

The financial power of the Trilateral Commission in Europe

The known membership of the Trilateral Commission in Western Europe, leaving aside the fellow-travelers and sycophants, presents quite an awesome picture, in terms of access to vast financial resources, including industrial infrastructure. It is no exaggeration to say, that the members of the European branch of the Commission, as individuals and as representatives of institutions, control the flow of *tens, if not hundreds, of billions of dollars on the world financial markets.*

In one sense, M. Raymond Barre is right: The Commission is not a "secret society," nor is there need for "mystification"; its members are well-known, and some of their activities are not hidden from the public eye, even if, we can be sure, 95%-plus of what really matters passes through sanctified and "secure" private communication channels. But indeed, the Commission is a "conspiracy," in the sense of providing a critical vehicle for the political, financial, and "think-tank" representatives and servants of the leading feudal families of Western Europe to coordinate policies along identifiable and coherent lines.

The policies of the Commission in Europe are, in part, betrayed by the term "European branch" itself. After all, "Europe" is not a single, homogeneous entity, but a complex of nation-states, with rich traditions of national sovereignty and national histories and culture. At least 10 different languages are represented on the membership lists of the "European branch" of the Commission. The fact that "Europe," along with Japan and "North America," is seen as one of the three prongs of the Commission, itself betrays the feudalist outlook of its members, their antipathy to the nation-state.

Bankers and the insurance mafia

Take, for example, the world insurance, which has become perhaps the wealthiest and most powerful arena of global financial activity.

Former Prime Minister **Raymond Barre** has served, through the early 1980s, as honorary president of the International Association for the Study of Insurance, which also

refers to itself as the Geneva Association. Founded in 1973, this association groups directors, chairmen of the board, chief economists, and so on, of the powerhouse insurance-company giants of Venice, Trieste, Geneva, Munich, London, and other points. According to a highly reliable source, the association is the policy-coordination point for the ultra-Malthusian Club of Rome International, via the association's secretary general, Orio Giarini.

Several of the members of this exclusive association are also members of the Trilateral Commission. These include **E. K. Den Bakker**, chairman of the board, Nationale Nederlanden, Rotterdam; **Horst Jannott**, chairman of the executive board, Munich Reinsurance Company; and **Bernard Pagezy**, chairman of the Société d'Assurances du Groupe de Paris.

Similarly, the membership covers a wide array of leading banking institutions throughout Europe, including several whose directors and/or executives have been implicated in nasty financial activities. Such a list would include:

- **Giovanni Auletta Armenise**, Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura, Rome;
- **Timothy Bevan**, chairman, Barclays;
- **Guido Carli**, former governor, Bank of Italy;
- **Hervé de Carmoy**, general manager for Europe, Midland Bank, London and Paris (a Commission Executive member);
- **Jaime Carvajal Urquijo**, chairman, Banco Urquijo, Madrid;
- **Michael David-Weill**, senior partner, Lazard Frères, Paris and New York offices;
- **Jean Deflassieux**, chairman, Crédit Lyonnais, Paris;
- **Jean Dromer**, president director-general, International Bank for West Africa, Paris; president, Association of French Banks;
- **Jacques Grootheart**, chairman of the board, Société Générale de Banque, Belgium;
- **Ludwig Huber**, chairman of the board, Bayerische Landesbank and Girozentrale, Munich;

- **Baron Leon Lambert**, Groupes Bruxelles Lambert, S.A., Brussels;
- **Carlos March Delgado**, chairman, Banca March, Madrid;
- **Alwin Muenchmayer**, chairman of the board, Bankhaus Schroeder, Muenchmayer, Hengst & Co, Munich;
- **Lord Roll of Ipsden**, chairman, Warburg and Co., Ltd., London;
- **Baron Edmond de Rothschild**, chairman, Compagnie Financière Holding, Paris;
- **Viscount Sandon**, deputy chairman, National Westminster Bank, Ltd., London;
- **W.E. Scherpenhuijsen Rom**, chairman, board of managing directors, Nederlandsche Middenstandbank, Amsterdam (Trilateral Executive member);

The members of the European branch of the Commission, as individuals and as representatives of institutions, control the flow of billions of dollars on the world financial markets. Ensnared in key positions in banking, insurance, and the news media, they serve as a vehicle for the oligarchical families of Europe to wage war against the nation-state.

- **Geoffrey Taylor**, director and group chief executive, Midland Bank, London;
- **José Vila Marsans**, director, Banco Central, Madrid;
- **Sir Philip de Zulueta**, special adviser, Hong Kong Shanghai, London (Executive Committee member).

Among these figures, we find **Lord Roll**, the patron of the Kissinger Associates group, a vehicle for financial and political "dirty tricks" in Europe, Asia, Ibero-America, and the United States. Lord Roll is reliably reported to have been the *éminence grise* behind the formation of the Trilateral Commission. Or we find **Edmond de Rothschild**, whose Compagnie Financière de Holding has provided seed-money for the Banco Nazionale di Lavoro banking house of Italy, on whose international advisory board sit Kissinger and Barre. The strategy of that bank, bluntly enunciated in a mid-September interview by director Nerio Nesi, is that world banking will be cartelized into "not more than 20 to 30 banks" worldwide; Nesi declared that his main financial partner in

Europe is de Rothschild. Or, if we look at Hong Kong and Shanghai and Bankhaus Schroeder Muenchmayer, we find banks under repeated investigation for illicit financial activities.

The role of the media

Alternatively, we can see the Trilaterals' power if we look at the control of the media in Europe. In West Germany, the main mouthpiece of the liberal-appeasement policy group is Hamburg's *Die Zeit*; its editor-in-chief, **Theo Sommer**, is a Trilateral member. In Spain, the usual mouthpiece for the latest disinformation from Soviet-linked services or from Kissinger Associates, or from the most entrenched of Spain's feudalist families (like the Albas), is *El Pais*; its publisher, **Jesús Polanco Gutiérrez**, is a Commission member. The president of the EFE news agency, **Luis María Anson**, is a Trilateralist; he is also president of the National Federation of Press Associations of Spain. In France, the recently appointed editor-in-chief of the influential daily *Le Monde*, **André Fontaine**, has been an on-again-off-again Trilateral member; Fontaine personally orchestrated the most recent (Sept. 17-18) round of "revelations" about the Greenpeace affair, that has caused the gravest institutional crisis in France in the post-war era.

In Italy, as in other countries, Trilateral penetration of the media is accomplished not only directly by members, but also by Trilateral fellow-travelers, chosen conduits for Commission "leaks." On the one hand, there is Kissinger-intimate **Arrigo Levi**, columnist for *La Stampa*, a Turin-based daily which usually reflects the opinions of Fiat chairman **Giovanni Agnelli**, an executive member of the Commission. On the other hand, a newspaper like *Corriere della Sera* has a slew of Trilateral "stringers," typified by **Alberto Ronchey** and **Luigi Califaris**, who were two among those privileged to attend Trilateral Commission proceedings in Rome in 1983.

In West Germany, this phenomenon takes a particular form, since the new U.S. ambassador in Bonn, **Richard R. Burt**, was himself, during his days as special correspondent for the *New York Times* in the 1970s, a "special correspondent" for the Trilateral Commission as well. According to a reliable American source, Burt would regularly receive special leaks from Carter administration-era national security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, one of the prime movers behind the Commission. Brzezinski would rely on Burt for channeling the latest Commission "line." Reliable estimates are that it was Brzezinski who provided Burt with the leaks about a U.S. reconnaissance satellite over Norway, which caused a major crisis in U.S. national security, in June 1979, and which later led to charges that Burt was guilty of treason.

So in Bonn, the Trilateral Commission has an extraordinary capability in place, an operative who, among other things, has been trained in the art of manipulating the media in set policy directions.

The Trilaterals' shaping of policy

Beyond insurance, banking, and the media, we would find an equally impressive array of Trilateral-controlled or manipulated institutions, were we to look at industrial corporations or trade unions in Western Europe.

Conversely, if we look at the Commission from the standpoint of how national sectors are affected by its activities, rather than from the standpoint of professional or institutional affiliations, we find the following:

Take France. Review the lists published above in insurance and banking, and add such names as **Michel Albert**, chairman, Assurance Générales de France, or **Roger Martin**, honorary president, Compagnie Saint-Gobain. What we see are institutions which represent enormous financial clout, including most of those few financial institutions in France which have escaped, or have in large part escaped, the more severe of the banking-nationalization legislative moves of the French Socialist government over the past four years. Lazard, according to the estimates of Paris insiders, is one of the critical behind-the-scenes architects of East-West contacts in France, and "owns" more politicians than the average Frenchman is aware of. Or Crédit Lyonnais, under the guidance of Socialist Party Trilateralist **Jean Deflassieux**, sponsored an important conference on East-West trade earlier this year, providing considerable openings for Soviet representatives in France.

Reviewing this array, it is not surprising that Lloyd Cutler, from the outside, and Barre, from the inside, would have considerable capabilities to manipulate the situation, via the Greenpeace-cum-"Watergate" affair.

In West Germany, a different phenomenon is observable. Two of West Germany's small number of Trilateral Executive members are Socialist International activist **Horst Ehmke**, the deputy chairman of the Social Democratic Party parliamentary fraction, and industrialist **Otto Wolff von Amerongen**, chairman of the German Federation of Chambers of Industry and Commerce, and International Advisory Board member of Trilateral founder David Rockefeller's Chase Manhattan Bank.

Ehmke and von Amerongen share a passion for appeasing the Soviet Union and decoupling the Federal Republic from the United States; this overrides whatever differences a "Socialist" and an "industrialist" might feel, and, in fact, these two, along with Trilateralist Sommer of *Die Zeit*, are propelling the decoupling drive in West Germany. Ehmke, an intimate of Brzezinski, has been circulating, in five languages, since early 1984, a document on "European Self-Reliance," which, as astute German commentators have stressed, echoes, without any deviation, the decoupling policy recommendations of Trilateralists Kissinger and Brzezinski on the American side. Ehmke privately refers to Brzezinski as "our mediator in the U.S.," for publicizing the need for greater "European autonomy" from the United States. Ehmke is, repeat-

edly, the subject of investigation by Western security services, for his role in having dismantled West German intelligence capabilities in the late 1960s-early 1970s, and because of his Czechoslovak wife's reputed East bloc intelligence connections. Ehmke recently concluded a "vacation," together with his wife, in Siberia.

Von Amerongen, on the occasion of a Sept. 16 visit to Jena, East Germany, insisted on the need for the "German-German connection" to be the pillar of East-West trade in the future, and expressed total opposition to the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative.

More than in some other European countries, the German Trilateralists are well-represented in the Socialist International, and, European insiders tell *EIR*, the Trilateralists' strategy, in the coming months, will be to attempt to bring into power a new Social Democratic government that can give the Soviets what they most want in Western Europe: unchallenged hegemony over Germany.

Aside from Ehmke, Social Democratic members of the Trilateral Commission include: **Diether Hoffman**, chairman of the board of the Neue Heimat construction giant; **Erwin Kristofferson**, director, International Department, German Federation of Trade Unions; **Richard Löwenthal**, professor emeritus of international relations, Free University of Berlin; **Konrad Porzner**, Social Democratic member of the German Bundestag; and **Heinz-Oskar Vetter**, Member of the European Parliament, and former chairman, German Federation of Trade Unions.

Britain, as is usual in such affairs, is somewhat of a special case. If some, in Paris and other capitals, see the Trilateral Commission as another operation of *Perfide Albion*, that suspicion is given at least some credence by the fact that the British Foreign Office is the only known foreign ministry in Europe that funds Commission activities, through a regular, year-by-year subsidy. Also, leading British firms, including Rio Tinto Zinc and National Westminster Bank, provide funding for the Commission. There is some commotion, however, in British Trilateral circles, following the mysterious "mild heart attack" suffered by **Sir Philip de Zulueta**, scion of the Rio Tinto Zinc and Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, on Sept. 20. Sir Philip will, most likely, miss the festivities in the French Senate on Oct. 25-26.

One senior figure of the British Establishment told *EIR* on Sept. 24, that he is beginning to have "doubts about the effectiveness of the Trilateral Commission." In the sense that the British Establishment, through Warburg's Lord Roll and others, put the idea for a "Trilateral Commission" into David Rockefeller's pea-brain in the early 1970s, the British could "uncreate" what they have created, were they to see it as a nuisance, or an embarrassment. If this reaction, and Sir Philip's sudden malady, are signs of British unease, the adage to follow is straightforward: When the British are nervous, attack; and then, escalate again.