

Inside Bilderberg: Getting Out the British Line

Renowned as a "top-secret meeting of the invisible government," the "ultraprivate" annual Bilderberg conference has gone down in the mythology of American conservatives as an all-powerful "plotting session." For the first time ever, the Executive Intelligence Review presents here a first-hand report on a Bilderberg conference, made possible through the cooperation of a French journalist who has asked to remain anonymous.

On April 21-23, 104 of the leading media, business, banking, labor, government, and education-foundation spokesmen of the United States and Western Europe descended on pastoral Princeton, New Jersey for the 24th annual Bilderberg Conference. In the aftermath of that three-day "brainstorming" session, at least four of the participants, Henry Kissinger, Lord Carrington, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, and the editor of the London *Economist* Andrew Knight, issued blood-curdling warnings that the Soviets must be stopped dead in their tracks from further "aggression," and the "detente" faction of the Carter Administration be damned.

Since its founding in 1954 as the pet project of Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, the annual Bilderberg meeting has served several useful purposes for its British Round Table organizers: first, as a vehicle for the dissemination of a particular policy line; second, as a forum for smelling out potential West European and American opposition to British policy; and third, as a screening for new recruits to the Anglo-Dutch monarchist networks.

This year's Princeton conference was no exception. The chosen topics for the official "discussion sessions" were "Western Defense with its Political Implications" and "The Changing Structure of Production and Trade: Consequences for the Western Industrialized Countries." The "topics" themselves only provide the broadest possible basis for sounding out the viewpoints of the participants, however — what remains is for a few critical interventions actually to shape the discussion and the policy goals for which Bilderberg has won its notoriety.

This year that function was admirably filled by Henry Kissinger, acting for all the world like the British Round Table's "Secretary of State in the wings." But Kissinger's critical intervention could not have had the telling impact it did without the build-up offered him by Christoph Bertram, Director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, and the "hear-hears" of several members of the British delegation.

Get the Soviets!

Bertram, in short, paved the way for the Honorable Dr. Kissinger by lending credibility to the notions that the Soviet Union, despite substantial upgrading of its military capabilities as compared to the NATO alliance countries, could be kept "off guard" by (1) the uncertainty of confining a military confrontation to the Central European theater; (2) the possibility of opening up a second front against the Soviets in the "Far East"; and (3) the unreliability of the Warsaw Pact countries when bullets begin to fly. As a kicker, Bertram — deceptively cherubic in his appearance — called for the heteronomic "national interests" of the European nations to be given free rein in wreaking havoc with the strategic arms limitations talks, by including the West Europeans bilaterally with the U.S. in formulating a common "Western" negotiating position. In the Queen's English, that means an end to SALT, plain and simple.

What Is Bilderberg?

The annual Bilderberg conferences first began in 1954 under the direction of Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands as a complementary effort to then-emerging plans for tight British-directed postwar control of a Western alliance. Thus, the Bilderberg conference was to serve as an informal "private" forum for the elaboration of the policy goal of the Anglo-Dutch monarchy and for screening potential leaders for the new "Atlantic" system.

The 1976 "Lockheed payoff" scandals involving Prince Bernhard forced his resignation from the Bilderberg chairmanship and his replacement by Sir Alec Douglas-Home, of Great Britain. Flanking the Bilderberg Chairman are two Honorary Secretaries General, one from the United States and one from Western Europe. The American Secretary General is now William Bundy, editor of the Council on Foreign Relations quarterly publication *Foreign Affairs*; from the European side, the Secretary General is Ernst van der Beugel, professor at Leiden University and director of the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies. The selection of participants for the annual conferences are decided by American and European steering committees, which include George Ball, David Rockefeller, Giovanni Agnelli, Edmond de Rothschild, and Sir Eric Roll of the London Warburg interests, to name only a few.

With these broad generalities out on the table, Kissinger proceeded to make these British proposals "concrete." He proposed that the future of the NATO alliance is preeminently dependent on its flexibility in responding to "the Soviet threat" outside the Central European front. In particular, Kissinger called on the NATO allies to engage in regional hotspot hit-and-run confrontations with the Soviet Union in the "peripheral zones," starting with southern Africa and in the recruitment of "regional" allies insisted that the Soviets must "pay a price" for their presence in the Horn of Africa and in southern Africa — a price that might well include the cancellation of the strategic arms talks.

The Kissinger proposals set the tone for a subtle two-fold attack: first to frighten the West Europeans into line with the Kissinger-British military showdown scenario with the Soviets and, second, to discredit thoroughly the "détente" policy of such people within the Carter Administration as Secretary of State Vance and U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young.

The touchstone of the attack on the Europeans was the argument, advanced by Lord Carrington, that Europe is far more vulnerable than the U.S. to being cut off from its energy and raw material sources by increasing Soviet control over the international sealanes around the African continent. Therefore, Europe must perceive its associated national interests to lie in cutting the Soviets out of the picture.

U.S. National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski offered a softer "official" version of this same "self-interest" argument by encouraging the European critics of the Carter Administration to perceive the growing "Soviet threat" as in the direct interest of their own countries, and not solely the United States' responsibility. Moreover, Brzezinski encouraged the perception of the growing importance of "regional" powers and conflicts in superpower relations.

The attack on the "détente" faction of the Carter Administration gravitated around the pending crisis in Africa. Members of the British delegation to the conference roundly denounced Cyrus Vance and Andrew Young for "rocking the boat" with their sharp criticisms of the British-imposed "internal settlement" in Rhodesia, and the slightest suggestion that the Carter Administration could "work with" Patriotic Front leaders Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe. Young was upbraided for breaking the "evolution" of developments in South Africa — that is, breaking the "pace" set by the British themselves.

Around The Duck Pond

It would be a serious mistake, however, to think that the Bilderberg meetings "plot" global strategy — at least not in the "discussion sessions." Rather, the sessions merely set the agenda in typical college seminar style — papers are presented and debate — with timed interventions, please.

This year's authors included Christoph Bertram and Kissinger protégé Helmut Sonnenfeldt on the future of the NATO alliance, and Council on Foreign Relations Senior Research Fellow William Diebold and European Commission member Vicomte "sink European steel"

Etienne Davignon, on the economic topic. Once one has cut through the "political science"-ese in which many of the interventions are couched, or the "prepared statement" aspect of these semipublic comments, the sessions are useful in offering a calculated reading on the policy tendencies of the participants — from the "woikers rights" litanies of the trade unionists to the "blow 'em out of the water" presentations of a Henry Kissinger. And, of course, the sessions are the central forum for getting the British line out, as Henry Kissinger most definitely did this year in Princeton.

The real "implications" of the sessions are only developed over cocktails, dinner, tête-à-têtes, and private strolls. No effort is made to impose a "consensus," no final report is released.

Indeed, judging by this year's performance — and despite the hell-bent efforts of Henry Kissinger and the British delegation — it is unlikely that a clear "consensus" could be reached. Loud rumblings against the British policy line were clearly audible this year, with at least one European representative overheard in the hallway protesting the "Cold War" tactics of some Carter Administration members, including Brzezinski. And the economic discussions seemed particularly diffuse, ranging from endorsement of a "limits-to-growth" fatalism, replete with cutting U.S. oil imports and workers tightening their belts, to tentative nudgings for increasing European exports to the Third World and "faith" in technological advance.

A Conference To Remember

In the end, the importance of any Bilderberg conference is determined by the role it plays in a much broader process of insinuating certain policy objectives among the leaders of the Western alliance nations. In this light, the significance of the Princeton conference has already been made dangerously clear in the statements of Messrs. Kissinger, Carrington, and Bilderberg Chairman Home — as well as the rather indiscreet attack on the Carter Administration by Princeton participant Andrew Knight, editor of the London *Economist*, in the April 26 *New York Times*.

The next person you hear muttering about "peripheral zones" and "standing down the Soviets," look again — more than likely he has been Bilderbergered.

Among the Participants

Following is a partial listing of participants at the April 21-23 Princeton Bilderberg meet:

Lord Home of the Hirsell, K.T.
Chairman

Ernst H. van der Beugel
Honorary Secretary General for Europe
Professor International Relations, Leiden University
Director of Companies

William P. Bundy
Honorary Secretary General for U.S.A.
Editor Foreign Affairs

G. Frits Karsten
Honorary Treasurer
Chairman of the Board of Managing Directors
AMRO Bank, N.Y.

Cristoph Bertram
Director, The International Institute for Strategic Studies in
London

Vicomte Etienne Davignon
Member of the Commission of the European Communities in
Brussels
Former Director General Political Affairs, Ministry of Foreign
Affairs

Alexander M. Haig, Jr.
Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Otto Kersten
Secretary General, International Confederation of Free Trade
Unions

Jonkheer Emile van Lennep
Secretary General O.E.C.D.

Joseph M.A.H. Luns
Secretary General N.A.T.O.

United States

George Ball
Senior Managing Director, Lehman Brothers, Kuhn Loeb Inc.

Robert L. Bartley
Editor of the Editorial Page, The Wall Street Journal

Jack Bennett
Vice President EXXON

Zbigniew Brzezinski
Assistant to the President, for National Security Affairs

Frank T. Cary
Chairman of the Board, IBM

Ralph P. Davidson
Publisher, Time Magazine

William Diebold, Jr.
Senior Research Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations

Murray H. Finley
President, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America

Meg Greenfield
Correspondent, Newsweek

Henry J. Heinz II
Chairman of the Board, H.J. Heinz Company
President, American Friends of Bilderberg

H. John Heinz III
United States Senator, Pennsylvania

Lane Kirkland
Secretary Treasurer, AFL-CIO

Henry A. Kissinger
Former Secretary of State

Winston Lord
President, Council on Foreign Relations, Inc.

John Newhouse
Assistant Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Agency
(International Security Programs)

Peter G. Peterson
Chairman of the Board, Lehman Brothers, Kuhn Loeb, Inc.

David Rockefeller
Chairman of the Board, Chase Manhattan Bank N.A.

Anthony M. Solomon
Under-Secretary for Monetary Affairs, Department of the
Treasury

Helmut Sonnenfeldt
Former Councillor of the Department of State
Visiting Scholar, School of Advanced International Studies,
Johns Hopkins University, Washington

Britain

Sir Fredric Bennett
Member of Parliament

Lord Carrington
Leader of the Conservative Party in the House of Lords

Edmund Dell
Secretary of State for Trade

John H. Harvey-Jones
Deputy Chairman, Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.

Andrew Knight
Editor, The Economist

Lord Roll of Ipsden
Chairman, S.G. Warburg & Co. Ltd.

Federal Republic of Germany

Joachim Angermeyer
Member of Parliament

Andreas von Bülow
Parliamentary Secretary of State, Ministry of Defense

Alfred Herrhausen
Managing Director, Deutsche Bank A.G.

Theo Sommer
Editor-in-Chief, Die Zeit

Richard von Weizsäcker
Deputy Chairman, CDU-CSU Parliamentary Group

Hans-Jürgen Wischniewski
Minister of State to the Federal Chancellor

Otto Wolff von Amerongen
Chairman of the Board of Management of Otto Wolff A.G.

France

Bernard Esambert
Chairman and General Executive Officer of 'Compagnie Financière du Groupe Edmond de Rothschild'
Former Economic Advisor to the President of the French Republic

Thierry de Montbrial
Professor of Economics, Ecole Polytechnique
Chef du 'Centre d'Analyse et de Prévision' at the Foreign Office

Robert Pitti-Ferrandi
La Compagnie Financière du Groupe Edmond de Rothschild

François de Rose
French Ambassador

Michel Tatu
Chief of Bureau Le Monde in the U.S.A.

Italy

Giovanni Agnelli
President FIAT S.p.A.

Roberto Ducci
Ambassador at the Court of St. James

Piero Ottone
Member of the Board La Repubblica

Savona, Paolo
Director General, Confederation Italian Industry

Stefano Silvestri
Institute of International Affairs

Canada

Bell, George G.
Chairman, Canadian Institute of Strategic Studies

Griffin, Anthony G.S.
Chairman, Home Oil Co. Ltd.

Sylvia Ostry
Chairman, Economic Council of Canada

Lynn R. Williams
International Secretary Treasurer, United Steel Workers of America

Luxembourg

Gaston Thorn
President of the Government of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg

Netherlands

André Batenburg
Chairman of the Managing Board, Algemene Bank Nederland

Duisenberg, Willem F.
Member of Parliament
Former Minister of Finance

Portugal

Vitor M.R. Constancio
Minister for Finance and Planning

Sweden

Thorbjörn Fälldin
Prime Minister of Sweden

Marcus Wallenberg
Hon. Chairman of the Board, Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken

Turkey

M. Nuri Birgi
Former Ambassador to NATO

Bilderberg Society Adjourns, and Deploys . . .

No sooner was this year's Bilderberg Society meeting at Princeton, N.J. over than top ranking British government figures began to come forth with policy statements, proposals, and initiatives designed to carry out the Bilderberg Society's decisions.

On April 26, Britain's two most important Bilderberg conference participants, former Prime Minister Alec Douglas Home (alias Lord Home of the Hirsel) and former Defense Secretary Lord Carrington, were back in the House of Lords delivering tirades against the Soviet Union's role in Africa:

Lord Carrington — Britain's interest in southern Africa goes beyond her constitutional responsibility for Rhodesia and membership in the United Nations. It is not sensible to ignore the economic interest which Britain and the free world in general has in the future of southern Africa. The minerals in that continent constitute a large

part of the reserves of the free world and in certain circumstances could be at risk. In the light of the Russians' avowed intentions in Africa, the West can not leave unaltered its policy towards the Soviet Union. The West is interested in the area for strategic reasons, because of the vital importance of the Cape Route....

Lord Home — Somehow the Africans must save themselves with the help of those who want to see a peaceful continent. The Soviet Union is not concerned for the welfare of the Africans in Angola, Ethiopia, Mozambique, or Rhodesia. With a horrible cynicism the Soviet leaders have made a cold-blooded calculation that the Africans, still blinded by the smoke of colonialism, would receive the Cubans as liberators. There is nothing more cold-blooded and crude than that. Unless the Africans draw the correct lesson they will find themselves subjected to a new dominion in which human rights and freedom mean nothing at all....The United

Nations has put the responsibility for the future of Rhodesia on to the British Parliament. It is therefore Parliament's responsibility and no one else's, and Russia should be told plainly that Britain would not tolerate intervention in a country for whose future the responsibility lies with her.

But the principal focus of Bilderberg discussion was an alliance with China for a "two-front" approach to war with the Soviet Union. So, visiting China and addressing the 6th Tank Division which guards Peking, Britain's Chief of the Defence Staff, Air Marshal Sir Neil Cameron, told his hosts that Britain and China shared "a common enemy, the Soviet Union." Cameron, the highest ranking military official from a NATO country to visit China, then spoke at an April 30 banquet in his honor:

Our two countries are coming more and more together. This must be good because we both have an enemy at our door whose capitol is Moscow.. There are men here with great spirit who will fight their tanks to the death if needed in the defence of China. Some of our problems are different, but one thing is absolutely clear to us, and that is the growing strength of the Soviet tank force. We must share, I believe, our common experience so that we are in the best position to take on the Soviet tank force if this should ever be necessary.

Cameron denied that he was "speaking for NATO."

I'm certainly not speaking for the British Government, except the British Government has authorized that I go to China and have discussions on defence philosophy with Chinese leaders.

Cameron's remarks, which were apparently not by Her Majesty's government, caused an immediate uproar in Britain. Norman Atkinson, member of the left-wing Tribune Group in the Labour Party and secretary of the Labour Party, called for Cameron's resignation. "His remarks are a direct contradiction of what Foreign Secretary Dr. David Owen said in the Commons last week." Atkinson further charged that Cameron's remarks would "put the skids under" current SALT negotiations between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

Defense spokesman Frank Allaun of the left-Labour Tribune Group said Cameron's remarks "showed contempt for detente," and that peace must remain the object of the British government. But the rightwing Labour Party group, the Social Democratic Alliance, accused the left of "verbal treachery," and one spokesman said that Cameron only stated what every ordinary man and woman in Britain knew to be true. Sir Ian Gilmour, the Tory defense spokesman said more simply: Cameron's remarks were "an extremely sensible thing to say."

That Cameron's remarks mirror the Bilderberg Society and therefore, "unofficial" British government-policy, was clear in David Owen's statements to a May Day rally:

You need to put Air Marshal Cameron's visit in the context of a deliberate attempt to improve relations with China, but, as I said in the House, not deliberately and provocatively at the expense of our relationship with the Soviet Union....The whole purpose of NATO defence-strategy is to deter hostilities in Western Europe by the Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact....I have not seen (Cameron's) exact words...(but) the Air Marshal must be responsible for what he says. He is a senior and respected figure. He went there to discuss aspects of defence cooperation, and I am sure that is what he intends to do.

Mr. Owen also spoke before the congregation of St. Andrews Church in Plymouth, and there he expounded the underpinnings of Bilderberg philosophy and British insanity — the worldview that denies the world...

I question fundamentally whether there are absolute values ultimately compatible with one another. I question whether there is a single final solution to the problem of how to live. I am very doubtful that there is one objective and universal human ideal. I don't believe there is a fundamental unity underlying all phenomena, a single universal purpose....I tend to believe, perhaps because I am a doctor and as such a behavioural scientist, that human nature and its values, though profound, and even sacred to the individual, are so personal, and those values so unique to the individual that there is not nor can there be absolutes in values....