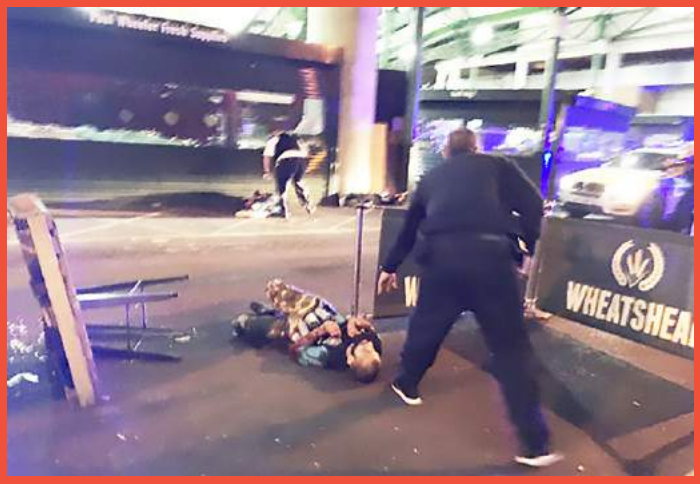
Stop MI5/MI6-run Terrorism!

The Crown

MI5

MI6

Terror attacks



Citizens Electoral Council of Australia

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England in 1819

by Percy Bysshe Shelley

An old, mad, blind, despised, and dying King,—
Princes, the dregs of their dull race, who flow
Through public scorn,—mud from a muddy spring,—
Rulers who neither see, nor feel, nor know,
But leech-like to their fainting country cling,
Till they drop, blind in blood, without a blow,—
A people starved and stabbed in the untilled field,—
An army, which liberticide and prey
Makes as a two-edged sword to all who wield,—
Golden and sanguine laws which tempt and slay;
Religion Christless, Godless—a book sealed;
A Senate,—Time's worst statute unrepealed,—
Are graves, from which a glorious Phantom may
Burst, to illumine our tempestuous day.

Stop MI5/MI6-run Terrorism!

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ON THE COVER
Top: Prince Charles at sword dance with Saudi Royals. AP/Fayez Nureidine.
Centre: (l.) Thames House, MI5 headquarters. Wikimedia Commons/Cnbrb
(r.) MI6 headquarters at Vauxhall Cross. Wikimedia Commons/Tagishsimon
Bottom: Terror attacks. (l.) AFP/Daniel Sorabji (r.) AFP/Gabriele Sciotto

Citizens Electoral Council of Australia

CEC Australia is a national political party, established in 1988 in Queensland. In the early 1990s, the CEC became associated with the movement of U.S. physical economist Lyndon LaRouche, based upon his concepts of achieving peace and national sovereignty through economic development, both for Australia and for all regions of the world.

Letter of Transmittal

Dear reader,

Throughout the series of terror attacks since the 7/7 2005 London subway bombings, including the brutal murder of Fusilier Lee Rigby on 22 May 2013 and the Westminster (22 March), Manchester Arena (22 May), and London Bridge (3 June) vehicle, knife and bomb attacks of 2017, there runs a single thread. Each of the perpetrators was either well known to MI5 and MI6, or, like 7/7 mastermind Haroon Rashid Aswat and the infamous Abu Hamza who indoctrinated hundreds of terrorists at the Finsbury Park Mosque in north London, *were actual agents of one or both intelligence services*.

This pamphlet includes Citizens Electoral Council of Australia media releases issued 6 April (p. 5) and 2 June (p. 12), after the Westminster and Manchester attacks, respectively, in which this shameful background is documented.

The Establishment's explanation of such events has invariably been that each terrorist happened to "slip through the net", a plausible-sounding excuse given that the "UK [is] home to 23,000 jihadists" while "MI5's capacity to investigate is limited to about 3,000 individuals at any one time", as the *Times* put it (p. 14). Setting aside the fact *that MI5 and MI6 created this horde of terrorists in the first place*, under the so-called "covenant of security" (p. 6), examine the glaring flaws in that excuse.

First, the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ), which monitors the communications and activities of every UK citizen, can easily "watch them all". American whistle-blower Edward Snowden noted in 2013 that GCHQ had a broader reach and was more aggressive in tapping not only metadata, but individuals' talk and movements, than even the notorious U.S. National Security Agency.

Secondly, the persons who perpetrated these attacks should have been, by any remotely competent standard, at the very pinnacle of the subset that MI5 and MI6 *do* keep under intensive surveillance. The attackers flaunted their intentions so outrageously ahead of time, or were reported to counterterrorism hotlines on so many occasions, or were such close associates of infamous terrorist leaders like Anjem Choudary (p. 7), that it is *impossible* that they didn't qualify to be on the highest priority list for surveillance.

Our 2 June release documents this for the case of Manchester Arena suicide bomber Salman Abedi, member of a terrorist cell assisted by MI5 in travelling to Libya to fight for the overthrow of Muammar Qaddafi in 2011 (p. 15). The 3 June London Bridge attackers were similarly involved in the recruitment of jihadists to fight for regime-change abroad, this time in Syria. Two of them were connected with the now-imprisoned hate-preacher Choudary of the al-Muhajiroun organisation, whose founder had boasted in 1998 of the "covenant of peace" with MI5. They should therefore have been at high priority for MI5 tracking. After two of Choudary's followers murdered Lee Rigby in broad daylight on a London street in 2013, Choudary led a noisy demonstration in front of Parliament in support of those terrorists; when police intervened and led him and three others away, *one of those was future London Bridge attacker Khuram Butt*. In 2014 Butt appeared in a Channel 4 documentary, *The Jihadis Next Door,* along with a co-disciple of Choudary who later joined the Islamic State (IS) terrorist organisation in Syria and took part in a video-recorded beheading. London Bridge attacker Rachid Redouane was also a known follower of Choudary. The third, Youssef Zaghba, the *Times* reported 13 June, had been under Italian police surveillance after telling officials at the Bologna airport in 2016, as he was trying to fly to Turkey, "I want to be a terrorist." According to the *Telegraph* of 6 June, Italian security agencies say they informed both MI6 and MI5 of concerns that Zaghba was a "foreign fighter", but he was allowed to enter the UK nonetheless. CCTV footage obtained by the *Times* shows Butt, Redouane and Zaghba together five days before the London Bridge attack; Khuram Butt's presence at their meeting should have been enough for all three to be placed under constant surveillance.

Craig Isherwood
CEC National Secretary

'Blowback'?

The MI5 and MI6 excuses are such transparent lies, that well-meaning journalists and politicians have begun to focus on those agencies' role in creating a terrorist army within Britain, but their chief analysis has been that the domestic terrorism constitutes inevitable "blowback" from the British foreign policy objectives of regime-change in the Middle East and North Africa. Yet it is now 24 years since al-Qaeda started attacking not only "dictators" in that region, but also Britain's allies—the United States with the 1993 World Trade Centre bombing and the 9/11 mass slaughter in 2001, followed by IS and other jihadist attacks in Belgium, France, Germany, and Spain. (Anglo-Saudi financial support to the 9/11 perpetrators, documented in the U.S. Congress's long-suppressed "28 pages", declassified last year, is recapped on p. 8.)

With this track record in mind, and with the goal that such "mistakes" not be allowed again, let us ask, "To whom are MI5 and MI6 responsible?" No doubt there are MI5 and MI6 officers who are honestly trying to do the best for their country. Look, however, at the top levels, at those ultimately responsible for projects like MI6's falsification and fabrication of "intelligence" to justify the invasion of Iraq 2003—the start of a war that led to hundreds of thousands of deaths. Who will hold them to account? Who has the power to investigate MI5 and MI6, conduct a sweeping purge of those who authorised such atrocities, and then exercise oversight over these agencies, so that such things never happen again, and the terrorist swamp they fostered is drained forever? Will the agencies be left to conduct "in-house" reviews, and, even presuming that they were done honestly, will their results ever be released? Theresa May has already stated that MI5's recent inquiry into Saudi funding of terrorism in the UK will most likely never see the light of day. Or will the matter be handed to the Intelligence and Security Committee of Parliament, whose members must be inducted into the Privy Council and sworn to secrecy about their deliberations under Privy Council rules?

The inescapable reality is that MI5 and MI6 *swear allegiance to the Crown and report to the Crown and its Privy Council*. But this is the same Crown which, in the person of Prince Charles, supervised the construction of the Saudi-funded mosques that spread Wahhabism in the UK from the 1980s on (p. 5-11), bringing into being the terrorist infrastructure within the country, while Charles is also the Patron of MI5, MI6 and GCHQ, which have blocked serious attempts to investigate that network. Who, then, will investigate MI5, MI6 and GCHQ, and their allies in the City of London's Big Six banks and offshore tax havens (p. 18), through which the large sums are laundered that provide financing for international terrorism?

'Tribunes of the People'

In the ancient Roman Republic (509-27 BC) there was an office called Tribune of the People. A tribune had the authority to intervene on behalf of the ordinary people, or plebeians, to protect them from arbitrary acts by the ruling patricians, consuls and magistrates.

On 4 June, in the wake of the London Bridge terror attack, Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn said that the UK needs to have "difficult conversations" with Saudi Arabia about its funding of Islamist extremism. Any serious look at Saudi financing, as this pamphlet shows, will lead to the Crown, its intelligence agencies, the arms company BAE, and its City of London allies. Thus Corbyn has stepped forward as a Tribune of the People, confronting the harm done to the population by the most powerful institutions in the country. His campaign promise to govern "For the many, not the few" does likewise.

In recent times the most famous other person to assume the role of a Tribune of the People was the late Diana, Princess of Wales. At the time of her death from a car crash in Paris 20 years ago this summer, she was not only conducting a high-profile campaign against land mines, but had compiled a thick file on Britain's arms trade overall, and the roles of MI5 and MI6 therein. The late Australian forensic accountant John Morgan, whose research findings filled ten published volumes, concluded that Diana's challenge to the arms industry, as well as to the Royal family in her personal life and the humane way she would bring up her sons, implicated both the Crown itself and MI6 in her "unlawful killing"—the verdict delivered by an inquest jury in 2010, after years of attempts by the Crown to limit the investigation of the deaths of Diana and Dodi Fayed to an inquest by a Coroner of the Queen's Household, without a jury. Did the Crown deploy its vast resources, including MI5, MI6, and GCHQ, to find out who committed the killing? To the contrary, every effort was made to keep members of the Royal family and MI6 personnel, even individuals documented to have been in Paris when Diana died, from being called to testify.

How afraid of Jeremy Corbyn is the Anglo-American elite? He has relentlessly attacked "the elite", the "tax dodgers", and "the City", and has pledged to enact a "firm ring-fence" to break up the City's Too Big to Fail banks, instead of bailing them out. His promises to renationalise vital infrastructure and rebuild the National Health Service, ruined by budget cuts and privatisation, have struck a deep chord with Britons. On foreign policy, Corbyn has invoked U.S. President Eisenhower's 1960 denunciation of a "military-industrial complex", pledged to halt British arms sales to tyrannical powers such as Saudi Arabia, end regime-change wars abroad, and work with Russia at the UN instead of escalating towards nuclear war. This platform would effect *a more radical shift in Britain's policies than even the Attlee Labour government of 1945-51,* which nationalised the Bank of England, founded the NHS, and resisted the plans of Winston Churchill and others to launch the Cold War or even a nuclear first strike against the Soviet Union.

Already during Jeremy Corbyn's campaign for leadership of the Labour Party, the *Times* of 20 Sept. 2015 reported that an unnamed "senior serving general" had threatened him with a coup, should he ever come to power: "The Army just wouldn't stand for it", the officer was quoted. In May of 2017 Kelvin Mackenzie, columnist and former editor of Rupert Murdoch's *Sun* tabloid, publicly announced that the headline he would most like to see was "Jeremy Corbyn knifed by asylum seeker". Then the *Telegraph* of 7 June 2017, on the eve of the election, carried a column by former MI6 chief Richard Dearlove, headlined "Jeremy Corbyn is a danger to this nation" and denouncing the Labour leader as "an old-fashioned international socialist" who "wouldn't clear the security vetting" at MI6. Amid such demonisation of Corbyn, there also came the ominous report from a security source (*Mail on Sunday*, 28 May), that the American Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) had alerted MI5 in January 2017 to Manchester Arena bomber Abedi's membership in a gang "that was plotting an attack in the UK", and that "It was thought at the time that *Abedi was planning to assassinate a political figure*."

Britain's political future

Though a life-long republican, Jeremy Corbyn has stated that he will not abolish the Crown, and he is a man of his word. But, will the chief sponsor of terrorism and the Anglo-Saudi alliance, Prince Charles, be allowed to ascend the throne? One could welcome the scheme of skipping a generation in the succession to Queen Elizabeth II, but even more so a major institutional shift in Britain to a constitutional monarchy, with a written Constitution which limits the power of the Crown.

If Corbyn becomes Prime Minister—and as this pamphlet goes to press, all possibilities remain open after Labour's powerful showing on 8 June—and carries out the promises to which he has devoted his life, there can be no doubt that the Crown-centred Establishment will attempt to remove him, either by outright assassination, or by the more subtle method of unleashing such unimaginable terrorism as to justify the establishment of a full-blown police state, in which he could not govern. It is worth remembering our experience in Australia with the sacking of Prime Minister Gough Whitlam in 1975, done by the Queen from behind the mask of her Governor-General and with assistance from Prince Charles, and the claim by UK Labour PM Harold Wilson, before his sudden resignation in 1976, that the Crown in the person of Lord Mountbatten and the intelligence services was out to overthrow him. The issue in each case was their daring to confront the institutions, as Corbyn does today: Whitlam wanted to "buy back the farm", reclaiming Australia's resources from the Crown-tied raw materials cartel, while Wilson had presented the Bank of England with plans to launch a manufacturing-led renaissance "with finance the handmaiden and not the controller of our economic development".

The means to prevent such scenarios lie in the principle of Labour's recent campaign, "For the many, not the few". Each of "the many" can and must speak out openly against the continued reign of terror and murderous austerity. The Labour slogan derives from Percy Bysshe Shelley's poem "The Mask of Anarchy", which is excerpted and discussed on pages 17-18 and 20 of this pamphlet. The adversaries named by the poet as "the few" in 1819—Murder, Fraud, Hypocrisy, and Anarchy, which he identified with the Crown—are with us still today. Echoing Shelley's campaign against the financial "new aristocracy", we propose that the next step should be to institute full "Glass-Steagall" bank separation (p. 19), thereby ending the tyranny of the Crown-City of London nexus. In parallel, move to break the cover-up of official sponsorship of Wahhabite terrorism, starting at the top with Prince Charles.

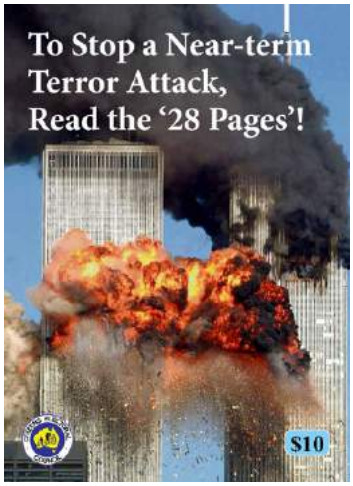
Sincerely,

Craig Isherwood
National Secretary
Citizens Electoral Council of Australia
18 June 2017

Westminster Terror Attack: Prince Charles and Saudis Must Answer!

6 April 2017—Upon reading of Prince Charles's hospital condolence visits to those injured on 22 March 2017 in the Westminster Bridge terrorist attack, one can hardly refrain from vomiting. Is there any individual in the United Kingdom who bears more responsibility for such attacks—including the 7 July 2005 ("7/7") London subway bombing that killed 52 and wounded 700, and now this latest rampage—than Charles?

Prince Charles with his Saudi friend Prince Bandar bin Sultan, and visiting the hospital that treated those injured in the Westminster attack (above right). The CEC's 2016 pamphlet on the "28 pages" (right) exposed the Anglo-Saudi terrorism apparatus, involving Charles and Bandar, that is responsible for the Westminster attack. Photos: AFP/Fahd Shadeed; AFP/Yui Mok



We pose that question in the belief that exposing and dismantling the platforms from which terrorism is staged, can prevent further attacks. The Citizens Electoral Council of Australia has insistently put the key issues on the table, in a series of media releases, as well as a pamphlet published last year:

- "Prince Charles and Saudi-backed terrorism: Demand answers!", media release, 15 Nov. 2015;
- "To stop a major terrorist attack in Britain: Re-open the Serious Fraud Office's al-Yamamah investigation!", media release, 5 May 2016;
- *To Stop a Near-term Terror Attack, Read the '28 Pages'!*, pamphlet, August 2016.

In all of these publications, we warned that such attacks would not only continue, but would inevitably escalate unless Charles and his Saudi cronies were brought to book. The pamphlet concluded with the section "We *Can* End This Era of Terrorism and War", a list of needed steps including:

- Force the reopening of the UK Serious Fraud Office investigation of al-Yamamah, the Anglo-Saudi oil-for-arms deal;
- A Parliamentary commission in the UK should investigate the al-Yamamah connection to the 9/11 attacks in the USA in 2001;
- Prince Charles must be called to testify before the new House of Commons hearings, in view of his long-standing close connections with Saudi figures involved in promoting terrorism.

None of these steps have been taken, and the consequences are now at hand. In the latest terrorism incident, British-born Muslim convert Khalid Masood mowed down dozens of people with his car while driving across Westminster Bridge, killing three, then crashed into the wall around Parliament House, and finally stabbed and killed a policeman before being shot dead. Masood's biography, reported in the *Telegraph* of 27 March, reveals a past that intersects precisely the Anglo-Saudi terrorism apparatus, of which Prince Charles has been the leading patron, that the CEC warned about in our press releases. More than a decade ago this apparatus was under scrutiny by Britain's Serious Fraud Office, until then-PM Tony Blair abruptly halted the investigation in December 2006, on "national security" grounds. It is a terror machine that implicates not only the highest levels of UK and Saudi security agencies, but, beyond any margin of doubt, the Royal families of both kingdoms as well.

The latest attack prompts us to return to these questions with even greater urgency, and with the addition of new information that has come to light in recent publications. This media release is divided into the following sections.

- Two fuses lit by the British government
- The satanic "covenant"
- The next level up: al-Yamamah
- Prince Charles, indispensable man at the "epicentre of the jihad"
- The British Empire
- End game: fascist police states

Two fuses lit by the British government

The Westminster terrorist attack raises questions about two areas of British government activity related to terrorism. The first is the infamous al-Yamamah arms deal between the UK's BAE Systems and Saudi Arabia. This still ongoing, largest arms deal in history was originally negotiated in 1985 between Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Saudi Prince Bandar bin Sultan. Most of its later phases have been concluded by Prince Charles during his dozen or so official visits to Saudi Arabia, as well as innumerable private ones. His role in this international arms trade is so notorious that in 2015 the Prince made it known through friends that he preferred not to be known as merely "peddling arms" or "marketing weaponry".

Al-Yamamah is an extraordinary arms deal, quite apart from its sheer scale. As *Executive Intelligence Review* magazine has documented over the past decade, it generated a secret US$100 billion slush fund, which was used to fund the creation of the Afghan mujahideen in the late 1980s for deployment against the Soviet Union. Its monies also

went into the launch, out of that Afghanistan project, of an international terrorist apparatus, beginning with al-Qaeda. One of the principal sponsors of al-Qaeda was Saudi Prince Bandar bin Sultan, whose biographer describes his close friendship with Charles. More recently, with the belated release in July 2016 of the suppressed "28 pages" of the 2002 U.S. Congressional Joint Inquiry report on the 9/11 attacks, then-Saudi ambassador to the United States Bandar stands exposed as a financer of 9/11. Those 28 pages shed new light on the al-Yamamah arrangement, and on the case of Khalid Masood.

The second area of concern is the so-called "covenant of security" between MI5/MI6 and UK-based terrorist organisations, which was officially in effect until the aftermath of 7/7, the 2005 London terror attack, but de facto has continued into the present. Journalist Nafeez Ahmed, in his authoritative 2006 exposé of the 7/7 attack, *The London Bombings. An Independent Inquiry*, noted the continuing benign attitude towards UK-based radical jihadists:

> "The British state shows no interest in using its existing legal powers to neutralise terrorist networks in Britain, despite open threats of a new wave of terrorist attacks. This cannot be explained by the Covenant of Security, which ceased to function after 7 July 2005. What then can explain the ongoing British government reluctance to shut down this network?"

Britain's Royal Institute of International Affairs (the famous Chatham House) summarised the "covenant" in a 25 July 2005 Briefing Paper titled "Security, Terrorism and the UK":

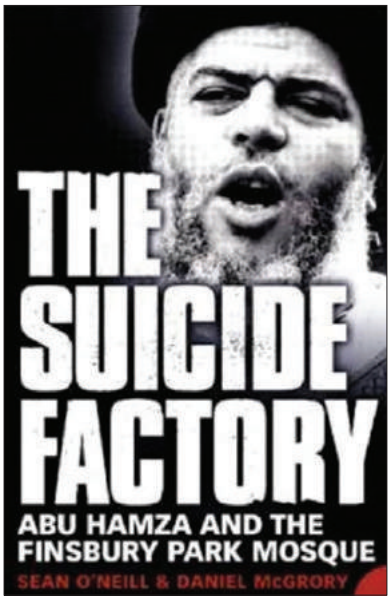
> "By the mid-1990s the UK's intelligence agencies and the police were well aware that London was increasingly being used as a base by individuals involved in promoting, funding and planning terrorism in the Middle East and elsewhere. However, these individuals were not viewed as a threat to the UK's national security, and so they were left to continue their activities with relative impunity, a policy which caused much anger among the foreign governments concerned."

This practice was so notorious, that Britain became known as "Londonistan". More than a dozen governments formally protested to British authorities about it. But the MI5/MI6-protected terrorists were unleashed not only upon foreign countries, but increasingly within the UK itself. The trail of Khalid Masood (born Adrian Russell Elms), starting in his home town of Luton, Bedfordshire, leads into the workings of the "covenant", and from there via Saudi Arabia to al-Yamamah, and on to those at the highest levels of the UK who inaugurated and protect both.

The satanic 'covenant'

Following the Westminster attack, Prime Minister Theresa May attempted to pre-empt the inevitable questions about MI5's relationship with Masood by admitting that he had been known to MI5 (for which May was responsible for more than six years as home secretary), but only as "a peripheral figure" in a larger terrorism investigation. She argued, implicitly, as MI5 and MI6 officials have done explicitly, that there are so many thousands of potential terrorists, and the manpower required to follow each one is so great, that inevitably some will slip through the net.

Even setting aside the facts that Britain has some of the most draconian "anti-terror" laws in the world and that its Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) monitors all communications in the country, that argument is pure sophistry. Under the "covenant of security", MI5 and MI6 themselves for decades have fostered and protected the leading figures who created this army of terrorists, now numbering at least "a few thousands", according to former MI6 Chief John Sawers.



Even the shards of information released in the British media, however, make clear that Masood was hardly an "unknown" or "peripheral" figure in this sea of terrorists. The clues begin with his decision to return to live in Luton—a notorious stronghold of Islamist radicalism—in 2009, after a second one-year stay in Saudi Arabia. Masood had a 20-year record as a violent criminal, serving three prison terms; a friend described him as having converted to Islam while in prison—a profile typical of a future terrorist. Among his immediate neighbours in Luton, the *Telegraph* reported 26 March, were Taimour Abdulwahab, a Swedish student who became a suicide bomber in Stockholm, and Abu Rahin Aziz, who would become an ISIS jihadist and be killed in a drone strike in Raqqa, Syria in 2015. Through his gym, Masood was associated with a gang accused of plotting to equip a remote-controlled car with a bomb to attack a military base, a scheme some media have speculated is what brought him to MI5's attention.

The milieu in which Masood moved in Luton had to be well known to MI5 and MI6, for several reasons:

1) It was in Luton that the infamous terror mastermind Abu Hamza al-Masri began his blood-soaked career, preaching at the city's mosque. There he built up a large jihadist network, and with those credentials graduated to become the long-time preacher at the notorious Finsbury Park Mosque in north London.

Hamza used the Finsbury Park Mosque as a recruitment centre for hundreds upon hundreds of young British Muslims, twisting them into becoming suicide bombers and foreign jihadists. His hate-filled disciples can still be found all over the world. From 1997 to 2006, he established the infrastructure in the UK that helped finance and prepare jihadists in North London, helping them get out of the country across to Pakistan for training. In several cases, these young recruits were assisted in reaching places like Yemen and Israel to carry out terrorist attacks or suicide bombings. The mosque itself became a training facility, not just preaching jihad, but also stockpiling weapons and becoming a local centre for organised crime. His network has been implicated in dozens of attacks, including 9/11, the "7/7" bombings, and the January 2015 Charlie Hebdo massacre in Paris, carried out by disciples of one of Abu Hamza's closest associates, in which 12 were killed and 11 wounded, with another five killed and 11 wounded in coordinated attacks elsewhere in France.

Moreover, according to Nafeez Ahmed, "Every leading member of al-Qaeda's Finsbury division—Omar Bakri, Abu

Hamza, Abu Qatada—has according to credible reports, a close relationship to Britain's security services." Author Ahmed is a widely published investigative journalist, international security scholar, and official contributor to the U.S. 9/11 Commission and Britain's 7/7 Coroner's Inquest.

2) Anjem Choudary and his now-banned extremist group al-Muhajiroun were regular figures in Luton, where Choudary often preached, and where Masood lived until 2013. A notorious radical cleric, Choudary was finally imprisoned in September 2016, but not before recruiting hundreds of jihadists with impunity over a period of 20 years. The 21 August 2016 *Telegraph* reported that London's Metropolitan Police had linked Choudary to 15 terrorist attacks going back to 2001, and to at least 500 jihadists who travelled to Syria to join ISIS. Yet MI5 repeatedly intervened to protect him. A Met counter-terrorism officer told the *Telegraph*:

> "I am gobsmacked that we allowed him to carry on as long as long as he did. He was up to his neck in it but the police can't do full investigations on people if the security service say they are working on a really big job, because they have the priority. That is what they did constantly. While the police might have had lots of evidence they were pulled back by the security service because he [Choudary] was one of the people they were monitoring. It was very frustrating and did cause some tension but we were told we had to consider the bigger picture."

3) Given the networks built in Luton first by Abu Hamza and then by Choudary, it is little surprise that the city also served as the staging ground for the 7/7 London subway attacks in 2005. One of the four bombers lived there, and it was in Luton that they met before proceeding to the London subways. Indeed, Nafeez Ahmed reports in his book that the mastermind of that atrocity, the well-known Abu Hamza disciple Haroon Rashid Aswat, was "a 'double agent' working for MI6 as an informant on al-Qaeda operations, while still being an active al-Qaeda operative".

Only by examining the careers of Abu Hamza, Choudary and other butchers, and the "covenant of security" under which they were not only allowed to operate, but protected and encouraged, can one begin to understand the case of Khalid Masood. MI5 and MI6 created the UK's omnipresent threat of new terror outbreaks! Abu Hamza and Choudary may finally have been taken out of circulation, but the networks they spawned pervade both the British Isles and continental Europe.

The infamous 9/11 attacks in the USA notwithstanding, British security officials carried on with the "covenant of security". They stuck to it even after the warning from Choudary's al-Muhajiroun shortly after 9/11, a time when the British government was drafting tougher anti-terror legislation:

> "For the moment, Muslims in the UK have a covenant of security which prevents them from attacking the lives and wealth of anyone here…. However … the Blair regime is today sitting on a box of dynamite and have only themselves to blame if after attacking the Islamic movements and the Islamic scholars, it all blows up in their face."

Indeed, as Nafeez Ahmed observes, in January 2005—six months before 7/7—"in live internet broadcasts urging British Muslims to join al-Qaeda, Bakri [Omar al-Bakri] claimed that the 'covenant of security' had been 'violated'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MI5 stopped Scotland Yard taking Choudary down, sources claim

The headline of the 21 August 2016 *Telegraph* report that MI5 protected terrorist Anjem Choudary.

by the British government's anti-terrorist legislation, and was henceforth cancelled". Yet in May of that year, MI5's Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre *reduced* its UK threat level because "there was no intelligence of a current credible plot to attack the UK at that time (i.e., a group with established capability and current intent)". Ahmed points out that this was patently false.

> "On the contrary, extensive evidence in the public record from British, American, European and other security sources shows that the government had received a large number of advance warnings of an imminent attack on UK soil, specifically on the London Underground."

The next level up: al-Yamamah

As crucial as the Abu Hamza and Choudary cases are for understanding the present, ever escalating threat of major new terror attacks in Britain and across Europe, there is a higher level than the "covenant of security"—an umbrella under which all of this apparatus was originally created and still operates, and to which the career of Khalid Masood also points.

According to the *Telegraph* of 27 March, Masood had worked as an English teacher in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, for the Saudi government's General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA). He was there twice, for 12 months each time: from November 2005 to November 2006 and from April 2008 to April 2009.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has come under intense scrutiny in the USA in the last year, for its sponsorship of terrorism and its role in the 9/11 attacks. After the above-cited 28 pages of the 2002 Joint Congressional Inquiry report were finally released in July 2016, the U.S. Congress passed the *Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act* (JASTA), enabling 9/11 survivors and victim family members to sue Saudi Arabia in U.S. courts. The first such lawsuit has just commenced in New York, and Saudi Arabia's sensitivity to this development may explain the curious statement its London embassy issued 24 March to "clarify" Masood's activities in Saudi Arabia. Although it acknowledged Masood's two English-teaching stints in Saudi Arabia, it omitted mentioning that he had taught at the GACA.

Despite his long criminal record, filled with incidents of violent assault, following his release from the second of his three prison terms (from which he emerged as a radical Islamist), Masood somehow landed this overseas job. Were his record of violent assault with a knife, and his radicalisation in prison, known and overlooked? Or were these a reason for his hiring? His employer, the GACA, is a Saudi government department implicated in the 9/11 terrorist attacks!

Omar al-Bayoumi is a star figure in the 28 pages, which

Westminster attacker Khalid Masood (left) twice worked in Saudi Arabia for GACA, the government department that employed Omar al-Bayoumi (right), the Saudi agent who assisted the 9/11 terrorist attack. Photos: screenshots

are reproduced in full in the CEC pamphlet *To Stop a Near-term Terror Attack, Read the '28 Pages'!* He had worked for the GACA in Saudi Arabia from 1979 to 1994. The Authority continued to pay his monthly salary, through a subsidiary, when he lived in San Diego from 1994 until August 2001, the month before 9/11. The 28 pages cite several U.S. government investigators who were of the opinion that al-Bayoumi "acted like" or "might be" or "was" a Saudi intelligence officer. The later 9/11 Commission Report (2004) noted that a fellow employee in San Diego described al-Bayoumi as a "ghost employee", one of the Saudis on the payroll who was not required to work—indicating that his employment with the GACA was a cover for other activities. In early 2000 al-Bayoumi and a fellow agent assisted the first two 9/11 hijackers who arrived in the United States in finding accommodation, paid their first month's rent, and enrolled them in a flight training school near San Diego. This support for the hijackers coincided with a substantial pay rise for al-Bayoumi, paid by the GACA.

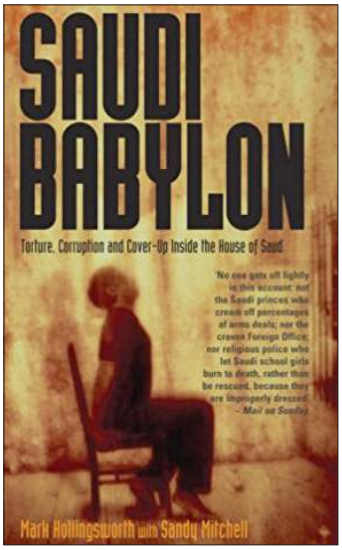
The 28 pages were suppressed for 14 years, first by the administration of President George W. Bush and Vice-President Dick Cheney, and then by President Barack Obama, because they reveal another crucial piece of information about Omar al-Bayoumi and his fellow Saudi agent: in either late 1999 or early 2000, they started receiving, via their wives, monthly payments from Princess Haifa bint Faisal and her husband, Saudi Ambassador to the United States Prince Bandar—the close friend and al-Yamamah associate of Prince Charles.

We reported in our *Read the '28 Pages'!* pamphlet:

> "The Serious Fraud Office probe, which began in 2003, examined payments made by the British government and BAE Systems to Prince Bandar and his agent Wafic Saïd. Then-Director of the SFO Robert Wardle revealed at the time, that Saudi Arabia had strongly objected to the investigation. Now it is apparent that those al-Yamamah payments to Bandar directly overlapped his activities documented in the 28 pages. In 2007 *The Guardian* reported that the SFO had been looking at BAE payments to Bandar made through a UK Ministry of Defence-administered account at the Bank of England, to Bandar's account at the Riggs Bank, Washington, DC. The 28 pages reveal payments from the Riggs accounts of Bandar and his wife to the Saudi operatives who assisted two of the 9/11 hijackers."

The SFO investigation's implication of Bandar and others in corruption was enough to make Tony Blair shut the probe down in 2006, claiming that "Our relationship with Saudi Arabia is vitally important for our country in terms of counter-terrorism". But, there is a higher level still.

Prince Charles, indispensable man at 'the epicentre of the jihad'



A glimpse of the highest-level facilitator of Saudi international terrorism within Britain appeared in Mark Hollingsworth's 2005 book, *Saudi Babylon. Torture, Corruption and Cover-Up Inside the House of Saud,* a chronicle of the Saudi Kingdom's imprisonment and torture of British citizen Sandy Mitchell in 2000. Hollingsworth recounted an extraordinary April 2003 meeting at New Scotland Yard:

> "Prince Charles's relationships with prominent House of Saud members have created serious problems and obstacles to UK agencies investigating claims of Saudi financing of international terrorism, according to Special Branch sources. The delicacy and sensitivity of Prince Charles's friendships was raised during a meeting at New Scotland Yard in April 2003. Families of the victims of 9/11 had filed a lawsuit accusing some members of the House of Saud, notably defence minister Prince Sultan and the new UK Ambassador, Prince Turki, of supporting Al-Qaeda in the past. Their lawyers were in Europe investigating allegations that senior Saudi royals had backed Islamic charities, run by the government, which funded the 9/11 hijackers.
>
> "The meeting at New Scotland Yard was attended by detective chief inspector Stephen Ratcliffe, the Special Branch officer in charge of tracking terrorism financing; Peter Clarke, national director of countering terrorist funding; Robert Randall, a police liaison officer; and lawyers for the families of the 9/11 victims. Alan Gerson, a lawyer for 9/11 relatives, outlined their case and said that the Saudi royal family were put on notice in 1999 by U.S. National Security Council (NSC) officials in Riyadh that funds for Al-Qaeda came from Saudi. 'There were similar warnings to the Saudis in London as well,' said Ratcliffe, 'although some of our regulatory agencies were not always up to scratch in tracing the money.'
>
> "'Well, have the UK authorities uncovered anything to show that charities run by some members of the Saudi royal family were channelling money to the terrorists?' asked Gerson.
>
> "Ratcliffe looked hesitant and a little sheepish. 'Our ability to investigate the Saudis is very limited,' he said. He then paused, looked across at a photograph of Prince Charles on the wall, raised his eyebrows and smiled knowingly without saying a word. 'He did not say anything but the message was crystal clear when he looked at the picture,' said a police officer who was present. 'It was Prince Charles's special relationship with the Saudis which was a problem. He gave no other reason why they were restricted.'"

The two "senior Saudi royals" mentioned in Hollingsworth's account of that New Scotland Yard meeting, al-Yamamah's Prince Bandar and Prince Turki, each received one of just eight foreign royal invitations from Charles to his 2005 wedding with Camilla Parker-Bowles. Bandar's brother-in-law Prince Turki headed Saudi General Intelligence from 1979 to 2001, during which time he created al-Qaeda. He suddenly resigned from that post only 10 days before 9/11, and though featured in the 9/11 families' lawsuit and subsequently named by Zacarias Moussaoui, who was convicted for conspiring to carry out the 9/11 attacks, as one of the plot's main orchestrators, Turki went on to become Saudi Ambassador to the UK (2003-05) and to the USA (2005-06).

And what of Charles's activity on the home front? He was the personal, indispensable patron of the establishment of an extensive network of mosques throughout the UK. To avoid misunderstanding: There is nothing wrong with building mosques *per se*, as they are the places of worship for Islam, one of the world's great religions. It is natural to have mosques in areas with a substantial Islamic population. At the same time Charles, as someone purportedly knowledgeable about Islam, cannot be ignorant of the worldwide Saudi program to promote radical Wahhabism, incorporating hatred of, and even a "duty" to kill, non-Muslims. Later on, he cannot have been unaware of the pleas for help from local Muslim leaders, who realised that some of the mosques were being turned into virtual terrorist factories.

The most notorious of these is Finsbury. Melanie Phillips wrote in her book *Londonistan*, "It was the Prince of Wales who was a prime mover behind the building of the Finsbury Park mosque in north London, which became the clerical epicentre of the jihad in Britain". Charles found the Finsbury site already in the early 1980s, arranged a zoning revision to enable construction of the mosque, and then secured funding for it from Saudi King Fahd in 1987. The conclusion of the process—raising the money to fund both Finsbury and a nationwide network of similar mosques—was recounted by Sean O'Neill and Daniel McGrory in *The Suicide Factory. Abu Hamza and the Finsbury Park Mosque*.

> "When the two men [Charles and Fahd] shook hands on the platform at Victoria Station on the King's arrival on 25 March 1987, the Prince lost no time in presenting the Finsbury Park scheme. The Saudi ruler quickly approved, and wrote a cheque for £12 million to fund a number of mosque-building projects around Britain, beginning with the North London Central Mosque in Finsbury Park."

Another notorious example of a terror network emerging as a direct result of Charles's patronage is the East London Mosque. In the late 1990s, Saudi Prince Mohammed bin Faisal, soon to be named in a lawsuit by the 9/11 families for financing that event, and Prince Charles jointly headed the fundraising committee to construct the London Muslim Centre as a huge extension of the East London Mosque, London's oldest. The UK's Department of Communities and Local Government has written that "the East London Mosque [is] the key institution for the Bangladeshi wing of JI [Jamaat-e-Islami] in the UK." The Jamaat-e-Islami group has unleashed murderous terrorism on the Indian sub-continent, ravaging India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh.


HOME SEARCH The New York Times

Moussaoui Calls Saudi Princes Patrons of Al Qaeda

By SCOTT SHANE FEB. 3, 2015

From left, Prince Bandar bin Sultan, Prince Turki al-Faisal and Prince al-Waleed bin Talal were all said to be on a list of donors to Al Qaeda.

From left, Hassan Ammar/Associated Press; Mandel Ngan/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images; Jasper Juinen/Getty Images

The 3 February 2015 *New York Times* reported that the so-called "20th hijacker", Zacarias Moussaoui, named Charles's wedding guests Prince Bandar (left) and Prince Turki (middle) as sponsors of al-Qaeda (also pictured is Prince al-Waleed).

The usual story, namely that no one could have foreseen that the radicals would take over the vast network built by Prince Charles and his Saudi friends, is absurd on the face of it. The particular people who "took over" the mosques, such as Abu Hamza, Choudary, et al., were employed as MI5/MI6 agents, while complaints and pleas for help from the existing boards of trustees were continually met with "Sorry, nothing we can do about it" from the police and their superiors in MI5 and MI6. The management of Finsbury also launched dozens of legal challenges, attempting to kick Abu Hamza out, but he was not touched, and even boasted that his activity was sanctioned by the British Government and MI5. As recounted by Mark Curtis in *Secret Affairs: Britain's Collusion with Radical Islam*, it is a prime example of the "covenant of security".

> "Abu Hamza, the former imam at the Finsbury Park Mosque, said at his trial at the Old Bailey that he believed a deal operated whereby his activities would be tolerated as long as they targeted only foreign soil. He recalled how Scotland Yard's intelligence wing, the Special Branch, assured him that 'you don't have anything to worry about as long as we don't see blood on the streets'. … In August of the same year, Omar Bakri Mohammed, who had established the militant al-Muhajiroun

Prince Charles organised the funding for the notorious Finsbury Park (left) and East London (right) mosques, and both became centres for terrorists. Photos: Wikimedia

organisation, described how 'I work here in accordance with the covenant of peace which I made with the British government when I got [political] asylum.' Nine months later, he said in a further interview that 'the British government knows who we are. MI5 has interrogated us many times. I think now we have something called public immunity.'"

American authorities had been trying for years to have Abu Hamza extradited to the United States, to face charges of terrorism in Yemen and training terrorists in the USA itself. MI5 and the British government stalled for many months on one pretext or another, before they were finally forced to cough him up. In a U.S. courtroom in 2014, Abu Hamza stated in his defence *that he had been working for MI5 all along*.

Had Charles himself intervened in response to the pleas for help from the trustees of Finsbury Park and other mosques, which he himself had caused to be built and which were being radicalised, there is no doubt the process could have been stopped. He never indicated any intent to take such an action, which would have put him at odds with those Saudi figures who pack the board of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, known as "Charles's OCIS". Virtually every past or present OCIS board member was a funder, orchestrator, or propagandist for international terrorism. Among them:

Prince Bandar bin Sultan (1) contributed an estimated US$13-24.4 million to the OCIS in the early 1990s, according to various accounts, and arranged for then-Saudi King Fahd to kick in another $32.4 million in 1997. While Saudi ambassador to the United States, Bandar provided financing and logistical support to the 9/11 terrorists.

Prince Turki bin Faisal (2), a member of the OCIS Board of Trustees and chairman of its Strategy Advisory Committee, has been named as financer and coordinator of 9/11. As head of Saudi intelligence, he created al-Qaeda out of the Afghan mujahideen.

Prince Mohamed bin Faisal (3), a brother of al-Qaeda architect Prince Turki and known as a "pioneer of Islamic banking", was named by the 9/11 families in a lawsuit. Collaborating with Charles as noted above, he provided the funds for a huge expansion of the East London Mosque, a hotbed of terrorism according to one of the UK's own government departments.

Abdullah Omar Naseef (5) co-founded the OCIS and has chaired its Board of Trustees. In the 1980s, he co-created Maktab al-Khidamat, the backbone organisation of the Arab-Afghan mujahideen in Afghanistan, which in 1989 changed its name to al-Qaeda. He, too, has been named a financer of terrorism in a 9/11 families' lawsuit. After Queen Elizabeth II herself granted the OCIS a Royal Charter in May 2011, Naseef exulted, "This is very good news. This shows that the British government, the Queen, and the whole state are very much aware that the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies is doing very well to make relations between the Islamic world and the Western world closer and to bring Islam and its role into the international arena."

Yusuf al-Qaradawi (6) was a board member of the OCIS from 1985 until 2006. Qatar-based spiritual leader of the Muslim Brotherhood, he issued fatwas for the overthrow and assassination of Libya's Qaddafi and Syria's Assad—in tune with Anglo-American plans for those two countries—and in July 2012 threatened the assassination of Egyptian leader Gen. Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, now President of Egypt. In a 30 January 2009 broadcast on Al-Jazeera TV, Charles's friend al-Qaradawi proclaimed that "Hitler Put the Jews in Their Place", crowing that "This was divine punishment for them."

The Bin Laden family, besides the notoriety brought by its famous member Osama bin Laden, was among the Saudi, Qatari and Kuwaiti private donors of some US$70 million to the OCIS, endowing its "Mohammed bin Laden chair", named after Osama's father **(8)**. Osama had been recruited by Prince Turki to set up the Maktab al-Khidamat network, the future al-Qaeda.

The British Empire

That Prince Charles should be so intimately associated with the terror-financing al-Yamamah, and with

The Friends of Prince Charles (centre) in the Saudi Cabal Behind al-Qaeda/ISIS

Centre: Prince Charles on a 2014 visit to Saudi Arabia, during a sword dance he performed with members of the Saudi royal family. Surrounding Charles are the board members and financial backers of his Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies. They are identified by number in the text, except for: (4) Prince Abdulaziz bin Abdullah, deputy foreign minister of Saudi Arabia; and (7) Abul-Hasan Ali al-Nadwi, co-founder of the OCIS and a founding board member of the Saudi government-founded, Wahhabism-promoting Muslim World League. Virtually every past or present board member of Charles's OCIS was a funder, orchestrator or propagandist for international terrorism.

leading orchestrators and funders of terrorism from Saudi Arabia and other Gulf kingdoms, should be no surprise to anyone who has studied the history of the British Empire. The British imperial leaders have always sponsored the most fanatical, Wahhabite wing of Islam, including through creation of the Muslim Brotherhood and its spin-offs as their chosen instrument in the region. These forces were consistently deployed against such secular nationalist leaders such as Egypt's Gamal Abdel Nasser, Iraq's Saddam Hussein, Libya's Muammar Qaddafi, and Egypt's General al-Sisi, a process documented by Curtis in *Secret Affairs. Britain's Collusion with Radical Islam* and by investigative journalist Dan Glazebrook in a recent series of articles called "British Collusion with Sectarian Violence". These and other sources abundantly demonstrate MI5's and MI6's sponsorship of Wahhabite terrorism, including dozens more cases where their assets committed murder and mayhem on British soil. Lawfully enough, Prince Charles is the Patron of all three of the major British intelligence agencies, which are supposedly in charge of stopping terrorism: MI5, MI6, and GCHQ. Charles's role as "Patron", in these cases as well as for the OCIS, is no mere formality. Clive Bloom wrote in *Thatcher's Secret War. Subversion, Coercion, Secrecy and Government 1974-90*:

> "Parliamentarians knew that MI5 reported nominally to the Home Secretary and MI6 to the Foreign Office, but they might not have known, which very few voters would have imagined possible, that both services were not bound to anybody and acted, to all intents and purposes, as independent wings of the permanent state outside any real government control and answerable to a nebulous entity called 'the Crown'."

Those who are familiar with the all-pervasive powers of the Crown's Privy Council in the UK, and any other nations where the Queen is still head of state, know that the British cabinet, for instance, is merely a subcommittee of the Privy Council and that Privy Councillors are sworn to secrecy in all matters of substance. The leading institutions of Britain, including such powerhouses as the City of London Corporation and the Bank of England, function only under Privy Council authority; according to the Privy Council's own website, "once incorporated by Royal Charter a body surrenders significant aspects of the control of its internal affairs to the Privy Council."

Australians who have followed the irrefutable evidence that has emerged in recent years, that the plot to overthrow Prime Minister Gough Whitlam in 1975 was coordinated every step of the way by Queen Elizabeth personally, and with the assistance of Prince Charles, shouldn't need Clive Bloom or anyone else to remind them that *the powers of the Crown are real, and are used*. Nor should Britons who remember PM Harold Wilson's public charge, before his sudden resignation in 1976, that the Crown in the person of Lord Mountbatten and Britain's intelligence agencies were conspiring to oust him. Whitlam and Wilson had grand economic development plans for their respective nations, which brought each of them in head-to-head confrontation with the Crown and the City of London.

Even granting that the Crown has such enormous power, why in the world would Prince Charles personally be sponsoring not only international terrorism, but mayhem and butchery at home?

End game: fascist police-states

In 2008, the City of London-centred international monetary system came within inches of exploding. Today, the London and Wall Street Too-Big-to-Fail Banks are far larger and in much worse shape than they were then, provoking many leaders in politics and finance to forecast a far worse crash than then, even one akin to the 14th-century collapse of the Bardi and Peruzzi banks. That crash unleashed the genocidal "New Dark Age" of that era, in which one-third to one-half of Europe's population died.

As seen in recent elections in several countries and in the Brexit referendum vote of June 2016, the populations of Europe, the USA, and the UK are revolting against the killer austerity that has savaged them since the end of the fixed-exchange-rate Bretton Woods financial system in 1971, the 1986 Big Bang deregulation of the City of London, and its sequel, the 1999 repeal of the U.S. Glass-Steagall law. Originally passed under President Franklin Roosevelt in 1933, Glass-Steagall had separated and protected normal commercial banks from highly speculative investment banking; Glass-Steagall barred mega-banks from using customers' deposits for the sort of wild speculation that had unleashed the Depression, a speculation also manifest in the present, post-Glass-Steagall US$1.2 quadrillion trade in financial derivatives.

If the policy changes these rebellious voters yearn for come to pass—such as the restoration of Glass-Steagall bank separation—this will rein in the power of London and Wall Street. Throughout history, the worst fear of any oligarchy ("rule by the few") is that, under conditions of crisis, the "many" might rise up and drive them from their seats of power. So it is with today's Crown and City of London/Wall Street oligarchy: At the slightest hint of measures that would overthrow their power, such as Donald Trump's pledges to wipe out international terrorism, cooperate with Russia and China instead of attacking them, and restore Glass-Steagall, it reacts with fury and deploys its "Deep State" intelligence agencies to eliminate such an eventuality through assassinations, the unleashing of terrorism, or whatever else may be found useful for installing fascist-style states, whose police and military powers can be deployed to control "the mob". It is yet to be seen whether Trump will deliver on his promises, but the very fact that he has made them, and just *might* keep them, terrifies the Crown and its London/Wall Street allies, because that would end their financial tyranny and imperial "divide and conquer" geopolitical games.

Just consider: the United Kingdom *already* has among the most draconian police powers anywhere in the world, as was pointed out by Nafeez Ahmed in a 19 December 2016 article, "The UK's 'national security' plan? It's a blueprint for a police state", and Amnesty International in its January 2017 report, *Dangerously disproportionate: The ever-expanding national security state in Europe*. Ahmed observed already in his 2006 book that, "Far from being powerless, the UK government's powers are so wide-ranging and arguably draconian, that they practically invite abuse." The powers to which Ahmed referred a decade ago have repeatedly been increased, most recently with the passage in November 2016 of the *Investigatory Powers Act* ("Surveillance Bill").

As part of its contribution to ending the tyrannical powers of MI5 and MI6 (and its cousins and offspring in the United States, Australia, and NATO), the CEC's weekly news magazine, the *Australian Alert Service*, will soon inaugurate a new regular column, "Stop MI5/MI6-run Terrorism!"

The Manchester Terror Attack: a New Peterloo Massacre?

2 June 2017—In the 6 April 2017 CEC Media Release "Westminster Terror Attack: Prince Charles and Saudis Must Answer!", we affirmed our conviction that "exposing and dismantling the platforms from which terrorism is staged can prevent further attacks", but that without these steps such attacks would "inevitably escalate". We cited an array of CEC publications, which had called for these measures:

• Force the reopening of the UK Serious Fraud Office investigation of al-Yamamah, the Anglo-Saudi oil-for-arms deal;

• A Parliamentary commission in the UK should investigate the al-Yamamah connection to the 9/11 attacks in the USA in 2001;

• Prince Charles must be called to testify before the new House of Commons hearings, in view of his long-standing close connections with Saudi figures involved in promoting terrorism.

Now that the 22 March 2017 attack outside the British Parliament has been followed by the even more horrific suicide terror bombing at the 22 May 2017 Ariana Grande concert in Manchester, which took 22 innocent lives and maimed 64 more people, we ask our readers to return to these demands, with the added knowledge presented here in connection with the Manchester atrocity. We ask three additional things of readers of this article.

Study the above-mentioned 6 April 2017 release (p. 5) in conjunction with this one. It contains links to additional, in-depth background material.

Secondly, don't be afraid to ask the crucial question regarding any crime, "*Cui bono*?", which means "Who benefits?" For so great a crime, occurring just 17 days before a general election in which the Labour leader is Jeremy Corbyn, who has consistently opposed the policies and actions, especially regime-change wars overseas, that bred the horrors of today's terrorism, that question is unavoidable. It is "politically incorrect" to raise it; Labour Party members have been disciplined for saying things like "This is wonderful timing for [Conservative PM] Theresa May" (*Huffington Post*, 25 May). Yet failure to raise this question means missing the chance to honour and avenge the dead by turning the investigation of their murder into a watershed: the policies of official aid and abetment to terrorism must be ended, and the people and institutions that have cultivated and deployed terrorism for political purposes must be stopped, so that no more people lose their lives in such a horrible way.

Lastly, take to heart our theme of guidance from Percy Bysshe Shelley, whose famous poem "The Mask of Anarchy" concludes with "Ye are many—they are few", the line that inspired British Labour's current campaign slogan, "For the many, not the few". That poem was Shelley's response to the Peterloo Massacre in 1819, a cruel, unjustified use of violence for political ends which resonates with the terrorist atrocities of today. The power structure that dominated England in his time is the direct ancestor of those who oppress the people of the modern UK, and who would rather have a population terrified into submission to police-state measures, than to root out terrorism. At the same time, Shelley,

The floral tribute to the victims of the 22 May 2017 Manchester terrorist attack. Photo: AFP/Jon Super

with his famous observation about unique moments in history when "there is an accumulation of the power of communicating and receiving intense and impassioned conceptions respecting man and nature", remains Britain's best guide for citizens in a time of crisis ("What Would Percy Bysshe Shelley Advise Jeremy Corbyn?", p. 20).

England in 1819

On 16 August 1819, mounted British Army troops were deployed into a crowd of 60,000, gathered peacefully in St. Peter's Fields in Manchester to demand the right to vote, and amelioration of brutal economic conditions. There was mass joblessness and many people were starving. The sabre-wielding cavalry slaughtered 15 people and wounded hundreds.

The commemorative plaque marking the site of the Peterloo Massacre at St. Peter's Fields, Manchester. Photo: Flickr

At the time it was obvious who had ordered the massacre: the powers ruling Britain, whom Shelley listed by name in "The Mask of Anarchy", beginning with the man who was British Foreign Secretary in 1812-22: "I met murder on the way, he had a mask like Castlereagh". Shelley devoted a second poem to the subject that year, "England in 1819 (reflections on the Peterloo massacre)", as well as his prose work "A Philosophical Review of Reform", which was barred from publication until a century later, in 1920.

In this essay, as in "The Mask of Anarchy", Shelley laid bare the modern methods by which the many were ruled by the few. Through the "Glorious Revolution" of 1688, Shelley explained, the old, landed aristocracy of feudalism had given birth to a new, *financial* oligarchy, centred on the Bank of England (1694) and the creation of a gigantic national debt based upon endless foreign wars. "No longer being able to rule by force, [they] have invent-

ed this scheme that they may rule by fraud", he wrote, emphasising that this new, City of London-centred tyranny had created misery on a scale unmatched even under feudalism.

As the heart of this new form of empire, Shelley pointed to the doctrine enunciated by Parson Thomas Malthus. In the 1798 release of his *Essay on Population*, and amplified in subsequent editions, Malthus called for abolishing the already grossly inadequate Poor Laws of the day, and for literally murdering great masses of the population under the "scientific" claim that food supply expanded only arithmetically while population expanded geometrically. In 1805 the British East India Company, the largest monopoly the world had ever seen, which had carried successive British governments in its pocket since at least the last quarter of the 18th century, appointed Malthus to Britain's first chair of political economy, at the company's Haileybury College, where for three decades he taught generations of "John Company" officials to conduct mass genocide in India, Ireland and elsewhere.

This was the origin of the doctrines of free trade and murderous austerity, now being applied by the City of London and Wall Street throughout the trans-Atlantic region and anywhere else they can reach.

Jeremy Corbyn addressing a massive crowd in Liverpool. Photo: YouTube

England in 2017

That merciless City of London and Wall Street reign of free trade, globalisation and privatisation, which has bled the world, and the United Kingdom itself since Margaret Thatcher seized control of the Conservative Party in 1975, is now in deep, existential crisis. There is no way to sustain the greatest bubble of financial speculation and debt in history. At the same time, a completely different economic policy, oriented to the real economy and raising people's living standards, is at large in the world with the initiatives of the BRICS nations (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) since 2014, and especially China's Belt and Road development program ("Belt and Road is history in the making", *AAS*, 17 May 2017).

In this setting, Jeremy Corbyn's promise of policies "For the many, not the few" terrifies the Crown-centred financial oligarchy: "the elite", the "tax dodgers", and "the City", as he terms them. Corbyn's 12 May foreign policy speech at Chatham House only added to the oligarchy's fear and hatred, as he cited the warning by U.S. President Dwight Eisenhower in 1960, about the rise of a military-industrial complex; denounced Britain's endless wars for "regime-change" abroad; declared his intention to work with Russia to resolve conflicts through the United Nations Security Council; and announced that he would end arms sales to tyrannical powers such as Saudi Arabia, now committing mass murder in Yemen.

Campaigning on these principles, Corbyn gained support rapidly. The day of 22 May—with the Manchester Arena terror attack lying ahead that night—was Theresa May's worst day so far, in a deteriorating campaign. She had been forced to hold a flustered press conference to backtrack on a pledge in the Conservative Manifesto to force the elderly to pay for their aged care out of the future proceeds of the sale of their homes after they die—the so-called "dementia tax". May's U-turn, the first change of a manifesto pledge during a British election campaign in memory, was forced on her by Corbyn's runaway momentum.

When May on 18 April called the snap election, three years before it was due, her Conservatives were a massive 25 percentage points ahead of Corbyn's Labour Party in opinion polls—49 per cent support to 24 per cent. The election was expected to be a cakewalk for the Conservatives, and possibly the worst ever electoral disaster for Labour. Polls showed that, for the first time since modern elections began in the mid-19th century, the Tories could even win seats in Wales, Labour's greatest stronghold. May's campaign strategy, crafted by Australian svengali Sir Lynton Crosby, was to demonise Corbyn personally as being unelectable, running on the sole issue of the need for a strong negotiator—herself—to handle the upcoming, tough Brexit negotiations with the European Union. She would repeat the mantra "strong and stable" *ad nauseam*.

May and the Tories did these things, but the plan went awry. Corbyn hit the ground running with his slogan "For the many, not the few", making passionate speeches that named the City of London and other wealthy "tax dodgers" as the elites whose hold over Britain must be broken. From the outset, May refused to debate Corbyn on television, betraying a realisation that Corbyn was a greater threat than her team would admit. Corbyn conducted his campaign events entirely in public, attracting bigger and bigger crowds by the day, often in the thousands, while May stuck to small, stage-managed events to avoid public interaction. Corbyn started to cut May's massive lead in the polls immediately, rising by as much as five percentage points in a week.

A turning point was the release of the party manifestos during the week of 15 May. For the first time in 30 years, Labour's manifesto is not "Tory lite". Corbyn pledged to scrap university tuition fees, renationalise assets like railways, tax big banks and big business, crack down on tax dodgers and tax havens, separate investment and retail banking functions, establish a National Investment Bank to invest in industries outside of London, especially the rust-belt around Manchester, and radically shift British foreign policy away from permanent war. The Tory manifesto promised to continue current policies, and while Labour specified the means of funding each promise, the Tories didn't bother.

The demeanour of the campaign changed immediately. Suddenly Labour had confidence, while the Tories were in panic. On 20 May Theresa May tweeted: "If I lose just six seats I will lose this election and Jeremy Corbyn will be sitting down to negotiate with Europe." That day the BBC reported that two million people had registered to vote since the election was called, the largest proportion of them young people, indicating the success of Labour's strategy of urging those who don't usually vote to get involved. On 21 May polls showed that Labour was leading the Tories by 10 percentage points in Wales, while nationally Corbyn had cut May's lead to single digits. Internal polls showed that the Conservatives' lead in some marginal seats was down to three points. A YouGov poll showed Corbyn's personal popularity soaring, with 57 per cent of voters either liking or really liking him—a miracle for a politician whose abuse by Britain's feral media has been unprecedented. On 22 May the Conservatives backtracked

on their dementia tax, and for the first time May came under media fire in her press conference. She grew flustered, shrilly repeating herself and taking sips of water. Newspaper headlines blared "weak and wobbly", and the media and Internet buzzed with comments on the turnaround in the campaign.

That night Salman Abedi unleashed mayhem in the Manchester Arena. The next day, a Sky News reporter said what had immediately occurred to most observers: "This plays in her favour."

A new Peterloo?

Salman Abedi, born in Manchester in 1994 in a family of radical Islamists from Libya, was "known to the intelligence services", the authorities had to admit. Of course he was, *because the entire terrorist apparat in Britain has been built by the domestic security service MI5 and the foreign intelligence service MI6*. We warned in the above-cited release of 6 April 2017, as on many prior occasions, that unless that reality were dealt with, then new, even more deadly terror attacks in Britain were a foregone conclusion.

Our call for a serious investigation and clean-up of highest-level support for jihadist terrorism in the UK was based on the following documented assertions:

Fact: Prince Charles personally negotiated the later phases of the Anglo-Saudi al-Yamamah arms deal, the largest in history, first struck by Prince Bandar bin Sultan and PM Thatcher in 1985. Kick-backs from al-Yamamah provided the seed money for al-Qaeda. PM Tony Blair shut down the Serious Fraud Office's investigation of al-Yamamah in 2006 on grounds of "national security".

Fact: The board of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies (OCIS), known as "Charles's OCIS" after its very active Royal Patron, the Prince of Wales, has for the past two decades been composed almost entirely of the highest-level funders of the spread of Wahhabite ideology and orchestrators of terrorism from Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states, who have poured over $70 million into the Centre. Lawsuits filed by 9/11 victim families in U.S. counties have charged four members of the OCIS board with orchestrating that event, including Prince Bandar bin Sultan and his brother-in-law, former Saudi intelligence chief Prince Turki. These two Saudi princes were two out of the only eight foreign royal guests at the wedding of Charles to Camilla Parker-Bowles.

Fact: According to British law enforcement officers, Charles has personally intervened to stop investigations of terrorist activity in the UK, even while serving as the Patron of all three of the major intelligence agencies, MI5, MI6, and GCHQ, the Government Communications Headquarters (Mark Hollingsworth, *Saudi Babylon: Torture, Corruption and Cover-up Inside the House of Saud*).

Fact: Prince Charles, with huge funding from then-Saudi King Fahd, personally constructed the network of Wahhabite/Salafist mosques throughout the UK which has fostered the present terrorist infrastructure, such as the notorious former terror factory, north London's Finsbury Park Mosque under the reign of Abu Hamza.

The board members of Charles's OCIS who are themselves clerics, or are high-ranking Saudi Royals, are propagators of the Saudi state religion of Wahhabism. The Saudi-funded proliferation of schools to teach Wahhabism has been a major source of terrorists throughout the Middle East, the Caucasus region, and into Central Asia.

The impact of the Wahhabite preachers on breeding terrorism within the UK itself is rarely brought into the public eye, but in the wake of the Manchester Arena bombing it has been. On the BBC program Question Time, hosted by David Dimbleby on 25 May from Greater Manchester, a young woman spoke frankly:

The BBC's 25 May 2017 Question Time (Home Secretary Amber Rudd third from left), where a young Muslim woman raised the "elephant in the room": Saudi funding and propagation of Wahhabite extremism in British mosques. Photo: Screenshot

"I myself am a Muslim. I am a British Muslim, and I am very proud of my heritage. But I am also a realist, and there is an elephant in the room here: unfortunately, and it is very unfortunate, there is an issue with regards to radicalisation and extremism that does exist within our community… I would like to go back to what the gentleman over there was saying [regarding the distribution of anti-Western material at the Didsbury Mosque/Manchester Islamic Centre open day]. Yes, we do have an issue within our mosques, within our religious institutions: we have children being taught the Wahhabi interpretation of the Quran; we have Saudi-trained clerics coming in and speaking to children as young as seven. You know, they have these books, children are taught, just—we have to do something about it! Stop, I would say—for now, temporarily, close down all Saudi-financed Mosques. And I myself am a Muslim, so … we have to do something about it, yes."

The TV show panel included high-ranking officials, Home Secretary Amber Rudd among them.

Veteran journalist Patrick Cockburn, who has specialised on the Middle East since 1979, wrote in *The Independent* 25 May that Western governments are "culpable for terrorist attacks on their own citizens", by refusing to name the murderous Islamic sect of Wahhabism as the driver for such events. "What has been termed Salafi jihadism", he said, referring to the doctrine followed by Salman Abedi's family, "developed out of Wahhabism and has carried out its prejudices to what it sees as a logical and violent conclusion"; it is a sect that views anyone not sharing its beliefs as "sub-humans who should be massacred or enslaved". As we have reported, some of the world's chief sponsors of Wahhabism sit on the board of Prince Charles's OCIS.

'They slipped through the net'

When the identity of Salman Abedi emerged as the perpetrator of the slaughter in Manchester, the government was forced to admit that the security services knew of him. Like the Westminster killer Khalid Masood, however, Abedi was merely a "former subject of interest", no longer subject to surveillance. "Huge scale of terror threat revealed: UK home to 23,000 jihadists", The *Times* headlined on 27 May, adding in the article that "MI5's capacity to investigate is limited to about 3,000 individuals at any one time". The pool of "former subjects of interest" was reported to number 20,000.

Abedi had somehow "slipped through the net", said one press report after another. But, so did the perpetrators of three earlier major terror attacks in the UK.

7 July 2005. The "7/7" London subway bombings were

masterminded by Haroon Rashid Aswat, described by terrorism expert Nafeez Ahmed as "a 'double agent' working for MI6 as an informant on al-Qaeda operations, while still being an active al-Qaeda operative". Ahmed has documented that the terrorism threat level in the UK was lowered in the months prior, despite "extensive evidence in the public domain from British, American, European and other security sources show[ing] that the governments had received a large number of advance warnings of an imminent attack on UK soil, specifically on the London Underground."

22 May 2013. British Army soldier Fusilier Lee Rigby was attacked and killed by machete in London. British journalist Dan Glazebrook reported that Michael Adebolajo, one of his murderers, had been under recruitment by MI5 only weeks prior, and that "Adebolajo had been on the radar of both MI5 and MI6 for over 10 years".

22 March 2017. Westminster attacker Khalid Masood was well known to MI5 and MI6, having twice been employed in Saudi Arabia as a teacher at the Saudi government's General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA), an agency implicated in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Omar al-Bayoumi, the Saudi intelligence figure whose support for two of the 9/11 hijackers was featured in the long-suppressed "28 pages" of the U.S. Congressional Joint Inquiry report on 9/11, had worked at GACA in Saudi Arabia from 1979 to 1994. Masood's home base of Luton, which was also where the 7/7 attackers assembled before committing their crimes, had been the launching pad for the careers of radical clerics Abu Hamza, the confessed MI5 agent who was Imam of Finsbury Park Mosque, and Anjem Choudary, who recruited hundreds of jihadists with impunity over a career of 20 years, even though London's Metropolitan Police had linked him to 15 terrorist attacks going back to 2001 and to at least 500 jihadists who travelled to Syria to join ISIS.

In the case of Abedi, it quickly emerged that he had "slipped through the net" again and again.

The *Telegraph*, 25 May 2017: "The Manchester bomber was repeatedly flagged to the authorities over his extremist views" over the past five years, but no action was taken, even as neighbours and members of his own family called the government anti-terrorist hot line to report his statements that "being a suicide bomber was OK".

The Mail on Sunday, 28 May 2017 (and other media): "FBI warned MI5 in January that Salman Abedi was planning terror attack in UK". The article detailed that "Abedi was reportedly placed on a U.S. terrorist watch list in 2017 after he came to the attention of intelligence agencies during an investigation into terrorist groups operating in Libya…. Following this U.S. tip-off, Abedi and other members of the [Manchester-based North African terror] gang were scrutinised by MI5. It was thought at the time that Abedi was planning to assassinate a political figure. But nothing came of this investigation and, tragically, he slipped down the pecking order of targets."

Libya and Manchester

The British Empire has long unleashed terrorism against its foreign targets for purposes of "regime change". Regarding the Manchester attack, Libya is of special relevance.

Former MI5 officer turned whistleblower Annie Machon reported in her book *Spies, Lies and Whistleblowers* (Book Guild Ltd., 2005), that by 1995 MI6 had already paid al-Qaeda operatives in Libya hundreds of thousands of dollars to assassinate Libyan head of state Muammar Qaddafi. The attempt failed, but it provoked Machon and her associate David Shayler, then head of MI5's Libyan subsection,

Jeremy Corbyn debating the Cameron government's March 2011 resolution to authorise the intervention in Libya, which set in train the events that culminated in the Manchester terrorist attack. The final vote was 557 for, and only 13 against, including Corbyn and John McDonnell. Photo: Screenshot

to quit the service in disgust. This affair sheds light on how Britain's policy in Libya is inexorably tied to the slaughter in Manchester, and also demonstrates that either the vaunted MI5, MI6, and GCHQ agencies are such staggering bumblers as to make even Inspector Clouseau blush, or, that they had a different long-term purpose.

The group MI6 hired in 1995 to kill Qaddafi was the Libyan Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG), an affiliate of al-Qaeda formed by Libyans fighting in Afghanistan against the Soviet Union, backed by the Anglo-Americans and courtesy of the slush fund generated by the al-Yamamah arms deal. Ramadan Abedi, father of the Manchester bomber, was at that time a member of Qaddafi's security services, but actually had joined the LIFG and was informing its members and other radical Islamists about impending government raids. He fled to England in 1993.

In 2011 the British, along with the United States and France, once again took up the campaign to oust Qaddafi, just as they had done with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in 2003, with a bombing campaign launched under the guise of establishing a "no-fly zone". The UK Parliament overwhelmingly endorsed the Libya intervention, by a vote of 557 to 13, on 21 March 2011.

The 13 "No" votes included those of Jeremy Corbyn and his long-time political ally and now Shadow Chancellor John McDonnell. In the debate, the pair predicted the eventual outcome of the intervention. Corbyn warned, "One hopes that there will be an urgent ceasefire and some kind of political settlement in Libya, and that Libya's independence as a state will be preserved. However, there is another scenario: a client state in the east around Benghazi; and a pariah state in the west around Tripoli, led by Qaddafi, and a source of constant conflict, disturbance and danger in the region…. We have not thought through the implications of what we are doing now in Libya. I suspect that we might end up in a Libyan civil war for a long time and that this is not the only occasion on which we will debate the subject in the House."

McDonnell added, "We risk being dragged into on-the-ground bloody combat, followed by a counter-insurgency struggle and then vulnerability to a lengthy terrorist campaign. It will all threaten the peace and stability of the region and have consequences for our own people and the global economy."

The bombing campaign proceeded. MI5 and MI6 opened the floodgates for radical Libyan Islamists in Manchester to return home and help overthrow Qaddafi (obvi-

ously not to establish "democracy", but rather a Libyan Islamic State), Ramadan Abedi among them. Then-Home Secretary Theresa May lifted the "control orders" which had been placed on many Libyan exiles, in order to facilitate the Islamists' travel to Libya to fight Qaddafi.

The dynamic between the jihadist LIFG fighters and the Libyan émigré community in Manchester was no secret to British intelligence agencies. Even the Establishment flagship The *Times* readily summarised the Abedi family case, in a 26 May feature article:

As Home Secretary from 2010 to 2016, Theresa May, pictured in 2015, oversaw MI5's facilitation of Islamist fighters travelling between Manchester and Libya. Photo: Flickr

"Salman Abedi was 16 when he first visited Libya, the country his parents had fled in 1993 to escape persecution under Muammar Qaddafi…. Once there, he reunited with his father, who had left his family in Manchester … to aid the revolution against Qaddafi. And, according to friends of the family, members of the Libyan community in Manchester and sources in Libya, Abedi had come to fight.

"He was not alone. It was 2011, and dozens of other Mancunians were already there. Mustafa Graf, the imam of the Didsbury mosque, the centre of the Libyan community in south Manchester, had also travelled back to Libya to help topple Qaddafi. Manchester became a fundraising centre for their war effort. Preachers travelled between the two countries, encouraging the fight, invariably couching it in terms of jihad….

"Throughout the years of Qaddafi rule in Libya, Manchester was a magnet for Libyan exiles like the Abedis…. Britain's intelligence agencies knew the community well, too, and had longstanding dealings with its Islamist contingent…. MI5, the UK's domestic intelligence agency, facilitated the travel of many Islamist Mancunians back to Libya....

"Bilal Bettamer, a Libyan student and social activist in the [2011] revolution, now a lawyer in Canada, recalls the influx. 'I'd say of the more hardline groups, 60 or 70 per cent of their fighters in the beginning were from abroad. In 2011 we noticed a big influence from Manchester.'… Mr Bettamer says he and other secularist campaigners tried to warn the British ambassador to Libya at the time about the number of Britons and their radical views but were rebuffed. The UK, he says, wanted to encourage them instead because it viewed the Islamist groups as a more viable anti-Qaddafi alternative to native secularists."

Middle East Eye, in the 25 May article "'Sorted by MI5': How British UK government sent British-Libyans to fight Qaddafi", elaborated that "fighters say government operated 'open door' policy allowing them to join rebels". The policy "allowed Libyan exiles and British-Libyan citizens to join the 2011 uprising that toppled Muammar Qaddafi even though some had been subject to counter-terrorism control orders". The British government had "listed the LIFG as a proscribed terrorist organisation in 2005, describing it as seeking to establish a 'hard-line Islamic state' and 'part of the wider Islamist extremist movement inspired by al-Qaeda", the article noted. *MEE* interviewed former Libyan fighters, who said that nonetheless LIFG veterans had been able to travel to Libya with "no questions asked". One of the *MEE* sources stated that the Libyan guerrillas were "being trained by former British SAS and Irish special forces mercenaries in Benghazi, the eastern city from where the uprising against Qaddafi was launched."

Post-Qaddafi Libya became the supply source for huge al-Qaeda gun-running. The outflow of weapons from Libya has been essential to all terrorism in Northern Africa, Syria, and beyond.

Manchester Arena bomber Salman Abedi and his father were both part of this LIFG network. Manchester Libyan community leaders repeatedly reported to the authorities about Salman, because they thought "he was involved in terrorism and extremism". While the father had been prominent in the Libyan Salafist al-Qaeda affiliate, the LIFG, France's interior minister, according to The *Telegraph* of 25 May ("Security services missed five opportunities to stop the Manchester bomber"), said that the son "had 'proven' links with Islamic State and that both British and French intelligence services had information that the attacker had been in Syria."

Thus Abedi, his entire family, and their network of associates were well known to British authorities, as among the most notorious jihadists of the past two decades.

Conclusion: what you can do

First, don't be paralysed by fear. The Establishment and its intelligence services wield terror, in order to paralyse a subject population and shatter its aspirations. Therefore in all forums open to you, openly name the names of those responsible for the Manchester attack, *beginning with Prince Charles*. Circulate this release and the earlier CEC publications listed below to everyone you know. Since the UK has no written constitution, all power resides ultimately in the Crown. The House of Commons Intelligence Oversight Committee, which formally has oversight over MI5 and MI5, is a joke because its members must be members of the Privy Council, and are therefore sworn to secrecy about its substantive discussions. Only an aroused, vocal public can bring the guilty to book.

Second, read or re-read Shelley's three great works cited above, to find the inspiration and answers within your own soul, as to what else you might do to shift the situation. The financial power of today's actually tiny ruling oligarchy can be crushed by breaking up its Too-Big-To-Fail banks through Glass-Steagall legislation.

> "Rise like Lions after slumber
> In unvanquishable number—
> Shake your chains to earth like dew
> Which in sleep had fallen on you—
> Ye are many—they are few."

Books for background

Mark Curtis, *Secret Affairs: Britain's Collusion with Radical Islam* (London: Serpent's Tail, 2010).

Mark Hollingsworth with Sandy Mitchell, *Saudi Babylon: Torture, Corruption and Cover-Up Inside the House of Saud* (Mainstream Publishing, 2005)

Annie Machon, *Spies, Lies and Whistleblowers: MI5, MI6 and the Shayler Affair* (Book Guild Ltd., 2005)

Daniel McGrory, Sean O'Neill, *The Suicide Factory: Abu Hamza and the Finsbury Park Mosque* (London: Harper Perennial, 2006)

The Mask of Anarchy

by Percy Bysshe Shelley

This poem was written in 1819 but first published only in 1832. Forty-five of its 91 stanzas are printed here, with discussion on pages 18 and 20.

1
As I lay asleep in Italy
There came a voice from over the Sea,
And with great power it forth led me
To walk in the visions of Poesy.

2
I met **Murder** on the way—
He had a mask like Castlereagh—
Very smooth he looked, yet grim;
Seven blood-hounds followed him:

3
All were fat; and well they might
Be in admirable plight,
For one by one, and two by two,
He tossed them human hearts to chew
Which from his wide cloak he drew.

4
Next came **Fraud**, and he had on,
Like Eldon, an ermined gown;
His big tears, for he wept well,
Turned to mill-stones as they fell.

5
And the little children, who
Round his feet played to and fro,
Thinking every tear a gem,
Had their brains knocked out by them.

6
Clothed with the Bible, as with light,
And the shadows of the night,
Like Sidmouth, next, **Hypocrisy**
On a crocodile rode by.

7
And many more Destructions played
In this ghastly masquerade,
All disguised, even to the eyes,
Like Bishops, lawyers, peers, or spies.

8
Last came **Anarchy**: he rode
On a white horse, splashed with blood;
He was pale even to the lips,
Like Death in the Apocalypse.

9
And he wore a kingly crown;
And in his grasp a sceptre shone;
On his brow this mark I saw—
"I am GOD, and KING, and LAW!"

10
With a pace stately and fast,
Over English land he passed,
Trampling to a mire of blood
The adoring multitude.

11
And a mighty troop around,
With their trampling shook the ground,
Waving each a bloody sword,
For the service of their Lord.

12
And with glorious triumph, they
Rode through England proud and gay,
Drunk as with intoxication
Of the wine of desolation.

13
O'er fields and towns, from sea to sea,
Passed the Pageant swift and free,
Tearing up, and trampling down;
Till they came to London town.

14
And each dweller, panic-stricken,
Felt his heart with terror sicken
Hearing the tempestuous cry
Of the triumph of Anarchy.

15
For with pomp to meet him came,
Clothed in arms like blood and flame,
The hired murderers, who did sing
"Thou art God, and Law, and King.

16
We have waited, weak and lone
For thy coming, Mighty One!
Our purses are empty, our swords are cold,
Give us glory, and blood, and gold."

17
Lawyers and priests, a motley crowd,
To the earth their pale brows bowed;
Like a bad prayer not over loud,
Whispering—"Thou art Law and God."—

18
Then all cried with one accord,
"Thou art King, and God, and Lord;
Anarchy, to thee we bow,
Be thy name made holy now!"

19
And Anarchy, the Skeleton,
Bowed and grinned to every one,
As well as if his education
Had cost ten millions to the nation.

20
For he knew the Palaces
Of our Kings were rightly his;
His the sceptre, crown, and globe,
And the gold-inwoven robe.

21
So he sent his slaves before
To seize upon the Bank and Tower,
And was proceeding with intent
To meet his pensioned Parliament

*In stanzas 22-33, **Hope** appears as a maiden about to be trampled by the horses of Murder, Fraud, and Anarchy, but is rescued by an unnamed warrior shape, who kindles people's minds: "Thoughts sprung where'er that step did fall." Anarchy lies dead.*

34
A rushing light of clouds and splendour,
A sense awakening and yet tender
Was heard and felt—and at its close
These words of joy and fear arose

35
As if their own indignant Earth
Which gave the sons of England birth
Had felt their blood upon her brow,
And shuddering with a mother's throe

36
Had turnèd every drop of blood
By which her face had been bedewed
To an accent unwithstood,—
As if her heart had cried aloud:

37
"Men of England, heirs of Glory,
Heroes of unwritten story,
Nurslings of one mighty Mother,
Hopes of her, and one another;

38
"Rise like Lions after slumber
In unvanquishable number,
Shake your chains to earth like dew
Which in sleep had fallen on you—
Ye are many—they are few.

39
"What is **Freedom**?—ye can tell
That which slavery is, too well—
For its very name has grown
To an echo of your own.

40
"'Tis to work and have such pay
As just keeps life from day to day
In your limbs, as in a cell
For the tyrants' use to dwell,

41
"So that ye for them are made
Loom, and plough, and sword, and spade,
With or without your own will bent
To their defence and nourishment.

42
"'Tis to see your children weak
With their mothers pine and peak,
When the winter winds are bleak,—
They are dying whilst I speak.

43
"'Tis to hunger for such diet
As the rich man in his riot
Casts to the fat dogs that lie
Surfeiting beneath his eye;

44
"'Tis to let the Ghost of Gold
Take from Toil a thousandfold
More than e'er its substance could
In the tyrannies of old.

45
"Paper coin—that forgery
Of the title-deeds, which ye
Hold to something of the worth
Of the inheritance of Earth.

Continued over page

From page 17

Beyond this indictment of financial tyranny, the definition of slavery continues in stanzas 46-51, then stanzas 52-64 set forth what Freedom is: Justice, Wisdom, Peace, Love, Spirit, Patience, and Gentleness, with Science, Poetry, and Thought as its "lamps". Beginning with stanza 65, Shelley's Earth calls out for assembling a great force from throughout England, which can oppose the tyrants, no matter how bloody the latter's assault, and prevail through non-violent resistance. This last section is excerpted here in part; ellipses denote skipped stanzas.

65
"Let a great Assembly be
Of the fearless and the free
On some spot of English ground
Where the plains stretch wide
around. […]

72
"Ye who suffer woes untold,
Or to feel, or to behold
Your lost country bought and sold
With a price of blood and gold—

73
"Let a vast assembly be,
And with great solemnity
Declare with measured words that ye
Are, as God has made ye, free—

74
"Be your strong and simple words
Keen to wound as sharpened swords,
And wide as targes let them be,
With their shade to cover ye.

75
"Let the tyrants pour around
With a quick and startling sound,
Like the loosening of a sea,
Troops of armed emblazonry.

76
"Let the charged artillery drive
Till the dead air seems alive
With the clash of clanging wheels,
And the tramp of horses' heels.

77
"Let the fixèd bayonet
Gleam with sharp desire to wet
Its bright point in English blood
Looking keen as one for food.

78
"Let the horsemen's scimitars
Wheel and flash, like sphereless stars
Thirsting to eclipse their burning
In a sea of death and mourning.

79
"Stand ye calm and resolute,
Like a forest close and mute,
With folded arms and looks which are
Weapons of unvanquished war,

80
"And let Panic, who outspeeds
The career of armèd steeds
Pass, a disregarded shade
Through your phalanx undismayed. […]

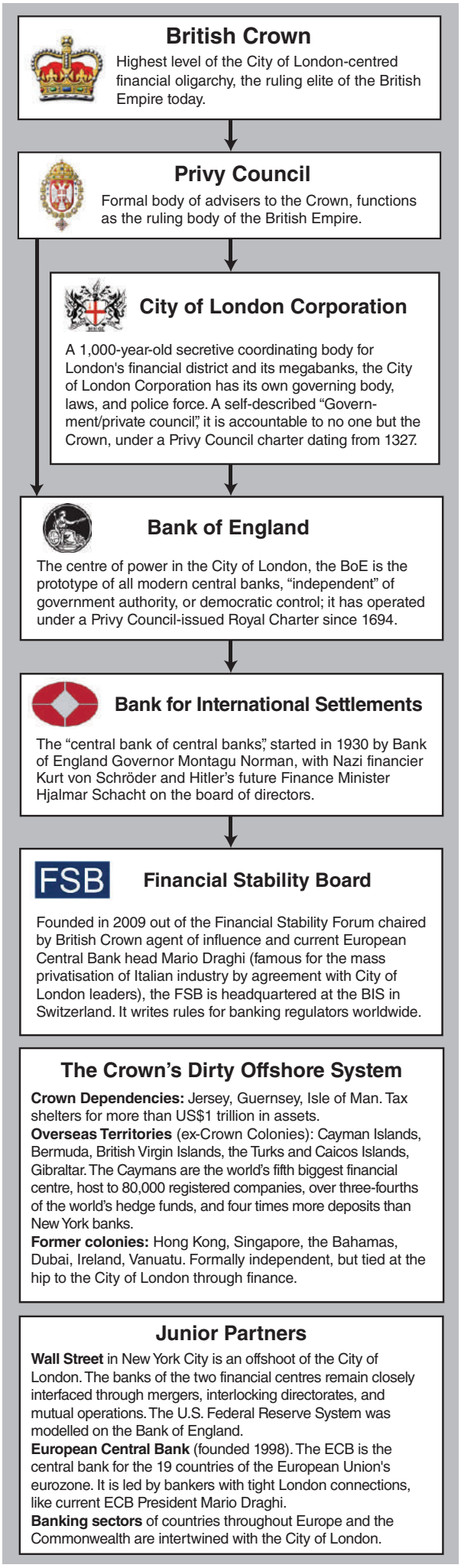
90
"And these words shall then become
Like Oppression's thundered doom
Ringing through each heart and brain,
Heard again—again—again—

91
"Rise like Lions after slumber
In unvanquishable number—
Shake your chains to earth like dew
Which in sleep had fallen on you—
Ye are many—they are few."

Shelley's "Mask of Anarchy" Today

The poem excerpted above is subtitled "Written on the Occasion of the Massacre at Manchester". Like "England in 1819" (p. 2), it stemmed from the suppression of a popular movement for justice (p. 20). The "new aristocracy", the financial oligarchy Shelley identified in "A Philosophical View of Reform", rules and imposes murderous austerity on the UK and much of the world today. It is depicted in the flow chart at right, which appeared in CEC Australia's *New Citizen* newspaper under the headline "The British Crown/City of London Criminal Financial Empire".

Shelley's Anarchy wears a crown: paradoxically, it would seem, Anarchy (absence of governance) and Monarchy (rule by one person) are equated. The solution to the paradox is that the Crown negates natural law and justice. The "new aristocracy" sponsored Parson Thomas Malthus, who argued that England was overpopulated and the poor should simply be slaughtered. Later known as eugenics ("race science"), this doctrine was openly adopted by the Crown in 1909 when King Edward VII knighted Sir Francis Galton for his work on the subject. It has continued through the Royals' decades-long sponsorship of the Eugenics Society; the Queen's claim in her 1964 Christmas Broadcast that the world's major problem was "overpopulation"; and Prince Philip's World Wildlife Fund, typified by his 1988 statement that he would like to be reincarnated "as a deadly virus … to contribute something to solve overpopulation."



SIGN THE PETITION:
"Break up the City's Mega-banks: Pass Glass-Steagall!"

The petition text below is posted on the UK petitions site *38 Degrees*.
To sign it, go to **https://home.38degrees.org.uk/?s=glass-steagall**
Organise your friends, associates, and organisations to join this campaign.

Whom are you petitioning?

The Parliament and the Government.

What do you want them to do?

Replace the impotent "ring-fencing" policy adopted in the *Financial Services (Banking Reform) Act 2013*, with Glass-Steagall legislation to fully separate the UK's Too-Big-To-Fail banks into two types: normal commercial banks, which service the real economy and are backed by the government, and "investment banks", which are invariably speculative and will be left to sink or swim on their own.

Why is this important?

The IMF, the Bank for International Settlements, and many financial experts are warning of a new global financial crash far worse than 2008, caused by the same forces: the unbridled speculation in derivatives, and outright criminal activity, of City of London and Wall Street mega-banks. Under current policy and legislation, government bail-outs and "bail-ins" (the confiscation of assets and even individual bank deposits to prop up failing banks) will be used to attempt to save the financial system yet again.

The City of London and Wall Street Too-Big-To-Fail (TBTF) banks have received US$19 trillion in bailouts since 2008, even as brutal austerity has been applied in the UK, USA and other nations. The TBTF banks are now 40% larger than in 2008. They remain heavily invested in derivatives, the world trading centre for which is London. Derivatives, such as the infamous mortgage-backed securities at the heart of the 2008 crash, now total US$1.2 *quadrillion*, compared with a global GDP of only US$50 trillion. While not lending to the real economy, the London/Wall Street banks have engaged in drug money laundering, financing terrorism, tax evasion, mortgage fraud and outright theft from their customers, for which they have been fined tens of billions of dollars. The UK's National Crime Agency reported in May 2015, "We assess that hundreds of billions of U.S. dollars almost certainly continue to be laundered through UK banks, including their subsidiaries, each year."

Late 2016 stress tests conducted by the Bank of England showed that the major UK banks are woefully undercapitalised. Their derivatives holdings, aptly termed by *Business Insider* "unexploded nuclear bombs nestling deep in the financial system", dwarf their assets (lending) and deposits. In the inevitable next crisis, major banks would likely collapse, triggering a meltdown of the trans-Atlantic financial system

The UK Parliament passed the *Financial Services (Banking Reform) Act 2013*. It, however, merely provided for "ring-fencing"—separating "investment" and commercial banking within each bank, but, unlike Glass-Steagall, *allowing them to remain under the same roof and be done by the same company*. This "solution" was denounced by knowledgeable members of both the House of Commons and Lords as simply window dressing which would allow the present, wildly speculative practices of the TBTF to continue.

Why full Glass-Steagall separation?

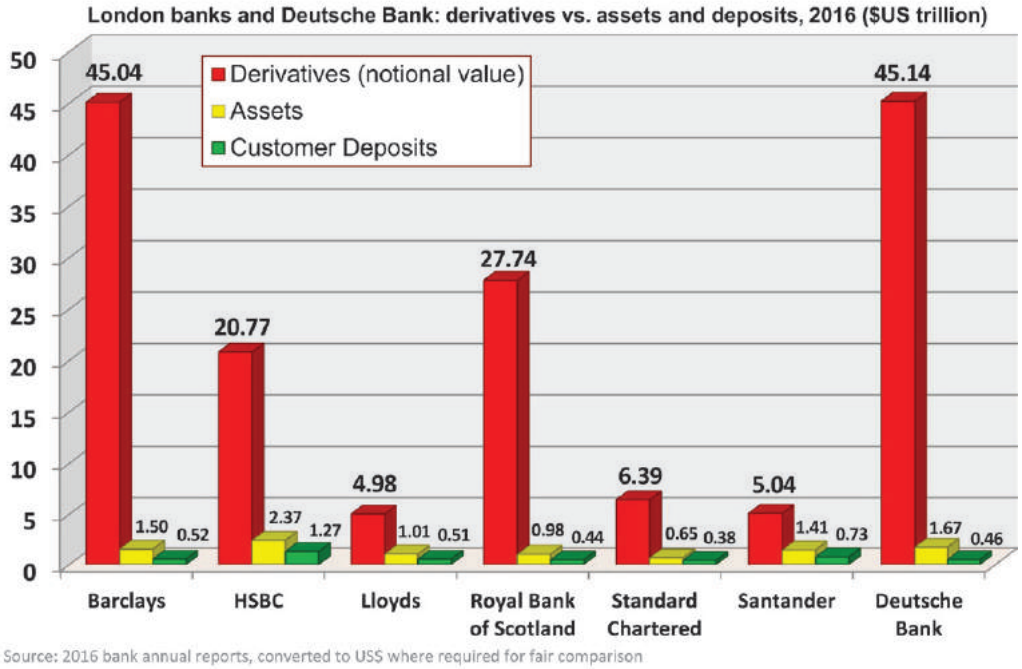
The USA's 1933 *Glass-Steagall Act* strictly separated deposit-taking commercial banks from the "investment" banks whose wild speculation had caused the Great Depression. Glass-Steagall operated for 66 years and made systemic banking crises impossible. But the City of London's 1986 "Big Bang" financial deregulation, followed by the repeal of Glass-Steagall in 1999, which both London and Wall Street had demanded, led to the 2008 crash.

Support for full-scale Glass-Steagall is non-partisan: In the USA, both the Democratic and Republican Parties adopted it in their 2016 platforms, and the AFL-CIO (the central labour federation) has endorsed it. In the UK, 445 MPs and Lords from all parties voted for it in 2013, many of them warning that ring-fencing would not work. The late Labour MP and former cabinet member Michael Meacher said, "It must be obvious to everyone that this device [ring-fencing] will be breached in no time by regulatory arbitrage in the City of London where all the big banks employ armies of lawyers and accountants for just this purpose."

Conservative MP Sir Peter Tapsell, a former member of Margaret Thatcher's cabinet and "Father of the House of Commons" until he retired in 2015, said, "What I mean by a complete return to Glass-Steagall is that we should have none of this nonsense of ring-fencing, which used to be called Chinese walls. It never works. Chinese walls turned out to be papier-mâché. I worked in the City for 40 years and I promise Members that it is impossible to make that work." He was echoed by Lord Nigel Lawson, who as Chancellor of the Exchequer had supervised the "Big Bang", but in the 2013 debate and ever since has acknowledged that the repeal of Glass-Steagall was a dreadful mistake.

In the *Guardian* of 11 August 2015, Shadow Chancellor John McDonnell wrote that "the Corbyn campaign is advocating a fundamental reform of our economic system", to "include the introduction of an effective regulatory regime for our banks and financial sector", and "*a full-blown Glass-Steagall system to separate day-to-day and investment banking*" (emphasis added).

Only an aroused, mobilised population can ensure that Glass-Steagall is adopted *now*, before the TBTF banks crash.



The derivatives holdings of London's "Big Six" banks dwarf their assets (lending) and deposits, as do those of Deutsche Bank, nominally German but also London-centred. Derivatives caused the 2008 crash, and London is the centre of the world derivatives trade.

What Would Percy Bysshe Shelley Advise Jeremy Corbyn?

This editorial is reprinted from the Australian Alert Service of 17 May 2017. It accompanied "The Manchester Project: Soul of the Industrial Revolution", a discussion by historian Anton Chaitkin of the collaboration between a group of extraordinary English scientists and the visiting American statesman and scientific genius Benjamin Franklin in the mid-18th century. They launched the Industrial Revolution for the whole world. That feature is available in pdf format at http://www.cecaust.com.au/aas/manchester_project.pdf.

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn's campaign events for the 8 June election featured the slogan, "For the many, not the few". Emblazoned on lecterns, on the walls behind him, and in Corbyn's own relentless attacks on "the elite", "the tax dodgers", and "the crooked bankers that take our wealth", these words echo those of the immortal Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792-1822), appearing first in stanza 38 of "The Mask of Anarchy" (p.17) and repeated to conclude its final, 91st stanza:

> Rise like Lions after slumber,
> In unvanquishable number,
> Shake your chains to earth like dew
> Which in sleep had fallen on you—
> Ye are many—they are few.

The poem was occasioned in 1819 by the brutal suppression of demonstrations in Manchester for economic and political reform, known as the Peterloo Massacre. The young genius Shelley came naturally by his solidarity with the protests against the policies of the successors of the Pitts and the Earl of Shelburne—leading politicians of the British East India Company oligarchy of the late 18th century. Thanks to his teachers Adam Walker and James Lind, both active in the scientific and republican Lunar Society, Shelley had integrated a passion for science into his poetical and political concerns. He was profoundly opposed to the anti-human doctrines of the fast-developing British imperial faction, which upended the Manchester Industrial Revolution concept of ever higher living standards for an ever greater population, in favour of immiseration and population reduction for the labouring class.

Shelley devoted two other works in 1819 to the same theme: his poem "England in 1819" and the prose work "A Philosophical View of Reform". The latter was suppressed until 1920 (!), but its thesis appeared in poetic form in "The Mask of Anarchy": how the financial oligarchy then ruling England had been created, and through what specific financial reforms it might be defeated. How might the many gain their freedom from the few?

The possibility of establishing such freedom had been demonstrated by the American colonists' victory over the British Empire. Shelley wrote, "The system of government in the United States of America was the first practical illustration of the new philosophy. … America holds forth the victorious example of an immensely populous, and, as far as the external arts of life are concerned, a highly civilised community administered according to republican forms. … It constitutionally acknowledges the progress of human self-improvement."

The newborn American nation had survived, despite being near financial bankruptcy after its defeat of the British Empire in 1783, thanks to the economic system established by Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton with his three reports to Congress in 1790-91: "Report on a National Bank", "Report on Public Credit", and "Report on Manufactures". Hamilton was assassinated by Aaron Burr, who had founded the Bank of Manhattan as the centre of what became Wall Street, and who fled to the home of Jeremy Bentham to avoid imprisonment for murder.

Percy Bysshe Shelley. Photo: Wikimedia

Shelley argued that, through the "Glorious Revolution" of 1688 and the establishment of the Bank of England in 1694, the old feudal aristocracy had given birth to a new, *financial* aristocracy. The feudal oligarchy, "no longer being able to rule by force, have invented this scheme that they may rule by fraud".

This new financial oligarchy had built up a gigantic public debt whose sole purpose had been to finance imperial wars, and which enabled "the circulation of promissory notes to a greater amount than the actual property possessed by those whose names they bear" (like derivatives today). This speculation forced workers to toil for 16 hours instead of eight, and turned "children into lifeless and bloodless machines at an age when otherwise they would be at play before the cottage doors of their parents".

The chief apologist of this system, he said, was British East India Company hiree Parson Thomas Malthus.

Shelley proposed a thorough reorganisation and even cancellation of illegitimate, speculation-based debt. Foreshadowing the mass movements of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr Martin Luther King, he advocated nonviolent civil resistance to the deadly force employed by the oligarchy.

Shelley wrote in his 1820 essay "A Defence of Poetry", repeating an idea expressed in his 1819 essay, about unique moments in history, when "there is an accumulation of the power of communicating and receiving intense and impassioned conceptions respecting man and nature." As if describing today's largely populist upsurges in the trans-Atlantic region, he said, "The persons in whom this power resides may often, as far as regards many portions of their nature, have little correspondence with that spirit of good, of which they are the ministers. But even whilst they deny … yet they are compelled to serve the power which is seated upon the throne of their own souls."

Fortunately, the struggles of the many "over decades and even centuries", as Corbyn put it in a recent speech, have created conditions under which the sweeping political and financial reforms Shelley advocated can be enacted peacefully through the passage of Glass-Steagall legislation to break up the London/Wall Street/EU financial tyranny, cancelling its US$1.2 quadrillion derivatives bubble, followed by establishment of national banks to fund great new infrastructure projects and revolutions in science, flowing from the mastery of almost limitless amounts of cheap, clean thermonuclear fusion power (the Sun's own power process) and the conquest of outer space.

Let us now, at last, bring to fruition all that for which Benjamin Franklin, his British associates, and their heir Shelley so thoughtfully, and so mightily, strived.