

# Goldsmith's Referendum Party: agents of chaos

by Scott Thompson and Mark Burdman

On Oct. 21, Club of the Isles member Sir James Goldsmith founded the Referendum Party in London. Its first convention revived the most shrill Germanophobia of the Margaret Thatcher years, when Germany, hoping to reunify, was branded a new "Fourth Reich," and was subjected to every imaginable sort of geopolitical attack by the British oligarchy, including the assassination of leading national figures.

Wrote Robert Peston in the Oct. 21 *Financial Times*: "Anyone attending the first annual conference last Saturday of Britain's Referendum Party could have been forgiven for mistaking the whirr of the air conditioning for the hum of Messerschmitts crossing the English Channel. Germanophobia was everywhere in the speeches, in the video shown on two giant screens, and in the casual conversations of the glitterati, attending pre-conference soirees and dinner parties."

Goldsmith himself, speaking to an audience of some 4,000, ranted that the idea of a "European super-state" that would emerge through the Maastricht Treaty was a "German blueprint," supported by the higher echelons of "French administration." All of Europe was to be subjected to the same process by which Germany itself was unified as a nation, namely, the subordination of smaller units to Prussia. The philosophical mastermind of all this was the German philosopher Hegel, "who believed in the state, and despised the people."

Another speaker was John Aspinall, the lifetime Goldsmith buddy who is a rabid, racist Malthusian. According to former high-ranking British Secret Intelligence Service sources, Aspinall had set up a posh London casino, linked to the Syndicate's top money-launderer and boss, Meyer Lansky, through which he financed the earlier efforts of Sir James ("Jimmy") Goldsmith's eco-fascist brother "Teddy" (Edward René David Goldsmith) to run for Parliament in 1974 for the Ecology Party, and the European Parliamentary elections in 1979. Not only did Aspinall hire circus elephants for the political campaigns, but he later worked with Jimmy and Teddy to set up "pocket zoos" and vast game preserves holding strategic precious metals.

At the founding of the Referendum Party, Aspinall pronounced: "In this century, a million Englishmen have given up their lives, so that we should remain free, free from a German-dominated Europe."

## The domestic agenda

The Referendum Party, which is financed by Jimmy Goldsmith's billions, is not being created just to contain Germany, as his French party, L'Autre Europe (The Other Europe), earlier sought to do. As the higher levels of the British oligarchy, like Lord William Rees-Mogg, have said, the Referendum Party will help usher in the Labour Party, which other analysts see as fascism with a corporatist face, defeating the Conservative Party in the elections that must take place before autumn 1997. Nazi-like fascism is on the agenda of Sir Jimmy and his associate Lord William Rees-Mogg (see article, p. 54).

According to the *Washington Times* on Oct. 6, the eve of the Conservative Party's annual convention, the former party deputy chairman and treasurer, Lord Robert McAlpine, announced that he would be joining the Referendum Party. Even before this defection, Goldsmith won the agreement of Alan Walters, who had been Prime Minister Thatcher's monetarist guru, to run in the election district of the current Chancellor of the Exchequer, Kenneth Clarke. Walters agreed that he would oppose Clarke's "soft" policy toward Europe. As of now, Sir Jimmy has lined up 1,600 potential candidates for elections around the U.K., and 25,000 campaign workers.

## Some shady characters

Among those involved in the Referendum Party are a strange assortment of people linked to the underworld of dirty intelligence operations.

On Oct. 21, the South African *Mail and Guardian* reported that the campaign manager of the Referendum Party is Mark Gordon, who had been executive director of the London office of the International Freedom Foundation, a British Secret Intelligence Service interface with security establishment elements involved in destabilizing southern Africa.

Another influential figure is Carla Powell, wife of Sir Charles Powell, who was an adviser to Prime Minister Thatcher. Mrs. Powell, born Carla Bonardi, is of Italian origin, and runs one of the more active "salon" circuits in Britain. Whenever she is in the United States she meets with former President Sir George Bush, Grand Cross of the Order of Bath (GCB), and on regular trips to Sir James Goldsmith's hacienda in Mexico, she meets with Sir Henry Kissinger, Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George (KCMG). Her husband, Sir Charles, is the author of the infamous "Chequers Memorandum," a complete fabrication that attributed "Fourth Reich" views to six German experts. Sir Charles's brother, Jonathan, who had been senior political adviser at the British Embassy in Washington, D.C., is now the chief political adviser to Tony Blair.

Sir Jimmy himself has both personal and operational ties to Sir George Bush, with whom he has been involved in some nasty secret intelligence programs, including the coverup of the South African connection to the assassination of Sweden's Olof Palme.