The accelerating fall of the House of Windsor

by Mark Burdman

Although the precise circumstances surrounding the death of Princess Diana and her companion, "Dodi" al-Fayed, over the night of Aug. 30-31, continue to be murky, the least that can be said, as the shock-wave effects of her death reverberate throughout the United Kingdom and worldwide, is this: The fate of the British Royal House of Windsor, is now very much hanging in the balance. The coming days will show whether the Windsors can maneuver themselves out of a corner largely of their own making, or whether "the coming fall of the House of Windsor," forecast by *EIR* in its Oct. 28, 1994 cover story of that title, is going to become a near-term reality.

The death of Princess Diana is shaping up to be an event of the utmost strategic significance.

Interviewed on the weekly radio program "EIR Talks" on Sept. 2, *EIR* Contributing Editor Lyndon LaRouche stressed that "whatever happens, this is going to be a shocker. It will not go away. Some people will blame the British Royal Family for assassination. This will be the 'Kennedy assassination' of the British monarchy. They'll have to live with it. It's not going to be pleasant."

Some 24 hours later, events were proceeding so fast, that that latter assessment already seemed to be quite an understatement. By Sept. 3, an unprecedented backlash was erupting across the United Kingdom against the monarchy, in a way that can only be characterized as a cultural-political shock. Millions of Britons, who have been sheepishly subservient to the monarchy, were getting a flavor of the brutality, venality, and cynicism of the Windsors and their Establishment cohorts. The contrast could not have been greater, between the millions of Britons emotionally mourning Diana, streaming to London to commemorate her, on the one side, and the cold-blooded, calculating Windsor clan, closeted away at their estate in Balmoral, Scotland, not uttering a word of grief or tribute, on the other.

The Windsors' bizarre attitude also contrasts with the warm condolences extended by leading political figures, including President Bill Clinton, a personal friend of Diana, who is sending his wife, Hillary, to the Sept. 6 funeral; Pope John Paul II; Mother Teresa; and South African President Nelson Mandela, among others.

In commentaries Sept. 4, the London Independent's Polly

Toynbee and the *Guardian*'s Richard Gott were likening the mood in Britain, to what one sees in a revolution. Toynbee said that the closeted monarchy was acting as if "a revolution is taking place outside the gates of Buckingham Palace, and they may be right." Gott described the situation as "turbulent," with a "barely hidden rage" of the type that "only happens in times of revolution."

Interviewed on BBC the evening of Sept. 3, monarchy affairs specialist Anthony Holden reported that he was mobbed by well-wishers outside St. James Palace, when he attacked the Windsors' behavior, during an interview with an American TV network. He commented that "the Royal Family could not have handled the situation worse," and that their behavior was "perhaps suicidal."

An elderly British man, one of the many mourners interviewed, summed up the mood eloquently, when he affirmed, "I've been a royalist all my life. Not any more."

Evidently smelling blood, commentators writing in the Rupert Murdoch-owned *New York Post* (Sept. 2) and the Reverend Sun Myung Moon-owned Washington *Times* (Sept. 3) blasted away at the House of Windsor, and in the case of the Moonie *Times*'s Martin Sieff, speculated that the death of Diana "may well prove to be the death knell of the House of Windsor and the British monarchy."

Andrea Peyser's vicious attack against the Windsors in Murdoch's New York City tabloid was in line with the Australian press baron's longstanding involvement in moves to replace the Windsors on the British throne, or junk the monarchy altogether. She wrote:

"The British royal family — perhaps the greediest dynasty of welfare recipients to grace Europe—has good reason to worry.... For the last 16 years we have witnessed a pathetic spectacle out of a Grimm's fairy tale, as the palace occupants harnessed their energies toward one insidious goal: crushing a princess who dared make them look bad.... Yet, as each humiliation was heaped on her slender shoulders, Diana only grew stronger, more popular. And completely uncontrollable. So they drove her out of the palace. Now, Diana is dead.... Members of the royal family... have never looked so mean and ugly. The monarchy has never seemed so bafflingly useless. For Diana was the best of the revolting lot. The Windsors

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can't deny it any longer. All this raises a question you will hear a lot more about in coming weeks: Why should the British people continue to subsidize these moochers?"

Making matters yet more trenchant, is the widespread belief in many quarters of the world, that the Royals themselves had Diana done away with.

As LaRouche emphasized in his "EIR Talks" interview, what has happened, "is a threat to [the Windsors'] security, that is, the security of the House, for various reasons."

Strategic implications

The potential implications of what is now unfolding, are vast. The Windsors are the *primus inter pares* in an oligarchical structure known as the Club of the Isles, which is the controlling agency behind vast financial wealth, raw materials and natural resources deposits, energy, real estate holdings, and much else. The British monarchy formally sits atop a vast imperial structure, both "visible" and "invisible," particularly regulated through the Queen's Commonwealth.

As evidenced in Africa, Ibero-America, and other parts of the world, that "New Empire" has been in a state of hyperactivity in the recent period, looting whatever resources they can get their hands on, to have a hold on hard assets, as the current financial and monetary system enters its final stage of collapse and disintegration.

In fact, just as this drama was breaking, Her Majesty and her minions were in advanced preparations for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), taking place in Edinburgh, Scotland, Oct. 24-27. For the first time in the history of CHOGM gatherings, the Queen is scheduled to make a formal address. This imperial apparatus has been upgraded, with the carefully engineered election of Tony Blair as prime minister on May 1. The Blair government, which replaced the inept and fumbling John Major government, has made it very clear, in both public and private statements, that it intends to make strengthening the Commonwealth, its number-one strategic priority. Blair, as the head of the Loyal Opposition, before his election as prime minister, had been appointed by the Queen to her Privy Council in 1994.

The Commonwealth is the main vehicle, through which the Queen's Privy Council, the main repository of power in Britain, conducts its global war, declared and undeclared, against its single most important adversary, the United States. Blair's ascendance has signalled a qualitative escalation in that anti-American conflict, including through building up pro-British assets in continental Europe, via a reinforced Anglo-French Entente Cordiale, and other nasty alliances and operations.

A leading Scottish policymaker, who spoke with EIR on background, on Sept. 4, gave the following blunt assessment of the future of the Windsors:

"What is happening now in Britain, can only be described as a popular revolution, and the causes of it have little to do with Princess Diana's death, as such. Everyone's fed up with the nonsense from the Establishment, and the emotions involved with Diana provide a convenient way of expressing it. What you are seeing now, everywhere, tells you how people think of the Establishment. Everybody knows that the system doesn't work. The mood is, 'We've had enough, we're tired of the Establishment!' You can say there are some parallels to what happened in eastern Europe in 1989, as long as you make the proviso, that this is being done in an English way, choosing an occasion to do a revolution."

According to this source, "What is going on here dooms the Windsors, there is no doubt about it. It's all quite extraordinary. Tony Blair is playing two games at once. He is identifying himself with this extreme populism, and trying to ride with it, but he is also trying to make sure that the whole pack of cards doesn't come down. It is he, who went to the Queen, to demand that she make an extraordinary address to the nation, tomorrow night. He told her to pull herself together; he can sense the mood."

The Scotsman then drew attention to the fact that, in the next weeks, there will be votes in both Scotland and Wales on the issue of greater autonomy, and this could be an historic moment, as well, which could also trigger a backlash of "English nationalism." "It's all happening at the same time, an amazing confluence. It is very weird, very strange, living in this country, at this time."

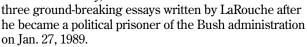
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