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Bilderberg: The Secret Society that Rules Us

By: Karla Fetrow
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Switzerland's Discontent

Members of the world's largest and most elite secret society recently descended on the town of St. Moritz, Switzerland, and the Swiss are not at all pleased. The Bilderberg group, who have convened quietly for fifty years, suddenly found themselves the center of media and International attention when protestors took to the street with accusations concerning their yearly conferences.

Bilderberg, named after the Dutch hotel where members first met in 1954, brings together some of the most influential figures on Earth. More than 120 top-level officials in government, banking, media, finance, business, think-tanks, armed forces, and even European royalty attend the confab every year. According to James P. Tucker, Jr., of American Free Press, Bilderberg is the most exclusive and secretive club in the world. To be admitted, you have to own a multinational bank, a multinational corporation or a country.

The Bilderberg gathering has, in the past, been so secret, their functions have been left to the conspiracy theorists. You may attend by invitation only. The press invited to attend a conference must agree to publish only what has been cleared by the group. Any journalist who violates this confidence is not invited back. Most of the Bilderberg conferences passed unnoticed, with no press coverage at all. This year was different. Perhaps because of the global economic slump,

perhaps because of a surge in online independent press, but the Bilderberg summit did not go quietly into the night.

According to The New American, hundreds of protesters and critics from all across the political spectrum descended on St. Moritz to lambaste the elite attendees. They held up anti-Bilderberg signs and blasted their opposition through bull horns around the perimeter of the luxury Suvretta House hotel throughout the whole four-day gathering.

On the first day of the conference, along with a bogus “bomb” scare, a giant wall of curtains was erected around the edge of the Bilderberg compound. Presumably it was designed to keep protesters from looking in and conference attendees from being forced to see the growing crowd outside.

Several lower-ranking members of the political class made a fuss about the event as well. Italian member of the European Parliament Mario Borghezio, for example, attempted to force his way into the conference on the first day. He was reportedly detained and roughed up by police, prompting the Italian embassy in Switzerland to demand answers.

Prominent Swiss politicians were furious about the gathering, too. Center-right Parliamentarian Dominique Baettig of the nation’s largest political party, for example, asked prosecutors to consider arresting attendees such as former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger for war crimes, suggesting that Swiss officials at the event should be charged with treason. Baettig, too, tried unsuccessfully to barge in on the conference in what the Guardian’s Charlie Skelton called a “historic moment.”

The Invisible Economy

The Bilderbergers have often been called “the shadow government”, the scene behind the scene. The “inner circle”, or the Advisory Group, includes Giovanni Agnelli of Italy, Eric Roll of Ipsden from Great Britain, David Rockefeller of the USA and Otto Wolff von Amerongen of Germany. This year’s conference included Alexei Mordashov, the Russian steel magnate, Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, Jeff Bezos, founder and CEO of Amazon.com, Peter R. Orszag of Citigroups Global Markets, Inc., and Eric Schmidt, Executive Chairman of Google Inc., along with nearly two hundred other participants.

The official website claims that Bilderberg is a small, flexible, informal and off-the-record international forum in which different viewpoints can be expressed and mutual understanding enhanced. Bilderberg’s only activity is its annual Conference. At the meetings, no resolutions are proposed, no votes taken, and no policy statements issued. Since 1954, fifty-seven conferences have been held. For each meeting, the names of the participants as well as the agenda are made Public and available to the press.

The press is so well informed that the most they could cover concerning the conference, was a description of the various handbags and bad haircuts; that is, apart from the protests. In the intense political atmosphere, it was an awkward moment for Switzerland, which has maintained

a position of political neutrality for over four hundred years. With black copters swarming overhead, security guards and cameras stationed at every corner, not even Swiss diplomats and press journalists were allowed into the conference.

Bilderberg members like it that way. Said David Rockefeller, “We are grateful to the Washington Post, The New York Times, Time Magazine and other great publications whose directors have attended our meetings and respected their promises of discretion for almost forty years. It would have been impossible for us to develop our plan for the world if we had been subjected to the lights of publicity during those years. But, the world is now more sophisticated and prepared to march towards a world government. The supranational sovereignty of an intellectual elite and world bankers is surely preferable to the national auto-determination practiced in past centuries.”

But if we know absolutely nothing about what goes on in the gatherings of the richest and most powerful people in the world, aren't we indulging in conspiracy theories? Investigative journalist, and author of the book, *The True Story of the Bilderberg Group*, Daniel Estulin, says no.

“Over almost 20 years of research I've found out that what today is called the Bilderberg group already existed over eight hundred years ago,” Estulin told RT correspondents.. “Back then they were called the Venetian Black Nobility. Bilderberg is the creation of the Sinarchy movement, who are very potentially founders and financiers of Hitler. As Sinarchy International they, in turn, were founded by the Freemason esoteric secret society back in the 1770s, as a kind of a counter attack on the principles upon which the United States of America was built.”

“A lot of people speak of Bilderberg as a domain of conspiracy theories, and of course it's not, it's a historical fact,” Estulin stated. “A lot of people believe that Bilderberg is a one-world government or creating the new world order, especially people point to a speech made by George W. Bush back in the 1990s about the creation of a one world government. It's actually not about that at all. It's a meeting of people who represent a particular ideology. That ideology is of money.”

“So the idea is not to create a one world government, rather the creation of a one world company, limited to where financial concerns are far more powerful than any government on Earth,” the journalist added.

Bilderberg founding member and, for 30 years, a steering committee member, Denis Healey said, “To say we were striving for a one-world government is exaggerated, but not wholly unfair. Those of us in Bilderberg felt we couldn't go on forever fighting one another for nothing and killing people and rendering millions homeless. So we felt that a single community throughout the world would be a good thing.”

Leaders of the Bilderberg Club argue that discretion is necessary to allow participants in the debates to speak freely without being on the record or reported publicly. Wikipedia recently deleted the Bilderberg attendees list, citing it to be possibly defamatory towards living persons.

At the website, “Jeremiah Project”, the author asks, “Why are the Davos World Economic Forum and G8 meetings carried in every newspaper, given front page coverage, with thousands of journalists in attendance, while no one covers Bilderberg Club meetings even though they are annually attended by Presidents of the International Monetary Fund, The World Bank, Federal Reserve, chairmen of 100 most powerful corporations in the world such as DaimlerChrysler, Coca Cola, British Petroleum, Chase Manhattan Bank, American Express, Goldman Sachs, Microsoft, Vice Presidents of the United States, Directors of the CIA and the FBI, General Secretaries of NATO, American Senators and members of Congress, European Prime Ministers and leaders of opposition parties, top editors and CEOs of the leading newspapers in the world.”

The One World Company

For over fifty years, the world’s wealthiest, most powerful and elite, have been meeting in secret, designing in secret for their own economic security, and quite possibly playing the world’s population like puppets. Their activities passed by unnoticed during the years of relative prosperity and comfort. The world is no longer comfortable. The recession, which began as a real estate bust, quickly became a global depression when the middle class ran out of buying power. Instead of accepting the losses due to over-extended lending, high interest rates and inflated values, the banks petitioned for and received a bail-out to continue their reckless policies. This bail-out was acquired by printing money with no real assets behind it except the promises that the consumer, who has already consumed more than affordable, will be able to buy the goods and services offered and pay them off sometime in the future. The value placed on the consumer has been over-extended. Monetary figures have become meaningless. A trillion dollars represents the same degree of debt accumulated just a few years by a billion dollars. A millionaire no longer represents a successful businessman; just someone who has managed to retain an upper middle-class status.

In Europe; the euro-dollar was meant to safe-guard against inflation. Their system of uniform currency intended to ease the difficulties with trade transactions and maintain support for the regional assets and resources within the European Union. When the dollar first weakened, the Euro dollar stayed strong. Countries whose foundations had been shaken by national bankruptcy, such as Iceland and Russia, petitioned for, but failed to gain acceptance into the European Union. However, for some countries, their position within the European Union has not saved them from bankruptcy. Their debt was to the International Monetary Funds, which is still governed primarily in dollars. The weakened millions have loomed into billions and the billions into trillions.

While some members of the seventeen nation European Union consider giving Greece another bail-out as its economy continues to flounder in bankruptcy, others are considering letting go of Greece in order to keep the value of the Euro-dollar strong. Some believe that including Ireland as a dysfunctional family member worth dumping is a good idea. The Euro dollar struggles, just a little ahead of the dollar, with investors hedging their bets on which currency is the most like to stay afloat. Meanwhile, China sits on the sidelines as the major lender in the world market, casually tossing out remarks, like using gold as the medium exchange for currency. China also had members arrive for the Bilderberg conference; Fu, Ying, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs

and Huang, Yiping, Professor of Economics, China Center for Economic Research, Peking University.

The 2011 Billionaires List breaks two records: total number of listees (1,210) and combined wealth (\$4.5 trillion). This horde surpasses the gross domestic product of Germany, one of only six nations to have fewer billionaires this year. BRICs led the way: Brazil, Russia, India and China produced 108 of the 214 new names. These four nations are home to one in four members, up from one in ten five years ago. Before this year only the U.S. had ever produced more than 100 billionaires. China now has 115 and Russia 101. War-torn Mexico added Carlos Slim Helu, whose fortune has increased by \$20.5 billion, more than any other billionaire. The telecom mogul, who gets 62% of his fortune from America Movil (AMX – news – people), is now worth \$74 billion and has pulled far ahead of his two closest rivals. Bill Gates, No. 2, and Warren Buffett, No. 3, both added a more modest \$3 billion to their piles and are now worth \$56 billion and \$50 billion, respectively. Gates, who now gets 70% of his fortune from investments outside of Microsoft (MSFT – news – people), has actually been investing in the Mexican stock market and has holdings in Mexican Coke bottler Femsa and Grupo Televisa (TV – news – people).

Using only pure logic and reason, one can certainly understand why the Bilderberg group desire secrecy. Their concerns are for ways to maintain their own income, to walk away from economic disasters unscathed. There's nothing personal attached to it; just business. However, people take it personally when they feel they have been deceived, when their own business has been manipulated to fall because the value placed on their assets has decreased through the exchange rate of their currency. They take it personally when they invest in a market that only a few actually control, a stock market with ups and downs surprising only to the uninvited and uninitiated into the Bilderberg group. They take it personally when their entire country falls through an unpaid debt that cannot be paid back because the distribution of the wealth lies only in the hands of a few who have no intention of distributing it, but intend to accumulate more buying and spending power on paper. The paper accumulates. The billions escalate into trillions and millions are nothing more than an upper middle class wage.

Revolutions have been fought for less. In every corner of the globe, civil riots and protests are taking place; not over democratic freedom; not for new roads, hospitals and schools, but for food and shelter. Their governments have failed them because the moratorium of International law has failed to protect them. We are not, nor should we become, a One World Order, assimilating all countries, cultures and ethnic backgrounds into one ideal. It is a mistake to become a One World Company, governed by those who successfully made it to billionaire status. Our individual value is not in the paper currency of a monopoly game. Our goods, our services, our natural and human resources should be equitable, regardless of our economic situation. We've been gambled with and the game is rigged. The only winners are 1,200 billionaires and two hundred members of the Bilderberg conference.