

Bury U.S. in Afghan 'Graveyard of Empires'

by Michele Steinberg

Sept. 25—Where's Paul Revere today? The British aren't coming—they're already here, and have deeply penetrated the U.S. Army and national security establishment, crafting the theories for the counterinsurgency strategy that came out in U.S. and NATO Commander in Afghanistan Lt. Gen. Stanley McChrystal's leaked Afghanistan assessment on Sept. 21. If the British have their way, the U.S. will be in Afghanistan until the end of time, though the U.S. forces may not be called "combat" troops but "peacekeepers." This outlook is already embedded—perhaps unwittingly—in McChrystal's assessment. But the policy was laid out in chilling terms on Sept. 12, by the British Special Envoy to Afghanistan/Pakistan, in his speech to the London International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS).

There must be "an enduring, longterm commitment," said Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles, and one must never forget that "*the Afghan state has never existed, or never existed in modern times without massive foreign subvention.*" (Delivered with emphasis in the original). It is no accident, that Cowper-Coles' speech to the annual global strategic conference—which was keynoted by Obama advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski—began with a quote from Queen Victoria 150 years ago.

Make no mistake, the "revival" of counterinsurgency for the U.S. military in Afghanistan, courtesy of a network of British "experts," is nothing less than a plan to break Afghanistan into regional entities to be overseen by a permanent "soft" occupation force—manned and paid for by the United States—while inviting the artificial creation known as the Taliban back into the mix. It didn't work for the British Empire in the 19th Century, and it will not work today! But it will cost lives. And the British penetration goes much further than McChrystal. It goes into the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM), now headed by Gen. David Petraeus; into the staff of Richard Holbrooke, the U.S. Special Envoy to Afghanistan/Pakistan; and

into the command of Gen. Ray Odierno in Iraq.

On Sept. 21, as the international furor broke around the leak of McChrystal's report, with the British press running a straight 48-hour campaign demanding that Obama send 40,000 troops or more to Afghanistan now, Lyndon LaRouche immediately identified the rotten core of the policy, saying, "Look for the British role." LaRouche released his statement (see accompanying article), warning against British-created "land wars in Asia." "We're suckers," he said, "because we're constantly drawn in by the Brits, into destroying ourselves for the greater glory of the British Empire, by getting into land wars in Asia!"

An in-depth investigation by *EIR* is now underway, and has already identified that the disastrous Afghanistan policy, including the failure to shut down the opium trade, and a massive troop buildup under the name of "counterinsurgency," is "Made in the U.K."

Who's Who in the British Zoo

Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles: Appointed in February 2009 as Britain's special envoy for Afghanistan and Pakistan—a specially created post—to interface immediately (and trump) Obama's appointment of Richard Holbrooke, and to strengthen the U.K.'s role in "AFPAK." Cowper-Coles is a high level "Sykes-Picot" operative, who has been in the cat-bird seat of Southwest Asia and the "war on terror," every moment since 9/11, working closely with George W. Bush and Dick Cheney. Cowper-Coles was British Ambassador to Israel from 2001-03, and then Ambassador to Saudi Arabia from 2003-06 (the height of the Cheney-Prince Bandar plotting against Iran). In 2007, he was assigned to be British Ambassador to Kabul. In mid-2008, Cowper-Coles was implicated in the spy scandal when Afghan President Hamid Karzai expelled two British MI6 agents who were working under cover of the United Nations and the European Union. Behind Karzai's back, these British agents were working to finance and negotiate with the Taliban. One of the agents, Michael Semple, was known as a close confidant to Cowper-Coles.

Cowper-Coles could be considered the midwife of



Creative Commons/British FCO

British Special Envoy to Afghanistan/Pakistan, Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles (left) insists that the U.S. must lead "an enduring, longterm commitment" in Afghanistan, knowing full well that it is not in U.S. interests to engage in Asian land wars. With him is former Afghan Foreign Minister Dr. Abdullah Abdullah, in Kabul.

the "new" Obama strategy for Afghanistan, and instrumental in creating the "McChrystal Mission," since in September 2008, he pronounced the seven-year war in Afghanistan to be a complete failure. While it is true that the policy in Afghanistan *was* a failure, Cowper-Coles' flirtation with the truth had an ulterior motive: to make the United States the patsy for British control.

In his IISS speech, Cowper-Coles boasted of feeling Margaret Thatcher-like pride when he read Obama's March 2009 strategy for Afghanistan: "I felt rather the same [as Thatcher] ... about the Obama administration's white paper of March this year. Everything is there. Reintegration, reconciliation, development, security, politics, all the elements are there!"

Was it the British who encouraged Obama's firing of Gen. David McKiernan, after only 11 months as NATO/U.S. commander in Afghanistan, to be replaced by McChrystal? Was it the British who helped Holbrooke decide that eradication of the opium crop should be stopped? Is it the British who have decided that Karzai has to go? One of Cowper-Coles' major points at IISS was that "power needs to be distributed away from Kabul."

Cowper-Coles has become one of Obama's greatest cheerleaders against public opposition in the U.S. and Europe, and among NATO countries who want to leave Afghanistan. At the IISS conference, he emphasized



Spc. Chris McCann

Australian Lt. Col. David Kilcullen (left) was brought into the Pentagon by Bush League neo-con Paul Wolfowitz in 2004-05. He specializes in trying to put lipstick on the pig of the Empire's endless war of counterinsurgency.

the “crucial role” of the U.S., and said “walking away would destroy everything that has been achieved.... The pullout option is not one that any government could responsibly follow.” He also pledged, “While Obama remains committed, we remain committed.”

The Empire's Tweeners

David Kilcullen: One of the best known of the British Commonwealth moles, Kilcullen is on the staff of both Gen. David Petraeus and Gen. Stanley McChrystal. How did he achieve such a meteoric rise, since Kilcullen only came to the U.S. from Australia in 2004, where he had been a lieutenant colonel in the Australian Army? He was brought in by then-Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz in 2004-05, to assist in the “irregular warfare” section of then-Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld's Quadrennial Review. Then in 2006-07, he had a role in producing the U.S. Army's Counterinsurgency Manual. He is heavily promoted by London's IISS, which published his 2006 article, “Counterinsurgency Redux,” in the IISS journal. This article, like many of Kilcullen's other works, “rehabilitates” counterinsurgency from the Vietnam defeat. Kilcullen was recently at IISS to promote his new Oxford University Press book, *The Accidental Guerrilla: Fighting Small Wars in the Midst of a Big One*. Maybe it should be called *Fighting Small Wars in the Midst of*

Perpetual War.

Montgomery McFate: A British specialty in the operation to infiltrate the U.S. military, is to deploy highly educated tweener-aged women who become close collaborators of American military officers. One of these (actually American born, but employed by the notorious al-Yamamah bribe-giving British defense giant, BAE) is Montgomery McFate, who is widely reported to have run a “sexually flirtatious” blog called, “I LUV A MAN IN UNIFORM,” under the name “Pentagon Diva.” An anthropologist trained at Berkeley and Yale, she is supposedly the creator of the “Human Terrain Program,” on contract for the British BAE, on counterinsurgency at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. Her role overlaps that of Kilcullen. The Human Terrain Teams (HHT) of embedded anthropologists are supposed to

supplant the traditional Army Civil Affairs teams which used to interface with civilian populations in war zones. Academics have opposed McFate's HHTs for turning anthropologists into spies.

Jane Marriott: A British diplomat “on loan to Ambassador Holbrooke, she is an officer of the Order of the British Empire. Marriott is also one of the Iraq War British plants who came in through Iraq, during the Golden Age of the Neo-Cons in 2003-04, and then went to Afghanistan with the British forces in 2004. She was Britain's deputy head for Afghanistan issues from 2007-08 before being sent to CENTCOM. Marriott was placed in CENTCOM just as the highly respected CENTCOM chief, Adm. “Fox” Fallon, was replaced by the Bush/neo-con favorite, General Petraeus.

Emma Sky: A British former peacenik who opposed the Iraq War, is another British plant, hired at the height of neo-con control in 2003-04. Described as the modern day “Gertrude Bell” (the evil British Arabist who profiled all of Iraq for the British occupation in the 1920s), Sky became the political advisor to Gen. Ray Odierno, the intellectually challenged commander of U.S. forces in Iraq. Sky met Odierno in Kirkuk, and he invited her to become his political advisor in 2006. In 2008, as a reward for her work (penetration), she received the Order of the British Empire, and still advises the U.S. Army.