

# Queen Elizabeth visit celebrates Anglo-American imperial alliance

by Kathleen Klenetsky

As *EIR* predicted she would in its May 10 issue, Queen Elizabeth II used her first official visit to the United States in 15 years to celebrate the revival of the Anglo-American "special relationship" through the savage imperialist adventure in the Mideast called Operation Desert Storm.

While millions of Iraqi women and children were facing death by starvation and disease as a direct result of the Gulf war and the continued economic sanctions, the Queen and her host, President George Bush, took every opportunity to praise the Anglo-American collaboration that brought about this catastrophe.

As you will see from her address to Congress, which we print below, the Queen could hardly restrain herself from gloating about how, once again, the British were able to manipulate the United States into fighting a war whose objectives ran completely counter to the republican principles upon which the United States was founded. When a Kuwaiti court sentences some poor wretch to 13 years in prison for the "crime" of wearing a Saddam Hussein tee shirt, you know that Operation Desert Storm had nothing to do with protecting democracy.

The Queen set the tone in her remarks at the official White House welcoming ceremony May 14. "It gives me particular pleasure that this visit comes so soon after a vivid and effective demonstration of the long-standing alliance between our two countries," the Queen asserted. Eager to show his allegiance to the Crown, Bush began his remarks at the ceremony with a gushing reference to Great Britain as "this mother country"—a designation which must have come as news to the tens of millions of Americans who thought their mother countries were Germany, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, China, or Nigeria—further compounding the insult by claiming that the American people as whole "revere" Britain.

Bush then proceeded to trash the American colonists' fight for independence from British rule by stocking his speech with obsequious references to the "special relationship," particularly as evidenced in the Gulf war, and declaring the U.S. and Britain to be "inseparable." Topping off this orgy of Anglo-American imperial ascendancy, the Queen also inducted Norman Schwarzkopf, commander of the U.S. forces in the Gulf, as a knight in the Order of the Bath, one of the honors dispensed to those who further the interests of the British monarchy.

One can well imagine what George Washington or John Quincy Adams would say about the spectacle of the President

of the United States colluding with a direct descendant of American independence's archenemy, King George III, to destroy another country in order to reassert Anglo-American imperial dominance over the entire developing sector. Had the American colonies lost their fight to free themselves, they would have faced the same grim future that now faces Iraq.

When the Queen visited George Washington's home, Mount Vernon, a band played "Dixie," the marching tune of the British-backed Confederate troops in the Civil War. But the Queen doesn't need Rebel music to convince her that, after 200-odd years, the United States is firmly back under British control. With Operation Desert Storm, Bush has effectively declared that the U.S. is at the service of British imperialism. The recolonization of the United States is underscored by new revelations of just how much of this country the British now own.

According to an advertisement placed in the *Washington Post* by the British government May 14, British investments in the U.S. "are roughly double the size of Japanese investments." Last year, the ad noted, "the Brits [sic] increased their lead of almost \$21 billion to \$122.8 billion—a staggering figure by any yardstick, especially considering that British investment in the U.S. in the early '80s totaled just \$9.8 billion, not even a tenth of last year's figure."

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## Documentation

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### Text of the Queen's address to Congress

*Address by Britain's Queen Elizabeth II to a joint meeting of the U.S. Congress on May 16, 1991.*

Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, Distinguished Members of Congress,

I know what a rare privilege it is to address a joint meeting of your two Houses. Thank you for inviting me.

The concept, so simply described by Abraham Lincoln as "government by the people, of the people, for the people," is fundamental to our two nations. Your Congress and our Parliament are the twin pillars of our civilizations and the

chief among the many treasures that we have inherited from our predecessors.

We, like you, are staunch believers in the freedom of the individual and the rule of a fair and just law. These principles are shared with our European partners and with the wider Atlantic community. They are the bedrock of the Western world.

Some people believe that power grows from the barrel of a gun. So it can, but history shows that it never grows well nor for very long. Force, in the end, is sterile. We have gone a better way; our societies rest on mutual agreement, on contract and on consensus. A significant part of your Social Contract is written down in your Constitution. Ours rests on custom and will. The spirit behind both, however, is precisely the same. It is the spirit of democracy.

These ideals are clear enough, but they must never be taken for granted. They have to be protected and nurtured through every change and fluctuation. I want to take this opportunity to express the gratitude of the British people to the people of the United States of America for their steadfast loyalty to our common enterprise throughout this turbulent century. The future is, as ever, obscure. The only certainty is that it will present the world with new and daunting problems, but if we continue to stick to our fundamental ideals, I have every confidence that we can resolve them.

Recent events in the Gulf have proved that it is possible to do just that. Both our countries saw the invasion of Kuwait in just the same terms; an outrage to be reversed, both for the people of Kuwait and for the sake of the principle that naked aggression should not prevail. Our views were identical and so were our responses. That response was not without risk, but we have both learned from history that we must not allow aggression to succeed.

I salute the outstanding leadership of your President, and the courage and prowess of the armed forces of the United States. I know that the servicemen and women of Britain, and of all the members of the Coalition, were proud to act in a just cause alongside their American comrades.

Unfortunately, experience shows that great enterprises seldom end with a tidy and satisfactory flourish. Together, we are doing our best to reestablish peace and civil order in the region, and to help those members of ethnic and religious minorities who continue to suffer through no fault of their own. If we succeed, our military success will have achieved its true objective.

For all that uncertainty, it would be a mistake to make the picture look too gloomy. The swift and dramatic changes in Eastern Europe in the last decade have opened up great opportunities for the people of those countries. They are finding their own paths to freedom. But the paths would have been blocked if the Atlantic Alliance had not stood together—if your country and mine had not stood together. Let us never forget that lesson.

Britain is at the heart of a growing movement towards greater cohesion within Europe, and within the European

Community in particular. This is going to mean radical economic, social and political evolution. NATO, too, is adapting to the new realities in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, and to changing attitudes in the West. It is Britain's prime concern to ensure that the new Europe is open and liberal and that it works in growing harmony with the United States and the other members of the Atlantic community. All our history in this and earlier centuries underlines the basic point that the best progress is made when Europeans and Americans act in concert. We must not allow ourselves to be enticed into a form of continental insularity.

I believe this is particularly important now, at a time of major social, environmental and economic changes in your continent, and in Asia and Africa. We must make sure that those changes do not become convulsions. For the primary interest of our societies is not domination but stability; stability so that ordinary men and women everywhere can get on with their lives in confidence.

Our two countries have a special advantage in seeking to guide the process of change because of the rich ethnic and cultural diversity of both our societies. Stability in our own countries depends on tolerance and understanding between different communities. Perhaps we can, together, build on our experience to spread the message we have learned at home to those regions where it has yet to be absorbed.

Whether we will be able to realize our hopes will depend on the maintenance of an acceptable degree of international order. In this we see the United Nations as the essential instrument in the promotion of peace and cooperation. We look to its Charter as the guardian of civilized conduct between nations.

In 1941 President Roosevelt spoke of "Freedom of speech and expression—everywhere in the world . . . freedom of every person to worship God in their own way—everywhere in the world. . . . Freedom from want and . . . Freedom from fear." Just as our societies have prospered through their reliance on contract, not force, so too will the world be a better place for the spread of that mutual respect and good faith which are so fundamental to our way of life. Freedom under the rule of law is an international, as well as a national concern.

That thought might be in the minds of those of you attending the Fiftieth Anniversary Meeting of the British-American Parliamentary Group in July. Both our Houses are eager to greet you. They will, I know, tell you that our aim, as Britons and Europeans, is to celebrate and nurture our long-standing friendship with the people of the United States. We want to build on that foundation and to do better. And, if the going gets rough, I hope you can still agree with your poet Emerson, who wrote in 1847 "I feel, in regard to this aged England, with a kind of instinct, that she sees a little better on a cloudy day, and that, in storm of battle and calamity, she has a secret vigour and a pulse like a cannon." You will find us worthy partners, and we are proud to have you as our friends.

May God bless America.