

# Vice President Gore's 'other bad acts'

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Peter Munk epitomizes the current generation of British-American-Canadian, or "BAC," operators who, on behalf of the London-Wall Street-Toronto triangle of Club of the Isles oligarchs, have been engaged in the biggest worldwide raw materials grab since the heyday of the British East India Company. Munk's Barrick Gold Corp. has been plundering Africa, Indonesia, Ibero-America, and the United States, to corner a large chunk of the world's untapped supply of gold and other precious metals, to ensure that the "BAC" oligarchs are in a position to maintain choke-point control over the world economy, at the point—sometime soon—that the financial and monetary system goes into a complete disintegration.

It is therefore no surprise that Munk was one of 88 Canadians, handpicked by Maurice Strong, to become members of Prince Philip's 1001 Club, the secretive funding arm of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF, now called the World Wide Fund for Nature) and the plethora of eco-terrorist organizations deployed around the globe to destroy the nation-state system and modern industrial society.

## Access to Gore

Membership in Strong's "kindergarten" brings with it certain perks, among them, access to Vice President Albert Gore, Jr.

In his 1996 authorized biography, Munk told writer Donald Rumball that, in the early days of the Clinton administration, he ran into a brick wall, when he tried to grab up U.S. Federal land, using an arcane 1872 statute that provided for sale of such land to "miners" for \$5 per acre. Munk stood to make a killing, and he put all of his resources into twisting the U.S. Department of the Interior and the U.S. Senate to his point of view.

To curry favor with the Republicans in Washington, Munk had hired former Conservative Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney as a Barrick director. Mulroney used "his close relationship with George Bush to good advantage." Bush got Munk access to key Senators, and they struck down legislation, drafted by President Clinton's close ally Sen. Dale Bumpers (D-Ark.), that would have blocked Munk's scheme. Identical legislation had passed the House.

However, after Munk won the land-grab, he "swore he would never again allow himself to be sideswiped by political surprises." He created an International Advisory Board for Barrick that included both Mulroney and Bush, to institution-

alize his presence in Washington. But Munk knew that that was not enough. "We needed access to Gore," Munk told Rumball. "And we needed Maurice Strong to take us to some key contacts to make sure our case was understood at the highest level."

Sources familiar with Munk's gold rush suggest that, not only did Strong provide the Barrick boss with access to the Vice President, but Gore is widely believed to have played an important role, personally, in swaying Democratic Senators against the Bumpers bill.

## Strong, Gore, and Molten Metal

Gore was also "Chairman Mo's" (the insider's term of endearment for Strong) witting or unwitting ally in another scheme, in which the Club of the Isles eco-freak personally managed to make millions, and for which he was, at one point, facing insider trading charges, a Federal civil suit, and several Congressional investigations, along with several top figures in the Al Gore campaign apparatus.

On Earth Day, April 17, 1995, Vice President Gore travelled to Fall River, Massachusetts to deliver a speech near the research plant of Molten Metal Technology, Inc., a firm which counted Strong among its leading stockholders and directors. The firm's registered lobbyist, Peter Knight, was Gore's top Senate aide. Gore's Harvard pal Vic Gatto was MMT's chief of government sales.

According to an account published in the Ottawa *Citizen* by Paul McKay on Oct. 20, 1997, Vice President Gore, in his Earth Day speech, heaped praise on MMT, calling the firm "a success story, a shining example of American ingenuity, hard work, and business know-how, all being used to clean up our environment, and at the same time provide jobs and economic growth."

The day after Gore spoke, shares in Molten Metal began to soar, doubling in value in a short matter of months.

But hidden behind the Gore rhetoric was a sea of trouble. From its founding, MMT had received all of its funding from the Department of Energy—more than \$33 million—to produce a commercially viable waste conversion system, using high-temperature metal to decompose waste. The experiments had never worked, beyond the laboratory scale, and the company had spent almost all of its most recent annual grant money in just three months.

By 1995, the Department of Energy informed the firm that its research funding would be greatly scaled back, and would soon be cut off altogether. Between December 1995 and September 1996, most of the company's officers, as well as director Maurice Strong, dumped millions of shares in the company—at peak market price of \$30 per share. The sales grossed \$15.3 million. On Oct. 20, 1996, a Sunday, after all the insiders had made their killing, MMT issued a press release, and informed brokers via a conference call, that government funds would be scaled back, and commercial ventures delayed. The next day, MMT stock plunged to \$5 a share.