(How Not To Write) The History Of The "Protocols Of Zion"

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The human mind knows no limits either for mendacious ingenuity or for gullibility. In his 1907 work *Literary Forgeries*, James Anson Farrer records that one enterprising fellow peddled the letters of Euripides, (1) while another churned out a letter written to Pascal by Galileo, (2) over a thousand letters from Pascal to Sir Isaac Newton, Galileo and others, (3) letters from Roman emperors, from some of the Apostles, and ten from Plato. There were also letters from Lazarus to St. Peter and from Mary Magdalene to Lazarus. These were written on paper and in French! (4)

In 1869, at the preliminary examination of the case against William H. Mumler, indefatigable American pioneer of spirit photography, prosecuting counsel Elbridge T. Gerry said of one credulous defence witness that "he did not even know the color of sunlight, but had a general idea that it was 'red' - which is certainly more than he could say for himself." (5) Mumler's victims included a banker, a judge, and, if he is to be believed, the widow of President Lincoln. (6)

All the above fabrications were manufactured for material gain, but one of the most notorious fabrications in history was manufactured purely for political purposes. This fabrication, the *Protocols Of The Meetings Of The Learned Elders Of Zion*, is thought once to have been the most widely distributed book in the world next to the Christian *Bible*! (7) And that notwithstanding that it (8) is virtually unreadable and unintelligible.

Since 1920 - the year it really took off - the *Protocols* has never been out of print; there were even two editions published in Britain during the Second World War! (9) The latest revival in Britain of this notorious document has come from former goalkeeper turned sports journalist turned "green" activist turned "Son of a Godhead" turned enterprising mystic cum conspiracy theorist cum author, David Icke. Icke's endorsement of the *Protocols* - though not of the anti-Semitic ideology behind it - has led to him being ostracised by his former green colleagues, and to a certain amount of controversy in the media.

The *Protocols* has been analysed to death, its spurious provenance and even its probable fabricator have long been established with reasonable certainty, and documented by reputable academics, Jew and Gentile; if David Icke has read any of the standard works on the *Protocols* he shows no sign of it in his self-styled story of the spiritual renaissance and poorly researched book *The Robots'Rebellion*. That being said, if Icke can be forgiven - on medical grounds - others cannot. Two fairly recent publications on the *Protocols*, while doing anything but endorse them, peddle the fruits of the same sort of sloppy research which leads to nonsense like the *Protocols* being credited in the first place.

A LIE AND A LIBEL: The History of the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion", was written by the German-Jewish scholar Benjamin Wolf Segel (1867-1931). The 1934 English language edition, published at New York, (10) contains letters of endorsement from ten eminent German non-Jewish scholars. The 1996 edition has an introduction by its new translator and editor, Richard S. Levy, whom we are assured by the Jewish Chronicle is "an eminent American historian of German anti-Semitism". (11)

This eminent historian might like to note the following: on page xii he reports that on May 8, 1920, the *Times* published an article called *A Disturbing Pamphlet: a Call for Enquiry*. Its actual title was

"THE JEWISH PERIL."
A DISTURBING PAMPHLET
CALL FOR INQUIRY

On page xiii, he reports that on June 30, 1927, Henry Ford publicly apologised for the dissemination of the *Protocols*. Ford's retraction actually appeared in the *New York Times* on July 8, 1927. On that date, the paper reported on its front page that "Announcement was made last night...that Henry Ford had ordered his publication, The Dearborn Independent, to discontinue permanently all articles hostile to Jewish people or critical of them. Some of the articles already published and reprinted in pamphlet form under the title of 'The International Jew,' will be withdrawn from circulation..." (12)

It has to be said that Levy does not have a monopoly on this sort of sloppy research. On November 28, 1993, a report in the Los Angeles Times on a court case in Russia - in which the Protocols was branded a forgery - it was claimed

that in 1927, an American judge ordered Henry Ford to destroy a large printing of the book he had personally financed. (13) This is nonsense; Ford publicly disowned the *Protocols* (for commercial reasons), (14) although he continued to believe in both the *Protocols* and the Jewish world conspiracy right up until his death. (15) In November 1927, Ford wrote to the German anti-Semitic publisher Theodore Fritsch ordering him not to publish *The International Jew* any more. For all the good it did. The 29th edition appeared in 1933. (16)

The same Los Angeles Times article reported that "as much as 60% of the document is a bald plagiarism from an anti-Semitic tract published in France about [1903]." In fact, the Dialogues In Hell was written by the French lawyer Maurice Joly as a defence of liberalism, and did not mention the Jewish Question, much less the mythical Elders of Zion. The book's preface is dated October 15, 1864, and it was published either late 1864 or early 1865.

Next, and returning to Richard Levy, on page xiii, this eminent historian tells us that from 1934-7 the Protocols went on trial in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, where they were declared to be a forgery. Actually, this trial was held not at Port Elizabeth but at Grahamstown in 1934. Though the court did indeed denounce anti-Semitic hatemongering, the purpose of this trial wasn't actually to determine the provenance of the Protocols Of Zion, rather it was a libel action brought by Reverend Abraham Levy of Western Road Synagogue, Port Elizabeth, against the Grey Shirts (or Greyshirts), a South African anti-Semitic organisation. The Grey Shirts' leaders had distributed a Protocols-like document, a "memorandum" allegedly written on behalf of the "High Circle of the Jewish Citizens of Port Elizabeth" (17) which they claimed to have obtained from the Rabbi's synagogue.

If anything, the text of this document is even more bizarre and unbelievable than that of the *Protocols*. It reports, for example, that "Christ, in the Jewish sense was a false prophet born of the womb of a foul bitch whose husband was in our eyes never married to Joseph. In our Talmud Torah and other holy books it does say that the gentiles will be made to drink the Piss and eat the dung of the JEWS." (18)

Harry Victor Inch said he had stolen this document from the Port Elizabeth synagogue on March 24, 1934. Subsequently, Rabbi Levy brought a libel action against Inch and his two accomplices; he claimed £2,000 against each defendant. In August that same year, the court delivered an exhaustively

detailed judgment in which the plaintiff was awarded £1,000 again Inch and £750 and £25 against his co-defendants Johannes von Strauss von Moltke and David Hermanus Olivier, respectively.

The defendants could hardly have helped their case by calling as a witness Henry Hamilton Beamish, who claimed that the Jews were behind the conquest of England, the French Revolution, the Russo-Japanese War and the Boer War, and that they controlled all the gold mines of South Africa and every government "in the whole of Europe to-day". (19) Including, presumably, that of Nazi Germany!

Returning to Richard Levy, on page xiv, he informs us that in 1974 an edition of the *Protocols* called *International Conspiracy against Indians* was published in Bombay. Actually, this book covers a lot more ground than the *Protocols*; it is yet another mystical tract, and it rails more at "Imperialism" than at the Jewish menace. In CHAPTER III THE ANGLO-AMERICAN RACIST - IMPERIALIST BLOCK, the reader receives the following warning: "The most dangerous of the racists and imperialists, whose invisible hands manipulate all the world situations of today are the Zionists who have been ceaselessly working on a plan for world domination ever since 929 B.C. in accordance with the secret annals of Jewish Zionism which was elaborated by Solomon and other Jewish elders." (20)

The entire text of the *Protocols* appears as an appendix, along with *A Protocol of 1919*. This latter is actually another *Protocols*-style fabrication, the *Zunder Letter* or *Zunder Document*, part of which once actually appeared in, of all places, the *Sunday Times*! (21) Incidentally, the Indian mystic who wrote this nonsense purports to date the *Protocols* to 1884 then immediately contradicts this claim by revealing that it is the text of the minutes of the first Zionist Congress, which was held at Basle, Switzerland, in 1897!

Returning again to Richard Levy, he tells us on page xv that the first Japanese edition was published in 1987: Yudayajin to Kuremurin: futatsu no Giteisho. Actually, there is an entry for a much earlier Japanese translation in the National Union Catalog: Hokoshi (Sekai kakumei no rimen), was published as long ago as 1936.

In June 1996, the current writer received an E-Mail from the Japanese Section of the British Library identifying another Japanese edition; Yudaya giteisho-kyoi no kaibunsho (literal translation; The Jewish Protocol - an amazing piece of subversive writing) was translated by Eikichi Kubota. The 7th edition,

the earliest the Library was able to find, was published by Taisei Shinbunsha at Tokyo in 1973.

Back to Levy, on page 37, sloppy research in replaced by outright smears and lies, although it is possible that Levy has been misinformed by his venal co-racialists in Organised Jewry, thus he tells us that the John Birch Society among others, has kept "the forgery" (22) afloat. The reality is that Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, was no manner of anti-Semite. He was certainly a conspiracy theorist, but he believed that Lenin rather than the Elders of Zion was responsible for the *Protocols*, and that Lenin had set down the programme of the Communist Party in them. This belief may be many things, including wrong, but like Welch himself, it is not anti-Semitic. (23)

On page 38, citing Deborah Lipstadt, Levy makes another totally spurious claim, ie that the Journal of Historical Review draws inspiration from the Protocols. This lie is parroted tirelessly by both Jewish and Zionist propagandists and by Court Historians, (24) even though it has absolutely no basis in fact. No leading Holocaust Revisionist gives any credence at all to the Protocols Of Zion, while many people who do not question the orthodox version of the Holocaust have believed in them and continue to believe in them. (25)

This concludes our criticisms of eminent historian Richard Levy, we turn now to Two Lies That Shook The World, which was published by an anarchist outfit two years previously. (26) This is a short illustrated pamphlet (21 pages), which covers both the Protocols and the notorious - though equally bogus - "Immoral Decree". This latter was dated February 28, 1918 - just before the Protocols took off - and provided for the nationalisation of women!

On page 6 of this slim pamphlet, the reader is given a somewhat inaccurate description of the transition from the *Dialogues In Hell* to the *Protocols*. There is no mention of intermittent publications, eg *Tayna Yevreystva*, which was published in Russia in February 1895. (27)

On page 8, the reader is told that Nicholas II had read Dialogues In Hell and recognised the plagiarism; no evidence is adduced in support of this claim, for the obvious reason. "The convening of the first Zionist Conference by Theodore Herzl (at which the Tsar's policies came in for criticism) may have made him change his mind..." This is nonsense, the Basle Congress of 1897 predates the Protocols, notwithstanding sundry attempts to date the document to 1884 or before. (28)

The pamphlet claims too that the *Protocols* was the *bible* of the Black Hundreds in the aftermath of the war of 1905. In reality, the *Protocols* didn't catch on even in Russia until more than a decade later. The claim on page 9 that the *Protocols* was introduced to the West by the *Times* is likewise nonsense. The first non-Russian edition was published by the German anti-Semite Gottfried zur Beek (29) at Berlin-Charlottenburg under the title *Die Geheimnisse der Weisen von Zion*; it was dated 1919 but was actually published mid-January 1920. (30) Its publishing history in both Britain and the United States is well-documented. The first UK edition was published in February 1920 by the eminently respectable publishing firm of Eyre and Spottiswoode, (31) which, forty-seven years later, published the definitive history of the *Protocols*, Norman Cohn's *Warrant For Genocide*, (cited herein).

The second English edition was published by the Britons Publishing Company, in August 1920. The first mention of the *Protocols* in the *Times* was not until May 8, 1920 (see page 2). The claim on page 10 that "Under pressure from above 'The Times' finally decided the Protocols were a forgery", is more nonsense. The truth is that the following year, Philip Graves, the paper's correspondent in Constantinople, obtained a copy of *Dialogues In Hell*, whereupon the plagiarism was exposed in the newspaper; the Graves articles were later republished in pamphlet form. (32)

Notes And References

- (1) Literary Forgeries, by J.A. Farrer, Introduction by Andrew Lang, published by Longmans, Green, London, (1907), page 1.
- (2) Dated 2nd January, 1641. Galileo had been blind since 1637!
- (3) Farrer, Literary Forgeries, page 210, (op cit).
- (4) Farrer, Literary Forgeries, page 211, (ibid).
- (5) The Mumler "Spirit" Photograph Case. ARGUMENT, Mr. ELBRIDGE T. GERRY OF COUNSEL FOR THE PEOPLE, BEFORE JUSTICE DOWLING, ON THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF WM. H. MUMLER, CHARGED WITH OBTAINING MONEY BY PRETENDED "SPIRIT" PHOTOGRAPHS, MAY 3d, [sic] 1869, REPORTED BY ANDREW DEVINE, published by Baker, Voorhis & Co., Law Publishers, New York, (1869), pages 17-8.
- (6) THE PERSONAL EXPERIENCES OF WILLIAM H. MUMLER IN SPIRIT-PHOTOGRAPHY. WRITTEN BY HIMSELF, published by Colby and Rich, Boston, (1875), pages 29-31. Mrs Lincoln is said to have visited him under a pseudonym.
- (7) WARRANT FOR GENOCIDE: The myth of the Jewish world-conspiracy and the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, by Norman Cohn, published by Eyre and Spottiswoode, London, (1967), page 17.
- (8) Sometimes the *Protocols* is referred to in the singular, sometimes in the plural; to me it is six of one, half a dozen of the other.
- (9) The persistence of prejudice: Antisemitism in British society during the Second World War, by Tony Kushner, published by Manchester University Press, (1989), page 112.
- (10) Published under the title THE PROTOCOLS of the ELDERS OF ZION: The Greatest Lie in History, it was translated from the German by Sascha Czazckes-Charles.
- (11) Pens that were dipped in blood, by David Cesarani, published in the Jewish Chronicle, May 17, 1996, page 32. No doubt David Cesarani also regards himself as an eminent historian of anti-Semitism; in reality he is a professional Jewish propagandist, a Jewish apologist, and a whining, snivelling hypocrite

to boot. (For the record, at the time of writing there is a librarian in Westminster Central Reference Library named Richard Levy).

(12) FORD NOW RETRACTS

ATTACKS ON JEWS;

ORDERS THEM ENDED..., published in the New York Times, July 8, 1927, page 1; continued on page 10 as

FORD NOW RETRACTS

ATTACKS ON JEWS.

In his 1953 book Apostles of Discord, supposedly "Astudy of organized bigotry and disruption on the fringes of Protestantism", Ralph Lord Roy reports that "on June 10, 1927, [Henry Ford] addressed a letter to all Jews, apologizing for the harm done and retracting the accusations..." Yer pays yer money and yer takes yer choice.

- (13) Russia Rules Anti-Semitic Tract a Fraud, by Michael A. Hiltzik, published in the Los Angeles Times, Sunday Final, November 28, 1993, page A1. The article continues on page A11 as 'PROTOCOLS': Anti-Semitic Tract Called Forgery in Russia. Serge Loiko of the paper's Moscow Bureau also contributed. (14) See for example Ford Agents Are Ordered to Cease Taking Subscriptions to The Dearborn Independent, published in the New York Times, July 28, 1927, page 1.
- (15) On September 6, 1940, the London Jewish Chronicle carried a report HENRY FORD AGAIN Alleged Backing of Jew-Baiters in which it was claimed that Ford had stated recently that even if the Protocols were a fake, they were true in essence.
- (16) The Truth About "The Protocols of Zion": A Complete Exposure, by Herman Bernstein, published by Covici Friede, New York, (1935), pages 58-9.
- (17) Or, to give it its full credits: "ISSUED BY THE SELECT HIGH CIRCLE OF THE ANTI-NAZI PROPAGANDA VIGILANCE COMMITTEE C.X.V.O. 3838 AND AUTHORISED FOR USE BY THE TRUSTEE AND THE SIX COUNCIL MEMBERS ONLY.

'RABBI.'" [JUDGMENT GREY SHIRT LIBEL ACTION AT GRAHAMSTOWN REVEREND A. LEVY VERSUS JOHANNES von STRAUSS von MOLTKE HARRY VICTOR INCH DAVID HERMANUS OLIVIER, Jun., Printed and published by Grocott & Sherry, Grahamstown, South Africa, (1935), page 8].

Reverend Levy was a de facto rabbi rather than a fully accredited rabbi. The case appears in the South African Law Reports, 1934, pages 296-327, as reported by F.G. Stapleton, B.A., LL.B. I am most grateful to Mr G.F. Holborn, MA, LLB, ALA, Librarian at Lincoln's Inn Library, for supplying me with a complete photocopy. A resumé of the South African court case was published in the American Hebrew July 5, 12 and 19, 1935, respectively.

- (18) JUDGMENT GREY SHIRT LIBEL ACTION..., page 5, (ibid).
- (19) JUDGMENT GREY SHIRT LIBEL ACTION..., pages 29-31, (ibid). The judge described Beamish as "profoundly obsessed" with the Jewish Question. For a profile of this remarkable man, the reader is referred to Colonial Careers for Marginal Fascists A Portrait of Hamilton Beamish, by Barry A. Kosmin, published in the Wiener Library Bulletin 1973/74 Vol. XXVII New Series Nos. 30/31, pages 16-23.
- (20) INTERNATIONAL CONSPIRACY AGAINST INDIANS, by Nageshwar Anandat Maharaj, Foreword by Dr. Sudhir Hendre, published by Supraja Prakashan, Bombay, (1974), page 71.
- (21) "CONQUER WHOLE WORLD." JEWISH BOLSHEVIK BOASTS., published in the Sunday Times, April 4, 1920, page 12.

According to Léon Poliakov in Volume IV of his four volume The History of Anti-Semitism, in 1922 the Zunder Document was actually read in full to the entire Czechoslovakian Parliament!

- (22) The *Protocols* is usually referred to as a forgery (except by true believers); to be technical it is not a forgery because a forgery is an unauthorised copy of something that exists or once existed. The *Protocols* is perhaps the only book in history for which there has never been a first edition!
- (23) In 1969, Robert Welch published If You Want It Straight, in which he made this claim about Lenin; [this is actually a speech, or part of one, and was reprinted in the 27th November, 1993 issue of On Target (the bulletin of the British League of Rights) under the title Robert Welch's Timeless Warning Against Anti-Semitism].

In December 1981, the London-based Institute of Jewish Affairs published a smear on American Conservative - and John Birch Society supporter - Gary Allen's book None Dare Call It Conspiracy. The grandly titled IJA RESEARCH REPORT No 15 is called The Post-War Career of the "Protocols of Zion", and attempts to smear all opponents of the unelected financial oligarchy as anti-Semites.

- (24) Lipstadt is both a Jewish propagandist and a Court Historian.
- (25) One non-Holocaust Revisionist who believes passionately in the *Protocols* is American conspiracy theorist and fruitcake Milton William Cooper. In his book "Behold A Pale Horse", Cooper claims not only that the *Protocols* is a plot for world control by the Illuminati working in collaboration with chlorophyll-based alien life forms, but that during the war the Pope was a representative of I.G. Farben and that he sold the Nazis the gas that was used at Auschwitz!
- (26) TWO LIES THAT SHOOK THE WORLD: The Protocols of the Elders of Zion The Nationalisation of Women, Edited by J. Hill, published by the Kate Sharpley Library, London, (January 1994).
- (27) Cohn, Warrant For Genocide, pages 104-5, (op cit). Tayna Yevreystva = The Secret of Jewry.
- (28) For proof of this the reader is referred to An Appraisal of the PROTOCOLS OF ZION, by John S. Curtiss, published by Columbia University Press, New York, (1942), page 33. According to Curtiss, the 10th Protocol contains a clear reference to the Panama Canal scandal of 1899.
- (29) Pen name of Ludwig Müller von Hausen.
- (30) Cohn, Warrant For Genocide, page 133, (op cit).
- (31) Technically, at any rate, for although this first British edition of the *Protocols* bore the imprint of Eyre & Spottiswoode, it was actually printed as a private order.
- (32) The Graves exposés appeared in the August 16, 17 & 18, 1921 issues. The pamphlet which runs to 24 pages was published later the same year as *The Truth About "The Protocols" A LITERARY FORGERY*, by Philip Graves, published by Printing House Square, London, (1921).

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