

The Queen's Minions Vilify Lincoln Today

by Mark Burdman

The United States has had a handful of great Presidents, such as George Washington, James Monroe, and Franklin D. Roosevelt, but arguably the greatest of them, was Abraham Lincoln, who was President from 1861 until he was the victim of a British-orchestrated assassination in 1865. Lincoln defeated a secession of Southern states that was supported by Britain and Napoleon III's France, smashed the plantation system, liberated the slaves, and armed the blacks themselves. He was also a proponent of American System economics, who applied policies of state-directed infrastructural, agro-industrial, and technological development, so that the United States would win the war against the Confederates, and then go on to become, in the decade following Lincoln's death, the leading industrial power in the world.

It is, then, of great significance, that Lincoln is now the subject of a concerted, international defamation campaign, with various "historians" coming forward, to claim that Lincoln was a racist, a compulsive womanizer and possible adulterer, and/or a chronic depressive.

The main onslaught against Lincoln is being conducted by the international networks of the Mont Pelerin Society, created by the late Friedrich von Hayek, which espouses fascistic free-trade policies, the which policies are favorable to the legalization of drugs. The controllers of the Mont Pelerin Society know that, today, the main proponent of American System economics and of a Lincoln-modelled republican form of government, is Lyndon LaRouche, who is also the subject of vast vilification and defamation. Were a "Lincoln approach" to be adopted today, the Wall Street backers of Mont Pelerin would suffer a shattering defeat. Conversely, destroying the memory of Lincoln is key to the plans of Wall Street and London, to undermine the American Republic.

Support for Secession and Free Trade

Exemplary of the anti-Lincoln propaganda now being spewed forth, is that of the Ludwig von Mises Institute of Auburn, Alabama, which is named after the late Austrian proponent of radical anti-state policies. In October, the Institute will hold an event, oriented in significant part to promote the anti-nation-state propaganda of Israeli military historian Martin van Crefeld, who has written a book entitled *The Rise and Decline of the State*.

In its promotional for this event, the Institute writes: "The State, ravenous and cruel, has been the central institution of

Western society since the seventeenth century. When it could place its boot on the throat of liberty, it never missed an opportunity. As it has grown and centralized, it has sought to seize control of regions, local communities, businesses, land, the family, religion, education, and money and banking. . . . *America was largely an exception to this State aggrandizement until Lincoln*" (emphasis added). (Actually, Lincoln's regime was the third epoch of "centralizing" government, after the Administrations of Washington/Hamilton and Monroe/John Quincy Adams.)

This anti-Lincoln diatribe was recently echoed, in a discussion that this publication had with the leading Mont Pelerin ideologue alive today, Antony de Jasay, who desires a return to the feudal period before the "centralization" of Western societies.

On May 27, the Mont Pelerin-linked Cato Institute of Washington, D.C., favorably reviewed a new book, by Charles Adams, *The Case for Southern Secession*. Writing in the *Washington Times*, Cato's Doug Bandow, a notorious advocate of drug legalization, said he agreed with Adams, that the Civil War ("more accurately called the War of Northern Aggression") was "pointless." The book, Bandow noted, attacks Lincoln for "lawless" and "unconstitutional" acts, mocking the Gettysburg Address.

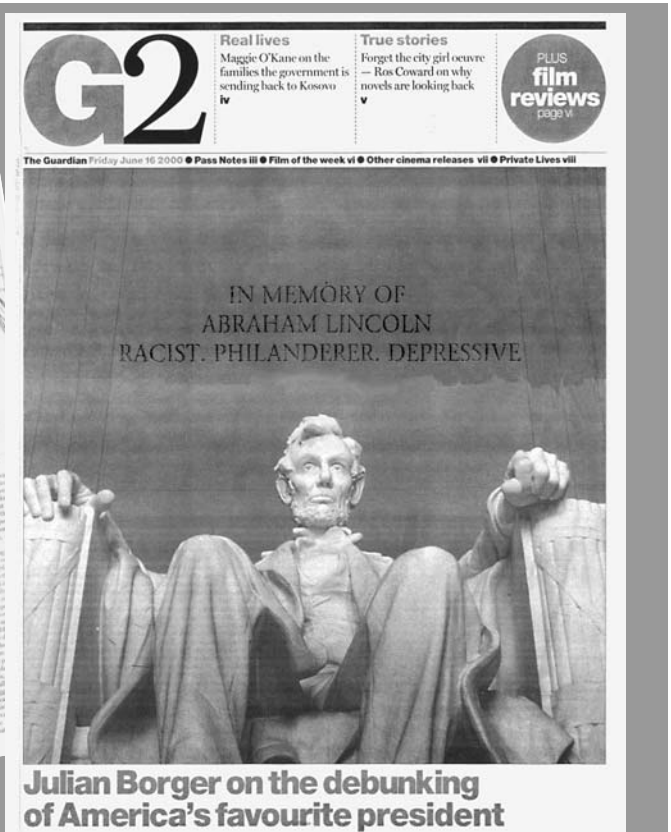
Bandow puts much emphasis on Adams's argument that protective tariffs were more responsible for the Civil War than was slavery, and that Northern opposition to secession was stoked by "the creation of a veritable free-trade zone in the South." I.e., the real issue was American System policies, vs. Mont Pelerin-style "free trade."

'Debunking' Lincoln

Parallel to these attacks, all sorts of "findings" are being used to undermine the image of the President who, more than any other stands for the idea of America.

One flank was opened up by Lerone Bennett, Jr., the executive editor of *Ebony* magazine, which is geared to African-Americans. Bennett's new book, *Forced Into Glory: Abraham Lincoln's White Dream*, claims that Lincoln was a racist. Lincoln's abhorrence of slavery, and his outlook for defeating feudalism, are never mentioned. The book has been favorably featured by the *Washington Times* and the London *Sunday Telegraph*, the hallmark publication of the Hollinger Corp., well-known for its colonial attitudes toward Africans and other non-white peoples.

Now, the anti-Lincoln hysteria has been joined by British publications in the ambit of British Prime Minister Tony Blair. On June 16, the London *Guardian* devoted three pages of its magazine section, to "the debunking of America's favorite President," under the headline, "The Truth about Honest Abe." The cover of the magazine ran a photo of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, with the inscription, "In Memory of Abraham Lincoln. Racist. Philanderer. Depressive."



The London Guardian publishes a scurrilous libel against President Lincoln—including a graphic desecration of the Lincoln Memorial. Since Lincoln's assassination in a British-orchestrated plot, London has tried every trick in the book to eradicate Americans' love for their 16th President.

Writer Julian Borger stresses that the United States “may have named its capital after George Washington, but there is little doubt that America’s real hero is Abraham Lincoln. . . . In one survey after another, he has been acclaimed the greatest of all Presidents, the true founder of the nation as it sees itself—a beacon of noble idealism. So it comes as a bit of a shock to read that the man known as the Great Emancipator was really a philandering racist, as some of the new biographical work on Lincoln suggests.”

Borger jumps on the “Lincoln was a racist” bandwagon. Beyond this, he writes that “historians are excavating the 16th President’s sexual history with a zeal that makes [Whitewater prosecutor] Kenneth Starr look apathetic. The hunt is on for two little black books kept by Lincoln’s Illinois law partner, . . . which have become the Holy Grail for the Lincoln industry. Even if it turns out that the books have been destroyed, the shocked comments of contemporaries who read them, hint at a sordid tale of adultery, prostitution, illegitimacy, and syphilis. . . . It now looks as though the truth . . . could help put Bill Clinton’s White House groping into perspective.”

Much of the supposed “evidence” comes from one Caroline Dall, a journalist and women’s rights crusader from Bos-

ton, who, in 1866, went to visit Lincoln law partner and chronicler William Herndon, in Springfield, Illinois. She wrote: “All the lawyers know Abraham Lincoln’s profligacy to be greater than is common to married men. . . . I remember that when I read Aristophanes, I was thankful that there were vices for which the English language had no name. I had not been in Springfield then!”

All of this is being investigated by “historian” Douglas Wilson, says Borger, who has written on the matter in *Atlantic Monthly* recently. Borger claims that Lincoln “caught syphilis as a result of a ‘devilish passion’ for a girl some time in 1835-6.”

Borger claims that the “millennial reassessment” is gathering steam. Another historian, Joshua Wolf Shenk, is working on a book about the President’s chronic depression, called *The Melancholy of Abraham Lincoln*, due out in 2002.

Will the Lincoln legacy survive these scurrilous attacks? The 16th President was terribly slandered in his lifetime, but his memory remains precious, while his vilifiers have been forgotten by history. We can expect the same thing to happen this time around—provided Americans rally in support of the policies which he represented, and for which he gave his life.