British intelligence agent leads press onslaught against the U.S. presidency

by Scott Thompson

If there has been a genuine "smoking gun" found in the ongoing scandals against President Clinton, it is not a secret memo or tax filing implicating the President or the First Lady in shady business dealings or sexual transgressions in the Ozarks. Our nominee for the real "smoking gun" goes to a piece of self-promotion found among the battery of "Clintongate" stories churned out weekly by the London Sunday Telegraph, in which the publication's Washington correspondent admitted that what has passed so far for "Whitewatergate," "Troopergate," and "Clintongate" has been, all along, nothing more than a London-directed foreign intelligence operation to destroy the American presidency!

Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, the *Telegraph*'s man in Washington and Little Rock, makes no bones about the fact that he collaborates closely with Britain's MI-6 (foreign intelligence service) wherever his work as a "journalist" takes him. It's a family tradition: His father was a senior official of British intelligence's infamous Arab Bureau, a fact that he made no effort to hide in two recent interviews.

On March 27, in one of three articles he penned for the *Sunday Telegraph* on the Clintons, headlined "Why America Is Turning to an Englishman for Answers," Evans-Pritchard boasts that he has "triggered a wave of disclosures" against President Clinton, and that he is coordinating the leaks and rumors that have thrown the financial markets into turmoil.

When the CIA was caught doing the same kind of thing in Third World countries in the 1960s and '70s (i.e., destabilizing governments and running financial and economic warfare), it provoked congressional outrage, media exposés, criminal prosecutions, and tough oversight laws. Spies are regularly expelled from their host countries when they are exposed doing the kinds of things that Ambrose Evans-Pritchard boasted about to his readers. Sometimes they are put on trial and spend years in jail.

Yet, Evans-Pritchard's bosses at the *Sunday Telegraph* seem blissfully ignorant of these espionage laws. A picture of the bearded spook was featured prominently in the newspaper on March 27, with the caption, "White House Harrier: Our Reporter Ambrose Evans-Pritchard in Washington."

In the article accompanying that photograph, Ambrose Evans-Pritchard bragged:

"The radio talk shows have been running at about one a day. I stand by the window of the *Telegraph* offices at 13th and F Street, telephone in hand, and broadcast out into the hinterland. Texas, Colorado, New England, California: huge audiences of people I know nothing about, all eager for the latest details about Whitewater. It is an eye-opener. The callers talk about the President of the United States in a tone of undisguised contempt, and they want to know the answer to everything: who is sleeping with whom in the White House (no comment); whether it is true that Vince Foster, the deputy White House counsel, was snuffed out with sodium monofluoride 10-80 in his office, and then shot later to make it look like a suicide (possible); and, whether Bill Clinton really had his own counter-intelligence service in Arkansas (he did: it was called the Arkansas State Police Intelligence Division).

"They discuss the minutiae of Whitewater with fluency.
... There is a very effective grapevine out there beyond the capital, a *samizdat* network of tens of millions of people....

"But the people who really know what is going on are those involved with day to day trading on the financial markets. As last week went from bad to worse at the White House, I began to get calls from brokers on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, asking how long it would be before the Democrat [sic] leadership recognized that Clinton had become a liability and would have to be removed from office. They said that rumors were already hitting U.S. bond prices and depressing the dollar, adding that Wall Street was on the threshold of a politically driven bear market that could send stocks into a decline of a thousand points or more on the Dow Index."

Although Ambrose Evans-Pritchard admits that Clinton gained time with his March 23 press conference at which he answered reporters' questions about the Arkansas scandals and later released detailed tax data, Evans-Pritchard promised: "In a few weeks, at the most, he will have to go through the gruesome ordeal yet again, and he will find the patience

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Ambrose Evans-Pritchard boasts that he is the Englishman who started the "wave of disclosures" against President Clinton and the First Lady. The Hollinger Corp.'s international media empire, which publishes Evans-Pritchard's newspaper, the Sunday Telegraph, is pumping out one story after another in its bid to wreck the U.S. presidency.

of the Washington Establishment wearing thin."

These are the words of a British Secret Intelligence Service (SIS) agent, who is part of the Hollinger Corp.-centered Tory faction of the British establishment. (See *EIR*, March 25, 1994, "Hollinger Corp. and the British Empire.")

The *Economist*, another house organ of the same London crowd, was also clear about the role of the British media in the Clinton-bashing campaign, promising in an article on Feb. 26 that as long as the British push Whitewatergate, "The story will not die." Dripping with sarcasm, the *Economist* compared the American media's relative unwillingness to jump at every piece of cheap gossip about the First Family to the British press's hesitation in 1936 to expose the Nazi sympathies and secret affairs of King Edward VIII. When the British press finally took up the case of King Edward, he quickly abdicated the throne.

Foreknowledge of the assault

The American public was first drawn into the Whitewatergate and Troopergate media feeding frenzy in mid-December 1993, when Cable Network News gave non-stop coverage to a January 1994 story in the *American Spectator* on the Clintons. Prior to that, "Clintongate" was not even a word in the American political lexicon. The *American Spectator*, nominally an American neo-conservative monthly, is thoroughly dominated by the Hollinger Corp. via two senior

British columnists who sit on its editorial board, Sir Peregrine Worsthorne and Paul Johnson, of the Hollinger-owned *Telegraph* and *Spectator* respectively.

Even as preparations were under way for launching the assault on the presidency, Ambrose Evans-Pritchard was already on the inside. On Nov. 7, 1993 he penned an article titled, "Land Slips Away Beneath Clinton House of Cards," in which he wrote:

"To cap it all, we are now learning that the self-righteous baby-boom liberalism of the Clintons is not even honest. As federal investigations unearth the fraudulent schemes of a bankrupt savings and loan institution in Arkansas, the role of the former governor and his wife is raising eyebrows. . . . Could it be that President Clinton will spend his political retirement swapping stories with President Fernando Collor de Mello, reformist wonder-boy who came to such an unfelicitious end in Brazil?"

Political foresight, or a boastful slip by someone on the inside of a covert intelligence operation? Some background on the British "journalist" might help answer that question.

British imperial agent with SIS ties

On Feb. 10, 1994, Evans-Pritchard admitted in an interview with this writer that during a three-year assignment in Central America, he reported to the British political attaché in Managua, Nicaragua, whom Evans-Pritchard knew was

MI-6. Evans-Pritchard defended "swapping information" with British SIS, saying that they had such good sources that it was indispensable.

He made clear that he was using SIS sources, when possible, for the stories in his Clintongate work.

Among the stories he is likely pursuing with aid of the boys at MI-6: a rumor that Clinton might have been among those students the Soviets secretly took to North Vietnam, when Clinton visited the Soviet Union as a student. No journalist could run such an investigation without aid of the same British Foreign Office files that had been combed on orders from Prime Minister John Major during Clinton's race against Bush.

And, while all U.S. official investigations have been cautious at jumping to any conclusions concerning the tragic death of former White House Deputy Counsel Vincent Foster, Evans-Pritchard insisted that he knew from "sources" that a White House "hit team" had killed Clinton family friend Foster the previous July, then botched making it look like a suicide. Evans-Pritchard said, although he has never published the story, that his sources have provided forensic evidence showing that Foster did not die by suicide.

Evans-Pritchard may have so far held back from writing about his theories on the Foster death, but a financial insiders' newsletter was fed a similar story, ostensibly from someone on the staff of Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole (R-Kan.), triggering near panic on Wall Street and City of London financial markets.

From guerrilla armies to cocaine labs

In an interview on Feb. 23, 1994, Evans-Pritchard said that he had spent a total of four and a half years working in Central America during the 1980s. He boasted that he was the only journalist to be friend both the Contras of Oliver North and the guerrillas of El Salvador and Guatemala.

He also visited Nicaragua, Peru, and Mexico. (In January 1994, he took a brief respite from his Clinton-stalking to do an eyewitness report for the *Telegraph* on the revolt in Chiapas, Mexico. His coverage not only obscured the British and French intelligence hand behind the destabilization; it was unabashedly pro-guerrilla.) During his first three-year stint in Central and South America, he worked initially as a free-lance journalist, then as correspondent for the Hollinger Corp.-owned *Spectator*, and, finally, he was hired as Central American correspondent for the *Economist*.

One of the tribal/terrorist groups with which he worked in Guatemala was the Orpa, an indigenist guerrilla group hostile to outsiders. Orpa was one of the four groups that founded the Guatemalan UNRG guerrilla group, and Evans-Pritchard eventually won this group's confidence. In El Salvador, he worked with the FPL guerrillas.

When he went to Ayachuco, Peru in 1986 to meet with the Shining Path narco-terrorists, Evans-Pritchard claims he had to travel up the Amazon in a canoe to make final contact. His destination was a Shining Path cocaine laboratory, and he claims it took him time to convince the group that he was not an agent of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. He ended up spending a week in the cocaine lab run by these "Pol Pot" terrorists.

It's no wonder that he American Spectator's editor-inchief-for-life, R. Emmett Tyrrell, Jr., in a fawning Feb. 11 Washington Times column, described Evans-Pritchard as "equal parts scholar, journalist, and adventurer."

By his own accounts, Ambrose Evans-Pritchard was groomed for his career by his father, whose career is legendary as a top British anthropologist and Arab Bureau operator.

Like father, like son

Ambrose Evans-Pritchard's father served the British Empire, according to his son, as one of Oxford's leading anthropologists. Sir Edward E. Evans-Pritchard did a multitude of studies while employed by the British governor-general in Anglo-Egypt-Sudan and the surrounding area, among tribes such as the Azande and the Nuer, until the onset of World War II.

He wrote a dozen books, including Witchcraft, Oracles, Magic Among the Azande, based on field work in the 1920s. This became especially popular during the "New Age" eruption of the 1960s, amongst Oxford colleagues like Ernest Gellner, who today runs George Soros's Institute on Nationalism at the Central European University in Prague. A few years after Edward Evans-Pritchard finished his study of the Azande, the whole tribe of 60,000 families was put through self-policed migration to grow cotton for the British.

During World War II, Edward Evans-Pritchard was posted in special Army units, whose role included: pitting Abyssinian tribes against the Italians in Ethiopia; striking across the Western Desert with the Bedouins to fight the Germans, which ended in his founding the Kingdom of Libya; and, trying to drive the Free French out of Syria with a peasant revolt. It was said in the Times Literary Supplement, according to collaborator Gellner, that because he won the Sufi mystics of the Sanusiya to the side of Britain, then installed their head, Idris, as king of Libya after World War II, Edward Evans-Pritchard was touted as one of the leading operatives of British SIS. There was no question from his book Cyrenaica and the Sanusi, that despite his 1944 "aesthetic conversion to Catholicism," as Ambrose Evans-Pritchard put it, Edward was taken by Sufi mysticism, an occupational hazard that frequently besets British cultural anthropologists. As for the charge that he was part of the SIS, Edward Evans-Pritchard responded that he was merely "a soldier."

However, Ambrose Evans-Pritchard told this author that his father "didn't feel that being an anthropologist and promoting the interests of the British Empire were at odds. As far back as the 1920s and 1930s, he worked with the governorgenerals in the Sudan, who found his work most useful."

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