

## **England's Politics for a New Century <sup>1</sup> by William Shepherd**

Eliminating war is an enormous undertaking...comparable to the abolition of slavery. Very few ordinary people want war...and those tiny minorities that do can be educated to see the error of their ways. Democratically, war should be a complete non-starter. But vested interests are vast. To be successful each country must simultaneously apply an international and a national policy...the responsibility of ministers for foreign affairs and home affairs.

The world is awash with hundreds of military industrial complexes consuming more manpower...mind workers and manual workers...more mined and manufactured resources and more piped energy than most small non-belligerent nation-states like Sweden, Switzerland or New Zealand. The challenge could overwhelm the small-minded and mean-spirited. Yet the job must be tackled. It is the next great adventure of civilisation.

The top five global gunrunners are the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. Yet only three reforms are needed at the United Nations...although a second body like a league of real nations will be needed to make it happen.

The first United Nations reform should be to agree a name swap with the United States of America.

Secondly a ceiling of twenty million should be placed on the population of each member of the renamed United States...previously the United Nations. Ten million would be better but we want Californians and Texans on our side. Weightings could be devised to encourage members to maximise the voting power of existing federations...China, India, the rebranded United Nations of America, Russia, Brazil, Indonesia...by minimising the size of new applicants.

Thirdly a disarmament treaty should be drawn up...with time frames...for removing from the UN Security Council any member state with weaponry inventories indicating warlike and not peaceful intent. Drawing up permitted target inventories for each weapon of mass destruction category...missiles, warheads, Kalashnikovs etc...would be the first step in this third reform. After that, killingry factories quotas (KFQs) can be handed out...and traded.

At the national level simultaneous policies can be put in place...simultaneous with international action. The English, for instance, have their own very special international responsibilities in the abolition of militarism. The axis of evildoers does not run through Iraq, Iran and North Korea as the one world order conspiracy theorists would have us believe but through Wall Street and Threadneedle Street and the armaments manufacturers wherever located.

The Newnham Common women and the G8 protesters have shown us how to challenge the overweening might of militarism. You do not write to your member of parliament and delude yourself that you are getting involved. Instead you engage in direct action against an identifiable enemy. And you go into battle base by base, factory by factory, arms fair by arms fair, official junket by official junket, bank account by bank account, mind worker by mind worker.

But you do not stop there. In this the animal rights activists have shown the way... which is why their effectiveness has spread such panic and fear. What if their tactics

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were applied to something that really mattered... to missiles instead of lipstick? You go for those who give the orders too by following the money...stock exchange by stock exchange, company director by company director, shareholder by shareholder.

The first modern English political party will be the one that recognises England's failure to abandon her 19th Century imperial pretensions and sets about breaking England up into Swiss-style cantons <sup>2</sup>. We could do worse than start with our own nation's 17th century county structure before the East India Company and the Bank of England Corporation set up their own poodle parliament in Westminster to do their bidding and abolish Magna Carta...by stealth.

The initial goal of each canton should be economic self-sufficiency. This will entail a major restructuring of its work and employment base as it disengages from imperial activities and refocuses its economic energies on the wealth of its villagers, the purpose of its port towns, market towns and other urban villages and the manner whereby dwellers throughout the canton can meaningfully pursue happiness. This might take a decade. Why let it take longer?

During the decade of transition subsidies will be needed from the confederation of cantons...the residual English national body charged with redistributing national assets and liabilities to the cantons...to encourage particularly devastated regions like London and the south-east to restructure their economies and diversify away from the English 20<sup>th</sup> Century obsession with global money laundering, weaponry development and killingly exports.

The Labour Party of Kier Hardy and the Fabian Society of Sidney & Beatrice Webb with their roots deep in doctrinal disputes with scholarly Liberals, Communists, Syndicalists, Anarchists and Social Democrats...and with university professors of the calibre of R.H.Tawney and deep socialist thinkers like G.B.Shaw and J.B.Priestley to advise them...understood the immensity of their task.

By comparison our modern career socialists...schooled in the Inns of Court (created for the merchants of London) instead of the taverns of the real world...and devoid of any sense of real history...as they act their parts in their phoney 1066 and All That historical world...are frighteningly ignorant.

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<sup>2</sup> It is advisable to do this without delay as the Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Gaddafi wants Switzerland wiped off the world's map and its land shared between France, Italy and Germany. This proposal was filed with the United Nations in 2009 in advance of the Libyan presidency of the UN General Assembly. Gaddafi is quoted as saying: 'Switzerland is a world mafia, not a state.'