PLEASE DO NOT WALK OR PLAY ON THE GRASS

This area has been laid out as an amenity to be enjoyed by all the tenants on the estate. Will you please help to preserve its appearance by preventing damage to the area.

Housing Manager.

Anarchy

50p
ANARCHY
Box A, 84b Whitechapel High St., London E17QX, England Issue 36

Contents

HOME NEWS
Prison Protests: Albany & Wormwood Scrubs ... Glasgow: Lower Clyde Update ... Matt Lygate ... Stop the Strip Searches Campaign ... Have Gun, Will Travel ... Pink Panthers

INTERNATIONAL NEWS
Italy: Petra Krause ... Rome Arrests ... Turin Prosecutions Executed ... More Red Brigades Trials ... West Germany: RAF Arrest ... Bernd Rossner on No-Wash Strike ... Roos Convicted ... Berlin Riot ... Meanwhile, Back in Frankfurt ... Anti-Terrorist Cop Gaoled ... New Zealand: Resistance Spreads ... U.S.A.: Anarchist Black Dragon

FEATURES
A Wink, A Nod ... or a shake of the hand? Stuart Christie looks at the history and power base of the West's largest secret society.

The Frankfurt Bombings: Setting the record straight.

State and Revolution: A Personal View by Martyn Everett

SNIPER
The Sniper sets his sights on Searchlight's Gerry Gable and discovers some disturbing facts.

BOOKS
The Longest War — Northern Ireland and the IRA ... One Day In My Life (Bobby Sands) ... White Law ... The Investigative Researcher's Handbook ... The Vatican Connection

LETTERS

NESTOR MAKHNO

"Burn their laws and destroy their prisons, kill the hangmen, the bane of mankind. SMASH AUTHORITY."

Publisher's note:
Signed articles do not necessarily represent the views of the Anarchy Collective.
"Burn their laws and destroy their prisons, kill the hangmen, the bane of mankind. SMASH AUTHORITY."
**HOME NEWS...**

**Prison Protests**

Rising anger at conditions within British top-security prisons has spilled over into a number of protests in recent months.

Three IRA prisoners — Eddie O'Neill, John Clarke, and Richard Glenholmes — were hastily transferred from Hull prison (on 30 January under the notorious 'Rule 430' (G.O.D.) for 28 days, as a result of direct Home Office interference in revoking the Best of BRC to a BBC Newsnight film crew, who had been granted permission to speak to prisoners in the prison during the making of a TV documentary.

Then, at the end of February, nearly 900 long-term prisoners in Albany, Parkhurst, Gartree, Long Lartin, and Wakefield stopped work in protest at official refusal to grant them equal 'privileges' as received by prisoners in Northern Ireland; half remission, the right to wear their own clothes, and receive weekly food parcels, visits and letters from their children. In the wake of the (282 out of 261 in Parkhurst) and co-ordination smash-up the cell blocks. One television English prisons since the early '70's.

During the riot, 10 prisoners took to the roof to demonstrate against conditions in the prison and demand repatriation for Irish political prisoners and parity of conditions and remission with prisoners in the six counties. Three prisoners came down from the roof on 22 May (after three days), leaving seven men up there.

**Wormwood Scrubs**

Scrubs in London mounted another protest demonstration over prison conditions. The official version, given wide and sensationalised coverage in the press, was that a group of 'terrorists' who had stormed the office of D Wing during meal time and battled with screws for 15 minutes. 25 screws were reported injured, though the press only played up the injuries. But in a statement smuggled out of the gaol and passed to Time Out and the New Statesman, prisoner James Anderson, who was wounded unconscious: "At 4:30 p.m. we put the plan into operation; within five minutes we had secured the top landing. We had taken five prison officers captive, locking them in an office. We did not hurt them in any way. While we were consolidating our position, building barricades across the staircase, the riot squad numbering 60 or 80 prison officers charged with three different staircases and breasted our positions."

Fighting continued for about 10 minutes with prisoners 'defending themselves against the officers indiscriminately battering those they came across', says Anderson, who was knocked unconscious.

"When I recovered I was being dragged along a landing by a group of 10 or 12 officers. They were kicking and punching me. They dragged me downstairs, letting my body bounce on the metal staircase, and across V landing through broken glass. I was thrown into a bare cell and stripped naked. I was not named as yet for legal reasons repeatedly assaulted using their fists and feet. I was again knocked unconscious. When I regained my senses I was on the floor, naked with handcuffs behind my back. I was badly injured and in pain. I could hear sounds of other people being attacked, laughing and shouting and men in pain."

Later, Governor Ian Dunbar entered the prison, denying control of the place to the Governors, and arbitrarily stopping all visits and excluding all teaching and pay off their debts which they owe for a drug habit fed to them by the IRA." As ever, whenever prisoners revolt against the inhuman conditions of English prisons, Richardson fell back on the old conspiracy theory that it was the political prisoners who were behind it: "Nine IRA inmates and five other terrorist prisoners worked together to disrupt and destroy the system because of their total commitment to anarchy which recognises no formal system." This is exactly the line fed to the press by the POA after the "drug reliant" prisoners of Gartree took over and destroyed three wings of the prison in October 1978 in protest of the organised and systematic drugging of troublesome prisoners for control purposes by the prison doctors and screws. On that occasion the riot was blamed on Anarchists, IRA, and black prisoners.

Shortly before the Albany protest ended, on 24 May, four IRA prisoners in Gartree were locked up in their cells all day because the Governor suspected that there might be a similar protest there. And the next day, John McChay (another of those gnawed from Hull in January) was transferred out of the gaol to Leicester on another 28 days preventative "Good Order and Discipline" (G.O.D.)

On 16 June prisoners in Wormwood Scrubs have been described as "a penal dustbin". In a letter to the Guardian newspaper, the week before this latest attack on the prisoners, D-wing prisoners said that conflicts within the gaol were due to "Victorian conditions" and a "regressive regime."

The Scrubs had previously been the scene of a 'riot' in 1979, when 60 prisoners were hospitalised after a peaceful demonstration was attacked by the prison MUPF squad (Minimum Use of Force Tactical Intervention). After that episode, the screws staged a manifestation inside the prison, compelling control of the place to the Governors, and arbitrarily stopping all visits and excluding all teaching and legal aid. When British Shipbuilders officially announced that half of the Scott Lithgow workforce were to be made redundant and that Scott's Carthum yard at Greenock would close — 3000 to be laid off at the summer and the rest between then and March 1984 — the shipyard workers decided to call meetings of their respective departments and ask the workers to pay 50p per man into a fighting fund, which would be needed in order to fight the corporation's proposed redundancies. Every department agreed to pay this levy of 50p with the exception of the Kingston Glen platers (see Anarchy 35). The platers stews called three meetings on this question of the 50p in order to get the platers to reverse their decision. At each of these meetings our stewards were told "they didn't like the department's decision then they should resign. They didn't have the guts to resign, the platers still haven't paid the 50p. And because they haven't paid the levy, they have been expelled from the shop stewards committee and excluded from mass meetings.

The platers felt that, looking at the shop stewards committee's record over the last years, they couldn't take the shop stewards committee seriously when they speak about fighting redundancies. We cast our minds back to our last strike and the role which the shop stewards played in that last strike by not even putting the shop stewards committee signed a no strike agreement with the company. Instead we made our backs to the late seventies when redundancies should have been fought.

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**Footnote:**

Since this report was written, the prison authorities were to take part in the Albany protests after being found guilty in a gross miscarriage of justice by all visits and excluding all teaching and legal aid. When British Shipbuilders officially announced that half of the Scott Lithgow workforce were to be made redundant and that Scott's Carthum yard at Greenock would close — 3000 to be laid off at the summer and the rest between then and March 1984 — the shipyard workers decided to call meetings of their respective departments and ask the workers to pay 50p per man into a fighting fund, which would be needed in order to fight the corporation's proposed redundancies. Every department agreed to pay this levy of 50p with the exception of the Kingston Glen platers (see Anarchy 35). The platers stews called three meetings on this question of the 50p in order to get the platers to reverse their decision. At each of these meetings our stewards were told "they didn't like the department's decision then they should resign. They didn't have the guts to resign, the platers still haven't paid the 50p. And because they haven't paid the levy, they have been expelled from the shop stewards committee and excluded from mass meetings.

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HOME NEWS

Prison Protests

Taking anger at conditions within British top-security prisons has spilled over into a number of protests in recent months.

Three IRA prisoners — Eddie O'Neill, John Coughlin and Richard Glennon — were hastily transferred from Hull prison on 30 January under the notorious 'Rule 43b' (G.O.D.) for 28 days, as a result of direct Home Office intervention to stop an attempted raid on a BBC Newsnight film crew, who had been granted permission to speak to prisoners in the prison during the making of a TV documentary.

Then, at the end of February, nearly 800 long-term prisoners in Albany, Parkhurst, Gartree, Long Lartin, and Wakefield stopped work in protest at official refusal to grant them equal "privileges" as receive by prisoners in Northern Ireland: half remission, the right to wear their own clothes, and prisoners in the gaol during the making of a TV documentary.

In May, frustration in Albany came to head when allowances were cut from £1.60 to £1, after some men had refused to sew mailbags in the prison workshops. An estimated £250,000 of damage was done when prisoners in 'B' and 'C' wings smashed up the cell blocks. One television reporter allowed into the gaol, described the state of Albany as "worse than the scenes of destruction I saw in Beirut." During the riot, 10 prisoners took to the roof to demonstrate against conditions in the prison and demand repatriation for Irish political prisoners and parity of sentence for a grenade attack on El Al airlines in London in 1979. By lowering a basket to prisoners still in cells below, the screws staged a virtual coup within the prison, gaining control over the prison doctors and screws. On that occasion the riot was blamed on Anarchists, IRA, and black prisoners.

Wormwood Scrubs

Scrub in London mounted another protest demonstration over prison conditions. The official version, given with considerable sensationalised coverage in the press, was that the prisoners had stormed the office of D Wing during meal time and battled with screws for 15 minutes. 21 screws were reported injured, one was reported dead, and screws were injured in the general mauling. In a statement smuggled out of the gaol and passed to Time Out and the New Statesman, prisoners stated that "the Govemors, and arbitrarily stopping all visits and excluding all teaching and treatment they have been facing adjudications in gaols for 'mutiny', "one of the most serious of all crimes", can be brought against a prisoner under prison regulations. "Mutiny" was singled out for criticism by the Commission on Human Rights, which had heard the appeal of two Irish prisoners, Pat Hanley and Patrick Fell (both now released). The Commission recommended that prisoners facing such a charge should have an absolute right to legal representation of their choice. Prisoners in Albany are expected to be ratified by the full court at this autumn. At present, prisoners have no rights to such representation or legal aid under British prison rules.

Scrubs have been described as a former Governor, John Clarke, being said to have caused the prison to escape before the interest of the press and public had died down. Control over the prison has remained with the screws ever since. Only at great risk to themselves, can individual prisoners smuggle out their side of the story.

Footnote:

Since this report was written, the prisoners who took part in the Albany protests have been facing adjudications in gaols scattered around the country. Steven Blake has lost 670 days remission at Welton Prison, Liverpool. Anthony Clarke has lost 500 days remission in Strangeways, Manchester. 28 of the 31 ex-Albany prisoners, being being held in an "area of Sustainable" - 1 day 300 to be laid off at the summer and the rest between then and March 1984 - the shop stewards committee decided to call meetings of their respective departments and ask the workers to pay 50p per man into a fighting fund, which would be needed in order to fight the corporation's proposed redundancies.

Glasgow: Lower Clyde Update

When British shipbuilders officially announced that half of the Scott Lithgow workforce were to be made redundant and that Scott's Cartwright yard at Greenock would close — 3000 to be laid off at the summer and the rest between then and March 1984 — the shop stewards committees decided to call meetings of their respective departments and ask the workers to pay 50p per man into a fighting fund, which would be needed in order to fight the corporation's proposed redundancies.

Every department agreed to pay this levy of 50p with the exception of the Kingston/Glen platers (the crossword puzzle), the Kingston/Glen platers (the crossword puzzle) — if they didn't like the department's decision then they should resign. They didn't, and the platers still haven't paid the 50p. And because they haven't paid the levy, they have been expelled from the shop stewards committee and excluded from mass meetings.

The platers felt that, looking at the shop stewards committee's track record over the past years, they couldn't take the shop stewards committees seriously when they speak about fighting redundancies. We cast our minds back to our last strike and the role which the shop stewards committees played in getting a worker's sack. We cast our minds back to our last strike and the role which the shop stewards committees played in getting a worker's sack. We cast our minds back to the late seventies when redundancies should have been fought

HOME NEWS...
but weren't. At that period the shop stewards called mass meetings and made their speeches about fighting redundancies to only a few of their members. The points are only a few of the many high-rank ing police officers were unaware of its existence. Members travel all over the country under cover and have a great deal of knowledge about Republican activities.

**********

Cheesh's, in the United Kingdom, George Finn, admitted to the local press in April that the police had had a special squad of 'anthrax' experts at work. The squad is made up of doctors, nurses, and many high-ranking police officers who are not shy in fighting, the fight will have to be life and death, but we weren't. At that period the shop steward called for a mass meeting at the local Labour club. The chairman of the meeting told them that the platers had asked for four times the pay to do the job and keep on refusing to pay it. If there is going to be any fighting, they are not going to do it. They are not going to do it.

It was also made clear at the platers meeting that we are not going to do it. If there is going to be any fighting, we are not going to do it.

The shop stewards called a mass meeting of the workforce (excluding the Glen platers) and asked for the 50p to be paid on a weekly basis. This was accepted by the mass meetings. At this particular mass meeting, workers called out for an explanation as to why the Kingon/Glen platers were not present. The chairman of the meeting told them that the platers had asked for four times the pay to do the job and keep on refusing to pay it. If there is going to be any fighting, they are not going to do it. They are not going to do it.

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spelled out to the workforce. It was to be a 'political campaign'. The shop stewards called a mass meeting at the Kingston Board of Visitors of Armagh Gaol, c/o Governor Murtagh, Armagh Women's prison system as a 'stauching' coudes who has participated in many prison protests and is always willing to stand up for his fellow prisoners) at the time is still serving a life sentence on other charges in an english prison.

Republican women in Armagh Jail in Northern Ireland are being routinely sexually abused by regular strip searches. A group of women in London are mounting a campaign to put a stop to this violation. We call on you to support us to STOP THE STRIP SEARCHES

Regular and extensive strip searches have not been used in Armagh in the past. The police have to sell on on about 30 to 40 people. The police have been told that if there are more than 20 people, they should be arrested. The police have been told to arrest anyone who does not follow the rules. The police have been told to arrest anyone who does not follow the rules.

Women are searched when leaving or entering the prison. This is to prevent any possible escape attempts. Women are also searched when leaving or entering the prison. This is to prevent any possible escape attempts.

All prisoners are subjected to the same searches regardless of age or physical condition. All these women have been strip-searched: a 45-year-old mother of three, menstruating women who are required to remove their tampons or pads; adolescent women held in Armagh's hospital, and inter-prison visits. In Par-liament, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, James Prior defended the strip searches. Write to:

Steve Krause

An appeals court in Rome on 22 Febru-ary confirmed the prison sentences on seven people — including anarchist Steve Krause, who has already been convicted for guerrilla activities by a Swiss court — on charges of smuggling explosives into Italy for guerrilla organisations. Petra got the heart's contents of the sentenced out to the group: six years, three months.

Three people were arrested in Rome on 17 May after a raid on a suburban post office went wrong. One man was captur- Red Brigades Trial

Twelve people were sentenced to life imprison-ment and 48 received lesser georms in Turin at the end of July, who managed to escape the police. Three are accused of belonging to the Red Brigades and Pirata Lina. Only one of the people charged was acquitted. Two of those on trial were given reduced sen-tences as rewards for turning themselves in. Patrizo Peci (whom the press have built up as "the leaders of the Sardinian Red Brigades") was sentenced to life imprisonment.

The eagle-eyed Trotskyist daily Newsline reported five custom-built Land Rovers of the SAS moving through Fleet Street on 1 August. The vehicles — nick-named "Pink Panthers" by 22 SAS — were paint- ed in desert-pink camouflage, and each fitted with smoke dischargers at each corner, that the 7.62mm heavy machine guns that are normally carried by the vehicles were not in evidence. Each was driven by a man in combat jacket and motorcyclist's helmet. It is understood that the vehicle and one of its drivers refused to the 11.5 guns for 'deployment' to warmer climes... A Defence Ministry spokesman refused to be drawn any释问.

Italian News

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Pink Panthers

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Pink Panthers
The recent London inquest into the death of Italian banker Roberto Calvi has exposed, more than any previous inquest, the international links of Freemasons. Stuart Christie looks at the brotherhood's history and power base and reveals the names of the senior officers of the West's largest secret society. This article was first published (heavily abridged) in the London magazine City Limits. Here for the first time is the full text.

"The point of a club is not who it lets in, but who it keeps out. The club is based on two ancient British ideas — the segregation of classes, and the segregation of sexes: and they even remain insistent on keeping people out, long after they have stopped wanting to come in." Anthony Sampson, Anatomy of Britain.

If secrecy is to be considered a factor in British politics and commerce then without doubt Freemasonry is one of its principal vehicles. Freemasonry is the largest semi-covert organisation of the western bourgeoisie, with over six million members worldwide sharing a vision of a unified world order bound together through a series of interlocking masonic alliances. Among the world's most influential institutions must be the United Grand Lodge of England, the mother lodge of Craft Freemasonry, with its headquarters at Freemason's Hall in Great Queen Street near Covent Garden. It is here that the wealthy and influential members of the British Establishment meet in conditions of ritual secrecy, ostensibly to listen to lectures on Masonic history and to discuss charitable and other Masonic business. In practice, the Masonic brotherhood constitutes a clandestine network for the defence of the status quo and established privilege, a mutual-aid society for the British ruling class.

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A wink, a nod,... or a shake of the hand.

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of the hand

Rules of the Mason: A wink, a nod, or a shake of the hand.
WEST GERMANY

RAF Arrest

Frankfurt) on 1 March. She is said to
and the authorities claim she is suspected
of belonging to the Red Army Fraction.

Bernd Rossner on No-Wash Strike

Since 18th April this year, RAF prisoner
Bernd Rossner, has been on a no-wash
protest. He doesn't leave his cell to go
to the toilet, refuses to clean his cell and to
take showers. He demands to be transferred
out of the prison and he was also tortured. Since
the Vogel are together.

Bernd is the longest isolated prisoner in
Germany: for eight years now he has not only been isolated but is refused visits and letters.

The result of Bernd's demands was that he was forbidden to exercise in the prison yard and he was also tortured. Since the beginning of his no wash protest Bernd was put into a special cell in the cellar
and letters.

Meanwhile, Back In Frankfurt...

A bomb caused over £14,000 damage to
the home of the Frankfurt airport chief
on 27 June. Nobody was injured in the
attack, which was later called "an underground extremist group". The site of the new airport at Frankfurt has been
the scene of a long campaign of resistance
by left wing groups, and right wing groups who are
opposed to it.

Anti-Terrorist Cop Gaedel

Gerhard Benoit (36), a former anti-
terrorist policeman, was sentenced to life
imprisonment on 27 May for the murder
of a 13-year-old bank clerk during a
robbery of the bank on 6 November. Benoit, who admit-
ted shooting the clerk, accepted the
sentence, but his accomplice, Ernst
Schluschus (37), asked his lawyers to
appeal.

NEW ZEALAND

Resistance Spreads

Twoigelite charges exploded, shaken-
ing the concrete base of the
flagstaff at the beginning of March. The
attacking left behind the slogans "The

A wink, a nod....
or a shake of the hand.

"The point of a club is not who it lets in, but who it
keeps out. The club is based on two ancient British
terms of an association of classes, and the segregation
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lished privilege, a mutual-aid society for the British
ruling class.

Of course just as a mutual-aid society for gaolers will

be different in aims and functions from a mutual-
aid society for prisoners (one providing clubs and
other hacksaws), so the mutual-aid society of
the aristocracy's privileged power elite will be different from
the mutual-aid societies which provide assistance
among those whose continued deprivation of the
good things in life is the essential condition for the
preservation of the privileges of the few.
Since the benefits of privileges — as opposed to its outward trappings — are necessarily largely hidden, so the efforts, necessarily combined efforts, of those who would defend their privilege are also hidden; that is to say they are more than discreetly being secret and even conspiratorial. Indeed we should not really be surprised to find the US historian Carl Oglesby writing in his book *The Yankee and Cowboy War*:

"Clandestinism is not the usage of a handful of rogues, it is a formalised practice of an entire class in which a thousand hands spontaneously join. Conspiracy is the normal continuation of normal politics by normal means."

Freemasonry is one of principal structures that allow the joining of the hands to be a little more than wholly spontaneous.

**What Is Freemasonry?**

Freemasonry is a particularly British creation which first emerged in the early seventeenth century. Essentially, it consists of three degrees or grades: Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft Mason and Master Mason. The central theme of all Masonic ritual is the building of Solomon’s temple and the soap opera incidents surrounding its construction such as the murder of the principal architect Hiram Abiff and the continuing search for the secret of the lost Keystone. The sinister daftness of it all illustrates the essential madness and badness of power elites as well as providing a diversionary spectacle for the curious outsider.

In addition to the three Craft degrees of Freemasonry which are open to all males who profess a belief in an Almighty Being - including Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Roman Catholics(1), etc. - there are additional side or “Higher” degrees such as the Knights Templar (no relation to the original Mid East Task Force) and the Ancient and Accepted (Scottish) Rite 33° which despite the word “Scottish” are exclusively White, Anglo-Saxon and Protestant. These “side” degrees are “higher” only in the numerical sense, ostensibly, as the Grand Lodge of England practices Freemasonry only within the three Craft degrees and does not admit the existence of any superior Masonic authority. The “side” degrees are conferred by patronage only on a specially approved and strictly limited number of candidates totalling at most a few hundred “brothers”, all drawn exclusively from the intimate friendship circles of the British ruling class.

The top three degrees of 33° Freemasonry are themselves conferred only after a unanimous vote of approval by the “Supreme Council 33 of the Ancient and Accepted Rite of Freemasonry”, which itself is recruited, incestuously, from among the Grand Officers or Past Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of England. The headquarters of this inner Masonic organisation is the Grand Temple of the Rose Croix (no relation to the Rosicrucians) at 10 Duke Street, St.James’s. It is interesting to note the strong military presence among the exclusively WASP 33°, Major General Sir Ralph Hone, KCMG, Major General Sir Allen Adair, GCVO, Brigadier Alex Cosby Fishburn Jackson, ex ADC to the Queen.

The principal figure in English Freemasonry is the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England who is invariably selected from either the Royal Family or the English aristocracy. The present incumbent is H.R.H. Edward Duke of Kent. Once installed the Grand Master then appoints the officers of the Grand Lodge himself — there is no pretence at democracy which would, after all, be out of place among so many aristocrats, captains of industry and masters of our fate.

Apart from the three degrees of Craft Masonry and the confusing number of “side” degrees there is a complex and labyrinthine pecking order of rank and precedence among the officers of the exclusive Grand Lodge which covers over seventy grades of current and past office holders.

There is no publicly available information on the structure, membership or workings of the Grand Lodge, which actively discourages any attempt at investigation. While researching this article I spoke to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of England, Commander Michael Higham RN, but he refused to allow me to interview him nor would be comment on any of the questions I put to him on the telephone.

Masonic officials are highly paid. No details are available concerning the salaries paid to the thirty-five full time employees of the Grand Lodge, but they must at least be commensurate with the 20 million lire (approx £10,000) plus lavish expenses paid for the part-time services of the Grand Master of the Italian counterpart, the Grand Orient of Italy, Signor Armando Corona. Additionally, Grand Lodge officials have wide-ranging powers of patronage accorded to them by the Constitution. The most powerful position of all is that of Grand Secretary who is appointed by the Grand Master himself and who remains in office until retirement.

**Joining The Brethren**

To become a Freemason is not difficult. The requirements for a prospective candidate are that he must be male, twenty-one, and “in reputable circumstances”; he must profess a belief in a God and be prepared to take an oath on a book of Sacred Law “under no less a penalty of ritual murder, mutilation and being ‘disappeared’ — just like a victim of a Latin American death squad.

The would-be initiate is also forbidden to countenance any act which may subvert the peace and good order of society, must pay due obedience to the law of the State and must never be remiss in the allegiance due to the Sovereign of his native land. To the above list might be added a predilection for dressing up and performing dramatic ritual. The members of the Lodge to which initiation is sought are balloted as to the candidate’s acceptability to their company and membership is refused if three black balls are cast against him in the voting.

The vast majority of the half-million Craft Freemasons who come under the jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge are obliged by the limitations of their friendship circles and income to remain at the level...
Since the benefits of privileges — as opposed to its outward trappings — are necessarily largely hidden, so are the efforts, the necessarily combined efforts, of those who would defend their privilege are also hidden; that is to say they are more than discrediting being secret and even conspiratorial. Indeed, we should not really be surprised to find the US historian Carl Oglesby writing in his book The Yankee and Cowboy War: "Clandestinism is not the usage of a handful of rogues, it is a formalised practice of an entire class in which a thousand hands spontaneously join. Clandestinism is the normal continuation of normal politics by normal means".

Freemasonry is one of principal structures that allow the joining of the hands to be a little more than wholly spontaneous.

What Is Freemasonry?

Freemasonry is a particularly British creation which first emerged in the early seventeenth century. Essentially, it consists of three degrees or grades: Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft Mason and Master Mason. The central theme of all Masonic ritual is the building of Solomon's temple and the soap opera incidents surrounding its construction such as the murder of the principal architect Hiram Abiff and the continuing search for the secret of the lost Keystone. The sinister daftness of it all illustrates the essential madness and badness of power elites as well as providing a diversionary spectacle for the curious outsider.

In addition to the three Craft degrees of Freemasonry which are open to all males who profess a belief in an Almighty Being — including Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Roman Catholics(1), etc. — there are additional side or "higher" degrees such as the Knights Templar (no relation to the original Mid East Task Force) and the Ancient and Accepted (Scottish) Rite 33° which despite the word "Scottish" are exclusively White, Anglo-Saxon and Protestant. These "side" degrees are "higher" only in the numerical sense, ostensibly, as the Grand Lodge of England practices Freemasonry only within the three Craft degrees and does not admit the existence of any superior Masonic authority. The "side" degrees are conferred by patronage only on a specially approved and strictly limited number of candidates totalling at most a few hundred "brothers", all drawn exclusively from the intimate friendship circles of the British ruling class.

The principal figure in English Freemasonry is the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England who is invariably selected from either the Royal Family or the English aristocracy. The present incumbent is H.R.H. Edward Duke of Kent. Once installed the Grand Master then appoints the officers of the Grand Lodge himself — there is no pretence at democracy which would, after all, be out of place among so many aristocrats, captains of industry and masters of our fate.

Apart from the three degrees of Craft Masonry and the confusing number of "side" degrees there is a complex and labyrinthine pecking order of rank and precedence among the officers of the exclusive Grand Lodge which covers over seventy grades of current and past office holders.

There is no publicly available information on the structure, membership or workings of the Grand Lodge, which actively discourages any attempt at investigation. While researching this article I spoke to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of England, Commander Michael Higham RN, but he refused to allow me to inverview him nor would he comment on any of the questions I put to him on the telephone.

Masonic officials are highly paid. No details are available concerning the salaries paid to the thirty-five full time employees of the Grand Lodge, but they must at least be commensurate with the 2.4 million lire (appx £10,000) plus lavish expenses paid for the part-time services of the Grand Master of the Italian counterpart, the Grand Orient of Italy, Signor Armando Corona. Additionally, Grand Lodge officials have wide-ranging powers of patronage accorded to them by the Constitution. The most powerful position of all is that of Grand Secretary who is appointed by the Grand Master himself and who remains in office until retirement.

Joining The Brethren

To become a Freemason is not difficult. The requirements for a prospective candidate are that he must be male, twenty-one, and "in reputable circumstances"; he must profess a belief in a God and be prepared to take an oath on a book of Sacred Law "under no less a penalty" of ritual murder, mutilation and being "disappeared" — just like a victim of a Latin American death squad.

The would-be initiate is also forbidden to countenance any act which may subvert the peace and good order of society, must pay due obedience to the law of the State and must never be remiss in the allegiance due to the Sovereign of his native land. To the above list might be added a predilection for dressing up and performing dramatic ritual. The members of the Lodge to which initiation is sought are ballotted as to the candidate's acceptability to their company and membership is refused if three black balls are cast against him in the voting.

The vast majority of the half-million Craft Freemasons who come under the jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge are obliged by the limitations of their friendship circles and income to remain at the level...
of the Third Degree, that of Master Mason. The "Higher" degrees and officerships of the Grand Lodge are the prerogative of the rich and powerful and not "Higher" degrees and officerships of the Grand Lodge be the demands on his pocket and he must decide whether he can meet these extra financial obligations.

For those with time, money, friends and influence, becoming a Master Mason may join as many lodges as they can afford — and will have them.

Nor are the restrictions imposed by the credit-rating of the less-privileged brethren the only drawbacks to Masonic advancement. Aspiring upwardly mobile Freemasons who join with an eye to discussing the price of beer with the Duke of Edinburgh, and not the ravenous birds of the air, or devouring beasts of the field as prey. So help me Almighty God...” — Oath of Obligation, Second Degree.

For some, becoming a Master Mason may have a potentially dangerous secret marriage of the Duke of Clarence, the Prince of Wales' oldest son and the heir to the throne of England, to an Irish Roman Catholic servant girl. The victims were in fact the "Duchess" herself and her friends, witnesses to the marriage.

Freemasonry is particularly strong within the armed services where it is seen as an extension of the fellowships of the various lodges in the British navy. The Grand Lodge of the Royal Navy and Marine organisations have exclusive lodges such as Royal Naval Lodge 2612 whose members include such worthies as the Duke of Edinburgh and the current Grand Secretary, Commander Michael Higham.

Hopeful squaddies and matelots looking for rapid advancement or simply good Masonic friendship should know, however, that since 1815 naval and military lodges whose purpose is to bring together into single discreet bodies "brothers" who hold high public or private office and who might remain at a suitable distance from the hot pot of Freemasonry.

Thus, there are lodges whose members are recruited exclusively and as selectively from among the ranks of particular power elites: mayors and Lord Mayors of London, the Bank of England, chartered accountants, architects, the legal profession, the merchant navy, the armed services, the Metropolitan Police, broadcasting. There is even a Council of Public School Lodges.

Success and promotion in any of the professions is seen as membership in the Craft. The Royal College of Surgeons and Royal College of Physicians, for example, appear to be an exclusively Masonic preserve. In the book The Mysterious Power of Freemasonry (1901) Paul Ferris quotes a senior physician as saying: “No one would become surgeon to the Queen unless he was a Mason.” This tradition dates back at least as far as the death of Queen Victoria when, under the patronage of the Prince of Wales who was Grand Master of England from 1875 until his accession to the throne in 1901, Freemasonry received a Royal Charter as the "Protector of the Craft". The British establishment consolidated its hold on Freemasonry. It would appear that the Prince of Wales (later Edward, VI) did not view Freemasonry as a policy-making and action body to influence the affairs of State from which he had been excluded by his mother (herself, of course, ineligible for membership, as a woman). A particular power elite: mayors and Lord Mayors of London and the Earl of Moira.

Statutes and legislation directed against the nascent working class and radical organisations: the Seditious Laws so beloved of the English judiciary for use against the organised working class.

In his summing up in the conspiracy trial of the Shrewsbury Three in 1974 Mr Justice Mais directed the jury to consider the following: “… conspirators do not publish their agreement or design. The whole object of conspiracy is something secret, and so it is necessary to see whether the surrounding circumstances and facts as found by you are such that you can be inferred from the words and actions of those concerned... Now it is not necessary that the person entering into the conspiracy should join the conspiracy at one and the same time. It is not necessary that they should all join at the beginning. It is sufficient if they lend their aid to it knowingly, in furtherance of its objects, is just as guilty as the man who was there from the beginning. I am joining during the implementation of the conspiracy.”

Also, the perpetuation of the entire legal profession by Freemasonry from the Lord Chancellor's Office to the most far-flung provincial lawyer and JP or Sheriff, the conspiracy-makers and arbiters themselves with no doubt ensure that Freemasonry remains a locked secret.

In April 1951 Fred Longden, a Labour MP, called for Freemasonry from the Lord Chancellor's Office to the most far-flung provincial lawyer and JP or Sheriff, the conspiracy-makers and arbiters themselves with no doubt ensure that Freemasonry remains a locked secret.

The prime justification for the use of the Conspiracy Laws is that it enables the law to intervene at an early stage before any real damage has actually been committed. Lord Diplock defined conspiracy thus “… that the offence lies not in the overt acts themselves, but in an inferred agreement to commit them...” There can be little doubt that a sacred promise to countenance and agree to premediated murder falls within the category of an agreement to commit a crime.

In most of the laws relating to the taking of oaths, the power of a man's word was in fact nullified by the Criminal Law Act 1867 the Masonic Oaths — even though they have for the most part, since 1964, been abolished for the benefit of the public. The euphemistic "ever bearing in mind the ancient penalty" — are clearly in contravention of the Conspiracy Laws. The 1867 Act allowed anyone to use the writ of habeas corpus against anyone who used any false oaths or affirmations for the purpose of influencing the affairs of State from which he had been excluded by his mother (herself, of course, ineligible for membership, as a woman). A particular power elite: mayors and Lord Mayors of London and the Earl of Moira.

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In 1934, Herbert Morrison, Shadow Home Secretary, said: "I have never heard the matter has not been raised seriously since then."

Who's Who?

In national affairs of State and business there is little or no doubt that Freemasonry lends its aid to it knowingly, in furtherance of its objects, is just as guilty as the man who was there from the beginning. I am joining during the implementation of the conspiracy.”

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of the Third Degree, that of Master Mason. The "Higher" degrees and officerships of the Grand Lodge are the prerogative of the rich and powerful and not for the likes of working class "brothers" from Hackney or Dalston. The following advice given by the Masonic Record in June 1964 although couched in suitably diplomatic language reminded the Freemasons of proletarian origin to remember his place:

"(he) must consider how much time he demands on his pocket and he must decide whether he can meet these extra financial obligations."

For those with time, money, friends and influence the Freemasonry world is like a magnet to join as many lodges as they can afford — and will have them.

Nor are the restrictions imposed by the crediting of the less-privileged brethren the only drawbacks to Masonic advancement. Aspiring upward mobile Freemasons who join with an eye to discovering the price of beer with the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Kent, Lord Cornwallis and other distinguished members of the Craft are in for a disappointment — there are lodges and lodges and, like Orwell's animals, some brethren are more equal than others.

As with the now notorious secret or "covered" lodges such as Royal Naval Lodge, the officers and the Secretary to the Lodge, in order to cover up the embarrassing and potentially dangerous secret marriage of the Duke of Clarence, the Prince of Wales' eldest son and the heir to the throne of England, to an Irish Roman Catholic servant girl. The victims were in fact the "Duchess" and her friends, witnesses to the marriage.

Freemasonry is particularly strong within the armed services where it is seen as an extension of the fellowship. There are Freemasonry lodges in the British cavalry regiments alone, 25 in the Royal Regiment of Artillery and a number of Royal Marine lodges. The exclusive British flash, Pantone 22 SAS and "Artists Rifles" (21st SAS) have a lodge (Byfield) which meets on the second Monday of every month at the Duke of York's HQ in Chelsea. The Senior Service have their own exclusive lodges such as Royal Navy Lodge 2612 whose members include such worthies as the Duke of Edinburgh and the present Grand Secretary, Commander Michael Higham.

Hopeful squaddies and matelots looking for rapid advancement or simply good Masonic fellowship should know, however, that since 1816 naval and military lodges have been introduced by-laws excluding all civilians and stating that no sailor below the rank of Petty Officer or no soldier below the rank of rank of Private is eligible to enter a Masonic Lodge. Masonic researcher John Dewar, author of the authoritative study of contemporary Freemasonry The Unclothed Sects, was told by a spokesman for a large Masonic outfitter in Great Queen Street that much of the firm's successful business rested on export orders for regalia received from NATO troops in Europe, an indication as to the extent of Masonic strength among the officer corps of the British Establishment.

The fact that most Clerks of the Peace are likely to be members of the Craft is clearly in contravention of the Conspiracy and Seditious Laws so beloved of the English judiciary for use against the organised working class.

"...The conspiracy or agreement to commit a crime..." — Unlawful Oaths Act 1812.

"...All persons who shall conspire, confess or agree to murder any person, whether they be in the same lodge, or whether they be in a lodge or lodges separate and apart from one another, shall be guilty of an misdemeanour and shall be liable to imprisonment for any term not more than ten years..." — Unlawful Oaths Act 1812.

In fact, however, Freemasonry, being an arm of the Establishment, has been able to circumvent or ignore the law of the land relating to secret societies and criminal conspiracy. In the 19th century were published severely in the case of the Tolpuddle Martyrs. Here are some Masonic examples:

"...in the presence of the Grand Architect of the Universe, and of this worthy, worshipful, and warranted Lodge, I, in the name of the Constitution of all Grand Lodges, and in the name of our Supreme Architect, hereby swear, that I will always help, conceal and never reveal any part or parts, point or points of the secrets of or belonging to Free and Accepted Masons in Masonry... under no less a penalty... than that of having my head struck off..." — Oath of Obligation, Third Degree.

"...in the presence of the True and Living God... solemnly promise... under no less a penalty... than that of having my head struck off..." — Oath of Obligation, Holy Royal Arch Chapter.

There were equally able to ignore other repressive laws where it is seen as an extension of the fellowship. They were equally able to ignore other repressive laws and facts as found by you are such that you can infer a conspiracy and that an accused was part of that conspiracy... I must tell you that conspiracy, generally speaking, is a matter of inference. It is seldom expressed in words still less in writing, and it can be inferred from conduct, by the words and actions of those concerned... Now it is not necessary that the conspiracy should be joined at the beginning, or even at the end. A man may join the conspiracy at one and the same time. It is not necessary that they should all join at the beginning. If they all agreed to commit them... There can be little doubt that a sacred promise to countenance and agree to premeditated murder falls within the category of an agreement to commit a crime."

In his summing up in the conspiracy trial of the Shrewsbury Three in 1974 Mr Justice Mais directed the jury to consider the following: "... conspirators do not publish their agreement or design. The whole object of conspiracy is something secret, and so it is necessary to see whether the surrounding circumstances and facts as found by you are such that you can infer a conspiracy and that an accused was part of that conspiracy..."

Also, the permeation of the entire legal profession by Freemasonry from the Lord Chancellor's Office to the most far-flung provincial lawyer and JP or Sheriff — the conspiratorial makers and arbiters themselves with no doubt express that Freemasonry remains a locked secret.

In April 1951 Fred Longden, a Labour MP, called for the Home Secretary and the matter has never been raised seriously since then.

Who's Who?

In national affairs of State and business there is little question that Freemasonry is the chosen weapon of influence for the relatively small number of people who wield real political and economic power...
in Britain today: Cabinet Ministers, senior civil servants, senior police officers and leading members of the armed services, executives of local authorities, senior judges, prominent churchmen, industrialists and trade union leaders.

The following list is a breakdown of just some of the 400 odd past and present living people we have been able to identify as office-holders in the Grand Lodge of England for the years 1982/83:

**Legal**
- The Rt. Hon Sir John Arnold (President Family Division);
- His Honour Judge Rodney Bax QC, the Rt. Hon Viscount Bledisloe QC, Mr Registrar John Bradburn (Registrar in Bankruptcy and of the Companies Court, High Court of Justice, Clerk of the Restrictive Practices Court and Lord Chancellor's Legal Visitor), Sir Lionel Brett, the Hon. Mr. Justice Mervyn Davies, Mr Registrar T.L. Dewhurst, the Hon. Mr. Justice Drake, the Hon Robert Kinley Eason, His Hon Judge Brian Gibbens QC, His Hon. Judge J.E. Jones, The Hon Mr Justice Leonard (Common Serjeant in the City of London, ex-Chairman Criminal Bar Association, etc.), F. Ash Lincoln QC, the Hon Mr Justice Reeve, His Hon Judge MRSA Underhill QC, His Hon, Judge P.M. Slos, His Hon Judge Sir William Stabb QC, Sir John Chalmer Stubbings (Partner Payne Hicks Beach & Co. Solicitors, President Law Society), Andrew Felix Waley QC (Recorder of the Crown Court), The Rt. Hon Lord Justice Waller OBE

**Aristocracy**
- The Hon Edward Latham Baillieu, the Rt. Hon Lord Kenyon (Director of the Royal Exchange Assurance), Alexander Davis, (Chief Manager Lloyds Bank); Judge Michael Underhill (Pres. of the District Court of the Bank of England, Recorder of the City Court, former Judge of the Division of Industrial Tribunals), Major General Sir Allan Henry Adair GVCO, General Commissioner for Income Tax.

**Common Law, Un. of Manchester, Chmn Social Security Advisory Committee and numerous other advisory committees including the Political Activities of Civil Servants and the National Advisory Council on the Training of Magistrates), William Derrick Patinson (ex-Treasury now Sec General Synod of the Church of England), Anthony F.A. Sutherland (ex-Under Sec. Dep. of Employment), Sir Herbert Tetley KBE (ex-Govt. Actuary), Charles Freedman (Commissioner, Customs & Excise).

**Armies**
- Major General Sir Allen Henry Adair GCVO, General Sir Rodney Moore GCVO (Chief Steward Hampton Court Palace), Major General Sir Ralph Hone KCMG, Major General Sir Leonard Atkinson. There is also one Brigadier, 10 Colonels, four Lt. Colonels, one Major and one Captain representing the Army; one Captain, three Commanders and one Lt. Commander from the Navy and one Wing Commander and two Squadron Commanders from the Royal Air Force.

This list of officers of the Grand Lodge also contains 14 Privy Councillors and 21 Deputy Lieutenants of Counties.

**Mafiosi**

It is not only in national affairs that Freemasons can exert their influence. The extent to which Freemasonry can exert a powerful grip on the life of a community has been illustrated by the investigations carried out by local radical papers such as Rebecca and Tameside Eye. Journalists from both papers obtained lists of the members of the managers of the three High Street Banks, the Town Clerk, the Deputy Town Clerk, the Borough Treasurer, the Housing Manager, the Clerk to the Magistrates, the owners of the Abercynony Freemasons, showed just how ubiquitous and pervasive Freemasonry can within the power structure of local politics, commerce and privilege.

Abergavenny is a quiet market town with a population of about 10,000 and one Masonic lodge with about 170 members. On the Conservative-controlled 16 seat council many of the Tories were Freemasons, including aldermen and the managers of the three High Street Banks, the Town Clerk, the Deputy Town Clerk, the Borough Treasurer, the Housing Manager, the Clerk to the Magistrates, the owners of the Abercynony Chronicle, the Master of the Tal-y-bont Hunt, the head of the Abercynony police force, three segeants and a detective constable, 17 shopkeepers and 16 local businessmen. If Abercynony could be said to have an Establishment it was to be found at the monthly meetings of the local St John's Lodge. The Tameside Eye investigation into the sixty lodges in the Greater Manchester area showed a network of a cohesive and all-pervading network underpinning vested interest and privilege.

**Charity Begins At Home**

Freemasonry claims for itself the status of a privately exclusively male club whose members are dedicated to the ideals of universal brotherhood and philanthropy, which finds its principle expression in its charitable works. But in the UK — as opposed to Craft Freemasonry in the US — the main beneficiaries of Masonic charities: the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution (which owns a block of a hundred flats at Holloway Road, London); the Royal Masonic School for Girls, the RMJ for Boys and the Royal Masonic Hospital. The Queen is patron of all with the exception of the Hospital.

In 1981 Commander Higham, the Grand Secretary, authorised the transfer of the assets of the "Fund of Benevolence" (a category of Friendly Societies as they are primarily financial and political intrigues which included moves to sabotage the proposed amalgamation of the three main Italian trade unions. These manoeuvres had the financial backing of Fiat and the Italian employers' federation who donate in the region of 100 million lire a year to Masonic coffers.

It is equally a matter of interest that within 24 hours of the discovery of the hanged body of Roberto Calvi on 17 June 1982 — a death which occurred in an almost ritualistic setting under the arches of Blackfriars Bridge with the tidal waters for the Thames lapping at his feet — the Italian Grand Lodge and the secret lodges such as 'P1' and 'P2', thus bringing Italy back into full membership of the international Masonic community after 110 years in the 'wilderness'.

The principal architect of this historic rapprochement was the then Grand Master of the Grand Orient, Lino Salvini, an extreme right winger who immediately set about involving the masonic movement in a series of financial and political intrigues which included moves to sabotage the proposed amalgamation of the three main Italian trade unions. These manoeuvres had the financial backing of Fiat and the Italian employers' federation who donate in the region of 100 million lire a year to Masonic coffers.

Masonic charities would appear to come under the category of Friendly Societies as they are primarily self-serving institutions, but they are in fact registered Charities and present their accounts infrequently.

**International Links**

For many years the Grand Lodge of England disavowed the European Grand Orient Lodge because of their alleged permeation by freethinkers and revolutionaries. It may not be entirely coincidental that the Grand Lodge of England finally recognised the Grand Orient of Italy in 1972 at the height of extreme right-wing machinations in both the UK and Italy (in Italy these bodies were closely linked with the Italian Grand Lodge and the secret lodges such as 'P1' and 'P2'), thus bringing Italy back into full membership of the international Masonic community after 110 years in the 'wilderness'.

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Aristocracy
- The Hon Edward Latham Baillieu, the Rt. Hon Lord Barnard, Viscount Chelsea, the Rt Hon Lord Cornwallis, Most Hon Marques of Downeal, the Rt Earl of Edington and Winton, H.R.H. the Duke of Kent, H.R.H. Prince Michael of Kent, the Rt Hon Lord Kenyon (Dir. Lloyd's Bank), the Rt Hon Lord Kathercedan, the Rt Hon Lord Earl of Shannon, the Earl of Stratbridge, the Earl of Derby, Earl Cadogan, the Rt Hon Lord Forrit, the Rt Hon Lord Lothian, the Rt Hon Earl of Lauderdale, the Rt Hon Lord Swansea, the Most Hon the Marquesses of Zetland.

Commerce
- Arthur J. Davis (Chief Gen Man Lloyd's Bank), Sir Knowles Edge (ex Man Dir Wm. Edge & Sons), Alex Stewart Frere (ex Pres. Wm. Heinemann Ltd., ex-Chairman British Parke & Partners, Architects), Alan Lambourn (Member of Lloyd's, ex-Sheriff of London, Sec. Ross Muirfield Foundation), Sir Kenneth Newman (Chmn Garnar Scotblair Ltd., General Commissioner for Income Tax), Sir Oliver Chesterton (Chairman Woolwich Building Society and Crown Estates Commissioner), Sir Alexander Ross (Chmn United Dominion Trust Ltd., Eagle Star), Sir James Stubbs, Lt Col Neil Gordon Thorne, OBE, MP (ex Partner Hull & Co., Chartered Surveyors).
Calvi's escape to England had been organised through fellow 'P2' member and neo-fascist financier Flavio Carboni and the man who safehoused Calvi in London was a London Freemason by the name of Michael Morris.

Whose Conspiracy?

“As long as you know what the agreement is, then you are a conspirator. You needn’t necessarily know your fellow conspirators, nor need you always be active in the conspiracy. All you need know is the agreement. It can be effected by a wink or a nod, without a word being exchanged. It need have no particular time limit, no particular form, no boundaries.” Mr Justice James (later Lord James) summing up in the ‘Angry Brigade’ trial, 1971.

Freemasonry is all things to men. Freemasons argue that the Craft consists of enlightened and disinterested persons who cherish humanitarian and charitable goals and who combine co-operatively to realise mutual aspirations. In reality Freemasonry easily oversteps the mark but provide a conduit for the bribery, corruption and subornation that are endemic in any system of power. The secrecy and exclusiveness of the Craft creates an unbridgeable gap between the Masonic view of the world and those outside the brotherhood who, do not exist for Freemasonry except inasmuch as they aid or hinder their political or career ambitions. Count Windischgrats, an astute observer of human nature and the activities of secret societies wrote in 1768: “... they are likely to encourage habits of mind and behaviour destructive of attention to the ordinary methods of doing business”. The danger of degeneration from the high ideals of a secret brotherhood will always be present because of the difficulties of reconciling the secret obligations to the society with the outside world. Claims to use the opportunities of secret organisations for the preparation of the regeneration of the world are regarded as dubious, given men’s ordinary weaknesses.”

The claim by Freemasons that the Craft provides “brotherhood” is equally fictitious. The exclusiveness of the inner circles of the “Higher” degrees and the hierarchical structure of the Grand Lodge itself based on patronage, rank, precedence and wealth have more in common with the murdering barbarians of the Middle Ages than the Union Corps than with a universal brotherhood.

Although Freemasons do constitute a powerful pressure group because of their positions in society it would of course be very wrong and misleading to see them as some sort of criminal syndicate capable of defending and extending the influence of those who already wield power.

Certainly, no evidence exists of criminal manipulation of the Craft by Freemasons. Finding tangible proof of criminal conspiracy among any cohesive and tenacious combination or friendship circle is like hunting for something solid in a sea of tapioca pudding. Also, most conspiracy theories are invariably so loosely defined that all evidence which does not time in with the thesis is usually dismissed as part of the cover-up, but the law is quite specific.

In his summing up in the Shrewsbury Three conspiracy trial in 1974, Mr Justice Mais told the jury: “(A conspiracy) is seldom expressed in words, still less in writing, and it can be inferred from the conduct, by the words and by the acts of those concerned”.

The one solid conclusion we can reach is that Freemasons do constitute an important political, social and business pressure group and the potential, at least, to exert a powerful influence at national and international as well as local level. The relationship between the Establishment is symbiotic and mutually supportive and the Craft provides a parallel power structure linking financial, administrative, military and other power elites whose vision of a healthy world order depends on strong masonic alliances among right thinking men.

For those of us who believe in an open and accountable society it is important to be able to identify the power wielders and backroom policy makers in our local communities. Mason spotting is one such way of getting about this. Lodge meetings and Masonic functions are usually advertised in the local papers, while the more important events in the Masonic calendar such as those covered in the Daily Telegraph. Masons themselves can be easily identified going to and from the Masonic Hall, restaurant, hotel or pub where the high or function is being held by their dark suits and small cases in which they carry their regalia and jewels”. Apart from the regular lodge meetings it is useful to know that Freemasons also celebrate certain significant days and attend special lodge functions on or close to those days: St John the Baptist, 24 June, the Masonic equivalent of Christmas; St George’s Day, 23 April (1st Wednesday after); St John the Baptist (24 July), St Barbara, St Thomas and the Four Crowned Martyrs are among other saints with particular significance to members of the Craft.

A photographer working with the Welsh investigative magazine Rebecca showed great initiative when she managed to smuggle herself into the annual meeting of the South Wales Province’s Eastern Division Grand Lodge while it was in full session and take photographs. She was grabbed by the Lodge Tyler — a Masonic security officer whose function is to guard the lodge while in session and, historically, the task of organising and carrying out the ritual murder of Masonic “Deep Throats” — but she managed to throw the camera to a waiting colleague and save the film. As there is no publicly available register of the membership of this particular secret society — and it is unlikely the Clerks of the Peace will agree to make their lists available for inspection — then only actions such as the above are likely to identify the members of one of the central pillars of privilege in clandestine Britain.

Stuart Christie

Footnotes

1. Solemn excommunication for baptised believers who became Freemasons is no longer automatic according to the recently published Codes of Canon Law in the Roman Catholic Church. There is also a document from the Congregation for Doctrine and the Faith which, together with a series of official and semi-official pronouncements have more or less cemented the peace between the Vatican and Freemasonry.

2. During the investigation into Michele Sindona’s Banca Privata Italiana, a conduit for Mafia, fascist and secret service money, police discovered a list of 953 members of Lodge ‘P2’. Members included three Cabinet Ministers, 30 generals, right-wing admirals, including the head of the armed forces, the heads of two intelligence services as well as the co-founder of intelligence, 43 MPs, police chiefs of Italy’s four main cities, etc.
Calvi's escape to England had been organised through fellow 'P2' member and neo-fascist financier Flavio Carboni and the man who safehoused Calvi in London was a London Freemason by the name of Michael Morris. Whose Conspiracy?

"As long as you know what the agreement is, then you are a conspirator. You needn't necessarily know your fellow conspirators, nor you need always be active in the conspiracy. All you need know is the agreement. It can be effected by a wink or a nod, without a word being exchanged. It need have no particular time limit, no particular form, no boundaries." Mr Justice James (later Lord James) summing up in the 'Angry Brigade' trial, 1971.

one reason why I enjoy attending a meeting of the Masonic Lodge."

What inference can we draw concerning the covert power and influence which Freemasonry may exercise among its members — there are, after all, many secret, semi-secret and exclusive societies and clubs either contending for power or warring off attempts by outsiders to undermine their own position in the great pecking order.

Success in an authoritarian and competitive society — as in totalitarian societies — depends on knowing more about the opposition and their plans together with the ability to monopolise that information and use it intelligently. Conspiracy is, as Carl Oglesby, affirms standard practice among all power groups, occult or otherwise. What they fail to recognise is that ultimately secrets are more dangerous to those who hoard them than to those excluded from the information cycle.

Freemasonry is all things to men. Freemasons argue that the Craft consists of enlightened and disinterested persons who cherish humanitarian and charitable goals and who combine co-operatively to realise mutual aspirations. In reality, Freemasonry is an instrument, but provide a conduit for the bribery, corruption and subornation that are endemic in any system of privilege. The secrecy and exclusiveness of the Craft creates an unbridgeable gap between the Masonic view of the world and those outside the brotherhood who, in effect, do not exist for Freemasons except inasmuch as they aid or hinder their political or career ambitions. Count Windischgrats, an astute observer of human nature and the activities of secret societies wrote in 1788: "...they are likely to encourage habits of mind and behaviour destructive of attention to the ordinary moral principles of life." Masons danger of degeneration from the high ideals of a secret brotherhood will always be present because of the difficulties of reconciling the sacred obligations to the society with the outside world. Claims to use the opportunities of secret organisations for the preparation of the regeneration of the world are regarded as dubious, given men's ordinary weaknesses."

The claim by Freemasons that the Craft provides "brotherhood" is equally fictitious. The exclusiveness of the inner circles of the "Higher" degrees and the hierarchical structure of the Grand Lodge are compounded by patronage, rank, precedence and wealth more in common with the murdering barbarians of the Roman Catholic Catenian Association, the editorial board of Searchlight, M15, the KGB or any other exclusive group, than by anything else as to what is going on in the world. What Freemasonry provides is a well organised and efficient syndicate capable of defending and extending the influence of those who already wield power.

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For the vast majority of Freemasons the Craft permits them to get away from their wives on a regular basis and rationalise it to themselves and others — in a good and worthy cause. The Minister at London's City Temple, the Reverend Leonard Griffith, explained his misogeny to Masonic researcher James Dewar: "...there appear to be a much larger proportion of women who hoard them than to those excluded from the information cycle.

Freemasonry is not a conspiracy in itself, nor is it the Jewish world conspiracy. Politically speaking, Freemasonry is all thin s to men Freemasons are an observer of human nature and the activities of secret organisations for the preparation of the regeneration of the world are regarded as dubious, given men's ordinary weaknesses."

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Stuart Christie

Footnotes
Too late to make any changes as Anarchy 35 went to press, we learned that three of the bomb attacks against US military targets included in our report are the work of a neo-Nazi cell based in Frankfurt. This sort of mistake (as Black Flag, who kindly pointed out that we should check our sources, well knows) is an occupational hazard for any publication rushing to meet a deadline. The US military has been a central target for the armed resistance of the German Left since the formation of the Red Army Faction in 1970. Confusion is bound to arise when the extreme Right begins to jump on the bandwagon of 'anti-Imperialism', even to the extent of using the same rhetoric.

The Frankfurt bombings mark a new point of departure for the neo-Nazi para-militaries in Germany (who until now have preferred the easier option of bombing refugee centres, schools, and other civilian targets - though not being adverse to making raids on NATO and Bundeswehr arms dumps to obtain weapons). They are symptomatic of the 'Third Position' (Nationalist Revolutionary) style of fascism currently enjoying popularity with the activist wing of the Nazi international (to whom the US army is a foreign force of occupation, and the Federal Republic 'a falsification of history by law'), which refuses to recognise the Nazi military defeat of 1945, and seeks to advance the 'Strategy of Tension' that has been practiced by fascists in Italy for the past two decades.

Frankfurt Cell

Six neo-Nazis - Dieter Sporleder, Hans-Peter Frass, Helge-Karl Blasche, Walther Kexel, Ulrich Tillman, and Odfried Hepp - have since been accused of responsibility for the Frankfurt attacks which took place last November and December (a bomb left in the underground car park of a block-housing US servicemen was safely defused, and cars belonging to US soldiers in Butzbach, Fechenheim, and Darmstadt were booby-trapped, two of which exploded, seriously injuring one of their drivers). On 15 February, police raided a flat at 497 Hanauer Strasse in Frankfurt, and arrested Sporleder, Fraas, and Blasche. A pistol and a Tommy gun, and a black mask were seized. Documents in the flat led the police to uncover two large arms caches hidden in Dizenbach. At 1 a.m. on February 18, police raided a flat at 497 Hanauer Strasse in Frankfurt, and arrested Sporleder, Fraas, and Kexel, who had previously been at the same address in December 1980, after killing a Swiss police man and a customs official on the Swiss/German border, during a Nazi gun-running operation. It was Kexel who rented the car used by Schubert at the time of his death. Sporleder was formerly leader of the VSBD in Frankfurt. In addition to the recent

*Frankfurt attacks, Kezel, Tillmann, and Hepp are wanted for questioning by French police in connection with the machine gun attack on Goldenberg's restaurant in Paris, blamed on 'Action Directe', in August 1982.*

*Hepp: Unwanted 'Most Wanted'*

Hepp had also acted as contact man between the Hoffman Group and the League of St. George here in England (of which Ian Souter Clarence is a leading member).

Kexel and Sporleder were both close friends of Frank Schubert, another member of the Frankfurt VSBD/Hoffman Group cell, who died in a gun battle with police in December 1980, after killing a Swiss police man and a customs official on the Swiss/German border, during a Nazi gun-running operation. It was Kezel who rented the car used by Schubert at the time of his death. Sporleder was formerly leader of the VSBD in Frankfurt. In addition to the recent...