

George Mason University: a base for British 'free market' warfare

by Charles Tuttle and Steven P. Meyer

In the 1970s, when the British oligarchy and its allied policy interests needed a location close to the nation's capital to establish a network of policy advisory think-tanks to promote anti-American, "free market" ideology, they turned to a little-known campus in Fairfax, Virginia—George Mason University. The choice was far from accidental: The university had been created virtually from scratch by the local Tory establishment, and its controlling board was completely under their thrall.

Today, George Mason University, and its cluster of Mont Pelerin Society-linked think-tanks, has a corrupting influence on American national policy similar to the notorious University of Chicago School of Economics. It is the leading repository of the papers of Austrian school of economics ideologue and Mont Pelerin Society founder, Friedrich von Hayek, and, through the GMU's schools of Economics and Law, the provider of much of the policy blueprint for Newt Gingrich's and Phil Gramm's fascist "Conservative Revolution" and its "Contract with America." Its think-tanks are fully integrated with other adjuncts of British intelligence and promoters of British, fascist economics, such as the Heritage and Cato foundations. They have direct access into Congressional offices, and during the Bush administration, played a major role in the Executive branch formulation of policy, especially on economic issues. Their representatives are also key spokesman for "free market" policy in the media, nationally and internationally.

Back in the beginning

Much of the groundwork for GMU's creation as a university center was laid by Judge Albert V. Bryan, Sr., the Alexandria-based power broker who, in 1956, as a rector of the University of Virginia, headed a committee to find a site for George Mason in Fairfax County. In 1960, the construction of George Mason College was completed and the school was designated a two-year "feeder college" to the University of Virginia, Charlottesville. Albert V. Bryan, Sr. was then chairman of the board of visitors for the entire University of Virginia system.

In 1964, Clarence J. Robinson, the creator of the Interarms gunrunning project discussed elsewhere in this *Feature*, became the chairman of George Mason's advisory

board, in order to transform the college into a full four-year institution. Within a year, young Arthur Windsor Arundel, a former CIA propaganda and covert operations man from a Hunt Country family, was posted as Robinson's vice president.

In 1966, Arundel formed a Citizens Committee on Higher Education in Northern Virginia, which he chaired, in order to publicize the need to expand George Mason. Anglophile controller Armistead Boothe was a leading member of Arundel's committee.

In 1970, Albert V. Bryan, Jr. was added to the board of advisers of George Mason College, joining Arundel and Robinson. In 1972, when George Mason was launched as a separate university center, both Bryan and Arundel were retained to serve on its founding board.

Spinning the web

The GMU "wastebasket" was now ready for a hefty pile of British ideological trash. Several interrelated think-tanks on economic and public policy, many of which have overlapping staff and, in some cases, are even located within each other's premises on and near the campus, have as their nerve center the Atlas Economic Research Foundation, which had an East Coast network established in 1981 by Mont Pelerin Society member and Institute of Economic Affairs founder Sir Antony Fisher. Atlas (as in Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged*) has branches in London and near Stanford University, home of the Mont Pelerin-saturated Hoover Institution of War, Revolution and Peace.

Fisher had come to the United States in the 1970s with the expressed goal of setting up a vast network of ("non-partisan" and, therefore, tax-exempt) regional think-tanks, each offering up Hayekian policy initiatives expressed in the populist, rage-filled rhetoric of the day, such as that heard through the likes of Rush Limbaugh. In return for his efforts, Fisher was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II shortly before his death in 1988.

Atlas has since moved into quarters housing a concentration of kindred institutions, located a few blocks off-campus.

Since 1989, The Locke Institute, named for British philosopher John Locke, who thought rights do not derive from being human, but through ownership of private property, has

been housed in Atlas's offices. Next door lies the Institute for Humane Studies, originally brought to Fairfax from its 1960s San Francisco Bay-area origins in 1985. IHS houses one of the largest libraries of Austrian School works on earth, including stacks devoted to drug legalization, sponsored by the Liberty Fund, Inc. and the Hanes family-directed John M. Olin Foundation, Inc.

Upstairs, one finds the Center for the Study of Market Processes, whose chairman is Mont Pelerin Prof. Walter Williams, a British free-trade freak with the gift of gab who, at times, substitute-hosts Limbaugh's radio show. The Center, like all these places, recruits and processes Hayekian "scholars" who graduate and move onto similar think-tanks and government and academic positions.

In 1983, the founders of the British-dominated "Virginia school of political economy" brought onto their faculty long-standing Mont Pelerin operative Prof. James M. Buchanan, along with his associate, Prof. Gordon Tullock. They were brought on board the Center for the Study of Public Choice, which moved with them from Virginia Tech's campus; they are a political intelligence operation effectively geared to framing debate on public policy, limiting choices to what the British think are acceptable. The current operational goal of this network is the destruction of U.S. constitutional government during the ongoing economic collapse. Affiliated with the Center is The Buchanan House, opened in 1994 to serve as a library and focal point for research in "constitutional economics."

The treasonous network

Below we indicate the depth and interconnection of this operation, by providing the names and functions of key think-tank members:

- Atlas Economic Research Foundation: Alejandro Chafuen (Mont Pelerin Society), president; Leonard Liggio (Mont Pelerin Society, 1992-, president of Mont Pelerin Society U.S.-affiliate Philadelphia Society, advisory chairman to Heritage Foundation Salvatory Center for Academic Leadership, former president and distinguished scholar with Institute for Humane Studies, former Cato Institute vice-president, vice-president and research professor with George Mason University departments of Law and History), executive vice-president.

- Institute for Humane Studies board members: Richard H. Fink (Reason Foundation trustee, Center for the Study of Market Processes fellow, Cato Institute director, 1987 Presidential Privatization Commission member, Koch Industries vice-president); Howard Rich (Cato Institute director, U.S. Term Limits president); Leonard Liggio (see Atlas Economic Research Foundation). Program Review Committee: James M. Buchanan (see Center for the Study of Public Choice); Arthur Seldon (see the Locke Institute).

- Center for the Study of Public Choice: James M. Buchanan (Mont Pelerin Society president 1984-86, Cato Insti-

tute distinguished fellow, Reason Foundation adjunct scholar, National Taxpayers Union director, recipient 1986 Nobel Prize); Robert D. Tollison (1994-96 Public Choice Society president, Citizens for a Sound Economy board general director, editor *Public Choice*); Richard E. Wagner (editor *Constitutional Political Economy*, academic advisory Center for the Study of Market Processes), educational director and research associate; Gordon Tullock (Mont Pelerin Society), distinguished adjunct associate; James C. Miller III (Heritage Foundation advisory board, Hoover Institution senior fellow), distinguished fellow.

- International Institute (which has extensive international connections, ferrying scholars and students back and forth between various countries): John H. Moore (Mont Pelerin Society, board member Earhart Foundation, former board member of the Fisher Institute, former fellow and deputy director of the Hoover Institution, adviser to the Center for Studies in Free Enterprise, staff and Professor of Economics and International Transactions at the Institute for Public Policy).

- Law and Economics Center (in Arlington, Virginia, which houses the controversial Economics Institute for Federal Judges, offering seminars at resorts to "educate" judges in the Austrian school of economics, and also houses the Economics Institute for Law Professors): Henry G. Manne (Mont Pelerin Society), chairman, University Professor of Law and Dean of School of Law; D. Bruce Johnsen, director; Leonard Liggio (see Atlas Economic Research Foundation); Peter Ferrara (Heritage Foundation adjunct scholar, National Center for Policy Analysis fellow).

- Center for the Study of Market Processes: Walter E. Williams (Mont Pelerin frequent participant, trustee Reason Foundation, adjunct scholar Cato Institute, distinguished scholar Heritage Foundation, Hoover Institution executive), John M. Olin Distinguished Professor of Economics, chairman of the Department of Economics; Robert D. Tollison, board member (see Center for Study of Public Choice); Don Lavoie (Cato Institute adjunct scholar, editor *Market Process*, staff, Institute for Public Policy staff), fellow; Richard H. Fink (see Institute for Humane Studies).

- The Locke Institute: Charles K. Rowley (Mont Pelerin Society, editor *Public Choice*, honorary lifetime president of European Public Choice Society, academic advisory Institute of Economic Affairs, founding editor *The International Review of Law and Economics*, editorial board *The Review of Austrian Economics*, academic advisory Center for the Study of Market Processes) general director and professor of economics; Arthur Seldon (former vice president Mont Pelerin Society, retired founder president of Institute of Economic Affairs) editorial director.

- The Institute of Public Policy: John H. Moore (see International Institute), faculty; Don Lavoie (see Center for Study of Market Processes), faculty; Seymour Martin Lipset (fellow, the Hoover Institution), faculty.