

The Dirty Dozen, Or Why The New York Times Loves The British

The *New York Times* has taken lately to exposing the links between the CIA and the American press, and piously decrying the manipulation and perversion of the free press.

Most knowledgeable readers of the *Times* have been quick to observe that the exposés have served to downplay the role of the *Times* in collaborating with the CIA and U.S. State Department years. But, there is something deeper at issue: The *Times* series must be seen as a seditious, *British* intelligence-sponsored attack on traditionalist layers in the American intelligence community.

That's not so surprising when you realize that the *Times* has been, throughout its 125 year history, a mouthpiece for British financier factions in American politics. In fact, the *Times* is presently a corporate member of the International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS), the semi-official think tank of the City of London's MI-5 and MI-6. The paper's editorial staff is so riddled with British agents-of-influence that we thought it might be useful to draw up a list of the top dozen, so readers of the *Times* will know who is giving them the news.

1. *James "Scotty" Reston* — columnist and member of the corporation's Board of Directors. A member of the British-allied Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) and attendee of the meetings of the Bilderberg Society, the international monetarists' club which is now under the domination of the Rothschild family. Reston models himself on his mentor, the late Walter Lippmann, who served as the spokesman in the U.S. for the City of London's Round Table policymaking body for over 50 years. During World War II, Reston worked with the Office of Strategic Services and the psychological warfare unit, the Office of War Information, and was associated closely with British Round Table circles. Reston's then editor, Turner Catledge said of those times:

"One day, he (Reston) invited me to join him and his wife, Sally, on a weekend visit with Lord and Lady Astor at Cliveden. . . . Cliveden . . . had been a famous mingling place for politicians and journalists for a decade — it was sometimes called the "second foreign office."

The "Cliveden Set," of course, was better known as the pre-1939 supporters of fascism and Hitler's *Drang Nach Osten*.

2. *Max Frankel* — The editorial page editor responsible for the paper's hysterical calls in favor of the dollar's collapse (as the *Times* puts it, "What dollar crisis?"). Frankel is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, an attendee at Bilderberg Society conferences, and is a member of London's International

Institute for Strategic Studies. As with all *New York Times* IISS members, Frankel has withheld his membership from his official *New York Times* biography.

3. *Flora Lewis* — chief European diplomatic correspondent and expected to soon become the paper's foreign affairs columnist, replacing the retiring C.L. Sulzberger. Her specialties include hardly "objective" coverage of "Eurocommunism" and East bloc dissident movements — two phenomena which the European press has increasingly identified as British intelligence-run anti-Soviet operations. She too is a member of the IISS and the CFR.

4. *Seymour Topping* — managing editor, formerly foreign editor and Moscow and Bonn bureau chief. He owes his position largely to his marriage to the daughter of Chester Ronning, a Canadian diplomat and member of the British think tank, the Institute of Pacific Relations. Ronning helped organize the current British-Communist China rapprochement, and is believed to be linked to a 1973 Canadian-based activation of the Black September, a British intelligence-controlled prior to Nixon's first trip to China. Ronning arranged with the Chinese for Topping and James Reston to have an exclusive tour of China. Topping is a member of the CFR and the Asia Society.

5. *Sydney Gruson* — executive vice-president, who makes sure that the not terribly bright publisher, A.O. "Punch" Sulzberger, stays on course. Former *New York Times* London bureau chief, Gruson is politically and socially connected with the highest levels of IISS networks in the United States, though apparently he is not himself a member.

6. *Leonard Silk* — business affairs columnist and formerly an editorial board member. These days, Silk's major task is taking policy statements published in the *London Times* and *Financial Times* — including calls for the U.S. to suicidally conserve energy, raise interest rates, and force West Germany to reflate — and rewriting them for a U.S. audience. A member of the CFR (omitted from his official biography), Silk is formerly a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution, and, in 1965-1966, was a Ford Foundation distinguished visiting research professor at Carnegie Institute.

7. *Drew Middleton* — military affairs correspondent, former London bureau chief, and a member of the IISS. Age has slowed the quantity, but not the quality of his psywar on looming Soviet military threats, limited nuclear war and NATO. Author Gay Talese, in his book

on the *Times*, gives a succinct profile of Middleton:

He had been the London bureau chief for nine years; he was an Anglophile, a club man, and within newspaper circles he was known as "Sir Drew." He had worked in Russia, Germany and elsewhere, but London was his spiritual home...

8. *Richard Burt* — diplomatic correspondent with special emphasis on SALT talks. Hired by the *Times* in 1977 to replace Leslie Gelb (now with the State Department), Burt was formerly the assistant director of the IISS in London where he was a regular contributor to the *London Times* and *International Affairs*, the journal of the Royal Institute of International Affairs. Said one competitor of Burt's: "He knows all the sources personally. (Leslie) Gelb, Paul Warnke, and David Aaron (former Mondale aide who works with Brzezinski — ed.) are all chums of his."

9. *Robert Kleiman* — member of the editorial board, and leading NATO spokesman at the paper. He is a member of the IISS and the Atlantic Bridge, a group designed to maintain U.S. occupation control over Germany. During World War II he was, according to his official biography, "Chief of Office of War Information (a joint British U.S. intelligence effort — ed.) psychological warfare teams" attached to the headquarters of Generals Stillwell and MacArthur. He is the author of a 1964 book, *Atlantic Crisis: American Diplomacy Confronts a Resurgent Europe*.

10. *Anthony Lewis* — columnist and former London Bureau chief. Spends his time in Boston where he titles his column "Abroad at Home," and London where his column becomes "At Home Abroad." He once wrote about London that, despite the collapse of the city's services (45 minute waits for a subway), London still had the best theatre in the world, which was, after all, what really counted. In the early 1960s Lewis became the *Times* expert on the law and Supreme Court, a post created at the urging of James Reston and Felix Frankfurter.

11. *Roger Starr* — editorial board member. Starr is the author of the notorious November, 1976 *New York Times Magazine* article proposing that New York City undergo "planned shrinkage" by closing down entire ghetto areas and forcing two million poor people out of the city. This proposal coincided with the Felix Rohatyn-sponsored

conference in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. (also in November, 1976) which issued the blueprints for slave labor and urban relocation in the U.S.

12. *Alan Riding* — Mexico correspondent. He and his wife together serve as correspondents for the Lazard-controlled *Washington Post*, *Newsweek*, and *Financial Times* of London as well as for the *New York Times*. Last week, in a discussion about Mexico's resisting Schlesinger sabotage of a natural gas deal, the British national Riding told a member of the Mexican Labor Party that "López Portillo doesn't have the strength to follow the path of Echeverría. His only alternative is to pull down his pants and bend over," and "to shove the pipeline up his ass." The Mexican Labor Party has called on the Mexican government to expel Riding from the country as a British agent (see below).

Agents Emeritus

C.L. Sulzberger — recently retired foreign affairs columnist. First cousin of *Times* publisher A.O. Sulzberger, "C.L." is a member of the IISS and the CFR, and a frequent Bilderberg Society attendee. In 1967, he published a column on KGB agents in Western Europe that was written entirely by the CIA's E. Howard Hunt, a close friend of William Buckley. In 1941, the Nazis arrested Sulzberger in Slovakia for being a British spy.

Clifton Daniels — recently retired, having been London and Washington, D.C. bureau chief and managing editor. As the *Times* described him at his retirement, "He became known for his elegance — for his Saville Row suits, for his Southern accent, which acquired a certain British intonation, and for his courtly manners." Then, quoting Daniels: "It seems odd to say so, but it was fun (World War II — ed.). I had what the British used to call 'a good war.' I enjoyed my war and I survived without a scratch." And then, "the coronation was the greatest spectacle I've ever seen," referring to Queen Elizabeth's coronation which he covered for the *Times*.

This list admittedly does not do full justice to the *New York Times*, nor to its many aspiring royalists. Many, like Seymour Hersh, Tom Wicker, Abe Rosenthal, and others could certainly make a persuasive case for a place on our list.

—Patrick Koehlin