/Winter 1983). In a detailed run-through Soviet assassinations/covert actions etc. the only significant act they can find that took place recently and involved someone who was not a defector, is the attempt on the Pope, and the evidence on Soviet/Bulgarian involvement is thin, at best.

Reading Italy

A great flood of books about Italian politics recently, and almost none of them willing to answer the question "Why Italy? Why is Italy's political culture so firmly based on conspiracy and secrecy?"

A part of that answer must be Italy's role as the premier European site of the conflict between indigenous left-wing forces and NATO, the leading anti-communist/anti-socialist alliance. That this is part of the answer may explain why so few writers in the West want to answer the question. Of the books on Italy I have read recently only Stuart Christie's *Stefano Delle Chiaie: Portrait of a Black Terrorist* is willing to begin with the fact that most of the conspiracies, the terror, and the coup plotting has come from the right, and in a modern industrialised society such activities are only possible for long if the State tolerates them, or is, itself, involved in them.

Christie's book presents great problems for this reviewer. Who, in this country, is qualified to say anything intelligent about it? Some members of MI6 maybe. This kind of parapolitical research into anything just isn't practised here: Christie's book is virtually without precedent in this country. So, the first thing to say about it is: buy it. It's available from BCM/Refract, London WC1N 3XX, price £4.50.

Christie has amassed a great deal of information about the European fascist and neo-fascist movements and their links to the intelligence services of various NATO countries. Delle Chiaie is a thread running through the book but by no means its sole

subject. The narrative is well held together, and Christie has a fine plain style. I read it at one sitting. There are dozens of photographs of the various dramatis personae which didn't do a thing for me but which may be of interest to others.

If I have a criticism it would be the book's relative lack of documentation. It's not that I distrust Christie, or would feel inclined to try and check some of his claims. But the absence of documentation reduces the book's impact. Here we have a mass of assertions, most of them true, no doubt. But mere assertions make me uncomfortable.

The point I began with, and which can tolerate restatement, is that Christie convincingly links the activities of fascists/terrorists of the right to the covert activities of various states. This is visible in Northern Ireland (as Roger Faligot demonstrated, and Steve Dorril has been documenting in these pages), and appears to be true throughout mainland Europe. But in Britain?

UK parapolitical research is in its infancy. The kind of work we can manage in this country using its newspapers and journals is extremely limited. By the standards of Britain Christie is a modern master, and, footnotes or not, *Stefano Delle Chiaie* is an important event.

Reading Christie increases the temptation to view the Agca episode, the 'Bulgarian connection', as an entertaining diversion away from the activities of the Gelli and Calvis of this world. David Yallop's *In God's Name* (London 1984) has the virtue of keeping our gaze firmly on Gelli, Marcinkus et al, but relying as it does on confidential sources, it remains interesting - plausible, even - but nothing more. And for the book's central thesis, that Calvi and/or Gelli and/or Marcinkus and/or A N Other murdered Pope John Paul I there is not a shred of evidence. (There isn't even any evidence that the Pope was murdered at all.) Yallop actually has written a book exploring the 'cui bono?' question (a) without establishing that there was a crime, and (b) without noticing that, even if there were, as with the assassination of John Kennedy, there are so many plausible answers as to empty the question of its force.

And like his immediate predecessors in this new Italian 'market', messers Cornwell, Gurwin, Henze and Ms Sterling, Yallop fails to make the connection between Italian domestic politics and Italy's membership of NATO. If the Italian military/intelligence are involved in all this (and they are), then so too are the Americans. If it be true, as Yallop claims, that the Vatican funnelled more than \$100,000,000 to the Polish church during the days of Solidarity; if it is true that Gelli/Calvi were funnelling money into various right-wing South American regimes (and it is said to be so although there is no good evidence that I have seen yet); then somewhere the dollar and its servants will be involved.

Finally a reading list on contemporary Italian politics compiled by Richard Alexander, to whom our thanks and our apologies. Our role as sometime editors is not comfortable and we do it badly.

General Books on the Vatican in the 1970s and 1980s

- Bull, George *Inside the Vatican* Hutchinson, London 1982
- Greeley, Andrew M. *The Making of the Popes*, Futura, London 1979
- Hebblethwaite, Peter *The Year of the Three Popes*, Collins, London 1978
- Lo Bello, Nino *Vatican Papers* New English Library, London 1982

- Martin, Malachi *Decline and Fall of the Roman Church*, Secker, London 1982
- Nichols, Peter *The Pope's Divisions*, Faber London 1981
- Thomas, Gordon and Morgan-Witts, Max *Pontiff*, Grenada, London 1983
- Whale, John *The Pope From Poland*, Collins, London 1980

General Books on the Italian Political Scene

- Amyot G. *Italian Communist Party*, Croom Helm, London 1981
- Davidson, A *Theory and Practice of Italian Communism*, Merlin, London 1982
- Earle J. *Italy in the 1970s*, David and Charles, Newton Abbot, 1975
- Farneti, P *Italian Party System*, Pinter, London 1984
- Katz R. *Days of Wrath*, Grenada, London 1980
- Marengo F. *The Rules of the Italian Political Game*, Gower, Aldershot 1981
- Pridham G. *The Nature of the Italian Party System*, Croom Helm London 1981
- *Red Notes Italy 1969-70*, Red Notes London 1971
- *Red Notes Italy 1977-8: Living With an Earthquake*, Red Notes, London 1978
- *Red Notes Working class autonomy and the crisis*, Red Notes/Conference of Socialist Economists London 1980
- *Red Notes Italy 1980-1: After Marx, Jail*, Red Notes, London, 1981
- *Red Notes: Italian Inquisition, Italy '79 Committee* London 1980
- Ruscoe, J *Italian Communist Party 1976-81*, Macmillan London 1982

Terrorism, fascism, neo-fascism and state terror

- Dinges J. and Landau S. *Assassination on Embassy Row*, Writers and Readers London 1980
- Herman, Edward *The Real Terror Network*, South End Press, Boston 1982
- Kruger, Henrik *The Great Heroin Coup*, Black Rose Books, Montreal 1980
- Sanguinetti G. *On Terrorism and the State*, BM Chronos London 1982
- Valpreda P. *Valpreda Papers*, Gollanz London 1975
- Weinberg L.B. *After Mussolini: Italian Neo Fascism*, University Press of America London 1982
- Wilkinson P. *New Fascists*, Grant McIntyre London 1981
- Anon *The Italian State Massacre*, Libertarian Books London 1972

Clippings Digest. June/July 1984

Police use of computers

Unreported in the daily papers in this country, Merseyside County Council recently decided to refuse the funding for Merseyside Police's criminal intelligence computer. (Detailed account in *Computing* 13th September 1984)

This is the most significant step to date in the struggle to get some kind of control established over policing methods. That this is so may explain why the mass media have, so far, ignored it.

With Merseyside County Council due to be abolished, along with the GLC, in the near future, the police will no doubt persuade the successor body to reinstate its computer funding. Even so, Merseyside have demonstrated that even with the existing legislation, weak as it is, it is possible to rein in the police via the Police Authority's

control of the budget. This is a lesson we hope is learned elsewhere, and quickly.

This has been a long campaign on Merseyside in which an enormous amount of educational activities have been going on. When the Police Authority came to vote on the issue even the magistrates voted for the refusal!

Chris Pounder, who has been acting as an adviser to the Merseyside Police Authority on this issue, has a new book-length report on the police use of computers, published by the GLC. For details see Publications.

RR

007

Murray Sayles' long apologia for the official version - "a conspiracy of circumstances" - in the *Sunday Times* (May 20th and 27th 1984).

More interesting is the *Defence Attache* (June) piece by the pseudonymous P.Q. Mann, which suggested the affair was an intelligence-gathering mission. Mann's piece is discussed by Andrew Wilson in *The Observer*, June 17. Lengthy extracts from the Mann piece are included in the current *Intelligence* (see Publications). The Mann piece is most striking for its discussion/speculation of the role of the space shuttle in this business. Whoever Mr Mann is, he is obviously close to, or part of somebody's military/intelligence services. The obvious implications of that are that some government - Britain's? - is using Defence Attache to fire a warning shot across the bows of the US government.

John Keppel, ex "State Department intelligence analyst" claims some of the '007' tapes are fakes. Keppel claims to have discovered discrepancies in the times they were recorded. (*Observer* 5 Aug. 1984)

Two researchers from Thames Television's TV Eye programme claim: US government moved to prevent an investigation by National Transportation Safety Board, whose chief investigator at Anchorage "described the decision as unprecedented." and that the plane's 'black box' flight recorder had, in fact, been recovered and suppressed by the US. (*Guardian* 28 July 1984)

Most of this material is included in a page-length review in *Guardian Weekly* by Le Monde's Alain Jacobs (23 September 1984)

GCHQ

Editor, Jane's Military Communications (sic) says pressure to remove unions from GCHQ came from US government which finances most of it. It will be interesting to see how this government (and the media) respond to the forthcoming John Schlesinger film of *The Falcon and the Snowman* (US 1979) by Robert Lindsey, in which the great NSA, whose secrets were supposedly at risk through contact with GCHQ, is portrayed as a ramshackle, drug-ridden shambles, with bored servicemen and civilian employees passing away the dull hours handling the west's most critical secrets by doing their brains in as often as possible. GCHQ clipping, *Guardian* 6 June

Secrecy/F.O.I./Censorship

FOI campaign announced in issue 3 of its (very dull and tame) magazine *Secrets* (no, it doesn't contain any) that it had now on its board of advisors: Lord Croham (Sir Douglas Allen), ex head Civil Service; Sir Patrick Nairne, ex permanent secretary DHSS; Sir Kenneth Clucas, ex permanent secretary Dept. of Trade; Michael Power, ex Under Secretary Dept. of Environment; Barbara Sloman, ex under secretary at Cabinet Office.

Secrets is not dated; and if you believe this crew of establishment figures has 'freedom of information' at heart, you're as thick as Des Wilson appears to be in taking them on board.

Even Sir Robert Armstrong, one of the real pillars of this country's secret state, is apparently in favour of more 'open government'. *Times* 2 July.

Another memoire, by ex MI5 Joan Miller, suppressed by the government. *Sunday Times* 29 July

As is an article by this country's leading (only?) academic expert on Argentina/the Falklands et al, Peter Beck. His paper apparently discussed events of 40 years ago: *Times* 29 May

Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Industry, attempted to censor Chairman of British Shipbuilders in appearance before Commons Select Committee. *Times* 19 July

Government accused of trying to suppress chapter in OECD report on the economy which states that unemployment causes poverty. We kid you not! *Guardian* 16 June

Material on Mrs Thatcher and her links with the Oman business and Trafalgar House removed from World in Action programme by IBA. This is the result of recent changes in the law as a result of the Mary Whitehouse case against the film 'Scum', which now obliges the IBA to vet potentially controversial programmes. Objections came from the Oman Government via Sultan of Oman's propaganda adviser, Anthony Ashworth, ex IRD. *Observer* 29 July. See also *Observer* 26 June for events leading up to this.

More police raids on bookshops reported in *Rights* (NCCL) Autumn 1984.

Data Protection

British Medical Association get amendment to Data Protection Bill to prevent confidential files being disclosed. *Guardian* 6 June

Right on cue, BMA reports widespread claims of police seizure of medical files in fraud investigations of doctors' expenses claims. Now we know why they are so keen to get their records exempt! (or is that unduly cynical?) *Guardian* and *Times* 15 June

Two part account of Data Protection Bill, *Times* 4 and 5 June

Policing

Miners

- National Reporting Centre - profile of its boss, Hall of Humberside. *Sunday Times* 20 May. It's operations, relations with Home Office. *Guardian* 23 June

Chief Constables and

- Anderton, of Greater Manchester, on miners as 'terrorists' (and 'civil libertarians' as their assistants). *Guardian* 29 June
- Sampson of West Yorkshire, talks of damage to the community. *Guardian* 26 July

Police Committees and

- South Yorkshire taking actions (at least, talking about doing so) to curb police. Police call for their resignation. *Guardian* 18 July
- South Yorkshire and Merseyside seeking legal advice on National Reporting Centre. *Observer* 3 June

Legal aspects of

- Discussion of legal background to police restrictions on pickets use of bail restrictions, photographs of arrested. *Guardian* 3 July
- Police 'making their own law' *Observer* 24 June
- National Association of Probation Officers on 'abuse of bail' *Guardian* 4 June
- 'Curfew' as part of bail conditions. *Guardian* 5 July
- Lord Gifford/Louise Christian on 'police state'. *Guardian* 9 July

Troops and

- Soldier photographed at NUM demo: police try to destroy film. *Times* and *Guardian* 15 June

'Police Watch' and

- Sheffield-based group observing police. *Guardian* 25 June
- Police watch report in Sheffield alternative newspaper *City Issues* June 1984. Members reported:
 - police arrested without provocation
 - tried to move pickets without warning
 - arrested pickets for jeering at miners
 - used plastic cable ties to handcuff arrested
 - harassed 'police watch' members
 - did not display identification numbers.
- Much of the above and more is summarised in *Policing the Miners*, GLC Police Committee 3 July, a 13 page summary of events to that date. It is excellent - concise and contains material from sources *Lobster* clippings don't

have access to - eg Police in-house papers. Ask for Item 6 PC 231 from Police Committee Support Unit, County Hall London SE1 7BP

- See also *Policing London* (address in publications) which carries similar material

Accountability

- Margaret Simey (Merseyside Police Committee) on subject in *Local Government Review* 23 June
- Issue discussed at some length by Simey in *The Force to Be Reckoned With* *Guardian* 27 June (eg 'the police, in democratic terms, are out of control'.)

Tapping

- Lord Gifford claims (but apparently offers no evidence) that miners are being phone-tapped. Knowing what we know, that is an absolute certainty. *Guardian* 27 June

Neighbourhood Watch

- Home Office says 50% plus of police in England and Wales now doing or thinking of such schemes. *Times* 31 May

Guns

- Guns issued by Metropolitan Police on 2230 occasions in 1983. 500 (Special Branch and others) authorised to carry them at all times. *Times* 21 June

Special Branch

- Metropolitan Branch given as 400 members *Times* 4 June

Extending police powers

- Home Office legitimises photographing of demonstrators without their permission. *Guardian* 21 May
- Police commandeer a bus to take CND demonstrators straight to jail - *Sanity* May
- Police prevent students from leaving lecture theatre to protest presence of NF member Harrington *Guardian* 23 May
- Notts. police ask ironmongers to take names and addresses of 'CND types' buying bolt-cutters. *Guardian* (diary) 26 June

Publications

Policing London

No 13 July/August

Includes 6 pages on the miners, which compliments GLC report (see below); two page summary of recent police harassment of gays; summary of changes to date in Police and Criminal Evidence Bill. Still the best thing of its kind extant.

£1 per issue: from Police Committee Support Unit (DG/PCS/602) County Hall, London SE1 7BP

Police Computers and the Metropolitan Police

Chris Pounder

Written for the GLC Police Committee Support Unit, this is rather more than its title suggests, covering police use of computers in general - although the Met. is the focus. This is, in fact, the most up to date account of the UK police use of computers. Pounder is this country's No 1 man in this field, and this book-length report is essential for any understanding of what the police are doing underneath the rhetoric of 'community policing'. And this is free from

GLC Police Committee DG/PCS/602 County Hall, London SE1 7BP

Intelligence/Parapolitics

October 1984.

This Paris-based journal goes on getting better. (Mind you we've only seen a few editions). The mixture of detailed summaries of articles from the world's press plus reprints of especially notable pieces is very useful. This latest edition includes the significant extracts from the Defence Attache article on 007, a two page review/article on Loftus' *The Belarus Secret*, and precis on events in Italy, Peru, Africa, Mozambique, Iran, the General Collins trial mentioned in *Lobster 1*, (which has never been followed up in the UK press), Reagan, Laxalt and organised crime, and Nicaragua.

Subs. \$20 per year, but how this converts to pounds sterling is an interesting question with the sterling/dollar/franc exchange rates behaving as they are. Best to send an initial letter to the publishers:

ADI 16 Rue des Ecoles, 75005, Paris.

State of Siege

Politics and Policing in the Coal Fields

Jim Coulter, Susan Miller, Martin Walker

This is the complete 3 part account. The first part was reviewed in *Lobster 5*, and if the rest is as good as that first part this is worth getting.

£4.20, cheque payable to 'Greenwich Branch Nalgo' to:

Basement, Borough Treasurers Department, Wellington Street, Woolwich, London SE 18

Social Science History

Vol 7 Spring 1983 (Sage Publishing, London)

The entire issue is devoted to essays on The American Corporate Network, edited by the distinguished American 'elite sociologist' William Domhoff.

Articles

Surveillance In the Academy

Sigmund Diamond, *American Quarterly*, Spring 1984.

"In 1927 Yale University secretly established an investigative apparatus for carrying out certain parietal functions. By the outbreak of WW2 that apparatus was adapted, no less secretly, to perform essentially political functions."

The US, the German-Argentines and the Myth of the Fourth Reich

Donald C. Newton, *Hispanic American Historical Review*, Feb. 1984

With the increasing interest in things Nazi in this part of the world (Barbie et al), this might be of some interest. The author argues that the 'Fourth Reich' was a fraud, a device used to clobber German economic interests in Argentina, replacing them with US interests. His article only deals with the war-time and immediate post-war years, but, in that period he makes a convincing case.

Big Brother Becomes a Reality in West Germany

Chris Pounder, *Computing* 28 June

Very interesting (and rather alarming) account of where we are heading in this country. West Germany's surveillance/computer network

Books

Drug Traffic: Narcotics and Organised Crime in Australia

Alfred McCoy (Harper Row, Australia 1980)

McCoy was the author of the seminal *Politics of Heroin In South East Asia* (US 1973) which documented US involvement in the opium traffic of the Golden Triangle and got McCoy into trouble with the CIA. But this volume is exactly what its title suggests, and is unlikely to be of too much interest to anyone with out a specialised interest in, or knowledge of, Australian social history.

There is a brief chapter on the links between Australia and the international heroin traffic, but this was written before the Nugan Hand/Task Force 157 episode appeared in the US press, and it appears to me to be unexceptional, although there are sections on the organised crime scene in Australia in which the Nugan Hand operations fitted. As the Australian crime/politics story unfolds this may turn out to be more interesting than it first appears. And let's hope that McCoy, now living in Australia, is working on that material .

RR

Thatcher and Friends: The Anatomy of the Tory Party

Ian Ross (London 1983)

This might have been a very good book, but inclusion in Pluto's 'Arguments for Socialism' series means: no index, no footnotes, and the scantiest of documentation. In some of this series this hasn't mattered too much, but with a subject like this the results are pretty catastrophic. The most striking example concerns Joseph Ball, who founded the Conservative Research Department back in the 1930s, which was then, and may still be, the Tories' covert ops./black propaganda operation. Ball is an interesting figure in the clandestine history of this country whose significance can be measured by the infrequency with which his name appears in print. Ross tells us that he is unsure whether or not Ball actually resigned from MI5 before going to work for the Tories, and announces that "John Ramsden, who researched this period considered it probable that Ball continued to work for MI5 during the whole time he was at Central Office." But he gives no information on where this research by Ramsden is to be found (or even if it has, indeed, been published at all). Similar dead-ends litter the book.

Even so, as an introductory sketch of the Tory Party's history, economic support and, in Ross's view - this is his thesis - its long-term decline, this is worth a look. One can only hope that Ross is preparing a more thoroughly documented version of this outline for another publisher.

Incidentally, the one thing it conspicuously doesn't do is detail Mrs Thatcher's 'friends'. That is just another typical Pluto 'selling' title.

RR

Deadly Deceits

Ralph McGeehee (Sheridan Square Publications Inc. USA 1983)

Ralph McGeehee was a CIA agent for 25 years operating mainly in South East Asia. He is now a bitter opponent of his old firm and the anger comes through clearly in this slim volume of his experiences.

Unfortunately he signed the pledge and the book is now so sanitised by self-censorship and CIA weeders that little is left of interest. In fact the only interesting section is the appendix where he describes the CIA review of the book before publication. The bureaucratic wrangles are mind-numbing. It is an achievement for McGeehee just to get the book published.

SD

Information Wanted

A *Lobster* reader informs us - from first-hand experience - that even after UDI Rhodesian police officers were routinely attending the Bramhill Police College. South Africans were also there. Also, from a report in a newspaper, that a Commander in the Metropolitan Police had done a year's full-time study at the Royal College of Defence Studies on "the way in which senior management works in a democratic society."

Anyone got anything relating to either of these?

Subscriptions

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All correspondence to: Robin Ramsay, 17c Pearson Avenue, Hull, HU5 2SX, UK.

NB. Please make cheques/postal orders payable to Steve Dorril.

Robin Ramsay / Steve Dorril

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