EIR Feature

New 'Diana wars' in Britain put focus on LaRouche

by Jeffrey Steinberg

On June 4, the London *Daily Telegraph,* the flagship publication of the British monarchy and the Club of the Isles' Hollinger Corp., published a crass slander against Lyndon LaRouche, headlined "U.S. Cult Is Source of Theories." The article charged that LaRouche, *EIR,* and the *New Federalist* newspaper were all behind a "Diana conspiracy industry," and that LaRouche, in league with London-based billionaire Mohamed Al Fayed, was "accusing the Queen of ordering the assassination of Diana, Princess of Wales."

Apart from the fact that the article was pure fiction, there were two significant things about the story—which accompanied a much longer article that trashed a British Independent Television (ITV) documentary, entitled "Diana: The Secrets Behind the Crash," which had aired the previous night, and which had been followed by a live televised debate on the Princess's death:

First, the *Daily Telegraph* smear was authored by Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, an avowed British Secret Intelligence Service (MI6) stringer, who spent from late 1992 through the spring of 1997 in Washington, D.C. orchestrating a similar slander campaign against President Bill Clinton. Allowing Evans-Pritchard's by-line to appear on the "icebox" slander of LaRouche was a blunder of strategic significance, which underscored the truth behind LaRouche's charge that all of President Clinton's enemies, including in the upper echelons of the British oligarchy, are also enemies of LaRouche.

The blunder also underscored the fact that there is a "battle royal" under way within the British ruling class, which goes far beyond the issue of the death of Princess Diana. The battle touches on matters of global geopolitics, and how the British oligarchy intends to survive the worst, systemic financial breakdown crisis in modern history.

The "Torygraph" slander also marked a decisive break in the Club of the Isles' policy of keeping LaRouche's name out of print in Britain. It has been long-recognized by the City of London-centered financier oligarchical grouping headed

Princess Diana enters the Ritz Hotel in Paris on Aug. 30, 1997, the evening before her murder. Inset: British scribbler Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, known for his role in the "Get Clinton" campaign, now accuses Lyndon LaRouche and EIR *of masterminding a "Diana conspiracy industry."*

by the Royal Consort, Prince Philip, that LaRouche and *EIR* have been a powerful factor in exposing their dirty machinations worldwide, and have also been an important contributing factor in an eruption of political warfare against the Windsors, even from among the British elites.

The LaRouche role in the Windsors' troubles came to the surface in 1994, when *EIR* published "The Coming Fall of the House of Windsor," a *Special Report* exposing the role of Prince Philip and his World Wildlife Fund (WWF, now the World Wide Fund for Nature), in triggering the worst genocide in modern history in the Great Lakes region of Africa. Even as *EIR*'s exposés of the Windsors circulated throughout the world diplomatic community and among factions of the British establishment, with rare exceptions, the name "LaRouche" was banned from the British press.

All that changed, beginning with the June 4 Evans-Pritchard diatribe. The article not only accused LaRouche and *EIR* of heading the "conspiracy industry," and of accusing "the Queen of being the world's foremost drug dealer." But also, it linked LaRouche to Mohamed Al Fayed, Harrods department store owner and the father of the late Dodi Fayed, in a campaign, Evans-Pritchard wrote, "aimed at discrediting Tiny Rowland, Mr. Al Fayed's longtime business rival, . . . according to Francesca Pollard, a former operative for the Fayed security machine." As *EIR* revealed in its 1993 unauthorized biography of Rowland, Pollard, whose family was robbed of its fortune by Rowland, was threatened and then paid off by Rowland, to be a source of trash against Al Fayed. Following the Aug. 31, 1997 car crash in Paris that claimed the life of Princess Diana, Dodi Fayed, and their driver, Henri Paul, Rowland was deployed by the British royal family to lead a slander and harassment campaign aimed at silencing Mohamed Al Fayed, who has stated publicly that he is "99.9% certain" that Diana and Dodi were the victims of a murder plot.

Battle of the documentaries

The trigger for the slanders against LaRouche was the airing of the ITV documentary on the evening of June 3, followed by a live TV debate, which featured this author. The ITV documentary provided dramatic new evidence supporting the case that Diana and Dodi were murdered (see "New Holes in Cover-Up of Diana Murder Plot," *EIR,* June 12, 1998), and highlighted several investigative leads that were first published in *EIR,* including the possibility that driver Paul was blinded by an anti-personnel laser.

During the live TV round-table debate, this author discussed Princess Diana's decade-long war with the House of Windsor, including the impact of her November 1995 BBC Panorama interview, in which she charged that her estranged husband, Prince Charles, was unfit to be King; and, the reaction of the establishment to her actions, which amounted to a collective shriek, "Off with her head!" Rowland's personal involvement in the campaign to cover up the truth about the Paris crash, and to destroy Mohamed Al Fayed, was also aired, much to the chagrin of the producer and host of a

Author Jeffrey Steinberg (seated at right) told a British television audience on June 3 that he "could not rule out the possibility" that Prince Philip was involved in the murder of Princess Diana.

Channel 4 "Dispatches" documentary on the Diana death that aired the following night. Channel 4 tried to dismiss as fantasy every piece of evidence refuting the "drunk driver" theory.

The Channel 4 "Dispatches" program included a slander of this author and *EIR* that was even more explicit on the question of Prince Philip. Although this author was interviewed on camera for more than two hours by Channel 4 host Martyn Gregory, less than one minute of that interview was shown on the hour-long "Dispatches" diatribe. And, that brief segment waxed hysterical about *EIR*'s refusal to "rule out" the possibility that Prince Philip ordered the murder of Diana and Dodi. Indeed, British press accounts of the relationship between Prince Philip and Lady Diana, particularly during the brief period of her relationship with Dodi Fayed, revealed that the Royal Consort was in a constant blind rage over Diana's public disdain for the Windsors, and particularly her implicit challenge to their legitimacy on the British throne.

Gregory was given several pages in the *Sunday Telegraph* on June 7, to continue denouncing LaRouche, *EIR,* and Al Fayed. In an article regurgitating the "Dispatches" disinformation, Gregory wrote: "The numerous hares Mohamed Fayed has set running in the colours of sundry conspiracy theories are typified by Geoffrey [sic] Steinberg, chief reporter of *Executive Intelligence Review,* a small-circulation American magazine that specializes in conspiracy theories. He was yet another guest on the side of the motley crew supporting ITV's Wednesday night programme.

"This is the man who told Dispatches he 'could not rule out the possibility' that Prince Philip was involved in the 'murder of Diana.' We decided not to take Steinberg seriously at all."

Defending 'Mr. Big'

Not so for MI5, another British intelligence agency. On June 10, Francis Wheen, a writer for MI5's favorite leak sheet, the political satire magazine *Private Eye,* penned another anti-LaRouche diatribe, in the London *Guardian*. Wheen, who had published smears against LaRouche in 1996, fixated on *EIR*'s targetting of Prince Philip, whom Wheen affectionately referred to as "Mr. Big." "Many weird characters enjoyed their 15 minutes of fame during last week's flurry of TV programmes about Princess Diana," Wheen began, "but none was weirder than Jeffrey Steinberg, who appeared on Wednesday night's 'studio debate' and again on Channel 4's Dispatches the next evening. There was, he admitted, 'no smoking-gun proof' that Prince Philip ordered British intelligence to assassinate the Princess; nevertheless, 'I can't rule it out in all honesty.' "

Wheen complained, "So who is he? For some reason, viewers were not informed that the grand-sounding *Executive Intelligence Review* is in fact the weekly propaganda magazine of Lyndon H. LaRouche." Wheen almost got it right, when he noted, "*Executive Intelligence Review* has supported Al Fayed in his vendetta against Tiny Rowland and Lonrho; and when Michael Howard refused Al Fayed's application for British citizenship, LaRouche published a defamatory article

about the family connection between Howard and Harold Landy, the former chairman of a Lonrho subsidiary." Wheen then digressed into the ID-format slander that was perfected by the mid-1980s dirty tricks slander salon, run by Wall Street Anglophile spook banker John Train, as part of the "Get LaRouche" task force of the U.S. Justice Department and private agencies that framed up and railroaded LaRouche to prison. Wheen recited the litany of smears: LaRouche says "the Queen runs an international cocaine smuggling cartel," that "Henry Kissinger is a communist agent," and, interestingly, that "the Italian banker Roberto Calvi was murdered by the Duke of Kent." (Calvi was himself a member of the extended royal family.)

International terrorism

Wheen then touched on another sore spot of the House of Windsor and Club of the Isles: the British hand in sponsoring and harboring international terrorism. He tried to twist *EIR*'s exposé of London's role in safe-housing dozens of major terrorist organizations, a fact the U.S. State Department and the CIA have acknowledged in written documents. "In recent years," Wheen wrote, "LaRouche and Steinberg have been pursuing another 'unique' theory—that 'international terrorism' is masterminded by none other than Lord [William] Rees-Mogg and the *Daily Telegraph* reporter Ambrose Evans-Pritchard. . . . LaRouche claims [that] Rees-Mogg and Evans-Pritchard are part of a 'powerful London-centerd apparatus that declared war on the United States immediately after the inauguration of President Clinton.' Whitewater, Troopergate, Paula Jones, Monica Lewinsky—all these scandals can be traced back to our double-barreled desperadoes. . . . But Rees-Mogg and Evans-Pritchard are merely servants of the 'powerful London-centered apparatus.' The Mr. Big whose orders they obey is Prince Philip. . . . The intention, according to LaRouche, is to discredit, and destabilise the U.S. until it is forced to become a British colony once again, thus taking the House of Windsor another giant stride on its road to world domination."

Wheen continued, "Only one person in Britain was powerful enough to thwart the conspiracy—Princess Diana, who had 'declared war' on the royal family in her Panorama interview. And so she had to be killed."

Wheen ended on a curious, slightly ominous, note: "This alliance between Al Fayed and Lyndon LaRouche seems risky, to say the least. Why should a prominent public figure aid and abet such an unscrupulous fantasy-merchant? If LaRouche doesn't wish to sully his reputation, he must disown Al Fayed forthwith," Wheen wrote.

A half-dozen other slanders followed the *Guardian* article, in the *Scotsman,* on BBC-4 Radio, and even in the Danish press. One factor that clearly got the royals' blood boiling was that, according to the major British TV rating service, 12.5 million Britons watched the ITV documentary, and most of them also watched the studio debate that followed the evening news. On June 4, German national television aired the entire ITV broadcast, and major German dailies published lengthy excerpts from the transcript. In contrast, fewer than 3 million British viewers watched the Channel 4 smear the following evening. And, a *Mirror* newspaper poll, published on June 7, suggested that an overwhelming majority of Britons are convinced that there was more to the death of Diana than a traffic accident.

The strategic battle

As *EIR* has said from day one, the death of Princess Diana is the scandal that could hasten the fall of the House of Windsor. But, the future of the Club of the Isles oligarchy hangs in the balance today in a number of ways. The probe in Paris of Diana's death, if it turns up compelling evidence of a murder, or even of aggravated manslaughter caused by a paparazzi mob notorious for its links to British intelligence and the Crown apparatus, would certainly bring down both the Windsors and the current Socialist government in France, which also is deeply implicated in the crash and the cover-up.

On other fronts, the British establishment is torn over how to deal with the onrush of the financial collapse. Prince Philip and his circle have no compunctions about throwing the world into decades of chaos and genocide, in order to retain oligarchical control. But other, less insane forces within the City of London financial elite are apparently asking, "What do we get out of such chaos and destruction?" and may be seeking a new political alliance, perhaps with the United States, and sane forces on the continent who are opposed to the suicidal Maastricht Treaty.

Other issues that are causing divisions among the British elites include Britain's stance on the European Monetary Union, and the euro single curency. Furthermore, factions on the continent that share Prince Philip's impulse to play "chaos warfare," may be pressing for a new assault on the Asian currencies, including the Japanese yen, through the major continental banks and their offshore hedge funds, even though such a move at this moment would almost certainly trigger a global financial explosion with unpredictable consequences.

Within the extended European oligarchy, which has, for decades, been under the boot of Prince Philip's Club of the Isles, there is intensive in-fighting and factional warfare, adding further to the crisis atmosphere spreading across Eurasia. The common point of agreement among the "chaos" factions within the British and continental oligarchies, is that the power of the United States, as the pillar of the nation-state system, must be destroyed in the immediate period ahead, lest LaRouche's ideas for a nation-state-centered New Bretton Woods solution to the present global mess, be adopted, along with LaRouche's vision for a Eurasian Land-Bridge plan of global economic reconstruction.