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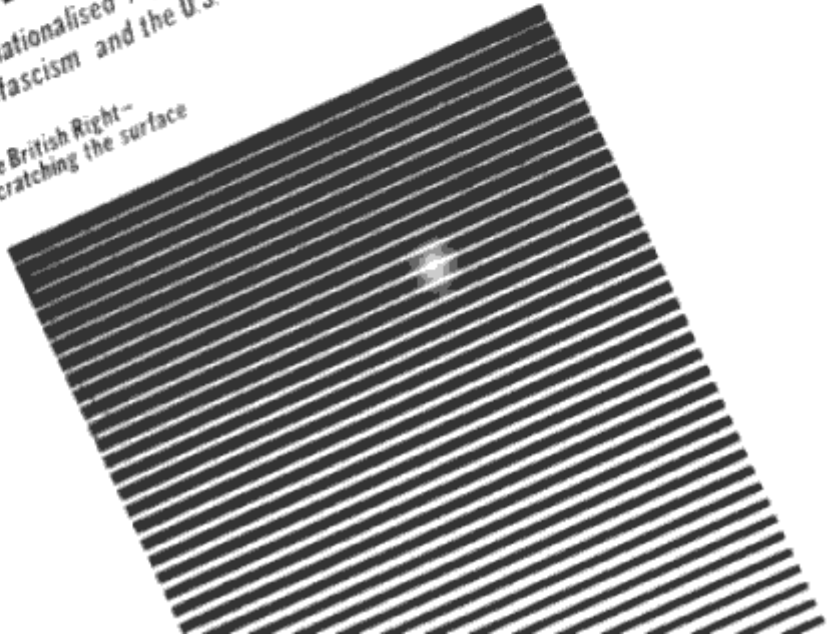
PARAPOLITICS

STATE RESEARCH

PETER DALE SCOTT

transnationalised repression ;
parafascism and the U.S.

the British Right -
scratching the surface



Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

- **Preface**
- **Tolerated Crime and Tolerated Murder**
- **The CIA-Mafia-Narcotics Connection and the U.S. Press**
- **Protection for Intelligence Assets**
- **Assassins, Narcotics and Watergate**
- **Domestic Repression and DEA Narcotics Enforcement**
- **CIA, DEA, and Their Assassination Capacity**
- **DEA, Crime and the Press Today**
- **The U.S.A. and Transnationalised Repression**
- **Drugs and Parafascism: Orlando Bosch and Christian David**
- **Post-war Nazi Networks and the United States**
- **The Case of Otto Skorzeny**
- **Fascism and Parafascism**
- **Transnational Parafascism and the CIA**
- **The U.S., Chile and the Aginter Press**
- **After Watergate: the Chilean-Cuban Exile Alliance**
- **World Parafascism, Drugs and Crime**
- **International Fascista in Action**
- **World Parafascism and the U.S. Chile Lobby**
- **The CIA and the Politics of Countervaleance**
- **Post-war Disposal Problems: De Gaulle and Watergate**
- **Disposal as a Flight from Public Control: Thailand**
- **Suppression by Proxy: the Superclient States**
- **Economic Recession and Arms Sales Increases**
- **Conclusions**
- **From 'Political' to 'Human': the Lessons of Watergate and Vietnam**

The British Right -- Scratching the surface

- **The British Right - scratching the surface**
- **Digression No. 1: Don Martin**
- **Common Cause**
- **The Monday Club**
- **Digression 2: Gerry Gable**
- **Society for Individual Freedom**
- **The World Anti-Communist League and its British Connections**
- **Digression 3**
- **The anti-union/strike-breaking organisations**
- **Edward Martell - the bridge**

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

Peter Dale Scott

Preface

This essay was written in the summer of 1977. I lost track of it in subsequent summers, when I first suffered a major illness, and then was side-tracked into preparation of a trade book on the Kennedy Assassination (*Beyond Conspiracy*) that was eventually killed by its publisher on the eve of its appearance. I am grateful to *Lobster* for reviving 'Transnationalised Repression'. Though the essay starts from events of the seventies (Watergate, the murder of Orlando Letelier in Washington, the Nixon war on drugs) which have since passed into history, the essay also builds to a general overview of transnationalised backing for right-wing repressive forces, or parafascists, that operate on the fringes of state intelligence and security systems.

Except in details, I have not attempted to update the essay, whose general thesis has been unfortunately only too corroborated by ensuing events. The assassins of Letelier did in fact go to jail, but with sentences that were either token, or soon reversed in higher courts. On a higher level, the fall of the Shah in Iran and of Marcos in the Philippines have been followed by new revelations of those dictators' links to private as well as public forces in the United States. Indeed the speculation reported in this essay (at footnote 159), that Asian bribes had influenced Nixon's Vietnam interventions through the Watergate period, seems only too relevant today, as we learn how much money had been channelled by Marcos into U.S. political campaigns over the last decade and a half. The thesis of "Transnationalised Repression" also seems only too relevant to U.S. politics in Nicaragua, as we learn of support for the Contras from first Argentina and Israel, and now allegedly from South Africa.

The restrained optimism of the essay's conclusions, written in the first year of the Carter presidency, may sound a little odd after six years of Reagan. Support for drug-running criminals has moved from being the dark underside of U.S. foreign policy to (in the case of the Nicaraguan Contras) being at that policy's visible centre. In 1977 I was concerned about the access of foreign parafascists and WACL publicists to the office of Senator Thurmond and the staff of the National Security Council. Today General Singlaub, the President of WACL, has access, through his support work for the Contras, to the Reagan White House (cf. footnote 50).

In my view, this continuing demoralisation of U.S. foreign policy and the concomitant trivialisation of domestic U.S. political debate, makes my modest hopes for change through "new human groupings", or what since the fall of Marcos has become famous as "people power", not less but more relevant. It is not that I am at all sanguine about the possibilities for such transpolitical change outside the traditional political system. It is just all the clearer that such new human forces, however weak and immature at present, are ultimately our best hope.

PETER DALE SCOTT

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

Tolerated Crime and Tolerated Murder

On September 21, 1976, a sophisticated bomb killed former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier and an American friend while they were driving to work down Washington's fashionable Embassy Row.

Two weeks later, on October 6, a Cuban commercial airliner exploded in mid-air over the Caribbean, killing all 73 passengers on board.

Confessions in the latter case implicated Dr. Orlando Bosch Avila, a Cuban emigre then living in Venezuela and a veteran of at least three anti-Castro plots with CIA and/or Mafia backing. Bosch, in turn, had participated enough in the planning of the Letelier assassination by Cuban exiles to give information leading to subpoenas for several former CIA Cuban proteges in the United States, one of whom has since been sentenced to jail for refusing to testify.

If past U.S. history is to repeat itself, the killers of Letelier, if they have not indeed been correctly identified as part of the CIA/Mafia milieu will not be sent to jail. (1) In 1943, the prominent Italian-American anti-fascist editor, Carlo Tresca, was murdered in the streets of New York. The case against New York Mafioso, Carmine Galante of the Bonanno family, might have seemed air-tight; he was under surveillance at that time, for parole violation, and thus was placed in the murder vehicle at the time and place of the killing. But he was not arrested or brought to trial and shortly after a leading anti-Communist informant for the FBI claimed to have learnt that the Communist Party was responsible for the killing. (2) Today - i.e. in 1977 - Galante is commonly referred to as the head of the United States' Mafia.

In 1956, a distinguished emigre scholar from the Dominican Republic, Jesus de Galindez, was kidnapped on the streets of New York and flown to his home country, where he was almost certainly murdered by order of his political enemy, the dictator Trujillo. In this case, a former FBI agent, John Joseph Frank (who had worked for the CIA as well as a Trujillo lobbyist) pleaded *nolo contendere* for his role in chartering the kidnap plane; he was let off with a \$500 fine. Ten years later *Life* reported that the plane had been chartered by Mafioso Bayonne Joe Zicarelli, another member and a 'fast' friend of Trujillo whom he had supplied with over \$1 million worth of arms. (3)

More recent revelations indicate that both killings have escaped adjudication because of their proximity to current intelligence-Mafia collaborations. We know now that by January 1943, when Tresca was killed, two U.S. intelligence services, OSS and ONI (Naval Intelligence) were in direct negotiation with Meyer Lansky for the provision of Mafia collaboration with the Allied invasion of Sicily. In exchange for this, Lucky Luciano would be released from jail by Governor Dewey and deported to his native Italy.

The underboss of Luciano's family, Vito Genovese, had already been deported to Italy and must have figured in the OSS-ONI-Mafia plans, since immediately following the U.S. occupation we find him running massive black market operations from his post as official translator for the chief of the Allied Military Government, a former senior Democratic politician and Lieutenant-governor from New York.

Recent Mafia histories report that the anti-fascist, Tresca, was killed by Galante on orders from Genovese, who was then running narcotics traffic from North Africa, with the blessing of Mussolini. (4) Genovese was already wanted in the U.S. for another murder charge, yet when a young army CID captain arrested him, he was able to predict confidently that he would escape conviction. So he did - until new narcotics charges in 1958. The only witness in the murder case was conveniently murdered while in protective custody in a Brooklyn jail. (5) A vigorous prosecution of the Tresca case was even less likely than of the earlier murder case, since national security could easily rationalise the decision not to risk exposing any intelligence-Mafia contacts in court.

The same intelligence-Mafia background overshadows the Galindez affair. We now know that in 1961, when the U.S.-CIA shifted from Trujillo to those around him, three M1 carbines were provided by the U.S. Embassy, on CIA authority, to those who soon afterwards assassinated Trujillo. The recipient of the arms was one Antonio de la Maza, whose brother Octavio had been implicated in the Galindez killing (he was suspected in 1957 of murdering the pilot of the kidnap plane in Santa Domingo, in order to silence him). (6) At this time, the CIA was in contact, through former FBI agent, Robert Maheu, with Mafia figures Sam Giancana, John Roselli and Santo Trafficante - in the hope of arranging the assassination of Fidel Castro. Trafficante, by most accounts at this time was succeeding Meyer Lansky in the role of chief organiser for the world heroin traffic, put together by Luciano, Lansky and Genovese after World War 2. (7) A confidential White House memorandum of January 25, 1971, prepared one week after Jack Anderson's disclosure of Maheu's role in the CIA-Mafia plot, noted that Maheu "was a close associate of rogue FBI agent John Frank, generally believed to have engineered the assassination of Jesus de Galindez in New York City on March 12 1956, on behalf of the assassinated Rafael Trujillo." (8)

The memo's author, Jack Caulfield, was in a position to speak authoritatively. From 1955 to 1966 he served with the New York City Police Department's Bureau of Special Services (BOSS) where he was assigned to a number of political plots involving other countries. (9)

The foregoing facts suggest how embarrassing it would be to see court convictions of those close to this high level CIA-Mafia connection. Subsequent Justice Department initiatives to prosecute Maheu, Giancana and Roselli were frustrated by the invocation of their CIA immunity. We now know of an official CIA memo in 1962 informing that a pending prosecution of Maheu (and possibly Giancana) "would not be in the national interest". (10)

The third, and most powerful collaborator with Maheu, Santo Trafficante, has never faced indictment despite repeated indications that he has succeeded Lansky as the top organiser of the world heroin traffic. (11)

One should not immediately conclude that the CIA-Mafia connection is unassailable, or the only relevant factor in US politics. A *New York Times* editorial called for vigorous prosecution in the Galindez case, just as the *Washington Post* has done recently in the Letelier case. Justice in the Tresca and Galindez killings was demanded repeatedly by U.S. socialist leader Norman Thomas, who himself enjoyed a CIA connection of sorts; just as Galindez had a special relationship to Thomas' "left" section of CIA (the International Organisations Division), while Frank and Maheu worked with the CIA's competing right-wing (Western Hemisphere and Security).

1. In fact three assassins were apprehended and served token sentences. The ringleader, Michael Townley became a federal witness and was given ten years with credit for time served; he was paroled some two years after sentencing. A U.S. Federal court also refused to extradite him to Argentina to stand trial for the murder of the Chilean General Prats. Two of his accomplices were initially given life sentences but these were thrown out on appeal; the two were subsequently acquitted of murder, though one, Guillermo Novo, was convicted, along with his brother, of perjury. A cynic might note that the case was only "solved" and Townley located, after Pinochet, under pressure from Carter and Chilean bankers, had begun to crack down on Townley's employers, the Chilean secret police, DINA. Cf. John Dinges and Saul Landau, *Assassination on Embassy Row* (New York, Pantheon, 1980); Taylor Branch and Eugene M. Propper *Labyrinth* (New York, Viking, 1982)
2. Guenther Reinhardt, *Crime Without Punishment: the Secret Soviet Terror Against America* (New York, Hermitage House, 1952): pp80-83.
3. *Life*, September 8 1967, p101.
4. Alfred W. McKoy. *The Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia* (New York, Harper and Row, 1972): pp22-23 (I attempt a general overview of U.S. relations since World War 2 to the drug traffic, including Genovese, in my 'Foreword' to Henrik Kruger, *The Great Heroin Coup* (Boston: South End Press, 1980): pp1-26
5. Nicholas Gage, *Mafia, USA* (New York, Dell, 1972): p157-8
6. U.S. Congress, Senate, Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities (henceforth cited as Church Committee) "Alleged Assassination Plots Involving Foreign Leaders - Senate Report No 94-465, 94th Congress. 1st. Session (November 20, 1975), pp200-06. Henceforth cited as Assassination Report
7. McCoy. pp 54-55
8. U.S. Congress. Senate, Watergate Hearings, Vol. 21 p9750
9. J. Anthony Lukas, *Nightmare: the Underside of the Nixon Years* (New York, Viking, 1976): p14; Watergate Hearings, Vol.1 pp249-50
10. Assassination Report, p131; Peter Dale Scott, *Crime and Cover-Up* (Berkeley, Westworks, 1977): p22
11. McCoy p 55 (Both CIA and drugs emerged in the background of those eventually arrested for the Letelier assassination. The CIA even admitted in court to have once given "preliminary security approval" to the use of Townley "in an operational capacity" in February 1971. At this time Townley was working in Chile with the parafascist group Patria y Libertad (Dinges and Landau p373; cf. infra at footnote 102) His accomplices Alvin Ross Diaz and Guillermo Novo Sampol were arrested by Miami police in 1978 with a large

plastic bag of white powder which they identified as cocaine. (Branch and Propper, p529). Miami police wished to hold the pair on drug charges, but the FBI intervened. In 1976 CIA Director George Bush and nameless intelligence officials were reported as saying that the Chilean military junta had not been involved in the Letelier killing, but that "left-wing extremists" might have been. (Dinges and Landau. pp 242-252)

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

The CIA-Mafia-Narcotics Connection and the U.S. Press

The fact remains that prior to about 1970, the invocation of an alleged "national interest" seems to have protected those actively involved in the intelligence-Mafia connection from serious harassment by either the courts or the establishment press. (For the sake of verifiability we shall define the 'establishment media' as including the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, Time-Life, Newsweek, Readers Digest and the three major television networks). Since Watergate, and the dramatic collapse of the press-government anti-Communist consensus, it is possible that this relative immunity is no longer unassailable. First in conjunction with Vietnam, then in conjunction with Watergate and since around 1974 in conjunction with the CIA itself, the establishment press has begun to reveal marginal details of the post-war CIA-Mafia connection and even of its involvement in the post-war restoration of the world heroin traffic.

But the revelations of the past few years make the establishment media before 1970 appear guilty not merely of silence but of active collusion in disseminating false official cover-ups of the facts. Take, for example, the post-war development of new opium growing areas in non-Communist South-east Asia to replace fields which the Chinese revolution now denied to Chiang Kai-shek and the Kuomintang. For two decades the most flagrant of official Thai and KMT involvement in this traffic, to say nothing of the US infrastructure support, was systematically downplayed by the U.S. Narcotics Bureau, with the necessary collaboration of the U.S. establishment media. (12)

The key figures in this official U.S. cover-up were U.S. Narcotics Commissioner, Anslinger - a Treasury official - and his West coast chief, George White, a former OSS official and CIA consultant who had represented OSS in the Operation Underworld negotiations with Meyer Lansky.

For years Anslinger would uncritically transmit KMT propaganda about a world-wide Red Chinese opium conspiracy and document it persuasively with evidence of what he knew very well was in fact the KMT's own narcotics traffic. Thus, Anslinger would use the term 'Yunnan Opium' to describe the opium grown under KMT auspices in Burma, Laos and Thailand; and would document the involvement of officials from the Bank of Canton, without noting that this was controlled by the Soong family of Taiwan. (13)

Supporting these misleading charges, George White announced, in 1959, the breaking of what was reported in the *New York Times* as "the biggest Chinese narcotics operation 'that we've come across'". White also spoke of 270 pounds of heroin "most

of it from a vast poppy field near Chungking". (14) Only in the local San Francisco papers, where the arrests and the trial occurred, did one learn that a key co-conspirator in the case (not prosecuted) was Chung Wing Fong, identified as a former official in Chinatown's powerful Six Companies (key overseas KMT supporters) and also of the Chinese Anti-Communist League here. (15)

The Chinese Anti-Communist League was, in fact, a U.S. branch of the KMT's world-wide intelligence network. Fong, a former President of the pro-KMT Hip Sing tong, had been spared arrest by timely U.S. Government intervention. When he visited Hong Kong in 1958 "the American consul in Hong Kong seized his passport and he was ordered to Taipei/Taiwan". He and others were then named as unindicted co-conspirators "because they are out of U.S. jurisdiction." (16)

White's carefully worded but wholly misleading claims of a Chinese Communist (rather than anti-Communist) conspiracy were later supported in official Narcotics Bureau (FBN) reports by so-called 'documentary evidence' which came from the pro-KMT defendants. (17) Such elementary distortions by 'responsible' officials of the true facts about the international heroin traffic were still being repeated as late as 1973, though they have since been officially refuted by the new Drug Enforcement Agency. The latest accusation against China was made by two veteran New York crime fighters, Frank Rogers - city-wide prosecutor of narcotics cases - and Brooklyn District Attorney, Eugene Gold at a press conference. Rogers showed reporters a plastic bag on which the words 'Peoples' Republic of China' were printed in English and Chinese. (18) Needless to say, such distortions could never have succeeded if 'responsible' papers like the *New York Times* had not followed the Narcotics Bureau in suppressing the locally published facts about men like Chung Wing Fong.

What was at stake in these high-level cover-ups was nothing less than the CIA's basic strategy for the containment of Communism in East and South-East Asia, which (as documents published with the Pentagon Papers have confirmed) relied heavily on the opium growing KMT troops of the Burma-Laos-Thailand border areas and their contacts with the pro-KMT secret societies in the overseas Chinese communities. (19) Through its 'proprietaries' like Civil Air Transport (CAT) and Sea Supply Inc., the CIA had provided logistic support to the anti-Communist 'assets' in the region, whose profitable involvement in the narcotics traffic very soon took priority over their political responsibilities. No doubt the CIA branch responsible (the Office of Policy Co-ordination, or OPC) could rationalise its role in restoring the narcotics traffic in this area with the thought that it was merely prolonging a regional practice common both to the imperialist powers of Britain, France and Japan, and to the native rulers of Thailand and Kuomintang China.

12. Peter Dale Scott, *The War Conspiracy* (New York, Bobbs Merrill, 1972) pp200-201

13. U.S. Congress, Senate, Committee on the Judiciary *Soviet Total War*, Hearings 85th Cong. pp 759-61: Peter Dale Scott, "Opium and Empire" in *Bulletin of Concerned Asia Scholars* (September 1973) pp 49-56, at footnote 33.

14. *New York Times*, January 15, 1959, pp 3-4

15.San Francisco Chronicle, January 15, pp 1,4

16.ibid p4

17.U.S. Cong., Senate, Committee on Government Operations, *Organised Crime and Illicit Traffic in Narcotics*, Hearings, 88th Congress, 2nd Session (1964) p 1131; cf. Federal Bureau of Narcotics, *Traffic in Opium 1959*, p 26

18.Frank Faso and Paul Meskil, New York Daily News, March 20, 1973; reprinted in Congressional Record, June 12, 1973, p 19324.

19.*Pentagon Papers* (Gravel Edition) (Boston, Beacon, 1972), 1, 366, 438; McCoy. pp 128,139.

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

Protection for Intelligence Assets

In 1953-4, as the Eisenhower Administration faced growing KMT resistance to its proposed disengagement from Korea and Indochina, so also the CIA disengaged somewhat from its disreputable OPC proteges in Thailand as their opium trafficking became notorious. By 1959, Council on Foreign Relations spokesmen, backed by the influential CIA-backed Conlon Report, were even suggesting some kind of normalisation of relations with mainland China. This context of detente makes all the more remarkable the propaganda activities of the Narcotics Bureau and George White in the 1959 Hip Sing opium case. In effect, the FBN was covering up for the KMT-narcotics network overseas, even while attempting to crush its movement of heroin into the continental United States. Such a two-faced policy was probably impractical, in as much as in 1959 the world's only sizeable population of heroin addicts was in the U.S. It was, however, understandable in terms of national policy, if one recollects in 1959 all the leading anti-Communist U.S. proteges of the region - Ngo dihn Nhu of South Vietnam, Sarit Thanarat and Prapas Charusathien of Thailand and Phoumi Nosavan of Laos - were profiting in one way or another from the KMT narcotics traffic. (20)

The fact remains that in 1959 the official U.S. position on the KMT troops was that it was no longer supplying them and therefore in no position to control their narcotics activities: the U.S. arms which Burma found at the KMT camps in 1961, still packed in boxes showing their trans-shipment through a Californian air force base, just weeks before, had gone first to Taiwan and then to Burma in a CAT-Air America plane leased by an affiliate of the KMT-Asian Peoples' Anti-Communist League. This is a disturbing analogy with the present status of the former CIA Cubans operating around Orlando Bosch. Like the KMT troops, they too have now been officially disowned by the CIA because of their illegal activities and are now supported by other governments and intelligence agencies, most notably the governments of Chile, of Nicaragua and of the Dominican Republic. (21) More specifically, a chief reason for the closing down of the last of the CIA's Miami station JM/ Wave operations - a counter intelligence operation under Joaquin Sangenis Perdomo, usually referred to by its original CIA name of Operation 40 - was because one of the group's CIA planes had been apprehended in the act of smuggling narcotics into the U.S. (22)

Today, no one seems to deny the illegality of the CIA's domestic JM/Wave station in Miami, which employed from 300 to 700 U.S. agents and from 2,000 to as many as 6,000 Cubans. (23) An Bill Moyers has noted, "seducing the press was critical" to JM/Wave's maintenance in Miami; the CIA secured "explicit agreements with the press here to keep their secret operations from being reported, except when it was mutually convenient ... It amounted to a massive conspiracy to violate the country's Neutrality Acts and other federal, state and local laws as well". (24)

20.McCoy, pp 142-143,153, 259.

21.George Crile. CBS Broadcast, transcript, p 30. Henceforth cited as CBS.

22.*New York Times*, January 5, 1975, p4.

23.CBS; *New Times*, May 13 1977, p46

24.CBS, p14

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

Assassins, Narcotics and Watergate

Seven years after the event, to its credit, the *New York Times* finally revealed a little of the story about the wind-up of the CIA's Operation 40 because of its narcotics activities.(25) It did so as part of a series of stories exposing operations for which the CIA's counter-intelligence chief, James Angleton, had been responsible, and Angleton himself has recently confirmed (to author Edward Jay Epstein) the published suggestions that these stories were being leaked by Angleton's chief enemy within the agency, CIA Director, William Colby, as part of a successful campaign to force Angleton's resignation. (26)

What concerns us, as in the case of the KMT-Hip Sing narcotics case, is the refusal of the *New York Times* to tell the most significant features of the Operation 40 narcotics story:

(a) Operation 40, originally, at least, included professional assassins. According to the former *New York Times* reporter, Tad Szulc, it was originally designed by Sengenis as part of the Bay of Pigs planning "to assure that a post-Castro regime contained no trouble makers", i.e. men opposed to Howard Hunt's political protege, Manuel Artime. (27) (As political action officer for the Bay of Pigs operation, Hunt would almost certainly have been responsible for this phase of Operation 40). Szulc adds that "According to well informed Cubans, Operation 40 also had a second task; that of assassinating, if necessary, political leaders who stood in the way. It was reported that the project included a hand-picked task force of professional killers". (28)

(b) The *New York Times* failed to name the Bay of Pigs veteran who, in its words, "was part of the group and who was accused by the Federal authorities of being a large cocaine smuggler [and] was killed in a gun battle with the Miami police". (29) This was Juan Restoy, arrested in June 1970 as part of the Justice Department's 'Operation

Eagle', against what Attorney General Mitchell called "a nation-wide ring of wholesalers handling about 30% of all heroin sales and 75 to 80% of all cocaine sales in the United States". (30) Of the three Cuban ringleaders of this network, one had his conviction thrown out on a technicality, and the third, Bay of Pigs veteran Jorge Alonson Pujol y Bermudez, was eventually released and placed on probation. (31)

(c) Of the nine Cubans who came to Washington for the Watergate break-in of June 1972, at least four, and possibly all nine, had been members of the Sangenis counter intelligence phase of 'Operation 40'.

Bernard Barker testified that Felipe de Diego, who, with Barker and Rolando Martinez, had previously burgled the office of Ellsberg's psychiatrist for Howard Hunt and the Nixon White House, "had been a member of Operation 40";(32) this aspect of Barker's testimony was neither reported by the *New York Times* nor included in its transcripts of the Watergate Hearings. Other members of the Sangenis operation included Barker himself, who, according to Helms, was fired by the CIA when "we found out that he was involved in certain gambling and criminal elements". (33) A third member was almost certainly Eugenio Martinez who, back in 1957, had been part of an anti-Batista assassination plot funded by former Cuba president Carlos Prio Socarras. In November 1963 Martinez skippered the ill-fated Rex mission from Florida against Cuba, a mission involving the Somoza family of Nicaragua.

To sum up, the *New York Times* systematically ignored or understated the involvement of 'Operation 40' in political assassinations, the world heroin network, and Watergate. Exactly the same can be said about the *Times* and entire establishment press coverage before this year: in all its thousands of words about the so-called 'Plumbers' of Watergate itself it never mentioned that the Nixon White House had recruited, for the ostensible purpose of combating the drug traffic, an illegal covert action team with links to organised crime and (through 'Operation 40') the drug traffic itself. At its peak the Sangenis operation had some 150 Cubans; and we know now from a recent CBS news interview of Bernard Barker by Bill Moyers, that no less than 120 ex-CIA Cubans were recruited for 'Operation Diamond' under the Hunt-Liddy 'Plumbers Unit' at the White House. (34) This group included "people superbly trained in explosives" and "specialists in weapons": as Bill Moyers observed, it too was "a small secret army". Barker dissented from Moyers' allegations that Operation Diamond was preparing to perform political "kidnappings" and "assassinations", but only on semantic grounds: ("there is a difference between assassination and killing The word 'kidnap' sounds to me like a term used in - in law. Remember that I'm a CIA agent, CIA background. We neutralise these things. We don't think... in criminal terms".)(35)

According to the CBS-Moyers programme:

the secret army was not to be disbanded after Watergate. It was to be used in President Nixon's drug war, in Barker's words, "to hit the Mafia using the tactics of the Mafia". (36)

Barker and his colleagues, meanwhile, hoped that their participation would help lead to the "liberation of Cuba". (37) He explained that the key to this liberation lay in helping Mr Hunt, "in the way where hundreds of Cubans have been helping [ie the CIA and the U.S. armed services] in Africa, in Vietnam and in other areas of the world." (38)

25. *New York Times*, January 5, 1975, p4.
26. Edward Jay Epstein. *Legend: the Secret World of Lee Harvey Oswald* (New York, McGraw Hill, 1978): pp 272-274
27. Tad Szulc and Karl E. Meyer. *The Cuban Invasion* (New York, Ballantine, 1962): p95
28. *ibid* p 95
29. *New York Times*, January 5, 1975 p4
30. *New York Times*, June 22, 1970, p1.
31. Peter Dale Scott, Paul Hoch and Russell Stetler. *The Assassinations: Dallas and Beyond* (New York, Vintage, 1977): p395
32. Watergate Hearings, Vol.1, p375
33. Bernard Fensterwald Jr. with Michael Ewing, *Coincidence of Conspiracy* (New York, Zebra, 1977), pp512, 551.
34. CBS p26
35. *ibid*
36. *ibid*
37. Watergate Hearings, Vol.1, p 367
38. *ibid* p372

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

Domestic Repression and DEA Narcotics Enforcement

All this should be very disturbing. Liddy's own original plans for Operation Diamond, after it moved from the cover of White House narcotics enforcement to the Committee to Re-elect the President, also included political kidnappings and "men who have worked successfully as street-fighting teams at the CIA". (39) At that time, when San Diego was the projected Republican convention site, Liddy had proposed that Hunt recruit some "400 or 500... Bay of Pigs veterans who were located in the southern California area"; Hunt actually obtained print-outs of the available veterans, from Brigade 2506 Veterans Association (the AVBC) in Miami.(40)

These plans for organised governmental violence were by no means wholly forestalled by the timely exposure of Hunt's Cubans at the July 17 1972 Watergate break-in.

Some of them have survived Nixon's fall from power and are today officially established under the guidance of narcotics control. To see how this could happen, however, we must look at the co-ordinated use of ex-CIA assets for 'black operations' which followed the Watergate arrests.

One Watergate-related Nixon horror never investigated by either the Ervin or the Church Committee was the use of Hunt's ex-CIA Cuban, Pablo Fernandez, as a provocateur planning to protest at the 1972 Republican Convention in Miami. Fernandez, who in May 1972 had been recruited by Hunt's aid Barker to 'get' Daniel Ellsberg at an anti-war rally in Washington - whether by merely punching him or possibly by more serious violence, is not clear. In June and July, under the overall guidance of Robert Mardian at the Justice Department's Internal Security Division, Fernandez, working with the Miami Police and the FBI, was recruited to offer machine guns to the Vietnam Veterans Against the War, in the hope that this would produce some sort of overt act of violence. A Miami police detective later confirmed to the Miami Herald that 'We were hoping for the overt act necessary to produce a charge of conspiracy'. (41) The ensuing court case against Scott Camil and the other VVAW leaders saw apparent perjury by a Justice Department representative on the subject of government informants, and a break-in at the office of Camil's lawyer which (in the words of the *Times* correspondent, Anthony Lukas) is one of many unsolved break-ins which "may have been carried out by 'contract' operatives hired by the CIA". (42)

Scott Camil himself, after being acquitted along with the other VVAW defendants, was reindicted after being first set up and then shot and almost killed by DEA narcotics agents. (The national establishment media, whose attention helped expose the false government testimony by the Nixon administration at the first trial, showed little interest in the second.) But Camil was only one instance where the government's expanded 'war on drugs' was used, at least under Nixon, to harass selected political targets - and possibly in support of major CIA covert operations against countries like Cyprus, Argentina, Lebanon and Chile.

It must be kept in mind that OSS and CIA has been using the connections of the international heroin traffic for covert operations virtually without interruption since 'Operation Underworld' in 1943. At first these operations may have been tactical rather than strategic: to expel the Fascists and forestall the Communists in Italy, to break Communist control of the French docks during the first Indochina War, to support a string of anti-Communist puppets in Southeast Asia. But as a former CIA agent and publicist confirms, this intelligence-Mafia connection was seen as vitally important.

Nixon himself has left office, and the public style of his two successors has been visibly muted, but none of the repressive legislation which his administration put together for the silencing of dissent has been repealed; and indeed the Carter administration has taken up Nixon's demand for an Official Secrets Act which would provide criminal sanctions against future Daniel Ellsbergs.

39. John Dean, *Blind Ambition* (New York, Simon and Schuster, 1976): p81 cf. Watergate Hearings, Vol.2 p788

40. U.S. Cong. House Committee on Armed Services, *Inquiry into the Alleged*

Involvement of the Central Intelligence Agency in the Watergate and Ellsberg Matters, Hearings, 94th Congress, 1st session (1974) pp 513-14. Henceforth cited as Nedzi Hearings.

41. Lukas, pp167-88,196; Steve Weissman (ed.) *Big Brother and the Holding Company* (Palo Alto, California; Ramparts, 1974): pp76-77

42. Lukas, p37; Weissman pp 78-81

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

CIA, DEA, and Their Assassination Capacity

It is true that on June 11, 1973, the Justice Department abolished the Intelligence Evaluation Committee which had co-ordinated the harassment of Camil in Miami, for which the special grand juries had collected political intelligence, and which had, in its first two months of existence alone "compiled computerised dossiers on nearly 14,000 Americans, including selected political officials and moderates". (43) The IEC was secretly terminated on June 11, 1973, or shortly after press accounts of Dean's highly-bowdlerised revelations concerning IEC which he was about to make to the Ervin Watergate Committee. Such evasive tactics do not mean very much in today's age of computerised intelligence. Revelations about Army surveillance of U.S. citizens before another of Senator Ervin's Committee in 1970 had led to the formal termination of that programme on June 9, 1970, which we now know was four days after White House planning had begun on the escalated Huston Plan which resulted in the IEC.(44) Public assurances that the Army's intelligence dossiers had been destroyed were misleading, if we are to credit subsequent reports that:

on 29 July 1970, the day after the President moved to reconsider the Huston Plan, army intelligence had given the entire print-out of its civilian surveillance computers to ISD (i.e. IEC in Mardian's Internal Security Division). (45)

In like vein the CIA's new director, William Colby, as part of his reorientation of the CIA towards foreign targets, terminated, in 1974, the CIA's Operation Chaos for the surveillance of U.S. citizens in conjunction with the IEC (though when the Rockefeller Commission reported this fact 15 months later it noted that the Chaos "files and computerised index are still intact"). (46) Two years earlier CIA director Helms, in response to U.S press reports about CIA involvement in assassinations, had directed that "no such activity or operation be undertaken, assisted or suggested by any of our personnel". (47) But the official reports on both of these controversial operations ignore the relevant fact that a high level 1968 meeting at the Council on Foreign Relations of CIA veterans and their colleagues in the New York-CIA financial establishment had already agreed CIA operations had become too visible and too bureaucratic, and in future should be left, where possible, in the hands of "private organisations, many of the personnel of which would be non-U.S ... hands of third parties, particularly third country nationals". (48)

A series of working groups to implement these proposals were officially recognised

when Richard Nixon, in 1969, appointed Franklin Lindsay, a CIA veteran and chairman of the chief working group (as well as of the Rockefeller-financed Itek Corp.) to head up an advisory panel on reorganisation of the CIA. (49)

In the ensuing years many of the key 1968 proposals were implemented by successive CIA directors, most notably the recommendation that the ageing CIA bureaucracy had become too large and should be dramatically cut back. In the context of this reversion to "unofficial cover", the March 1972 Helms injunction against assassination seems to have been a case of carefully locking the door of an already empty stable. Nine months earlier Lucien Conein, the CIA's case officer in the Diem assassination and a high level contact with the heroin trafficking Corsican Mafia, resigned from CIA, to be brought back at the suggestion of his old OSS colleague Howard Hunt into the White House narcotics effort. There, Conein (by his own admission) supervised a special unit which would have the capacity to assassinate selected targets in the narcotics business. (50)

A memo of late May 1972, drafted by Hunt's superior in narcotic matters, Egil Krogh, reports on what is apparently President Nixon's authorisation for the Conein assassination squad, with the staggering budget of \$100 million in non-accountable funds:

According to Krogh's detailed 'Outline of Discussion with the President on Drugs', the President agreed to 'forceful action in [stopping] International trafficking of heroin in the host country'. Specifically the memorandum of the meeting noted, 'it is anticipated that a material reduction in the supply of heroin to the U.S. can be accomplished through a \$100 million (over three years) fund which can be used for clandestine law enforcement activities abroad and for which BNDD would not be accountable. This decisive action is our only hope for destroying or immobilising the highest level of drug traffickers.'....According to Krogh, this [flexible law enforcement..for clandestine activities] would be used for underworld contacts and disruptive tactics, with the eventual goal of destroying those deemed to be heroin traffickers. (51)

According to the *Washington Post* at least twelve other CIA operatives, all of them first-generation (i.e. naturalised) Americans, joined in this BNDD assassination squad. (52)

In the fall of 1971:

Hunt also approached the Cuban exile leader, Manuel Artime, in Miami and - according to Artime - asked him about the possibility of forming a team of Cuban exile hit men to assassinate Latin American traffickers still outside the bailiwick of United States law. (53)

Artime told other reporters that the anti-narcotics operations would take place in Panama (pinpointed after the arrest of the son of Panamanian Ambassador to Taiwan on July 8, 1971 - the day Hunt spoke to Conein in the White House) after Frank Sturgis independently told the press that in 1971 he had joined Hunt in an investigation of the drug traffic reaching the U.S. from Paraguay through Panama. (54)

This lends strength to the recurring rumour that Hunt's narcotics activities included an assassination plan against the Panamanian President Torrijos, whose brother had been fingered by U.S. Customs commissioner Ambrose as a major heroin trafficker. (55)

43. Church Committee, Hearings (1975) Vol. 2 p 266 (Memo of June 11, 1973, from Assistant Attorney General Henry Petersen). U.S. Cong. Senate, Committee on the Judiciary, Military Surveillance Hearings (1974) p221
44. U.S. Cong., Senate, Committee on the Judiciary, *Federal Data Banks* Hearings (1970) p147
45. Weissman, pp58-9; cf. *New York Times*. April 2 1971, p25
46. U.S. Commission on CIA Activities Within the United States, Report pp 148-9. Henceforth cited as Rockefeller Report.
47. Assassination Report, p282
48. Council on Foreign Relations: 'Intelligence and Foreign Policy' Discussion Meeting Report, January 8 1968 ("Confidential: Not for Publication"); reprinted in Victor Marchetti and John D. Marks. *The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence* (New York, Knopf, 1974) pp381-398
49. *New York Times Magazine*, April 17 1971
50. Edward J. Epstein, *Agency of Fear; Opiates and Political Power In America* (New York, Putnam's, 1977) p146; *Washington Post*, June 16, 1976. Hunt and Conein were both veterans of OSS operations in Kunming, China, the centre of the Yunnan opium traffic, as was Conein's 1970s business partner Hitch Werbell 3, a mysterious White Russian arms dealer who was indicted on a major drug smuggling charge in August 1976. (The case collapsed after the chief witness was killed (Kruger pp181-2). Werbell was later said to have been on the CIA payroll, paid through the notorious drug-related Australian Nugan Hand Bank (Penny Lernoux, *In Banks We Trust* (Garden City, NY, Anchor Press/Doubleday, 1984) p158). Two other veterans of this OSS post were Paul Halliwell who set up the drug-related Castle Bank for the CIA (Lernoux p79) and General John Singlaub, who visited his friend Werbell shortly before leaving the U.S. Army in 1978. (Hank Messick, *Of Grass and Snow* (Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, Prentice-Hall, 1979) p84) Today General Singlaub is the president of WACL and perhaps the chief public fund-raiser for the Contras inside the United States.
51. Epstein, *Agency* etc. pp 142-3
52. *Washington Post*, June 16, 1976
53. Epstein, *Agency* etc. p144
54. Scott et al *The Assassinations* p402. Sturgis claimed that "he undertook several missions for Hunt involving tracking narcotics" (Epstein *Agency* etc. p205n), and that Hunt had been involved in some assassination attempts that had succeeded. (*True* August 1974)
55. Andrew Tully, *The Secret War Against Dope* (New York, Coward, McCann

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

DEA, Crime and the Press Today

If these reports are true, we can reasonably conclude that the old CIA-organised crime connection, though technically banished from the CIA after Jack Anderson's exposure of it in January 1971, was still pursuing its old political objectives under White House -narcotics cover in 1971-2, pending its intended integration into a new superagency, the Drug Enforcement Agency of July 1, 1973, which many observers have compared to a domestic CIA. Hunt and Artime had both been associated with previous CIA assassination plots against Castro, who, at that time, had been named by the Federal Bureau of Narcotics as the man behind the heroin trade of anti-Castro Cubans. Torrijos, too, was at least as much a political as a narcotics target: he and Chilean President Salvador Allende were the only heads of state to defy the CIA-enforced ban on friendly relations with Castro's Cuba. Barker and Artime, as we have seen, had been allegedly dropped from the CIA for their involvement in criminal activities - the latter for smuggling activities from a Costa Rica base owned by Anastasio Somoza, the patron of Torrijos' current enemy Orlando Bosch. According to an FBI report on Frank Sturgis in 1972, when Hunt recruited him and Barker for Watergate "sources in Miami say that he is *now* associated with organised crime activities". (emphasis added) (56)

When this FBI claim was made part of the highly publicised Senate Hearings in February 1973 on the nomination of L. Patrick Gray, the *New York Times* and *Washington Post*, then locked in battle with Nixon, declined to report it. The press interviews with Artime and Sturgis about their anti-narcotics activities were likewise ignored at the time, as were all the growing indications that the White House, under the guise of anti-narcotics activities, had begun to assemble a secret parallel police, with an assassination potential, from former CIA assets dropped after the exposure of their associates in the narcotics traffic.

This reticence or resistance to expressing the criminal scope of Watergate was assuredly not inspired by a desire to protect President Nixon. It indicates, I believe, an understanding at high levels, that when right-wing CIA assets are formally 'disposed of', their potential usefulness to other employers should not be diminished. Take for example, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) itself which now employs somewhere between 50 and 100 CIA agents in addition to Conein and his twelve assassins.

Of all the 'White House horrors' to come out of the so-called 'plumbers' in Room 16, DEA is perhaps the most dangerous. A super-agency, whose very statutory authority is open to challenge, it has been plagued from the outset with serious charges of illegal behaviour, high-level corruption, and protection of Mafia figures in the narcotics traffic. Its first designated chief, Myles Ambrose, resigned before taking office in May 1973, after it was disclosed he had visited the Texas ranch of a suspected smuggler, Richard Harper, who was under indictment for an arms shipment aimed at the overthrow of the Castro government. (57) It was Ambrose, we should remember, who fingered the brother of the Cubans' target, Omar Torrijos. His deputy and successor, John Bartels, either resigned or was fired after reports by a Congressional committee that he had been in the company of a suspected courier of narcotics to Washington

from Laredo, the nearest city to the Harper Ranch. (58)

Walter Minnick, the nominal author of 'Reorganisation Plan No 2' that produced DEA, was, with Hunt, Liddy and their superior, David Young, one of the four key figures in the so-called 'Plumbers' at Room 16. It was Young, a former Rockefeller employee, who wrote the orders leading to the first Plumbers break-in at the office of Dr. Fielding (Ellsberg's psychiatrist). It was Young and Minnick with whom John Ehrlichman discussed the Watergate break-in and cover-up on the Monday morning after the break-in.(59) Yet Young, who authorised the break-in, escaped state prosecution for the Fielding break-in by co-operating in a pre-emptive federal indictment; while Minnick, throughout the thousands of words on the Watergate scandals, was never once listed in the index of either the *Washington Post* or the *New York Times*.

The same papers were either reticent or grossly misleading about activities which Hunt and Liddy performed, without Nixon's knowledge, on behalf of Intertel, the private intelligence group now controlling the Nevada casinos of the CIA-linked Howard Hughes organisation. Woodward and Bernstein of the *Washington Post* actually used a Hunt story given them by Robert Bennett, the Washington head of the CIA front and Howard Hughes PR firm where Hunt worked at the time, as part of their litany of 'White House horrors'; even though the 'horror' in question - an interview with one Clifton DeMotte about Edward Kennedy and Chappaquiddick - had been suggested to Hunt, not by the White House, but by Robert Bennett himself. (60)

Senator Baker's Minority Report about this and other CIA aspects of Watergate was, in turn, grossly distorted by the Post. (61). This is hardly surprising; the Baker Report revealed a CIA report from Bennett that Woodward was "suitably grateful" for the DeMotte and other "fine stories" which Bennett had been "feeding" Woodward; and also an arrangement between Bennett and attorney Edward Bennett Williams to "kill off" revelations of the CIA's relationship to Bennett's agency, the Mullen Company. Edward Bennett Williams, the lawyer who previously had done work for the CIA with his and their Mafia contact, Robert Maheu, was, at this time, both the attorney for the Democratic National Committee in their suit about Hunt's Watergate break-in, and also the attorney for the *Washington Post*. (62)

In short, the *Washington Post* was not at arms length from the CIA-Howard Hughes-Intertel complex, whose involvement in the Watergate scandal was hardly indicated by their reporters' stories. In like manner, the *Washington Post* barely reported the Congressional revelations in 1975 about scandals in DEA, where one of the agents scrutinised by the Jackson Subcommittee Report is one of the two agents (let us call them X and Y) said to have boasted widely inside DEA of their personal contact with - and plans to retire to - Intertel. The Jackson Subcommittee investigated the DEA for its improper favours to the Howard Hughes-Intertel interests and also to the Robert Vesco-IOI interests. Although these two supergroups have been depicted as competitors vying to acquire the same Paradise Island casino, the fact remains that both have had dealings with the CIA, and also with Cuban exile groups planning to oust Fidel Castro. (63)

An even more critical article in *Playboy* about DEA, calling it an 'American Gestapo', describes how, in April 1974, a DEA intelligence team was ready to go on a major narcotics operation involving the flow of Mexican drugs to "a Las Vegas associate of [New York Mafia chief] Joseph Colombo":

Instead ... the agent in charge barked out a sharp dozen words or so and ordered the project dropped. "He informed us that he didn't want us wasting our time on organised-crime probes, that the real problem was the Mexicans and we were to drop this." (64)

It would appear that the old CIA-Mafia narcotics connection was still alive and well in the new DEA, especially when we consider that (according to reliable sources) the responsible 'agent in charge' was the same X (acting in conjunction with Y); that X had almost been forced to leave the Narcotics Bureau because of the scandals under his jurisdiction as New York Regional Director; and that X became the agent in charge of CIA veteran Lucien Conein and his assassination squad. The same sources say that the suspected courier who associated with DEA Director Bartels has also admitted to being 'friends' with the suspected Mafia ringleader, the "Las Vegas associate of Joseph Colombo"

56.Fensterwald p 506; L. Patrick Gray Hearings p47

57.*New York Times* May 12 1973, p12; cf. July 3 1972, p15.

58.U.S. Cong. Senate, Report No 94-1039, p110; Epstein *Agency* etc pp254-55

59.U.S. Cong. House Committee on the Judiciary, Hearings Pursuant to House Resolution 803 (Impeachment Hearings), Statement of Information, Book 2, p167.

60.*Washington Post*, February 10 1973, p1: Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward *All the President's Men* (New York, Warner, 1975), pp230-81 "Minority Report on CIA Involvement Submitted at the Request of Senator Howard M. Baker Jnr." (Baker Report, in *The Senate Watergate Report* (New York, Dell 1974). Vol. 1 pp737,740; Nedzi Hearings, pp 1073-76.

61.*Washington Post*, July 4 1974

62.Baker Report, pp 737-40

63.U.S. Cong. Senate. Report No 94-1039

64.Frank Browning " *An American Gestapo*", *Playboy* February 1976

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

The U.S.A. and Transnationalised Repression

Both inside and outside the U.S. narcotics enforcement is particularly susceptible to corruption. It is also inescapably a political matter, especially in those areas of covert intelligence and operations which, up to now, have been concerns of the CIA. It is undeniable that DEA has picked up at least one former CIA operation - that of training

and equipping foreign police forces - after this was terminated by Congress in 1974. Congressional investigations had disclosed that the Office of Public Safety, responsible for those training programmes, had become involved in programs of torture and even wholesale assassination in Vietnam (Colby's Operation Phoenix) and in Latin America. As a consequence of the 1974 Foreign Assistance Act, OPS and its some 400 positions in Latin America were abolished. The Act however, did not affect AID's new International Narcotics Program set up with CIA participation alongside OPS in mid-1971 - about the time that Conein and other CIA agents migrated from CIA to the Narcotics Bureau. A subsequent report by the General Accounting Office, investigating DEA and INC to see if Congressional intentions had been circumvented, disclosed in effect that:

(a) By Fiscal Year 1974 DEA had 400 agents in Latin America, or roughly the number of abolished OPS positions;

(b) police equipment transferred abroad under the INC jumped \$2.2 million in Fiscal Year 1973 to \$12.5 million in Fiscal Year 1974, almost exactly offsetting the decrease resulting from the abolition of OPS. Essentially, the same equipment was being forwarded to the same units: the chief change was in the name of the authorisation.

As State Department Narcotics adviser Sheldon Vance testified in 1976, the U.S. maintains no control over the disposition which the receiving country will make of the equipment and trainees. In fact, from Mexico to Argentina, receiving countries - following the example of Richard Nixon in the United States - have not hesitated to use narcotics aid to deal with domestic insurgency, by the simple expedient of identifying insurgents with narcotics. In May 1974, at a special press conference to publicise the stepped-up U.S.-Argentine anti-narcotics program, Argentine Security Chief Lopez Rega announced (in the presence of U.S. Ambassador Robert Hill):

We hope to wipe out the drug traffic in Argentina. We have caught guerillas after attacks who were high on drugs. Guerillas are the main users of drugs in Argentina. Therefore, the anti-drug campaign will automatically be an anti-guerilla campaign as well.

Soon afterwards, a visiting DEA team held training seminars for 150 Argentine policemen, while the Argentine penal code was amended to give the Federal Police direct nation-wide jurisdiction to make investigations and arrests in narcotics-related cases. (65) The latter development, if not the former, seems to have been important to the development of Lopez Rega's dreaded 'death squads' of 1974-5, the Argentine Anti-Communist Alliance (AAA). Like the White House Cubans, these squads specialised in extra-legal kidnappings and murders. Dozens and perhaps hundreds of leftists were killed by the AAA before Lopez Rega, whose responsibility was established by an Argentine Congressional investigation, was forced to leave the country as a fugitive in the Fall of 1975.

65. Michael Klare, *The Logistics of Repression* (Washington, Institute for Policy Studies, 1977) passim.

Drugs and Parafascism: Orlando Bosch and Christian David

All this has a very direct bearing on the career of Orlando Bosch, who boasts of having collaborated with the AAA in the murder of two Cuban diplomats as late as August 1976. (66) It is quite possible that this collaboration was facilitated through the international narcotics traffic, since both Lopez Rega and Bosch, along with other high-level security figures in Latin America, have been accused of financing their anti-Communist activities in part through cocaine. (67) Bosch's daughter and son-in-law, Miriam and Carlos Rogers, were arrested in June 1977 on charges of smuggling cocaine, while his other son-in-law, Ruben Blinder, is said to be a member of the AAA. In 1975 a provincial Argentine investigation into a cocaine estancia near the Bolivian border, which was said (by the admittedly hostile Argentine military intelligence) to have involved Lopez Rega and his son-in-law, was frustrated by a timely federal intervention.

CIA defector Philip Agee has charged that the Brazilian dictatorship, established with U.S. encouragement and participation in 1964, was, in turn, responsible for the spread of fascism to Bolivia in 1971, Uruguay in February 1973, and Chile in September 1973. (68) Recent French books report that in this same general period former French members of the anti-Gaullist Secret Army (OAS), along with their opposite numbers from the pro-Gaullist *barbouzes*, worked for the security forces of Brazil, Bolivia and Uruguay ... and Venezuela and Argentina, where the Peronists returned to power in May 1973. Among the rewards sought by these men were diplomatic passports, for some of these Frenchmen were working simultaneously as part of the international Ricord narcotics network. (69)

One key figure in this network was Christian David, of whom a U.S. account blandly notes "reports that he infiltrated Uruguay's Tupamaro guerillas and identified several for the police". (70) French accounts add that David, based in Argentina and possessing an Argentine diplomatic passport in the name of Carlos Eduardo Devreux-Bergeret, also collaborated regularly with the Argentine and Brazilian political police in conjunction with the French intelligence service. (71) An encyclopaedic study of David by the Danish journalist Henrik Kruger speculates that David's activities (which also included projects in Venezuela and Bolivia) were also co-ordinated with CIA, noting that CIA-OPS agents Dan Mitrione and Claude Fry were advising the anti-Tupamaro effort. (72).

In Argentina David worked under the direction of the OAS veteran Francois Chiappe, another member of the Ricord gang. (73). In 1972 Chiappe and David were both arrested in BNDD's crackdown on the Ricord network; Chiappe, however, was liberated 'by error' when the Peronistas came to power in Argentina with the election of Hector Campora in May 1973. Shortly afterwards, under the command of Lopez Riga's close subordinate Colonel Jorge Osinde, Chiappe and Colonel Gardes, another OAS veteran, took part in the Ezeizi airport massacre of June 20 1973.(74) The same article that explored Lopez Rega's links to the cocaine traffic claimed that the cocaine

moved north from the Salta estancia to Paraguay, the former headquarters of Ricord, where "one of Lopez Rega's closest allies, Colonel Jorge Sinde, became Ambassador". The cocaine there was handled by General Andres Rodriguez, who, according to Jack Anderson, was one of the three top Paraguayan officials who had worked directly with Ricord. (75)

66.*New Times*, May 13 1977, p.48

67.Latin America, December 19, 1975. *New Times* May 13 1977

68.Philip Agee, *Inside the Company; CIA Diary* (Harmondsworth, Penguin, 1975) p585

69.Alain Jaubert *Dossier D..comme drogue* (Paris, Alain Moreau, 1973); Patrice Chairoff, *Dossier B... comme barbouzes* (Paris; Alain Moureau, 1975)

70.Newspday, *The Heroin Trail* (New York, New American Library, 1974) p 155.

71.Chairoff p42; cf. Jaubert p291

72.Subsequently published as Henrik Kruger *The Great Heroin Coup* (Boston, South End Press. 1980) p78

73.Jaubert p290

74.Kruger p113

75.Jack Anderson, *Washington Post* May 24 1972; in Jaubert, p281

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

Post-war Nazi Networks and the United States

The evidence, in short, suggests that while individuals like David, Chiappe and Ricord can rise and fall, the connection in Latin America between narcotics and para-legal repression is an old and enduring one. In its post-war phase it can be traced to the exfiltration to Latin America of wanted Nazi war criminals and their collaborators. Ricord himself, arriving in Paraguay via a Nazi escape route, had been one. (76) Originally arriving in Latin America thanks to networks like Die Spinne with the collaboration of such eminences as Gustav Frupp von Bohlen and Vatican titular Bishop Alois Hudal, a few of these in situ anti-Communist 'assets' turned to narcotics and gun running. (77) Of these, a ringleader was the wanted Nazi mass murderer Klaus Barbie, alias Altmann, who prospered in Bolivia until 1972 as the business partner of the Admiral in charge of Bolivia's 'navy'. Ricord's Latin American traffics were associated with the Barbie-Schwend Nazi narcotics gun running network, which in turn had been financed by illegal wartime Nazi operations. (78) Author William Stevenson has charged that "the normal police investigative agencies of Britain and

the United States" were "hamstrung" in their pursuit of this illicit network: "it seemed as if the bureaucrats, the Establishment intelligence agencies, and the departments concerned with foreign affairs had intervened". (79)

The key to this Allied protection of post-war Nazi networks, Stevenson shrewdly surmised, was the U.S. decision in 1945 to take over and subsidise the Nazi intelligence network of General Reinhard von Gehlen. Gehlen in turn helped place numerous former Nazis as his agents in other countries, some (like Barbie) as employees of import-export firms established by his own agency, others as local representatives of Krupp, Daimler-Benz and other large West German firms. The Gehlen network, financed by the CIA but not directly controlled by it, soon had agents employed in a number of activities in violation of U.S. law, from illegal arms sales and narcotics trafficking (the two often going together) to murder.

When the Gehlen Org became the West German Intelligence Service in 1956, CIA support, though not terminated, was drastically reduced. (80) And, as a rule, the CIA has not exercised direct operational control over the Gehlen Org's ex-Nazis. Instead, the relationship, to the satisfaction of all concerned, has become more complex and inscrutable. For example, in the 1945-50 period, the U.S. State Department generally - in contrast to some of its more powerful members, such as Ambassador Adolf Berle and then Assistant Secretary Nelson Rockefeller - was opposed to Juan Peron, the most important patron in Latin America of the ex-Nazi Spinne network. (81)

U.S. opposition to networks of ex-Nazis like Barbie and Ricord appeared to be unrelenting in the period of 1970-72, when Nixon, with important help from the CIA, pressured and eventually destroyed the Ricord network of French Corsican drug traffickers in Latin America. But even the Ricord crackdown, so often recounted by Customs and BNDD flacks as proof of U.S. determination and success in the war against drugs, has been seen in other countries as an effort to gain control over the drug traffic, not to eliminate it. Even the respectable French newspaper *Le Monde* has charged bluntly that the arrest of Ricord and his Corsican network, which had become highly competitive with the U.S. Mafia, was due to a "close Mafia-police-Narcotics Bureau collaboration" in the United States, the result of which was to shatter Corsican influence in the world-wide narcotics traffic, and create a virtual monopoly for the U.S. Italian Mafia connections (whose key figures were Santos Trafficante in America and Luciano Liggio in Europe). (82) An authoritative French book on the drug traffic has added that the fall of Ricord, for which "the Mafia was possibly responsible" followed a campaign by an Italian representative of the Miami Mafia, Tomasso Buscetta, to regain control of the runaway Ricord operation. (83)

Though *Le Monde's* alarming accusation has been passed over in silence by the responsible U.S. press, it is in fact partly confirmed by *Newsday's* Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *The Heroin Trail*. *Newsday* notes that Buscetta "was ordered by the Mafia to go to South America", where he acted as "the representative of Luciano Liggio". (84) *Newsday* adds that "Buscetta was ordered out of the U.S. as an undesirable by the Justice Department in 1970"; it does not mention that Buscetta had earlier been released from a U.S. jail "through the direct intervention of an [Italian] Christian Democrat MP". (85) In both countries, it would appear, Buscetta had powerful connections.

According to the German magazine *Der Spiegel*, the elimination of the Ricord network by Nixon and the BNDD in late 1972 was promptly followed by the

establishment of a new Latin American drug network with international fascist connections, under the leadership of Alberto Sicilia Falcon, a Cuban exile. When arrested by Mexican police in 1975, as the chief of Mexico's largest heroin ring, Sicilia told police that he was a CIA protege, trained at Fort Jackson as a partisan in the secret war against Cuba. According to Mexican authorities, he was also working in Chile against the socialist government of Salvador Allende until he returned to Miami in early 1973. He also told the Mexican police of a special 'deal' with the CIA. They eased his way for heroin shipments and, in return, his organisation smuggled weapons for terror-groups in Central America - groups whose activities forced their governments to be more dependent on U.S. aid and advice. He built up his ring in less than two years, and as the daily Mexican *El Sol de Mexico* said: "How could he do that without help from a powerful organisation?"

Falcon started to create his huge ring in 1973, and the Mexican police started to watch his operations from the beginning of 1975. He was operating from a house in Cuernavaca, 50 miles south of Mexico City. Almost daily he had long visits from one of his neighbours, and the Mexican police decided to find out the identity of the visitor who was trying to hide his face under large hats and behind sunglasses. One day agents got hold of a bottle which had been in the hands of the visiting neighbour. They sent the bottle to the FBI and the answer was quick - the man was Sam Giancana. Falcon was arrested and Giancana sent back to the U.S. where he was killed one year after his return. In Sicilia Falcon's house the Mexican police found papers from two Swiss banks telling that Falcon had \$260 million in the bank. In April 1976 Falcon and three of his top gang members escaped jail through a 97 meter tunnel, dug by outsiders and lit up with electric light. Three days later Falcon was caught again. According to *Der Spiegel* he told his full story under torture-like conditions, and, after spelling it out, he said he was afraid that the CIA would kill him. He demanded to be brought to an isolated cell under special guard in the newest prison 'Reclusorio Norte'. (86)

If *Der Spiegel's* charges are correct. they suggest a possible explanation for Playboy's disturbing charges that DEA officials close to Intertel (and hence, it must be said, to the CIA), were shielding a Mafia higher-up in the Mexican heroin connection (a man who coincidentally happened to have graduated, like Sam Giancana, from the Chicago Mafia). It would appear that in the mid 1970s, as in the 1940s, the U.S. turned for help in combating the Left to the milieu of right-wing parafascist gangsterism (such as the Aginter Press - of whom more shortly) and of narcotics. Indeed, the more closely we look at the evidence, the more such disturbing alliances appear to have been, not just occasional, but virtually continuous.

Even if we ignore the *Der Spiegel* story, there are many indications that the United States has repeatedly used, and hence encouraged, the parafascist successors (such as Aginter Press) of the Nazis who escaped after World War 2 to Latin America. On the surface the opposite might appear to be the case, since the global U.S. interest in multinational trade and capital movements has tended to oppose post-war variants of fascism as a state ideology - most notably Peronism in Argentina. But where Communism - either indigenous or international - is feared, parafascism, even where mistrusted by the U.S. as a form of government, has still been supported and used by the CIA as an 'asset' or resource.

77. Farago p467
78. William Stevenson, *The Bormann Brotherhood* (New York, Bantam, 1974) p195, Jaubert p285
79. Stevenson, p195. I make a much stronger case for U.S. intelligence involvement in the exfiltration of the SS to Latin America in "How Allen Dulles and the SS Preserved Each Other" in *Covert Action Information Bulletin* No 25 .
80. E.H. Cookridge, *Gehlen: the Spy of the Century* (New York, Random House, 1971); pp287-288
81. Peter Collier and David Horowitz, *The Rockefellers: An American Dynasty* (New York, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1976); pp234-43)
82. *Le Monde* June 17-18 1973 pp 11-12. (I discuss this in Kruger, pp 2-4)
83. Jaubert pp292-93
84. *Newsday*, *Heroin Trail*, pp154, 158
85. *Newsday* (ibid) p153; Gaia Servadio *Mafioso: A History of the Mafia from its Origins to the Present Day* (New York, Delta, 1976) p145
86. *Der Spiegel* May 9 1977; Kruger p 177-80. For the DEA version see U.S. Cong. Senate, Committee on Government Operations, *Illicit Traffic in Weapons and Drugs Across the United States - Mexican Border Hearing*, 95th Cong., 1st Session (January 12 1977). pp 10-19, where Sicilia Falcon is misleadingly called "a Cuban national", his exile residence in Miami being suppressed.

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

The Case of Otto Skorzeny

The key figure in the post-war organisation of Nazi remnants was S.S. Major Otto Skorzeny, acting in collaboration with his close war-time colleague and personal friend, General Reinhard von Gehlen. First, Gehlen made a deal in 1946 with U.S. intelligence leaders like General Donovan and Allen Dulles, transferring his former anti-communist Nazi intelligence network to the future CIA. (The financial details were allegedly arranged by Walter Reid Wolf, a Citybank official on loan to CIA, who made similar arrangements in 1951 for the CIA's Air America Inc.). Then Skorzeny was acquitted at a brief trial at Nuremberg, when his U.S. defence attorney produced a British army officer (actually a secret service agent) who testified that what Skorzeny had done (i.e. shoot prisoners), he would have done also. Although Skorzeny faced further charges in Denmark and Czechoslovakia, he was allowed to walk away from his prison camp. He soon found a berth in Peron's Argentina, "amply supplied with Krupp money" (87). By 1950, when Gehlen was functioning at Munich on a CIA budget, Skorzeny had opened an 'unconventional warfare' consultancy under cover in Madrid, the post-war home of his father-in-law Hjalmar Schacht. Schacht, the banker

who, with Gustav Krupp, had delivered levies from German industry to Hitler's Reich leader Martin Bormann, had likewise been acquitted at Nuremberg and protected by the British from serving an independent eight year sentence for his Nazi activities. As a Krupp sales representative, Skorzeny became an influential figure in, first, Argentina, and then in Franco's Spain - especially after he and Schacht (another Krupp representative) negotiated "the biggest post-war deal between Spain and Germany, for the delivery in 1952 of \$5 million worth of railway stock and machine tools". (88)

In this period Skorzeny lectured at Spanish universities on the 'new warfare' that would turn to such techniques as 'assassinations and kidnappings'. (89) His offer to recruit a foreign legion of ex-Nazis to aid the Americans in Korea was vigorously supported in the United States by those elements in the Spain-China lobby - many of them right-wing Catholics - who later would support similar proposals from the Asian Peoples' Anti-Communist League. Though these offers were not publicly accepted by the U.S., some Gehlen and KMT personnel, from about 1950, began to train what became the U.S. Special Forces, as well as the Cubans at the Bay of Pigs.

Following the rise of Nasser to power in 1952-53, with CIA support, Nasser asked his CIA contact, Kermit Roosevelt, for help in reorganising the Egyptian intelligence services. Roosevelt wired Dulles; Dulles approached Gehlen; Gehlen suggested Skorzeny; and Skorzeny accepted when the CIA agreed to supplement his modest Egyptian salary. He did so partly on the urging of Schacht, who himself went to Indonesia as an advisor to Sukarno and advance man for Krupp. (90)

The consequences of this CIA favour to Nasser and the Nazis were to be widespread and long term. Skorzeny left Egypt after about a year, but he left behind him about 50 former S.S. and Gestapo men, many of them recruited from Argentina and neighbouring countries by Skorzeny's Nazi colleague in Buenos Aires, Colonel Hans-Ulrich Rudel. Among these was the chief post-war theorist of Nazism in Latin America, Peron's friend, Johannes von Leers, a wanted war criminal who, like Rudel, had escaped to Argentina with Vatican help. After the fall of Peron, Von Leers temporarily left his Argentina Nazi paper *Der Weg* and, under the alias of Omar Amin, directed Nasser's propaganda against Israel. His assistant in this work was another former member of Goebbels' propaganda ministry, Dr. Gerhardt Harmut von Schubert, who later moved on to a similar task in Iraq. (91)

Skorzeny's legitimisation by the CIA at Cairo gave him new status in the countries which had to worry about American public opinion: Germany, South Africa and Spain. German Chancellor Adenauer and General Gehlen (still on the CIA payroll) could now lend active support to Skorzeny's private political warfare agency in Madrid, along with right-wing German businessmen in the post-war Circle of Friends. (92) At the same time, as former CIA agent Miles Copeland wrote in 1969, Skorzeny "to this day remains on the best of terms ... with the American friends who were instrumental in getting him to Egypt in the first place". (93) One of these friends, apparently, was, as we shall see, his fellow arms salesman and veteran of CIA operations in Egypt, Kermit Roosevelt.

87.Farago, p370 (cf. Glenn B. Infield, *Skorzeny: Hitler's Commando* (New York, St. Martin's Press, 1981)

88.Stevenson. pp 151/3 173

89.Stevenson, p153

90.Cookridge, pp 352/3; Stevenson, p154

91.Stevenson, pp 157-61; Chairoff p58; Miles Copeland, *The Game of Nations* (New York, Simon and Schuster, 1969), pp 102-105

92.Stevenson, pp 162,168

93.Copeland, p105

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

Fascism and Parafascism

In 1939 Britain and the United States were forced into fighting German Nazism, an aggressive ideological movement for political expansion and mercantilist autarky, which threatened the alternative Anglo-Saxon system for world trade and investment. Skorzeny himself, like his father-in-law Hjalmar Schacht, steered relatively clear of post-war political fascist movements. His self-perceived role, and that which made him useful to his British and American friends, was not as a fascist politician but as a parafascist mercenary asset, analogous to those German Freikorps leaders employed by German industrialists in 1919 to murder Communist activists, but unlike them, active in the transnational arena.

Let us adumbrate this distinction. Fascism is a fully-fledged political movement, marked by a demagogy, a mass party, the cult of violence, and a militant ideology emphasising nationalism and militarism against both bourgeois democracy and its concomitant, international capitalism. (94) Parafascism, which in Germany -but not Italy- preceded Fascism, is content to operate covertly, without ideological fanfare or grass-roots organisation; to destroy its Communist opponents by those same techniques of organised violence - above all murder - which fascist ideology eulogises. Fascism aspires to autonomous political power: parafascism, at least in the short run, is a service, often remarkably apolitical, to protect the power of others. Especially since World War 2, traditional fascism has tended to be anti-American, and opposed to the global reach of transnational banks and corporations - the very forces which parafascists like Skorzeny and his disciples, as well as Orlando Bosch, have been only too happy to serve.

It follows that, at least in the short run, parafascism rather than fascism is the current danger to democracy and human values. Parafascism rather than fascism can be said to have murdered Orlando Letelier, even though of all the feuding anti-Castro fractions, that of the suspected Novo brothers (the MNC or Christian Nationalist Movement) was the only one to claim an explicitly authoritarian ideology.

But the distinction between fascism and parafascism is less clear in practice. Reliance on the tolerated crimes of organised parafascist gangsters is an inimical alternative to democratic procedure, not a supplement to it. Perhaps its most immediate result is to force a determined left-wing movement into mimetic violence and terrorism. It may

even desire this, since a militant movement relying on small arms and specialists in the use of them is, as we saw in the case of the Uruguayan Tupamaros, all the more prone to penetration by parafascists like Christian David.

Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, Chile and now Thailand are all countries where, in the last 15 years, parafascism has been followed by the fascist overthrow of democracy. Reliance on parafascist assets in Europe has, as we shall see, led to the establishment of a shadowy but credible *Internacional Fascista* there. So parafascism is not merely abhorrent in itself, and a threat to exposed individuals like Letelier. In so far as it appears to represent part of a world-wide trend towards fascism, it represents a threat to democracy, even in the United States.

94. Stuart J. Woolf. *European Fascism* (New York, Random House, 1969) p342;
Samuel P. Huntington and Clement H. Moore (eds) *Authoritarian Politics in Modern Society* (New York, Basic Books, 1970) p341

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

Transnational Parafascism and the CIA

In its search for disciplined criminal operators, the CIA originally drew upon narcotics traffickers, notably the Italian networks of Luciano in Marseilles (1948-50). Later the CIA drew on the French gangsters employed for penetration and assassination purposes by Colonel Pierre Fourcald of French intelligence (SDECE). (The CIA already knew Colonel Fourcald from its collaboration with his *Service Action Indochine* - a special warfare operation financed by the sale of opium to the world-wide Corsican networks.) (95) It is rumoured in Europe that QJ/WIN, "the foreign citizen with a criminal background", who was recruited by the CIA in Europe to assassinate Congolese independence leader Patrice Lumumba, was none other than the famous French heroin financier and SDECE assassin, Joe Attia, who Fourcald once defended as "an absolutely extraordinary agent". (96)

But the relationship between the CIA and Skorzeny's parafascist services became more complicated in the 1960s, as democracies disappeared in South America while the world's major powers and industries competed fiercely in the rest of the third world, using whatever covert resources were available. As Skorzeny approached retirement, in Spain his place was taken by his former Egyptian subordinate Dr. Gerhardt Hartmut von Schubert, who slowly developed a small international squad of commandos, the so-called *Paladingruppe*, from former French Foreign Legionnaires, paratroopers and *barbouzes*. (97) The successive tumult of French politics supplied him and other similar services with waves of recruits whose proven capacity for violence was no longer desired at home. Thus the former anti-Gaullists of the OAS were joined by their one-time mortal enemies, the counter-terrorist *barbouzes* of Foccart's *Service d'Action Civique*. (SAC).

Clients for Von Schubert's Paladins ranged from the West German firm Rheinmetall to the Greek intelligence service (KYP) under the ambitiously fascist junta of the Greek colonels which lasted from April 1967 to July 1974. The KYP, which the CIA originally organised and always remained close to, played a major role - along with

Exxon and its Greek-American partner Tom Pappas - in the 1967 coup. The KYP, always in collaboration with the CIA, then expanded its activities tenfold in the other countries of Southern Europe where democracy was weak or non-existent - Italy, Spain and Portugal. (98)

In the case of Italy the KYP became involved in fascist (MSI) plotting against the slowly decaying Christian Democratic government. So did the CIA, according to revelations in the suppressed House Congressional Report on Intelligence - the so-called Pike Report - whose unprecedented suppression has itself been attributed to the domestic political strength of the CIA. (99) The Pike Report revealed that the U.S. Ambassador in Rome had channelled CIA money to Vito Miceli, chief of the Italian intelligence (SID), for distribution to right-wing groups. Miceli was subsequently arrested for his role in the KYP-supported coup of Prince Valerio Borghese, the fascist MSI leader, in December 1970.(100)

The CIA's subsidy to Miceli, like its efforts in 1970 to foment a military coup against Chilean President-elect Allende, can be construed as a culmination of previous support to fascist and parafascist groups in more marginal democracies, but it is important to discern what was new in these intrigues. In contrast to the role of the CIA in the coups of Brazil (1964), Indonesia (1975) and Greece (1967), the CIA under Nixon had never before intervened so directly on behalf of privilege against an established democracy. Retired CIA spokesman, David Phillips, in exculpating his own role in the 1970 anti-Allende operation, has blamed it on Richard Nixon - neglecting to mention that the CIA drew on U.S. contacts with the Chilean Right (particularly the military) which had been carefully cultivated over a period of years and which were continued, in fact intensified, up to the successful military coup of September 1973. (101)

95.Claude Paillat, *Dossier secret de l'Indochine* (Paris, Presses de la Cite, 1964) p266

96.Assassination Report, pp43-45; Kruger p43; Newsday pp110,123 (The rumoured QJ/Win-Attia identification is no longer generally credited; some of his close associates are still suspects.)

97.Kruger pp 209-210; Chairoff pp 58-59

98.Frederick Laurent, *L'Orchestre Noir* (Paris, Stock, 1979) pp238-243, 327-329; Chairoff pp58,59

99.The Pike Report, as a result of having been leaked prematurely by a friendly or hostile source to the *Village Voice* was then suppressed by a vote of the House.

100.Servadio pp258-259, 261; Laurent pp 244-257

101.David Atlee Phillips, *The Night Watch* (New York, Atheneum, 1977), pp 220-23; Church Committee, Hearings, Vol. 7 p186

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

The U.S., Chile and the Aginter Press

In particular the CIA had subsidised a right-wing conspiratorial Chilean parafascist group - Patria y Libertad, headed by former CIA contacts like Julio Duran - which received special counter-revolutionary training from former French OAS operatives close to the Skorzeny - von Schubert Paladingruppe. These operatives were then part of the Lisbon-based Aginter Press, a cover for a world-wide network of counter-terrorist services, which functioned chiefly out of the old Portuguese colonies. Some of these Aginter operatives, including an American, Jay Sablonsky, had already taken part with former CIA Cubans and U.S. Green Berets in the great Guatemalan counter-terror of 1968-71, when some 50,000 people are estimated to have been killed. Aginter Press operatives were also present in Chile for the September 1973 coup. (102)

The Portuguese coup of April 1974 forced the Aginter Press OAS operatives to abandon Lisbon (and their files) abruptly. Some of these French rightists plotted vainly with right-wing General Spínola against the Portuguese centrists who enjoyed the support of President Ford's State Department. Their strategy envisaged an independent Azores, which would then function as an offshore base for covert operations against the Portuguese mainland and elsewhere.

The plan failed, but not before it had demonstrated the ability of the OAS plotters to establish contacts with the staffs of U.S. Senator, Strom Thurmond, and with a businessman enjoying contacts with the Gambino Mafia family, with the CIA, and with two of the Cuban exiles questioned by a grand jury in connection with the killing of Orlando Letelier. Meanwhile, other Aginter operatives, including their leader Yves Guérin-Serac, had escaped to the Paladingruppe headquarters in Albufeira, Spain, and thence to Caracas, the present headquarters of Orlando Bosch. Their travel was facilitated through fresh passports supplied via the French parallel police (SAC) networks of their long-time collaborator Jacques Foccart. (103)

102.Kruger pp 10-11, 207-212; Laurent pp 160-63 (cf fn 11)

103.Kruger pp 20-22, 213-215

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

After Watergate: the Chilean-Cuban Exile Alliance

There is no doubt that the decline and fall of Richard Nixon in 1973-4, along with the flood of revelations which washed him out of office, meant - at least in the short run - a weakening of U.S. support for reaction overseas. After the Chilean bloodbath of September 1973 the tide turned briefly the other way, as a paralysed Washington did

nothing to prevent the fall of Caetano in Portugal (April 1974) and of the Greek colonels (July 1974). By early 1976, following the death of Franco in Spain and the Lebanese civil war, it appeared that the organised headquarters of multinational parafascism (Aginter Press and the Paladingruppe) might be driven from the Iberian peninsula to scattered points in Latin America and Africa.

Likewise, the hopes of the Cuban exiles seemed much dimmer after the resignation of the U.S. president who, years before, had arranged for the Bay of Pigs; who had used Artime, the alleged would-be assassin of Castro and Torrijos, to launder the White House Watergate defence money; and whose close friend, Bebe Rebozo, was directly involved with Cuban exiles prominent in both the efforts to reoccupy Cuba and the international narcotics traffic. All through 1976 the FBI and Miami police moved increasingly to crack down on right-wing Cuban terrorism in Miami and elsewhere, especially after the talk in Washington of resuming trade with Cuba.

When a confidential informant told the Miami police that Henry Kissinger might be assassinated during his trip of 1976 to Costa Rica, Orlando Bosch, who was also in Costa Rica on a false Chilean passport from the Chilean intelligence service (DINA), was jailed for the duration of Kissinger's visit. (104) The friend who helped arrange his release, former Bay of Pigs leader, Manuel Artime, could not exercise as much influence back in the United States as in the Nixon era, when he had formed the committee to launder White House money from his other friend, Howard Hunt, to the Cuban Watergate defendants. (105)

With the election of President Carter, the hopes of the Cuban revanchists appeared to have turned definitely from the U.S. government to the right-wing dictatorships of Latin America, above all Chile, Nicaragua and Guatemala. According to former Cuban exile Carlos Rivero Collado, the Chilean-Cuban exile alliance was formed shortly after the Chilean coup of September 1973, when the junta sent one of the representatives of its intelligence network DINA, Eduardo Sepulveda, to be Chilean consul in Miami. Sepulveda quickly contacted Ramiro de la Fe Perez, a Bay of Pigs veteran terrorist leader who once faced Florida charges for piracy. (106) Sepulveda reportedly promised material support for Cuban right-wing terrorism in exchange for help in promoting the junta's image in the United States.

According to *Washington Post* writer George Crile:

State Department files indicate that the Chileans were offering safe haven, passports and even the use of diplomatic pouches to some Cuban terrorists. One government investigator says that a remote control detonating device, used in the assassination of the exile leader Rolando Masferrer in 1975 [Orlando Bosch's one time room-mate and later enemy], had been brought into the United States in a Chilean diplomatic pouch. (107)

For its part, the Bay of Pigs Brigade 2506 Association, with Nixon gone and their go-between Howard Hunt in jail, gave its first Freedom Award in 1975 to Chilean junta leader, General Pinochet. Meanwhile, at least since 1975, Bosch was drawing money and a false passport supplied by DINA, whose national security advisor, Walter Rauff, was a Nazi war criminal wanted for the murder of 97,000 Jews in gassing vans. Rauff, who escaped via the Vatican monasteries of Bishop Hudal in 1947, became a leading representative of the Skorzeny network in Chile. (108)

In late 1974, junta Ambassador Julio Duran, a long-time CIA contact and organiser of Patria Y Libertad, appeared at a Miami Cuban rally organised by Sepulveda's contact Ramiro de la Fe Perez. (109) One year later junta Ambassador Mario Arnelo, reportedly the organiser of the Chilean Nazi party, appeared on a Union City, New Jersey platform with three persons who would later become prime suspects in the murder of Orlando Letelier; Guillermo Novo, Dionisio Suarez and Alvin Ross. (110) In July 1976 the junta Secretary of Culture attended the Miami congress of the terrorist organisation Alpha 66, one of the most active U.S. participants in the KMT-Gehlen-World Anti-Communist League (WACL).

After the junta's condemnation in 1975 by the U.N. Commission on Human Rights which had been refused permission to enter Chile, and especially after the election of Jimmy Carter, who had made human rights a foreign policy election issue, the United States showed increasing disenchantment with the Chilean junta along with their exile Cuban terrorist proteges. U.S. industry, mindful of a Congressional cut-off of military aid to Chile in 1974, had been slow to risk investing in Chile; and indeed the success of Letelier in dissuading private and public foreign investors and banks is the most frequently cited motive for his assassination.

104.*New Times* October 29 1976, May 13 1977 p48

105.*Miami News* July 2 1977; Watergate Hearings, Vol 9, p 3693; Lukas pp278-9

106.*Nation* March 26 1977; *New York Times* July 27 1967 p2

107.George Crile, *Washington Post*, November 7 1976

108.Farago pp221-25; 442-43

109.*Miami Herald*, November 4 1974

110.*Replica* (Miami) December 24 1975

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

World Parafascism, Drugs and Crime

In general, the fall of Nixon and the eventual election of Carter cut off the CIA subsidies to the Right, which does much to explain the recent financing of both West European fascists and Chile's Cuban proteges by criminal activities, including narcotics. In late 1974 Italian Interior Minister Andreotti produced revelations of a tie-in between the followers of MSI leader Prince Borghese (who had recently died after fleeing to Spain) and organised kidnappings and bank robberies of the Italian Mafia (specifically a northern Italian cosca or gang, the so-called 'Anonima Sequestri', headed by the afore-mentioned Luciano Liggio and Tomasso Buscetta). (111)

A similar tie-in between neo-fascism and crime became evident in France in 1976 following two spectacular, probably related crimes. In June 1976, Jean Kay, a Paladingruppe veteran of the Katanga and Biafra independence campaigns, helped

embezzle \$1.5 million from the French Mirage jet company, funds which reportedly went to a right-wing organisation with members in Italy, Lebanon, Britain, and elsewhere. (112) One month later, Albert Spaggiari, a veteran of the famous OAS Delta-6 commando of Roger Degueldre, as well as of the Indochina and Algerian campaigns, stole \$12 million from a Nice bank which his gang reached through a tunnel from the city sewers. Spaggiari claimed to have given his money to an Italian fascist organisation in Turin called La Catena, which the police could not trace. They did, however, link Spaggiari to "the Turin-based CIDAS group and the French GRECE group, both fascist organisations". (113) Later, the police speculated that Spaggiari's loot, along with the funds extorted by Jean Kay in the assault-de Vathaic blackmail scandal, found their way to the Christian Falangist Party in Lebanon. (114)

In June 1977, as we have already noted, Orlando Bosch's daughter and son-in-law were arrested for attempting to smuggle \$200,000 worth of cocaine. There are, moreover, grounds for suspecting an organised connection between the criminal activities of the European neo-fascists and the Cuban exiles. Both Kay and Spaggiari visited Miami in the summer of 1976, where, according to Henrik Kruger and the *Journal de Dimanche* (September 5 1976), Kay met with Cuban exiles. (The even more suggestive contact between Spaggiari and the CIA, in Miami, will be discussed in a moment.)

111.Servadio pp258-61

112.*San Francisco Chronicle* May 31 1977 p 8; Chairoff p98; Wilfred Burchett and Derek Roebuck, *The Whores of War: Mercenaries Today* (Harmondsworth: Penguin. 1977), p156

113.*San Francisco Chronicle* May 31 1977 p8

114.Burchett p156

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

International Fascista in Action

Orlando Bosch's most recent umbrella alliance, CORU (Co-ordination of United Revolutionary Organisations) had just been assembled in June 1976. In October 1976, according to Kruger, CORU representatives attended meetings in Barcelona, Spain, which established a new International Fascista. This comprised elements from the Italian MSI (the Ordine Nuovo of Pino Rauti and Giovanni Ventura), Argentine fascists, the hard-liners of the Spanish Falange (the Fuerza Nueva of deputy Blas Pinar), the Cristi Rey Guerillas of the right-wing and anti-Vatican Spanish Catholic Mariano Sanchez Covisa, Cuban exile terrorists, the remnants of Aginter Press (now known as the ELP, or Portuguese Liberation Army, but still headed by OAS veteran Yves Guerin-Serac), and - always according to Kruger - former terrorist agents of the Skorzeny-von Schubert Paladingruppe and of the CIA. (115)

In January and February 1977, according to the New York and London *Times*, members or associates of the first five groups were arrested by Spanish police for their

role in six terrorist murders designed to prevent the forthcoming Spanish general election. Noting the persistent stories in the Spanish press (particularly the liberal *El Pais*) "of the so-called Fascist International", the *New York Times* reported the arrest of the Argentine fascist Jorge Cesarsky, linked to both the Fuerza Nueva and to "the right-wing Peronism", and later of his colleague Carlos Perez, a Cuban exile. (116) Cesarsky is said to have been a member of the Argentina AAA (*Alianza Anticomunista de Argentina*) and the next day a new Spanish AAA (*Alianza Anticomunista Apostolica*) claimed responsibility for his crime. (117) He was detained as part of a group of twenty-four rightists reported to be of at least six nationalities, including seven Argentines and three Cubans. (118)

Mariano Sanchez Covisa was also arrested twice by police in this period - first with Cesarsky, and one month later with a group of eight Italians. One of these was Giancarlo Rognoni, convicted for his role in an attempt to blow up the Turin-Rome express; this plot, according to Italian left-wing sources, had been financed by the Ordine Nuovo-Giovanni Ventura group, at that time in touch with the Greek KYP agent Costas Plevris. (119)

All of this multinational neo-fascist violence in Spain appeared at first to be mirroring comparable violence on the left by the so-called GRAPO (First of October Anti-Fascist Resistance), to which the *New York Times*, at first, devoted much attention. But, in mid-January a high Spanish official suggested that GRAPO's Maoist appearance might cloak a right-wing agenda; the London *Times* later noted its links to a party (the PCER, or Reconstructed Spanish Communist Party), which had been heavily infiltrated by the Spanish police. (120)

The *New York Times* tended to downplay the right-wing killings, or what it called "the machinations of the so-called Fascist International", as a "last gasp" - albeit violent - before elections in which the right-wing knew it would do badly. (It is true that violence in Spain has subsided since the 1977 elections; but it is also true that fears of right-wing terrorism in Portugal and other parts of Europe have increased.) The *New York Times* index, which often appears to have been sanitised by the CIA's (or DEA's) computers, considers Communism worth of an Index entry, but not fascism. To my knowledge, the *Times* has not, in recent years, printed any investigative story on international fascism: it is no longer the paper that dared to note, back in 1923, the almost certainly accurate reports that an obscure German thug called Adolph Hitler was being secretly financed by Henry Ford. (121) It did, however, transmit the intriguing and (I believe) highly significant detail that the Spanish AAA behind the Argentine Cesarsky and the Cuban Carlos Perez "has supporters in Argentina and South Korea". (122) Like the Greek junta, the Park regime has taken steps throughout the world to ensure that it will never be isolated in its authoritarianism.

115. Kruger pp11,13-14, 208-215

116. *New York Times* January 26 1977 p1; February 1 p8

117. *New York Times* January 27 1977 p1

118. *New York Times* January 26 1977 p1

119. *London Times* February 24 1977 p5; *L'Unita* April 26 1972

120. *New York Times* January 15 1977 p7 *London Times* February 3 1977, p16

121. *New York Times* February 8 1973 p3

122. *New York Times* January 30 1977

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

World Parafascism and the U.S. Chile Lobby

South Korea, since the spectacular collapse of South Vietnam in 1975, is perhaps the most conspicuous example of a nation whose existence and survival are directly attributed to U.S. support. This does not, of course, mean that every political act is somehow under U.S. control - as Kennedy and Eisenhower learned in their painful travails of Ngo dinh Diem and Syngam Ree. But in certain respects both the government and the economy of South Korea are less powerful, and less relevant to that nation's survival, than the South Korean lobby in Washington.

That such a situation was true of South Vietnam became evident in 1975. Saigon's fall in that year was not attributable to internal political or economic developments: there the situation continued as before to be "hopeless but not serious". The collapse followed the realisation that the once intransigent Vietnam lobby in Washington - which, as we shall see in a moment, was largely continuous with the China Lobby of the 1950s and the South Korean Lobby of the 1970s - no longer regarded South Vietnam as a crucial priority.

In like manner, in 1977, the survival of the para-fascist terrorist groups or 'assets' like the Aginter Press-OAS and CORU-Cubans is less a function of their own criminal resources than of their 'protection' in high places - above all Washington.

The core of that support is the essentially continuous anti-democratic lobby that harassed Democratic presidents since WW2 - whether as the China Lobby against Truman, the Cuba-Vietnam Lobby against Kennedy, or now the Chile-Rhodesia/South Korea-Panama Canal Lobby which has begun to shape against President Carter. With the passage of years this lobby has become increasingly sophisticated, faceless and multinational; the clumsy excesses of the original China Lobby are not likely to be repeated. But the integrity of the old China Lobby coalition has never been broken; and, at least under the Ford Administration, its contact with foreign parafascism and neo-fascism has never been more overt.

Perhaps the key elements in this lobby today are - on the outside - the various committees organised from the public relations office of Marvin Liebman on Madison Avenue, and - on the inside - the Congressional power mustered by Senator Strom Thurmond. This coalition is strengthened inside Congress by the pay-off system refined most recently by the unregistered South Korean lobbyist, Tongsun Park, and outside it by the old military-industrial coalition, the American Security Council. All four elements have worked in collaboration since the days when Chinese nationalist

gold, via a Mafia-tainted public relations firm, first made Richard Nixon a senator in 1950. (123)

Take, for example, the American-Chilean Council (ACC) which Marvin Liebman founded in 1975, for a Chilean fee of \$36,000 a year plus expenses.(124) At least a third of the ACC's founding members had been active in the China Lobby from as early as 1946. Of ten ACC members dating from this period, six were prominent in the China Lobby, six were members of Liebman's support group for Moise Tshombe (American Committee to Aid Katanga Freedom Fighters) in 1961, members of Liebman's Cuba lobby (Committee for the Monroe Doctrine) in 1963, and five were on the National Board of the Buckley - Liebman Young Americans for Freedom in 1963. Of the eight Americans who helped draft the WACL Charter at Seoul in 1966, four became leading members of the ACC.

In May 1976, lobbying vainly to prevent the cut-off of aid to the Chilean junta, the ACC turned for help to Cuban exiles and members of Sun Myung Moon's Freedom Leadership Foundation. The Moon group (linked by Tongsun Park to the Korean CIA) was supplied with pro-junta propaganda by Chile's Washington lobbyist, Dimitru Danielopol, a veteran of the CIA-subsidised Copley News Service and former spokesman (in collaboration with Senator Thurmond) for the Greek junta. (125) Danielpo also fed materials to Cuban exiles and others working for the American Security Council (which, in turn, interlocked with the ACC). Meanwhile Senator Thurmond was key senate contact of Tongsun Park, while in 1973 Park's House proteges Richard Hanna and Robert Leggett helped set up a new pro-Taiwan lobby after a KMT-sponsored visit to Taipei. (126) Until the fall of the right-wing Cambodian government in 1975, the Moon paper, *Rising Tide* (full of Cuban exile, Chilean junta and WACL propaganda) was distributed free of charge by the Cambodian Embassy in Washington - a service ultimately paid for by the U.S. taxpayer.

In 1975 Senator Thurmond was the focal point for visits from European neo-fascists, most notably the Italian MSI leader Giorgio Almirante, the intellectual patron of Ordine Nuovo's paramilitary leader Paolo Gambescia. Some months earlier Thurmond had been contacted by another representative of the Ordine Nuovo milieu, the OAS-Aginter Press mercenary, Jean-Denis de la Raingard, together with U.S. supporters of the short-lived Azores Liberation Front.

Back in 1969, when OAS-Aginter operatives assassinated Mozambique independence leader Eduardo Mondlane, Thurmond had placed in the Congressional Record an editorial from his home-state newspaper, the *Charleston News and Courier*, which hailed the murder as an act in defence of Western civilisation. (127) For some years the newspaper had printed pro-Portuguese articles on Africa generated by the U.S. lobbyists for the Portuguese overseas companies, Selvage and Lee. The key figure here seems to have been Associate Editor Anthony Harrigan, who moved to Washington in 1969 to become editor of the American Security Council's Washington Report.

In 1975, when Ford was President, Almirante and de la Rangedard were able to consult not only with Thurmond but also with the staff of the National Security Council. The CIA, meanwhile, after helping the Chilean junta to write its exculpatory White Paper, subsidised the English-language propaganda book *Chile's Marxist Experiment* by the London *Economist* staff writer, Robert Moss. (A two part piece on Chile by Moss,

which had appeared in Buckley's National Review, was sent to 4,000 editors in this country by Liebman's ACC).

123. Russ Y. Koen, *The China Lobby in American Politics* (New York, Octagon, 1973)

124. Russell Warren Howe, *The Power Peddlers: How Lobbyists Mold America's Foreign Policy* (Garden City, New Jersey, Doubleday 1977) p130

125. Howe p42

126. Howe p55

127. Congressional Record, February 7 1969, p3288

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

The CIA and the Politics of Countervalance

It is in this context that one must take seriously the contacts between Miami CIA and the French neo-fascist-OAS commando Albert Spaggiari, the Nice bank robber. According to a story in the London *Observer*, reprinted in the San Francisco Chronicle, Spaggiari contacted the CIA "in the United States" after the robbery and told them he had organised it. Later Spaggiari was arrested in France because a tip by an informer to whom he had tried to sell gold was acted on by Marseilles police. It was only then that detectives were given a dossier originating in the U.S. after the Nice raid. He told the CIA he had organised the Nice robbery and offered to blow up the Communist party headquarters in Paris. (128)

Henrik Kruger supplies the additional information that Spaggiari came to Miami. (129) This detail, together with the AIP-Aginter connection to the Micile-MSI network (which may or may not have included Spaggiari's Italian contacts) suggests that in 1976 the old JM/Wave coalition of criminal anti-Communist 'assets', far from being dissolved as the CIA had assured the Church Committee, was merely dispersed to deeper cover overseas.

Why has the CIA continued to maintain such contacts? Probably not for covert operations funded from its own budget, since after 1974 these have been subjected to new requirements for Presidential authorisation and Congressional review. (130) But the chief problem for small plots which favour the very rich is not funding. Instead, they look to the CIA for protection of their day-to-day illegal activities, and for legitimisation, some sign that they will enjoy the mandate of the American heaven, when these activities confront the existing regiment of power. Spaggiari's well-organised escape in March 1977, and the reluctance of police to search for him thereafter, convinced the London *Observer* that he was part of a "Fascist plot under the protection of highly placed [French] politicians and civil servants." (131) There is no way this protection could not have been enhanced by his ostentatious involvement of

the CIA in a cover-up of the robbery.

The CIA, it is true, did not back the OAS neo-fascists of the ex-Aginter Press Portuguese Liberation Front (ELP) and Azorean Liberation Front (FLA) under deposed General Spínola, even after Spínola's visit to the New York Council on Foreign Relations in November 1975 in the midst of his conspiratorial travels. In the Iberian peninsula, where there is no strongly based radical movement, the U.S. had favoured a moderately progressive centrist politics against a seizure of power by autarkic (and hence anti-American) neo-fascism.

How the US would respond to the threat of a Eurocommunist government in Italy or France is much less clear. In these countries, where the leading alternative to the centre is on the left rather than the right, it appears that the CIA will maintain its historic contacts to the old and new fascist right as a potential counterweight. Kissinger's last official remarks suggest that U.S. opposition to Communist victories in Western Europe is no longer, as in 1948, motivated by a fear of Soviet expansion in that area. If so, the rationale for such right-wing alliances has become increasingly cynical, just as the tactics for counter-terror have become increasingly brutal.

For the time being, however, the CIA is probably more interested in the European OAS as mercenary parafascist assets in Arab countries and Africa, than as a political neo-fascist movement in Europe. In the CIA's defence, it can be argued that in Africa (as opposed to Italy), the U.S. CIA is now responding to Soviet KGB manoeuvres on a grand scale, and not merely provoking them. This KGB threat has been used to justify the CIA's strong involvement with Moroccan intelligence forces - which led to their implication with Christian David and other members of Joe Attia's gang in the 1965 murder of Moroccan opposition leader Mehdi Ben Barka. (132) In 1977, when an Angolan MPLA force with Soviet and Cuban backing invaded Zaire, Moroccan forces with French-U.S. backing were there to respond. In a less overt fashion the French OAS and SAC operatives will continue, as for the last two decades, to be active in 'decolonised' Africa, in murder and other covert operations which at least occasionally have enjoyed CIA support.

128.*Observer* May 31 1977 p8

129.Kruger pp204, 215

130.P.L. 93-559 of December 30, 1974, Sect. 32 88USC 1795

131.*Observer* May 31 1977 p8

132.Kruger pp4-5, 59-70; Chairoff p323

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

Post-war Disposal Problems: De Gaulle and Watergate

A glance at the recent partial dismantling of De Gaulle's secret networks is perhaps the best way to understand the 'CIA problem' confronting Jimmy Carter after Richard Nixon. De Gaulle's intensive use of SDECE and SAC operatives in illegal activities left himself, and, above all, his successors Pompidou and Giscard d'Estaing with a 'disposal' problem: what to do with large numbers of dangerous activists of no certain loyalty who could easily blackmail the state. The answer of de Gaulle's successors was to follow De Gaulle's own footsteps and allow the more dangerous to disperse into private employment or overseas, some of them with Aginter Press and the Paladingruppe. Henceforward the SDECE (Intelligence) and SAC (parallel police) would present a cleaner and more legal image: the most ruthless operatives, some of them quasi-independent black mercenaries, would no longer be government agents.

But the cleansing of the official French networks contributed to the strengthening of unofficial networks like Aginter Press and the Paladingruppe in the international milieu. As we have seen, it also contributed to a temporary intensification of the international narcotics traffic, as well-trained operatives with good personal police connections attempted to finance their activities by unofficial means. Thus SAC agent Christian David, in flight after the Ben Barka scandal, joined the Ricord heroin network. (133) Thus Roger Delouette, a strongly Gaullist SDECE agent, after Pompidou's purging of SDECE, seems to have turned to heroin trafficking (with Christian David's contacts) to finance the African arms sales he had developed in 1969 with the OAS-SAC-backed secessionist forces of Biafra. (134)

Along with the strengthening of an uncontrollable international milieu and narcotics, a third by-product of the disposal process has been a wave of publicity about covert operations. Some of this have come from angry disposees who absconded with microfilms of their files. (135) Some of it has been inspired from above, not so much by the 'controlled leak' - an institution more congenial to Washington than to Paris - as by the selective arrest of disposees whose protection in higher places had now lapsed.

A key example of this was the October 1971 arrest in Paris of Andre Labay, the former SAC contact with Moise Tshombe of Katanga and SDECE agent in Haiti. Labay, a higher-up in the Delouette narcotics connection, was arrested four months after Delouette as the result of a tip-off from the U.S. narcotics bureau in Paris to their French counterparts. (136) Indeed, there are many sceptics who speculate that most of the high-level French-Corsican narcotics arrests which followed the Pompidou-Nixon visit of March 1970 and the formal Marcellin-Mitchell narcotics agreement of February 1971 were not so much simple police actions as political operations against a common enemy: the intransigent Gaullist remnants like Delouette (arrested in April 1971) inside and outside of SDECE and SAC.

In the 1960s CIA clashes with SAC and SDECE had been frequent - specifically in Katanga and Haiti - and the 1970-73 U.S.-French anti-narcotics campaign coincides almost exactly with the dates (December 1970 - July 1973) of the clearly illegal collaboration of the CIA with the BNDD in the U.S.. (137) In this same period Charles Pasqua, founder of SAC, recruiter of SAC gangsters like Christian David, and the former overseer in private business of the narcotics trafficker Jean Venturi, emerged as

President of the French Parliamentary Commission on Narcotics Problems (138). There he was joined by a veteran cold war warrior and participant in WACL-group meetings, Mme. Suzanne Labin.

All accounts of the SDECE-SAC purges of 1970-74 agree that the purpose was not to neutralise these agencies but merely to make them more amenable to central oversight in a less militant period. The by-product of an intensified international milieu pullulating with private arms merchants and mercenary operations networks also suited the mature phase of French 'decolonisation' in which the SDECE and SAC - having organised many of the most spectacular African assassinations and kidnappings of the 1960s - were now only too happy to assume a lower profile. Pompidou's political patrons - most notably the Rothschild family with their huge complex of African investments - could, in future, have their corporations exploit this international milieu without governmental supervision.

A similar process, culminating in a similar privatisation of covert operations assets, can be discerned in the recent history of America, particularly since Watergate. Here too, although much less is known, there has been a purge of CIA, a dispersal of former CIA Cuban operatives into new multinational networks, and a number of what appear to be controlled selective arrests of former CIA agents who had been driven into narcotics trafficking with the Ricord network. Both a Presidential Commission and a Senate Select Committee have encouraged this process of disposal by their partial revelations; and it is probably significant that a member of the former, former Treasury Secretary C.Douglas Dillon, chaired the 1968 secret Council on Foreign Relations panel which recommended that the CIA should move to a lower profile.

133. Newsday p125

134. Newsday pp107-109; Jaubert p 363

135. Chairoff p336

136. Kruger pp98-99

137. Rockefeller Report pp233-34

138. Jaubert pp116-117

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

Disposal as a Flight from Public Control: Thailand

There is, of course, much to commend in the steps which Congress has taken to restrain the CIA and all forms of U.S. intervention in the internal affairs of other states. But the effect of these measures will be frustrated as long as new agencies - such as the DEA - are allowed to pick up the training and assassination tasks denied to CIA; as long as the U.S.-financed lobbies of client states (such as the China, Vietnam

and South Korea lobbies) are used, with CIA benevolence, as a means of tilting Congress towards global intervention; and as long as the intelligence backgrounds and contacts of criminals like Orlando Bosch protects them from punishment for their no-longer-sanctioned revanchist activities.

Take, for example, the useful revelations of the Church Committee about CIA subvention for the parafascist forces which helped overthrow Allende in Chile - the Patria y Libertad whose Operation Djakarta of extermination is said to have first "been made in an internal memorandum of a United States transnational company in 1970". (139) These revelations did nothing to prevent the recurrence of three crucial elements of the Djakarta-Santiago scenario in the bloody and nakedly anti-democratic coup of October 1976 in Bangkok. Here, as before, overt CIA interference - of the type which went out with the Bay of Pigs - was replaced by the following recurring symptoms of a U.S. supported conspiracy:

(a) a symbolic tilting of U.S. aid away from the civilian government towards the military, which in Thailand were notoriously anti-democratic. (U.S. economic aid declined from \$39 million in Fiscal 1973 to \$17 million in Fiscal 1975; military and police aid increased in the same period from \$68 million to \$83 million. (140)

(b) the recruiting of student goon squads - the so-called Red Gaurs - who consulted freely with U.S. personnel in Bangkok about their long-laid plans to assassinate their opponents. (141) The pre-coup reports that the Red Gaurs were directly or indirectly subsidised by the CIA should be investigated by the Senate Intelligence Committee.

(c) the training, equipping and rewarding of anti-government elements in the police and military who made little or no secret of their intentions. In particular the Thai Border Patrol Police, now trained and equipped by the DEA in place of the CIA, were the principal murders of the unarmed Thai students at Thammasat University, killing at least one hundred. (142)

Only one month later the U.S. government, under its International Narcotics Control Programme, delivered five new helicopters to the Thai Border Patrol Police "to help the police hunt down narcotics traffickers".(143)

Even if the Thai BPP are no longer, as in the past, profiting themselves from the movement of drugs out of the 'golden triangle', their activities will certainly be political. The new Deputy Prime Minister in charge of the Thai anti-narcotics campaign, Amporn Chanvijit, is a product of the Thai Defence School of Psychological Warfare. (144) But then, if the CIA had suffered any remorse after the bloody 'Operation Djakartas' of Indonesia (1965) and Chile (1973), it would not have in the latter year sent Bernardo Hugh Tovar, the 1965 CIA Station Chief in Djakarta, and a veteran of student operations there, to preside over a third bloody coup followed by extermination in Bangkok.

In Latin America, as in Thailand, INC and DEA aid to foreign police is channelled (like OPS and CIA before it) to the leading counter-insurgency forces. This is not just because guerillas and narcotics are to be found together in the same inaccessible mountainous regions. It is because the war against highly-organised narcotics

activities requires a special breed of killer-police which, in unstable countries, are certain to be deployed against enemies of the regime. This is rationalised by the ideology of counter-insurgency, which assumes that guerillas and traffickers are part of the same anti-state culture. Thus Lopez Rega's statement in 1974 that guerillas are dope users was echoed in 1977 by Argentine Foreign Minister Cesar Guzzetti. Speaking of the drug problem, he proclaimed that "we attack its body through the war against guerillas and its spirit through the war against drug traffic, both carriers of nihilistic and collectivist ideas". (145)

The U.S. officials of INC and DEA know all this, and evidently approve of it. The two years of AAA counter-terror in Argentina under Lopez Rega (1973-75) saw a sudden upsurge of INC support expenditure from \$20,000 in fiscal year 1972-74 (before Rega's rise to power) to \$428,000, falling again to \$20,000 in fiscal 1976 (after his fall). In Argentina, as in Thailand, the bulk of this increase went to spotter aircraft for the Border Patrol (even though Argentina, unlike Thailand, is not a major source of any drug at all). A recent DEA report on U.S.-sponsored narcotics operations in Mexico, which are concentrated in the northern mountain areas favoured by left-wing forces, notes approvingly that "the special impact units made numerous criminal arrests" and that roadblocks netted "several persons on 'most wanted listings' ".(146)

139. Gary McEoin, *No Peaceful Way: Chile's Struggle for Dignity* (New York, Sheed and Ward, 1974) p165

140. *Progressive* December 1976 p6; Noam Chomsky and Edward S. Herman, *The Washington Connection and Third World Fascism* (Boston, South End Press 1979, p227)

141. D. Gareth Porter, *Counterspy* December 1976 pp50-52

142. Porter p52

143. *New York Times* December 23 1976

144. *Who's Who in Thailand* December 1976

145. Argentine Commission for Human Rights, "US Narcotics Enforcement Assistance to Latin America".

146. Klare p32, citing State Commerce Justice Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1977, p233

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

Suppression by Proxy: the Superclient States

The CIA, having already moved assassination-coup specialists like Conein into DEA, seems intent on preserving for itself a much lower profile (in accordance with the

Bissell-CFR recommendations of 1968). In its recent operations it has shown a preference to work through the employees of other U.S. agencies, and, increasingly, the agents and agencies of third countries. Thus in the Cambodia coup-slaughter of March 1970, modelled (as Newsweek reported) on the Djakarta operation of 1965, the key training role was played by the Indonesian military; and a similar training role was played by the Brazilian army and police in Bolivia, prior to the Chilean coup-slaughter of 1973.(147) This is consistent both with the Nixon doctrine and with its corollary that (in the words of the Rand Corp's Indonesia expert, Guy Pauker) "Brazil, Nigeria, Iran and Indonesia....are expected to assume a dominant position in their respective part of the world...possibly as a result of a tacit devolution of responsibilities by global powers". (148) The responsibilities are thus devolved, but the Djakarta scenario of coup-slaughter remains, except for refinements of technology, essentially the same.

Pauker, a strenuous advocate of the Indonesian military take-over, also approves of this devolution to four notoriously murderous regimes, at least three of which are militarised dictatorships. It is no accident that three of Pauker's four favoured nations are also OPEC oil producing countries, able, since the spectacular 1973 increase in crude oil prices, to assume an increasing share of the former U.S. government's role as subsidiser of the U.S. defence industry and as aid patron to less-advantaged nations.

This vision of transnationalised order has emerged from U.S. think tanks at a time when transnational corporations, particularly oil companies, are assuming greater independence from U.S. or indeed any form of sovereign political control. It is, however, not the recipe for stability and disengagement that Nixon and Kissinger would have had us think. Dictatorships like Brazil and Indonesia are clearly not neutral arbiters of order and the status quo. Like the Greek junta of the late 1960s, they are committed to repression and fearful of open democracy in any country - particularly in the United States.

Thus, I suspect that in time we shall see more and more clearly apparently disparate lobby actions in the United States - Madame Chennault for the KMT and Saigon, Kermit Roosevelt and Richard Allen for the Portuguese colonies, Nixon's extra-national suppliers of untraceable funds through Watergate, and now the Chile and South Korea lobbies - as one single interlocking lobby for repressive violence abroad. As in the case of China in the 1940s or Vietnam in 1963-4, increasing weakness abroad - such as we may well anticipate in Chile and South Korea - will be accompanied by intensified lobbying in Washington, not just by these countries, but by those U.S. agencies (or elements within them) with which they have become identified.

147.Peter Dale Scott, *The War Conspiracy* p161, citing *Newsweek* May 25 1970 p25

148.US Cong. House, Committee on International Relations, *Shifting Balance of Power in Asia*, Hearings (1976) p151

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

Economic Recession and Arms Sales Increases

In this way weakness at the periphery of the U.S. transnational system will generate forces for instability and reactionary oppression at its centre. There is also the immediate risk that this long-run political disequilibrium will be reinforced by long-run economic disequilibrium as well. Looking back in history, it is not difficult to see capitalism's recurring lapses from the productive phase of a new industrial technology to a militaristic phase, as the only viable alternative to the paralysis of economic depression.

The precedent of the railroads a century ago is still relevant, if ominous. The great railroad companies were in the forefront of all industry, opening up the continents...But the companies soon cut each others throats in their ferocious competition, the construction boom collapsed as the networks covered the industrial nations...With the end of the railroad boom the steelmakers like Krupp, Vickers and Carnegie, who had built up whole cities in Essen, Sheffield and Pittsburg...looked to the industry which was most profitable and which was also in the vanguard of invention - to arms.

The end of the American aerospace boom has also coincided with the huge expansion of arms sales abroad, prompted by the withdrawal of American and British forces, the flow of oil money into the Middle East and the recession...it is not surprising that so many of the companies are former intelligence agents. Their trade is always a kind of espionage and subterranean warfare, calling for subterfuge, high-level contacts and Swiss bank accounts. (149)

After the first U.S. foreign trade deficit of the century, in 1971, U.S. arms sales abroad which had averaged \$2 billion a year through most of the 1960s leapt to \$3.9 billion in 1973, then to \$8.3 billion in 1974, after the oil price increases of 1973 put new dollar surpluses in the hands of the OPEC countries - including three of the four new U.S. superclient states (Iran, Nigeria and Indonesia).

This swelling of the international arms trade also pumped new resources into the hands of the international sales and payoff system which had grown up to market such sales. Most of these arms traffickers were recruited from the international right-wing and/or intelligence community. Not surprisingly, many of the key contacts for illicit pay-offs on arms contracts between Washington and the client states were also key figures in Washington's lobbying corruption scene as well - among them Saigon lobbyist Madame Chennault, West German lobbyist Frank de Francis and the Saudi Arabian Adnan Khashoggi, a close friend of Bebe Rebozo. By the 1970s Kermit Roosevelt's flamboyant career - from CIA coup specialist to lobbyist for one of the oil companies (Gulf) he helped to put into Iran, to a lobbyist for Iran itself - had turned him into an arms salesman: his principal activity, from the point of both influence and affluence, was the promotion of military aircraft sales in Iran and Saudi Arabia. From Prince Bernhard of Holland to Yoshio Kodama of Japan, the transnational realm of influence in which these arms salesmen moved seems to have overlapped heavily with, and may have been indistinguishable from the 'world-wide infrastructure' of

political agents developed by the CIA. (150)

If the burgeoning of military aerospace sales fostered the influence of superlobbyists in Washington and the global scene, the closely related burgeoning of small arms sales fostered the influence of small arms salesmen and employers like Skorzeny and his successors, Aginter Press and the Paladingruppe. In terms of both dollars and high-level influence, the small arms traffic is dwarfed by the aerospace traffic: the cost of the arms supplies in the whole Lebanese war, even at the highest estimate of a billion dollars, amounts to only one-twentieth of the estimated arms exports from the West in 1975.(151) But the same Lebanese war meant unprecedented sales commissions and status for the criminals and parafascists who exploited it - men like the French extortionist-mercenary Jean Kay, Stephane Zanettaci of the neo-fascist 'Action Jeunesse'. (152)

In the post-Vietnam, post-Watergate, post-oil embargo era of wars by proxy (such as Angola or Lebanon), in which the United States has willingly devolved its former responsibility to reactionary superclients like Iran, the status and influence of parafascist mercenaries is likely to continue to increase. The Carter administration has acted unilaterally to cut back on the export of arms from the United States; and, much more cautiously, it has challenged the interventionist lobby over such issues as the Panama Canal Treaty, human rights in Chile, the CIA's clandestine services and the corruption of Congress by South Korean agents. Carter's options in a period of economic uncertainty are not easy. Above all, if he resists the current pressures from the Right for a major increase in U.S. defence spending, he risks the kind of major world-wide recession and reaction which would be conducive to the rapid growth of right-wing power. But if he is successfully to challenge the political forces for repressive intervention, he must respond, not by compromise and partial capitulation (which will further weaken the forces for peace), but by a strong alternative vision of economic innovation. (153)

149. Anthony Sampson *The Arms Bazaar; From Lebanon to Lockheed* (New York, Viking 1977) p328

150. Church Committee, Final Report Book 1, *Foreign and Military Intelligence*, Senate Report No 94-755, 2nd Seas. (1976) pp146-7

151. Sampson pp30-31

152. Burchett pp155-58

153. Carter, like so many before him facing recession, soon capitulated to the pressures for vastly increased defence spending, as was evident by the end of 1977; cf *Newsweek* December 12 1977 p31.

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

Conclusions

This essay leads to the same conclusions as Michael Klare's study for the Washington-

based Institute of Policy Studies:

if we are to protect our freedoms and liberties from the inflow of barbarism [parafascism] from dictators abroad, we must act now to halt the export of repression to such regimes. (154)

My researches would also support his specific legislative recommendations: that Congress should limit International Narcotics Control funds to their stated objectives, and U.S. technical assistance to military-police dictatorships, clamp down further on U.S. arms and police technology sales etc.. We must, however, keep in mind that the post-Vietnam era had seen unprecedented numbers of such Congressional restraints, and simultaneously an unprecedented proliferation of parafascist activity beyond the reach of U.S. congressional oversight.

Thus, while agreeing with Klare's call for new hearings into CIA links with foreign intelligence and paramilitary organisations (such hearings should cover all U.S. agencies, including DEA), I would go further. The evidence already strongly suggests that the CIA's 'world-wide infrastructure' of political influence has repeatedly served to foster right-wing coups, foreign and domestic lobbies for repression, arms sales, and, most recently, wars by proxy.

I agree, therefore, with the more radical conclusions of Morton Halperin and his colleagues in another Washington think tank, the Centre for National Security Studies, that it is time to end the clandestine government, with its consequent lawlessness, which is represented by the secret charter of the U.S. intelligence agencies

The recent exposures have revealed a reality that does not come close to justifying the wounds that clandestine government inevitably inflicts on the body politic ... Spies and covert action are counterproductive as tools of international relations. The costs are too high; the returns too meagre. Covert action and spies should be banned and the CIA's Clandestine Services Branch disbanded

It is now clear that the lawlessness that has characterised America's foreign policy has come home and threatens the country's political process Clandestine government accountable to no-one must end; a government of laws must be put in its place. (155)

But even this proposal, which goes to the heart of the bureaucratic problem, is not likely by itself to lead to any solution. As I have tried to show, the problem is not simply a bureaucratic one, but rooted (particularly since Vietnam) in underlying dilemmas arising from perceptions of economic crisis and uncertainty, even though this economic crisis itself grows out of social distortions whose origins are themselves partly bureaucratic.

One need turn only to informed Marxist critiques of the current U.S. economic crisis - e.g. the Monthly Review. Professor Gilpin of Princeton, whose authority is recognised by such establishment audiences as the Senate Labour Committee and the Council on Foreign Relations, has persuasively challenged the establishment assumption that foreign direct investment by U.S. multinational corporations, or what simpler souls might call imperialism, is in the larger U.S. national interest. (156) He has argued that, as in the case of Rome or 19th century Britain, investment abroad has led to

technological and hence economic stultification at home (with, some might add, a concomitant political stultification as well). In the past this exhaustion of technological opportunities has led first to intensified mercantilistic struggle - i.e. economic nationalism and competition - which we appear to be on the brink of repeating, and the rejuvenating catastrophe of war. (157)

Professor Gilpin does not view this cycle with resignation, but as a challenge to seek new priorities:

In the short run, economic conflict has been intensified by the energy crisis, the global recession, and world wide inflation. Yet, viewed from a longer perspective, the critical problems of resources, environment and inflation can have a beneficial effect. They may constitute the 'catastrophe' that will stimulate a rejuvenation of the American economy. In the search for solutions to these pressing problems, the United States and her economic partners are being forced to initiate a new order of industrial technology and economic life. If this leads to technological breakthroughs and the fashioning of a new international division of labour, we may yet escape the mercantilistic conflict that threatens to overtake us.(158)

Thus President Carter's efforts to diminish our dependency on foreign energy sources can be a step in the right direction, but only if they lead to the development of a technological breakthrough. Hitherto, like the presidents before him, he has been unable to challenge the banks and giant oil companies with their massive investments in traditional energy sources. It is at this point that the economic problem becomes again a political one, of extreme relevance to the subject matter of this essay. For I have tried to show that at every stage since World War 2, U.S. support for Nazis like Skorzeny and his parafascist disciples has involved U.S. overseas corporate interests, notably the oil majors in the Middle East with their dependent hosts. I doubt that the oil lobby can be resisted until its own network of clandestine operations, or clandestine government, has been exposed; and here one should not expect too much from a Congress, until its domination by the oil lobby had been diminished.

154.Klare p66

155.Jerry J. Berman and Morton H. Halperin (eds) *The Abuses of the Intelligence Agencies* (Washington, the Center for National Security Studies 1975) pp257, 263, 279

156.Robert Gilpin *US Power and the Multinational Corporation* (New York, Basic Books 1975) p7

157.Gilpin p260

158.Gilpin p261

Transnationalised Repression; Parafascism and the U.S.

From 'Political' to 'Human': the Lessons of Watergate and Vietnam

The history of the last century suggests that, to challenge these stultifying forces of expansion and repression, traditional processes must themselves be rejuvenated by fresh inputs of human energy. Traditional modes of political organisation, whether reformist or radical, have little chance by themselves of challenging the CIA's 'world-wide infrastructure' of political power. In the developed countries, at least, the traumas of a dramatic or prolonged economic recession, such as we may now very well face, are likely to shift the balance of political forces even further to the right. Unless something new occurs.

But, since U.S. political opinion helped end the disastrous U.S. bureaucratic intervention in Vietnam, and helped after that to oust a president, new human groupings, not political or institutional in any traditional sense, have indeed re-energised the American political process. The combined efforts of these human groupings has not been translated into power, and in the short run are not likely to be. Rather they have served as one small marginal force in the struggle for consciousness, a force liberated by new conditions of national division and impasse. Their focus of concern has been bureaucratic excess in any form, governmental or private. Because the goal of these groupings has not been to seize power but to influence or change it, we may speak of their civic, public or human concern, in distinction to a narrowly political one.

The debates over Vietnam and Watergate were, of course, only significant because the national establishment was divided, even stalemated, over both these issues. But both issues served to disillusion large elements of the establishment, along with the larger public, with respect to the performance of national institutions. Paradoxically, the opening of the credibility gap proved an opening to new styles of intellectual criticism and involvement: more people, especially young people, were drawn into participation, at least in the human dimension, than were driven away. And in the resulting loss of a national political consensus, the national media, albeit reluctantly at first, began to reflect and reinforce the concerns of this critical public.

Thus it is not too much to claim that the Vietnam war was ended, in part, by the long-delayed revelations of the My Lai massacre, or that Nixon's career was ended, in part, by revelations about the illegal break-in which John Ehrlichman had authorised against Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist. Rationalists of both the left and the right have complained, understandably, that questions as important as Vietnam and the impeachment of a president should not have been resolved so largely by media exploitation of these and similar emotional issues. But, both My Lai and - if only symbolically - the Fielding break-in deserved the attention they received. For both Vietnam and Watergate represented, unambiguously in the end, a confrontation between simple human values and bureaucratic distortions of them into parodic horrors.

Thus the new age of media, which was expected to usher in 1984, has also opened up new channels whereby ideological and bureaucratic abstraction can be confronted by sensuous human fact. Human concerns instead of becoming increasingly irrelevant to history, have returned to criticise, disrupt and even alter the increasingly

institutionalised operations of power. Though the antiwar movement was never translated, as some old-fashioned souls had hoped, into a new political movement, it has lived on in new groupings of concern - in the form of small alternative 'think tanks', investigative groups, newsletters and task forces on related political and environmental issues, from prisons to nuclear power.

Most of the energising questions underlying Watergate and Vietnam are still unresolved, and still urgent. Above all it is easy to see an historic trail from Vietnam to Watergate in the current 'world-wide infrastructure' of CIA political influence, arms sales, and institutionalised parafascist repression. A recent essay by Renata Adler has in fact suggested that the 'bottom line' justifying Nixon's ouster was 'treason and bribery', since, she thinks, "the South Vietnamese government was bribing an American President, with American money, to keep our investment and our boys there". (159) She alludes to the money from Asia funnelled through a special CREEP Asia committee, in the name of (among others) Anna Chennault. She alludes also to the bank account of over \$200 million which a "Saudi lobbyist" and arms salesman (Adnan Khashoggi) maintained in Bebe Rebozo's bank, after having contributed \$50,000 to Richard Nixon in 1968. (160) Since Chennault and Khashoggi are (or were) key figures in the 'world-wide infrastructure', her perspective makes Nixon seem like only the latest recalcitrant client to be unceremoniously dumped, like Syngman Rhee or Trujillo or Diem, after it became impossible for him to go on satisfying the shifting interests of transnationalised repression.

For even the 'world-wide infrastructure' itself is not fixed, cohesive or settled in its priorities. As the U.S. dollar, symbol of the global system, weakens intensely over alternative priorities for national investment (e.g. domestic energy versus global security), just as smaller sub-groups have competed in the past for the same lucrative arms contract. If this increasing devisiveness is symptomatic of a drift towards mercantilism and perhaps war, it is also a further opportunity for a human concern to be voiced, both about the consequences of transnationalised repression, and in the larger debate over long-term human priorities.

As political instruments of power, small human groupings are the least likely to be effective. But as instruments of political opposition they are the most difficult to eradicate or co-opt, the least likely to become entangled in their own bureaucratisation, compromises of principle and conspiracies of silence. It was because of this freedom that they succeeded in building a human opposition to the Vietnam War, even while the political institutions of this country were virtually all immobilised behind Lyndon Johnson's appeals for national consensus.

The chief political lesson of Vietnam and Watergate is that the same human task must inspire the political challenge of dismantling the world repressive system. Given the present political balance, the anti-repressive forces in Congress are doomed, not to failure exactly, but to a series of meaningless and illusory successes, most of them closing barn doors after the horses have been moved into even more secure and distant stables. If I have digressed so many times about past failures of non-governmental institutions - above all the cultural distortions of our reality-perceptions as refined through foundations, universities and the press - it is to make more obvious the by no means desperate conclusion that those cultural distortions must themselves be diminished by human effort, before the political process will achieve significant change.

This may sound to liberals like a radical proposition, but unfortunately, I believe it is one which up to now radicals in particular have profoundly misunderstood. For in the delicate, sensitive area of cultural processes, most radical proposals for amendment have been not human at all but crudely political: not holistic but reductionist and (to revive a propagandistic but not wholly unjustified epithet) totalitarian.

The ensuing lesson of Vietnam and Watergate is that media distortions of events, at least, can be significantly diminished by human (as opposed to political) efforts. (The cultural distortions in the foundations and universities have, of course, proven more resistant to change). The key here is to focus attention on transnationalised repression and parafascism, not just as theoretical abstractions, remote events or future dangers, but also as immediate, local and urgent human concerns. It is for this reason that I began this digressive essay with the 'unsolved' murder of Orlando Letelier and Ronni Moffitt by Cubans with U.S. intelligence immunity, as part of a tradition of tolerated crime protected in part by the media's own indulgence of their intelligence connections. It is not just that the murders themselves are humanly intolerable; it is also that the press record here, and in related scandals such as parafascist mercenaries and the narcotics traffic, is so painful, so shocking, that it shouts for amendment, and is capable of it.

I am not suggesting that a human challenge to transnationalised repression is certain to win. I am suggesting that the process itself will be rewarding to those who take part in it, even if the visible outcome is failure, holocaust or dystopian stultitude. For if the tendency of particular empires is towards rapid ossification and repression, the trend of the human race is still, step by tragic step, towards individual freedom. For that vital and liberating experience, it is neither necessary nor expedient to wait.

159. Renata Adler "Searching for the real Nixon scandal", *Atlantic Monthly*
December 1976 p95

160. Adler p93

The British Right - scratching the surface

Robin Ramsay

This is an interim report, a sketch of some research since *Lobster 11*. *Lobster 11* began as attempts to check some of the material provided by Colin Wallace, and, quite quickly, turned into a self-education course on the 1970s and the British Right. When we put No.11 out we had done enough reading to know that we had a lot more to do. It has continued since. It was quite obvious early on in the research for No.11 that (a) we were setting ourselves an agenda that would preoccupy us for the foreseeable future, and (b) that this agenda was nothing less than recent British political history. This issue contains some of that post-11 research: updates, fragments, bits we left out of No.11, plus a large chunk of material which I was turned on to by 'Jack Mahoney' (a pseudonym). This issue is dedicated to him. Much that may seem obscure in this essay

on the British Right will be clarified when his own research on the period gets published.

Although there is very little easily accessible information on the British Right, the fragments that do exist are complex and the easiest way through them is to follow the trail of certain individuals in and out of various groups.

In January 1986 *Searchlight* reported on the October 1985 British launch of Executive Intelligence Review, one of the many magazines produced by Lyndon LaRouche Jnr. LaRouche is an American conspiracy theorist on a cosmic scale, with a variety of totally idiotic 'theories' about the world's history. His ideas are too silly to deserve summary here - he believes, for example, that the House of Windsor controls the world's drug traffic, organised the assassination of John F. Kennedy etc. etc. - but the headline of his *New Solidarity's* story on the recent *Sunday Times*-Buckingham Palace 'leak' story gives a flavour of his delusions: "Will Dope Lobby's Queen Abdicate?".(1)

At that London launch of Executive Intelligence Review were "Latin and Middle Eastern officials ... a large contingent of Ukrainian emigres ... Hugh de Courcy, formerly of *Intelligence Digest* magazine and the British Chapter of the World Anti-Communism (sic) League and Jane Birdwood." (2) *Hugh* de Courcy is, presumably, *Kenneth* Hugh de Courcy, and it is with his career that this skim across the British Right begins.

de Courcy first appeared in 1933 as Honorary Secretary to a grouping of right-wing Tories, most of them MPs, who called themselves the Imperial Policy Group (henceforth referred to as IPG). IPG stated its aims in a letter to the *Times* (3):

"the importance of Imperial development, the strengthening of the Constitution, adequate defences, a progressive housing movement, an Imperial monetary policy and the development and safeguarding of home industry and agriculture calculated to provide a rising standard of living and to reduce unemployment."

These aims look pretty conventional for the time, apparently little more than a banal restatement of the fundamental aims of the protectionist wing of the Tory Party since the pre-World War 1 Tariff Reform movement. But a couple of the aims hint at some of the group's ideas. 'Strengthening the Constitution', as Steve Dorril pointed out, sounds like a coded reference to more repression; and the 'Imperial monetary policy' probably hints at the interest of the group in some of the Social Credit ideas floating about in the pre-war years. (4) The letter to *The Times* was signed by:

- R.V. Applin MP
- Lord Bertie of Tame (The Earl of Abingdon)
- Sir Reginald Blaker MP
- Sir Patrick Ford MP
- The Earl of Glasgow
- Lawrence Kimball MP
- W. Nunn MP
- Lord Phillimore
- W. Templeton MP
- A.R. Wise MP
- Lord Mansfield
- Victor Raikes MP

In 1940 de Courcy and some of the IPG members began a monthly newsletter, *Review of World Affairs*. The magazine's Advisory Board included Lord Phillimore, the Earl of Mansfield, and MPs Wise, Nunn and Raikes: the editor was de Courcy. Largely because of its ambiguous stance on the value of the war - the real 'enemy' was the

Soviet Union - this newsletter was thought worthy of editorial comment in the News Chronicle.(5)

What the IPG actually *did*, what they *distinctively* believed, I just don't know yet. 'Jack Mahoney' informs me that de Courcy began an Intelligence News Service after the war with IPG members the Earl of Mansfield, W. Nunn and Victor Raikes, and Major-General Richard Hilton (later found in Common Cause, the League of Empire Loyalists, his own British Patriotic Party, British National Party and the National Front); was backing something called 'Christian Political Action' in 1947/8, and something called 'Christian Statesmanship' in 1949 with members of the Economic League, IPG and the British League for European Freedom.

These (to me) obscure post-war groups are introduced here to make the point very early that the activities of the British Right are at least as complex as those of the Left and, when visible - and like the Left, much of the Right's activities are semi-clandestine - show similar kinds of continuities. Consider IPG founder member Victor Raikes MP, who died this year. His obituary in the *Times* (6) was extremely uninformative (like his Who's Who entries) but did remind *Times* readers that he had been Chair of the Monday Club from 1975-78. (7) In 1944 Raikes was one of a quartet of MPs who, with the Duchess of Atholl, set up the British League for European Freedom, initially to draw attention to the fate of Eastern Europe at the hands of the Red Army.(8) The British League for European Freedom then produced an off-shoot, a Scottish League for European Freedom, headed by Raikes' IPG colleague, the Earl of Mansfield. (9)

In 1950 the Scottish League for European Freedom sponsored a conference in Edinburgh of Eastern European exiles, many of them Nazi collaborators and war criminals, who had been recruited by British intelligence and moved to the U.K. during the scramble at the end of WW2 by the British and American governments for good, reliable, anti-Soviet 'assets'. (10) The British League for European Freedom still exists, one of the little groups on the British Right acquired by Donald Martin.

1. *New Solidarity* July 28 1986
2. *Searchlight* January 1986
3. *Times* 24 December 1934
4. de Courcy was running a Social Credit bookshop in the 1930s. The link between interest in currency reform theories and fascism is widespread; in Australia, for example, with Eric Butler; in Britain with G. K. Chesterton, whose journal, *G.K.'s Weekly* was eventually incorporated into *The Weekly Review* which gave a platform to various fascists in the 1930s. See *Political Anti-Semitism Before 1914* by Kenneth Lunn in Lunn and Thurlow (eds) *British Fascism* (London 1980)
5. *News Chronicle* 12 August 1940. Some indication of the political orientation of the group may be indicated by the fact that this newscutting was found in a folder marked '5th Columnists' in the NCCL's archives: DCL Box 41

6. *Times* 5 May 1986
7. Alan Lennox-Boyd, Viscount Boyd, another IPG member, was also a Monday Club member.
8. George Orwell was invited to join the BLEF. His letter of refusal, plus an account of one its meetings are in his *Collected Essays and Journalism* (Penguin edition): see vol.3 pp 368/9 and vol.4 p49

Duchess of Atholl, *Working Partnership* (London 1958) pp243-8
9. Mansfield, it is worth noting here, was on the original Council of the Society for Individual Freedom in 1944, along with IPG member Sir Reginald Blaker.
10. John Loftus, *The Belarus Secret* (London, 1983) p 165, 205. This has been remaindered in the UK and in kicking around for 30 or 40p. One of the most important books of recent years (which may explain why no notice was taken of it here).

The British Right - scratching the surface

Digression No. 1

Donald (Don) Martin is a protege of the veteran Australian anti-semitic conspiracy theorist, Eric Butler. Although Butler set up his Australian League of Rights in 1960 (11), he had apparently been active on the far-right of Australian politics since the middle 1930s.(12) Like de Courcy, Butler began as a follower of the various currency reform theories around in the twenties and thirties. In 1962 or '63 - accounts vary - Butler visited Britain and had meetings with A.K. Chesterton of the League of Empire Loyalists (roughly the U.K. equivalent of Butler's group), and, according to the anonymous pamphlet *The Monday Club - A Danger to Democracy* (discussed below) with the late John Paul, at that time Chair of the Anti-Common Market League and a substantial figure in Tory Party circles.

Butler's protege, Don Martin, came to the U.K. in 1970, if the *Monday Club etc* version is to be believed, essentially as a replacement for the Butler link with Paul after the latter's death: "Butler's best hope here was lost when John Paul died..Paul has been replaced at a lower level by Don Martin."

Martin set up the British League of Rights, a book distribution company, Bloomfield Books which linked up with the veteran anti-semitic publishers, Britons, and acquired control of the British League for European Freedom and the British Housewives League. The latter was originally an anti-nationalisation front set up just after WW2 and funded, it appears, by the road transport lobby of the time.(13) From 1971-74 Martin's publications were regularly advertised in the Monday Club's Journal, *Monday World*. As head of the British League for European Freedom Martin became the U.K. delegate to the World Anti-Communist League (WACL).

The parallels between the anti-semitic/neo-fascist activities in the U.K. and those in Australia are strikingly demonstrated in Dennis Freney's *Nazis Out of Uniform: Dangers of Neo-Nazi Terrorism in Australia* (14) The mixture of overt racists and

anti-semites, neo-Nazis and the right-wing of the 'respectable' conservative parties which *Searchlight* has been documenting in this country, is almost exactly duplicated in Australia. (One of the major differences is that in Australia Butler plays a much more significant role than Martin has ever achieved in this country.) Analogous New Zealand activities, including seven pages on another Butler off-shoot, the New Zealand League of Rights, is discussed in Paul Spoonly's recent essay. (15).

In similar territory are the two volumes of the *Report of the Committee of Enquiry into the Rise of Fascism and Racism in Europe* by a working party of the European Parliament. This is an inch-thick pile of typed essays and statements from a wide range of European experts/politicians on the recent rise of the neo-fascist and racist right in Europe. The style and quality of the contributions vary enormously but there is no equivalent body of work in English that I can think (and the report will have been published in all the official EEC languages.) (16)

11. *Searchlight* July 1979

12. on Butler, see Freney, discussed below, and the article on him in *Patterns of Prejudice*, vol. 5, no.5

13. British Housewives League file in NCCL archives, Hull University; DCL Box 23, folder 3. 'Jack Mahoney' informs me that the BHL's leader, Dorothy Crisp, had fascist links with the journal *Tomorrow* and with A.K. Chesterton's 1945 'National Front' group.

What either of these groups amounted to by the time Martin acquired control, I don't know. Not much, I suspect.

14. Freney's 48p A4 booklet, with many illustrations, is available from him for £4.50 (airmail), £3.50 (seamail), international money orders only, please. Denis Freney, PO Box A716, Sydney, New South Wales, 2000, Australia.

15. Paul Spoonly, *New Zealand First: The Extreme Right and Politics in New Zealand 1961-81* in *Political Science*, vol.33, no.2 1981.

16. Available FREE from European Parliament offices all over the EEC. In Britain that's 2 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1. Ask for documents A-2-160/85 rev. annexes 1,2,3,4. (Thanks to *Intelligence/Parapolitics* in Paris for the information).

The British Right - scratching the surface

Common Cause

Another strand in the de Courcy and ex-IPG member network links it to Common Cause, the nominally anti-Communist group which, like the Economic League, keeps files on the British Left and the unions. (17) Information on Common Cause is sparse. According to a report in *The Times* (18) Common Cause was formed in 1951, but a pamphlet published by Common Cause, was put out in 1950. (19) Common Cause does

seem to have grown out of British League for European Freedom circles. The Duchess of Atholl, on Common Cause's 'Advisory Board' from its inception, links the decline in the British League for European Freedom's "purely political work" (whatever that means) to the formation of Common Cause. (20) Dr. C.A. Smith, former Chair of the Independent Labour Party, was Secretary of Common Cause from 1954-56 (21), presumably from its inception, apparently in 1952: a piece in *The Times* announced Lord Malcolm Douglas-Hamilton and John Brown, ex-General Secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation as joint chairs. (Douglas-Hamilton turns up later in the 1950s as part of the de Courcy group publishing *The Weekly Review* and *Intelligence Digest*.(22)

In 1954 Common Cause's Advisory Board included:

- Dame Florence Hancock and Tom O'Brien (both ex Presidents of the TUC);
- Lord Ammon (trade union leader and ex-MP, who was involved with the British League for European Freedom);
- Bob Edwards (General Secretary of the Chemical Workers Union);
- Cecil Hallett (Assistant General Secretary of the AEU);
- John Raeburn (ex-Secretary of the London Trades Council);
- Phillip Fothergill (ex-President of the Liberal Party Organisation);
- the Duchess of Atholl (at the time President of the British league for European Freedom);
- Edward Hulton (publisher of the Picture Post and part of one of the earliest British intelligence news fronts) (23);
- Admiral Lord Cunningham;
- and Field Marshall Lord Wilson.

This unlikely grouping was unstable and at the end of 1956 Smith, Fothergill, Edwards, Ammon and others resigned, alleging, inter alia, that Common Cause was becoming "reactionary".(24)

The group eventually split into two 'Common Causes', the new one being Common Cause Ltd. - the 'reactionary' group - incorporated 8th August 1956.(25) Its directors were Peter Crane, David Pelman James, Neil Elles and C.W.S. Blackett. James became Chair and Peter de Peterson Vice Chair.

Eventually the C.A. Smith-led element called an "unofficial meeting", organised by members of the 14 branches, and elected a new National Executive Committee, including Lady Birdwood (on whom more below), I. Winterbotham (ex-Labour MP), H.G. Devonshire (ETU) and Miss M. Sharman (until March 1956 the organisation's information officer). (26)

For nearly a year there were two headquarters and two National Executive Committees, but in May 1959 the Smith-led group dissolved, the surviving six branches being told to carry on autonomously with Lady Birdwood "appointed to act as co-ordinator between branches". Dr. Smith was quoted as saying that the other Common Cause (i.e. Common Cause Ltd.) "had been used to prevent members of Common Cause controlling the organisation and from gaining the democratic constitution which the Committee had repeatedly promised from 1952-57". (27)

Just how "reactionary" Common Cause was becoming is suggested by the presence of Major-General Richard Hilton on its Advisory Council in 1958. Another link to de

Courcy - Hilton was with de Courcy's group in the late 1940s - Hilton was a member of the League of Empire Loyalists, formed his own Patriotic Party in the late fifties, a member of the British National Party in 1960, and, I believe, a founder member of the National Front. (28)

As well as putting out its quarterly bulletin of research on the unions and the British Left, Common Cause was acting as a 'front', channelling money from British industry to Industrial Research and Information Services (IRIS), a group of anti-communist trade union officials running a similar, if differently slanted operation to that of Common Cause. (29) An example of Common Cause's information gathering and distribution appeared in 1970 when the National Union of Students acquired a copy of a Common Cause circular which had been sent to British University authorities listing the alleged affiliations of National Union of Students leaders. (30)

In *Lobster* 11 we commented on the extraordinary detail in Common Cause's 1974 Bulletins on the Communist Party of Great Britain, suggesting that such detail could only have come from Special Branch/MI5 sources. On re-examining some Common Cause Bulletins in the early 1970s we noticed this cryptic sentence which seems to first appear in Bulletin 127 (p124): "Original sources and materials, the likes of which have not been previously made public, have been the basis of this research". It could be more explicit in confirmation of our thesis, but not much.

Labour Research, the only regular source of information on the organisation, has never taken it seriously. In February 1984 they called it "an organisation dominated by retired 'blimps'" and wondered, not for the first time, why British firms continued giving the organisation tens of thousands of pounds a year. But surely, if we have learned anything from the Thatcher era it is that we should not underestimate the 'blimps' in this society; nor, perhaps, should we readily accept the idea of inevitable left-wards 'progress' built into the 'blimp' concept. At best, such 'progress' is a case of two steps forward and one back.(31)

17. See *Lobster* 11 p29.

18. *Times* 27 April 1954.

19. The author was Dr. C.A. Smith writing as a member of the British League for European Freedom.

20. Atholl p252

21. *Times* 27 April 1954 and 6 April 1957.

22. Kevin Coogan in *Anarchy* no.38

23. Hilton fronted for the S.O.E. news agency, Britanova. See Richard Fletcher in *Tribune* September 9, 1983.

24. *Times* 27 April 1954

25. Information from Company House Records.

26. *Times* May 2 1958

27. *Times* May 11 1959. 'Jack Mahoney' points out that there are two 'Lady Birdwoods', Lord Birdwood's two wives. I don't know if this is the racist Lady Birdwood who reappears in the sixties and seventies

28. Patriotic Party - see George Thayer, *The British Political Fringe* (London 1965) p 61. The BNP reference is in *Report on Fascist Organisations* by Christopher J. Cowling in NCCL archives, DCL box 42, folder 10.

29. This emerged in the course of the schisms within Common Cause. See *Labour Research* January 1961

30. *Labour Research* March 1971. This 'reds in the universities' theme of Common Cause in the seventies illustrates nicely how little the Right's preoccupations have changed. In 1932 the Anti-Socialist and Anti-Communist Union ran a similar campaign, singling out Harold Laski, R.H. Tawney, Hugh Dalton and Maurice Dobb. See Brown, fn 76, p253

31. *Information wanted*: there was an American 'Common Cause', founded in the late 1940s. Anyone got any information on them? (And this should not be confused with today's liberal Common Cause.)

The British Right - scratching the surface

The Monday Club

Traces of the de Courcy-IPG of the 1930s survive in the shape of Alan Lennox-Boyd and Victor Raikes' membership of the Club into the 1970s. The most interesting discovery we have made since *Lobster* 11 about the Monday Club is the anonymous 1972 pamphlet, *The Monday Club - A Danger To Democracy*, 20,000 copies of which are said to have been distributed in 1972. (32)

Many of the people *Lobster* 11 was interested in are here, 14 years before it: Kitson, Stewart-Smith, ("the CIA's man in the House of Commons"), Walter Walker, Lady Birdwood, the McWhirter Brothers, Gerald Howarth and the Society for Individual Freedom - all feature in this curious document alongside various other lesser known figures from the racist and neo-fascist British Right of the late 1960s and early 1970s. But which bits of it are believable? Some are (because they can be checked elsewhere); some may be (because they are similar to other events; the characters behave 'in character'); but at least a third of it is just uncheckable - reports of private (sic) meetings, private (sic) correspondence and so forth - the mixture, in fact, which characterises *Searchlight*. (33) Like *Searchlight*, this pamphlet is, in large part, the result of covert operations against the neo-fascists and racists. Exactly who was - and still is - mounting such activities is not clear to me. The National Front's Martin Webster attributed this pamphlet and all manner of other 'dirty tricks' to the '62 Group', a semi-clandestine anti-fascist organisation set up in 1962. (34)

32. 20,000 copies seems implausible, If there were that many it would be easier to

find. Copies will be available through the public library system. If you have trouble tell the library there is a copy in Hull University's library.

'Jack Mahoney' suggests that, based on its style and the kinds of typefaces used, it was probably produced by the same (anonymous and still unidentified) group who were producing *The Anti-fascist Bulletin* at the time.

33.'Jack Mahoney' advises that some of the meetings described in this document are documented elsewhere in reports in libraries of the Board of Deputies and Weiner Library.

34.For Webster's (not uninteresting) views on this, see his column in *Spearhead* May 1973, January 1975 and February 1975.

On the '62 Group' and similar organisations, see *Thayer* (above, fn 28) chapter on 'The Yellow Star Movement'.

The British Right - scratching the surface

Digression 2

Gerry Gable was a member of the '62 Group' as a young man. He rang me after reading No.11 and, as you would expect, did - when eventually asked - deny the assertion in *Lobster* 11 that *Searchlight* was being run by, or with the co-operation of, MI5.

The only other people who appear to be as suspicious of Gable and *Searchlight* as we are, are the anarchists associated with *Anarchy* magazine, and the libertarian, anarcho-capitalists (sic) associated with the Libertarian Alliance in London. For our part, we retract nothing. It may well be, as one *Guardian* journalist told us, that Gable is "a great man" with a life-time of anti-fascist work behind him. He is also the person who wrote in the 1977 notorious 'Gable memo':

"I have given the names I have acquired to be checked out by British/French security services, especially the French and German connections, and the South American stuff is being checked by Geoffrey Stewart-Smith's institute".

It is argued by Gable's defenders that in his position he is bound to make connections with various intelligence agencies. But what are we to make of his use of FARI (Stewart-Smith's institute)? The anonymous 1972 pamphlet said of Stewart-Smith:

"It is also his job to act as liaison man with any Right extremist group that they (i.e. the CIA) wish to contact or make use of in this country. To facilitate this he has recruited one Peter Crozier, a close associate of Colin Jordan, to act as his go-between." (35)

Whether or not this specific claim about Stewart-Smith is true, and we have no idea, Gable's use of FARI is inexplicable for a self-professed anti-fascist and anti-racist. When Gable wrote his memo FARI was being funded by the South African government (although it is possible that Gable was unaware of this), and its Council included four men who have appeared in *Searchlight*: Julian Amery (connection with

the Italian fascist party, MSI, in March 1979), Lord Chalfont (connections with Chile, August 1979), and Robert Moss and Brian Crozier (all over issue 18, 1975). The detailed case against Gable made in *Anarchy* 36 remains unanswered.

35. *Monday Club* etc p7

The British Right - scratching the surface

Society for Individual Freedom

Another of the right-wing groups about which we ought to know more is the Society for Individual Freedom (SIF henceforth). Neither *Labour Research* nor *Searchlight* have ever paid much attention to SIF (or, perhaps, just didn't get much information). *Searchlight*, for example, in a brief paragraph in No.31, refers to "the dear old SIF", and then remarks on the presence of G.K. Young as a former chair and the late Ross McWhirter as a member of its executive council. *Labour Research* provided some details on SIF membership in a piece on "Powell and His Allies" (36), citing 35 MPs (more than the Monday Club) as members; Lord Lyle (of Tate and Lyle) whose family has been connected with SIF since its formation in 1944; the late Lord Renwick (one-time chair of the Institute of Directors and board member of British United Industrialists); G.K. Young and Ross McWhirter.

Another interesting member was Gerald Howarth. Howarth is the MP said recently to have been plotting the murder of Gerry Gable, but for our purposes his role in the early 1970s in the Prosecute Peter Hain campaign is more interesting. (37)

Considering the overlapping memberships represented here - British United Industrialists, Institute of Directors, Aims, Monday Club - not to mention the intricate trails left by McWhirter and G.K. Young in the early 1970s through the so-called 'private armies' of 1974 and thence into the formation of the National Association for Freedom - SIF has to be of interest.

Young and McWhirter are important cross-roads figures on the Right in the late sixties and early seventies, the role attributed to them in the anonymous 1972 '*Monday Club* etc.' pamphlet in which McWhirter was "a key fund raiser on the right" and Young "fixer extraordinary". (38)

SIF was founded in 1944 (Aims of Industry in 1942), both of them being responses to the controls over private capital imposed by the war-time government. SIF was the amalgamation of Sir Ernest Benn's 1942 Society of Individualists and the 1943 National League for Freedom. Among SIF's first Council members were Colin Brooks, editor of the anti-Semitic *Truth*, and two IPG members, the Earl of Mansfield and Sir Reginald Blaker MP. (39)

36. *Labour Research* February 1969

37. Gordon Winter *Inside Boss* (London 1981) pp382/3

38. It is rumoured - strongly rumoured - that Ross McWhirter was a member of Mosley's Union Movement in the 1950s.

39. 'Jack Mahoney' informs me that Sir Ernest Benn flirted with the British fascist fringe just after WW2 having been involved with A.K. Chesterton and Maj-Gen. J.F.C. Fuller in their abortive 1945 'National Front for Victory'.

The British Right - scratching the surface

The World Anti-Communist League and its British Connections

There was a British representative at the first meeting in 1958 which eventually led to the formation of The World Anti-Communist League (WACL), a former trade union leader and Labour MP, George Dallas. (40) While serving in a minor capacity in the war-time coalition government, Dallas became increasingly concerned about the direction of Soviet policy and came to regard Poland as a test case of this. After the war he was a strong supporter of the 'Free Polish' cause and shared platforms with the Duchess of Atholl. (41)

In 1956 he became the first chair of the Friends of Free China Association (Atholl was President), and took a delegation to the then Formosa. With Dallas at that first pre-WACL meeting, as well as a trio of German Nazis, was Yaroslav Stetzko, then chair of the Anti-Bolshevik Bloc of Nations (ABN), and one-time Prime Minister of war-time Ukraine. (42) The Ukrainians in the Bandera/Stetzko-led Organisation of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) were one of the East European groups which worked with the Germans during the war and were then adopted by US and UK intelligence agencies after it. That many of the personnel of these groups were war criminals is one of the areas of post-war history which is just beginning to be explored. John Loftus' *The Belarus Secret* (43) although primarily about the US use of these Nazi-collaborators, revealed the use by the British intelligence services of the Scottish League for European Freedom as cover for some of these groups. (44)

Information on ABN, the Stetzko-led grouping, is thin at present: we await even the first step, a full-scale study of the ABN's journal, ABN Correspondence, for example. In Britain the various emigre groups, members of ABN, have attracted a cluster of obscure (or, perhaps, just neglected?) organisations: the British and Scottish Leagues for European Freedom, the International Confederation for Victory over Communism, and the European Freedom Council.

In the British League for European Freedom in the 1970s were Lord Barnby of the Monday Club, Don Martin, who became chair by 1973 and Lady Jane Birdwood, in 1971 on BLEF's national executive. Other familiar names on the Right mentioned in *Lobster* 11 gathered round: Ross McWhirter, Tom Stacey (the publisher and leading

member of the British Chile lobby), and John Biggs-Davison (Monday Club) were speakers in 1971 at the BLEF-organised 'Captive Nations Week'; Geoffrey Stewart-Smith and the Australian anti-semitic, Eric Butler, at the 1973 version.(45)

A long list of MPs, both Tory and Labour, have associated themselves with ABN in the sixties and seventies: Michael English, Bessie Braddock, Jack McCann, Sir David Renton, John Graham, J. McMillan, Michael O'Halloran, Michael Fidler, Tom Oswald and Sir Frederick Bennett. John Wilkinson MP's association with the group runs from 1971 (or earlier) through to 1985 when, as Chair of the European Freedom Council, he was one of the featured speakers at the joint ABN-European Freedom Council meeting in London. The climax of the three-day gathering was the presentation, by Wilkinson, of medals to Stetzko and his wife, and to General John Singlaub, current head of the World Anti-Communist League. Recently the Ukrainian-born Stefan Terlezky MP has become prominently identified with ABN activities. (46)

The rise of the WACL has been best described by Henrik Kruger (47). A variety of British groups have had the role of official British affiliate. Geoffrey Stewart-Smith's Foreign Affairs Circle was the affiliate in 1973 before it quit amidst arguments about money and accusations from Stewart-Smith that WACL was being infiltrated by anti-semites and fascists. Foreign Affairs Circle was succeeded by Don Martin/Lady Birdwood's British League for European Freedom. According to Searchlight (48) Martin was then running two organisations, BLEF and his British League of Rights, and referring to them both as the British WACL affiliate. From 1973 to 1979 WACL was increasingly dominated by overtly anti-semitic and neo-fascist groups, eventually leading to a schism within WACL, the termination of the BLEF's status as official affiliate, and transfer of that title to Peter Dally and the British Anti-Communist Council (about which, more below), circa 1980. (49)

With Peter Dally and the British Anti-Communist Council we come full circle, in a sense; for before his role in BACC, Dally had worked for over a decade in one of Kenneth de Courcy's organisations, Intelligence International. Dally turned up at the May 1985 launch of Western Goals (UK) (50) Head of Western Goals (UK) is Young Monday Club leader, Paul Masson, who was one of the speakers at the November 1985 ABN London conference. (51)

40. Dallas reference in *WACL* by Henrik Kruger in *Anarchy* no 37. Dallas biography in *Dictionary of Labour Biography* Vol 4, eds. John Saville and Joyce Bellamy (London 1973)

41. Saville/Bellamy p73

42. Kruger, *WACL* (above)

43. see FN 10

44. Loftus p 204. The BLEF's Chair writes, in very vague terms, of that organisation's role in this in her autobiography (see fn 8) pp247-51

45. All the names in this section and the paragraph which follows it have been taken from pages of *ABN Correspondence* (undated, unfortunately) sent me by

'Jack Mahoney'.

46. I assume that most of these MPs know little or nothing of the origins of these emigre groups, and got involved via constituency politics; ie having an emigre community within the constituency. Michael Fidler, for example, was President of the British Board of Deputies 1967-73, and surely was unaware of the fascist /anti-semitic currents running through the groups which make up the ABN. Those currents were demonstrated by the eulogy to Maj-Gen. J.F.C. Fuller, the British fascist, printed in *ABN Correspondence*, March-April 1966. (Reported in *Weiner Library Bulletin* vol. 20, no.3, 1966)

47. Kruger, above.

48. *Searchlight* July 1979

49. This schism is described both in Kruger and in a *Washington Post* piece reprinted in *Searchlight* no.38.

50. Quoted in large, very interesting piece 'Their Creed is Hate' in *National Student*, March 1986. The (anonymous) author is, presumably, the editor, Chris Horrie.

51. He spoke on 'The aspirations of the young generation in Great Britain'!

The British Right - scratching the surface

Digression 3

How significant the UK end of Western Goals should be taken is impossible to evaluate this early. Its US parent body does have to be taken seriously, even though there is a dearth of decent information on its activities. The largest piece on the group, *The Private Spy Agency* by Elton Manzione (*National Reporter* Summer 1985) contains one whopper of a mistake and a number of highly dubious assertions which don't give grounds for much confidence in the accuracy of the rest of the piece.

The whopper is the claim that Western Goals' German branch - founded in 1981 - "publicly admits 'co-operating' with Reinhard Gehlen". Gehlen died in 1979. The dubious assertions concern the alleged existence and activities of a body in the U.S. called Defence Industries Security Command (DISC) and its alleged Swiss subsidiary, Permindex. Manzione links them both to the assassinations of Robert and John Kennedy, when, as far as I know, there is no reliable information (and none given by Manzione) on the existence of DISC, let alone any role in those assassinations; and the alleged activities of Permindex were subjected to devastatingly destructive analysis by Steve Dorril in *Lobster* No.2.(52) This DISC-Permindex material has been floating around the fringes of the Kennedy assassination literature since the end of the Garrison enquiry and is usually lifted (without acknowledgement, as Manzione does) from a samizdat on the assassination, *The Torbitt Memorandum*. It is interesting, if a little depressing, to see that this material is still around, recycled unchecked by a journal which wants to be taken as seriously as *National Reporter*. (53)

Nevertheless, Western Goals, with its financial base and its high-powered board

(Singlaub, Teller, Admiral Moorer et al) has to be taken seriously.

* * *

The British Anti-Communist Council (BACC), the current UK affiliate to the World Anti-Communist League, has as its President and Secretary, Patrick Wall MP and Jill Knight MP respectively. Wall's role in this organisation, even if he is just a figurehead, doesn't seem to have yet filtered through to the mainstream media in Britain. With his hairpiece and all, the 'Mad Major' Wall is often presented as something of a figure of fun - but he isn't that.

His '92 Group' seems to have remained a well-kept secret within the Tory Party for over twenty years until 1983, and is now reported to be the largest Tory Party grouping at Westminster, with over 80 MPs.

The 'New Right' discovered by the media in the late 1970s (essentially after Thatcher came to power), is little more than an expression of the media's complete lack of interest in the British Right prior to Mrs Thatcher. This 'New Right' is frequently the same people as, and believes the same things as the 'old' Right. The '92 group' for example, appears to be nothing more than the current vehicle for the South African-supporting sections of the Tory Party. A recent deputation to the Prime Minister from the unofficial back-bench committee of Tories opposed to sanctions consisted of John Carlisle and three 'old hands' whose names recur throughout the late sixties and early seventies - John Biggs-Davison, Julian Amery and Patrick Wall - all of them Monday Club members in the sixties and supporters/members of the Anglo-Rhodesian Society. Other Anglo-Rhodesian Society members were Monday Clubbers Ronald Bell, Stephen Hastings and Harold Soref, who were on its Council. (54)

The basis of Wall's influence - such as it is - is probably his role as chair of the Southern Africa Sub-committee of the Conservative Foreign Affairs Committee from 1970-78. One of the recent pieces on the '92 Group' included, from 'the cast' of *Lobster 11*, Biggs-Davison, Wall, Jill Knight (of BACC) and Winston Churchill. (55)

The most detailed recent analysis of parliamentary economic links to South Africa is in *Labour Research* (August 1986), although if you look closely, many of the 'links' are pretty weak. Julian Critchley MP's 'link' to South Africa is about average:

"Lists as employment or office Public Affairs Adviser to SSIB-Lintas Ltd, owned by the US Interpublic Group of companies which has nine South African subsidiaries."

Good orthodox Marxists that they are, *Labour Research* really want there to be direct concrete 'interests' to explain the Tory Party's infatuation with South Africa. And, yes, while there are some, Biggs-Davison, Knight, Churchill and Wall are not on their list. The 'economic interest' approach misses, marginalises, the fact that many on the Tory Right support South Africa because they are racists and/or anti-communists whose talk of the 'Soviet threat to the Cape' et al is genuine.

Some on the Tory Right are something like neo-fascists. I don't want to overstate this, but from the days of the Anglo-German Friendship Society, the Link et al in the 1930s, there has remained a section of the party just not particularly interested in the concept of democracy. (56). Patrick Wall and Jill Knight's links to the World Anti-

Communist League through BACC, Tory MPs Wilkinson, Terlezky, Billingham and Merchant supporting World Anti-Communist League and/or Asian Peoples' Anti-Communist League activities (57), the Bells and Proctors in domestic racist groups like WISE - none of this is new. What does appear to be new, at least since the formation of WACL, is the current 'weight' of the British WACL affiliate. Patrick Wall, a significant figure on the Tory Right for twenty years, is quite a different kettle of fish from marginal racists and anti-semites like Don Martin and Lady Birdwood, his predecessors as WACL affiliates in the UK. With Mrs Thatcher in power, the authoritarian Right in the Tory Party has got that much closer to the centre of gravity.

52.No, don't write to us for copies of it. We don't have any left and are not willing to start photocopying things. If you want it - and it is very good and important - get the slightly amended version printed in *The Third Decade* November 1985, available from Jerry Rose State University College, Fredonia, New York 14063. Send \$3 minimum for one copy. Subs are \$15 per annum (six copies).

53.Used to be *Counterspy*, Box 647, Ben Franklin Station, Washington DC 20044. Annual sub. for UK is \$25. For other countries, best to write and enquire first.

54.Anglo-Rhodesian membership from Counter Information Services (CIS) 'Sell-out in Zimbabwe', no date, but probably 1978.

55.*Sunday Times* 22 June 1986. On the '92' see also *Guardian* 23 June 1986 and *Observer* 10 August 1986.

56.On the Tory Party and the fascists in the 1930s see eg, *Tory MP* Simon Haxey (London 1939) and *Your MP*, 'Graccus' (Tom Wintringham) (London 1945)

57.Piers Merchant MP, one of the speakers at WACL 1986 'World Freedom Day', January 1986. (*Asian Outlook*, February 1986). Stefan Terlezki and Henry Billingham MPs, at WACL/APACL 'Captive Nations Week' July 1984 (*Asian Outlook*, August 1984)

The British Right - scratching the surface

The anti-union/strike-breaking organisations

Another distinctive strand on the British Right are the antecedents of the strike-breaking/anti-union aspirations of General Sir Walter Walker's Civil Assistance and David Stirling's GB 75 in 1974 and '75. These antecedents stretch back through every decade at least as far back as World War 1, show the kind of continuity of belief, personnel and action visible elsewhere on the Right; and, here as elsewhere in the *history* of the British Right, there is little information readily available.

Other than the Tory Party itself, the only significant organisation which has survived on the Right since the 1920s is the Economic League, running a large-scale

intelligence operation against the Left and the unions under cover of its propaganda operations. Continuously funded and staffed by British capital for over half a century, the Economic League has to be taken seriously. Yet there appears to be only one substantial essay on it, the 'Background Paper' in *State Research Bulletin No.7*, and not a single piece of academic work.

There is some debate about the League's origins. *State Research*, quoting the League's own version of its history, has it founded by, among others, Admiral Hall (ex chief of Naval Intelligence), and originally known as Economic Study Clubs. But the *State Research* essay also points out that the League's fifth annual review (1925) states that the League was originally known as the Central Council of the Economic League, and prior to that, as National Propaganda. *Labour Research*, on the other hand, in an early piece on the League (58) refers to the Central Council of the Economic Leagues (plural), known, prior to 1920, as the National Propaganda *Committee*.

This muddle is resolved by Barbara Lee Farr in her wonderful PhD thesis. (59) The National Propaganda Committee (singular) was set up by Patrick Hannon's British Commonwealth Union in 1919; and it was this Propaganda Committee which formed the Economic Study Club - a centre for training anti-socialist speakers. (60) Hannon confirms some of this in his *Who's Who* 1924 entry which includes "Director, Economic Study Club". Farr states, flatly, that "the Economic Study Club was reorganised after the (General) Strike as the Economic League".(61) This is indirectly confirmed by accounts of John Baker White's career in which he is always described as the League's first director, 1926-39.

What matters is the link to Hannon and the British Commonwealth Union (henceforth BCU). For the BCU, practically invisible in our social history,

"represents an important, unique direction of right-wing activism. Money not moral pronouncements was its means of persuasion....its methods reveal an underground network of secret subsidies to 'sympathetic' politicians and labour leaders, infiltration of government departments, intrigue and industrial spying". (62)

At this distance it hardly matters which trade union leaders and politicians Hannon and the BCU bought-off: J. Havelock Ellis was the only name I recognised. (63) What is interesting is that the covert funding of anti-socialist trade union leaders visible in the 1950s with the Common Cause-IRIS connection mentioned above, should have been happening in the early 1920s. Plus ca change.

The period between 1918 and 1926 was one of intense activity on the Right as well as the Left: this, perhaps, was the last period when 'class warfare' was not a piece of wishful thinking on the part of the Marxist left in Britain. (64) A large range of right-wing groups appear - and disappear - many of them, like the Walker and Stirling outfits of the middle 1970s, specifically aimed at strike-breaking.

Labour Research first reports on strike-breaking organisations in November 1925, mentioning The Organisation for the Maintenance of Supplies (OMS), the National Citizens' Union, the British Empire Union, and the British Fascists.

OMS is a reasonably well-known feature of the backdrop to the General Strike of 1926. Steve Peak (65) notes, in passing, "on September 25 1925, the unofficial

Organisation for the Maintenance of Supplies has been set up under Lord Hardinge of Penshurst to begin enlisting potential strike-breakers and the government did not try seriously to distance itself from the new body". (66)

The 1925 Labour Research article lists OMS' Lord-laden Council and details some of its activities (67) But even the apparently well-established OMS story has wrinkles. In his autobiography (68) John Baker White, the first Director of the Economic League, attributes the formation of OMS to one Sir George McGill, a personal friend of Vernon Kell, the first head of MI5. Prior to the OMS episode McGill

"created and directed a highly efficient private intelligence service, investigating not only all forms of subversion, including communism, but also the international traffic in drugs and the traffic in women and children". (69)

White was recruited by McGill and by 1924 was running Section D of McGill's operation. (70)

OMS appeared two years after the *British Fascists* (sometimes called British Fascisti), whose strike-breaking intentions were plainly stated in their formal objectives:

"to assist by all lawful means in the preservation of law and order and protection of persons and property, and to co-operate whenever possible with the military or police or other authorities in so doing". (71)

The British Fascists are another major grouping on the Right which awaits a really serious study. Farr's essay, based on a chapter of her PhD, is a sketch with some (illuminating) details: British Fascist members acting as 'stewards' at Tory Party meetings; the formation of 'Q squads', paramilitary forces; Patrick Hannon, while Director of the BCU, on the British Fascist Grand Council, and President of the Birmingham Branch in 1925/26 (something he omits from his *Who's Who* entries); the presence of people later prominent in the fascist movement of the 1930s, including William Joyce, Arnold Leese and Sir Charles Petrie.

The *National Citizens' Union* began as the Middle Classes Union and was involved in strike-breaking in 1919, 1920 and 1921. (72) Its members joined OMS.(73) The *British Empire Union*, founded in 1915, set up an 'Industrial Peace Department' to campaign against 'the dangers of revolution and communism' (74), and, like the National Citizens' Union, publicly supported OMS and enrolled its members in it. (75) Brown gives some information on the British Empire Union while comparing it with the Anti-Socialist Union.(76) Both were funded by British capital, and Brown notes that the Empire Union "apparently had much greater resources", quoting the Soviet Union's *Izvestia's* 1936 description of the British Empire Union as the main enemy of socialism in Britain. (77)

The *Anti-Socialist Union*, founded in 1908 (and, after 1925, known as the Anti-Socialist and Anti-Communist Union), although not directly involved in the strike-breaking of the 1920s, had on its executive committee several members of Baldwin's Cabinet at the time of the 1926 General Strike: Wilfred Ashley, Oliver Locker-Lampson, Samuel Hoare and the Chief Civil Commissioner during the strike, Sir W. Mitchell-Thompson.(78)

The Anti-Socialist and Anti-Communist Union declined in the 1930s, apparently due to the success of the British Empire Union, and finally dissolved in 1949, its financial and literary assets being handed over to the Economic League. (79)

With so little information available on these groups, information on their personnel is equally thin, but with the fragments that do exist, a pattern of overlapping memberships - of a network, going back to the thesis of *Lobster 11* - is visible in the biographies of some of the leading individuals.

Sir Harry Brittain: Executive of the Anti-Socialist Union; Executive Committee, Economic League; Honorary President of the Friends of Italy; member, Anglo-German Friendship Society; Tory MP; Carlton Club; and, back to the origins of all this, founder member of the Tariff Reform League.

Sir Edward Illiffe: Vice President, Economic League; Executive of the Anti-Socialist Union; Treasurer of the British Empire Union; Tory MP; Carlton Club; Council member, Society for Individual Freedom (1944).

Wilfred Ashley: Chair of the Anti-Socialist Union; as Lord Mount Temple, President of the Anglo-German Friendship Society; Tory MP; Chair of the Navy League and Chair of the Comrades of the Great War. (80)

Patrick Hannon: General Secretary, Navy League; founder, Comrades of the Great War; founder, British Commonwealth Union; Grand Council, British Fascists; Vice President Federation of British Industry; Tory MP; Carlton Club; Vice President, Tariff Reform League; founder member, British League for Freedom (1943).

W. R. Runciman: Vice President, Economic League; member, Anglo-German Friendship Society; Tory MP.

Earl of Malmesbury: Vice President, Economic League; member, Anglo-German Friendship Society; Honorary Treasurer, Anti-Socialist Union.

Lord McGowan: Vice President, Economic League; member, Anglo-German Friendship Society; Carlton Club.

Colonel Geoffrey Hutchinson: Economic League Council; member, Anglo-German Friendship Society; Tory MP.

Earl of Selbourne: Vice President, Economic League; member, Anglo-German Friendship Society; in the sixties, supporter of Edward Martell; Monday Club member; Anglo-Rhodesian Society; Carlton Club; founder member, Society for Individual Freedom.

The overlapping memberships of groups like the Economic League and the Anglo-German Friendship Society visible in those biographical sketches hints at one of the really under-explored areas of this period: how far the anti-labour, anti-union groups moved in the late 1920s and '30s towards a fascist position. Granted, per se, membership of the Anglo-German Friendship Society tells us nothing, but with certain individuals such a political drift is pretty clear. Lord Mount Temple (Wilfred Ashley MP), President of the Anglo-German Friendship Society and Chair of the Anti-Socialist Union, signed a letter in support of the Munich Agreement with members of

the pro-German Link and the notorious anti-semite, Captain Ramsay MP. (81) The British Empire Union (with the Earl of Mansfield as Chair) and the National Citizens Union were also involved with Captain Ramsay in the short-lived far-right coalition, the 1938 Co-ordinating Committee. (82)

The continuity, expressed in the biographical sketches, from the 'patriotic' groups like the Navy League and the Comrades of the Great War - which were part of the 'anti-alien' campaigns of the first two decades of this century; 'anti-alien' being a polite way of saying 'anti-semitic' - through to the later groups suggests that when more details emerge on all these groups, we will find that a substantial proportion of their leading members were anti-semites, as well as being pro-Franco, pro-Mussolini and, finally, pro-Hitler. Gisela Lebzelter noted that the leading members of the Britons Publishing Company (publishers of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion)

"were also affiliated with other patriotic movements such as the British Brothers League, Eugenics Society, Loyalty League, Navy League or Vigilantes Society... an anti-alien tradition with a sometimes definite anti-Jewish basis". (83)

Lebzelter here is writing of the period just before and just after World War 1, but there are enough hints in those biographies to suggest that the war was not some kind of 'natural break' and that there may be a degree of continuity all the way through from the pre WW1 era to the second World War (a continuity best expressed by Patrick Hannon's career.) (84)

If the British Commonwealth Union, Economic League, Federation of British Industry and the British Empire Union are anything, they are the voice of the British manufacturing sector. Take the founders of the BCU: Sir Hallewell Rogers, Allan Smith, F. Dudley Docker, Sir Vincent Caillard and Patrick Hannon. All were Midlands based, Rogers and Hannon Birmingham MPs; all of them with industrial interests in the Midlands. The BCU, FBI and the other essentially Midlands manufacturing group, the National Union of Manufacturers, were set up during the first World War, and they mark the origins of the British corporate movement.

"Docker envisaged a completely integrated society and economy in which each industry would have its organisation of workers and management, the two sets of organisations united by peak federations, and all finally capped by a great national forum of workers and managers and employers, embraced by the protection of an Imperial Tariff". (85)

The BCU's 'Industrial Group' of MPs (the first 11 subsidised by the BCU in the 1918 election - £7,900 spent on 15 candidates; 11 elected) grew to 105 (mostly Tory) members by 1924. The Industrial Group - Hannon was secretary and leader - wanted government protection of British industry against foreign competition, but, to quote Hannon, wanted "the largest measure of freedom in the relationship between capital and labour and the least state intervention possible". (86)

Longstreth calls this grouping - BCU, Industrial Group, Economic League, FBI et al - Preference Imperialists, and notes their links to the earlier Midlands manufacturing-based Tariff Reform League. (87) But what this sector could never effectively articulate, even when it perceived it correctly, was that then, as now, its primary enemy was the City of London.(88)

Squeezed by other capitalist economies, under attack from a labour force increasingly politicised and militant, in the post World War 1 era British manufacturing capital set up defensive organisations against both threats: funding the BCU, Economic League, Anti Socialist Union and British Empire Union against the unions and the Left; and the FBI, National Union of Manufacturers, Industrial Group et al in futile attempts to influence government policy - essentially, at the beginning, to press for protective tariffs.

As Longstreth shows, it is possible to view the British economy since 1900 as a protracted struggle between British manufacturing (domestic capital) and the City of London (international or finance capital), with the money-lenders in control for virtually all of the century. As Longstreth notes, Mosley's movement in the 1930s

"was, in effect, the perverted continuation of the social imperialism of an earlier generation of industrialists, supporting imperial autarchy, social reform, conversion from a bankers' to a producers' economy, protectionism, public control of credit (and) the suppression of the class struggle through the state". (89)

This 'producers' alliance' - the heart of the corporate vision - was half-tried in the 1930s after the 1932 Imperial Tariff and the 'National Government', during World War 2 of necessity, and again under the Labour governments of the sixties and seventies - but without ever seriously threatening City of London dominance of the Bank of England and the Treasury, the power-centres of the British state. Today it is, once again, the Labour Party which is proposing a 'producers' alliance', this time under the banner of 'rebuilding the manufacturing base' (and, once again, without proposing to do anything about the money-lenders' power bases in the Bank of England and the Treasury.)

The utter political impotence of this country's manufacturing sector before a (numerically) tiny minority - the City of London; if you will, the *English* ruling class - has yet to be explained. (It's only recently been even remotely *described*.) Never mind not introducing 'socialism', the real failure of the Labour governments since the war has been their inability to shift power from the money-lenders to the manufacturing sector. Harold Wilson ends up chairing a docile enquiry into the City of London he should have tried to destroy; and Mrs Thatcher, the great 'English nationalist' (her phrase) enthusiastically presides over the destruction of 25% of the manufacturing base which supports most of 'her' people.

How little has fundamentally changed. In 1981 the then President of the CBI (successor to the FBI and National Union of Manufacturers) spoke of a 'bare knuckle fight' with the Thatcher government - a 60 year echo of the FBI's Sir Alfred Mond's House of Commons speech on the manufacturing sector being sacrificed on 'the cross of gold'. (Only the technical language of economics changes: the mechanisms, the power transmission, remains the same.) Beckett's speech received a standing ovation from the vast majority of the delegates at that CBI conference, many of whom, presumably, were delegates from manufacturing companies enthusiastically contributing to the Economic League's near £1 million budget that year.

The Economic League, which began with the BCU's twin aims of persuading the government to change its policy and introduce tariffs, and defeating the Left and the unions, concentrated on the latter. The kinds of attempts to buy off the union

leaderships made by the BCU may have continued. In 1937 some internal Economic League documents were leaked to the *Daily Worker*. As well as describing police (Special Branch) co-operation with the League, they included some letters from the League's then director, John Baker White to a regional official, R.R. Hoare. These letters included:

"In most areas the League is openly and avowedly anti-communist ... on many occasions we have supported the Labour Party in its fight against communism, and most particularly in the trade unions. It may interest you to know that the co-operation between Sir Walter Citrine (General Secretary of the TUC) and myself on this question is far closer than most people imagine ... through an intermediary the League is giving active assistance to one very important trade union in fighting the communists within its own ranks". (90)

Citrine sued the *Daily Worker*, denying everything. John Baker White denied only those sections relating to Citrine, and Citrine won his case. (91) The whole thing may have been part of the Communist Party - right-wing labour wars of the period. Yet there have been enough examples of British capital funding union leaders from the BCU onwards, through the IRIS/Common Cause episode described above and TRUEMID in the 1970s (92) to make me wonder.

These days the mantle of the BCU is worn by British United Industrialists whose director, Captain Briggs, claimed in 1985 that BUI was funding the Solidarity Group of Labour MPs, the Union of Democratic Mineworkers and the right-wing faction in the Civil and Public Servants Association (CPSA). (93)

58. *Labour Research*, September 1926

59. Barbara Lee Farr, *The Development and Impact of Right-wing Politics in England, 1918-39*, unpublished PhD thesis, University of Illinois 1976.

60. Farr thesis p158: using Hannon's own papers, she can be assumed to be accurate.

61. Farr, thesis, p234

62. Farr, thesis, pp153, 150. But how does she (or we) know it was unique?

63. Other names she mentions include:

- Herbert J. Read, funded to start a break-away National Federation of Postal and Telegraph Clerks;

59. A.R. Jephcott;

60. Marshall Pike;

61. Frank Sheppard;

62. J. S. Seddon.

The BCU also funded Christabel Pankhurst's Women's Party.

64. In a recent letter to us, *Aims* director, Michael Ivens, expressed the view that the formation of all the groups in the 1970s was in response to the perceived 'threat' from the Left. It may not be too much of an exaggeration to suggest that for the Right, the early 1970s looked like a re-run of the 1920s. The Monday Club's journal *Monday World* commented in 1969 "We are probably moving into a decade of unprecedented political instability, uncertainty and change. Unless the Conservative Party and its individual members of Parliament are able both to recognise and meet the challenge of challenging times we could be in for a period of civil disturbance unparalleled since Chartist agitation over one hundred years ago." Cited in Andrew Gamble, *The Conservative Nation* (London 1974) p108

Similar sentiments were being expressed by many of the people Cecil King was talking to during this period. See his *Diaries*.

65. Steve Peak, *Troops in Strikes* (London 1984). An excellent piece of work which we should have plugged earlier.

66. Peak p 45

67. On OMS see also *Labour Research* March 1926

68. John Baker White, *True Blue* (London 1970)

69. White p129

70. White p142 The extant accounts of the formation of OMS make no mention of McGill; and extant histories of MI5 ignore him also. Information on McGill would be welcome.

71. Barbara Lee Farr, *The British Fascisti, the OMS and the general strike; right-wing activism in the 1920s*, in *Societas* Autumn 1975, p261

72. *Labour Research* November 1925

73. Farr, thesis, footnote on p258

74. *Labour Research* November 1925

75. *Labour Research* November 1925

76. Kenneth D. Brown, *The Anti-Socialist Union, 1908-49* in *Essays in Anti-Labour History* ed. K.D. Brown, (London 1974)

77. Brown p 255.

The Earl of Mansfield (IPG) was President of the British Empire Union for most of the 1930s.

78. Brown p 259. Hoare's brother was a regional official in the Economic League in the thirties (see below). R. B. Blumenfield, one of the ASU founders, was shown in *Tatler* May 30, 1934, at a January Club/Blackshirt dinner. ('Jack

Mahoney')

These Cabinet Ministers give 'Carlton Club' in their *Who's Who* entries, as do a great many of the others mentioned in this section. The Carlton Club still runs a semi-formal political organisation, its 'Political Committee'. Leon Brittain MP was described fairly recently as a member.

79. Brown p257

80. Navy League and Comrades of the Great War both 'patriotic' organisations, i.e. 'anti-alien' and anti-left. Comrades of the Great War was co-founded by Patrick Hannon. On CGW, see Wooton, Ex-servicemen in Politics, in *Political Quarterly* 1958 pp 114-132. Hannon was secretary of both, simultaneously. On the Navy League, see Anti-Semitism with the Boots Off, in *Weiner Library Bulletin* (Special Edition).

81. Robert Benewick, *The Fascist Movement in Britain* (London 1972) p190

82. Benewick p289

83. Gisela C. Lebzelter, Henry Hamilton Beamish and the Britons; Champions of Anti-Semitism in Lunn and Thurlow (eds) see fn 4 above: first (unnumbered) page of her essay.

84. The hidden anti-semitism of the political Right in this period is visible, for example, in the autobiography of John Baker White (fn 68 above). White (p123) describes Nesta Webster as a "far-seeing woman of whom I saw a good deal..writer of books on secret societies and subversion"; and notes (p132) his fond memories of G.K. Chesterton's 'bon mots' - the only one he remembers being "How odd of God to choose the Jews".

85. Stephen Blank, *Industry and Government in Britain: the Federation of British Industries in Politics, 1945-65*, Saxon House, Farnborough, 1973, p 14.

Docker's vision is not unlike that embodied in the NEDC ('Neddy') of the sixties, except that NEDC remained a talking shop and never had any power.

86. Farr, thesis, p179

87. Frank Longstreth, *The City, Industry and the State in State and Economy in Contemporary Capitalism* ed. Colin Crouch (London 1979)

88. And when it was articulated - Longstreth quotes memos to the government from the FBI opposed to the return to the Gold Standard - it was ignored.

89. Longstreth p171

90. *Daily Worker* 8 May 1937

91. *Times* 23 July 1937

92. On Truemit, see Monica Brimacombe, *The Company They Keep*, in *New*

Statesman 9 May 1986

93. Claims made by Briggs to someone who, for obvious reasons, does not wish to be identified. The *claims* are true - ie Briggs did make them - but whether or not BUI *are* funding these groups is another question. It has been pointed out to me by Kevin McNamara MP, for example, that the Union of Democratic Mineworkers hardly needs financial help as it inherited the (considerable) funds of the 'Spencer' union of the 1920s.

Edward Martell - the bridge

After World War 2 the role of strike-breaker and public anti-socialist campaigner was picked up by Edward Martell. (94) Martell, who had been a member of the Liberal Party until the early 1950s (a member of the 'libertarian' rump of the party), set up his Free Press Society (1955), followed by the Peoples' League for the Defence of Freedom (1956), the Anti-Socialist Front (1958), his newspaper, *New Daily* (1960), the National Fellowship (1962) and the Freedom Group (1963). (95)

Even the names of these groups suggest Martell's role as the bridge between the pre-war groups and those of the 1970s: the 'Peoples' League' and 'Anti-Socialist Front' have obvious, and presumably intentional echoes of the Anti-Socialist Union and all the various 'leagues' of the 1920s and 1930s.

Martell's organisations were involved in strike-breaking in 1958, 1962 and 1963. (96) Although Martell apparently attracted the support of tens of thousands of people, he never received the kind of overt backing from senior people on the British Right, in British capital or the Tory Party given to the groups in the 1920s and '30s. Donald Johnson MP, one of Martell's few open supporters in the House of Commons commented:

"It was Edward Martell's misfortune that no one with a positive political stake in the party would commit themselves to open support. The National Fellowship had a distinguished list of open supporters ... (but) scarcely a person with any political know-how." (97)

Few of the names associated with Martell seem to crop up elsewhere, but there are one or two interesting connections: Lord Addington, a keen supporter of Moral Rearmament (about whom a lot may get said, one day); the Earl of Selbourne sponsored the Freedom Group; and in the National Fellowship was Air Vice Marshall Donald Bennett, who turns up a decade later with Lady Birdwood, Don Martin et al. (98)

Although Martell's empire folded in the mid-sixties (demonstrating that his actual support was smaller than he always said), he pops up again in 1977 with Lady Birdwood and Donald Bennett in *Self Help*, another strike-breaking, anti-union, newspaper printing outfit, allegedly financed by Ross McWhirter. (99) He is currently a 'consultant' to Charles Forte.

It was Martell's misfortune to be in the wrong place at the wrong time, pursuing his anti-union, anti-socialist aims at a point when it had become deeply unfashionable on the right to be openly right-wing. Nothing he did would have seemed out of place in

the National Association for Freedom. All the talk of there being a 'New Right' in Britain in the 1970s is falsified by the very existence of Martell and his organisations. Yet he is rarely mentioned in the various articles that have been written about that 'New Right'. Today, as much as when he was politically active, he seems to be faintly embarrassing. He deserves better. If anyone can be said to be the forebear of the Thatcher-led counter revolution it is Martell.

RR

94. In 1956 *The Times* included Martell in a long list of groups working against 'communism', including; MRA, Common Cause, IRIS, Mosley's Union Movement, and something called the Anti-Communist League of Great Britain. My point is that Martell was the public - publicity-seeking - campaigner. To a greater or lesser degree, all these other groups worked semi-clandestinely.

95. On Martell, see *Labour Research* August 1956, February 1962, November 1963 and George Thayer, *The British Political Fringe* (London 1965), ch.4.

96. *Labour Research* November 1963

97. Donald Johnson, *A Cassandra at Westminster* (London 1967) p111.

98. On Bennett's later associates see *Searchlight* no.51.

99. McWhirter financing Self-Help in *Searchlight* no 28.