

The view from the bridge

Robin Ramsay

Settlers?

'His father had just been buried. Then West Bank *settlers* forced him to dig up the body'. (Emphasis added.) Thus BBC TV news on 11 May 2026. 'Settlers'? Surely 'thieves' or 'terrorists' would be more appropriate. Oddly, the Qatar-based Al Jazeera uses the same term.

Palestine weekly wrap: Israeli *settlers* rampage through West Bank villages. Settlers uproot olive trees, seize land, and displace families, reflecting unchecked violence across the West Bank. (14 May) (Emphasis added.)

Craig Murray on Zionism and British politics

'Unquestioning Zionism has for decades been the entry ticket to the British political and media Establishment. Anybody who was not a fully certified and compliant Zionist would find their career limited – as Jeremy Corbyn, Alan Duncan, Robin Cook and David Mellor all found. Most others, of course, were never allowed to progress that far.'¹

This is overstating it. Alan Duncan reached number 2 in the Foreign Office, Robin Cook number 1 in the same department. Duncan's chances of going much higher were nullified not by his pro-Arab views but because he was gay, the first Conservative MP to come out. David Mellor's political career was derailed by publicity generated by his former mistress going public. These days it might not be fatal to a career but then . . . Robin Cook was in the shadow of Blair and Brown and didn't live long enough to challenge them when their neo-con fantasies blew up in their faces in 2008 (he died in 2005) and we can't know if could have risen further. As for Jeremy Corbyn, by becoming leader of the Labour Party he achieved far more than anyone (including himself) ever thought he would.

Of course there is pressure on British politicians to support Israel but this

¹ <<https://www.craigmurray.org.uk/archives/2026/05/zionism-has-poisoned-the-uks-central-nervous-system/>>

occurs mainly because supporting Israel is part of supporting the USA. If Corbyn had not been smeared as an anti-semite, he would have been attacked in some other way because he was not a supporter of the USA and NATO; and the United States was – is – not willing to allow the government of its most loyal geo-political ally and largest off-shore tax haven and to fall into the ‘wrong’ hands.

Here’s a new one

‘Conspiritoriality is a term describing the merging of conspiracy theories with New Age or alternative spiritual beliefs. It suggests a “new world order” is controlling society, while also believing humanity is undergoing a spiritual “paradigm shift”. This ideology often combines wellness culture with distrust in science, growing significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic.’²

Blair 1

Regular contributor to these columns, former Labour MP Colin Challen, responded to the essay by Tony Blair attacking the prospect of an Andy Burnham-led government.

The oracle’s latest thoughts have been communicated in a 5,700 word long essay and yours truly has read it so you don’t have to. The interesting thing going on here is that it comes amidst a rather existential battle for the future of Labour, at least as some more wistful pundits would have it. In actual fact, there is currently no real battle going on. There are no ‘big ideas’ flying out like sparks from a welder’s torch. More like the spluttering of a dying flame overwhelmed by unconsumed wax. Tony, who is almost exactly the same age as me, still feels terribly relevant but hasn’t the self-awareness to perceive that he is merely presenting as new thoughts those which are essentially retreads. In fact, he comes across as a bit confused, and as a fellow septuagenarian I have sympathy with his plight. He talks still of the ‘Radical Centre’ that woolly and pretentious term which could only ever

² <<https://bylinetimes.com/2026/04/21/i-hadnt-anticipated-developing-empathy-for-them-but-you-can-see-how-the-conspiritoriality-belief-system-also-serves-as-a-set-of-coping-mechanisms/>>

appeal to politicians who strut around as if they were the 'adults in the room' but have nothing original between their ears.³

Two things struck me about Sir Tony's intervention. The first is that by making it he has probably boosted Burnham's support among Labour Party members and supporters, many of whom have not forgiven Blair for supporting the invasion of Iraq. The second is that it illustrates beautifully the problem that people engaged in politics have in changing their minds. No matter that the last 40 years of neo-con economic policies have been a failure,⁴ none of the neo-cons can (publicly) recognise this.

Blair 2

Within seconds of leaving No.10, he fixated on accreting personal wealth: an advisory role at JPMorgan Chase and Zurich Financial Services, exorbitantly-priced private speaking gigs, contracts with human rights abusers. That tendency led naturally to his current situation, with the Tony Blair Institute taken over wholesale by billionaire Larry Ellison so he can use Blair as a ventriloquist dummy for his views on AI. Everyone has a price. It turns out Blair's price was \$130 million for the 2021-2023 period, and \$218 million since then.

Thus Ian Dunt on his Substack.⁵

Wikibollocks

The death of the senior MI6 officer Margaret 'Meta' Ramsay at the end of May⁶ sent me to Wikispooks where there is a rather detailed entry on her and the network of organisations of which she was member before and after her work with MI6.⁷ One of them was the John Smith Trust,⁸ named after the former

³ 'An Oracle Speaks' 27 May 2026 <<http://www.colinchallen.org/blog>>

⁴ On this see the review of A. G. Hopkins' *The Land Where Nothing Works: How Britain Lost The Plot* in this issue.

⁵ <<https://iandunt.substack.com/p/john-major-is-a-better-former-pm-bf2?>>

⁶ <<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/meta-ramsay-death-mi6-spy-b2985761.html>>

⁷ <https://wikispooks.com/wiki/Margaret_Ramsay>

⁸ David Miller has a detailed account of the John Smith Trust at <https://x.com/Tracking_Power/status/2059413236395765874>.

leader of the Labour Party and student colleague of Ramsay at Glasgow University. That entry includes this:

It was founded in 1996 as a living memorial to the late John Smith, a prominent British politician who *possibly was assassinated* by the deep state to clear the way for Tony Blair. (Emphasis added.)

There is no evidence suggesting the death of John Smith was suspicious. He had a stressful life, drank far too much alcohol⁹ and got little exercise. In any case, Smith had been a member of the Bilderberg steering committee, among other things, surely a key component of 'the deep state', if that over-used phrase means anything these days. Wikispooks should be better than this kind of dumb conspiracy theorising.

Back to print, please

'It's a dizzying set of allegations.

A trove of leaked voice notes and call recordings — published by the anonymous outlet Hondurasgate.ch and Spain's Canal RED — alleges that Israeli money helped secure US President Donald Trump's pardon of former Honduran president Juan Orlando Hernández, who was serving 45 years in a US prison for trafficking some 400 tons of cocaine.

The recordings point to an alleged plot involving Trump, Netanyahu and Argentina's President Javier Milei to return Hernández to power and destabilise the left-wing governments of Brazil, Colombia and Mexico.¹⁰

It sounds important but it's contained in a filmed conversation, not in print. So what are we supposed to do? Listen to it and transcribe the significant bits? Come on people, let's have it in a form we can copy/cut/paste.

Operation BGFriend

is the name of the joint SIS/CIA operation against Albania at the start of the Cold War. There is new study of the op, *A Rich Harvest Of Bitter Fruit*, by Stephen Long, forthcoming from Icon Books. Long tells us in his introduction that he stumbled across 6,700 pages of CIA files on the op in the US National

⁹ John Booth, while Labour Party Chief Press Officer, saw him drink an entire bottle of whiskey in an evening.

¹⁰ 'The Scandal of the Century? Hondurasgate Explained' <<https://novaramedia.com/2026/05/25/the-scandal-of-the-century-hondurasgate-explained/>>

Archives. This isn't my field, as academics say, and doesn't really interest me greatly. However a skim of the text shows it to be massively detailed. I can think of no other post-war intelligence op which has been so minutely analysed. If there is a reader who would like to review this, please get in touch.