

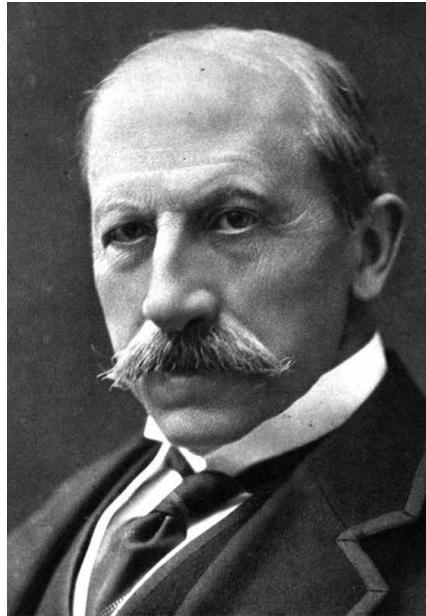
Lord Milner's Second War

A remarkable book about the pre-history of World War One

"...history can't be falsified in the long run, legends will not stand against scientific research, the dark web will be brought to light and will be torn apart, no matter how artful and subtle it had been spun." With these hopeful words the Swiss historian Jacob Ruchti ended his inquiry into the events at the outbreak of the First World War in 1917. Ruchti, using the documents which had been published from the different warring parties at that time, had tried to show that the love of peace and the selfless mediation that the British government claimed motivated their behavior in the days preceding the outbreak of the war, were in fact a mask, behind which the decisive actors concealed a desire for war and a fixed hostility against the German empire.¹

One could harbor doubts sometimes whether things in historical research were really proceeding on the path sketched out by Ruchti, but the 100-year anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War has in 2014 brought forth some remarkable publications, which may validate Ruchti's hopes. One of these is a book by John P. Cafferky with the somewhat sensational and elaborate title *Lord Milner's Second War. The Rhodes-Milner Secret Society, The Origin of World War I and the Start of the New World Order*.²

In Cafferky's book the First World War is the result of an intrigue by a clique of British politicians, who from about 1902 worked to isolate Germany within the international system, to forge an anti-German alliance and to prepare this alliance for a future war with the German empire. This policy was carried through within the British government by some members of the cabinet, who over the course of a whole decade lied to and deceived the wider cabinet and the British public over the real nature and the consequences of this policy. The policy was supported by most of the Press, which manufactured an increasing anti-German climate in Great Britain and Europe at large. Especially important in that was the London *Times*, then the most influential newspaper in the world, which selected its European correspondents according to this anti-German line.



Lord Alfred Milner (1854-1925)

Cafferky's reconstruction of the events in the crisis of July 1914 seems especially interesting. The assassination in Sarajevo here appears as a plot organized by the leader of the Serbian military intelligence, Col. Apis, on behalf of the Russian embassy in Belgrade. The murder was meant to provoke Austria to anti-Serbian activities in order to trigger a European war. According to Cafferky's valid considerations, men with authority in Paris and London must have known about this in advance. It was necessary to trigger the war in the Balkans, because Russia was the weakest link in the Triple Entente and one had to find a war-triggering scenario, which would involve Russia directly, and

not only as a member of an alliance. At the same time Cafferky shows that Russia could only act as it acted if it felt assured of French support and France could only act as it acted if it felt certain of British support. In that sense British policy becomes the decisive factor in the July crisis and Cafferky analyses it in a most interesting way.

In the background of the British policy in the decade before 1914 Cafferky sees the shadow of Lord Milner, the one-time British High-Commissioner in South Africa, who was some kind of an *eminence grise* within the British elite for an aggressive British imperialism. The title speaks of Milner's "second war"; his "first" relates to the Boer War of 1899-1902, a most cruel war, which Milner had initiated as High Commissioner, because he felt it indispensable for the sake of the British empire. In his focus on Milner, Cafferky connects with the research of Carroll Quigley, formerly professor at Georgetown University, USA. The book shows that essential groups that were connected with this anti-German policy before the First World War - namely the liberal imperialists (Asquith, Grey and Haldane), the foreign ministry (notably Hardinge, Crowe and Nicolson) and the Court (Edward VII and Lord Esher), as well as the Conservatives with their leader Arthur Balfour - that all these were really connected to Milner and shared his views. The book cannot show with cogency that Milner was really the

decisive person from which this policy emanated, but this is in essence not important. What Cafferky is able to show is that this policy by way of cunning intrigues became the dominant English foreign policy in the decade before the First World War.

The research for this book seems not to have involved any archival work by the author but did evidently deal with a wide array of published materials. It is not written in the form of a conspiracy sensation but as a detailed study of certain political events. Without imposing itself on the reader, it seems mostly convincing in its interpretations. It is hardly accidental that it was written by someone outside academic historical circles. It shows an independence of spirit that would be difficult to obtain or maintain inside the academic world. Altogether, Cafferky is probably closer to the truth than, for example, the more comprehensive study that is Christopher Clark's *Sleepwalkers*.

Cafferky holds three academic degrees from Trinity College in Dublin and today teaches mathematics in a school in Toronto, Canada. He dedicated his book to George Orwell, "in appreciation of 1984". The book has no official publisher; it was obviously published by the author himself. That seems like a telling, disappointing detail about today's publishing world. The book can be obtained through Amazon.

To give an impression of the book we quote a passage from Cafferky's account of the British behavior in the Moroccan crisis of 1911:

"Hysteria comes to mind when trying to capture the flavor of Nicolson and Crowe's communications at the Foreign Office. Their constant attacks on Germany without making the slightest effort to understand the German position make for weary reading. Somehow these two gentlemen could ignore a blatant annexation of Morocco by their friends [the French], then invoke the German menace to excuse and justify their cooperating in that annexation despite Britain's solemn treaty duty to uphold the sovereignty of Morocco. Right and wrong simply did not exist in the mind of Nicolson and Crowe. They constantly justified the excesses of Britain's friends, however irrational their arguments became. During the July crisis in 1914, Nicolson and Crowe brought this attitude to its logical conclusion and unreservedly committed to France and Russia, leading one to suspect that they deliberately adopted their anti-German hysteria to justify their anti-German policies."³

Much of what has been said here reminds one of Western behavior towards Russia in the crisis concerning Ukraine. This, if nothing else, can justify the thesis

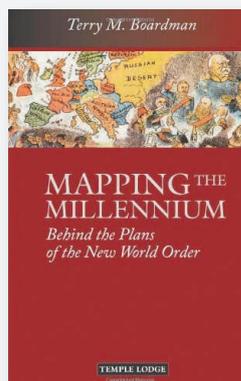
of continuity included in Cafferky's title, in which he alludes to the First World War as the beginning of a new world order, - the world order of today.

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Annotations:

- 1 Jacob Ruchti, "Zur Geschichte des Kriegausbruchs - nach den amtlichen Akten der königlichen großbritannischen Regierung", in: Jacob Ruchti, *Helmuth von Moltke, Der Ausbruch des Ersten Weltkriegs*. Basel: Perseus 2001, pp. 39-80, the quote from p. 80. Ruchti's publication originally appeared in 1917; Rudolf Steiner valued it highly and in April 1917 published a review of Ruchti's booklet in a German newspaper. (Today in GA Vol. 24)
- 2 John P. Cafferky, *Lord Milner's Second War. The Rhodes-Milner Secret Society, the Origin of World War I and the Start of the New World Order*. 2013
- 3 loc. cit., p. 138

Our Author's Publications



Terry Boardman
Mapping the Millennium
 Behind the Plans of the New World Order

In a quest to discover the truth behind the twentieth century's disastrous record of conflict and war, Terry Boardman considers two contradictory approaches to history: so-called cock-up theory and conspiracy theory.

Could there be truth to the often-dismissed concept of conspiracy in history: the manipulation of external events by groups and individuals mostly hidden from the public eye? In the work of philosopher and scientist Rudolf Steiner, Boardman finds convincing evidence of the existence of secretive circles in the West, which have plans for humanity's long-term future. Steiner indicated that such 'brotherhoods' had prepared for world war in the twentieth century, and had instructed their members, using redrawn maps as a guide, on how Europe was to be changed.

If these brotherhoods existed in Steiner's time, could they still be active today? Based on detailed research, Boardman concludes that such groups are directing world politics in our time. As backing for his theory, he studies a series of important articles and maps - ranging from an 1890 edition of the satirical journal *Truth* to more recent pieces from influential publications that speak for themselves. He concludes that vast plans are in progress for a New World Order to control and direct individuals and nations, and he calls us to be vigilant, awake and informed.

