

# Project Democracy dirty tricksters establish a new beachhead in Europe

by Mark Burdman

Alarm bells should be sounding in European capitals, about an emerging threat to freedom and republican self-government on the European continent. The same "Project Democracy" apparatus which coordinated the Iran-Contra arms deals and which has built a secret, parallel government structure in the United States since 1982-83, is now establishing itself throughout Europe.

During the spring of this year, two new institutions have been established, one by the British Foreign Office and the other by the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France which are explicitly modeled on and working in cooperation with the National Endowment for Democracy in the United States. The NED, a "quasi-autonomous non-governmental organization" ("quango") established by the U.S. Congress, is the above-board arm of Project Democracy.

Walter Raymond, Jr., a senior U.S. intelligence spook who was most intimately involved in setting up Project Democracy and in helping oversee the Iran-Contra activities of Lt. Col. Oliver North, is now very active on the European scene. Raymond, now deputy director of the U.S. Information Agency, is one of the members of a select "preparatory committee" which is working out the arrangements for a June 19-20 conference, France, under the auspices of the Council of Europe at its Strasbourg headquarters, at which high-level representatives of the "new world order" will gather to discuss how to impose their version of "democracy" on the European continent. The included aim of this event is to transform the Council of Europe, which was established in 1949 as an important juridical-political organization for the European continent, into a vehicle for Anglo-American policy aims. Said U.S. Secretary of States James Baker III, a revised Council of Europe should become the centerpiece of a new "Global European Order."

## The Project Democracy agenda

Days before the April 9 national elections in Great Britain, it was announced that a new Westminster Fund for Democracy had been established in London, with funding from the British Foreign Office. It includes representatives from Britain's three main political parties, trade unions, the

media, and other key institutions. The Westminster Fund is being advised by a consultant sent from the NED, and, in the words of one London official, "the foundation and the NED are in quite close touch already." This official commented: "Matters have now, in a sense, come full circle. Recall that Ronald Reagan first made his speech motivating what later became the NED, in a 1982 speech at Westminster in London."

One of the co-authors of the June 1982 Reagan speech was Walter Raymond.

Then, on May 14, the European Parliament formally approved the establishment of a European Democracy Initiative. The resolution emphasized that it would "provide financial aid through the [European] Community budget on a non-party basis, principally through parliamentary institutions and to non-governmental organizations and non-profit groups, for general civic education and to stabilize and reinforce democratic principles in non-EC countries; also, to assist the development of human rights in such countries; in addition, to develop the concept of civil society in countries where human rights, multi-party systems, the rule of law and economic freedom have been lacking."

As we shall see, these lofty aims have nothing to do with the actual operations of Project Democracy.

The EDI was the brainchild of Conservative European Parliamentarian Edward McMillan-Scott of Great Britain. In a May 27 discussion, McMillan-Scott said that "in broad terms, the initiative will be mirroring the NED. . . . It will be implemented in very close cooperation with the NED." In the guidelines for the EDI, he stressed, there is a division of labor in funding projects between the NED and the European Community.

## Who will attend conference in Strasbourg

The next crucial date on the Project Democracy agenda in Europe is the June 19-20 Strasbourg conference, on the theme, "Europe and North America, the Dialogue of the New Solidarities." The conference is being coordinated, on behalf of the Council of Europe's Secretary General Catherine Lalumière, by a shadowy figure named Francis Rosenstihl, who

is close to the Kissinger circles in the United States and to Edgar Bronfman's World Jewish Congress.

Attendees and/or speakers at the June 19-20 event from the Anglo-American sphere are to include Avis Bohlen, U.S. deputy chief of mission in Paris and daughter of the late Charles Eustace Bohlen, a former U.S. ambassador to France and the Soviet Union who came from the Averell Harriman wing of the American establishment; Vernon Walters, former CIA deputy director and ex-ambassador to Germany; James Dobbins, U.S. representative to the European Community in Brussels; Kim Holmes, vice president for foreign and defense policies at the U.S. Heritage Foundation; Robert Blackwill, former senior State Department official and aide to Henry Kissinger who is now professor at the Kennedy School of Law at Harvard University; Edward Luttwak, senior strategist at the Georgetown University Center for Strategic and International Studies; and Sir Geoffrey Howe, former British foreign secretary.

At least a dozen U.S. senators or congressmen have been invited, but many have reportedly decided not to attend.

Various influentials from eastern Europe will be speaking, including St. Petersburg Mayor Anatoly Sobchak, Russian Deputy Defense Minister Andrei Kokoshin, and Poland's Bronislaw Geremek, as well as several senior figures in the French foreign policy establishment.

### **The 'Global European Order'**

The Council of Europe, which has its own Institute of Democracy, is emerging as a central transatlantic coordinating agency for "democratic" initiatives in Europe, West and East, and as a point of penetration of Anglo-American policy into Europe. The rubric under which this process is occurring is the "renewed NATO" decided upon at the July 5-6, 1990 NATO heads of state summit. That meeting called for creating a "parliamentary assembly" for the countries of NATO and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), either based on the Council of Europe model, or on the enlargement of the Council of Europe itself, so as to include parliamentarians from the United States and Canada.

On Sept. 10, 1990, the White House released a statement giving President Bush credit for having put forward the proposal on which this call was based. Then, on Sept. 17-19, 1990, these ideas were discussed at a conference at the Council of Europe on the theme, "Roads to Democracy," to which U.S. Secretary of States James Baker sent a message, calling for the creation of a "Global European Order."

During 1992, the Council of Europe has become a key vehicle for implementing "new world order" policies. In mid-February, Lalumière traveled to the United States, and met President Bush, Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, and others. She told the Strasbourg press: "The green light is given to start a very pragmatic cooperation" between Washington and the Council of Europe. Earlier, she had been in Davos, Switzerland, for the annual World

Economic Forum, where she met Henry Kissinger. Following this, Rosenstihl traveled to the U.S., and met with Raymond and various other figures in the Kissinger ambit.

The "democracy offensive" of Project Democracy is repugnant on both philosophical-ideological and moral grounds. Outlining the purposes of the EDI, McMillan-Scott told a reporter that it would fund projects in two areas: "political structures" and "civil society," otherwise referred to as "civic education campaigns." In his view, the last area would be the more important, since it includes introducing eastern and central Europe to "the mainstream of democratic thinking: Hobbes, Locke, and the rest."

This goes right to the heart of the danger posed by Project Democracy. With communist systems overthrown, the last thing that eastern and central Europe need is British liberalism and Aristotelianism, as preached by Hobbes, Locke, and Adam Smith. These ideologues share with Karl Marx the notion of man as beast, expressed by Marx in his "class struggle" theses and by Hobbes in his view of man in the "original state of nature" engaged in a "war of each against all."

### **Walter Raymond and 'the war of ideas'**

Nations who fought to shed the mantle of communism are now being lectured to about "democracy" by CIA propaganda warfare professionals, and *EIR* has begun to receive reports that the slogan "NED equals CIA" is beginning to circulate in certain circles in eastern Europe.

The case that proves the point is Walter Raymond.

Although little known to the American and European public, Raymond was one of the most important figures in coordinating illicit Reagan-Bush administration-era intelligence operations, and was likely the primary reference point for Irangate's Ollie North. North's calendar shows that between 1984 and 1986, he attended no fewer than 70 "public diplomacy" strategy meetings, held under the auspices of a high-powered interagency group called the Special Planning Group Executive Committee, which Raymond chaired. An autumn 1987 column in the *Washington Times* stated: "Lt. Col. Oliver North may have actually reported to Walter Raymond, Jr., say insiders. . . . Mr. Raymond, a career CIA veteran and director of operations who retired from the agency in 1983, is now assistant director of the U.S. Information Agency [the State Department agency that funds the National Endowment for Democracy—ed.]. That position was created for him in January 1987, after the Iran-Contra scandal broke. Mr. Raymond was quietly moved to USIA from the National Security Council, where he held the title of special assistant to the President and director of international communications. He had been placed at the NSC by CIA director Bill Casey and Don Gregg, our new U.S. ambassador to Korea, says an insider. While at the NSC, he worked closely with Colonel North. Interestingly, Mr. Raymond's name appears on Ollie North's calendar

more frequently than that of any other White House employee, say insiders.”

During the 1982-83 period, and probably beyond, Raymond was also the de facto representative within the NSC structure of the “Get LaRouche” task force, the interagency complex which conspired to harass organizations and individuals associated with *EIR* founder Lyndon LaRouche, and to stop LaRouche’s contacts with the Reagan administration. According to information in the public domain, including evidence in court supplied by a former senior NSC official, Raymond circulated a memorandum claiming that “LaRouche is KGB,” and making other charges he knew to be untrue. LaRouche was an outspoken opponent of Project Democracy’s policy of arming the Contras.

Raymond’s special capabilities were developed long before the Iran-Contra arrangements were set into motion. Having entered the CIA in the 1950s, he developed into one of the agency’s leading specialists in propaganda operations. In 1982, he was seconded by the CIA to the NSC, reportedly at the recommendation of then-CIA director William Casey and Donald Gregg, whom Raymond replaced when CIA man Gregg moved on to become the national security adviser to Vice President George Bush. While continuing on the CIA payroll, Raymond was given the position of NSC senior director of intelligence programs, the NSC’s senior intelligence officer. According to Raymond’s own account before a House of Representatives committee, this meant heading an interagency task force that “had responsibilities for overseeing other kinds of programs, including covert action programs . . . including counterintelligence programs.”

In July 1983, as the NSC was being reorganized preparatory to the replacement of Judge William Clark as national security adviser, Raymond was assigned the new position of international director of communications, and became, concurrently, special assistant to the President. His specialty was running what were euphemistically called “public diplomacy” operations: In practice, this meant coordinating crucial features of the domestic propaganda operations of Project Democracy, including political and media campaigns against targeted enemies, such as LaRouche and associates.

As Raymond put it in September 1987 testimony before a House committee probing Irangate transactions, the position of international director of communications “was consistent with the President’s program as articulated in June 1982 at Westminster in London, that we had quite a challenge, and simply stated, was to fight the war of ideas and build the infrastructure of democracy. . . . I made the point that we were not configured effectively to deal with the war of ideas, and to deal with building the infrastructure of democracy. We did not have enough emphasis on that within the United States government. We did not have an effective way to reach out to various elements of our society and work with them and help assist them to be involved internationally and, last analysis, we also needed to try to encourage the

private sector to be more active. This is hard to do for the government.”

### **‘The organizational family’**

Raymond asserted that events like the Vietnam War and Watergate had caused Americans to “turn inward,” with the result being “that we were not engaged.” He stressed that “we needed to re-engage, and we talked about this, a number of us. The President’s speech set the tone, but we had to translate that into some form of action. . . . The organizational family that tried to deal with these things was the NSDD-77, which was promulgated in January ’83, which was designed to give us a governmental structure. Then we tried to develop a democracy program as an analogue to provide some governmental funding to deal with the programs we are trying to develop.”

NSDD-77 refers to National Security Decision Directive 77, titled “Management of Public Diplomacy Relative to National Security (SECRET),” much of it written by Raymond himself. Since declassified, NSDD 77 secretly ordered the “organization, planning, and coordination of the various aspects of public diplomacy of the United States government relative to national security. Public diplomacy is comprised of those actions of the U.S. government designed to generate support for our national security objectives.” It is the directive which provided the guidelines for the operations of the NED. NSDD-77 also mandated the creation of an interagency Special Planning Group, which oversaw political, media and propaganda, and intelligence planning, and in which Raymond played a seminal role.

With Raymond and cohorts directing the show, such stalwarts of democracy as Chase Manhattan’s David Rockefeller, Archer Daniels Midland grain merchant Dwayne Andreas, British wheeler-dealer Sir James Goldsmith, and Australian publisher Rupert Murdoch were brought to the White House to discuss U.S. policy with President Reagan. They then formed a “private donors executive committee,” to discuss funding for government projects. The advisers to this committee, according to documents in the public domain, were Roy Godson and Leo Cherne, senior figures in the U.S. intelligence community. (Godson was an NSC paid consultant, while Cherne was vice-chairman of the President’s Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, or PFIAB.)

This ruse allowed the Reagan-Bush administration and the U.S. intelligence community to carry out certain policies that could not simply be carried out in the usual way, because of binding congressional legislation and for other reasons. Under the principle of “plausible denial,” the administration could deny responsibility, should anything go wrong.

Raymond was questioned about this farcical “private-public” theater during testimony in September 1987 before the House Select Committee to Investigate Covert Arms Transactions with Iran. Ever the master of evasion and CIA double-talk, he got himself off the hook.