

(RTZ) was first discovered through a leak from a source at the Bank of England to Andrew Morton, who wrote the authorized biography of Diana, Princess of Wales.

According to Charles Higham, co-author of *Elizabeth and Philip*, the Queen is a major stockholder in RTZ, which, with her old friends at Anglo-American, controls 12% of the world's precious, strategic, and base metals and minerals (see corporate profiles). *Forbes* magazine also reported that she was a major RTZ shareholder, as was the Bank of England. Higham quotes Sir Mark Turner, then chairman of RTZ: "You're running into problems of what the government is going to say about the Queen's involvement. RTZ is one of the great assets of the country."

RTZ was in on developing North Sea oil from the beginning. Writes Higham: "The Queen undoubtedly approved the heavy investment, which would enrich her in the immediate future." Starting in June 1975, RTZ and Texaco were spearheading shipments from the North Sea Argyll Field, to the refineries of British Petroleum, in which firm Queen Elizabeth is also believed to hold an interest.

In 1976, the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, in hearings chaired by Frank Church (D-Idaho), and attended by Attorney General Edward H. Levi, found that an international cartel, of which RTZ was a major partner, had been formed in 1971 to fix the world's uranium prices. A federal grand jury found corroborating evidence of RTZ's role. Also discovered to be part of the cartel was Mary Kathleen Uranium of Australia, which has been encouraging indigenous, Aborigine agitation to occupy large uranium-bearing lands, taking them out of production.

When, in May 1976, power companies brought charges against the U.S. Westinghouse Electric Corp. claiming that it failed to supply uranium according to contract, Westinghouse responded with the allegation that RTZ and other corporations had formed a cartel that was forcing up world prices, preventing Westinghouse from meeting its contracts. Lord Denning and the Law Lords quashed Westinghouse's ability to take depositions in the United Kingdom, even under grant of immunity from self-incrimination, in order to protect RTZ's directors and their shareholder, the Queen, from exposure. But, on June 16, 1976, in hearings in the U.S. House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, Jerry McAfee, chairman of the Gulf Oil Corp., admitted that the cartel in which RTZ was his partner had, in fact, increased the world price of uranium.

When the Tennessee Valley Authority tried to sue RTZ, Gulf released new documents inculcating RTZ and its Rio Algom subsidiary in Canada, at which point, the U.S. Attorney General demanded immunized testimony. However, the directors of RTZ and the Queen were once again protected by the Law Lords, who claimed that the RTZ directors did not have to appear before an American court, as this was "an unacceptable invasion of British sovereignty." So, despite the fact that a cartel involving HM Queen Elizabeth II was hampering nuclear energy development in the United States,

the "free-trader" Queen was protected by her appointees among the Law Lords.

## Dixie queen

According to the statements of Sen. Thomas J. McIntyre (D-N.H.) and Rep. Silvio O. Conte (R-Mass.) in 1971, Queen Elizabeth held a major share in Courtaulds Textile. Courtaulds came to their attention when the Queen had used it to hide her ownership in the largest plantation in Mississippi. The Queen apparently has used Courtaulds as a nominee for the purchase of other stocks, but what bothered the congressmen was that the wealthiest woman in the world was getting agricultural subsidies to run a plantation in the United States. In 1968, these two congressmen had described in the *Congressional Record* how the Queen obtained one of the world's largest plantations from Courtaulds, complete with sharecroppers, in Scott, Mississippi, situated on the banks of the Mississippi River near the border with Arkansas. It was known as the Delta and Pine Land Company, or "the Queen's Farm," and it consisted of 38,000 acres with rich soil, a factory, and a mill. At the time, it was worth \$44.5 million. It employed hundreds of African-American laborers at minimal wages. Since 1968, it had been subsidized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to the tune of \$1.5 million. On April 16, 1970, Senator McIntyre, while introducing a bill relating to limitations on farm payments, said: "We paid the Queen \$120,000 for not planting cotton on the farmland she owns in Mississippi." Following the publicity, the Queen seems to have sold the plantation back to Courtaulds, but some believe Courtaulds merely exerted nominee ownership. In any event, the Queen's friend, Lord Rab Butler, was a director of Courtaulds at this time, and the Queen was said by Conte to be a major stockholder in Courtaulds.

*New Yorker* magazine reported that the Queen is the largest owner of slum property in New York City, including the pornography- and drug-riddled 42nd Street. Perhaps these are additional "grace and favor" spots for her loyal subjects.

## Her Majesty's 'Prerogative Powers'

by Scott Thompson

During the Persian Gulf war, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, as the only person in the British Empire who can declare war and as commander-in-chief of the empire's armed forces, received daily briefings from and issued orders to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Ironically, Thatcher, the "Iron Lady," was known as the woman who had given "spine" to the Reagan-Bush administrations. Yet, behind the prime minister stood the Queen, who could sack Thatcher at a moment's

notice over any major disagreement.

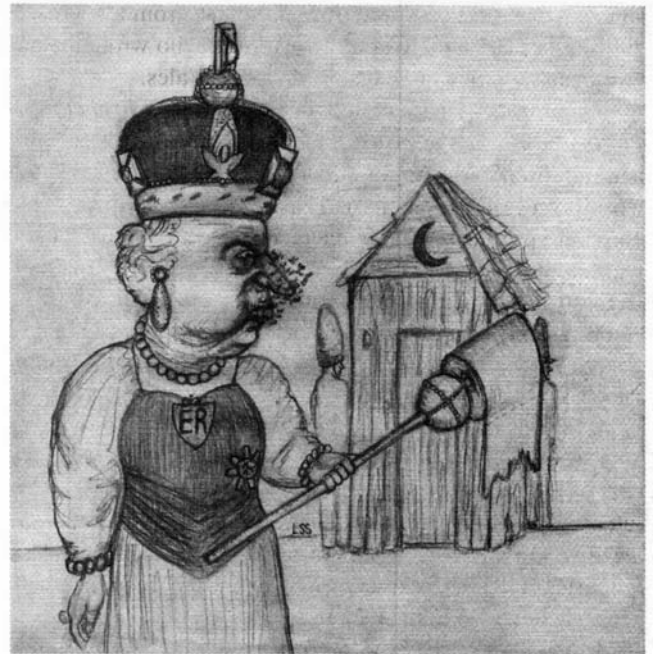
Immediately after the Gulf war, Queen Elizabeth paid an official visit to the United States, where she addressed a joint session of Congress. She gave President Bush the Churchill Award, and, by her special order, she dubbed Operation Desert Storm field commander Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, an Honorary Knight of the British Empire, while he was still in office. Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was also made an Honorary Knight of the British Empire, after he left office. Later, the Queen made former President George Bush an Honorary Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath, which is the highest award that can be given a non-subject of her realm—because he had been the most amenable President to British policy since President Truman.

Queen Elizabeth is not some combination of tourist attraction and soap-opera star in an ill-fated melodrama. Leaving aside those misguided individuals in the British Empire who believe she still rules by the seventeenth-century “divine right of kings,” Queen Elizabeth has more concentrated power than any elected head of state in the world today. And, in a distant sense, she was elected monarch, because her dynasty was chosen from among others to be the hereditary conveyor of powers akin to the Doge of Venice, whose dynasty might at any moment be replaced by the Venetian oligarchy with another Doge. Still, her raw power is startling, especially to someone from the American nation-state, where we have a written Constitution, complete with Constitutional checks and balances.

### ‘Oaths of allegiance’

The idea of a “constitutional monarchy” is a myth. All that exists are “oaths of allegiance” to the monarch. Without the need for parliamentary authority, Queen Elizabeth has royal Prerogative Powers. The following partial list of those powers is from the authoritative *Burke’s Peerage and Baronetage*:

- the Queen alone may declare war at her pleasure;
- as commander-in-chief, the Queen may choose and appoint all commanders and officers by land, sea, and air;
- the Queen may convoke, adjourn, remove, and dissolve Parliament;
- the Queen may dismiss the prime minister and choose whom she will as the replacement;
- the Queen can choose and appoint all judges, councilors, officers of state, magistrates;
- the Queen can choose and appoint all archbishops (including the Archbishop of Canterbury, who is *primus inter pares* in the Anglican Communion), bishops, and high ecclesiastical dignitaries;
- as “the Sovereign is first in honor, dignity and in power—and the seat and fountain of all three,” the Queen may bestow all public honors, including creating a peerage for membership in the House of Lords or bestowing an order of chivalry;



*The Queen is a very Privy person.*

- the Queen alone may conclude treaties;
- the Queen may initiate criminal proceedings, and she alone can bestow a pardon.

Some of these powers are exercised on the advice of cabinet ministers or others, and the principal vehicle through which the Queen receives such advice—apart from weekly or more frequent meetings with the prime minister—is through a body known as the Privy Council.

### The Privy Council

According to the Privy Council’s own public documents, there are 390 members of the Council, who are appointed for life. The Privy Council serves as a vehicle for the Queen’s use of her Prerogative Powers, because it is a consensor with representatives from all branches of the Venetian oligarchy, including: peers from the House of Lords, the prime minister, the Law Lords, all cabinet officers, leaders of the Loyal Opposition in Parliament, prominent individuals in the City of London, and leading members of the established Anglican Communion.

The Privy Council is above Parliament, including the House of Lords, because of the Queen’s Prerogative Powers. However, the Privy Council not only serves as a vehicle for exercise of the Queen’s Prerogative Powers, but its offices also enact statutory powers delegated by various Acts of Parliament. It has its own Order of Precedence, which begins with HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, KG, KT, OM, GBE; then, HRH Prince Charles, Prince of Wales, KG, KT GCB; next come George Leonard Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Lord High Chancellor Lord Mackey of Clashfern; and finally arriving at Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury John Major, and, very far down the list, Labour Party leader



*The royal son and heir.*

Anthony Charles Lynton Blair. The fact that Tony Blair, who will probably be the next prime minister, was made a member of the Privy Council on July 27, 1994, helps explain why there is not a dime's worth of difference between his policies and those of Tory Prime Minister Major or his predecessor, Lady Margaret Thatcher. As Blair's factional opponent in Labour, Anthony Wedgwood Benn, revealed, based upon personal experience:

All members of the Privy Council must take an oath of allegiance to uphold the Queen and her actions. Such oaths are the basis of the myth that the British Empire represents a "constitutional monarchy."

As readers of the French Renaissance author François Rabelais would appreciate, the term "Privy Council" comes from the earlier days, when only the sovereign's most trusted advisers could approach, while said sovereign was engaged upon the commode.

The Privy Council takes on special importance in terms of the Prerogative Powers during times of the sovereign's marriage or demise, which are the only times the Privy Council meets as a whole body. Likewise, the Privy Council takes on added authority in the event of the sovereign's illness or absence abroad. On a change of government, which is one of the Queen's more notorious powers to exercise, or a reconstruction involving ministerial changes, the Privy Council

makes the necessary arrangements. Other special duties include the preparation of proclamations for such events as the dissolution and summoning of Parliament and the declaration of national emergency. And, Prerogative Powers include the consideration of applications for the grant (or amendment) of Royal Charters of Incorporation to bodies covering a wide field, such as the original charter for the British East India Company. Crown or Privy Council nominees are often appointed to governing boards.

The Privy Council also has statutory powers that have been conferred by a variety of enactments, and they are exercised either by "Orders in Council" (i.e., by the sovereign in Council) or by "Orders of Council" (i.e., by the Lords of the Privy Council). For example, under the Local Government Act of 1972, borough status and other rights and privileges of district councils are submitted through the Privy Council. The Privy Council Office is also responsible for the annual nomination and appointment of High Sheriffs of the counties of England and Wales, pursuant to the Sheriffs Act 1887. One of the Queen's Prerogative Powers is to instigate criminal investigations, and the Privy Council assists in the preparation and issuance of warrants.

There are often junior Privy Councils in the 17 nations of the British Empire where the Queen is sovereign. There used to be a separate Privy Council for Northern Ireland, but this no longer meets and no further appointments can be made to it: Its functions have been transferred to the secretary of state for Northern Ireland. All the most important laws for Northern Ireland today are made by the Queen's Privy Council through "Orders in Council," which is simply one type of secondary legislation authorized by statute (in this case the Northern Ireland Act of 1974).

### **Run on the Committee System**

The powers of the Privy Council, as distinct from when the sovereign is in Council, are normally exercised by various standing and special committees in which the cabinet officers have an important role. The standing committees include: the Judicial Committee; the Universities Committee; the Scottish Universities Committee; the Committee for the Purposes of the Crown Office Act 1877; the Committees for the Affairs of Jersey and Guernsey; the Baronetage Committee; and the Honours Committee. Ad hoc committees can be constituted, for example, to consider and report on petitions for Royal Charters of Incorporation, and special committees are appointed to deal with some particular inquiry or reference. For instance, an ad hoc committee was formed to investigate matters leading up to Argentina's attempt to retake the Malvinas Islands (which the British claim, referring to them as the Falklands) in 1982. Similarly, under the Northern Ireland Constitution Act 1973, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland retains the power to ask the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council whether provisions in an Act of the Stormont Parliament is void. The latter power, however, has never been exercised.

The ministerial head of the Privy Council is the Lord President of the Council; Prime Minister John Major, leader of the House of Commons, had been president of the Council, a post now held by Antony Harold Newton, OBE. By Order of Precedence, both are under the Lord High Chancellor, James Peter Hymners, Lord Mackey of Clashfern, and they are immediately above the Lord Privy Seal, Robert Michael James, Viscount Cranborne.

## The Judicial Committee

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council was constituted by the Judicial Committee Act of 1833, and it is, in effect, a secret Supreme Court for the British Empire, except for that handful of Commonwealth countries that have abolished appeals to it. The Judicial Committee is the ultimate court of appeals insofar as all subjects have the right of appeal to the Crown for redress to the sovereign in Council, if they believe that the courts of law have failed to do them justice. It also handles certain ecclesiastical cases that do not involve faith and dogma, but it should be borne in mind that the British Empire has an established church, in which the Queen appoints the archbishop of Canterbury, who is *primus inter pares* within the Anglican Communion. And, moreover, under Section 4 of the act, the Queen may refer any matter of her choosing to the Judicial Committee. She, in turn, is given

a secret report by the Judicial Committee, from which she may issue "Orders in Council."

The members of the Judicial Committee are Privy Counsellors holding, or having held the office of Lord President of the Privy Council, or Lord Chancellor of the House of Lords, or certain other high judicial offices, including Lord of Appeal in Ordinary, Judge of the High Court or Court of Appeal in England, or the Court of Session in Scotland. In most cases, these are the Law Lords, who served on the lesser court maintained by the House of Lords. Certain members are also appointed from Commonwealth countries. Five judges usually sit in each case, not wearing robes, and using a room at 1 Downing Street in London. Although dissenting opinions have been allowed since 1966, their decisions take the form of secret "advice to Her Majesty."

Interestingly, many of the territories that are covered by this secret Supreme Court system include precisely those offshore, hot-money-laundering havens that were the targets of President Clinton's Presidential Decision Directive 42 in Autumn 1995, including Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, Bermuda, Hongkong, Singapore, Cayman Islands, and the Turks and Caicos Islands. As James Adams of the *Sunday Times* of London pointed out, the City of London, already a haven for drug money, had an additional \$400 billion influx in hot money, after the pressure from Clinton's

## The Queen's powers: They're real!

The vast Prerogative Powers of the Queen are portrayed as purely nominal, a relic of days gone by, when monarchs had real power. Naturally, the oligarchy prefers to "arrange things," such that the Crown does not have to swing its mailed fist. But, when there is no alternative, the fist will come down. Such was the case when the Queen sacked Australia's popularly elected Labor prime minister, Gough Whitlam, in 1975.


First elected in 1972, Whitlam and his key associates, such as Minerals and Energy Minister R.F.X. "Rex" Connor, developed sweeping plans to industrialize Australia's nearly barren continent. Central to this, was Whitlam's plan to "buy back the farm"—to buy out the raw materials cartels such as RTZ and Anglo-American, which were looting Australia's mineral riches, without creating any development in return. Whitlam looked to sources of finance outside the usual New York and London markets, to accomplish this. Through the British-dominated press, a series of scandals were cooked up about his efforts. Finally, under cover of a nominal deadlock in Parliament—one in the process of being solved—the Queen's personal

representative in Australia, Governor-General Sir John Kerr, sacked Whitlam. Australians were astounded, and tens of thousands poured into the streets to protest. But the deed was done.

Kerr had worked with high levels of British intelligence during World War II; more importantly, he was obsessed with the feudal "honors" bestowed by the monarchy, such as his position as a Knight Commander of St. Michael and St. George (KCMG). Before Kerr sacked Whitlam, he consulted with his superior in that order, Sir Garfield Barwick, Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia, the head of the Australian Conservation Foundation (founded by Prince Philip in 1963), and a member of Her Majesty's Privy Council. Barwick gave the green light, and Kerr dumped Whitlam.

Shortly after the dismissal, Sir John was rewarded by the Queen herself: As he records in his autobiography, "In Canberra I was sworn in as a member of Her Majesty's Privy Council at a meeting presided over by the Queen." She also dubbed him a member of the Royal Victorian Order (RVO)—not bad for a country boy from Australia, since this honor ranks below only two others: the Order of the Garter, and the Order of the Thistle. All three are bestowed only at the discretion of the Queen herself, *without the recommendations of any of her governments*, as is normally the case.—Allen Douglas

DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE  
**LYNDON  
 LAROUCHE**



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stepped-up war on drugs dried up other Empire offshore money-laundering operations.

The Privy Council can also take cases from the trouble spot of Northern Ireland, where it writes most of the major laws. And, while its rulings do not bind judges in subsequent cases in Northern Ireland, they effectively alter the content of the law.

### The House of Lords

The House of Lords is the upper chamber of Parliament. Unlike the House of Commons, most members of the House of Lords have a vote by hereditary, rather than elected, principle; the exception is the one-fifth of the House of Lords members who are appointed Peers for Life. Generally speaking, no bill may receive Royal Assent unless it has been passed by the Lords, except for money bills and bills on aids and supplies under the Salisbury Convention. The House of Lords is also a Court of Appeal for the United Kingdom, through the presence in its body of the Law Lords.

As of Oct. 21, 1995, there were technically 1,191 Lords in Parliament. However, the average daily attendance in 1994-95 was 376. Of these, some 300 were members of the ruling Conservative Party, while 24 were in the Labour Party and 12 in the Liberal Party Loyal Opposition, leaving aside those who chose to be "cross-benchers," voting as they saw

fit on an issue. If the entire peerage eligible to sit in Parliament did so, the percentage who voted with the Conservative government would likely be even larger.

The Lord High Chancellor or Lord Keeper of the Great Seal is also Speaker of the House of Lords, and he rates above the prime minister in Order of Precedence. It is his duty ordinarily to attend as Speaker, although there are 30 Deputy Speakers, to sit on the Woolsack and to preside over the deliberations of the House, except when it is in Committee. The current Lord Chancellor, who is an appointee of the sovereign, is Lord Mackey of Clashfern, who is a Life Peer, created in 1979. He was also appointed to the Privy Council in the same year. He served as Lord Advocate in 1979-84. He was Government Spokesman on Legal Affairs in Scotland in 1983-84. He was Lord of Appeal in Ordinary in 1985-87, when he was made Lord High Chancellor. The Lord Chancellor usually stands to the right of the throne and hands the monarch the Speech from the Throne, in which the government policies and program for the session are announced; (if the sovereign is incapacitated, the Lord Chancellor reads the Speech from the Throne to open Parliament). Lord Mackey of Clashfern is a member of the Conservative Party government.

There are numerous positions of authority within the House of Lords, from the leader of the three parties to the chief whips and whips for the various parties to the chairman of committees, his deputies, and the committee chairmen. Briefly, the three leaders of the parties are: 1) Leader of the House (Conservative Party Leader), Viscount Cranborne and Baron James Gascoyne-Cecil (created 1603), who became Lord Privy Seal, Leader of the House of Lords, and Privy Councillor in 1994 after he was summoned to the upper house in his father's barony of Cecil; 2) the Labour Party Loyal Opposition Leader is the Life Baron of the United Kingdom (created 1990), Ivor Seward Richard, who was made a member of the Privy Council in 1993; and, 3) the Liberal Party Loyal Opposition Leader is the Life Baron (created 1987), Roy Harris Jenkins of Hillhead.

As the accompanying profile on the "non-governmental organizations" shows, perhaps the worst "enforcers" of British imperialism are the Life Peers. Among them are:

House of Lords Deputy Speaker, Life Baroness (created 1983) Caroline Cox; and, Life Baroness (created 1992) and Privy Councillor (created 1987) Lynda Chalker of Wallasey, who is one of four Conservative Party spokesmen on foreign policy, Minister of Overseas Development (formerly the imperial Colonial Office), and Minister for Africa in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. However, the occasional Hereditary Peer, like Baron Cecil, manages to leave off hunting and fly fishing to do something nastier in the world. Thus, the 4th Baron (created 1900) Eric Reginald Lubbock Avebury, who is also the 7th Baronet of Lammas (created 1806), gives protection to every imaginable type of terrorist in the British Empire as chairman of the Parliamentary Human Rights Group since 1976.