

# Prince Philip: more beasts, fewer humans

by Mark Burdman

Britain's Prince Philip is at the center of a storm of controversy because of his open endorsement of pagan religions and radical depopulation policies.

On June 3, Prince Philip gave an interview to the London *Observer*, in his capacity as international president of the World Wide Fund for Nature, formerly the World Wildlife Fund. He told the paper about a pre-Easter meeting he had had with Pope John Paul II, during which he urged the Pope to drop the traditional Roman Catholic Church opposition to birth control, and warned the Pontiff that "as the human population increases, so it reduces the space available on the globe for the wild creatures." His comments were covered in the June 4 *Corriere della Sera* of Milan, under the headline, "Prince Philip to the Pope: fewer human beings and more animals."

In his discussion with the *Observer*, Prince Philip complained that the Bible contains "nothing about respect for nature, or respect for the natural environment as a manifestation of the divine." To counter such obstacles, he stressed that he was promoting a global "religious and conservation network," since the best way to promote conservation in the Third World would be through "local priests, mullahs, rabbis, lamas, and swamis." The main problem would be to overcome the resistance of Christianity to paganism: "A lot of heathen beliefs were based on worship of natural phenomena, whether trees, the Sun, springs or rivers. As a result of that, certainly in the Christian churches, there has been a tendency to view anything that has to do with nature as faintly heathen."

The Queen's prince consort had been the featured speaker at a May 16-19 North American Conference on Religion and Ecology in Washington, D.C., where a program was discussed for reshaping the present United States of America into a series of "bio-regions." In statements made at the National Press Club May 18, he praised the "ecological pragmatism of the so-called pagan religions." Observers noted this comment with astonishment, especially since his wife Queen Elizabeth II is the official head of the Church of England, and is bound by British constitutional tradition to uphold Christianity.

## Philip 'on a slippery slope'

The gnostic prince's comments to the *Observer* on the subject of "heathen" beliefs drew biting comments from writer Auberon Waugh in the London *Daily Telegraph*'s "Way of the World" column June 4: "There is nothing 'faintly

heathen' about what is going on at the present time. We are undoubtedly in the grips of a massive pagan revival. I am not accusing Prince Philip of heathen practices, but has he checked out all the other members of his council? Do any of them display tattoo marks on the throat? Have they asked him to take part in strange dances out of doors? We can trust him to refuse to have anything to do with human sacrifice, as in the horrible old practice of beheading a baby at the summer solstice, but it occurs to me that he may, unknown to himself, have found himself at the top of a rather slippery slope."

A close aide to Prince Philip stated privately in early June that he has been spending a great deal of his time fending off accusations that the WWF is "at the center of a New Age conspiracy, and is promoting satanism and syncretism." In Britain, he noted, there have been increasing incidents of WWF attempts to participate in Church of England events at churches being disrupted by Christian groups who circulate literature charging that the WWF is undermining Christianity with its New Age beliefs. In the United States, he pointed to exposés of Prince Philip and the WWF appearing in publications associated with American politician Lyndon LaRouche. The LaRouche people "link Prince Philip to international drugs, to the KGB, and to an elaborate plot involving the Catholic Church and the Masons. . . . They attack Prince Philip on the ecology issue, claiming that he has launched a satanist league." He reported that LaRouche's attacks were being used in the U.K. against the WWF.

According to this source, Prince Philip recently told a WWF coterie that such attacks "must not be ignored, but must be taken on, without giving the groups making the attacks any credence. He wants to take this on by praising the good points of indigenous cultures, while criticizing the Judeo-Christian-Islamic tradition for being the most fearful of the nature religions." This source stressed that Prince Philip had introduced the subject of "paganism" openly in Washington on May 18, as part of a parry of the mounting attacks on the WWF. "He used the word 'pagan' in brackets, since the whole matter is becoming quite controversial," the aide claimed.

Brackets or no brackets, Prince Philip's WWF is being heralded by such openly paganist-satanist organizations as the Lucis Trust in London, formerly the Lucifer Trust. In April 1988, the Lucis Trust distributed a speech in its *World Goodwill* newsletter that had been given by Dr. Martin Palmer, Prince Philip's top adviser on "religion and conservation," and head of the Manchester-based International Consultancy on Religion, Education, and Culture (ICOREC). Palmer crafted the 25th anniversary meeting of the WWF in Assisi, Italy, which set up the "religion and conservation network." Palmer is also working with the highest levels of the Russian Orthodox Church on "ecological" projects. Certainly Moscow will be allotted a pivotal place in the pagan imperial world system that Prince Philip and friends seek to create.