

Directors, councillors of Crown Agents

In 1996, Crown Agents was fully privatized. Its relationship to the official British government, particularly to the Department of Overseas Development, for the first time in its history, became contractual. This latest incarnation was renamed Crown Agents for Overseas Governments and Administrations Limited. The new entity has its own board of directors and board of management. All of its share capital is held in trust by the Crown Agents Foundation, which has its own board of councillors, dominated by figures in and around the Royal Household. The British government is a special member of the foundation.

Here are some of the leading figures in the Crown Agents structure today:

D.H. Probert, chairman, Commander of the British Empire: Probert has been with Crown Agents for many years, and was appointed to the rank of Crown Agent in 1981, deputy chairman in 1985, and chairman in 1990. In the 1970s, he was a director of Birmingham Small Arms Ltd., which was one of the most well-known British arms manufacturers. It later produced machine tools, which were sold to Iraq for the production of weapons systems. He also held the directorship of Rockwool Ltd., a British subsidiary of a larger Danish firm, which reportedly once held the majority share of capital of Defence Systems Limited.

A.K. Stewart-Roberts, director: A Crown Agent since 1990, and deputy chairman since 1994, he was formerly vice chairman of S.G. Warburg & Co., one of the City's most famous merchant banks.

P.F. Berry, director of the board and managing director: Following a career in the private sector, Berry became a director of Crown Agents in 1982, and has been its managing director since 1988. He is on the advisory board of Transparency International (see below).

F. Cassell, director: A Companion of the Bath, Cassell was former executive director of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank for Great Britain.

Crown Agents Foundation

Sir David Rowe-Ham, Knight, Grand Cross of the British Empire, chairman.

Corporate members:

Barclays Bank.

Standard and Chartered Bank.

Unilever, a major agricultural products cartel. Like Shell Oil, the company is Anglo-Dutch.

Tate and Lyle, Britain's leading sugar cartel, which has

close corporate links to the American firm Archer Daniels Midland. Both Tate and Lyle and ADM are currently under investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice for illegal monopoly practices; several ADM executives have already been indicted.

Securicor plc.: This is a giant private security company specializing in bank security. It handles contracts to run Britain's privatized prisons, and operates throughout the world, including in Africa, South America, and Asia.

Manchester Airport plc.: In addition to being the private operating company for the Manchester Airport, it has been involved in purchasing airports in other countries now being privatized. They are reportedly interested in purchasing airports in Mexico.

British Telecommunications plc.: Britain's privatized national telecommunications company, which has been bidding on newly privatized telecommunications firms all over the globe.

Other organizations on the foundation board:

Prince of Wales Business Leaders Forum: Chaired by Prince Charles, this organization sponsors tours and seminars throughout the world. Its vice chairman is Sir David Simon, chairman of British Petroleum, and currently Minister for European Cooperation in Prime Minister Tony Blair's government.

Aga Khan Foundation: Founded by His Highness the Aga Khan, 29th Imama of the Shia Imami Ismaili Muslims. Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, a cousin of the Imam, is one of the leading members of Prince Philip's World Wide Fund for Nature.

Transparency International: Under the cover of exposing alleged corruption, Transparency International has been used to destabilize governments throughout the world (see *EIR*, July 25, 1997). As a further indication of the close relationship between Crown Agents and Transparency International, the Crown Agents managing director sits on TI's board of advisers.

London School of Oriental and African Studies: Formerly the London School of Colonial Studies.

Christian Aid: The official charity organization of 40 British and Irish churches.

The Royal Commonwealth Society and the **Caribbean Council of Europe**, two of the most elite foreign policy organizations of Britain.

Also, the Chartered Institute of Building; the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply; the International Chamber of Commerce U.K.; the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce; the British Chamber of Commerce; the British Consultants Bureau; and the British Standards institution.

Miscellaneous other member entities:

Concern Worldwide; Intermediate Technology Development Group Limited; the International Development Law Institute (Rome); and Leeds Metropolitan University.