

Prince Philip migrates south for spring

by Scott Thompson

HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, has been on an inspection tour of the Western Hemisphere as president of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), migrating in reverse direction from Anchorage, Alaska southward with the arrival of spring. As the British consulate in San Francisco informed *EIR*, this is a "private visit" by Prince Philip that is being organized by WWF, making it a step below a state secret to uncover.

But in an interview, WWF vice president Russell E. Train, who is the former administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, said the ultimate destination of Prince Philip's trip was three major cities in Brazil. He would meet with the Brazilian President, Fernando Collor de Mello, in the capital of Brasilia, and seek to further WWF's campaign that has placed the right of Indians to live in parasite-ridden squalor above the Brazilian nation's rights to manage the Amazon tropical rain forests.

Egg Island . . . and caviar, too

Prince Philip has collected a lot of booty for his hobby on this trip—if heading a group that places the rights of wildlife over human existence can be called a hobby. Prince Philip has actually said that he would like to be reincarnated as a deadly virus, because there are too many people, prompting some to refer to him as His Viral Highness. After touring Anchorage, Alaska early in the week of March 8-15, Prince Philip traveled to Alberta, where Minister of State Pauline Browes announced two funds that would channel millions of dollars in projects to be administered by WWF.

One fund for \$1.3 million is for recovery of endangered Canadian wildlife, and \$2 million was allocated for impact studies of toxic chemicals on wildlife. Also, while Prince Philip was in Alberta, Minister of Tourism, Parks and Recreation Don Sparrow said the province would designate Ross Lake, Middle Sand Hills, and Egg Island as ecological preserves. Moreover, the government announced that it would set up 21 new natural areas within the next year, locking up still more of Alberta's resources.

In San Francisco, where he settled for one day on March 13 before departing for Ibero-America, Prince Philip made an appearance at a \$1,000 a plate dinner for his Duke of Edinburgh Congressional Award and Outward Bound. Sipping Napa Valley chardonnay, while dining on chicken and smoked salmon, the guests got to hear Prince Philip's bad jokes about how he got a girl who applied for the Duke of

Edinburgh Award to study Spanish before she ran off to become a bullfighter. The British consulate acknowledged there were wealthy contributors, but refused to say who they were and how much more they gave.

On the evening of March 13, Prince Philip took part in a closed WWF event at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, where he met with Russell E. Train and other WWF leaders. According to Train, the prince left for Guyana to study a WWF project, before heading south for Brazil. In Canada, according to UPI wires, Prince Philip said that the destruction of the forest in North America "is not even close to that in the Amazon rain forests."

The 1,001 Club

If Prince Philip has collected a lot of swag for the WWF on this trip, it is nothing compared to the contributions he receives through the secretive 1,001 Club. The club was founded by Prince Philip and Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, as a bridge between WWF and the Bilderberg Society. Prince Bernhard is the founder of the elusive Bilderberg Society, which was created to form a "special relationship" like that between the New York Council on Foreign Relations and the Royal Institute for International Affairs among policymakers in Europe and the United States. Invited guests to last spring's Bilderberg Society meeting in Baden-Baden, Germany, for example, included Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton and Vice President Dan Quayle. Prince Bernhard was the founder and president of WWF, and remains president of the WWF-Netherlands and a member of the WWF international advisory group.

Although the secretary of the 1,001 Club refused to provide *EIR* with a current list of club members, claiming that it was a secret like the Bilderberg Society, British author Charles Higham reveals some facts in his book *Elizabeth and Philip*.

Each of the 1,001 Club members has had to make an initial contribution of \$10,000, and the membership includes some of the wealthiest people in the world, such as members of the Astor, Rockefeller, and Rothschild families. One of the early members was Robert Vesco, who fled to Ibero-America, after looting some \$80 million from Investors Overseas Services. Based in Havana, Vesco is now involved in major cocaine trafficking from the Caribbean "Silver Triangle."

Author Higham shows that the 1,001 Club members include many people implicated in the Lockheed bribery scandal, which forced Prince Bernhard to retire as head of the Bilderberg Society. It also includes many business associates of Queen Elizabeth II, the wealthiest woman in the world: Arthur Knight, chairman of Courtaulds, Ronald Grierson, director of General Electric Company of Great Britain, and Sir Mark Turner, chairman of Rio Tinto Zinc. The 1,001 Club is a powerful list from which to draw funds for WWF's planned debt-for-equity swap ideas. These involve buying up Third World debt at 10¢ on the dollar, then swapping it for mineral and forest rich equity in those nations.