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FIRST WAR BETWEEN ENGLISH AND FRENCH FREEMASONRY

Many minor German Princes continued to be Freemasons. The Duke of Brunswick was the central figure in the first Masonic conspiracy.... The Court of Vienna was more or less Masonic since the reign of the wretched Joseph U. Alexander of Russia was educated by La Harpe, a [Grand Orient] Freemason...

The Elector of Hesse, Prince William of Hanau, held broad views in religious matters, associated much with Freemasons and practiced complete religious tolerance.²

Royalty in Europe had long been involved in Freemasonry before Weishaupt came on the scene - not that they were revolutionary, although some of course were - but because they were curious. Freemasonry was considered the custodian of science, something into which an intelligent man should look. It was also anti-Catholic, which suited many of the German Protestant princes. Even Catholic monarchs, nominal in their Christianity, disregarded the Vatican's ban on membership and attached themselves to the Order. After the French Revolution plunged Europe into political chaos, both Protestant and Catholic monarchs changed their attitudes toward the Craft.

As we know, the original intent of the French Revolution was to dethrone the Bourbon dynasty in favor of Sion's Lorraine-Habsburg "King of Jerusalem" cult. Yet, when the Revolution began, the strongest players appeared to be the Templars, who had outsmarted Sion's Illuminati with exposure. Strong evidence of Templar involvement is seen in the appearance of the Jacobin Clubs when the doors of the Illuminati's Grand Orient lodges closed. It is true that most conspiracy researchers view this as nothing more than the Illuminati changing their name. The Jacobin Clubs were illuminated, and, as we have noted before, the name Jacobin recalls Jacques de Molay, strongly suggesting Templar influence, if not control.

At the time of the French Revolution, there were actually three major conspiracies working - all under the Masonic banner. They allegedly united in 1782 at Wilhelmsbad to cooperate in revolution. All three

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were illuminated at that conference. As subsequent events reveal, however, each had secretly planned its own outcome via the Revolution. For example, the French Grand Lodge, an English Masonic front, was Royalist, wanting a constitutional monarchy. The French Grand Orient, an Illuminati front of the Priory of Sion, fought to replace the Bourbon dynasty with another. The Scottish Rite, a Templar front, planned to avenge a four-centuries-old murder, destroying the monarchy and replacing it with a republic. Thus divided, the revolution was doomed to failure.

Freemasonry's desire to alter the despotic politics of Europe might have been an admirable undertaking, but the outcome could not have been foreseen, nor given the anti-social passions that had been aroused, restraint possible. The French Revolution ended in the Terror. According to *Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, not until December 27, 1801 did two of the warring factions of Masonry, the Templar Scottish Rite and the Grand Orient bodies merge.³ Soon afterwards, the third Masonic party, the Grand Lodge came into line and all three upheld Napoleon.

De Poncins, in *The Secret Powers Behind Revolution*, explains that

By wishing to go too fast, freemasonry [sic] miscarried. The excesses of the Terror brought about a violent reaction of the country. Being unable to do better, freemasonry [sic] resumed its philanthropic guise and respectful attitude to social order. It upheld Napoleon, who, moreover, served it by spreading the revolutionary spirit all over Europe.... In a word he was for Europe what the revolution had been for France.⁴

Napoleon Bonaparte and the Templars

Napoleon Bonaparte was not a self-made man. He was selected by Templar Freemasonry to salvage the revolution - to solidify the revolution in *his* name, since rumors persisted that the exiled Bourbons would return. Msgr. Dillon writes that "As a lesser evil therefore, and as a means of forwarding the unification of Europe which they had planned by his conquests, the Freemasons placed supreme power in the hands of Bonaparte, and urged him on in his career...."⁵

Although general history presents Napoleon as a fervent Catholic, Msgr. Dillon contradicts that judgment:

[Napoleon's] letters breathe everywhere the spirit of advanced Freemasonry, gloating over the wounds it had been able to inflict

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upon the Spouse of Christ. Yet this adventurer has, with great adroitness, been able to pass with many. ...as a good Catholic...but he was in all his acts what Freemasonry made him. He was mean, selfish, tyrannical, cruel. He was reckless of blood. He could tolerate or use the Church while that suited his policy. But he had from the beginning to the very end of his career that thorough indifference to her welfare, and want of belief in her doctrines, which an early and life-long connection with the Illuminati inspired.⁶

Dillon informs us that Napoleon indeed had connections with Illuminism. He had been a member of a Templar Lodge, the extreme Illuminated Lodge of Lyons, and had given proof of his fidelity to Italian Masonry by kidnapping the Pope.⁷ Dillon also quotes Father Deschamps that "'Napoleon Bonaparte was in effect an advanced Freemason, and his reign has been the most flourishing epoch of Freemasonry.'"⁸ While there is no record of Napoleon meeting Weishaupt, ample evidence exists that Napoleon was a Templar Jacobin. When the Illuminati was exposed, Napoleon plunged into Templarism, absorbing all its history he could, fascinated by its past wealth. One of his personal goals as Emperor was to capture the Roman Church and confiscate all Templar documents, which he did in 1810. That year the entire archives of the Vatican, more than three thousand cases of material - including all the documents pertaining to the Templars - were brought back to Paris. Although some of these papers were subsequently returned to Rome, a great many remained in France.⁹

Freemasonry, in *Mackey's Encyclopedia*, certainly claims Bonaparte as one of its own:

It has been claimed, and with much just reason, as shown in his course of life, that Napoleon the Great was a member of the Brotherhood.... The Strassburg Lodge is said to have toasted Napoleon as a Freemason. The wording of the toast shows that this was before Napoleon became Emperor.... In March, 1807, at Milan, [Italy], Napoleon is toasted as "Brother, Emperor and King, Protector."¹⁰

Clearly Napoleon Bonaparte was brought to power because of Masonry's failure to solidify the Revolution. The Templars especially viewed him as the man who could unite the continent under a Masonic republic. The hated Merovingian Grail kings would once and for all be exterminated. In Napoleon's name the revolution would continue.

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Talleyrand and Napoleon

The Templars brought Napoleon to power through the assistance of Charles-Maurice de Talleyrand-Perigord (1754-1838), a renegade Catholic priest who had joined Freemasonry. The story of Talleyrand is bewildering, to say the least. In 1779, the year he aligned himself with the Illuminati, he also began his career as a court cleric in the House of Bourbon. In 1780 he was appointed agent general of the French clergy. In 1786, in an attempt to continue the activity of the suppressed Illuminati, Talleyrand, together with Mirabeau and Philippe, Duke of Orleans, founded the Club Breton. Club Breton was taken over by the Templars and renamed the Jacobin Club.¹¹

Without a blink, Talleyrand made the transition from the Sionist Club Breton to the Templar Jacobin Club. There he first met Napoleon. In 1788 Talleyrand was appointed Bishop of Autun. He was excommunicated by the Pope when, during the Revolution, he cooperated in the radical reorganization of the church. By the time the revolution had failed, the adroit Talleyrand had proved his worth to the Templars. At his recommendation, the Templars found in Napoleon their strong man, whom they would back to save the gains of the Revolution. "Put Napoleon on the throne and open the Grand Orients," Talleyrand advised.

Talleyrand had no problem switching from the Sionists to the Templars. In fact, throughout his career this wily politician continually changed sides. No one has ever suggested that he might have been a double agent for the Priory of Sion. Yet, his activity suggests that conclusion. For example, while hobnobbing with the Templars in the Jacobin Club, Talleyrand was also a member of a more illusive club called the Philadelphians, a Rosicrucian secret society founded in 1790 that was adversarial to both the Templars and Napoleon.¹²

Conspiracy researchers have said Talleyrand was playing both sides of the conspiracy for his own elevation

to power. History records that he was certainly adept at ingratiating himself with any administration. *The Encyclopaedia Britannica* gives a brief account of his political agility:

A deputy to the National Assembly during the last years of the Revolution and foreign minister [1797-1799] under the Directory, Talleyrand achieved great power and influence under Napoleon I as foreign minister and chamberlain of the empire prior to his resignation [1807]. He then served as a consultant to Napoleon....¹³

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By 1810 Talleyrand began to distance himself from the Emperor. In 1812 he sided with General Malet (a brother Philadelphian) in a conspiracy to overthrow the Empire.¹⁴ In 1815 he was at the Congress of Vienna mingling with Sion's Grail blue bloods.

While historians describe Talleyrand as crafty, underhanded, wily, and adroit, they do not record those with whom he associated in the Rosicrucian Order of the Philadelphians, a Sionist front group. One associate was Charles Nodier, the new Grand Master of the Priory of Sion (G.M. 1801-1844).

When Talleyrand advised the Templars to put Napoleon on the throne, he planned to surround the Emperor with the remnant of Sion's illumined. Talleyrand met with some success, for the moment Napoleon seized power (1799), the Grand Orient lodges, where the remnant of Illuminism sought a home, were opened in every place.¹⁵ That success was shattered, however, when in 1801 the Grand Orients merged with Sion's rivals, the Templar Scottish Rite, which embraced radical republicanism.

The Templars, seeing in Napoleon their chance to unify Europe, permitted the Corsican to declare himself Emperor in 1804. Masonry then conspired during the Empire, assisting Napoleon in 1805 by undermining Austrian and Russian military might at the Battle of Austerlitz, giving Napoleon his greatest victory. Msgr. Dillon explains how the conspiracy worked: "The designs of the Austrian and other generals opposed to him were thwarted, treason was rife in their camps, and information fatal to their designs was conveyed to the French commander."¹⁶

Masonry was then on Napoleon's side. For the next four years its power of hidden influence and espionage were placed at the Emperor's disposal. Napoleon, however, had no idea his rapid success was due to the Masonic intelligence service. Haughty and arrogant, blinded by power, he believed he was the source of all his brilliant victories. Msgr. Dillon writes that Napoleon's greatest mistake was the encouragement he gave to Freemasonry. It served his "purpose admirably for awhile, that is so long as he served the present and ultimate views of the conspiracy...."¹⁷

Trouble, however, began brewing between Napoleon and the Templar powers when they watched his brothers, all steeped in the secrets of Freemasonry, placed on the conquered thrones of Europe. When Napoleon desired a wife with Habsburg blood to make his reign in France more legitimate, Freemasonry became nervous.

Napoleon no longer wanted to be Emperor. He wanted to be King. In 1809 he divorced Josephine of the House of Bourbon. Prince Metternich, Austrian minister of foreign affairs, responded in an effort to bring

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peace to Europe, and arranged for Napoleon to marry a Merovingian princess, Archduchess Marie Louise of the House of Habsburg.¹⁸ Freemasonry feared that the Emperor's power might be perpetuated with this alliance, the consequence of which would be an heir to his throne. A second Napoleon would cause danger to the universal republic. Freemasonry could otherwise inaugurate at the death of the first Napoleon.

Msgr. Dillon writes that Freemasonry observed as the Emperor "began to show a coldness for the sect, and sought means to prevent it from the propagandism of its diabolical aims. Then Freemasonry became his enemy, and his end was not far off."¹⁹

In 1810 Napoleon became the first excommunicate of Freemasonry. Msgr. Dillon writes that in 1812, "Members of the sect urged on his mad expedition to Moscow. His resources were paralyzed; and he was, in one word, sold by secret, invisible foes into the hands of his enemies."²⁰

Sion and Charles Nodier

While the French Lodges on the Continent were distancing themselves from Napoleon, Masonic intrigue across the channel began to develop in 1811. Freemason and German prince William of Hesse was negotiating with England for landing on the coast for combined action against the French.²¹ To assist the Germans, Freemason General Malet, a Philadelphian, made an attempt in 1812 to overthrow the Empire, using England as his base of operation. Commander of the troops was General Massena, Grand Master of the Grand Orient,

who at that time was in disgrace with Napoleon. Implicated in the plot were Charles Nodier, Talleyrand and Generals Moreau and Trochet, all Freemasons.²²

Before embarking on their venture, one of the plotters addressed the assembly of Philadelphians. The speech hints of Sion when the speaker said the fall of the Emperor would be "the last of the oppressors of Jerusalem."²³ - an obvious reference to the Merovingian "King of Jerusalem" cult.

This daring conspiracy almost succeeded. General Malet, however, carried the secret of the Philadelphians to his grave. After Malet's defeat the Priory of Sion appeared to have laid down its arms and picked up the pen. Learning well from the Illuminati that control of the press was a more effective weapon, Grand Masters of Sion from that time forward used the press to manipulate public opinion.

The Priory of Sion had been plotting Napoleon's overthrow since 1804, when he declared himself Emperor. The individual assigned the task was Charles Nodier, the new Grand Master of Sion.

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Nodier was an excellent choice. Like Charles Radcliffe, he was born in the enemy's camp. Nodier's father, a Jacobin and an esteemed Master Mason in a Templar Lodge, was Mayor of Besancon and president of the town's revolutionary tribunal. The senior Nodier, in the forefront of Masonic activity and politics at the time, was apparently too busy to know, or even care about the subversive activities of his young and brilliant son.²⁴

Nodier the younger is what we would call today an "advanced learner" or prodigy. When he was taken in by the Philadelphians at age ten to be groomed to pilot the ship of Sion, he displayed an extraordinary ability in cultural and political affairs. "By the age of eighteen," write the authors of *Holy Blood, Holy Grail*, "he had established a literary reputation and continued to publish prolifically for the rest of his life, averaging a book a year."²⁵ In his own time "Nodier was regarded as a major cultural figure and his influence was enormous.

All other qualifications aside, Nodier's literary talent alone would have made him an excellent choice as Grand Master of Sion, for that is what prepared him for his final assignment - an assignment more important to illuminated Freemasonry than that which he had accomplished up to that time. In the 1830s Nodier and his associates were given the task of cataloging the Templar occult books and manuscripts that Napoleon had plundered from the Vatican in 1810.

One of Nodier's colleagues assisting in this task was Rosicrucian Louis Constant (alias Eliphas Levi 1810~1875).²⁷ In 1870 Levi would play a significant role in the Sionist plot against Napoleon III. According to Mackey's *Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, Eliphas Levi became a prolific writer about magical Freemasonry,²⁸ which esoterica he obviously had learned while methodically sifting through the Templar manuscripts. Charles Nodier was the first to experiment with deliberate and widely circulated disinformation, a task to which his great literary talents well suited him. In 1816 he wrote *A History of Secret Societies in the Army under Napoleon*. Nodier credits these secret societies with the downfall of Napoleon. Although the Grand Master does mention in his book that the Philadelphians are the main conspirators, he reputedly pledged not to reveal the real identity of their controllers. Nodier writes that "the oath which binds me to the Philadelphes. . . forbids me to make them known under their social ~

Nodier here admits that the Philadelphians were a "front" for a much larger conspiratorial secret society. *Holy Blood, Holy Grail* suggests that Nodier was concealing the Priory of Sion in the phrase "under their social name." But Sion was not a "social name." In fact, the existence of Sion was so secret that it did not become known to conspiracy

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researchers until our day, specifically in 1982 when *Holy Blood, Holy Grail* was published. What, then, is the "social name" to which Nodier refers?

The answer can be found by analyzing the Philadelphian plot. Since the Philadelphians used England as their base of operation, and considering the fact that most of the plotters were Rosicrucians, the "social name" to which Nodier was referring would seem more likely to have been the Rosicrucians, or their offspring, English Freemasonry. Possibly Nodier was suggesting that English Freemasonry engineered the plot to depose Napoleon.

At any rate, the Priory of Sion was never revealed. And in any case, Nodier's book suggested other conspirators and plots. The authors of *Holy Blood* describe the effect Nodier's book had on the European community:

Nodier's book burst on the scene when fear of secret societies had assumed virtually pathological proportions.... People saw, or imagined they saw, conspiracies everywhere.... This mentality engendered measures of extreme repression.

And the repression, often directed at a fictitious threat, in turn engendered real opponents, real groups

of subversive conspirators - who would form themselves in accordance with the fictitious blueprints.³⁰

Nodier left conspiracy hounds chasing phantoms. and Sion's Rosicrucian English Freemasons were free to continue their conspiracy. Whether this was the Grand Master's intended effect, or just an experiment. all future Grand Masters of Sion would manipulate public opinion through the press. This technique was perfected and practiced through "press leaks," which were oft times blatant lies. Other times partial truths, or actual facts were leaked. Leaks of this nature became known as misinformation, or disinformation. Such libels enabled Freemasonry to destroy anyone who did not adhere to the Masonic liberal line: clergyman, politician, king. president. or presidential appointee to the Supreme Court were all at risk.

The Fall of Napoleon

When Napoleon rose to power, French Freemasonry "became neither afraid nor revolted," writes Msgr. Dillon. "What did it desire in effect? To extend its empire - 'It permitted itself to become subject to

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despotism in order to become sovereign.' This gives us the whole reason why Masonry first permitted Napoleon to rule, then to reign, then to conquer, and finally to fall."³¹

When Talleyrand discovered that Freemasonry no longer approved of Napoleon's autocracy, he managed to distance himself from the Emperor and prepare for the coming change. In fact, all High Masons were ready to betray the Emperor. They had already determined his replacement should be one far removed from the Catholic Church. And, if at all possible, the new ruler should not be a member of the House of Bourbon. When Napoleon was sent into permanent exile, the French Masons demanded the Protestant and Masonic King of Holland for King of France. "This failing," says Dillon, "they contrived by Masonic arts to obtain the first places in the Provisional Government which succeeded Napoleon. They endeavoured to make the most of the inevitable, and to rule the incoming [Bourbon] Louis XVIII, in the interest of their sect, and to the detriment of the Church and of Christianity. " ³²

English Masonry and the House of Rothschild

When Continental Freemasonry began supporting Napoleon, the Brotherhood did not foresee that this would weaken its powerful hold on the European monarchs, who were either themselves Masons, or had ministers who were members of the Craft. According to Count Corti, when the Holy Grail kings finally realized that Illuminated Freemasonry was a conspiracy against their thrones, they shifted their allegiance to the resurrected German Tugendbund under the protection of the English Masonic Lodge at Hanover. From there they fought to regain, or to protect their thrones, aided by financing from the Rothschilds and the military might of Great Britain.³³

British Freemasonry was more than willing to defend the Merovingian kings of Europe. Her own aristocracy feared for their privileges with every victory of Napoleon. De Poncins quotes 33rd degree Grand Orient Freemason J.C. Corneloup, former Grand commander of the Grand College of Rites, who in 1963 in his *Universalism of French Freemasonry* said: "It is from this era in England that the unwritten but real triple alliance dates, between the Monarchy, the Church of England and Freemasonry - an alliance which to this day has been very effective."³⁴

Assisting the Masonic oligarchy was the world's most famous banking firm, the House of Rothschild. Its founder, Meyer Amschel

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Rothschild, had strategically located his sons in Europe to better service the monarchs' war against Napoleon. A well-circulated conspiracy legend was that in 1812, "Meyer Amschel gathered his five sons about his deathbed and divided Europe amongst them."³⁵ French police records, however, and the records of issued visas, prove this deathbed division a farce, revealing instead that the elder Rothschild's sons had been stationed throughout Europe a decade before Napoleon came to power. "Moreover," says Corti, Rothschild's "illness had come on quite suddenly and developed so rapidly that the idea of recalling the sons who were abroad could never have been considered."³⁶

When death did come to the old patriarch in 1812, his eldest son Amschel, and his youngest Carl, had

already been managing the bank in his home town of Frankfurt. Nathan, his most aggressive son, had been running their London branch since at least 1801. Solomon was living in Paris, and James (a 33rd degree Mason), who was maintaining communication between Solomon and Nathan in England, was living at Gravelines on the Channel coast in the Department Pas-de-Calais.³⁷

Shortly after Nathan Rothschild had arrived in London he had joined English Freemasonry.~ When the Napoleonic Wars threatened his royal patrons on the Continent, Nathan began seeking support for the European kings in the halls of the London lodges. Consequently, in 1807 the powerful English Navy blockaded all French ports. In 1812, however, Great Britain was at war with the upstart United States of America (War of 1812), and could not be stretched to land troops on the Continent. Finally, on December 24, 1814, London signed a treaty with America, freeing England's military resources. At the Congress of Vienna, when London was assured of the backing of the repentant monarchs who had renounced their Grand Orient affiliation, England's military might went into action for the European oligarchy.

Taking advantage of the weakness of the French Republicans, England sent Freemason Duke of Wellington from his campaign in Portugal to meet Napoleon at Waterloo. The battle could have gone either way, and indeed at one point Napoleon appeared to be winning. When the first military envoy carried to London the report of Napoleon's success over Wellington, the British stock market crashed. Nathan Rothschild cashed in on the low stocks and overnight became the wealthiest man in England, ultimately controlling its central bank. From that day to the end of his life, Nathan was known as "England's banker."³⁹

Some conspiracy authors have blamed Nathan for creating the stock market crash, accusing him of falsifying the earlier reports carried from the battle at Waterloo. According to Corti, however, that could not have happened, since the first report was secretly transported by a government envoy. Corti confirms that when Nathan, through his own

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channels, first heard of Wellington's victory over Napoleon, the stock market had already plunged, and Nathan bought up the stock. Moreover, when Nathan did receive his report of Wellington's victory, he did not withhold it, but rather, immediately gave it to the British government. The British government chose not to credit Nathan's report, believing instead the earlier report of its own military envoy. The British government delayed one full day until its second courier arrived to confirm Nathan's information. Corti narrates the details of these events:

On the resumption of hostilities in France, Herries [Commissary-in-chief for financing the British and Allied forces on the Continent] and Nathan [Rothschild] had returned to London, and were anxiously awaiting news of the result of the conflict. Nathan and his brothers had always made a particular point of letting one another have news as speedily as possible, either directly or through their business friends, of any important event that might influence their business, or be a determining factor in new undertakings. Nathan had promised prizes for the most speedy supply of news to boats sailing between England and the Continent. He also instructed his agents throughout the world to give him the earliest possible report regarding the outcome of the expected conflict. Such measures were of particular importance at that time, because none of the modern methods of conveying news had been invented - the stage post, that is, a series of messengers, being the usual way of obtaining it quickly.

Nathan's arrangements worked perfectly for the battle of Waterloo. One of his agents, whose name was Rothworth, waited at Ostend for news of the result. He succeeded in obtaining the first newspaper issue of the successful account of the battle, and with a copy of the Dutch Gazette fresh from the printers, he caught a boat just sailing for London.

He entered the British capital very early in the morning of June 20 [1815], and immediately reported to Nathan, who conveyed the news of victory to Herries, and through him to the British government.

The government [was] at first skeptical as [it] had not received any direct information, and Wellington's envoy, Major Henry Percy, did not arrive with the fieldmarshal's report until the 21st of June. The members of the British government were tremendously impressed by Nathan's advance knowledge of such an important event; and when this became generally known, the public, who were just beginning to learn of the extent to which Nathan was employed by the English Treasury, began

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to invent all manner of legends regarding the method by which Nathan had acquired this knowledge and the manner in which he had exploited it.

Some said that he had a private service of carrier-pigeons; others that he had been personally present at the battle of Waterloo and had ridden to the coast at top speed. In order to make the story more romantic, he was said to have found heavy storms raging when he reached the Channel and to have crossed at the risk of his life. Nathan was also alleged to have exploited the news on the stock exchange, thus at one stroke

creating the enormous fortunes of the Rothschilds.⁴⁰

In defense of the Rothschilds, Corti writes: "Nathan naturally applied the early information that he had obtained to his own profit in his business dealings. He was particularly skilful at exploiting the abnormal conditions of the period, conditions such as always give those with a gift for speculation an opportunity of enriching themselves, while those who stand by passively are reduced to poverty."⁴¹

Events of this nature occurred throughout the Napoleonic Wars. With the help of the Rothschilds and English Freemasonry, coupled with French Freemasonry's withdrawal from Napoleon, the Corsican fell. In fact the Grand Orient was so weakened by this time that it could not oppose the wish of the whole nation of France and was obliged to submit to the return of the Bourbons.

The Wealth of British Freemasons

Through the course of this Continental struggle, England, with its extensive coastline, was untouched by the wars. British merchants of the sea, better known as the British East India Company, transported desperately needed war materials, medicines (mostly opium), and supplies to the Continent. These merchants were all "born and bred" in English Freemasonry. As "Masonic Brothers" they were heir to trade monopolies with Great Britain's European allies. Although Napoleon attempted a blockade, the underground network of Masons on the Continent obedient to the English Grand Lodge helped smuggle war materials to their destinations. The British government encouraged these smugglers with prizes for breaking through the Napoleonic blockade.⁴² In this manner Nathan Rothschild was able to fund Wellington's army.

The oligarchy in British Freemasonry, including the House of Rothschild, became extremely wealthy and powerful. In contrast, the

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European kings, borrowing funds to fight a war of survival, were suffering near bankruptcy. Although the House of Rothschild came to their financial rescue, the loans were endless, building interest upon interest, gradually sapping the kings' wealth. Yet, they had no recourse. They needed the assistance for survival.

Napoleon, in an attempt to break the trade channels between Great Britain and Russia, went to war with Russia. Commerce originating from the shores of sea-girt England, however, could not be stopped, and the British oligarchy exerted an even more powerful political and financial influence upon the Continental sovereigns. At home London was able to devote her principal attention, practically undisturbed, to the development of her commerce and the prosperity of her citizens.

Corti writes that "Towards the close of the eighteenth century England was indisputably the most important commercial power in Europe, and the House of Rothschild had made an exceedingly clever move in arranging that one of its sons, and the most talented one at that, should take up his residence in that Kingdom."⁴³

The myth that the Rothschilds alone became wealthy during the Napoleonic Wars is unfounded. The entire British oligarchy benefited - indeed, the whole of Great Britain shared in the wealth. Subsequently, the Napoleonic Wars solidified the marriage between the Rothschilds and English Freemasonry. As a result the Rothschilds moved their banking headquarters to London, where it remains to this day. Moreover, at this point, we witness an awakening of English Freemasonry, which over the next century, gradually transferred the conspiracy headquarters for world dominion from Paris to London. The House of Rothschild was, of course, in a unique position to help; its involvement with English Freemasonry has caused some conspiracy researchers to declare this Jewish clan the Hidden Hand that planned these events.⁴⁴

As Corti however confirms throughout his book, this identification of the Rothschilds as the Hidden Hand is quite impossible. Although the Rothschilds had aligned themselves with the more powerful English Grand Lodge, they did not control the Sionist Masonic conspiracy. They were probably ignorant of it; the "Priory documents" significantly made no mention of their clan.

Templars and the Missionary Grand Orient

Following the Napoleonic Wars, the French Grand Orient reigned supreme in numbers on the Continent. Msgr. Dillon confirms that upon

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the defeat of Napoleon Bonaparte, the withdrawing French revolutionary armies left behind a deadly scourge

that could not be removed. That "deadly scourge" was the system of atheistic French Grand Orient Freemasonry.⁴⁵

From these European nations, Grand Orient Masonry was then transported to their colonies. For example, Italy took it to Sicily and Africa. Spain and Portugal shipped it to Central and South America, and to the Philippines. Russian soldiers, chasing the retreating Napoleon through Europe, stopped from time to time to investigate the function of Grand Orient Lodges. Many Russian officers fell under the influence of the Grand Orient's revolutionary ideas, carrying them back to their homeland. Russian historian Dmitri Merejkovsky informs us that when these officers returned to Russia, they founded in 1816 a lodge called *alliance de Salut*, "having for its aim the violent abolition of autocracy."⁴⁶

Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry writes of the failed revolutionary effort undertaken by this Russian lodge:

At the end of the Napoleonic Wars and with the return of the army to Russia this Masonic body grew to the extent of having forty lodges under [its] jurisdiction. These lodges under French influence turned their attention to politics, and ended their career in the turmoil of the attempted Revolution in December, 1825.⁴⁷

But the lodges did not end their "turmoil" after their 1825 failure, as Mackey would have us believe. Paul Fisher, using the February 1945 issue of the Scottish Rite *New Age* magazine as his source, tells how the Russian revolutionists fled to France, where they were protected and rejuvenated by the Grand Orient lodges and returned to Russia to continue their "turmoil":

"[A]fter 1825, many Russian Masons exiled themselves to France where lodges operating in the Russian language were sponsored by the Grand Orient. Some of the exiles later returned to Russia, and organized lodges in St. Petersburg and Moscow. Later, additional lodges were organized in the early 20th Century and had an avowedly political aim and view: namely, that of the overthrow of the autocracy."⁴⁸

The reign of Napoleon Bonaparte has been the most flourishing epoch of Freemasonry.⁴⁹ This, in spite of the fact that Napoleon was defeated, exiled to Elba, and the House of Bourbon returned to the French throne.

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Plans to Thwart Templar Republicanism

During the seventy-five years leading up to the French Revolution, the European kings had cooperated with the tide of Illuminism, either by ignoring it, tolerating it, or joining it through initiation into Continental Freemasonry. They remained, however, absolute monarchs. As such, few had aligned themselves with English Freemasonry. They detested the constitutional monarchy at London, well aware why English Free-masonry favored that system of government. As absolute sovereigns, they wanted no part of it. The Napoleonic Wars, however, forced them to reconsider. Hence, two oligarchic congresses, Vienna in 1815 and Verona in 1822, were held to solidify the unity of European royalty under the British Masonic banner. English Freemasonry represented royalty's only hope against the Templar Republicans.

The Congress of Vienna (September 1814 to June 1815) was the most distinguished political assemblage in European history. The "Big Four" - Russia, Prussia, Austria, and Great Britain - were the major victors over Napoleon. The alliance of their forces, which ousted the Corsican, was the brilliant plan of Metternich, Austrian minister of foreign affairs. Together they had defeated and exiled Napoleon to Elba. The House of Bourbon reclaimed the throne of France. During the Congress, however, Napoleon did break out and create some mischief for a short time before he was defeated at Waterloo, then banished to St. Helena. At Vienna, however, the name of Metternich was on everyone's lips, for he had designed the brilliant defeat of Napoleon.

Also present at the Congress were delegates from Sweden, Denmark, Spain, Portugal, the Papacy, Bavaria, Saxony, Wurttemberg, and defeated France - the latter represented by none other than the Illuminatus and wily double agent of Sion, Talleyrand.⁵⁰ Through this mole, the Grand Master of the Priory of Sion was undoubtedly kept abreast of the proceedings.⁵¹

The Merovingian sovereigns represented at the Congress understood well their royal heritage. The never-ending conflict between the Knights Templar and the Priory of Sion, then raging between French and English Freemasonries, had in the past dashed Sion's dreams of world conquest. The Merovingians were aware that the Napoleonic Wars were just another attempt by the Templars to usurp their thrones. They feared that this recent conflict would not be the last, yet hoped the Congress would establish their millennium-old goal of placing their "King of Jerusalem" on the throne of a United Europe - ultimately to rule a united world.

Four major strategies were developed at the Congress of Vienna to keep Templar Republicanism in check: (1) return the Catholic Church

to its original unifying status, a status from which the monarchs had so foolishly departed; (2) establish a powerful monarchical Federation of Europe to prevent the spread of Templar Grand Orient republicanism; (3) reconsider the plight of the Jews, whose previous persecution by the monarchies resulted in their emancipation by their Templar adversary; and (4) establish Switzerland as a neutral State to store their movable wealth should another Templar eruption occur.⁵²

The first topic was not difficult. Before the French Revolution the sovereigns had been deceived into uniting with their Templar adversary, hoping that within French Freemasonry there would be the opportunity to cast off the yoke of Roman Catholicism. At the Congress they realized their error and felt they had to return Catholicism to its original status. Their only obstacle was Czar Alexander I. He was not of Grail blood, and the Christianity of his kingdom was not Roman. Beginning in the 15th century, his nation was Christianized and religiously governed from Constantinople, the Eastern Orthodox Church. Besides, Alexander was solidly anchored in the enemy's camp. He had been steeped in Grand Orient Freemasonry, trained and guided by the depraved in that degenerate society. The Western European kings could progress no further with him, other than agreeing in their mutual desire to rid the world of Napoleon.

The Oligarchy and Catholicism

Before Napoleon's defeat, the European monarchs had watched in horror as this little Emperor-General progressively destroyed one throne after another through the aid of Republican Grand Orient Freemasonry. As a result many sovereigns who had joined Continental Freemasonry renounced their affiliation, paying dearly to embrace English Freemasonry.

At the two royal Congresses, these nobles began confessing their error one to another, some privately, some in broad speeches. One blue blood was the Comte de Virieu. Virieu had been a delegate at Wilhelmsbad representing the Masonic Lodge of Lyon, *Les chevaliers bienfaisants*. Upon his return to Paris from Wilhelmsbad, he said to a friend, "I shall not tell you the secrets which I have brought back, but what I believe, I may tell you, is that a plot is being hatched, so well contrived and so deep that it will be difficult for religion and for the government not to succumb."⁵³ At that he renounced Freemasonry and returned to the Catholic Church. He made this confession again at the Congress of Vienna.

At the Congress of Verona seven years later, Count von Haugwitz, who had accompanied his master the King of Prussia, confessed the part he had played in Grand Orient Freemasonry. His speech is recorded by both de Poncins and Dillon. Dillon quotes Haugwitz as saying,

[When I] arrived at the end of my career, I believe it to be my duty to cast a glance upon the secret societies whose power menaces humanity to-day more than ever. Their history is so bound up with that of my life that I cannot refrain from publishing it once more and from giving some details regarding it.

My natural disposition, and my education, having excited in me so great a desire for information, that I could not content myself with ordinary knowledge, I wished to penetrate into the very essence of things. But shadow follows light, thus an insatiable curiosity develops itself in proportion to the efforts which one makes to penetrate further into the sanctuary of science. These two sentiments impelled me to enter into the society of Freemasons.

It is well known that the first step which one makes in the order is little calculated to satisfy the mind. That is precisely the danger to be dreaded for the inflammable imagination of youth. Scarcely had I attained my majority, when, not only did I find myself at the head of Masonry, but what is more, I occupied a distinguished place in the chapter of high grades. Before I had the power of knowing myself, before I could comprehend the situation in which I had rashly engaged myself, I found myself charged with the superior direction of the Masonic reunions of a part of Prussia, of Poland, and of Russia.⁵⁴

Count Haugwitz continued his long confession describing how Free-masonry is divided into two camps, Deism versus Atheism, obviously referring to deistic English Freemasonry and atheistic French Freemasonry. Haugwitz confessed he was a member of both. Then he warned the Congress against French Freemasonry:

It was in the year 1777, that I became charged with the direction of one part of the Prussian lodges, three or four years before the Convent of Wilhelmsbad and the invasion of the lodges by illuminism. My action extended even over the brothers dispersed throughout Poland and Russia. If I did not myself see it, I could not give myself even a plausible explanation of the carelessness with which Governments have been able to

shut their eyes to such a disorder, a veritable state within a State. Not only were the chiefs in constant correspondence, and employed particular cyphers, but even they reciprocally sent emissaries one to another. To exercise a dominating influence over thrones, such was our aim, as it had been of the Knight Templars.
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Haugwitz concluded by informing the Congress how the illuminated Templar Grand Orient Lodges commenced the drama of 1789, known as the French Revolution. He lamented, "Of all my contemporaries of that epoch there is not one left - all have been killed.... [This] caused me to take the firm resolution of renouncing Masonry." 56

What deplorable excesses these sovereigns enjoyed for centuries, both tolerating and warring against the temporal dominions of the Catholic Church, they now feared at the hands of the Templars. The discussions at the Congress of Vienna were focused on the protection of their thrones from Templar Republicanism. Their first decision was to restore the Catholic Church to its previous Position. Dillon writes that

The temporal power [of the Church] was their stronghold, the rallying point of every legitimate authority in Europe. With a sure instinct of self-preservation, the schismatical Lord of Russia, the evangelical King of Prussia, the Protestant governments of England, Denmark, and Sweden, as well as the ancient legitimate Catholic dynasties of Portugal, Austria, Bavaria, and Spain had determined at the Congress of Vienna on the restoration of the temporal dominions of the Pope. The conservatives of Europe, whether Catholic, Protestant, or schismatic [Eastern Orthodox], felt that while the States of the Church were preserved intact to the head of the Catholic religion, their own rights would remain unquestioned - that to reach themselves his rights should be first assailed.⁵⁷

This led the world to believe that the kings of Europe were ardent Catholics, when in fact they used Catholicism only as a control mechanism. First, they were Sionist-Merovingians. Second, they were sovereigns. Third, they were Catholics, or if Protestants - tolerating Catholicism.

The Congress of Vienna was successful in restoring most of the ancient Italian states as well as the states of the Church to their legitimate (meaning hereditary) rulers.⁵⁵ It was unsuccessful, however, in its bid to counter the Grand Orient's proposed universal republic

with its own monarchical federation, which was the second topic considered at the Congress.

One-World Government Proposed

Under Napoleon, Templar Grand Orient Freemasonry failed to establish the United Republic of Europe. Now it was Sion's turn, protected by Rosicrucian English Masonry. At the Congress of Vienna, Prince Clemens Lothar von Metternich, Austrian minister of foreign affairs, introduced the concept of a United Federation of Europe. His plan was to form a confederation of kingdoms, each of which was to remain independent, yet having a common governing body at Vienna. The United Federation would combine its military under a powerful federal army for maintaining the peace. Weak states were to be occupied by the Army to halt the spread of republicanism.⁵⁹

Czar Alexander I refused to lend the support of his awesome 500,000-man army and thus the plan failed. He allegedly suspected Illuminati influence in the Congress and blocked its becoming an early League of Nations.⁶⁰ He wanted instead to divide the spoils of victory - with Russia, of course, receiving the greater part. The Durants write that in response to Alexander's desires,

Metternich sought allies against [Czar Alexander] among the delegates of the minor powers. He argued that the principle of legitimacy forbade such spoliation of a king as Russia and Prussia proposed in Saxony. They agreed, but how could they talk principle to a Russia that had 500,000 troops quartered on her western front? Metternich appealed to Lord Castlereagh, who spoke for England: Would not England be uneasy with Russia reaching through Poland and allied with a Prussia swollen with Saxony? What would this do to the balance of power east and west? Castlereagh excused himself; Britain was at war with the United States, and could not risk a confrontation with Russia.⁶¹

During these discussions, Napoleon had not yet escaped Elba to suffer his final defeat at Waterloo. Metternich, as a last resort, turned to the Priory of Sion's mole, Talleyrand. Metternich detested this crafty man, yet needed his help against Russia. Talleyrand promised Metternich a well-seasoned French army of 300,000 men. The Durants describe Talleyrand's negotiations and resolution of the situation:

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Talleyrand secured [the new Bourbon King] Louis XVIII's consent; the two diplomats won over Castlereagh now that peace had been made with America. On January 3, 1815, France, Austria, and Great Britain formed a Triple Alliance for mutual aid in maintaining the balance of power. Russia withdrew her claim to all Poland; and Prussia, having regained Thorn and Posen, agreed to take only two-fifths of Saxony. Talleyrand received most of the credit, and boasted that his diplomacy had changed France from a beaten beggar to again a major power.⁶²

Although the Czar of Russia did not obtain all that he had asked for, he sank the Venetian plan for a European federation of monarchs. His action would not be forgotten by Sion, nor would it be forgiven.⁶³ The next time the Grail bloodline was in a position to dominate the world, Russia would not be able to interfere, for there would be no Czar on its throne.

The Triple Alliance was all that Metternich could muster for his proposed federation of Europe. Although the Merovingians failed in their first attempt at creating a massive state, the concept never died. It did, however, tie the Venetian "King of Jerusalem" cult to British Freemasonry. Sion's plan for a United Europe was only delayed. It would surface again, but not for two centuries.⁶⁴

The Illuminati and the congress of Vienna

Talleyrand's involvement at the Congress of Vienna has convinced many conspiracy researchers that Weishaupt was secretly manipulating the proceedings. Revisionists have furthermore written Nathan Rothschild into the story, presenting him as the financial strong man behind Weishaupt. If true, Weishaupt would have attended the Congress, which was not possible, since he was in exile. Nor was Nathan Rothschild present at the Congress. As confirmed earlier, he was in London awaiting the outcome of Napoleon's new military ventures, which overlapped the Viennese Congress some six months.

In addition, as we have already discussed, there is no positive connection between Weishaupt and the Rothschilds. If Weishaupt had a representative at the Congress, the only logical person would have been Illuminatus Talleyrand. Talleyrand, however, was more intimate with Charles Nodier, the Grand Master of the Priory of Sion, than he was with Weishaupt. Both Talleyrand and Nodier, with the help of Sion's Philadelphians, had, on behalf of the Merovingians and English

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Freemasonry, conspired against Napoleon. If any leading conspirator influenced the Congress, it would have been Charles Nodier, not Weishaupt, and definitely not Nathan Rothschild. Rothschild's only concern in the outcome of the Congress was freedom for the Jews. For this reason alone the banking family sent representatives to the Congress, not to manipulate world events, but to lobby for Jewish emancipation. This was their only involvement, indeed their only concern at the time, which was the third consideration at the Congress. Corti clarifies the Rothschilds' concerns and interest in the Congress:

[T]he decision regarding the future status of the Jews was one of the questions to be settled by the Vienna Congress.... The choice of Vienna was not very acceptable to the Rothschilds, for Austria was the state which had hitherto so obstinately refused to enter into close business relations with them, and her statesmen, such as Ugarte, still did not really trust the upstart Jewish firm at Frankfort. Moreover, the Rothschilds well knew the strict police control to which foreign Jews were subjected at Vienna, and how greatly all Jews were restricted in their freedom to do business in Austria. As they were determined, however, to secure the desired business connections with the Austrian state, they were not tempted to make the realization of their plan more difficult through possible conflicts with the police at Vienna.

Such considerations caused the House of Rothschild to refrain from sending a member of the family there. The Frankfort Israelites sent old Bornes, Jacob Baruch, and J.J. Gumprecht, as their representatives. They were closely watched by the Viennese police; indeed their expulsion was ordered and sanctioned by the emperor himself; but Metternich intervened, and prevented this from being carried out. Metternich's intervention was probably due to the fact that he had known Baruch when he was ambassador at Frankfort.

There is no proof that Rothschild had any particular influence with the minister at that time.⁶⁵

Switzerland - The Oligarchy Strongbox

During the course of nine months, from September 1814 to June 1815, the crowned heads and their renowned diplomats had redrawn the map of Europe. They were not, however, secure in what they had accomplished. Although they scorned the theories of democratic

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government and opposed the doctrines of national self-determination, they feared the principles of the French Revolution. Not only had the Revolution endangered their sovereignty, it had compromised their wealth as well. The final agenda at the Congress was to remedy that problem.

The House of Rothschild had in the past played a significant role in the transport and protection of royalty's wealth, but in 1815 their banks were not in neutral nations. A nonpartisan location was needed to satisfy all parties. Austria was not acceptable. Moreover, the Merovingians were insecure in their remote headquarters in Vienna. Should the Templar Republicans revive, territory closer to the French border was more desirable for intelligence gathering. Switzerland had proven its strategic worth earlier. When the Big Four were closing in on Napoleon, Metternich had shifted Austrian imperial headquarters from Vienna to Freiburg, Switzerland, to better organize at close range his defense against the Corsican.⁶⁶ Hence, the decision was made at the Congress of Vienna to create Switzerland as a bank with an army attached.⁶⁷ Should the revolutions ever again regain momentum, and royalty be exiled from their respective lands, neutral Switzerland would protect them, as well as supply them with ample funds to live several lifetimes in luxury.

England, not hampered by the fears of the Venetian oligarchy and determined to safeguard her commercial and colonial interests, was fully agreed to ratify the neutrality of Switzerland. Before any financial moves were made, however, London required Swiss Grand Orients closed and replaced with Swiss Grand Lodges with English obedience. Only then would England cooperate.

In Paris on November 20, 1815, Switzerland's neutrality was guaranteed by France, Austria, Great Britain, Portugal, Prussia, Sweden, and Russia. A century later, in 1919, at the Treaty of Versailles, neutrality was again confirmed. In 1920 the League of Nations acknowledged Switzerland as "conditioned by a centuries-old tradition explicitly incorporated in international law."⁶⁸ The tradition of Swiss neutrality was again upheld from 1935 to 1945 - even while war raged around its borders.

The Congress of Vienna adjourned on June 18, 1815. Two days earlier Napoleon had been defeated at Waterloo. Over the next few decades the oligarchy's Grail bloodline moved their financial headquarters from Vienna to Zurich, Switzerland. Immediately they went to work absorbing the French Grand Orient Lodges, placing them under English Masonic obedience. Thirty-second degree Mason A.E. Waite, in *A New Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry*, gives us a century of history concerning the

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Masonic maneuvers in Switzerland. He reports that Swiss Freemasonry was founded by the British as early as 1736. In 1775 the Swiss lodges transferred their allegiance from English Masonry to the German Strict Observance. Under Napoleon the French Grand Orient invaded Switzerland, and a certain number of existing lodges came under its obedience. Geneva was ceded to France during the wars of Napoleon, and Swiss Masonry then became an appendage of the French Grand Orient. In 1818, as demanded by London, English Masonic obedience began to replace the Grand Orients, except in Geneva where the aristocracy permitted one Grand Orient Lodge to function.⁶⁹

By 1844 fourteen lodges in Switzerland had united under English obedience, agreed to a Grand Lodge Constitution, and organized the Grand Lodge Alpina in Zurich.⁷⁰ Within a few decades Alpina headquarters moved to Geneva, next to its Grand Orient rival. From these two lodges, both within a neutral nation, both headquartered in the same city, Scarlet and the Beast would continue to plot their separate intrigues to dominate the world. From Geneva both the right wing and the left wing revolutions would spread over the face of the earth. In Geneva both would unite a century later.

