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# Bilderberg 2004

## Investigation Reveals: Bilderbergers Want Taxes Up, War in Iraq Over

By James P. Tucker Jr.

**S**tresza, Italy—At this year's secret Bilderberg meeting, some of the world's most powerful elite focused on U.S. taxes and foreign giveaways, as well as the increasingly violent Iraq occupation and the role the United Nations should play in all future similar outbreaks of violence.

Prior to the meeting, a Bilderberg memo promised that its members would deal mainly with European-American relations and in that context, with U.S. politics, Iraq, the Middle East, European geopolitics, NATO, China, energy and economic problems.

During the conference, Britain came in for harsh criticism for supporting the invasion of Iraq. It was also lambasted for failing to embrace the euro, despite Prime Minister Tony Blair's promise to do so at a Bilderberg meeting some years ago in the Scottish resort of Turnberry.

Bilderberg members also expressed frustration with the rising clamor in Britain to quit the European Union.

As expected, the United States was heavily criticized for the fact that its foreign aid was a smaller percentage of gross domestic product than that of other nations. That marked the third straight meeting at which Bilderbergers' decades of almost total congeniality was marred by hostility among the Americans, Britons and continental Europeans.

The first evidence of division in the ranks was apparent in 2002 when Bilderbergers met at Chantilly, Va., near Washington. Then, Europeans were angry that the United States was preparing for an invasion of Iraq. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld tried to placate them with a promise not to invade "this year." Instead, the war began in March 2003.

Bilderbergers, however, remain united in their long-term goal to strengthen the role the UN plays in regulating global relations. Aside from that objective, other matters on this year's conference agenda included the following:

- British elites are to press on with membership in the European Union despite growing domestic opposition.
- The Free Trade Area of the Americas should be enacted and include the entire Western Hemisphere except for Cuba until Fidel Castro is gone. It should then evolve into the "American Union" as a carbon copy of the European Union.
- An "Asian-Pacific Union" is to emerge as the third great superstate,

See *STRATEGIES*, Page B-4.



Global Press Wants Tucker's Insights

## AFP's Jim Tucker Assessed as Security Threat

By the Staff of American Free Press

**O**n Monday, May 31, AFP correspondent James P. Tucker Jr. was arrested by Italian plainclothes policemen on his first day in Stresa, Italy, covering this year's secret Bilderberg conference.

His crime? He did what any good journalist would do. He went to the five-star Grand Hotel des Iles Borromees, where the conference was to be held, hoping to pry information from hotel staff. On his way out of the hotel, three plainclothes cops blocked his path, seized his passport and led him to an unmarked car.

"The officer in charge, Antonio Bacinelli, told me they were taking me for a five-minute ride because their commander wanted to talk to me," says Tucker, "but it was more like 40 minutes as the car whizzed through small towns to police headquarters."

At police HQ, he was led from the car and placed in an interrogation room.

"I told the cops that I was sure the State Department wasn't happy about me covering Bilderberg, but they were unlikely to approve of Italian police putting me in jail for doing my job," adds Tucker, who remembers his interrogator as a craggy-faced officer in his 60s, dressed in a business suit.

"He interviewed me through translators, including Bacinelli and a young woman, and asked me if I had any particular reason for being in Stresa. I replied: 'You know exactly who I am, but I will tell you anyway. I'm here to cover Bilderberg for the American newspaper, *American Free Press*'."

Tucker then handed over his American press credentials, which they examined.

The female officer read aloud, in English, what was printed on the back of Tucker's plastic-sealed press card. The wording contained the following: "The holder hereof agrees to assume all risks incident to use of this pass" but "members of the police force shall be courteous and cooperative on all occasions to the bearer of this pass."

According to Tucker, there was then "a burst of Italian chatter in which the word 'journalist' was heard several times, before the female officer smiled, returned his passport and press card and told him he would face no further harassment from the police.

"To my surprise, Bacinelli and the commander drove me back to the hotel," smiles Tucker, remembering every minute of his three hours in custody. "They even followed me into the hotel and sat in

See *TIPPED OFF*, Page B-2.



Photos above: A group of Italian, British and other European reporters interview AFP's Jim Tucker, acknowledged as the world's foremost Bilderberg hunter. And while the European press readily acknowledges this, the American mainstream media refuses to even admit that there's more to the meeting than meets the eye. Also shown is a picture of the Grand Hotel in Stresa located on the coast of Lake Maggiore.

# Pro-Israel Neo-Cons Prominent at 2004 Bilderberg Meeting

By Michael Collins Piper

This year's American delegation—some 33 members strong—among the 127 acknowledged attendees at the 2004 Bilderberg meeting was populated by a heavy contingent of individuals known for their intimate ties to the powerful Israeli lobby in the United States. In full force was that faction known as the so-called “neo-conservatives”—those who have determined that Israel's security should be central to all U.S. foreign policy decisions, even those policies that focus on other parts of the world, outside the realm of U.S.-Middle East relations.

Most notable among this group is the now-infamous Richard Perle, who has attended several past Bilderberg meetings, when Republican administrations have been ensconced in Washington.

A former member and chairman of the “Dubya” Bush-administrated created Defense Policy Board (DPB), Perle was once a lobbyist for an Israeli arms manufacturer and, in the 1970s—while serving as a top aide to then-Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.)—was investigated by the FBI for espionage on behalf of Israel. After a stint as an undersecretary of defense in the Reagan administration, Perle went on to become a major player in the burgeoning neo-conservative network that played the critical role in pushing the United States into the war against Iraq.

Considering the fact that Perle was forced to resign from the DPB after it was learned that he had been advising Goldman Sachs International on how it might profit from the war in Iraq, it is not surprising that Goldman Sachs has long been represented at the Bilderberg meetings and now boasts its “international advisor” Martin Taylor as Bilderberg's honorary secretary general.

Joining Perle were two other Bush administration neo-conservative heavyweights generally known to have been major forces behind the push for war in Iraq: Douglas Feith,



DENNIS ROSS



RICHARD HAAS

deputy undersecretary of defense for policy—the top lieutenant of neoconservative stalwart and longtime Perle associate, Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz—and his colleague, William J. Luti, deputy undersecretary of defense for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs.

The neo-conservatives were also represented at Bilderberg by Max Boot, a top editor for *The Wall Street Journal*, who has been known for his advocacy of American imperialism in the pages of both the *Journal* and in *The Weekly Standard*, which is published by European-based Rothschild family satellite Rupert Murdoch and edited by neoconservative theoretician William Kristol.

Also in attendance at this year's Bilderberg was Kristol's close colleague, Robert Kagan—a contributing editor of *The Weekly Standard* and a director of Kristol's Project for the New American Century, which once declared that “a new Pearl Harbor” was necessary in order for the United States to begin waging imperial ventures around the globe.

The neo-conservative Hudson Institute was represented at Bilderberg by Marie Josee Kravis, who is both the wife of billionaire Henry Kravis (also in attendance, representing his financial empire) and a business colleague of Perle, having served with Perle as a director of the neo-conservative (and Rothschild family affiliated) Hollinger publishing empire,

which includes *The Jerusalem Post* among its holdings.

Another neo-conservative figure on hand was Bruce Kovner, one of America's richest men, who has helped finance *The New York Sun* newspaper, a small circulation—but highly influential—neo-conservative journal. Kovner also serves as chairman of the American Enterprise Institute, with which the aforementioned Perle has long been associated.

These neo-conservatives were also joined this year at Bilderberg by a handful of other top former Washington policy makers and publicists known for their sympathies for Israel, including Dennis Ross of the pro-Israel Washington Institute for Near East Policy, effectively an offshoot of the America Israel Public Affairs Committee, former State Department official Richard N. Haas, president of the CFR, and former Assistant Secretary of State Richard Holbrooke. ★

## Tipped Off to Tucker

Continued from Page B-1

the lobby while I went into a lounge area where I could keep my eyes on them. I had said to them: “If you chaps are so interested in Bilderberg, you are invited to join me again in the days ahead. I will be happy to tell you what the Bilderberg boys are doing.”

They had replied: “Oh no. We're regulars at this hotel.”

Later, a hotel employee, who agreed to talk anonymously, told Tucker the police were not regulars.

“I think the police had been tipped off to the fact that I was going to be there. In past years of covering Bilderberg, security and police had been supplied with photographs of me and were always alerted to my arrival on the conference scene. I think they were expecting me again this time,” said Tucker, wondering what will be in store for him next year. ★

## Partial List of Major Attendees

**Ackermann, Josef** - Chairman, Deutsche Bank AG - Germany

**Ambrosetti, Alfredo** - Chairman, Ambrosetti Group - Italy

**Babacan, Ali** - Minister of Economic Affairs - Turkey

**Balsemao, Francisco Pinto** - Former PM - Portugal

**Barnavie, Elie** - Department of General History, Tel-Aviv University - Israel

**Bernabe, Franco** - Vice Chairman, Rothschild Europe - Italy

**Beytout, Nicolas** - Editor In Chief, *Les Echos* - France

**Boot, Max** - CFR, Features Editor, *Wall Street Journal* - USA

**Borel, Daniel** - Chairman, Logitech International S.A. - Switzerland

**Browne, John** - Group Chief Executive, BP - Great Britain

**Camus, Philippe** - CEO, European Aeronautic Defense & Space - France

**Caracciolo, Lucio** - Director, Limes Geopolitical Review - Italy

**Castries, Henri de** - Chairman, AXA Insurance - France

**Cebrian, Juan Luis** - CEO, PRISA, former Chairman, International Press Institute - Spain

**Cemal, Hasan** - Senior Columnist, *Milliyet Newspaper* - Turkey

**Clarke, Kenneth** - Member of Parliament (Con.), Deputy Chairman, British American Tobacco - Great Britain

**Corzine, Jon S.** - Sen. (D, NJ) - USA

**David, George A.** - Chairman, Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling Co. - Greece

**Davignon, Etienne** - Hon. Chairman - Belgium

**Dehaene, Jean-Luc** - Former Prime Minister, Mayor of Vilvoorde - Belgium

**Dervis, Kemal** - Parliament, former senior World Bank official - Turkey

**Donilon, Thomas L.** - Vice-President, Fannie Mae, CFR - USA

**Draghi, Mario** - Goldman Sachs - Italy

**Edwards, John** - Senator (D. NC), former Democratic Pres. Candidate - USA

**Feith, Douglas J.** - Undersecretary for Policy, Department of State - USA

**Galateri, Gabriele** - Chairman, Mediobanca - Italy

**Gates, Bill** - Microsoft Corp. - USA

**Gates, Melinda F.** - Co-Founder, Gates Foundation, wife of Bill Gates - USA

**Geithner, Timothy F.** - President, Federal Reserve Bank of NY - USA

**Giovazzi, Francesco** - Prof. of Economics, Bocconi Univ.; adviser, World Bank and European Central bank - Italy

**Gleeson, Dermot** - Chairman Allied Irish Bank Group - Ireland

**Graham, Donald E.** - Chairman and CEO, Washington Post Company - USA

**Haas, Richard N.** - President, CFR, former Director of Policy & Planning, State Department - USA

**Halberstadt, Victor** - Prof. of Economics, Leiden University - Netherlands

**Hansen, Jean-Pierre** - Chairman, Suez Tractebel SA - Belgium

**Heikensten, Lars** - Governor, Swedish Central Bank - Sweden

**Holbrooke, Richard C.** - former Director, CFR, former Ass't Sec. of State - USA

**Hubbard, Allen B.** - President E&A Industries - USA

**Hansen, Jean-Pierre** - Chairman, Suez Tractebel SA - Belgium

**Heikensten, Lars** - Governor, Swedish Central Bank - Sweden

**Holbrooke, Richard C.** - former Director, CFR, former Ass't Sec. of State - USA

**Hubbard, Allen B.** - President E&A Industries - USA

**Issacson, Walter** - President and CEO, Aspen Institute - USA

**Janow, Merit L.** - Professor, International Economic Law and Int'l Affairs, Columbia University, member of appellate body, WTO - USA

**Jordan, Vernon E.** - Senior Managing Dir., Lazard Freres & Co LLC - USA

**Kagan, Robert** - Senior Associate, Carnegie Endowment for Int'l Peace - USA

**Kerr, John** - Director, Shell, Rio Tinto and Scottish American Investment Trust - Great Britain

**Kissinger Henry A.** - Chairman, Kissinger Associates Inc. - USA

**Koc, Mustafa V.** - Chairman, Koc Holdings AS - Turkey

**Koenders, Bert (AG)** - Parliament, president, Parliamentary Network of the World Bank - Netherlands

**Kovner, Bruce** - Chairman, American Enterprise Institute - USA

**Kravis, Henry R.** - Founding Partner, Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co., acquisitions financier - USA

**Kravis, Marie Josee** - Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute Inc. - USA

**Lehtomaki, Paula** - Minister of Foreign Trade and Development - Finland

**Lipponen, Paavo** - Speaker of Parliament - Finland

**Long, Yongtu** - Secretary General, Boao forum for Asia-China

**Luti, William J.** - Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs - USA

**Lynch, Kevin G.** - Deputy Minister, Department of Finance - Canada

**Lehtomaki, Paula** - Minister of Foreign Trade and Development - Finland

**Lipponen, Paavo** - Speaker of Parliament - Finland

**Long, Yongtu** - Secretary General, Boao forum for Asia-China

**Luti, William J.** - Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs - USA

**Lynch, Kevin G.** - Deputy Minister, Department of Finance - Canada

**Mathews, Jessica T.** - President, Carnegie Endowment - USA

**McDonough, William J.** - former president, Federal Reserve N.Y. - USA

**McKenna, Frank** - former premier of New Brunswick - Canada

**Monti, Mario** - Competition/Antitrust Commissioner, Euro. Comm. - Int'l

**Mundie, Craig J.** - Microsoft Corp. - USA

**Naas, Matthias** - Deputy Editor, *Die Zeit* - Germany

**Netherlands, Beatrix HM Queen of the** - Netherlands

**Neville-Jones, Pauline** - Chairman, QuinetIQ, gov. of the BBC, former Chairman Joint Intel. Comm. - UK

**Nooyi, Indra K.** - President and CEO, PepsiCo Inc. - USA

**Ollila, Jorma** - Chairman, Nokia Corporation - Finland

**Padoa-Schioppa, Tommaso** - Director, European Central Bank-International

**Pantelides, Leonidas** - Ambassador to Greece - Cyprus

**Passera, Corrado** - CEO, Banca Intesa SpA - Italy

**Perle, Richard N.** - Resident Fellow, American Enterprise Institute, former Likud policy adviser - USA

**Phillippe, HRH Prince** - Belgium

**Rachman, Gideon** - Brussels Correspondent, *The Economist* - Great Britain

**Reed, Ralph E.** - President, Century Strategies, former head of Christian Coalition - USA

**Perle, Richard N.** - Resident Fellow, American Enterprise Institute, former Likud policy adviser - USA

**Phillippe, HRH Prince** - Belgium

**Rachman, Gideon** - Brussels Correspondent, *The Economist* - Great Britain

**Reed, Ralph E.** - President, Century Strategies, former head of Christian Coalition - USA

**Reisman, Heather** - Pres. and CEO, Indigo Books and Music Inc. - Canada

**Riotta, Gianni** - Editorialist, *Corriere della Sera* - Italy

**Rockefeller, David** - Member JP Morgan International Council, Chairman, Council of the Americas - USA

**Ross, Dennis B.** - Director, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy - USA

**Sandschneider, Eberhard** - Director, Research Institute, German Society for Foreign Policy - Germany

**Schilly, Otto** - Minister of the Interior - Germany

**Schnabel, Rockwell A.** - Ambassador to the EU - USA

**Schrempf, Jurgen E.** - Chairman, DaimlerChrysler AG - Germany

**Shevtsova, Lilia** - Senior Associate, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace - Russia

**Sikora, Slawomir** - President and CEO, Citibank Handlowy - Poland

**Siniscolo, Domenico** - Director General Ministry of the Economy - Italy

**Socrates, Jose** - Member of Parliament - Portugal

**Strmecki, Marin J.** - Smith Richardson Foundation - USA

**Struyve de Swielande, Dominique** - Permanent representative of Belgium, NATO - Belgium

**Sutherland, Peter D.** - Chairman, Goldman Sachs International - Ireland

**Taylor, Martin** - Honorary Secretary General - International Adviser, Goldman Sachs International

**Thornton, John L.** - Chairman, Brookings Institution, Professor, Tsinghua University - USA

**Tremonti, Giulio** - Minister of Economy and Finance - Italy

**Struyve de Swielande, Dominique** - Permanent representative of Belgium, NATO - Belgium

**Sutherland, Peter D.** - Chairman, Goldman Sachs International - Ireland

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**Thornton, John L.** - Chairman, Brookings Institution, Professor, Tsinghua University - USA

**Tremonti, Giulio** - Minister of Economy and Finance - Italy

**Trichet, Jean-Claude** - President, European Central Bank - International

**Veer, Jeroen van der** - Chairman, Committee of Managing Directors, Royal Dutch/Shell - Netherlands

**Wallenberg, Jacob** - Chairman, SEB investments; Chairman, W Capital Management AB - Sweden

**Weinberg, Peter** - CEO, Goldman Sachs International Great Britain - USA

**Wolf, Martin H.** - Associate Editor/Economic Commentator, *The Financial Times* - Great Britain

**Wolffensohn, James D.** - President, The World Bank-International - USA

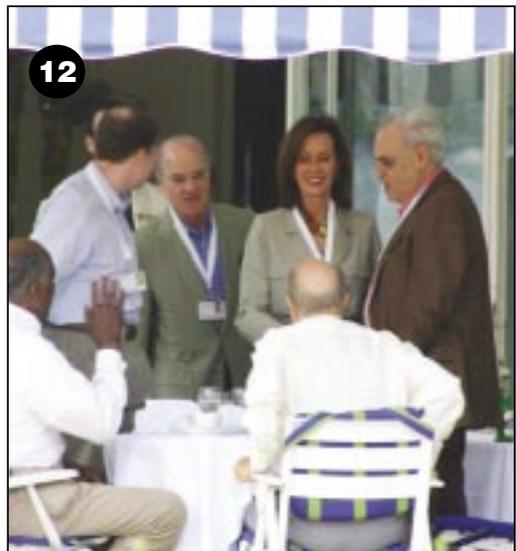
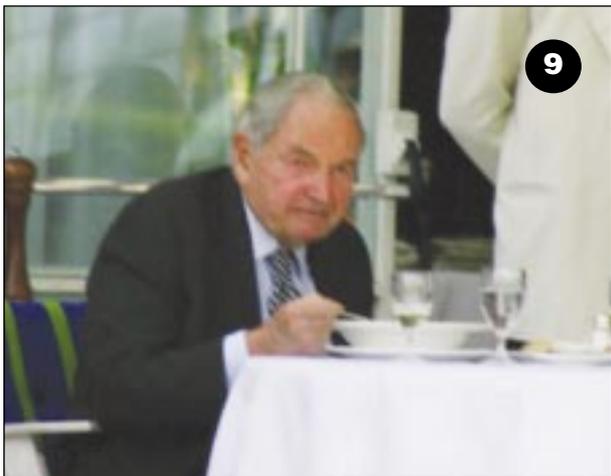
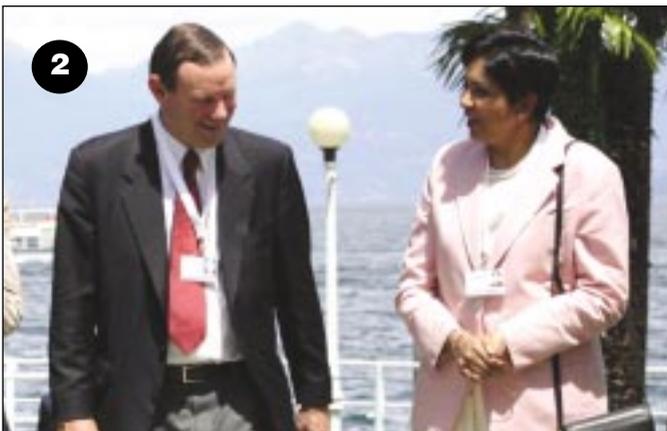
**Woodbridge, Adrian D.** - Foreign Correspondent, *The Economist* - Great Britain

**Yavlinsky, Grigory A.** - Member of Parliament - Russia

**Yergin, Daniel** - Chairman, Cambridge Energy Research Associates - USA

**Zumwinkel, Klaus** - Chairman, Deutsche Post Worldnet AG; Chairman, Deutsche Telecom - Germany

# Stresa, Italy: Caught in the Act



## BILDERBERG 2004 ATTENDEES PHOTO GALLERY

Many luminaries of world's industry, finance and politics attended this year's Bilderberg meeting in the small resort town of Stresa, Italy. These are just a few of the 127 capitalists, politicians and power brokers who showed up in Italy. Attendee photographs are here identified by number: (1) Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates, one of the richest men in the world, attended with his wife in order to put his 2 (billion) cents in. (2) Washington Post CEO Donald Graham and Indra K. Nooyi, the president and chairman of PepsiCo, have a friendly chat following their arrival by helicopter. (3) High-powered attorney Vernon Jordan was there at Bilderberg yet again. (4) Neo-con Douglas Feith, undersecretary for policy in the Department of Defense, makes his way from the lobby of the Grand Hotel in Stresa. (5) Etienne Davignon, pipe-smoking Belgian banker and this year's honorary Bilderberg chairman, talks on a cell phone. (6) No surprise, accused war criminal Henry Kissinger is still a power player at Bilderberg. (7) Richard Holbrooke, a key aide to Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry and a former UN ambassador, also on his cell phone. (8) Hasan Cemal, a senior columnist with Turkey's popular *Milliyet* daily newspaper. (9) Bilderberg luminary David Rockefeller appears annoyed as he lifts his head from a bowl of soup at an outdoor cafe in the hotel. (10) Henri de Castries, the chairman of France's massive AXA Insurance company. (11) Martin Wolf, an associate editor at *The Financial Times*. (12) Richard Perle (far right), chief architect of the war in Iraq and now considered "on the outs" after the Iraq war blew up in America's face, laughs and talks with Vernon Jordan and other unidentified Bilderbergers. (13) An Italian journalist reads an Italian daily's front-page report on the Bilderberg meeting in Stresa. While the European press covered the gathering, the U.S. mainstream media all but ignored the important secret confab.

# Strategies

Continued from Page B-1

neatly dividing the world into three great regions for the administrative convenience of banking and corporate elites. The United States and other international financial institutions should facilitate and administrate these global trade pacts.

Bilderbergers have, for some time, argued for three global currencies—the euro for Europe, the dollar for the American Union and another for the “Asian-Pacific Union.”

One Bilderberger, Kenneth Clarke, a former chancellor of the British exchequer, saw the consolidation of currencies as an ideal strategy when he spoke to this reporter several years ago in Portugal. At that time, Clarke told me that “dollarization” would dominate the globe and “our children will laugh at all the petty currencies we have now.”

Another much-discussed subject at this year’s conference was the concept of imposing a direct UN tax on people worldwide. In order to achieve it, some Bilderbergers presented two proposals: a tax on oil at the wellhead and a tax on international financial transactions.

Bilderberg leaders tilted strongly toward the oil tax because everyone who drives a car, rides public transportation or flies in a plane will end up paying the tax. That will represent more people than those engaged in international financial transactions across the globe.

On the issue of Iraq, European Bilderbergers were more upset that the United States invaded without the UN’s blessing than the fact that over 800 American soldiers have died and thousands of innocent Iraqi citizens have been killed.

Word reached the conference from Rumsfeld, who was unable to attend this year’s meeting, that the U.S. military would assume a more defensive stance in Iraq, rather than the more provocative operations of door-to-door searches and widespread detention.

Rumsfeld was, however, represented in Stresa by Douglas Feith, his undersecretary for policy, and William Luti, deputy undersecretary for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs. Former Pentagon advisor Richard Perle, one of the major architects of the war in Iraq, was also present. It had been Perle, Feith and Paul Wolfowitz who, from the mid 1990s, had fashioned the Middle East policy later adopted by Bush,



**Bilderberg upset about lost revenues, not war dead.**

Cheney and Rumsfeld.

European Bilderbergers also protested the fact that the Pentagon was considering reducing troop levels in Germany and tried hard to convince their American counterparts to resist the move. They argued it would “undermine unity” and, irrespective of the military implications, the German economy benefited annually from the millions of dollars spent by U.S. servicemen there.

Resistance in Britain to the euro, and to membership in the European Union, caused much concern and was deemed an obstacle to the solidification of the superstate.

It was noted that many Europeans were unaware of the European Parliament elections scheduled for June 10 and should there be a low turnout, it could be attributed to a protest boycott of the elections by EU opposition groups.

Four former Conservative members of Parliament have endorsed the United Kingdom Independence Party, which demands British withdrawal from the European Union. And, if allowed to vote in a referendum, it has been reported that Britons would reject membership in the European Union by strong proportions. A YouGov survey, taken at the end of May, showed 48 percent would vote to get out of the European Union and 36 percent would vote to stay in.

As it stands, Europeans can only select members for the European Parliament but not the EU Commission, the bureaucratic powerhouse of the union.

Bilderberg participants ended their secret sessions on an upbeat note with a ferry ride to a luxury island on Lake Maggiore, where John Elkman, the latest vice president of the Fiat motor company, will marry his new bride in September. ★

## Etienne Davignon: A Powerful Anti-Bush Bilderberg Member

By the Staff at American Free Press

Viscount Etienne Davignon is one of the most prominent, if not the most powerful of European Bilderbergers. Rumored to have succeeded former British foreign secretary, Lord Carrington, as chairman of Bilderberg several years ago, Davignon’s name is always on the lips of those who run the European Union.

At 74, he remains active as a director on major corporate boards across the globe and holds key roles within European banking, energy and industrial think tanks. Belgian by birth, he has been most closely associated with the Belgian foreign ministry. In 1974, he was appointed the first president of the Atomic Energy Commission and from 1976 to 1984 was European Commissioner for Industrial Affairs and Energy. He was also chairman, and until 2001, vice-chairman of Belgium’s largest holding company.

Like many former Eurocrats at his level, his wealth has been enhanced by lucrative directorships of giants like Fiat and financial institutions such as the Bank of Montreal. He has also served on the board of Kissinger Associates and maintains a close relationship with his fellow Bilderbergers Henry Kissinger and David Rockefeller.

It would be almost impossible on this page to list his directorships, which include mining conglomerates and financial institutions worldwide. It also goes with the territory that he has enough honorary degrees to be able to wallpaper a house with them.

It is in Europe that he has had the greatest influence, not only through his roles in the European Union but within critical think tanks. For example, he has been a key figure in the Center for EU Policy Studies, a body very much like Bilderberg. Ordinary members of the organization are required to pay annual fees of \$30,000, but those who wish to join what is called ‘the inner circle’ and rub shoulders with Davignon are charged \$80,000 per year for the privilege.

He is one of those elitist European Bilderbergers not known for his support for the small business community in Europe.

More importantly, he is a man of grand designs and an opponent of the Bush administration’s foreign policy. He will often praise America for its post World War II policy of establishing alliances like NATO and founding the UN and the World Bank. But he will attack the Bush preemption doctrine, arguing that it has fractured alliances. In his view, America is returning to an era of isolationism that hurts Europe and the world. For him, Bush’s Coalition of the Willing is not the type of alliance the world demands for stability.

In interviews in Europe, he has constantly expressed what he terms European disenchantment with Bush policies.

Ironically, his views could not have pleased some of the neo-con architects of Bush’s policies—Richard Perle and Douglas Feith—who were at the Bilderberger conference in Stresa, Italy this year. ★

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