

A Fundamental Indication of Rudolf Steiner's, With Relevance to Present-Day Global Politics

1. Introduction

The following text is a private note of Rudolf Steiner's, probably written down in 1918, towards the end of the First World War. It has not yet been printed in the Steiner Complete Edition («Gesamtausgabe») of Rudolf Steiner Verlag, Dornach, Switzerland. This note was first published in its entirety in Perseus Publishing's monthly journal «Der Europäer» («The European»), third year of publication, Number 5, March 1999, p. 3. (shortly before the Kosovo war).

It contains a short, very concentrated but also very clear summary of Steiner's revelation of the existence of an occult group in the Anglo-American world which for many decades has been, and still is decisively influencing the course of world politics. People knowledgeable in anthroposophy will recognise that this is the same topic that Steiner broached in a number of lectures to members of the Anthroposophical Society around this time, notably in the «Zeitgeschichtliche Betrachtungen...» («Observations on Current Affairs - The Karma of Untruthfulness», Vol. No. 173 and 174 in the Complete Edition («GA»)).

For people with less knowledge of Steiner's «Spiritual Science» or anthroposophy, the content of this note will seem very strange and unusual indeed. One should maybe first remark that Steiner does not speak out against «America» or «Britain» per se, but against an occult group *within* this world which is pursuing goals that are egoistic and particular. For this reason they run counter to the true development of mankind as a whole. They also run counter to the true spiritual character of the British and American peoples: the occult group is not furthering this cause, but *perverting* the true Anglo-American «mission».

Steiner, in his anthroposophy, always advocates what is necessary for the progress of all mankind, and combats egoistic goals of particular groups which can only be pursued at the cost of mankind in general. This is the only reason that he advocates the cooperation of the German and the Slav peoples and opposes the «education» of the Eastern culture through the Western occult group.

This factor of the spiritual «character», or even «mission» of the various peoples and nations that mankind is divided into is not normally considered in this way in world politics. However, a work like Samuel Huntington's «The Clash of Civilizations» might indicate that it should be. Steiner's claim is that the real but secret knowledge of these «national characters» is the basis on which the occult group manipulates world politics. One can only resist this group successfully if one also takes these characters into consideration. Steiner gives a correct portrayal of certain national characters in his 1910 lecture series «Die Mission einzelner Volksseelen ...» («The Mission of Certain »Folk-Souls«...»), No. 121 of the Complete Edition).

The extent to which one can place trust in an indication of Steiner's like this one will depend on how much one trusts Steiner's teachings generally. He does give justifications for his claims in an epistemological sense (f.e. the work «Truth and Science», No. 2 of the Complete Edition) and as regards his practical method (f.e. «Knowledge of Higher Worlds», No. 10 of the Complete Edition). Let it not be forgotten that, as an initiate, he felt an immense responsibility for what he said to other people; we cannot expect to find utterances he made «by accident» or «didn't really mean».

It is unfortunate to note that among Anthroposophists, who one would think are most inclined to trust Steiner, there are a number of people who reject this aspect of his teachings. As I have just indicated, it is not possible to divide his statements into what he «really meant» and what «need not be taken seriously, because it was influenced by the prejudices of the times». *All*

of Steiner's utterances lay claim to being impartial, objective and striving to promote the progress of all mankind. It is therefore particularly annoying that the English translation of the lecture series „Observations on Current Affairs ...» (Complete Edition No. 173,174) still contains a preface written by an English anthroposophist which detracts from Steiner's statements by claiming that he was influenced by one-sided German nationalist sentiments during the First World War.

Nicholas Dodwell

2. Rudolf Steiner's Text: The Struggle for Mankind's Embryonic Future Culture in Russia

«There exists a group of people who set the tone for the development of mankind today; they wish to rule the earth by utilising the mobility of the capitalist economic impulses. All circles of men belong to this power structure which this group is able to bind and harness to its ends (»organise«) through economic means. The essential factor is that this group *knows* that there lies a population in the region of the Russian territory that is not yet formed or »organised« as regards the future; it contains the budding impulse for a future socialist development. The well-defined goal is to bring this budding socialist impulse under the control of the anti-social group. This goal cannot be reached if Middle Europe summons up appreciation and sympathy for the budding Eastern impulse and seeks to unite with it. Only because this group is located within the Anglo-American world has the present constellation of alliances arisen ¹⁾: it is a *subordinate factor* which conceals all the real conflicts and interests. It especially conceals the *true* fact that a struggle is taking place between the Anglo-American »Pluto-Autocrats« ²⁾ and the people of Middle Europe as to who shall guide the budding Russian cultural impulse. The moment that Middle Europe reveals this fact to the world, an untrue constellation will be replaced by a true one. For this reason the war will continue in one form or another for so long until the German and the Slav peoples have joined together with the common goal of liberating mankind from the yoke of the West.

There are only two possibilities: *either* one must unmask the lie with which the West *is obliged* to operate if it is to have success, one must say: the leaders of the Anglo-American cause promote a movement originating from impulses which arose *before* the French Revolution and which intends to achieve the control of the world through the means of power provided by capitalism; to achieve this control these leaders make use of the impulses of the Revolution, but only as empty phrases, behind which they conceal their real motives. ³⁾ *Otherwise*, if one doesn't do this, one surrenders world control to an occult group within the Anglo-American world, until sometime in the future, emanating from the subjugated German-Slavic territory, through rivers of blood the true spiritual goal of the earth will be saved.»

Rudolf Steiner

- 1)The alliance (during the First World War) between Britain and Russia: it conceals the deeper-lying intention to bring Russia under the educational domination of the West.
- 2)This term of Steiner's is an intensifying combination of «plutocrat» (someone who exercises power through wealth; Pluto is the god of wealth and money) and «autocrat» (dictator wielding undivided power).
- 3)Such «empty phrases» introduce, for example, the *General Declaration of Human Rights*. Article 1 reads: «All men are born *free* and *equal* in dignity and rights. They (...) are to meet in the spirit of *fraternity*.» (accentuation by Thomas Meyer).

(Title and annotations by Th. Meyer)

3. Editorial Comment by Thomas Meyer

This fundamental indication of R. Steiner's helps us to understand a number of events which took place in Europe in the 20th century, most of them of a warlike nature. These events include: the installing of the «socialist experiment» in Russia in the so-called «Russian Revolution» of 1917, which was inspired by the West; the division of Germany and Middle Europe after the Second World War; the breaking off of the «socialist experiment» after 1982, as instigated by Washington and the Catholic Church; the binding of Germany to the European Union and NATO after reunification in 1990; and, most recently, the wars in the Balkans and in Kosovo. None of these events can truly be understood if one does not take into account that certain Western circles, on the basis of a long-term occult political strategy, exercise concrete influence on United States policy, especially foreign policy. Steiner's note gives us, in a concentrated form, the actual key to this strategy of the Anglo-American West regarding Middle Europe on the one hand, and Slavic Eastern Europe - which is the cradle of mankind's sixth post-Atlantic cultural epoch - on the other.

In 1893 already the English occultist C.G. Harrison drew attention to such plans in the Western world. Steiner was well-acquainted with his work « Transcendental Universe» ¹⁾, and commented on it several times. Harrison even explicitly named a number of goals set by a Western policy operating on occult principles, f.e. in relation to the character and the future development of certain nations and races. Luckily these goals are far from being fulfilled; for that reason they must still be taken very seriously.

It matters little whether a given Western politician or economic leader has been initiated into these far-reaching goals; the important question is whether his actions advance them or not.

An effective institution for cultivating such goals has been for a long time the «Skull and Bones» club at Yale University in the United States. Members of this club (to which, besides the banker and diplomat Averell Harriman, President George W. Bush as well as his father, former President George Bush Sr. belong) first promoted regimes both of the radical Left and the radical Right, in order to then dominate them economically and play them off one against the other. It is no accident that there were important but little-known connections running from the «Anglo-American plutocrats» both to the Russian Revolution in 1917 and to Hitler's Third Reich. These facts, which are ignored by the conventional history of the 20th century, were first revealed by the American historian Anthony Sutton in his works «Wall Street and the Bolshevik Revolution»²⁾ and «Wall Street and the Rise of Hitler»³⁾. Significantly, neither of these books has been translated into German, even though, in Middle Europe more than anywhere else, they could contribute greatly to the necessary honing of our powers of discernment for the realities of world politics. Sutton was also the first to draw attention to the international activities of the «Skull and Bones» club, which it is still pursuing today. These connections are corroborated by hard evidence in his book «The Anglo-American Establishment» ⁴⁾.

In the face of such dangerous political intentions, which are certainly not directed towards the welfare of mankind as a whole, one can ask what the deeper, true nature of the West is. This question finds an answer in the works of Ralph Waldo Emerson. In the end, Emerson will persevere longer than all the occultists of his home continent who have narrowed their horizon with their egoistic goals. His thinking and feeling reach into the realm of the eternal laws of mankind and the universe, such as every man and woman can grasp and experience; they transcend the temporal interests of the few who have been seduced by the temptation of power.

The West above all will have to learn from Emerson, one of its greatest sons, that the only source for really permanent «long-term plans» is the eternally true and the eternally good.

- 1) New edition 1993, Hudson, New York. German edition: Stuttgart 1989. Two lectures where Steiner refers to Harrison are: Complete Edition («GA») 184, (7.9.1918), GA 174a (18.3.1916).
- 2) Morley (Australia) 1981.
- 3) Sudbury (Britain) 1976.
- 4) Billings, Montana, USA, 1986.

(All translations by N. Dodwell)