

Lord William Rees-Mogg revs up 'Fostergate' against Clintons

by Scott Thompson and Jeffrey Steinberg

On Oct. 25, Lord William Rees-Mogg's American newsletter, *Strategic Investment*, convened a press conference in Washington, D.C. at which an Oxford University "manuscript expert," Reginald Alton, declared that the handwritten suicide note found in the briefcase of the late White House Deputy General Counsel Vincent Foster, was a forgery. Alton had no access to the original note, which had been ripped up into pieces, and yet he proclaimed that in his "expert opinion," the note was a fake, and, therefore, Foster was a victim of a murder plot.

Foster's July 20, 1993 suicide has been the subject of investigation by congressional committees and two special prosecutors. Early this year, stung by the fact that the Whitewater probe was turning up evidence exonerating President Clinton and the First Lady of any wrongdoing, the *Wall Street Journal* wrote that the last hope for "Whitewatergate" was for the President or his top aides to be trapped in a coverup. The *Journal* cited the death of Vincent Foster as the only credible incident where an aura of White House coverup might be created.

Hence the obsession of Rees-Mogg, who has poured out reams of propaganda on the Whitewater non-scandal, in an effort to bring down the President, using Vincent Foster's death.

The Oct. 25 public relations stunt by Rees-Mogg and his American underling, James Dale Davidson—the latest in a string of vicious hate pranks targeted at President Clinton—was reported only in a Reuters wire. Not even the rabidly anti-Clinton *Washington Times* sent a reporter to the event. And Oxford don Alton, was sensitive to the fact that Rees-Mogg and Davidson have been widely recognized as London-steered hate-mongers and liars, telling the handful of attendees at the press event that he hoped he would not be seen as "another interfering Brit."

In point of fact, there is no other way to view his forgery hoax. Since the time of President Clinton's inauguration and his early break with Great Britain on a wide range of strategic policy fronts, Lord William Rees-Mogg has been the designated "minister of hate propaganda" for the British Crown and the Club of the Isles against the American Presidency.

It should be a standing rule that any information that comes out of Rees-Mogg, James Dale Davidson, or the entire

nexus of publications and front groups associated with Davidson's leading American "sugar daddy," Richard Mellon-Scaife, is *presumed to be a lie* unless, miraculously, it were proven otherwise.

Some American news outlets, including the august *New York Times*, have joined with *EIR* and recognized this reality. Recently, *Times* columnist Frank Rich wrote a scathing exposé of Mellon-Scaife's multimillion-dollar black propaganda offensive against President Clinton, and cited Davidson and the *American Spectator* publisher R. Emmett Tyrrell, Jr. as two of the biggest purveyors of Mellon-Scaife's "big lie."

As if to prove the point, on Oct. 26 and 27, the Western Journalism Center, which distributes disinformation originally published in the pages of Mellon-Scaife's newspaper, the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, purchased three full-page ads in the *Washington Times*, peddling the Rees-Mogg/Davidson garbage about Vincent Foster. Mellon-Scaife is the primary funder of the Western Journalism Center.

About the only people in America willing to go out on a limb in defense of the Rees-Mogg "Fostergate" fantasia are the other two leading Washington-based British propagandists, *Sunday Times* of London bureau chief James Adams, and the London *Sunday Telegraph's* Ambrose Evans-Pritchard. Both men dutifully turned their poison pens to defend the lie that the Foster suicide note was a forgery in recent columns. Evans-Pritchard went so far as to produce an article in the November 1995 issue of the *American Spectator*, touting the Fostergate drivel, and praising Richard Mellon-Scaife to the sky for his one-man crusade to "prove" the Vincent Foster murder story.

Britain's apostle of hate

It's not surprising that Adams, Evans-Pritchard, and the entire stable of Mellon-Scaife hired pens jump through hoops to defend the Rees-Mogg/Davidson hoax.

Lord William Rees-Mogg is no small fry. For the past three decades, he has been a high-ranking propagandist for the British Crown. He was the editor in 1967-81 of the *London Times*. Throughout this same period, Rees-Mogg, who received a knighthood upon leaving the *Times*, was an executive board member of The Times Newspapers Ltd. While at the *Times*, that daily was a more powerful policymaking

institution than the British Foreign Office. It was widely known in London that the *Times* set forth the Crown policy that was then implemented by the Foreign Office.

Upon leaving the *Times*, Rees-Mogg became vice-chairman of the board of governors, in 1981-86, of the British Broadcasting Corp., which is otherwise indistinguishable from the Foreign Office and its intelligence services. Because of his years at the center of the British establishment and his close relationship to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Rees-Mogg was made a Life Peer, or Baron, in 1988.

Rees-Mogg opened his beachhead in the United States in 1983, when he became the publisher of a newsletter called *Strategic Investment*. To handle the day-to-day operations, he selected an American graduate from Pembroke College, Oxford University, named James Dale Davidson. Davidson is the founder of the National Taxpayers Union, which bridges the most radical right-wing free-market proponents with the radical environmentalist movement.

Since the inauguration of President Clinton, they have devoted issue after issue of *Strategic Investment* to attacks on the President. For the past year, one of the most vicious of these attacks has centered around the absurd allegation that Clinton had murdered one of his best friends, Deputy White House Counsel Vince Foster. Not only have two special prosecutors, but also a hostile Republican Congress, been unable to prove other than that Vince Foster committed suicide. Yet, *Strategic Investment* has poured over congressional transcripts to produce a special report claiming that if Clinton did not have Foster killed, then the President ran a cover-up of his alleged murder—"Fostergate."

Rees-Mogg's disciple, Davidson, was born in Washington, D.C., the son of a systems analyst named James Arthur and of columnist Esta Arthur. After an uninspired education, he was recruited to Pembroke College, Oxford (Rees-Mogg himself had attended Balliol College, Oxford).

Next to attacking President Clinton at every opportunity, Davidson's main concern appears to be to make a buck. He runs a string of suspect investment "clubs" with Anglo-drippy names like the Oxford Club and the Carpathian Society, drawing in suckers with sales pitches like: "Turning Chaos into Cash: Four Slam-Dunk Investments for the '90s."

Davidson is chairman of Agora Publishing in Baltimore, which puts out *Strategic Investment*, special reports, and Davidson's promotional books. Davidson is also a partner in two real estate partnerships, Harwood Association and Brain Damage (which aptly describes Davidson's writing). He received the non-fiction award from *Playboy* magazine. He is associated with at least two investment firms that operate offshore.

Who are their sources?

Despite its strong emphasis on black propaganda, *Strategic Investment*, does have real sources—at least according

to its promotional literature. Two U.S. sources they cite are former Directors of Central Intelligence, Stansfield Turner and William Colby, whom Davidson and Rees-Mogg often tout as members of their "investors' CIA."

Another leading source is associated with the British Secret Intelligence Service, Gen. Sir Walter Walker, who had commanded the British Army on the Rhine. Walter Walker is also a primary source for the *Intelligence Digest* of Kenneth Hugh de Courcy (the "Duc de Grantmesnils"), which has been pumping British Tory propaganda into the United States since the late 1940s. De Courcy, in turn, is a real-live "Colonel Blimp," and had worked with MI-6's Stewart Menzies. In 1989, De Courcy threatened Lyndon LaRouche, shortly before that American statesman was unjustly incarcerated, that "British Masonry" controlled the American judiciary all the way up to the Supreme Court, and would dispose of LaRouche if he didn't drop his attacks on London financiers and Israel's Temple Mount crazies. And, there is also "soldier of fortune" Dr. Jack Wheeler, who was part of the Bush-Oliver North "secret team" involved in the Iran-Contra guns-for-drugs operations. Dr. Wheeler has used his monthly column in *Strategic Investment* to trumpet the right-wing militias as the saviors of America.

New Age pagan

In at least two of Rees-Mogg's dozen-odd books—*An Humbler Heaven* and *Picnics On Vesuvius*—his lordship proclaims himself "a devout Roman Catholic." The autobiographical *An Humbler Heaven* has even been described as a simplistic call for a Christian revival.

But in all of his writings, including his nominally "religious" books, Rees-Mogg openly espouses the Conservative Revolution call for a return to feudalism, in which 95% or more of the population would be reduced to serfdom in the "Information Age." In the Jan. 5, 1995 issue of the *London Times*, he wrote a commentary to that effect, titled "It's the Elite Who Matter—In Future Britain Must Concentrate on Educating the Top 5%, on Whose Success We Shall All Depend." Overthrowing all pretense to Christian charity, his lordship embraces the New Age paganism of Newt Gingrich's futurologist, Alvin Toffler.

"Christian" Rees-Mogg suggests in the "Electronic Feudalism" section of his 1991 book, *The Great Reckoning: How the World Will Change in the Depression of the 1990s*, that some of the cast-off 95% might be biogenetically engineered—*Brave New World*-style—to love collecting garbage. In fact, Rees-Mogg forecasts in *The Great Reckoning* that a one-man world dictatorship will emerge through the use of biogenetic engineering and nanotechnologies (microscopic manufacturing devices). Anyone who defies this "electronic feudalism" will be killed in the most horrible ways. The book, was co-authored by James Dale Davidson, and was sent out to hundreds of thousands of Americans as part of the *Strategic Investment* sales pitch.