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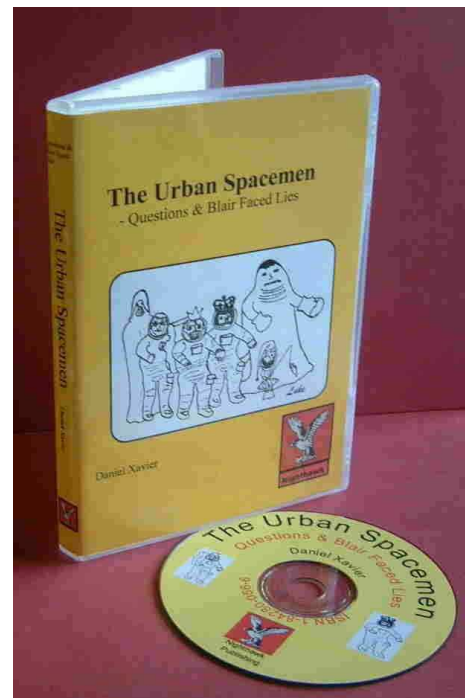
The Urban Spacemen

- Questions & Blair Faced Lies

by Daniel Xavier

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The Urban Spacemen was written during 1997 and revised prior to publication by Nighthawk Publishing. When the book was written the Blair administration was enjoying a protracted honeymoon period. A succession of scandals from the first days of government escaped heavy critical examination and the questions posed by the author ran against the popular appraisal of the Blair administration. Even by 2001 there was no effective attempt by the Opposition parties or the news media to bring the Government to account for their actions. Opposition finally began to develop in the run up to the invasion of Iraq and by the start of 2005 the majority of the population had lost all confidence in the Blair administration, regarding Blair as someone who rarely if ever told the truth about anything.

Today most of the questions posed by Daniel Xavier are now frequently posed in Britain. It is difficult to think of any British Government since the Eighteenth Century that has achieved such a high level of mendacity, and incompetence, or such a low level of veritas. Perhaps the ultimate question is why it took a wealthy, educated and sophisticated society and news media so long to understand what was happening. By 2005 judges were convicting members of Blair's party of consistent, extensive and organised electoral fraud and it was difficult to escape the conclusion that this was a corrupt and corrupting administration destroying the very basis of democratic society.

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- Questions & Blair Faced Lies

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Sample text

The Historical Record?

To find answers there is no substitute for looking at Blair's history and his speeches. His writings should also be considered because, although they are written for him, they provide a further insight into who and what he is.

On the basis of, "know a man by his friends", further insight is gained from looking at his Cronies, that amazing group of people who have benefited so richly from the Blair Administration.

The one man who could find the most qualified person for a job on the basis of once sharing a flat with him is not that remarkable, but when friends and relations fill a wide selection of jobs, usually without being elected, or winning in interview against other applicants, it is truly remarkable.

The Origins of Power?

It is an inescapable conclusion that, had it not been for the tragic premature death of John Smith, Tony Blair would never have achieved any substantial

political position in Government. The thoughtful democratic socialist, Smith embodied much of the best of the traditions of the British Labour Party. The contrast between the two men could hardly have been greater. That is true both of the Blair before Smith's death and the Blair which has emerged since then.

The most curious thing is that Blair was virtually unknown at the time, outside the chattering and sneering classes' dinner party circuit. Although the Conservative William Hague is generally credited with coining the phrase "All Spin, and No Delivery", it was in fact coined much earlier by members of the Labour Party who considered his performance less than spectacular.

The person considered the natural heir to Smith was Gordon Brown. Already a formidable brooding politician, Brown had a number of obvious strengths in any leadership contest, although a dour Scottish bachelor would be at a disadvantage in winning votes in the populous South.

Somewhere along the way, Blair was propelled forward and Brown agreed to stand aside. Who propelled Blair, and what the agreement included is still a mystery and the subject of much argument and debate.

The Nature of the Beast?

As the first memoirs from senior former members of the Blair Government are published, we can see a very unpleasant picture of poisonous relations, much back-stabbing, sycophancy, double-dealing, deception and lies. If these insiders' views are accurate portraits of New Improved Formula One Labour, a great deal of grief is being stored up for the British.

Prior to the Labour leadership contest, Blair achieved a very shallow and narrow political footprint. What exists is curiously at conflict with the portrait he tries to paint today. Does this account for the determination of his propagandists to paint history as starting in 1997?

What was the early Blair philosophy? Was there a philosophy? The evidence does little to suggest any real philosophy beyond self-service. "Ask not what you can do for your country, but what your country can do for you?". The kinder commentators claim that the pre-leadership Blair was an early Twentieth Century Liberal with a political philosophy similar to that held by Roy Jenkins, but yet Blair represented a mining community and claimed his favourite food was fish and chips and his favourite drink was beer — presumably warm beer. That is at odds with a man who has the same love of fine, expensive wines, and the trendiest dishes of the sneering classes.

A person's religion is often a good indicator of the real character but here Blair is even more an enigma. He has claimed to be a committed Anglican, and yet he has regularly attended services and taken communion as a Roman Catholic, more recently claiming to always carry a copy of the Koran. This smacks of a fuzzy mess at the centre of any character, or of a cynical mask hiding the true character.

Then there is the evidence of early trendy left wing views. A member of

CND and supporter of the portfolio of intellectual leftist causes of the 1970s and 1980s, but today more hawkish than the most right wing American Republican, and a promoter of policies more extremely right wing than Margaret Thatcher would have ever considered presenting to Parliament.

Man of Clay or Chameleon?

In researching the early Blair years what emerges is a man of wet clay, easily moulded into one shape and then immediately moulded into a very different shape. Chameleon is another description that comes to mind. Here is a man who can enthusiastically appear to support one view and, moments later, with a passionate opponent of that view, support the exact opposite view with equal determination. In talking to people who have had direct dealings with Blair at different stages of his history, the most remarkable thing is that they all feel that he entirely and passionately supported their own convictions and beliefs, whatever they were. In this, there is complete consistency through his life, an actor playing the role of the moment and hamming it up to the full.

The Conspiracy?

This ability to be all things, to all peoples, at all times, encourages the belief that Blair is a puppet for someone else. If so, who is that person or group? Why are they afraid to show themselves? What is their real agenda?

None of this provides answers to fundamental questions, but raises fresh questions. That a man turns wildly from one view, to another, and back again suggests a complete lack of any deeply held beliefs, and a serious lack of integrity, someone who can never be trusted, or believed. It could alternatively suggest someone who is not a good communicator but, in listening to others, gives the false impression of what he feels and believes. A further alternative is a man who has passionately held views but is able to suppress them to ingratiate himself with others, to trick support, or to conceal a real agenda that only the most rabid extremist could support.

It is even possible that it indicates a man who is indecisive and swayed by the last person he spoke with, turning idly in the changing winds, and lacking the confidence to form and express a definite view of anything.

People who met Blair in his earlier years generally say that he is gregarious and charming. The more perceptive also say that beneath this veneer lay a cold and ruthless ambition for power. Again, this is a consistent view held by people who have met him at different points in his career.