

"The National Security State": Chapter 12 from "Our Country, Then and Now" Part 1 of 4.

By Richard C. Cook

"The Good War?", "Britain Always Has the Plan"

Serialization of selections from my book Our Country, Then and Now continues with the cooperation of my publisher, Clarity Press. Today we have the first installment of Chapter 12: "The National Security State" with sections on "The Good War" and "Britain Always Has the Plan."

The world today is embroiled in crisis, but what else is new? As we hearken back to the turn of the 20th century, we remember a time when a substantial portion of humanity, especially in the United States, actually believed that mankind had turned a corner and that a Golden Age of peace and prosperity lay just ahead.

Unfortunately, World War I, followed all-too-soon by the Great Depression, blew that illusion to smithereens. By 1939, the world was on the verge of an even more devastating war. In less than a decade, the destruction had barely died down than the era of endless conflict starting with the Cold War had begun.

What characterized governance in the US now became the existence of the infamous National Security State as a permanent feature of international relations, whereby ordinary citizens permanently lost all right to know what was really going on behind the scenes within the military-industrial-intelligence complex and the governmental institutions that fed it money for reasons barely ever articulated. The era of 24/7 government by propaganda had begun.

We begin our treatment with a few words on what came to be called the "Good War" but soon realize that once again, it's Britain that has been spinning the spider's web.

The "Good War"

World War II was the "Good War"—right? We all know that the good guys—us—kicked the bad guys' butts—they. We know who the bad guys were—the Germans and the Japanese. Thousands of war movies have told us that. And we taught the bastards a lesson, didn't we? It was mainly the British who firebombed the major German cities, reduced them to smoking rubble, but we joined in. We did the same to the citizens of Tokyo, and we dropped nukes on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Why then, if it was such a "good war," have we been fighting endless wars ever since? Korea was a "good war" too, right? Vietnam was also a "good war," I guess. Then we fought Desert Storm against Iraq. Then we bombed and

dismembered Yugoslavia. Both “good wars” of course. And so was the “War on Terror,” with the destruction wreaked on Afghanistan, Iraq again in 2003 on the pretext that they had WMDs—which they didn’t, and then Libya. And we still have forces in Syria.

Now we’re conducting another “good war,” our proxy war against Russia over Ukraine, a Ukraine whose government we *created* in an illegal coup in 2014 and have armed to the teeth and egged on ever since. And America’s president [Biden, when this book was published] and our incredibly sophisticated propaganda media are once again telling us that it’s *all* the other guy’s fault. It’s always “*unprovoked aggression*.” *Always*, just like in the killing of the Sioux Indians.

This doesn’t even include the governments we’ve attacked, overthrown, and/or subverted in smaller-scale conflicts over the last seventy-five years, the foreign leaders we’ve assassinated, places to which we’ve sent troops, countries we’ve ransacked with economic sanctions, the “color revolutions” we’ve instigated using the resources of the CIA and/or the National Endowment for Democracy. Yes, we’ve really done a great job of creating “open societies” with our weapons, our propaganda, our pressure, our massacres, and our manipulations. And we have military bases in over eighty nations around the world to be sure we keep up the good work.

But back to World War II. What if it wasn’t a “Good War”? What if conservative commentator, Reagan speechwriter, and presidential candidate Patrick Buchanan was right? What if both of the world wars were “unnecessary wars”? What if, as Buchanan says, these wars were “hideous and suicidal,” that they “advanced the death of our civilization”?[i]

Britain Always Has the Plan

But let’s turn back to Great Britain, which, in its centuries-long quest to build an empire, has attacked any competing power on the European Continent that threatened to establish its own hegemony. As a result, [even before the US joined the game], Britain has been at war, or poised for war, *for its entire history*, including the conflicts it has waged for control of the various imperial components in North America, Africa, the Middle East, India, and East Asia. While Britain may often pay other nations to do the fighting, Britain itself, with its “Royals” atop the heap, has been the chief imperial power of modern history.

As Britain neared the end of the 19th century, it had already waged successful war against the Spanish Empire; the Dutch, with whom it merged institutionally through the Glorious Revolution of 1688; then with the France of Louis XIV and later with the French republic and Napoleon. Each time, those threatened attempted to launch an invasion of the British homeland, and each time failed. The closest instance was by the Dutch, who succeeded in getting their fleet up the Thames estuary and won a major naval battle in 1667 but did not disembark land forces.

By the first years of the 20th century, it was clear that another war of continental proportions loomed. Every statesman in Europe knew it. But it was not clear whom Britain's foe would be. I have tried to explain in a previous chapter why the Central Powers of Germany and Austria-Hungary were finally designated as the World War I opponents, rather than Britain's other two imperial rivals, France and Russia.

In the process, the most prescient minds within the British establishment were also likely wondering who they could engage as allies, because whenever Britain fought a major war, it always did so through a coalition. Often Britain's partners could simply be paid to fight. On occasion, Britain would send its own forces to the Continent, as it did against Napoleon. But faced with a project of the scope of World War I, who would be its partner in the coming conflagration?

Of course it would be the US. By the end of the 19th century, the British and their American cousins were joined at the hip financially, even if the bulk of America's population had no intention of going to war in Europe on anyone's side. No one in the US government bothered to read the section of the Monroe Doctrine that pledged the US would stay out of internal European political affairs.

The British could be so persuasive, especially if, as did Cecil Rhodes and Lord Nathaniel Rothschild, they had the fantastic wealth of South African diamonds and gold at their disposal. And especially if Rhodes then bequeathed his wealth toward the formation of a "secret society" aimed, in his words, at "recovering the United States of America for the British Empire." As explained previously, this secret society was the Round Table. Rhodes's successor in the enterprise was Alfred, Lord Milner. A spinoff of the Round Table was the Anglo-American Pilgrim Society.

It took a while, but Britain was able to stage the sinking of the *Lusitania*, and America finally got itself in gear. Germany and its allies tried to call a truce, even as the Bolshevik Revolution plunged Russia into chaos. In fact, as Guido Giacomo Preparata argues in *Conjuring Hitler: How Britain and America Made the Third Reich and Destroyed Europe*, Britain—and the US—allowed the Bolsheviks to defeat the White army in the five-year Russian Civil War. Russian Admiral Kolchak himself, leader of the White armies, said he was betrayed by the Western powers. The point being, says Preparata, that a future combination between a royalist/aristocratic Russia with a resurgent Germany would be a lethal threat to Britain's imperial future. *Britain's greatest fear was an alliance between Germany and Russia fighting on the same side.*

After World War I ended, Germany would soon be able to fight again. Britain and the US had assured this with massive investments in German heavy industry in the 1930s. But rearming Germany only made sense if Britain could direct Germany's newly found might against the Soviet Union, in the hope that the two might destroy each other, so that the British Empire would be spared.

To prepare for the next war, the British and American elites would encourage a reactionary movement within Germany that would view the Soviets as

Germany's mortal enemy. The charismatic leader, one Adolph Hitler, was identified very early on—in fact, by 1919. He was groomed, flattered, financed, dressed up in military glory, and gotten ready to act as Pied Piper to the nation's future destruction, all carefully prepared by British lords and diplomats well practiced at this sort of thing. Behind the scenes schemed the Round Table and other assorted British "clubs," as Preparata calls them.

Hitler loved the British and saw the Soviet Union—Russia—as the enemy. He had written in *Mein Kampf*:

"If land was desired in Europe, it could be obtained by and large only at the expense of Russia....For such a policy there was but one ally: England....No sacrifice should have been too great for winning England's willingness....Only an absolutely clear orientation could lead to such a goal: renunciation of world trade and colonies....Concentration of all the State's instruments of power on the land army." [ii]

But then, neither the US nor Britain neglected the Soviet Union in the rearming process. Standard Oil and Ford built installations, and other companies signed on for gold and oil extraction. The great Dnipro dam on the Dnieper River, for instance, was built from 1927 to 1932 with US money and British engineering skill.[iii] The British also looked the other way as the Stalinist Terror killed a million people, including Leninist and Trotskyite partisans and the top military echelons.

At any time during Hitler's dictatorship, which was consolidated after the false-flag burning of the Reichstag in 1933 and the purge of the Nazi Party's left-wing in 1934—the "Night of the Long Knives"—the military power of Britain, France, and the Soviet Union could have squashed the still-rebuilding German *Wehrmacht*. Britain chose not to, France was appalled at Britain's inaction, and the Soviet build-up continued.

First Russia, then France, then Germany, had felt the British stab in the back. And the Soviet Union knew well that their turn would be next. So Germany and the Soviet Union shocked the world by signing a non-aggression pact on August 23, 1939, "the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact."

The Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact guaranteed peace between the two parties and made the commitment that neither nation would aid or ally itself with an enemy of the other. But there was also a Secret Protocol which defined the borders of Soviet and German spheres of influence across Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Finland.

Britain may have realized its mistake in standing by idly. But by then it was too late. War now loomed. The German plan was to bring Europe under control by subordinating all industry to ownership and coordination by the German national banking system with the Reichsmark the reserve currency, much as the dollar would become for the world after US victory in World War II. The Germans also discarded the gold standard as being a compromise of sovereignty. The

Germans foresaw a Eurasian economic union that would include the Soviet Union and Japan, a prospect that was anathema to Britain and the US.[iv]

On September 1, 1939, only days after the signing of the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact, Germany invaded Poland. Two days later, on September 3, 1939, Britain and France declared war on Germany. On September 16, 1939, the USSR invaded Poland. Implementation of the Soviet-German Secret Protocol was underway.

The British had set out to wean Stalin's Soviet Union away from the German alliance. They succeeded. The Soviets had been cooperating with Britain for a decade in allowing the Nazi war machine to attain its present prowess.[v] Its pact with Germany couldn't hold; Stalin had little choice but to play along. Nonetheless, it wasn't until 1941, after Hitler broke his pact with the USSR and invaded that, on July 12, 1941, the USSR then signed a military alliance with Britain. [The USSR was aided by massive amounts of armaments shipped by the US under secret Lend-Lease provisions.]

Even through the Battle of Britain, fought in the skies over England, Hitler appeared to nurture the hope that he and the British might one day share a common future, so long as America remained on the sidelines. His vision was always for Britain to rule the sea while Germany controlled the continental land mass. This was why he felt compelled to neutralize the Soviets, but he hoped in vain.

Looking back, the only fly in the ointment was that if Britain had to count on the US to provide the muscle once the next phase of the war began, the Americans might feel entitled to take charge of the entire Anglo-Saxon enterprise themselves. But the Americans, though mighty and rich, were not practiced at this sort of thing and might be easy to steer in another direction.

Today, not without reason as we shall see, the British still sometimes refer to themselves as the "tugboat" to the American "destroyer." And Americans have always been easy to dupe with a "fistful of dollars" waving in their faces. After all, said US President Calvin Coolidge, "the business of America is business."

References

[i] Patrick J. Buchanan, *Churchill, Hitler, and the Unnecessary War: How Britain Lost Its Empire and the West Lost the World*, Crown Publishers, 2008, p. x.

[ii] Guido Giacomo Preparata, *Conjuring Hitler: How Britain and America Created the Third Reich and Destroyed Europe*, p. 135. Otto Strasser, an early Hitler collaborator, commented that during those early Munich days, Hitler was always flush with cash from unexplained sources, while his mates could barely outfit themselves with a decent set of clothes. The implication was that even then Hitler was on *someone's* payroll.

[iii] Ibid, p. 244. [iv] Engdahl, p.183. [v] Ibid, p. 249.

Part II

*Serialization of selections from my book **Our Country, Then and Now** continues with the cooperation of my publisher, Clarity Press. Today we have the 2nd installment of Chapter 12: “The National Security State” with sections on “America Opts for Global Military Dominance” and “The Council on Foreign Relations Moves In.”*

As we saw with our previous installment, the world today is embroiled in crisis, but what else is new? As we hearken back to the turn of the 20th century, we remember a time when a substantial portion of humanity, especially in the United States, actually believed that mankind had turned a corner and that a Golden Age of peace and prosperity lay just ahead.

Unfortunately, World War I, followed all-too-soon by the Great Depression, blew that illusion to smithereens. By 1939, the world was on the verge of an even more devastating war. In less than a decade, the destruction had barely died down than the era of endless conflict starting with the Cold War had begun.

What characterized governance in the US now became the existence of the infamous “National Security State” as a permanent feature of international relations, whereby ordinary citizens lost all right to know what was really going on behind the scenes within the military-industrial-intelligence complex and the governmental institutions that fed it money for reasons barely ever articulated. The era of 24/7 government by propaganda had begun along with the never-ending lies and constant wars, big and small, around the world.

What few people realize is that the National Security State was created to extend, protect, and conceal a conscious decision made prior to US entrance into World War II that the US would seek and attain global military dominance. This decision was not haphazard or incremental. Rather it was inflicted on the nation and the world at a specific point in time by a specific group of people: those who ran the US Council on Foreign Relations. Ostensibly a public service think tank, the CFR was largely an instrument of the Rockefeller financial empire and was joined at the hip with the British Round Table which ran the Royal Institute for International Affairs. Joining the two national elites was the Pilgrim Society.

We are now looking deeply into the “Heart of Darkness” of what became the Anglo-American-Zionist Empire.

America Opts for Global Military Dominance

Like an engine that was running out of gas, the New Deal was sputtering as economic recovery slowed in the mid-to-late 1930s. Though it has never been proven conclusively that President Franklin D. Roosevelt deliberately helped provoke World War II against Germany and Japan in order to rescue the US economy, such calculations were likely part of the thinking of the time. Everyone knew that war was a potent economic stimulus. The world’s banking fraternity, in particular, had been growing rich off war for a very long time.

It's a little-known fact that even before the US entered the war on the side of Great Britain, a decision had been made in America's highest official circles that the long-term objective of the US was to become the world's *dominant military power*. The fact of planned American global military dominance has been documented in extensive detail in an impeccably precise book published in 2020, *Tomorrow the World: The Birth of US Global Supremacy* by Stephen Wertheim, a senior fellow at the Carnegie Institute for International Peace. Another corroborating source is F. William Engdahl's *Gods of Money: Wall Street and the Death of the American Century*.

Both Wertheim and Engdahl relate that as war clouds began to gather over Europe in the late 1930s, consultations were taking place among the Roosevelt White House, the US State Department, and the War Department—all still minuscule by today's standards of bloated executive bureaucracies and intelligence agencies (there were none in 1940)—on what would be the policy objectives of the US once war in Europe broke out.

When Germany attacked Poland in September 1939, followed by Britain and France declaring war, the debate within the US became more urgent. When the Germans next occupied Denmark and Norway, followed by its *blitzkrieg* against the Low Countries and France in 1940, the US faced two contingencies. Either Britain would also be defeated, leaving all Europe in German hands—except for the Soviet Union—or Britain would hold out until the German victories could be rolled back. Meanwhile, in the Far East, Japan had invaded China following its earlier conquest of Manchuria in the mid-1930s.

Whether or not Britain would stand or fall, the war was obviously an excellent business opportunity for the US. It was President Calvin Coolidge who had said in 1925 that, "The business of America is business," and it was Roosevelt's implementation, first, of Cash-and-Carry on September 21, 1939, and then the Lend-Lease Act, that made the US the "arsenal of democracy." This ended the Great Depression and set America on a course of staggering economic prosperity lasting until the 1960s.

Still, the US government's assumption at the time was that mainland Europe was going to be controlled by the two authoritarian states of Nazi Germany and the Stalinist Soviet Union, at least in the near term. So where would the US draw the line that it would defend at all costs? A consensus was forming that the US would be able to secure control of the Western Hemisphere, but possibly not much else.

The debate was fierce, with a more radical party emerging which believed that long-term US economic power could not be assured unless the goal were established for *total global military dominance*.

The Council on Foreign Relations Steps In

The decisive studies delivered to President Roosevelt, along with the State and War Departments, were drafted by the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR),

established in New York following World War I, with funds supplied largely by the Morgans and Rockefellers.

By 1939, the Rockefeller dynasty was under the control of the founder's son, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. (1874-1960). The Rockefellers had been intimately involved, personally and by marriage, with the growth of the US banking industry after the creation of the Federal Reserve, with David Rockefeller, one of John D. Jr.'s sons, eventually becoming head of the Chase Manhattan Bank and the figure at the center of the global financial spider's web until his death at the age of 101 in 2017. [David's brother Nelson was instrumental in extending Rockefeller banking interests across Latin America in the 1930s.]

The Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) never had any official standing with the US government. It was rather an elite instrument giving voice to the Rockefellers' global ambitions, in league with the big New York banks, and was intimately linked with the parallel imperial and financial interests of Great Britain. At the head of these interests stood the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and the Bank of England. The Council on Foreign Relations is the US equivalent of the Royal Institute of International Affairs which, according to American scholar Carroll Quigley, was founded by Cecil Rhodes' secret society, the Round Table, becoming a "fief" of Rhodes's successor in influence, Alfred, Lord Milner. [i]

The CFR lobbied President Franklin Roosevelt and his administration to adopt policies in the prosecution of World War II that would not only defeat Germany, Italy, and Japan, but that would also set the stage for long-term competition with the Soviet Union, and eventually transform the US into a juggernaut of multi-spectrum warfare against any country that stood in its way.

Within two weeks of the German invasion of Poland in September 1939, the US State Department turned to the Council on Foreign Affairs for advice on what to do. [ii] Despite the fact that Britain and France had declared war against Germany, it appeared that few Americans wanted the US to do the same. A poll in late 1939 identified only seventeen percent of Americans as wanting to enter the war. In fact, Congress had passed a series of Neutrality Acts in 1935 that banned the export of weapons, granting of loans, and travel of citizens to nations at war. But in 1937, the Acts were modified to allow the president to discriminate between "aggressors" and "victims." [iii]

On September 12, 1939, Hamilton Fish Armstrong, a founder of the CFR and the editor of its *Foreign Affairs* journal, along with CFR director Walter Mallory, met with Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles and several aides, and told them that the war that just began was a "grand opportunity" for the US to become "the premier power in the world." They offered to undertake planning for the post-war peace. Welles agreed, provided that Armstrong and Mallory kept it quiet. [iv]

The CFR created an *ad hoc* organization called "War and Peace Studies" that ended up sending 682 memoranda to US government policymakers. Head of the project was Prof. Isaiah Bowman, president of Johns Hopkins University and CFR director. [v] The Rockefeller Foundation funded the project's entire

cost of \$350,000. The team's Armaments Group was led by future CIA director Allen Dulles, who would one day be fired over the Cuban missile fiasco by President John F. Kennedy. Dulles would then go on to sit on the Warren Commission that investigated Kennedy's assassination.

While the CFR was working in the shadows, the Roosevelt administration followed the same path of being an observer as President Woodrow Wilson had done early in World War I. In February 1940, Roosevelt sent Undersecretary Welles to meet with the conflict nations' leaders in Berlin, London, Paris, and Rome to secure a peace agreement that would include military disarmament. While Welles talked, Allen Dulles's CFR Armaments Group was examining military expansion no matter which way the European war went. [\[vi\]](#)

As Germany began to sweep across Western Europe in 1940, invading Norway and Denmark in April, then Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and France in May-June, several organizations in the US were lobbying for continued American neutrality, including the Keep America Out of War Congress, the American Peace Society, and the America First Committee, where aviator Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr., became a spokesman. The America First Committee advocated defending the Western Hemisphere but going no further. It was journalist Walter Lippmann who began to derisively label opponents of entering the war as "isolationists."

By the autumn of 1940, the US had begun its largest military buildup ever, far greater than in the run-up to World War I. This included a decision to build the world's largest navy, exceeding Britain's. With the enactment of the military draft, the first in American peacetime history, US unemployment ended. [The Democrats, with Roosevelt in the White House, were ecstatic.]

In 1940, the US was still more than a year away from entry into the war. The common assumption is that the US slept until Pearl Harbor, then suddenly awoke with its world on fire. This is far from the truth. As the country was building its military forces, the CFR and government insiders were already envisaging a much-expanded role of the US in future world affairs, as it was increasingly clear that the British Empire no longer could control the world. But in the autumn of 1941, President Roosevelt had a problem. The American people still didn't want war.

Meanwhile, Britain had terminated its alliance with Japan in 1923. Japan had been fighting a war of conquest in China since 1931 and had been allied with Germany and Italy since 1940. Now, with the US anchored in the Philippines, and the British arc of Hong Kong, Singapore, Burma, and India in place, a Japanese clash with the Anglo-Americans seemed likely, particularly after September 1940, when Japan invaded and occupied French Indochina.

A modern consensus has grown that President Roosevelt deliberately provoked Japan to attack the US fleet at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. I would refer you to the article "Pearl Harbor: Hawaii Was Surprised; FDR Was Not" by investigative journalist James Perloff. This article appears on-line and contains references to additional books and articles. [\[vii\]](#)

The provocations were these: freezing Japanese assets being held in US banks, a move that Japan viewed as an act of war; a far-reaching plan to cut Japan off from overseas petroleum supplies through an embargo; a ban on exporting steel to Japan; repeatedly sending US warships into Japanese territorial waters; keeping the US fleet stationed at Pearl Harbor late into 1941, rather than anchoring safely at its home Pacific Coast ports, especially San Diego. Instead, Roosevelt left the fleet anchored at Pearl Harbor, where he was told by his highest-ranking officers it was a sitting duck. All these circumstances are well-known to today's military establishment. [viii]

[i] Carroll Quigley, *The Anglo-American Establishment*, p.3ff.

[ii] Stephen Wertheim, *Tomorrow the World: The Birth of US Global Supremacy*, The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, Cambridge MA, London, 2020, p 8.

[iii] Ibid, p. 32.

[iv] Ibid, p. 37. Maybe the US could take over the world without anyone noticing?

[v] William Engdahl, *Gods of Money and the Death of the American Century*, p.137

[vi] Ibid, p. 42.

[vii] <<https://www.fourstatesnews.us/2015/12/07/pearl-harbor-hawaii-surprised-fdr-not/>>

[viii] Col. Douglas McGregor interview, "We Are Co-Belligerents," *The Saker, YouTube*, January 28, 2023. F. William Engdahl also recounts the US government's actions in enticing a Japanese attack in *Gods of Money*.

Part III

"The National Security State": Part 3 of 4. Chapter 12 from "Our Country, Then and Now"

"The US-British Divergence," "Bretton Woods"

Serialization of selections from my book Our Country, Then and Now continues with the cooperation of my publisher, Clarity Press. Today we have 3rd installment of Chapter 12: "The National Security State" with sections on "The US-British Divergence" and "Bretton Woods."

In writing about World War II, we opted not to attempt to include a history of action on the battlefield, as this has been covered exhaustively in the standard literature. Instead, we tried to explain, though briefly, the primary political forces affecting the US role.

These consisted of 1) the British plan to turn Germany and the Soviet Union against each other for purposes of mutual destruction, while using the industrial and military might of the US to advance the purposes of the British Empire; 2) the fact unknown to the US public, but certainly known by the British, that Roosevelt's administration was heavily infiltrated with communist sympathizers secretly working with Stalin for the Soviets to gain post-war influence in Europe; 3) the presence within the US of a strong popular anti-war movement ridiculed by left-leaning pro-war journalists like Walter Lippmann as being "isolationist"; 4) a virtual takeover of the Roosevelt administration's policy apparatus by the strongly pro-British Council on Foreign Relations which laid plans for future US global military dominance.

In the following sections we see these forces in action.

The US-British Divergence

[After the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor], the US was finally in the war, and Britain rejoiced. But not only Britain. The US banks that handled the sale of \$150 billion in war bonds were charging the government 12-13 percent of every dollar in service charges. [i]

But the US and Britain soon diverged in a manner that would have profound effects on the post-war world.

Once the US entered the war in December 1941 after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Germany declared war against the US immediately thereafter. The question facing the US and Britain—with Germany having launched Operation Barbarossa against the Soviet Union six months earlier—was when would the two allies attack Germany on the European continent? Or would they let Germany and the Soviets fight it out and risk a German victory?

General Dwight D. Eisenhower, then stationed in London, was the commander of the US armies in Europe. He favored an early assault across the English Channel on German-occupied France, but British Prime Minister Winston Churchill said this was premature. US Chief of Staff of the Army George C. Marshall, along with President Roosevelt, went along instead with a plan to attack the Axis first in North Africa, then Sicily, then mainland Italy.

It's believed today that Churchill delayed opening a Western front against Germany for three years to allow the Russians to rout and roll up the German armies in the east. The turning point was the largest battle in history at Stalingrad, where four million soldiers fought and over 1.2 million died. The Battle of Stalingrad ended in February 1943 with the Soviets pushing Germany back along the entire front. Meanwhile, the Allies landed in Sicily in July, crossing to Italy in September.

Eisenhower and the British were now planning for the cross-Channel attack through France sometime in the following year. To the south, as the Americans led the drive through Italy, Churchill wanted them to turn east into the Balkans, where Tito and the Yugoslav communists were waging a bitter guerrilla war against the Germans.

Despite Britain's July 1941 alliance with Stalin, Churchill was already thinking of a move to dominate a region that the Soviets would soon be eyeing as their own—it was yet another British stab in the back as had happened so often throughout history.

But Roosevelt refused to comply with the British plan. Supposedly he did not want to risk a clash with the Soviets in Eastern Europe. [But there was more to it than that, particularly given the fact that Roosevelt's administration had long been top heavy with officials far more sympathetic to the Soviet Union than the public had ever been told.]

On June 6, 1944, D-Day, the Allies crossed the Channel to attack the Germans at Normandy in France. As they pushed the Germans back across France, Churchill began advocating for a British flying assault to take Berlin before the Soviets got there. [ii]

But Roosevelt disagreed, concerned that once the Soviets had pushed the Germans back to the Russian border, they would stop, thereby allowing Germany to move its forces from their eastern front to face the Allies on the Rhine. Marshall, Roosevelt, and the Americans also wanted their army in Italy to attack through southern France to protect Eisenhower's southern flank during his push toward the German homeland.

Churchill was now stymied. In the end, the Americans prevailed, with Eisenhower telling the Soviets that the Americans would not attempt to take Berlin but would meet the Russians further west in Germany at the Elbe River. This later became the boundary between East and West Germany. Thus Churchill never got the British army to Berlin. He also had to watch while south in the Balkans Tito and the communists set up a national state in Yugoslavia allied with Stalin.

All this was epochal. The British plan for the Nazis and Soviets to destroy each other had failed. It failed because Roosevelt had reached an understanding with Stalin and was willing to allow the Soviet Union to create a corridor of communist governments extending from what became East Germany and a reconstituted Poland in the north, down through Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, and Bulgaria, with a southern anchor in Yugoslavia. The Baltic Republics of Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania had already been incorporated into the Soviet Union.

So instead of a Europe under joint British-American control, the continent was now drastically divided, with a powerful Soviet Union controlling much of it. And France, now under control of a determined French nationalist, General Charles de Gaulle, could in no way be called a British/American satellite. True, the

British oversaw a zone within Germany, but that was all. Even Italy had reconstituted itself as a self-directed republic, and Greece, later occupied by the British but evacuated, was collapsing into civil war with a strong communist influence.

It's possible to read the history of World War II as a constant juggling for position among the purported allies— Britain's Churchill, the US's Roosevelt, and the USSR's Stalin—to determine who would control the world at the end of the most devastating war in history. *The US and the Soviet Union were the winners of World War II*, with the US winning post-war dominance in the West, while the Soviets had won the most bitter actual fighting. The losers were Germany, Italy, Japan—and Britain. Roosevelt had no intention of allowing Britain to reconstitute its empire, especially now with India on the brink of independence. [This was reflected in Roosevelt's model for the United Nations, with the Soviet being granted a seat on the Security Council along with the US, Britain, France, and China.]

The result of the war was a stalemate between two superpowers—the US and the Soviet Union—with Germany reduced to rubble by Allied bombing and Japan devastated by American aerial attacks and the A-bomb.

Far from Britain “recovering” the US for the British Empire, Britain had now been relegated to second-power status. Britain's days as a US “poodle” had begun [though Britain would attempt to claw back influence through its monetary power centered in the City of London. But even its monetary power was now under US Even attack.]

Bretton Woods

Even before the war had ended, the US convened an international conference at Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, on July 1-22, 1944, which established the supremacy of the American dollar as the basis for post-war international trade and commerce. Bretton Woods was a huge step in the direction of American global hegemony, because where the dollar went, military force would follow. The Soviet Union, while it attended the conference, did not join the Bretton Woods system.

The US had the power to create the Bretton Woods system because US allies had sent most of their gold to America to pay for weapons purchases. The US now controlled *seventy percent* of the world's monetary gold. [\[iii\]](#)

Rejecting John Maynard Keynes' idea for a new global currency—the *bancor*—the Bretton Woods system established the US dollar as the benchmark for international monetary transactions. Now the British pound as the world's reserve currency was *kaput*. The US would be in the driver's seat from this point on—or so it thought until Britain wormed its way back in by becoming the center of world Eurodollar trading by 1970.

Since every nation would be expected to hold a substantial dollar reserve, they could get dollars through trade or by borrowing from US banks. Borrowing could

be done directly from the banks or through a new intergovernmental organization, the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The IMF mission was to monitor exchange rates and lend reserve currencies to nations with deficits in their balance of payments trade ledgers. A major purpose of the system was to prevent nations from unilaterally devaluing their currencies in order to improve their trade postures with other countries, though the British eventually did just that. The system also retained the gold standard for settlement of international trade balances [until US President Richard Nixon removed the “gold peg” in 1971.]

The IMF would become one of the key instruments of international political control, a role it continues to play until today. The IMF has lent to dozens of nations around the world, especially those from the “Global South” with financial problems. Whenever a nation seeks its help, the IMF insists it undertake “free market reforms,” which in actuality means selling off its publicly owned utilities and industries to the big US and international banks and corporations while its population languishes in destitution.

The IMF also requires the borrowing nations to allow Western banks and corporations to take over and exploit those nations’ mining, agriculture, and industry so that they could earn enough income from selling their products abroad to repay the IMF loans. Countries under IMF control gradually lose the ability to create and manage a sustainable economy and policies promoting domestic well-being. It’s neocolonialism—American style, making the IMF the world’s greatest loan shark.

With the dollar triumphant, the US initially had no need to borrow from the IMF or anyone else. Instead, Federal Reserve interest rates would determine the amount of money available for trade, created as always through fractional reserve lending. Later, this would be used to finance the growing US trade deficits through sale of Treasury bonds to foreign nations. It would also pay for the growth of the US military machine’s hundreds of foreign bases.

Eventually, Federal Reserve “money printing” would backfire. In actuality it was a hidden method of devaluing the US dollar. Long-term inflation has been the bane of the US and world economy ever since, especially after Nixon’s abandonment of the gold peg for international exchange in 1971. Now, with Russia, China, and other nations leading the charge against the dollar as a reserve currency, the entire system is poised to blow up with hyperinflation. The US population can scarcely afford to buy a home, a car, or food. [\[iv\]](#) [By 2025, President Donald Trump, faced with the emerging BRICS alliance, would declare that any nation seeking to replace the dollar with trade in their own currency would be committing an act of war against the US.]

[\[i\]](#) Nomi Prins, *All the President’s Bankers*, p. 159-160.

[ii] Stephen E. Ambrose and Douglas G. Brinkley, *Rise to Globalism: American Foreign Policy Since 1938*, Penguin Books, New York, London, Eighth revised edition 1997, p. 28. While I don't agree with all their interpretations, these two mainstream historians present a competent chronology of events.

[iii] Engdahl, p.212.

[iv] This is the essence of "Bidenomics" as characterized by Robert Barnes on *The Duran*, August 21, 2023.

Part IV

"The National Security State": Part 4 of 4. Chapter 12 from "Our Country, Then and Now"

"Neophyte Truman's Outsized Role in US History," "Churchill's "Iron Curtain" Speech," "Handing Palestine to the Zionists"

Serialization of selections from my book Our Country, Then and Now continues with the cooperation of my publisher, Clarity Press. Today we have 4th and final installment of Chapter 12: "The National Security State" with sections on "Neophyte Truman's Outsized Role in US History," "Churchill's "Iron Curtain" Speech," and "Handing Palestine to the Zionists."

In writing about World War II, we opted not to attempt to include a history of action on the battlefield, as this has been covered exhaustively in the standard literature. Instead, we tried to explain, though briefly, the primary political forces affecting the US role.

These consisted of 1) the British plan to turn Germany and the Soviet Union against each other for purposes of mutual destruction, while using the industrial and military might of the US to advance the purposes of the British Empire; 2) the fact unknown to the US public, but certainly known by the British, that Roosevelt's administration was heavily infiltrated with communist sympathizers secretly working with Stalin for the Soviets to gain post-war influence in Europe; 3) the presence within the US of a strong popular anti-war movement ridiculed by left-leaning pro-war journalists like Walter Lippmann as being "isolationist"; 4) a virtual takeover of the Roosevelt administration's policy apparatus by the strongly pro-British Council on Foreign Relations which laid plans for future US global military dominance.

When Vice President Harry Truman took over the presidency upon the death of President Roosevelt, the pro-British anti-Soviet faction of US governance took control of the US. The result was the National Security State and the Cold War. At the same time, the Zionist state of Israel was being created. Gradually, the Zionists also took over governance of the US through their Neocon faction. By the end of the 20th century, the American Constitutional Republic had ceased to

exist. Still, within this imperial monstrosity, stirrings of freedom have continued to this day.

Neophyte Truman's Outsized Role in US History

The start of the Cold War was presided over by President Harry S. Truman after Franklin D. Roosevelt died in office on April 12, 1945. Truman had few qualifications, but he knew how to take orders from powerful people.

Following World War II, Truman acquiesced in *the largest military expansion in American peacetime history*. Truman was determined to fight against communism, or any other progressive movement, though US belligerence was temporarily halted by its near catastrophe in Korea. The military-industrial complex also organized the rearmament of Germany and Western Europe, with bank and corporate profits soaring into the stratosphere. Latin America meanwhile became a *de facto* US colony.

The measures put in front of Truman for his signature were epoch-making. Truman knew *almost nothing* of what had transpired in the decision-making process presided over by Roosevelt for the past twelve years. This included the intricate discussions among Roosevelt, Churchill, Stalin, and their staffs and diplomats during the war.

Truman approved the August 6 and 9, 1945, dropping of A-bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. [i] When Roosevelt died the previous April, Truman had *not even known* of the existence of the Manhattan Project and the development of nuclear weapons. On the other side of the world in Moscow, even Stalin had known what was going on. It is certain that the Soviets had been given nuclear secrets held by the US and Britain by spies and informants. This allowed them to quickly match the US and to explode an A-bomb in 1949 and an H-bomb in 1953, less than a year after the US had detonated theirs. What Truman was told was a US monopoly on nukes was all lies.

In a presidential directive of January 22, 1946, Truman created the Central Intelligence Group led by a Director of Central Intelligence. The National Security Act of 1947 changed the name to the Central Intelligence Agency, and in 1952 Truman approved the National Security Agency. The CIA was the outgrowth of the Office of Strategic Services that ran covert operations in Europe during World War II.

The National Security Act of 1947 defined "covert action," as:

"...an activity of the US government to influence political, economic, or military conditions abroad, where it is intended that the role of the US government will not be apparent or acknowledged publicly.

The act specified that mass propaganda, paramilitary operations, and lethal force could be carried out against *anyone* deemed a threat. Soon, the policy of "plausible deniability" would become standard operating procedure; that is, our proud Constitutional government created by Washington, Franklin, Hamilton,

Jefferson, and other patriots would become, and still is, a clique of trained professional liars.

Sadly, when then-CIA director Mike Pompeo admitted to a Texas A&M University audience in 2018 that "I was the CIA director. We lied, we cheated, we stole. We had entire training courses. It reminds you of the glory of the American experiment", there was no protest from the audience; it joined him in laughter.

Just as Congress earlier gave away its Constitutional prerogative to create money, it now, through the National Security Act of 1947, gave away its prerogative to declare war. Conflict between the executive and legislative branches of government over war powers now became endemic, with the executive and its wall of secrecy almost always winning the battle.

On the recommendation of Britain, Truman signed into law the Economic Cooperation Act of 1948 that established the Marshall Plan, named after Secretary of State George C. Marshall. Funding would eventually rise to over \$12 billion for the rebuilding of Western Europe. Besides Britain and France, the beneficiaries of the Marshall Plan would include erstwhile enemies Italy and Germany. The plan overrode the advice of some US policy makers, including Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, who wanted Germany to be turned into a huge but harmless tract of farmland.

The proponents of the Marshall Plan, including the British who suggested it, reasoned that the West needed a strong industrialized bulwark against future Soviet expansion, as long as Germany was demilitarized and strictly controlled by the Western powers. Again, Germany was to be raised up as a deterrent to Russia. For the US, flooding Europe with American dollars, even as loans, not grants, as the Marshall Plan would do, served to amplify the role of the dollar as the world's reserve currency. Much of the money lent would come back to the US as the Europeans purchased American machinery and factory equipment for their reconstruction.

The "Truman Doctrine" was announced in a speech by Truman to Congress on March 12, 1947. Most immediately, Truman pledged to contain communist uprisings in Greece and Turkey—purely domestic struggles that were *not* being supported by the Soviet Union. The US had pulled most of its armies out of Europe except for a small force in Germany, so now Congress appropriated financial aid to support the economies and militaries of Greece and Turkey rather than send troops. US action was forced by the British pull-out of their own troops.

The Truman Doctrine marked the start of American support for other nations it claimed were threatened by the Soviets or by internal communist or progressive upheavals. As a result, Greece became ruled by a corrupt monarchy, while Turkey was in need of no military support at the time of Truman's speech. This new orientation suited many other nations as well. "All the Greek government, or any other dictatorship, had to do to get American aid was to claim that its opponents were communist." [iii] This pattern persisted throughout post-World

War II history. The real beneficiaries of the Truman Doctrine have been right-wing oligarchs and the ruling classes of ostensibly pro-US nations—and the US military industrial complex.

The Truman Doctrine was a step toward the formation in 1949 of the North American Treaty Organization—NATO. Historians often use Truman's speech of 1947 to indicate the start of the Cold War, though tensions with the Soviet Union had started to run high even before the end of World War II. NATO now was to be the answer. As with the Marshall Plan, NATO started as the brainchild of the British, specifically British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin. In fact, Bevin conceded that American independence had allowed it to attain the strength needed to save Britain.

NATO was also a British ploy to maintain their relevance by furthering the narrative of the US and Soviet Union being arch enemies. Stalin wanted the Soviet Union to be part of NATO but was rebuffed. Later, in 1955, the Soviets created the Warsaw Pact as a defensive alliance among the Soviet Union and its Eastern European satellites.

June 1950 brought the US into the Korean War, when North Korea was enticed to invade South Korea following clashes along the border. North Korea was supported by China, which by now had been taken over by Mao Tse Tung's communists, and by the Soviet Union, while South Korea was supported by the newly-formed United Nations—effectively, the US and Britain, since the Soviets were boycotting the vote in protest of the UN's recognition of the Republic of China (Taiwan) as China.

Called a “police action” by the US, the Korean War registered over two million combatants as well as two to three million civilians killed, wounded, and missing. The fighting ended with an armistice on July 27, 1953, after Truman had left office, with the original borders between North and South Korea being confirmed.

According to F. William Engdahl, the US had provoked North Korea into invading in order to create outrage and fear among the US population with regard to the communist “menace” and to mobilize public opinion against the Soviet Union, which would now become the scapegoat justifying continued US military and economic dominance worldwide. [iii] [This dominance had been spelled about by control exerted prior to the war over the Roosevelt administration by the Rockefeller-controlled Council on Foreign Relations.]

Churchill's “Iron Curtain” Speech

On March 5, 1946, Winston Churchill gave his famous speech at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, where he announced that the Soviet Union had caused an “Iron Curtain” to fall across Europe. [iv] Churchill had just been voted out of office as Prime Minister by a British electorate weary of war. But he was a master of war propaganda. More than that, it was yet another manifestation of the British maneuvering the US.

Churchill introduced the notion of a “special relationship” between Britain and the US. He spoke of US possession of the atom bomb and the unity of the “English-speaking peoples” in terms that Stalin called “warmongering” and imperialistic “racism.” In the speech, Churchill advocated the “common use” between the two nations of all their military facilities. Churchill also gave voice to the idea of “common citizenship” between the British and Americans. [v] Today this sounds like a desperate gambit to maintain British influence after its imperial power had been irretrievably lost.

Handing Palestine to the Zionists

At midnight on May 14, 1948, Zionist leaders in Palestine proclaimed a new state of Israel. On the same day, President Truman recognized the provisional Jewish government as the *de facto* authority of the Jewish state. [Such recognition had previously been granted by the Soviet Union.] Formal US recognition was extended on January 31, 1949. The British Balfour Declaration of 1917 had authorized the creation of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. With Britain now diminished, the chief protector of Israel in a hostile Middle Eastern environment became the US.

In supporting the creation of Israel, Truman reneged on promises President Roosevelt had given to Saudi Arabia at the end of World War II that the US did not support large-scale Jewish emigration to Palestine. But the Zionist movement won out, with massive financial support from wealthy Jews in the US, including organized crime kingpin Meyer Lansky. Over the next generation, American Zionists would swell into the Neocon faction that began seizing control of the US national security state during the Reagan, Bush I, and Clinton administrations and that rules US foreign policy today.

[i] See Eustace Mullins' *The Secret History of the Atomic Bomb: Why Hiroshima Was Destroyed, The Untold Story*, June 1968.

[ii] Ambrose and Brinkley, p. 82.

[iii] Engdahl, p.205-206.

[iv] Even as World War II was raging, with Britain and the Soviet Union as allies, the British government had begun making plans for future war against the Soviets in Europe. An iteration of this plan was called Operation Unthinkable.

[v] <<https://www.nationalchurchillmuseum.org/sinews-of-peace-iron-curtain-speech.html>>