

Gingrich touted for police-state role

by Scott Thompson

Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) has once again won the ringing praise of one of Great Britain's most controversial writers, but this latest stroke may even be too much for the Speaker of the House to deal with.

Sir Peregrine Worsthorpe, who is the adopted son of Montagu Norman, the late head of the Bank of England who did much to finance Hitler's rise to power, wrote a column in the July 23 issue of the Hollinger Corp.'s *Sunday Telegraph*, praising Gingrich as the man who can transform today's welfare state into a police state! His typically provocative column was titled "A Police State Beats a Welfare State."

The crux of Worsthorpe's argument was contained in one paragraph: "Welfarism is an idea whose time has passed. This does not mean that there will be no welfare, simply that such welfare as there is will in general be enjoyed only by those who have the gumption and ruthlessness to forge it for themselves. It will be individual, not collective, welfare. This won't be a matter of ideology but of necessity. Given that the state won't be able to afford security for 'our people' from the cradle to the grave, all but a small minority of hopeless cases will have no choice but to fend for themselves. This is how it is going to be. Life for many of 'our people' in the late 20th and 21st century is going to be nasty, brutish and even short."

'Authoritarian' solutions

This is by no means the first time that Worsthorpe has peddled the idea that fascism is an idea whose time has come. In a May 21 *Sunday Telegraph* column, he wrote of the need for "authoritarian" solutions, like those advanced by Lord William Rees-Mogg, to bring about the rapid and bloody end to the welfare state. Both Worsthorpe and Rees-Mogg speak for the highest levels of the Club of the Isles, the European oligarchy's most powerful body, headed by the British royal family, particularly Queen Elizabeth II and her consort Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

What's new in Worsthorpe's latest ravings is his explicit identification of Newt Gingrich as the man to do the job:

"Newt Gingrich's approach strikes me as much more honest than [British Labour Party head] Tony Blair's; brutally honest. No nonsense about how the state can guarantee security in a revolutionary age. He simply takes for granted

that it can do nothing much except one most important negative thing. It can promise not to get in the way of those who have a mind to fight for their own survival. . . . The only responsible thing the state can do is to remove obstacles to the individual's own search for security. . . .

"I am not suggesting that we are going to have to move straight from the welfare state to the police state, but such a suggestion is far nearer the mark than all the alternative systems of welfare churned out by such gurus as Frank Field, on the side of New Labour, and David Willetts, on the side of New Civic Conservatism. . . . In revolutionary times the only form of security for property and the bourgeoisie comes, not from think-tanks, but from tanks proper. Gingrich, like Richard Nixon, wields a mailed fist much disguised in an ideological glove but clear enough for any but the blind to see. That is the real strength of the new politics in America."

The great reckoning

Once again Worsthorpe has bluntly put forward the ideas presented by former London *Times* editor Lord Rees-Mogg, appearing in such sites as Rees-Mogg's latest book, *The Great Reckoning: How the World Will Change in the Depression of the 1990s*, as well as his previous book *Blood in the Streets*. In the former, Rees-Mogg argued that the 500-year cycle of history that commenced with the Renaissance is coming to an end in a cataclysmic depression, and, that after a period of "blood in the streets," a "dictatorship" will be installed to oversee the new Information Age.

In Rees-Mogg's post-industrial information society, only 5% of the population will be fully employed, while 95% of the people in this post-modernist feudal system will be thrown off welfare onto the junkheap—unless they are bio-engineered to enjoy collecting garbage.

These views are very close to those shared by Gingrich's "Third Wave" gurus, the former leftists, turned fascists, Alvin and Heidi Toffler. At a January 1995 conference of Gingrich's own think-tank, the Progress and Freedom Foundation, the Tofflers railed against the industrial era and the U.S. Constitution. But the most open advocacy of the Worsthorpe and Rees-Mogg brand of fascism was reserved for another one of Newt's intellectual gurus, Progress and Freedom Foundation senior researcher Michael Vlahos, who laid out a plan for a future America that he dubbed "Byte City," in which 5% of the population, "the Brain Lords," control all the power and wealth, while the majority are simply referred to as "the Lost."

Newt Gingrich is far too cagey a politician to publicly toss about such loaded terms as "police state" and "authoritarian solutions." But the moment is rapidly approaching when he is going to have to either jump at the Club of the Isles' bait, or start speaking like an American, with appropriate furor at this latest British effort to unleash the jackbooters.