

Queens and Greens: Anglo-Dutch royals push new environmental order

by Mark Burdman

The first two weeks of March have seen an escalation of the drive toward creating a global ecological-fascist order. Over March 5-7, as we reported last week, 124 nations were represented at a British government-sponsored extravaganza on the theme, "Saving the "Ozone Layer." One weekend later, 24 nations, including 17 heads of government, participated in a meeting in The Hague, Netherlands, hosted by the Dutch government, and cosponsored by the French and Norwegian governments. At this meeting, a strategy was mapped out for creating a "new international ecological order," based on a one-world government structure that would have the power to enforce environmental restrictions on industry and to impede scientific and technological progress.

Perhaps more extraordinary than the events themselves, has been the openness with which the monarchies of Great Britain and Holland have assumed leadership of "ecologism." Adopting the "We are the gods of Mount Olympus" brazenness that was formerly characteristic of the periods of high feudalism, these monarchies have usurped the decision-making roles usually reserved for elected governments.

Britain's Queen Elizabeth II called in her Commonwealth Speech on March 13 for the British Commonwealth to play a "particular worldwide role" in fighting for an environmental agenda. This was an explicit endorsement of the fascist perspective laid out by Commonwealth Secretary General Sir Shridath Ramphal, in a Jan. 24 speech at Cambridge University, in which he called for "tomorrow's concepts of global governance" to replace "yesterday's notions of national sovereignty," based on the principle of "enforceable law across environmentally invisible frontiers." Ramphal's speech was excerpted in the *Times* of London Jan. 24, under the title, "A Global Green Agenda."

On March 7, Prince Philip had given the annual Dimbleby Lecture for BBC, titled, "Living off the Land," in which he attacked modern intensive agriculture for causing nasty population growth and upsetting the ecology, and praised hunting-and-gathering modes of society as ecologically superior to modern agriculture-based modes. While admitting that the technologies were available for feeding twice or even three times the current world population, he declared that "it would be impossible to ignore the ecological facts of life that might prevent the supply of food from increasing much fur-

ther. . . . Quite apart from the damage that the rapid growth of the human population is doing to the natural environment, it is causing almost insoluble difficulties for many of the poorer countries."

On March 6, Prince Charles, speaking at the ozone conference, said that ecological transformations could not be carried out by voluntary action alone, but that governments have "an obligation to intervene as and when appropriate to accelerate or enforce environmental measures."

In Holland: royal ecologists

In Holland, it has been the royal family, rather than the government, which is motivating the environmental issue. According to the British daily *The Independent* March 13, "The Dutch government has been chided by its public and royal family for being laggardly" on environmental issues.

The *Financial Times* of London's "Observer" column of the same date had the following remarkable item:

"Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands made an unexpected appearance at the summit meeting on the international environment in The Hague on Saturday (March 11). She sat next to the Dutch Prime Minister, Ruud Lubbers, in a way that would hardly have happened in Britain. The Queen had already hosted a luncheon for the presidents, ministers and one King (Hussein of Jordan) attending the meeting.

"The *pas de deux* between the Dutch Queen and the Prime Minister has some similarities to events at home. Just as the Prince of Wales [Prince Charles] was warning of environmental risks long before Margaret Thatcher turned green, so it is in Holland.

"Queen Beatrix was obliged to say in her annual speech from the throne last September that the Netherlands were getting steadily cleaner, especially in terms of water and air. That speech is traditionally written for the monarch by the Prime Minister. The Queen did not much like it. So she used her Christmas message, which she writes herself, to set the record straight. She gave an apocalyptic warning of imminent disaster if more were not done to stop pollution.

"Lubbers has since seen the light and is now among the greenest of the green. The Queen's presence at the meeting, however, clearly surprised Dutch officials, who were saying beforehand that she would confine herself to giving the lunch.

Plainly, the Palace is keeping up the pressure. The environment is now the number one issue in Holland."

The event in The Hague was hosted by the Dutch government, but was actually sponsored by the Mitterrand-Rocard regime in France and the government of Gro Harlem Brundtland in Norway. Socialist International figure Brundtland is the head of the World Commission on Environment and Development ("Brundtland Commission"), a United Nations-mandated group created in 1983.

According to various British press accounts, the meeting discussed establishing a "new international environmental order." This is not only a cynical counter to the "new world economic order" that developing countries, the Vatican, Lyndon LaRouche, and others, have been advocating for the past decade and more; it also constitutes a positive response to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachov's Dec. 7, 1988 appeal at the U.N. for new structures of East-West ecological cooperation, aimed at eliminating Western models of scientific development.

The final communiqué from The Hague meeting called for "the development of new principles of international law." The meeting agreed to work toward creating what the *Financial Times* on March 13 called a "powerful environment authority . . . with an unprecedented range of powers to establish and enforce environmental standards." This mooted authority is being given the name "Globe." It would be given the power to initiate and enforce international agreements on the environment. Conference participants wore the logo "Globe" on their name tags.

This "Globe" organization would invoke the International Court of Justice in The Hague to ensure compliance with its decisions, and to adjudicate against countries accused of being in breach of environmental agreements. The U.N. General Assembly would play a "legislative" role in the new proto-world government.

Norway's Brundtland stated that, in the coming weeks, "we must define standards and ensure compliance" with defined environmental standards. France's Mitterrand avowed that the new organization would involve some ceding of national sovereignty.

The Anglo-Dutch combine

The Anglo-Dutch axis is a most important oligarchical one in Europe. Formally, it dates back to the 1688 accession of the House of Orange to the throne in Britain. This accession involved, or was a leading feature of, a complex process of transfer of financial power to Great Britain, in an intricate sharing arrangement with the Dutch. What emerged out of that period, was that the Dutch East India Company and the British East India Company, acting as agencies on behalf of the financier nobility of Venice and Genoa, became powerful players on the world stage, particularly in creating the institutional structures of colonialism. Still today, the international financial, political and cultural commitments of the British

and Dutch royal families, are fundamentally expressions of the policies devised by the Venetian-centered international financier nobility.

In the post-World War II period, the Anglo-Dutch axis has been at the core of numerous oligarchical policy institutions. The paradigm is the Bilderberg Group, created under Dutch royal family patronage in 1954-55. Then in 1961, the World Wildlife Fund was created. It was headed in its earlier years by the Netherlands' Prince Bernhard, and then by Britain's Prince Philip.

The overall Western European financial and industrial structure is heavily influenced by Anglo-Dutch power, represented in two Anglo-Dutch conglomerates, Unilever and Royal Dutch Shell. Many British and Dutch directors of Royal Dutch Shell have been recipients of the elite Order of Orange Nassau. One such recipient, Max Kohnstamm, was a founder of the Club of Rome and Trilateral Commission, after having served in the 1940s as a personal secretary in the Dutch royal household. In the 1960s, Royal Dutch Shell became one of the patrons of the newly emergent "green" movement. An employee of Royal Dutch Shell, Sicco Mansholt, was one of the founders of the ecology movement, and was the boss of West Germany's Petra Kelly in the years before she became a leader of the West Germany Green Party. In the 1960s, Royal Dutch Shell also funded research work for a project called "Europe 2000," which elaborated guidelines for the deindustrialization of Western Europe. The "Europe 2000" work was carried out under the auspices of the European Cultural Foundation, which is based in Amsterdam, and which is ostentatiously patronized by the Dutch royal household. On the basis of the "Europe 2000" findings, released in the early 1970s, the ECF created the Institute for European Environmental Policy, which is now among the most active in devising programs for the "green restructuring" of the world system. It cooperates closely with the London-based International Institute for Environment and Development.

Today, Royal Dutch Shell and British Petroleum are two of the prominent funders of the Brundtland Commission's work.

What is most intriguing, is that the head of corporate research for the Royal Dutch Shell group in the 1965-70 period, was Lord Victor Rothschild, a senior member of the British intelligence establishment who is historically close to the Soviets. Lord Rothschild was the de facto patron of the early launch-phase of the "New Age" movement. In 1971-74, he went on to head a newly created Cabinet Office think tank in London. This was the same period that Henry Kissinger, with the help of British ambassador to Washington Lord Cromer, was engineering the 1973 oil hoax war in the Middle East. That war caused multiple shocks to the world economic and political system, all to the advantage of those financier interests who seek to impose a feudalistic order based on "green" deindustrialization.