

BILDERBERG MEETINGS



BEHIND THE SCENES

By William P. Litynski

INTRODUCTION

The Prince presides at the First Bilderberg Conference, Oosterbeek, 1954



Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands presides over the inaugural Bilderberg Meetings at Hotel de Bilderberg in Oosterbeek, Netherlands in May 1954. The inaugural Bilderberg Meetings were held from May 29-31, 1954, three weeks after the Communist Vietnamese guerrillas defeated the French army at the Battle of Dien Bien Phu. The inaugural Bilderberg Meetings occurred during the ongoing Geneva Conference (April 26, 1954- July 20, 1954) between France, Britain, Soviet Union, Communist China, and America.



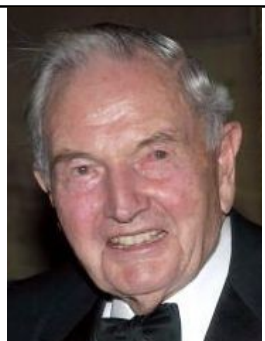
This photograph was taken at the first Bilderberg Meetings at Hotel de Bilderberg in Oosterbeek, Holland in 1954. Hugh Gaitskell is in the far corner of the room, scratching his chin. (Photo: <http://www.bilderberg.org/bildhist.htm>)

George W. Ball and David Rockefeller on the Bilderberg Meetings, in their own words



George W. Ball
Under Secretary of State
(1961-1966); Senior
Partner of Lehman
Brothers (1969-1982)

“As a result of this and later meetings, plans were made for our first session to be held at the Hotel Bilderberg at Oosterbeek, Holland. It was an old-fashioned summer hotel in a wooded park, and, concerned for the security of so many famous guests, the government had established a plainclothes guard behind every tree. Amused by such highly visible precautions, I told the Prince on the second day that I was going stir crazy; we then speculated on the chances of my getting out of the hotel and to the main road without getting shot. Thereafter, for twenty-seven years, our group met at least once a year at a quiet retreat (usually a tourist hotel off season) for two and a half days of serious discussion. In addition, there were small meetings of the Steering Committee, held until recently at Soestdijk Palace, Prince Bernard’s country home. Except during my years in the government, I was a member of the Steering Committee from the formation of the group until 1979. Then the Bilderberg founders turned it over to a younger group, although I remain an adviser. I have attended every Bilderberg meeting with one exception. **The Bilderberg meetings primarily concentrate on a single objective: to try to clear up abrasive problems and attitudes that could poison effective relations between America and Europe.** The meetings are attended by the members of a permanent steering committee of Europeans and Americans and by other men and women of achievement and competence specially invited on each occasion. Attendance is limited to roughly eighty persons. **Candor is assured by ground rules that forbid anyone to discuss the meetings except in the most general way or, in outside conversation, to attribute expressed views to any individual. At each meeting, there is a political and an economic problem to which the discussion is addressed.** All views are taken as individual expressions; no one speaks for his government, his political party, or any other organization. The real distinction of Bilderberg is not, however, its ground rules but the extraordinary quality of those who attend the meetings. There is hardly a major political figure from Europe or the United States who has not been invited at least once. Of the present or recent heads of government, Helmut Schmidt, the German Chancellor, has attended several times, and among others who have come one or more times have been Valery Giscard d’Estaing, Harold Wilson, James Callaghan, Edward Heath, Margaret Thatcher, Rene Pleven, Guy Mollet, Pierre Mendes-France, as well as Prince Philip, Denis Healey, Dean Rusk, Dean Acheson, Henry Kissinger, and Cyrus Vance...Bilderberg’s most valuable achievement has been to provide for the development of easy relations between individuals of disparate backgrounds, eating, drinking, walking – and constantly talking – together in isolated settings. When I joined the State Department in 1961, I was already well acquainted with most Western leaders. Some I knew particularly well, since we had been together at Bilderberg on more than one occasion.” – *The Past Has Another Pattern: Memoirs* by George W. Ball, p. 105-106



David Rockefeller
Chairman and CEO of
Chase Manhattan Bank
(1969-1981)

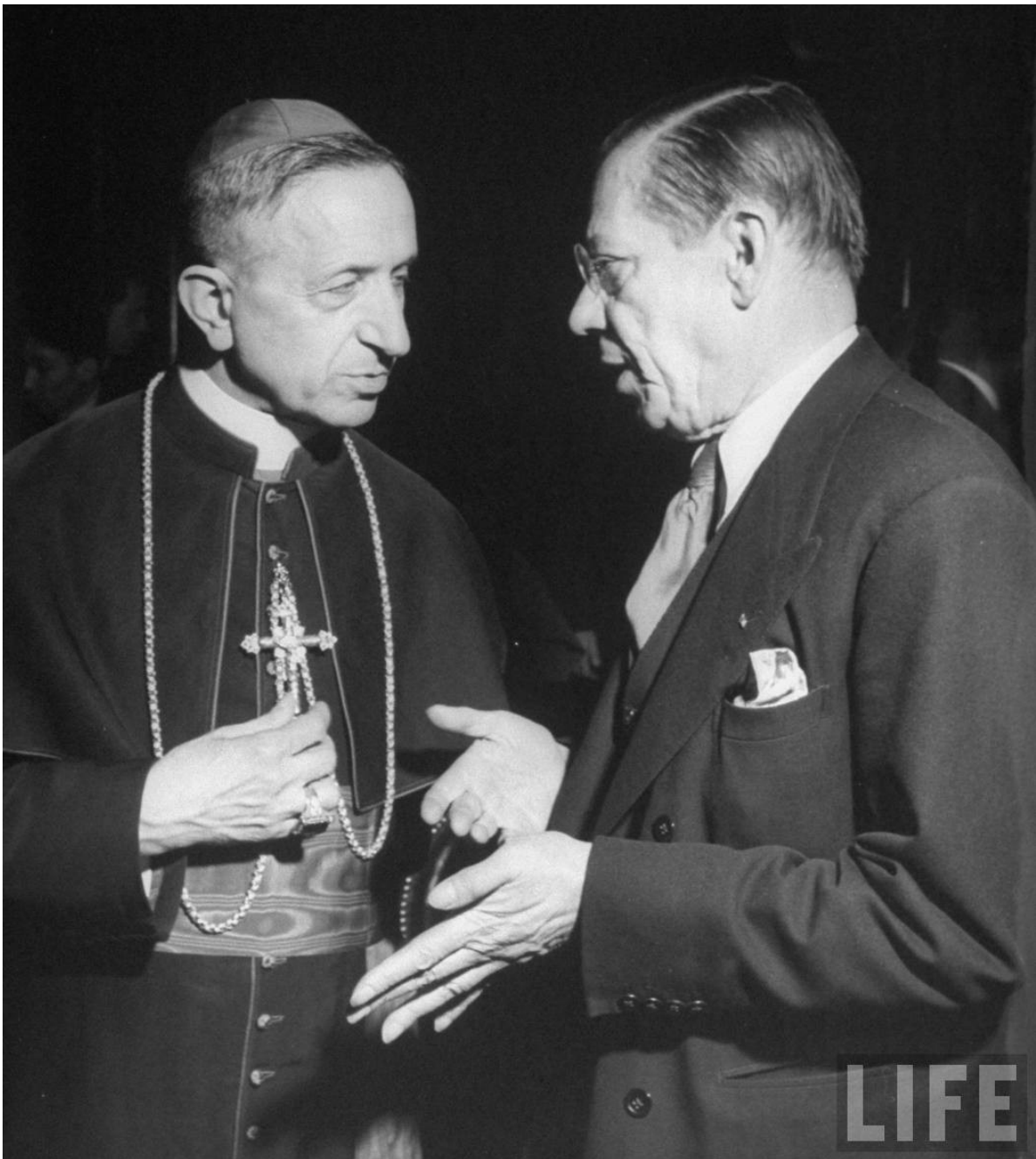
“If the Council on Foreign Relations raises the hackles of conspiracy theorists, **the Bilderberg meetings must induce apocalyptic visions of omnipotent international bankers plotting with unscrupulous government officials to impose cunning schemes on an ignorant and unsuspecting world.** At the risk of disappointing these conspiracy mongers, the truth is that Bilderberg is really an intensely interesting annual discussion group that debates issues of significance to both Europeans and North Americans – without reaching consensus. **Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands convened the first conference in May 1954 at the urging of Joseph Retinger**, a Pole of aristocratic origins who had served with British intelligence during World War II. Retinger, a dynamic and energetic man who spoke with a heavy accent and walked with a pronounced limp, was concerned about the tense relations within the Atlantic community. He persuaded Bernhard to convene a group of prominent individuals to discuss these matters. I was one of eleven Americans invited, and we joined fifty delegates from eleven Western European countries – a lively mosaic of politicians, businessmen, journalists, and trade unionists. I was surprised to have been invited in the first place and been more taken aback when Retinger asked me to prepare a background paper on prospects for the world economy from the American perspective...The conference had served a useful purpose, and the consensus was that we should meet again the following year under the continuing chairmanship of Prince Bernhard. We also decided to call the gathering “Bilderberg” after the hotel in Oosterbeek where we had first assembled.” – *Memoirs* by David Rockefeller, p. 410-411 (Chapter 27: Proud Internationalist)



The first Bilderberg Meetings (originally called the Bilderberg Group) was held at the Hotel de Bilderberg (above) in Oosterbeek, Netherlands, a small town near Arnhem (the site of a major World War II battle) from May 29-31, 1954.



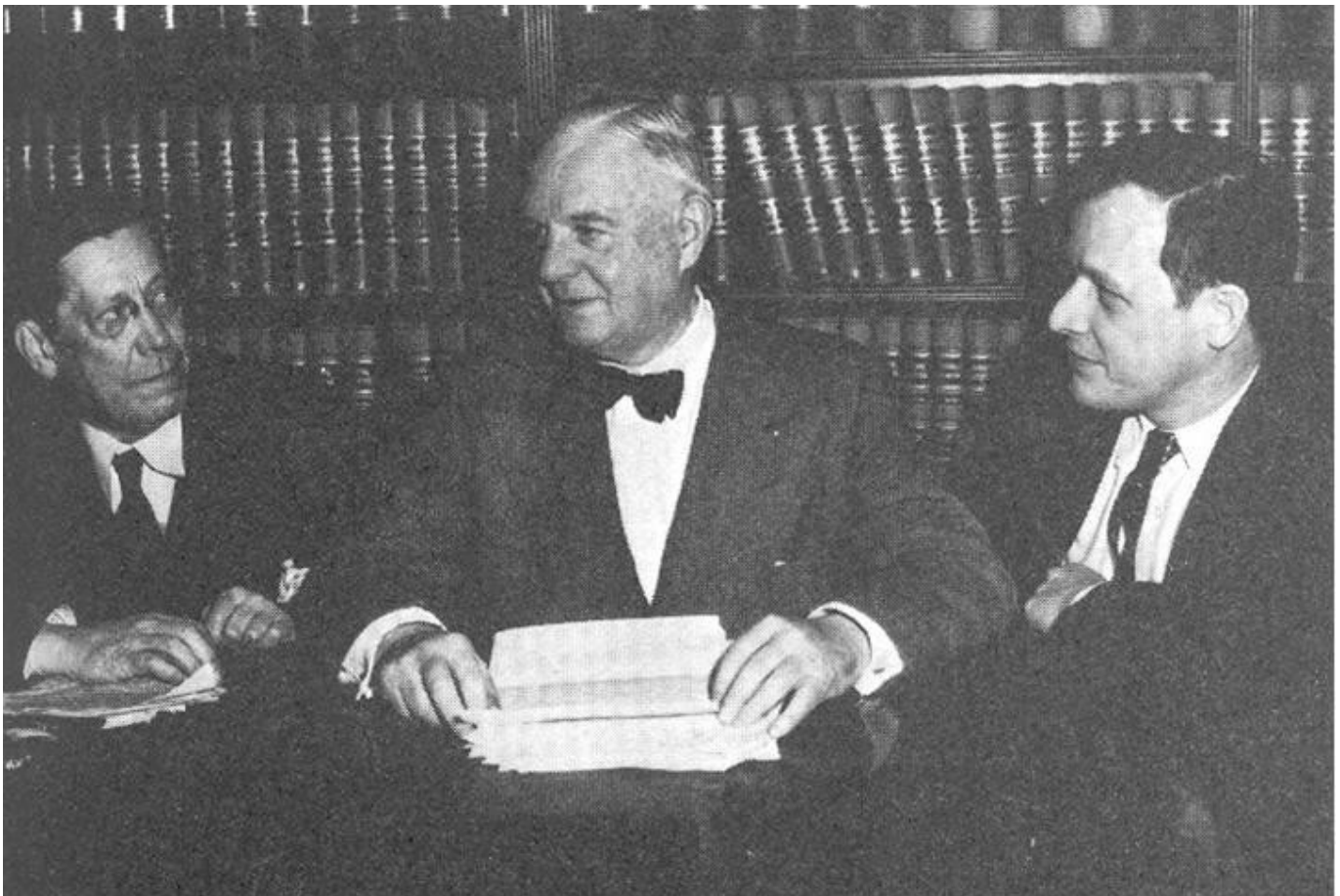
Left photo: Front cover of the Friday, June 9, 2006 edition of *Ottawa Citizen*, a Canadian newspaper
 Right photo: Vernon Jordan, Henry Kissinger, and other financial, corporate, and political powerbrokers meet behind closed doors at an expensive hotel at one of the annual Bilderberg Meetings to discuss economics, politics, and globalization.



Dr. Joseph H. Retinger (right) chats with Monseigneur Fernando Cento (left) during a meeting in Brussels, Belgium in March 1949. Dr. Joseph H. Retinger was the co-founder of the Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: [Dmitri Kessel/Time Life](#))



Both Bill Clinton (left) and Tony Blair (right) attended the Bilderberg Meetings once.



Joseph H. Retinger (left), secretary-general of the European Movement, was the co-founder of the Bilderberg Meetings, along with Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, and attended the first Bilderberg Meetings in 1954. Retinger is shown meeting with former OSS Chief William J. "Wild Bill" Donovan (center) and Thomas Braden (right), director of the Committee for United Europe. Both Donovan and Braden were members of the Council on Foreign Relations. This photo appears in *Donovan: America's Master Spy* by Richard Dunlop.



Left to right: Dean Acheson's wife, Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, his wife Queen Juliana of the Netherlands, and U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson appear at a formal reception party in the Netherlands in April 1952. Dean Acheson and Prince Bernhard attended several Bilderberg Meetings together. (Photo by George Skadding/Time Life Pictures/Getty Images)



President Harry Truman and First Lady Mrs. Truman welcome Queen Juliana of the Netherlands and her husband Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands at the Washington National Airport in Washington, D.C. on April 2, 1952. (National Archives)



President Dwight D. Eisenhower (right) and Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands enjoy a laugh together before their luncheon meeting at the White House in Washington, D.C. on March 6, 1954. The Prince was in the United States on an industrial inspection tour. Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands would preside over the first Bilderberg Meetings in Osterbeek, Netherlands nearly three months later. (Bettmann/CORBIS)



Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands pours out a glass of water during luncheon at the hotel at Grindelwald where he is staying with his wife Princess Juliana of the Netherlands and their daughter. The Dutch royal family maintained ties with Royal Dutch Shell in the past while the Rockefeller family maintained ties with various Standard Oil companies. (Underwood & Underwood/CORBIS)



THE DUTCH ROYAL FAMILY ON THE BALCONY OF THEIR SUMMER CASTLE DURING BEN-GURION'S VISIT TO WEST EUROPE IN 1961.

David Ben-Gurion, the Prime Minister of Israel, visits Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands at a castle in the Netherlands in 1961. Prince Bernhard was the Chairman of the Bilderberg Meetings from 1954 to 1976. When asked about his Nazi experience, Prince Bernhard replied: "We had a lot of fun." Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands was the co-founder of the Bilderberg Meetings, and he was a Nazi SS stormtrooper for a short time before World War II. Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann was prosecuted in an Israeli court in 1961 for exterminating Jews in concentration camps during World War II. This photo was published in page 61 of the book *Days of David Ben Gurion*, a book edited by Ohad Zmora, Mordechai Barkai, Nahum Pundak, and Israel Stockmann (Grossman Publishers, New York, 1967).



Bilderberg Meetings participant George W. Ball (left) sits beside Nazi German war criminal Albert Speer during an interview at Duke of Holstein's castle [Schloss Glucksberg] in Germany in March 1971. George W. Ball attended the 1971 Bilderberg Meetings in Vermont [U.S.A.] in April 1971. This photo appears in page 254 of the book *The Past Has Another Pattern: Memoirs* by George W. Ball.

Prelude to the Bilderberg Meetings in May 1954: Dien Bien Phu & The Fall of French Indochina



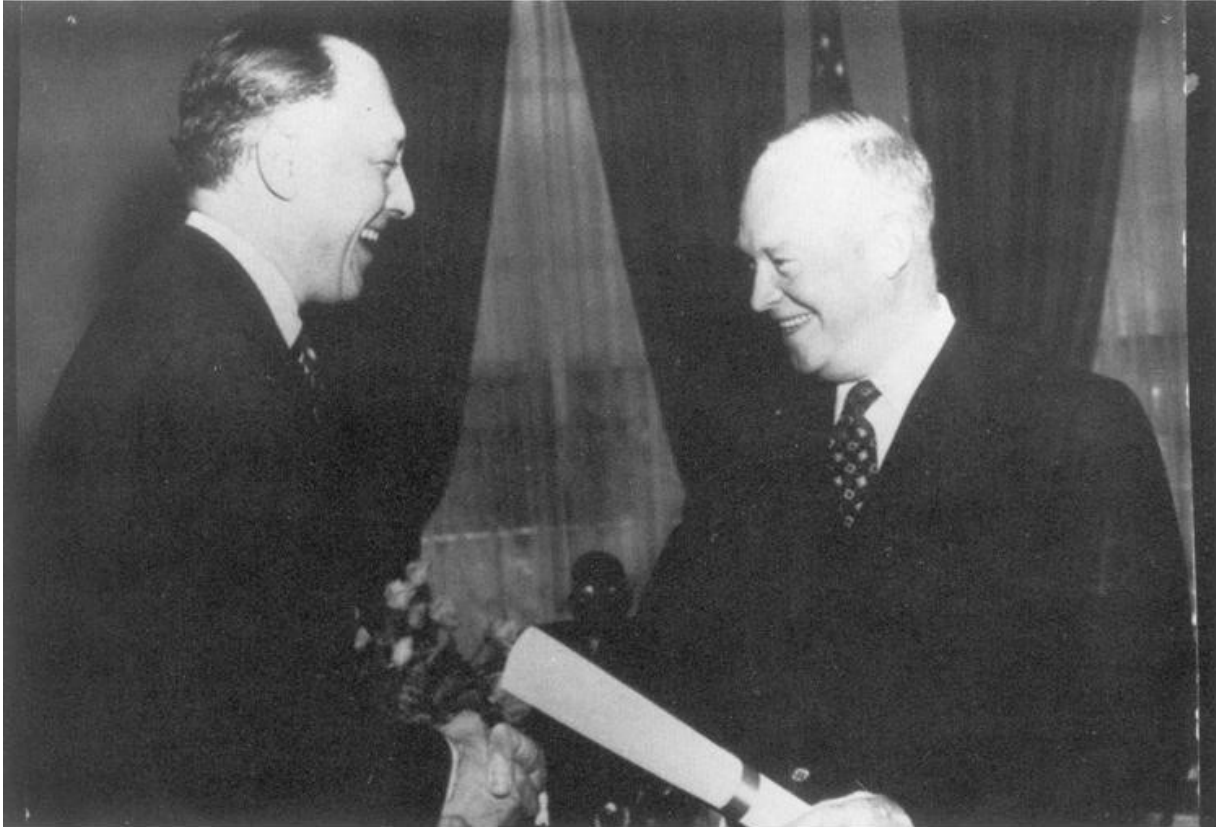
Supplies for the beleaguered French garrison in Dien Bien Phu are parachuted in. The Vietnamese occupied the high ground.

Battle of Dien Bien Phu in Vietnam in early 1954. The French army surrendered to the Viet Minh at Dien Bien Phu on May 8, 1954.



Diplomats meet together for the Peace Talks at the Geneva Conference prior to the signing of the "Geneva Accords" in Geneva, Switzerland in July 1954. The first Bilderberg Meetings in Oosterbeek, Netherlands were held in May 1954 during the ongoing Geneva Conference. (Bettmann/CORBIS)

Bilderberg Meetings Participants & American Presidents



U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower shakes hands with C.D. Jackson (left). C.D. Jackson received his commission as Special Assistant to the President and Chairman of the Psychological Strategy Board (later Operations Coordinating Board). C.D. Jackson was a *Time-Life* executive and one of the architects of the secret Bilderberg Meetings. (AP/Wide World Photos)
(Source: *Eisenhower: Turning the World Toward Peace* by Harold Stassen and Marshall Houts)



George C. McGhee, new U.S. Ambassador to West Germany, calls on U.S. President John F. Kennedy at the White House on May 14, 1963 to pay a farewell call before reporting to his new post, and to discuss the President's forthcoming visit to Germany. George C. McGhee was a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, a Bilderberg Meetings participant, and a Rhodes Scholar. (Bettmann/CORBIS)



U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson (right) speaks with (left to right) National Security Advisor Walt Rostow, Under U.S. Secretary of State George W. Ball, U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, and U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk about the NATO conference of June 1966 at the White House in Washington, D.C., U.S.A. on June 10, 1966. George W. Ball attended the 1966 Bilderberg Meetings that was held in Wiesbaden, Germany in April 1966. Rusk and McNamara attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Bettmann/CORBIS)



Prince Bernhard of The Netherlands (left) talks to U.S. President Richard Nixon.



National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger (left) and Chase Manhattan Bank Chairman and CEO David Rockefeller (center) listen as U.S. President Richard Nixon delivers a speech in November 1969. David Rockefeller attended the 1969 Bilderberg Meetings that was held in Marienlyst, Denmark in May 1969. (White House photo) (Source: *Memoirs* by David Rockefeller)



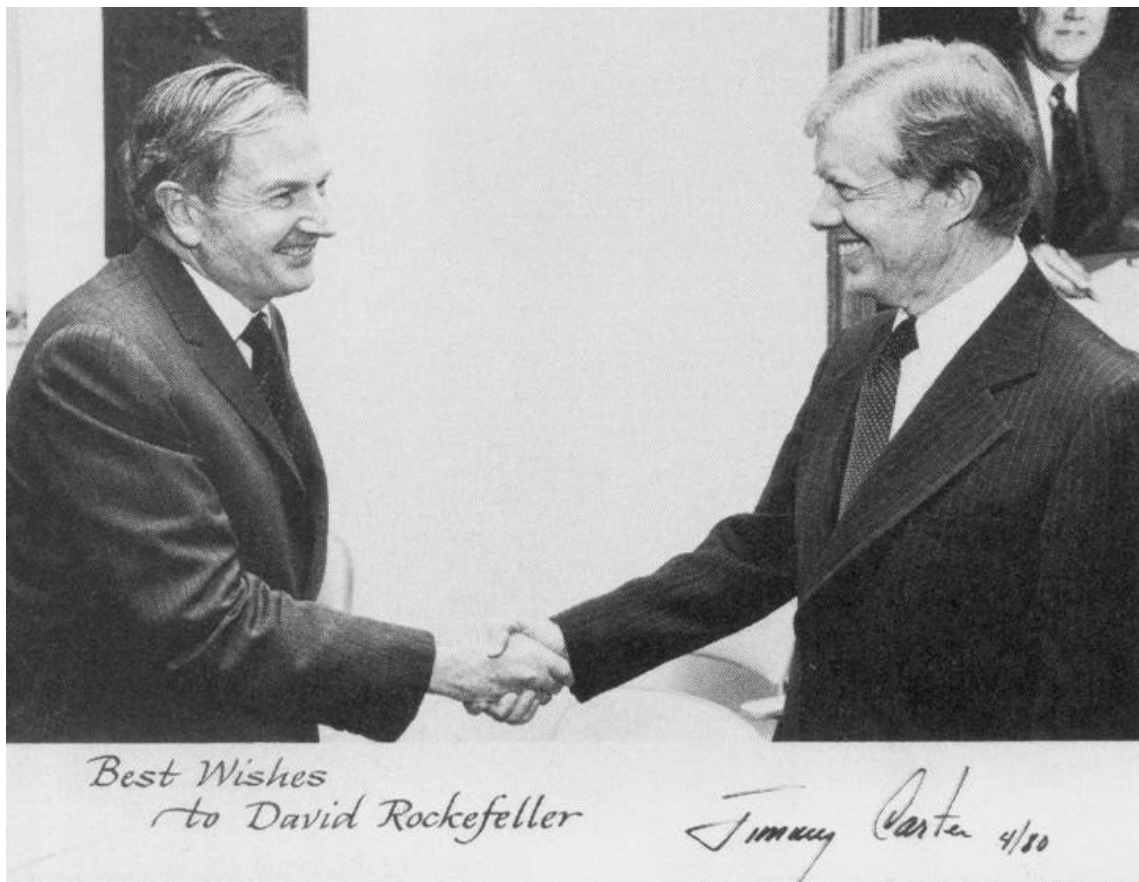
U.S. President Richard Nixon (2nd left) appears with U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger (left), U.S. Congressman Gerald Ford (2nd right), and White House Chief of Staff Al Haig (right) in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, D.C., U.S.A. on October 13, 1973. Kissinger and Ford attended the 1964 Bilderberg Meetings that was held in Williamsburg, Virginia in March 1964. (White House photo) (Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Image:FordNixonKissingerHaig.gif>)



To George Ball - best
wishes, & thanks -

Jimmy Carter
9-29-79

President Jimmy Carter and prominent dignitaries stand together at the White House in Washington, D.C., U.S.A. on September 29, 1979. Front row, left to right: Lloyd Cutler, GEORGE W. BALL, Averell Harriman, HENRY KISSINGER, Secretary of State CYRUS VANCE, President Jimmy Carter, DEAN RUSK, C. DOUGLAS DILLON, and McGEORGE BUNDY. Second row, left to right: JOHN McCLOY, Vice President WALTER F. MONDALE, unidentified, BRENT SCOWCROFT, Secretary of Defense Harold Brown, and HEDLEY DONOVAN. Third row, left to right: National Security Advisor ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI, unidentified, James R. Schlesinger, unidentified, unidentified, unidentified. (Note: CAPS = Bilderberg Meetings participants)
(Photo: George W. Ball Papers, Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library at Princeton University)



U.S. President Jimmy Carter greets David Rockefeller (left), the Chairman of the board of Chase Manhattan Bank, in April 1980. David Rockefeller attended the 1980 Bilderberg Meetings in Bad Aachen, Germany from 18-20 April 1980. (White House photo; Source: *Memoirs* by David Rockefeller)



Bilderberg Meetings participant Henry Kissinger (left) meets with U.S. President George H.W. Bush (center) and U.S. Secretary of State James A. Baker III.



U.S. President Ronald Reagan meets with former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in the White House residence on June 10, 1981. Henry Kissinger attended the 1981 Bilderberg Meetings in Burgenstock, Switzerland from 15-17 May 1981.
(Photo: Ronald Reagan Presidential Library)



David Rockefeller smiles as U.S. President Ronald Reagan receives a medal after Reagan delivered a speech to the Council of the Americas on May 12, 1987. David Rockefeller attended the 1987 Bilderberg Meetings in Villa D'Este, Italy from 24-26 April 1987.
(Photo by Tim Clary/Bettmann/CORBIS)



Former U.S. President Bill Clinton meets Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands at the Huis ten Bosch palace in The Hague, Netherlands on March 12, 2001. Both Bill Clinton and Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands attended the Bilderberg Meetings in 1991. (Reuters/Pool/Ed Oudenaarden)



Left photo: U.S. President George H.W. Bush walks beside Queen Beatrix of The Netherlands. Queen Beatrix's father is Prince Bernhard, founder of the Bilderberg Meetings and a former Nazi SS Storm Trooper. Right photo: President George W. Bush, Laura Bush, and former President George H.W. Bush welcome King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain to the Bush Ranch in Crawford, Texas on November 24, 2004.



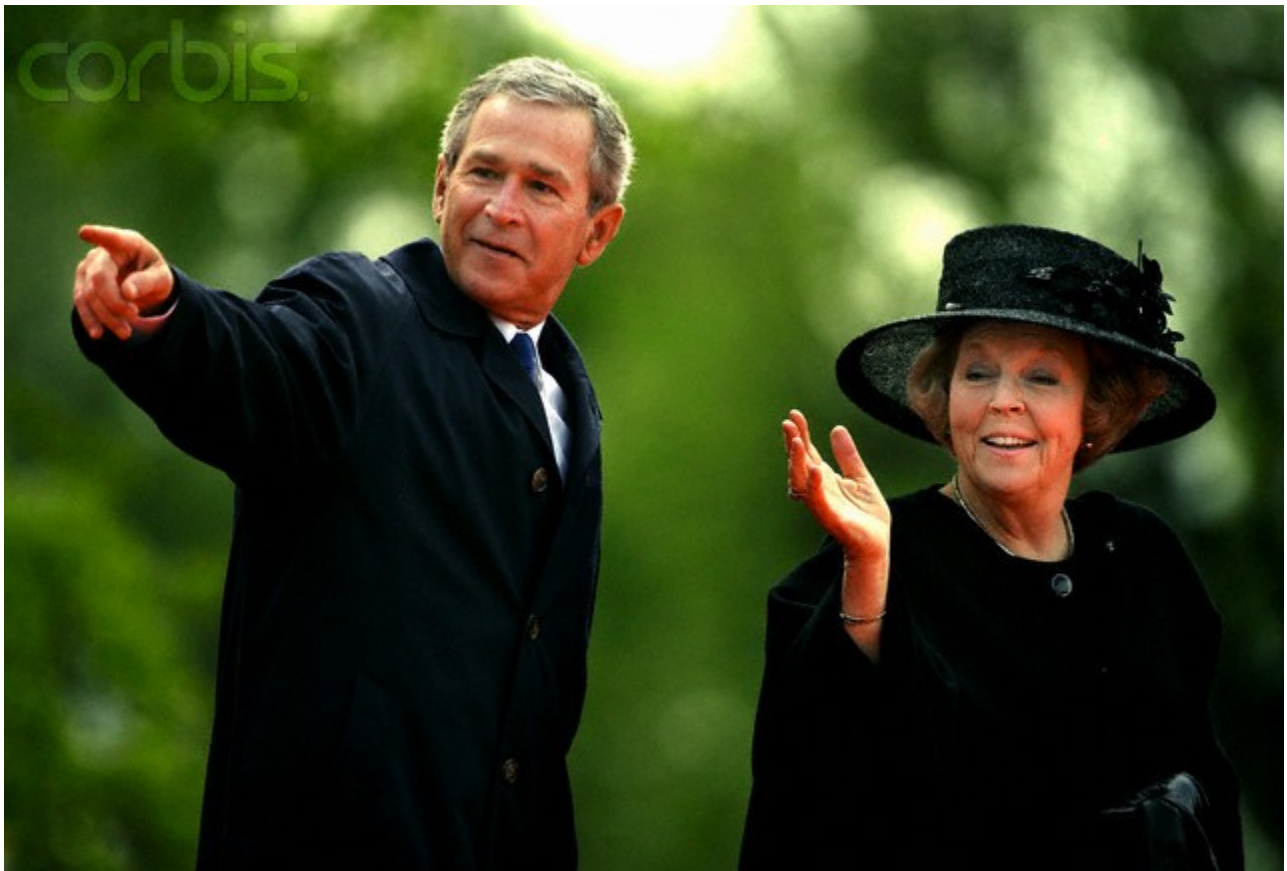
Then-Governor of Arkansas Bill Clinton attended the 1991 Bilderberg Meetings with Vernon E. Jordan Jr. (left) and James Wolfensohn (right). Clinton was nominated as a presidential candidate for the Democratic Party in 1992 and was elected as President of the United States.



President George W. Bush meets with James Wolfensohn, the outgoing President of the World Bank, on April 14, 2005 at the Oval Office of the White House. James Wolfensohn is a regular Bilderberg Meetings participant. ([White House photo by Paul Morse](#))



President George W. Bush greets Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz in the Oval Office on March 16, 2005. Paul Wolfowitz is a regular Bilderberg Meetings participant. ([White House photo by Paul Morse](#))



America's President George W. Bush (L) appears with Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands at a U.S. cemetery at Margraten near Maastricht, Netherlands on May, 8, 2005, after laying a wreath at the cemetery, where around 8,000 Americans soldiers from World War II are buried. (© JERRY LAMPEN/Reuters/Corbis)



President George W. Bush (left) waves as the former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger smiles for the camera during a meeting at the Economic Club of New York in New York City on March 14, 2008. George W. Bush appointed Henry Kissinger as the Chairman of the 9/11 Commission; Henry Kissinger resigned to avoid releasing his client lists. (Reuters)



U.S. President Barack Obama (C) meets with former U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz (L) and former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger (R) in the Oval Office of the White House on May 19, 2009. Henry Kissinger is a member of the Trilateral Commission and a regular Bilderberg Meetings participant. Henry Kissinger and George Shultz are members of the Council on Foreign Relations. (Reuters)



President Barack Obama, right, drives a golf cart with businessman Vernon Jordan, left, while playing golf at Farm Neck Golf Club in Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts, U.S.A. on the island of Martha's Vineyard on August 23, 2011. Vernon Jordan is a regular Bilderberg Meetings participant. (Steven Senne/AP Photo)



U.S. President Barack Obama meets with Italy's Prime Minister Mario Monti in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, D.C. on February 9, 2012. (Reuters)



U.S. President Barack Obama (right) shakes hands with Sweden's Foreign Minister Carl Bildt (center) as British Foreign Secretary William Hague (left) looks on at the start of the International Security Assistance Force meeting on Afghanistan during the 2012 NATO Summit at the McCormick Place convention center in Chicago on May 21, 2012. (Getty Images)

Extract from *H. R. H. Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands: an authorized biography* by Alden Hatch

The Hôtel de Bilderberg

At a small hotel near Arnhem in the deeply wooded uplands of eastern Holland on May 29, 30, and 31, 1954, a group of eminent statesmen, financiers, and intellectuals from the principal nations of Europe and the United States met together in, perhaps, the most unusual international conference ever held until then.

There was absolutely no publicity. The hotel was ringed by security guards, so that not a single journalist got within a mile of the place. The participants were pledged not to repeat publicly what was said in the discussions. Every person present—Prime Ministers, Foreign Ministers, leaders of political parties, heads of great banks and industrial companies, and representatives of such international organizations as the European Coal and steel Community, as well as academicians—was magically stripped of his office as he entered the door, and became a simple citizen of his country for the duration of the conference. Thus everybody could and did say what he really thought without fear of international, political, or financial repercussions.

That meeting and the subsequent ones that stemmed from it, which have had a great if indefinite impact on the history of our times, are, perhaps, in this writer's opinion, Prince Bernhard's proudest achievement in the field of Western unity and international amity.

It was not Bernhard's original idea, but had its inception in the brilliant brain of Dr. Joseph H. Retinger. Retinger was an extraordinary character who flitted through Europe talking on intimate terms with Prime Ministers, labour leaders, industrial magnates, revolutionaries, and intellectuals—in short, all the non-Communist rulers and would-be rulers of the free nations of Europe.

Kraków, in Austrian Poland, was Retinger's birthplace; his parents were landed gentry. When he went to the Sorbonne in Paris in 1906, at the age of eighteen, this boy talked his way into the heart of that city's literary and artistic life, and was called friend by such as André Gide, Giraudoux, François Mauriac, Maurice Ravel, and the raffish Marquis Boni de Castellane. When he moved on to England, Herbert Asquith, his wife, outspoken Margot, and Lord Balfour took him into their circle, and his most intimate friend was his fellow-Pole, Joseph Conrad.

Retinger had what C. D. Jackson calls "a built-in instinct for intrigue" and a passionate love for Poland. During World War I his machinations for a free Poland made him uniquely unpopular. The Central Powers put a price on his head, the Allies banned him from all their countries, and the United States threw him into jail. These experiences taught him to be a better diplomat.

In World War II Retinger was closely associated with General Sikorsky, head of the Polish Government in Exile, as liaison man with the other exiled Governments. In 1944 General Sir Colin Gubbins of The S.O.E. (the super-secret Special Operations Executive) arranged for him to be parachuted into Poland with several million dollars for the Polish Resistance. At the age of fifty-six Retinger jumped at night into a field in enemy territory, and accomplished his mission. However, his legs became paralysed, probably as a result of the jump, and he had to be spirited out of Poland on a stretcher.

From that time until his death in 1960 Dr Retinger devoted his life to his one impassioned, idealistic purpose of uniting and strengthening the Western world against the danger from the East.

Jackson says, "He was a sort of Eminence grise of Europe, a Talleyrand without portfolio." Certainly he had almost as many adventures as Ian Fleming's famous secret-service operative James Bond.

Retinger was a frail, delicate little man with a deeply seamed face and quizzical eyes behind blue-tinted spectacles. His big jaw was never still, for he talked volcanically. After the parachute jump he always walked with a cane. C.D. Jackson, who often clashed with him, said Retinger was "a very difficult, very opinionated man who would not take no for an answer and often achieved his purpose by very devious means. But nevertheless he was fearless and determined, a tremendously gallant guy."

Though people persist in calling Retinger an eighteenth-century man functioning in the twentieth century, he was not that at all. He came straight out of the Renaissance. Instead of the sceptical, précieuse attitude typical of the eighteenth century, his Jesuitical conviction that the end justified the means, and a Borgian aptitude for intrigue; but the ends he sought were never selfish. They were good.

Though his name is virtually unknown except to the initiates, he made more history in his secret way than many a man who moved to the sound of trumpets and the howl of motor-cycle sirens. According to the official publication of the European Centre of Culture, "Retinger was the key figure in most of the great European union. The League of European Economic Cooperation (from which evolved the Common Market), the European Movement, and . the European Centre of Culture would not have seen the light without him. The Congress of Europe at The Hague was his doing, and the Council of Europe grew out of that."

Being above all a realist, Retinger understood that even a united Europe could not stand by itself without America. In 1952 he became deeply concerned about the rising tide of anti-Americanism in practically every country of Western Europe. It was not confined to Communist-influenced or left-wing circles, but was equally prevalent among conservatives and liberals. The United States was disliked, feared, and sneered at with a unanimity that was remarkable among the peoples of Europe. This feeling threatened the solidarity of the Western world's defences against Communism.

Retinger was not the type of man to sit wringing his hands. He evolved a brilliant plan for coping with this situation, but he needed powerful assistance to put it into effect. So he asked his friend Dr. Paul Rijkens to get him an appointment with Prince Bernhard, who has described their meeting:

"It all started when Retinger came to me and sat here in this room and told me about his worries concerning the rising tide of anti-Americanism in Europe. I was worried about it, too. It seemed illogical in the face of the Marshall Plan, military assistance, NATO, etc., which had done so much for all of us. I suppose it was partly the natural human instinct to bite the hand that feeds you, and partly real grievances. I said to him, 'Yes, you're quite right. It's very bad.' Retinger said, 'Well, would you like to do something about it?' And I said, 'Of course.'"

Sitting on the edge of an easy chair in Bernhard's trophy-filled study, with his cane between his spindly legs, his inevitable cigarette burning furiously, and his eyes shooting sparks behind his blue-tinted spectacles, Retinger outlined his plan for bringing about better understanding between the touchy, suspicious Europeans and Americans. It consisted of two parts. The first was to get the leaders of opinion in the most important European countries to make an appraisal of where the Americans were wrong, apart from being rich, powerful, generous, and rather stupid, and what they could do to put things right.

The second was to present this frank critique to leaders of American opinion and give them an opportunity to answer the indictment at a completely private meeting of top-level people from both continents.

Bernhard was all for it, but an unusual instinct for caution made him say, "It sounds wonderful, but I'd like another opinion. Let's find out what van Zeeland thinks about it." (Van Zeeland was Prime Minister of Belgium.)

Van Zeeland thought something should be done, and quickly. Reinforced by his approval, Bernhard went to work with Retinger reckoned, could supply the answers. The idea was to get two people from each country who would give the conservative and liberal slant. Then Bernhard, using his personal prestige and royal leverage, induced, with the help of Retinger, who knew practically all of them, most of those selected to co-operate.

It was quite a list. Van Zeeland wrote a paper for Belgium, Hugh Gaitskell and Lord Portal spoke for Great Britain, Prime Minister Alcide de Gasperi for Italy, Foreign Minister Ole Bjørn Kraft of Denmark for Scandinavia; Guy Mollet (former Socialist Prime Minister) and Conservative Prime Minister Pinay for France, and Max Brauer, Otto Wolff von Amerongen, and Dr Müller for West Germany. Prince Bernhard himself handled the complaints of Holland, with the help of leading Dutch politicians and industrialists.

When all the reports came in Bernhard and Retinger found that many people of different countries and different parties gave the same reasons for disliking Americans, although there were, of course, some people with special grouses of their own. Bernhard, Retinger, and Rijkens synthesized the answers into a single report covering the main criticisms. Then Bernhard sent it confidentially to some of his American friends with the proposal that they organize an answer.

The election of 1952 was in full swing in the United States, and political brickbats were flying. Nobody had any time for Prince Bernhard. Averell Harriman said, "I won't touch it. It's dynamite." Eisenhower said, "Great! I'd like to use it in the campaign," to which Bernhard replied, "Good God, NO!"

The matter had to go over until after the election. Then Bernhard went to the United States-and, incidentally, got the bad news from Walter Reed. He saw a number of American politicians, and after several more rebuffs he went to his friend Bedell Smith, who was then head of the C.I.A. Smith said, "Why the hell didn't you come to me in the first place?"

Even then things moved slowly. Smith became Under-Secretary of State for newly elected President Eisenhower, and was engulfed in the business of putting a new administration together. He finally turned the matter over to C. D. Jackson, a special assistant to the President, and things really got going.

Jackson got in touch with John S. Coleman, President of the Burroughs Corporation of Detroit, who was a member of the newly formed Committee for a National Trade Policy under the presidency of Senator Robert Taft's brother, Charles Taft. This committee undertook to draft an American reply, and a number of private citizens. Other famous Americans were invited. Most of the administration officials ducked nervously, so the American delegation was rather weighted towards industry, but it included such eminent Americans as Joseph

E. Johnson, of the Carnegie Endowment of International Peace, Dean Rusk, then head of the Rockefeller Foundation, as well as David Rockefeller and H.J. Heinz II.

All this took time, which is why the first meeting did not take place until May 1954. By then, in spite of Eisenhower's personal popularity, the United States was at an all-time nadir of popularity in Europe. As the Europeans saw it, a soldier was in the White House, even though he was the least militant of military men. The Government was in the hands of the conservative Republican Party for the first time in twenty years. And, worst of all, Senator McCarthy was roaring through the land witch-hunting for Reds. His arrogant stooges had just completed their book-burning tour of American embassies in Europe, and the whole American career image of America, erstwhile land of democracy and freedom, was covered with mud.

Under these circumstances it looked as though there would be a heated session at the Hôtel de Bilderberg. Prince Bernhard, who was chairman, said, "The meeting was most encouraging because people accepted the idea that there would be no publicity, and everybody could speak for himself, irrespective of his position, quite frankly-and fight!"

At the memory Prince Bernhard's eyes lit up, and he said, "It was a beautiful meeting because sparks were flying like crazy between Americans like C. D. Jackson and Britishers like Sir Oliver Franks and Denis Healey and Hugh Gaitskell."

Jackson himself described the meeting as follows:

"It was all very new and different. We were tucked away in a forest way back in Holland. There were no reporters. Tight security with guards all over the hotel. IN the opening hours every one was uneasy, nervous, sniffing each other like strange dogs. They were afraid to talk very much.

"Prince Bernhard was everywhere using his charming wiles. People began to thaw. Then they began to fight, which was good. The Prince kept things in hand. When feeling got too tense he was able to relax people with just the right witty crack, or assert his authority. Though he is so charming, he is made of pretty stern stuff. When he was to restore order he does so in such a way that no one can take offence. But there is no fooling. Order is restored."

Naturally the Europeans were continually needling the Americans about McCarthy. Many of them seemed genuinely fearful that the United States was heading for a Fascist dictatorship. Therefore, on the third day, Prince Bernhard announced, "Even though it is not on the agenda, there has been so much talk of McCarthyism that, if there is time, I am going to ask Mr. Jackson to tell us the American view on that."

There was time, and Jackson stood up to address the meeting. He is a big man, well over six feet tall, fourteen stone of muscular weight with a big domed head and a bold, jutting profile; impressive by his stature and his slow, judicial way of speech. Almost in the manner of a university professor, Jackson told his audience a few facts of political life in the United States. He pointed out that in the American system of government and politics, "We are certain to get this kind of supercharged, emotional freak from time to time." Then he reached back into history for the same sort of demagogue, telling them of the spectacular but short-lived careers of Father Coughlin and Huey Long.

He said that he knew it was hard of Europeans to understand how a Senator of the President's own party could say things on the floor of the Senate completely at variance with the Government's policy. But, he pointed out, there was no way to stop a United States Senator when he went on a rampage. Party discipline was non-existent in that case. Therefore, Jackson said, the Europeans were right to be interested in this peculiar phenomenon of Senator McCarthy, but wrong to be fearful that he was the first step towards Fascism.

Finally Jackson made a rash prediction: "Whether McCarthy dies by an assassin's bullet or is eliminated in the normal American way of getting rid of boils on the body politic, I prophesy that by the time we hold our next meeting he will be gone from the American scene."

The fact that within a comparatively short time McCarthy was rebuked by the Senate and lost virtually all his prestige and power made the Europeans feel that they had heard the truth about America. **George McGhee of the United States Department of State says, "The really bad misunderstandings between Europeans and Americans were dissipated at the first Bilderberg. Since then there has never been such a sharp division between us and Europe."**

The first Bilderberg Conference was such a success in promoting real understanding across the Atlantic that its sponsors decided to continue the meetings. A permanent Steering Committee was set up to plan the agenda for future meetings and decide whom to invite according to the subjects to be discussed. Dr. Retinger became permanent secretary, until he died and was succeeded by Ernst van der Beugel, who, incidentally, said to the writer, "I am allergic to international groups. I attended my first Bilderberg meeting with great reserve, but I was impressed by it and remained impressed."

Joseph E. Johnson became the first Secretary on the American side. Otherwise the organization was kept as loose as possible to allow maximum flexibility. To insure this the Steering Committee tries to have a turnover of at least twenty percent. of new faces at each meeting. This was made clear at the outset, so that people who are not asked back every time would not consider it an affront.

Combined with this is the unwritten rule that anybody who has ever been to a Bilderberg Conference should be able to feel that he can, in a private capacity, call on any former member he has met. To this end a list of names and addresses is maintained to which all participants have access. This makes possible an expanding continuation of association for people who might not otherwise have met.

Three days at a Bilderberg Conference are not only a stimulating but also an extremely exhausting experience, especially for Bernhard and the other members of the Steering Committee. H. J. Heinz II described a typical day: "We sit from nine o'clock in the table. Right after lunch we go at it again until seven o'clock. Fifteen minutes to wash up, and then an executive session of the Steering Committee. That lasts an hour, and then we have dinner. After that we talk some more, informally. It's a fifteen-hour day, at least!"

Another member of the group said, "We meet in such beautiful places, but we never have time to look at the scenery."

Since 1954, meetings of the Bilderberg group have been held once a year, sometimes twice. The Steering Committee meets more frequently. The regular sessions are attended by from fifty to eighty people. Each meeting is held in a different country, but follows the same pattern. An entire hotel is taken over and closely guarded. The members all live together, eat and drink together, for three days. Wives are not invited. Dr. Rijkens says, "More important things are done and better understandings are often arrived at in private conversations at lunch or dinner than in the regular sessions. Through the years we have achieved a sort of brotherhood of friendship and trust."

The expenses of each meeting are borne by private subscription in the host country, and Prince Bernhard always presides-though not by his own choice. At the very first meeting he tried rotating the chairmanship, putting van Zeeland in the second day and Mr. Coleman the third. It did not work. The other Europeans thought that van Zeeland was too political and the American Democrats felt that Coleman was too old-guard Republican. They all begged him to become permanent chairman. Because he was royal and therefore apolitical, and, furthermore, came from a small nation with no large axes to grind, he was, in fact, the logical choice. In addition every one agreed that he handled the meetings extremely well. Mr. Heinz says, "If Prince Bernhard had not existed Retinger would have had to invent him."

There was also the fact that his royalty gave him considerable leverage in inducing these very eminent men to give up their pressing affairs to attend the meetings. This rather worried Bernhard, who once said to van der Beugel, "Is it just snob-appeal that brings them?"

Van der Beugel answered forthrightly, "If you can transfer snobbism into something fine and useful that's good. The authority with which you can ask people to attend meetings is important. On the other hand, you don't get eighty outstanding people to drop everything and go off to a foreign country just for snobbism. The way you manage the thing and the importance of the enterprise are what draws them."

Meanwhile Retinger brought in many men of the non-Communist but radical left who might not have responded to an invitation from Prince Bernhard. However, even these would probably not have consented to attend a conference with the men of the conservative right had they not been reassured by having in the chair a completely non-political figure. As Dr. Rijkens said "No one but Bernhard could have induced such old antagonists as Guy Mollet and Antoine Pinay to sit at the same table."

Prince Bernhard in his methodical way prepares very carefully for each meeting by an intensive study of all the subjects on the agenda. Then he takes copious notes at the meetings, and at the end of each session tries to sum up what has been said and perhaps add a few impartial words of his own to clear the air. In spite of his preliminary work, Prince Bernhard confesses, "I always go to the meetings with a feeling of great nervousness. There are so many explosive possibilities. But it is always tremendously stimulating and enormously interesting-in fact, great fun.

"One thing that worries me beforehand is suppose some key person does not show up and the discussions are a flop? We have had very little trouble with that."

One meeting Bernhard was particularly nervous about was the one at St Simons Island, Georgia. United States Senator J. William Fulbright, Senator Wiley and several American congressmen were coming for the first time. The rule of the meetings is that each man is allowed five minutes to talk, and at the end of this time the Prince is allowed five minutes to talk, and at the end of this time the Prince begins to make signals. But he generally gives them a minute more before taking action. "Once or twice I've had to be unpleasant to somebody, but that is very difficult for me," he says. "It is also difficult to keep a big boy from talking too long. I swing my wristwatch in front of his face and say, 'Ah, ah, more than five minutes!' And if somebody makes a really short speech I say, 'Now that is wonderful. The shorter the speech the more it sticks in our minds.' But that does not always help, you know. Some people are very difficult."

At St Simons some of Bernhard's American friends said, "What are you going to do with the American politicians? You just can't shut up a United States congressman or senator. They aren't used to it."

Bernhard didn't quite know himself. But before the meeting he went to the American politicians and in his most ingratiating way said, "Now, look, gentlemen, my American friends are afraid to tell you this, but we have had this rule about five-minute speeches at all our meetings. So would you be very kind and do me a favour, a personal favour, and stick to the rule, because I will be finished for the future if I let you get away with a long speech."

"They said they would be delighted; no problem at all. 'It is perfectly O.K. with us.' And they never broke the rule at all. The only person I had trouble with was a European."

The only meeting, other than the first, at which Bernhard did not preside all the way through was the one in Switzerland in 1960. He arrived from one of his "selling trips" looking utterly exhausted and with a bad cold. After presiding at the opening session he developed virus pneumonia. He chose E. N. van Kleffens to take the chair. Prince Bernhard says, "This satisfied everybody, because van Kleffens had once served as President of the Assembly of the U.N."

While the meeting went on Bernhard got sicker and sicker. Meanwhile, back at the Palace, Juliana was becoming very anxious. Professor Nuboer says, "I was in the Palace that Saturday evening when the Queen called Prince Bernhard. He was in a very bad mood, and said there was really nothing wrong with him. However, the next morning the Queen telephoned me and said that she had talked to her husband again and that his temperature had gone up. I said, 'I'll go immediately and ask my colleague Professor Jordan, our specialist on internal medicine, to go with me.'"

Professor Nuboer had made their reservations on K.L.M. and borrowed some money-it was Sunday and the banks were shut-when the Queen called back. "I'm going with you," she said. "I'm too worried to stay here. We'll go in a military plane."

Professor Nuboer says, "We found the Prince in the Conference Hotel near Lucerne. The Queen, Jordan, and I kidnapped him, literally kidnapped him. We brought him back in his own plane. A car met us at the airport, and we took him straight to the hospital at Utrecht. He was there for several weeks."

The Bilderberg meetings are never dull. Even though the group has become, as McGhee says, "like belonging to a fraternity," sparks have flown at nearly every one. At St Simons in 1957 the French, British, and Americans almost came to blows over Suez. At another it was Quemoy and Matsu. The Europeans could understand the American attitude about Formosa, but defending the off-shore islands seemed to them military madness for the sake of tweaking the dragon's tail. "At least we made them understand the necessity of taking more interest in the Far East," says McGhee.

Other hot issues have been the Common Market and British and American attitudes towards it. And Cuba! There is always something to make the sparks fly; and, like lightning, these electrical discharges clear the atmosphere.

Any attempt to evaluate the effect of the Bilderberg group is made nearly impossible by the very nature and object of the conferences, which is not to act or even to convince, but rather to enlighten. As Prince Bernhard says, "You are not asked to agree, merely to listen."

At one point the inevitable lack of concrete results you could put your finger on made Prince Bernhard wonder if it was worth while continuing. He sent out a query to that effect to the members. A storm of protest, especially from the Americans, convinced him that he should go on.

Perhaps the only way of arriving at some assessment of the work is to question those participants who play an active role in international affairs. When asked for an example of a Bilderberg accomplishment George McGhee said, "I believe you could say the Treaty of Rome, which brought the Common Market into being, was nurtured at these meetings and aided by the main stream of our discussions there. Prince Bernhard is a great catalyst."

The formation of an international corporation to finance industrial development in the Near East is another concrete result.

However, the intangible results are admittedly the greatest-the bringing together in friendship, even intimacy, of the leaders from many nations and the effect of their confidential reports on the governments of their countries. An example is the case of the United States during President Eisenhower's administration. When asked if he thought Eisenhower had been influenced by the Bilderberg discussions Prince Bernhard said, "I don't know. Of course, I talked to Ike about it when I needed his help to give American officials the green light to come to the conferences. Although C. D. Jackson and Bedell Smith were in favour of it, there were a lot of people in the State Department who thought one should not go. They would not allow their people to come at first. Then after the first meeting they lifted the ban. Anybody could come. The same thing happened with de Gaulle.

"As to whether Ike paid any attention to the reports of our discussions, I could not say."

However, General Eisenhower said to this writer: "I always had one of my people go to the Bilderberg Conferences [Dr. Gabriel Hauge]. I'm in favour of anything-any study of that kind which helps international understanding. The Bilderberg meetings enlightened me; I'd get viewpoints from other than official channels. Not that I always agreed with them; there were so many points of view that somebody had to be wrong; but it was still important to know them."

The present American Government is even closer to Bilderberg because President Kennedy has virtually staffed the State Department with what C.D. Jackson calls "Bilderberg alumni"-Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Under-Secretary of State George W. Ball, George McGhee, Walter Rostow, McGeorge Bundy, Arthur Dean, and Paul H. Nitze over at Defence. However, the Steering Committee tries to keep a fairly even balance between Republicans and Democrats.

Mr Ball recently said, "I think the most useful feature of the Bilderberg meetings is the opportunity for responsible people in industry, statecraft, or politics to have a frank discussion where they will not be publicly quoted and are able to give their personal views without their remarks being considered official.

"This is unique and without parallel. \the character of the meetings has been shaped by the very devoted and astute leadership of Prince Bernhard himself. Without his special position, intelligence and goodwill nothing like this could come about."

Then the Under-Secretary of State added, "I certainly hope to continue to go the meetings . So does Dean Rusk."

The Italian Ambassador in London, Signor Quaroni, said "What a pleasant change! In other places diplomats always lie to each other."

From Prince Bernhard's point of view the Bilderberg group gives him an opportunity to work in private, without violating the parliamentary taboo against royalty mixing in politics, for the unification of Europe and, indeed, of the Atlantic Community as well. He regards this as the best hope of humanity not only in Europe but in all the world. Furthermore, he is highly optimistic about its chances of success.

"It may be oversimplification," Prince Bernhard said, "but I think that with a little bit of goodwill on both sides we will find practical solutions for the British problem, the Commonwealth, and the so-called 'Outer Seven.'" We would apply the main lines of the Treaty of Rome in principle with certain provisos. For example, it might take certain countries twenty years to adapt to its pattern of free movement of labour, free movement of goods and raw materials, the lowest possible customs barriers or none, co-ordination of industry, etc.

"I'd like to see us all agree on basic principles, and then let one man, like Jacques Rueff, with a few helpers, work it out. Big committees always fight. If we could all agree beforehand in principle it would result, without doubt, not in Utopia, but in an extremely strong and healthy Europe. This in turn would bring the United States into the economic community. It would encourage a great deal of free trade throughout the world.

"Now, the more free trade you have the more difficult you will make it for the new countries of Africa and Asia to set up an autarchy and live in economic isolation, to adopt trade barriers and quotas which after a hundred years or more we are finding out don't pay. From sheer necessity these people will have to join in free trade. And once you get that you can help an underdeveloped county much more easily than if there are a hundred and fifty thousand restrictions. Also it would be easier for them – their national pride – to accept help. That to my mind is the best possible guaranty against Communist influence."

Within Europe itself Prince Bernhard would like to go even further than economic union. "One thing we need for free exchange of goods is complete interchangeability of money, a common currency. I'm flat out for that," he said. "And this implies a certain political unity. Here comes our greatest difficulty. For the governments of the free nations are elected by the people, and if they do something the people don't like they are thrown out. It is difficult to re-educate people who have been brought up on nationalism to the idea of relinquishing part of their sovereignty to a supra-national body."

"Then there is, of course, national selfishness, putting internal problems first. For instance, no nation in Europe has met its full NATO quota. There is just so much money, and there are so many things needed inside each country. People don't think European enough or Atlantic enough to put the good of all before party politics or national advantage."

"This is the tragedy. Due to the freedom and democracy we cherish, we aren't able to achieve what we all basically want to do. We don't show the world clearly enough that our way is better than the Communist way, because we quibble and throw bricks at each other's heads. Real unity comes only when we are scared-when the Soviets put the pressure on and the issue is war or not war, though I should not say that because it is so old and sad and obvious. . We are moving towards unity, but we crawl like snails when we should run."

Even if Europe moves too slowly towards political unity Prince Bernhard optimistically believes that it will arrive if the whole place is not blown up first. He foresees a United States of Europe in which borders are reduced to an absolute minimum, and there is a common currency, a common financial policy, a common foreign policy, and a common policy of trade. The nations will give up so much of their sovereignty as is necessary to implement this.

However, the Prince thinks they will retain their national identities. "Each country has its history and traditions, and the cultural, philosophical, and ethical backgrounds of which it can be extremely proud, and which make us what we are," he said. "It would be extremely stupid to throw all that away. It would be like blowing up your old house before you get a new one built. I think the nations of the United States of Europe will want to keep their flags and their monarchs, certainly for the first fifty or one hundred years, though in that case the monarchs should be jolly good-there will be more demands on a person than ever before.

"What I say is let's abolish our borders in the sense that we are not any longer going to curse our neighbours over them, or deep them out, or try to frighten them as we used to do, but let us live across them as brothers, while maintaining our national characteristics, not only for our own advantage, but for the benefit of all."

Prince Bernhard in his higher flights of optimism even look to the day, fifty or a hundred years from now, when the Iron Curtain may be rolled up and put away. He believes that as the old Bolsheviks die off and the young Russians, who have lost the hot crusading fervour of the Marxist Revelation, take over, there will be a return to a more democratic type of socialism and a loosening of discipline that will make it possible to bring those lost lands back into the European sphere. "Allen Dulles laughs at me," he says, "but I think that the Russians will again become friends with us, as they have been before.

"For this I know, and even Allen Dulles agrees, that Communism inside Russia is not the sacred shibboleth it used to be. A lot of Russians frankly admit that they use it in other countries as propaganda in order to bring them into their sphere. But that in Russia itself it is getting a little out of date. That's a lovely thought, but when it will come, or if it comes in time, who shall say.."

Preceding extract from:

Hatch, Alden, 'H. R. H. Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands; an authorized biography'.

Subject : Bernhard Leopold, consort of Juliana, Queen of the Netherlands, Harrap, 1962.

Source: <http://www.bilderberg.org/bildhist.htm#1954>



Photographed in the Waterloo Room at Windsor Castle are, [front row, from left] The Duke of Grafton, The King of Spain, The Queen of Denmark, The Duke of Gloucester, The Princess Royal, The Duke of Edinburgh, The Queen, The Prince of Wales, The Duke of Kent, Grand Duke Jean of Luxembourg, The Queen of the Netherlands, The King of Norway [Second row] Page of Honour The Honourable John Bowes-Lyon, Black Rod Sir Michael Willcocks, Sir Edward Heath, The Duke of Devonshire, Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover, The Duke of Wellington, The Chancellor Lord Carrington, Lord Richardson of Duntisbourne, Lord Bramhall, Viscount Ridley, Lord Kingsdown, Lady Thatcher, Garter Peter Gwynn-Jones Page of Honour Lord Carnegie [Third row] Lord Inge, The Duke of Abercorn, Lord Ashburton, The Register The Dean of Windsor, Sir Edmund Hillary, The Prelate The Bishop of Winchester, Sir Timothy Coleman, The Secretary Hubert Cheshyre, Sir William Gladstone and Sir Anthony Acland.

Members of the Freemason pose for a photograph at Windsor Castle in Great Britain. The King of Spain (King Juan Carlos), The Prince of Wales (Prince Charles), The Queen of the Netherlands (Queen Beatrix), The King of Norway (King Harald V), Lord Carrington, and Lady Thatcher (Margaret Thatcher) have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



James Wolfensohn (left), the President of The World Bank, speaks with Stanley Fischer (right), the First Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), before a meeting at the IMF headquarters in Washington, D.C. on April 16, 2000. James Wolfensohn and Stanley Fischer attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 1996, 1998, and 1999. (Photo: Leslie Kossoff/AFP/Getty Images)



American diplomat George C. McGhee attended the Bilderberg Meetings at least 8 times (1954, 1957, 1958, 1963-1967).

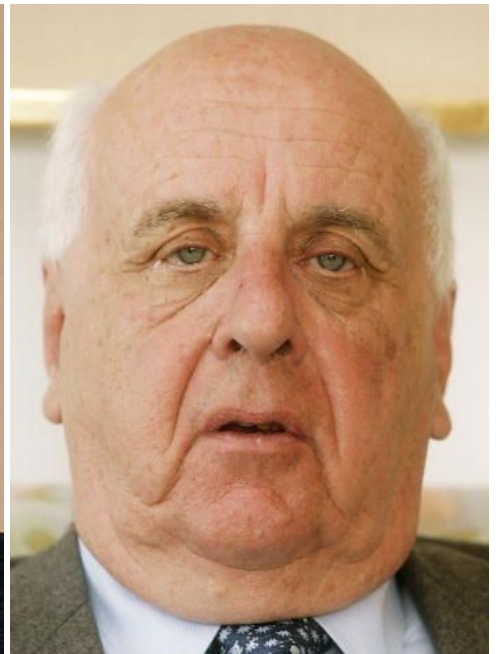
(Photo: George Skadding/Time Life)



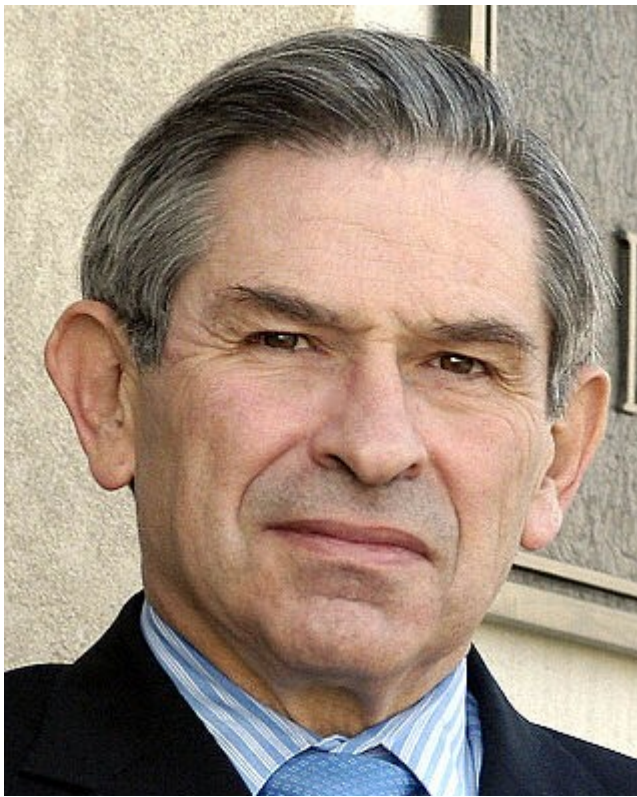
Life magazine publisher C.D. Jackson attended the Bilderberg Meetings at least 6 times (1954, 1957, 1958, 1962-1964).
(Photo: Alfred Eisenstaedt/Time Life)



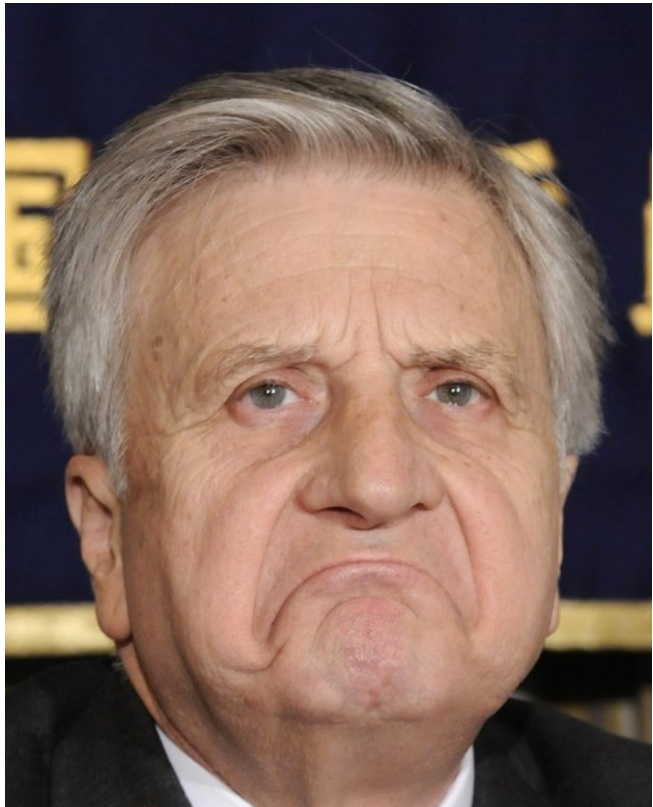
Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands has attended the Bilderberg Meetings 28 times (1972, 1974, 1984, 1986-2001, 2003-2011). Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands is a shareholder of Royal Dutch Shell, one of the world's largest petroleum company.



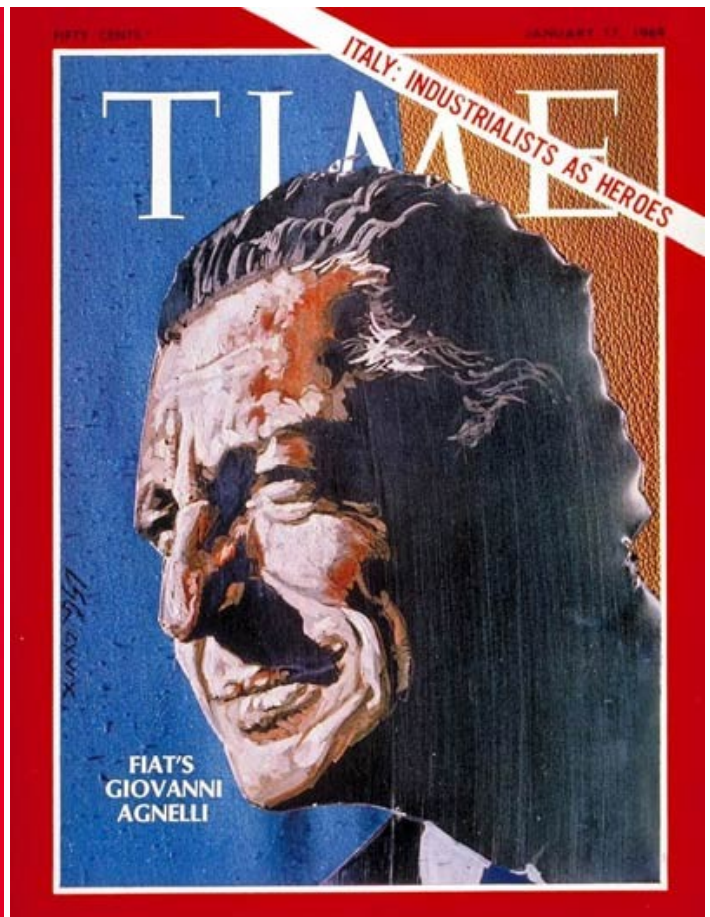
Henry Kissinger (left) has attended at least 35 Bilderberg Meetings (1957, 1964, 1971, 1977-1978, 1980-1992, 1994-2008, 2010-2011). Etienne Davignon (right) has attended the Bilderberg Meetings 33 times (1972, 1974, 1977-1978, 1980, 1983-1992, 1994-2011). David Rockefeller (center) has attended at the Bilderberg Meetings on at least 48 separate occasion (1954, 1957-1958, 1963-1972, 1974-1975, 1977-1985, 1987-2006, 2008-2009, 2011).



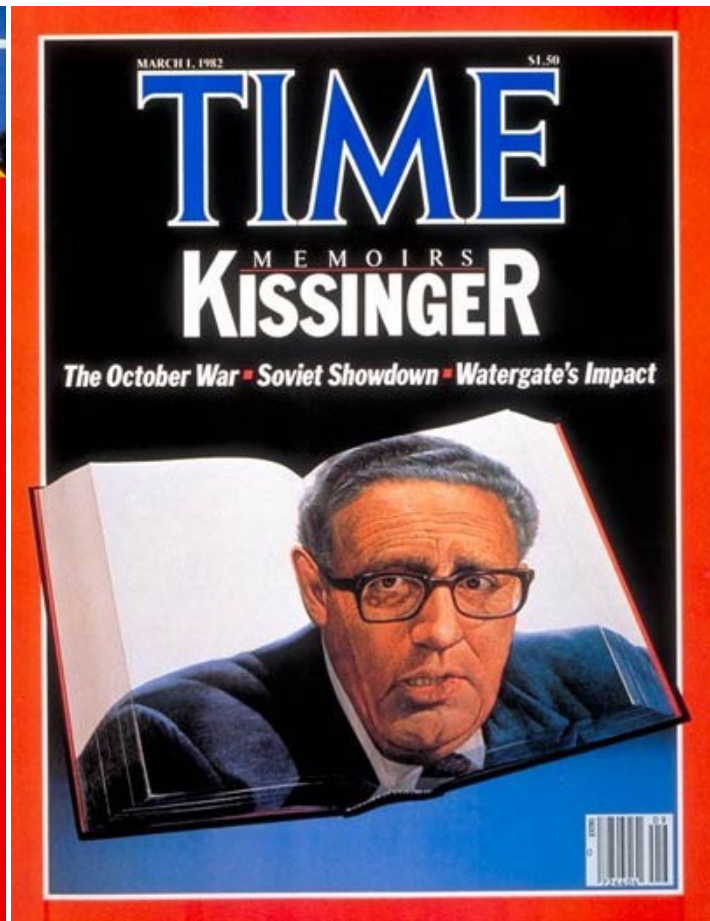
Paul Wolfowitz (left) has attended the Bilderberg Meetings 12 times (1990, 1994-1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2007-2009). Richard Holbrooke (right) has attended the Bilderberg Meetings 12 times (1995-1999, 2004-2010).



Carl Bildt (left) has attended the Bilderberg Meetings 12 times (1992-1993, 1996-1997, 1999-2000, 2006-2011). Jean-Claude Trichet (right) has attended the Bilderberg Meetings 12 times (1995, 1999-2005, 2007-2009, 2011).



President of Chase Manhattan Bank David Rockefeller (left, September 7, 1962) and Fiat Chairman Giovanni Agnelli (right, January 17, 1969) appear on the front cover of *Time* magazine.



Chancellor of West Germany Helmut Schmidt (left, June 11, 1979) and former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger (right, March 1, 1982) appear on the front cover of *Time* magazine.

“On May 29, 1954, seventy-four Western political and financial leaders gathered for a three-day conference at the Bilderberg Hotel in Oosterbeek, Holland. Their goal was to establish a high-powered forum to promote and protect European and U.S. relations... European leaders were concerned about the future and felt the need to assess and improve the situation. The idea for the Bilderberg group originated in the mind of a flamboyant Pole and international adventurer named Joseph Retinger. One friend described Retinger as “a sort of *Eminence Grise* of Europe, a Talleyrand without portfolio’... In 1952 Retinger approached Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands and asked him to serve as honorary head of the organization... After establishing a small European committee, Retinger and Bernhard turned their attention to the United States. Bernhard’s closest contact there was General Walter Bedell Smith, then under secretary of state for Eisenhower. Bernhard had known Smith during the war, and the two were fishing friends as well. Smith, who never became involved in Bilderberg himself, contacted C. D. Jackson, another White House aide, who in turn approached John Coleman and George Ball, two key leaders in the Committee for a National Trade Policy. From the very beginning, George Ball was the leading American “Bilderberger.” Although there were no permanent members of the group, Ball made himself indispensable to the organization. Between 1954 and his death in 1994, he attended every meeting of the Bilderberg group but one. By 1994, he and David Rockefeller were the only original founders still in regular attendance.”

– *George Ball: Behind the Scenes in U. S. Foreign Policy* by James A. Bill, p. 52-53

“In addition to their regular meetings, the Bilderberg group had a steering committee that usually met twice a year to plan programs and to discuss the participant list. George Ball sat on the steering committee for twenty-five years. In this position, he played a critical role in shaping the direction and discussion of the organization. Because Bilderberg has no permanent membership list, the group is highly fluid and ever-changing in composition. Steering committee leaders have carefully sought to recruit individuals in three overlapping categories. **First, the Bilderberg leaders have emphasized the need for their members to exercise considerable power and influence.** They have consciously attempted to recruit individuals referred to by Joseph E. Johnson as ‘big shots’ and ‘movers and shakers.’”

– *George Ball: Behind the Scenes in U. S. Foreign Policy* by James A. Bill, p. 53

“The Bilderberg ground rules are severe. **All sessions are closed and off the record.** Although there is an agenda, there are no resolutions passed or votes taken. Conference participants usually number between 70 and 120 and, with one partial exception, wives have not been invited. The conference location is rotated, with no country hosting the event in consecutive years. The Bilderberg meetings have been financed primarily from private sources and on occasion from such organizations as the Ford, Exxon, and Rockefeller Foundations, along with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. The participants at the first Bilderberg meeting in 1954 included seventeen influential Americans and fifty-seven Europeans drawn from ten countries. The European representatives included eleven Britons, nine French, nine Dutch, seven Germans, and seven Italians, as well as representatives from Belgium, Denmark, Greece, Sweden, and Norway. Besides Ball, the Americans present at the first Bilderberg meeting included David Rockefeller, Paul Nitze, George McGhee, and Harry Heinz. The distinguished Europeans included Denis Healey, Oliver Franks, and Hugh Gaitskell of Great Britain, and Guy Mollet and Antoine Pinay of France. Four issues dominated that first meeting: communism and the Soviet Union, peoples of the underdeveloped world, economic policies, and European integration.”

– *George Ball: Behind the Scenes in U. S. Foreign Policy* by James A. Bill, p. 53-54

“The Bilderberg group was a very special organization in George Ball’s life. In his own words: “It has been a remarkably useful organization. In fact, of all the organizations I have ever joined or belonged to, Bilderberg has been the most useful.”... According to Ball, Bilderberg was “enormously, effective, especially in providing a forum where people could talk perfectly freely, and where acquaintances can be made.” In his view, the formal sessions were less valuable than “people hav[ing] private conversations over dinner in the evenings, taking walks in the woods, doing all kinds of things. They get to know one another. These are people who have influence on affairs, either directly as members of governments or members of opposition coming into governments.” David Rockefeller, whose long association with Ball was based on their common membership in the Bilderberg group, has echoed Ball’s judgment. **Rockefeller described Bilderberg as “one of the most interesting organizations that I belong to” and admitted that “it gave me an opportunity at a relatively early age to become acquainted with some of the leaders in Europe and the United States on a very informal basis, where one got to know them on a first-name basis.”** Rockefeller was only thirty-eight years old when he attended the first Bilderberg meeting. He and Ball, who was forty-five at the time, were among the youngest participants. From May 1954 until May 1960, George Ball attended nine Bilderberg conferences. When he joined the Department of State as part of the Kennedy administration in 1961, therefore, he already knew most of the leaders of the Western world. They had, after all, been Bilderbergers together.”

– *George Ball: Behind the Scenes in U. S. Foreign Policy* by James A. Bill, p. 54

Excerpts on the Bilderberg Meetings

“If the Council on Foreign Relations raises the hackles of conspiracy theorists, **the Bilderberg meetings must induce apocalyptic visions of omnipotent international bankers plotting with unscrupulous government officials to impose cunning schemes on an ignorant and unsuspecting world.** At the risk of disappointing these conspiracy mongers, the truth is that Bilderberg is really an intensely interesting annual discussion group that debates issues of significance to both Europeans and North Americans – without reaching consensus. Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands convened the first conference in May 1954 at the urging of Joseph Retinger, a Pole of aristocratic origins who had served with British intelligence during World War II. Retinger, a dynamic and energetic man who spoke with a heavy accent and walked with a pronounced limp, was concerned about the tense relations within the Atlantic community. He persuaded Bernhard to convene a group of prominent individuals to discuss these matters. I was one of eleven Americans invited, and we joined fifty delegates from eleven Western European countries – a lively mosaic of politicians, businessmen, journalists, and trade unionists. I was surprised to have been invited in the first place and been more taken aback when Retinger asked me to prepare a background paper on prospects for the world economy from the American perspective...The conference had served a useful purpose, and the consensus was that we should meet again the following year under the continuing chairmanship of Prince Bernhard. We also decided to call the gathering “Bilderberg” after the hotel in Oosterbeek where we had first assembled.”

– *Memoirs* by David Rockefeller, p. 410-411 (Chapter 27: Proud Internationalist)

“In late 1952, Retinger went to America to try the idea out on his American contacts. Among others, he saw such old friends as Averell Harriman, David Rockefeller, and Bedell Smith, then director of the CIA. After Retinger explained his proposal, Smith said, ‘Why the hell didn’t you come to me in the first place?’ He quickly referred Retinger to C. D. Jackson, who was about to become Eisenhower’s special assistant for psychological warfare. It took a while for Jackson to organize the American wing of the group, but finally, in May 1954, the first conference was held in the Hotel de Bilderberg, a secluded hotel in Holland, near the German border. Prince Bernhard and Retinger drew up the list of invitees from the European countries, while Jackson controlled the American list. As Retinger explained, invitations were ‘only sent to important and generally respected people who through their special knowledge or experience, their personal contacts and their influence in national and international circles can help to further the aims set by Bilderberg.’ Americans like David Rockefeller, Dean Rusk, and Joseph Johnson turned up in Bilderberg to meet with such influential Europeans as Denis Healey, Guy Mollet, and Alcide de Gasperi, the architect of postwar Italy...But in general, the purpose of the Bilderberg meetings was less a matter of elite decision-making than yet another attempt to sketch the boundaries of an Atlantic consensus. In this respect, Prince Bernhard’s meetings were little more than an extension of the Council on Foreign Relations. Indeed, the steering committee of the American section of the Bilderberg Group consisted entirely of CFR members.”

– *The Chairman: John J. McCloy, The Making of the American Establishment* by Kai Bird, p. 471-472 (Chapter 22: Ike’s Wise Man)

“The first Bilderberg meeting filled the last three days of May 1954...At their first meeting, Bilderbergers covered the following broad areas, which remained focal points of discussion for successive meetings: Communism and the Soviet Union; Dependent areas and peoples overseas; Economic policies and problems; and European integration and the European Defense Community. Among the people at the first meeting were David Rockefeller; J.H. Heinz II (his son, J. Heinz III is one of the two richest members of the U.S. Senate); Dean Rusk, then head of the Rockefeller Foundation and later secretary of state under Kennedy and Johnson; Joseph E. Johnson, head of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and U.S. secretary of Bilderberg; Denis Healey, Britain’s [sic] Labor Party minister of defense 1964-70 and Chancellor of the Exchequer (Treasury) 1974-1979; Winston Churchill’s close European collaborator Lord Boothby; and the Bilderberg organizers mentioned above. Prince Bernhard told his biographer that “it was a beautiful meeting because sparks were flying like crazy between Americans like C.D. Jackson and Britishers like Sir Oliver Franks and Denis Healey and Hugh Gaitskell.”... From the start, Bilderberg has been run by a very small core group. When, in 1956, a steering committee was set up to help Prince Bernhard arrange further Bilderberg meetings it was not in any way an elected committee. It could not be – because there was no acknowledged membership. Joseph Retinger explained, “the Prince centralizes all Bilderberg activities, appoints all the members of the steering committee and, after consultation with these members, decides on those to be invited to the yearly conferences.””

– *Trilateralism: The Trilateral Commission and Elite Planning for World Management* by Holly Sklar, p. 166-167

'It's a think-tank of some kind'

Elite are ever elusive

While there might be a few dukes inside, guards keep out our Earl

We all need a little insanity in our lives and here's mine: The Bilderberg Boogie.

Raindrops are falling on my head as I stand behind the security barricade well back of the Brookstreet Hotel where dark limos with tinted windows pull up to the front entrance sporadically throughout the day, dispatching figures who dart quickly inside through the phalanx of grim-faced guys dressed like undertakers.

Who, I ask myself, are all these undertakers, and uniformed cops dotting the landscape around the hotel, securing? The conspiracy theorists say it's the Bilderberg Group, the so-called world secret government of politicians, potentates, industrialists, militarists, and oil barons who set the real life and death agendas for us all, and have arrived for a weekend of new agenda-setting, concealed, as always, from the plebian public.

If it is the Bilderberg Group, with its paranoia for secrecy, then I'm thinking these geniuses have been struck monumentally stupid. The Internet and newspapers have had stories for weeks that the Bilderbergers will be meeting this weekend at the Brookstreet Hotel. Knowing this, which they had to, you'd think the Bilderbergers, allergic to publicity, would have cancelled the Brookstreet Hotel for a resort on a remote island somewhere.

That's if it is the Bilderberg Group. With the saturation security, maybe it's Oprah or Pamela Anderson or whoever the hell yesterday's fleeting superstar was in pop music.

Casing the joint

Or maybe it's the "French pharmaceutical group" and the "Montreal Canadiens, Ottawa Senators, Toronto Maple Leafs charity tournament" people. When I did the Bilderberg scope-out at the hotel a week ago, manager Patrice Basille told me those were the only two groups booked for this weekend, and it was impossible for anyone to make a reservation — all rooms were booked.

Either Basille is part of the Bilderberg grand conspiracy of silence, or the "French pharmaceutical group" and "Montreal Canadiens, Ottawa Senators, Toronto Maple



Errol McGihon SUN

OUR INTREPID Earl McRae tries his luck with the security officials outside Kanata's Brookstreet Hotel yesterday.

Leafs charity tournament" are in need of massive security, the reason for which is beyond me.

The only way, I decide, to find out if it's Bilderberg or BSberg is to get past the security into the hotel. So, I walk two blocks down the street, cut into a parking lot of a hi-tech company, and take a circuitous route back to the rear of the hotel, hoping it'll be bereft of security.

First, though, my eyes scan the golf course adjoining the hotel, where the guests have privileges. I figure if I see Osama bin Laden napping in a sand trap, I'm Bilderberg bound. Bin Laden, when checking in, would ask for a sand trap, not a room.

I don't spot bin Laden, but, unfortunately, do spot one of the undertakers at a barricade I'd have to get through to get in. Back of the barricade is the hotel's wrought-iron fence, its locked gates extra-secured with thick, wrap-around, bike-lock wires.

If the Bilderbergers and Brookstreet can practise subterfuge, so can I. "I'm staying at the hotel," I tell him, "I need to get in."

"Do you have your security pass?"

"Security pass? I'm just an innocent guest. Pass for what?"

"All room guests were given passes by the hotel. Not even the police get by me without a pass."

"I guess they forgot to give me a pass — why, what's going on here anyway?"

"A conference of some kind. That's all we were told. I have to stand here for 12 hours."

"Are you with the hotel?"

"No. Iron Horse Security." He shows me the photo ID card around his neck: Eric Thivierge.

"Dressed like that? You look like you're going to a funeral."

"The client wanted us dressed up



Errol McGihon SUN

QUEEN BEATRIX of the Netherlands arrives at the Brookstreet Hotel before the meeting of the elite Bilderberg Group.

this way. All in black. Why, I don't know.

"Normally, we wear company uniforms with our logo. I didn't have a black jacket. I had to go out and buy one."

No gun?

"All this for just a conference? What do you do if somebody tries to get by?"

"Shoot them?"

"No, I don't have a gun. It's illegal. I'll call for help." He holds up his cellphone. "See that other security guy down there? Maybe he can get somebody from the hotel to bring you your pass."

I stroll along to the other Iron Horse Security guy. Andre's his name. Black pants, black shoes, black suit jacket, white shirt, dark tie. I play blissfully inquisitive. "All I know," he says, "is that it's a think-tank of some kind with big shots from around the world."

"Have you seen any of the big shots?"

"I wouldn't recognize them even if I did. I'm told there'll be a couple of monarchs, though."

Andre says he had to buy his own shirt, tie, and pants. Cost him about \$100.

"I'm hoping somebody will reimburse me."

Bill the Bilderbergers, Andre. Reimbursement is the least they can do for having you Iron Horse guys wandering the hotel grounds looking like a convention of gloomy undertakers in search of a funeral. But, of course, you'd first have to recognize these secretive publicity shunners.

Cosmetic Surgery. We are pleased to extend our range of services by offering the cosmetic surgical and on-site non-surgical expertise of Dr. Lloyd Van Wyck, M.D., F.R.C.S. (C).

— Brookstreet Hotel brochure

Everybody Who's Anybody

Some of the more prominent attendees at this year's annual conference of the Bilderberg group, a secretive society that includes some of the world's most powerful people:

■ Jacques Aigrain, CEO of Swiss Re.
 ■ George Alogoskoufis, finance minister of Greece.
 ■ Ahmad Chalabi, former deputy prime minister of Iraq and longtime opponent of Saddam Hussein.

■ George A. David, chairman of Coca-Cola.
 ■ Paul Desmarais, CEO of Power Corporation.

■ Richard Holbrooke, key American negotiator for 1995 Bosnian peace accords.
 ■ Vernon Jordan, friend and onetime presidential aide to Bill Clinton.

■ Henry Kissinger, foreign-policy guru and secretary of state under Richard Nixon.
 ■ Johann Koss, Norwegian Olympian and president of Right to Play organization.

■ Ed Kronenburg, director of NATO's private office.
 ■ Bernardino Leon

Gross, Spain's foreign minister.
 ■ Ronald S. Lloyd, chairman of Credit Suisse First Boston.

■ Frank McKenna, former New Brunswick premier and current deputy chair of Toronto Dominion.
 ■ Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands.

■ Gordon Nixon, president and CEO of the Royal Bank of Canada.

■ George Pataki, governor of New York state.
 ■ Richard

Perle, senior foreign policy adviser to U.S. President George W. Bush.

■ Heather Reisman, chair and CEO of Indigo Books and Music Inc.

■ David Rockefeller, retired banker, heir to Rockefeller oil fortune.

■ Richard Perle, senior foreign policy adviser to U.S. President George W. Bush.

■ Heather Reisman, chair and CEO of Indigo Books and Music Inc.

■ David Rockefeller, retired banker, heir to Rockefeller oil fortune.

Contact McRae at earl.mcr@ott.south.ca or leave a message for him at 726-5133 ext. 489

From: The Rt. Hon. Kenneth Clarke, QC, MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

24th March, 2003

Dear Mr. Martin,

Thank you very much for your recent letter. This year's Bilderberg Meeting is being held at Versailles in France, but I am afraid it is not open to the public. The whole point of the meetings is that they are informal and relaxed exchanges of views between politicians and businessmen, who can talk to each other without being on the record or reported publicly. Some of the people are very well known and, if they were talking in public, they would have to speak in the language of a press release, which does inhibit the flow of argument.

Yours sincerely,

K.C.

Mr. F. M. Martin,

Imverbervie,
Montrose,
SCOTLAND DD10 0PX

Copies of Letters and Correspondence between Bilderberg Meetings Participants

January 2, 1957

Mr. Dean Rusk
The Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th Street
New York 20, N. Y.

Dear Dean:

I am very much flattered to be asked to join the meeting of the Bilderberg Group in February at St. Simons Island, Georgia, and I am delighted to accept. I shall be able to pay my own travel expenses, and I look forward to hearing from you just when the meetings will begin and end, so that I may arrange my movements accordingly. I have only the most uncertain notion as to where St. Simons Island is.

Sincerely yours,

MB:h

McGeorge Bundy

← X
Bundy
Bilderberg Con.
(1957)

January 16, 1957

Dr. J. H. Retinger
27, The Vale
London S.W. 3, England

Dear Dr. Retinger:

It is a great pleasure for me to accept Prince Bernhard's kind invitation to attend the next Bilderberg Conference on the 15th, 16th, and 17th of February, 1957, at St. Simon's Island, Georgia. I appreciate the honor of the invitation, and am anticipating with pleasure the discussions of the Conference.

Sincerely yours,

McGeorge Bundy

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CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE
UNITED NATIONS PLAZA AT 46TH STREET NEW YORK 17, NEW YORK CABLE ADDRESS INTERPAX OXFORD 7-3131

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

8 January 1963

Dear Chris:

When I talked to you on the phone today, I neglected to tell you that, in accordance with Jack Heinz's request, I was sending you a list of possible invitees (horrible word) to the forthcoming Bilderberg meeting. I enclose the list herewith. I should explain first that, as you will readily see, it does not include anyone from the Hill (of which more later); second that the total of Americans should be around twenty, which means twenty-five invitations initially, and that from the American Steering Committee alone we already have assured of eight or nine, leaving roughly fifteen others.

As I think you already know George McGhee has said he is coming, and I am glad to report that Paul Nitze has just said that he very much wants to unless something prevents him at the last minute.

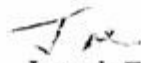
With respect to Congressmen and Senators, the following names have been put into the hopper: Senators Fulbright, Mansfield, Dominick, Humphrey, Kuchel, Morton, Church, Jackson, Russell, Symington and McGee; and Congressmen Mailliard, Frelinghuysen, J. A. Byrne and Mills.* We would welcome your comments on any of these or any additional ones. In that connection since Mailliard (who you will recall was at St. Castin), Byrne and Frelinghuysen are all Republicans, and all proposed by Democratic members of the present administration, perhaps you might suggest a Democrat!

Obviously our Steering Committee will want to give further consideration to names in order to get the best people for the first invitations. If you can give me a ring at your convenience or drop me a note, whichever is easier, I shall be most grateful.

Even though it is needless to repeat in writing what I said earlier, I want you to know how pleased I am at the prospect that you will join us if you possibly can. (Just to show you that I take my responsibilities more seriously than certain people I know, I am interrupting a holiday in Greece to attend the meeting in the south of France.)

With very best wishes,

Cordially yours,



Joseph E. Johnson

The Hon. Christian A. Herter
Executive Office of the President

* The name Thomas was also mentioned but I know of no Senator by that name. Could it be Congressman Albert Thomas of Texas of whom I know nothing?

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CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE

UNITED NATIONS PLAZA AT 46TH STREET NEW YORK 17, NEW YORK CABLE ADDRESS INTERPAX OXFORD 7-3131

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

12 March 1964

Dear Chris:

I am sending you herewith copies of the press release and a paper giving background information on the Bilderberg Meetings which are being issued on a selected basis to the American press. As you know, in accordance with the custom at all Bilderberg Meetings, the forthcoming meeting will be closed to the public and to the press, but a brief statement will be published at the end of the session.

If any members of the press should get in touch with you, we urge you to refrain from offering any information other than what is contained in the attached material. This procedure, if followed by all, will assist in maintaining the privacy and informality that have characterized all Bilderberg Meetings and, I believe, have contributed to their success.

I look forward to seeing you in Williamsburg next week.

Sincerely yours,


Joseph E. Johnson

The Hon. Christian A. Herter
Special Representative for Trade Negotiations
Executive Office Building
Washington 25, D.C.

Office of the Special
Representative for Trade

MAR 15 1964

April 30, 1954

His Royal Highness
Bernhard
Prince of the Netherlands
The Hague

Sir:

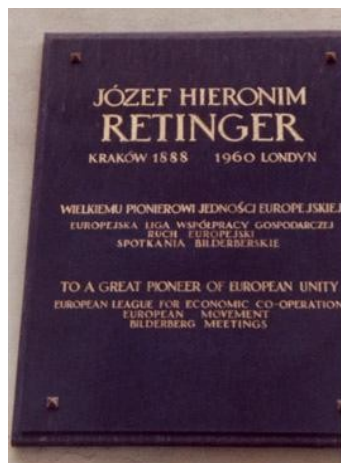
Thank you for your invitation to attend
an informal International conference to be
held in the Netherlands on the 29th, 30th, and
31st of May.

I am happy to accept your invitation
and shall look forward to attending the con-
ference.

Sincerely yours,

George W. Ball

A copy of George W. Ball's Letter to Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands. (Note: Original letter can be found inside the George W. Ball Papers at the Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library at Princeton University)



Joseph H. Retinger's tombstone

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BILDERBERG MEETINGS

**BAD AACHEN
CONFERENCE**

18, 19 and 20 April 1980

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III

Oil price increases will have a significant effect on monetary policy in the years to come. The most frequently used hypothesis postulates a real increase in oil prices of some 100 per cent from 1975 up to the year 2000. This would be equivalent to a yearly increase in the price of crude oil of roughly three per cent above the global inflation rate.

In conjunction with the worldwide boom, the first oil price explosion in 1973-74 led to an intense upsurge in inflation which slackened off only gradually in the following years. By 1978, many countries had succeeded in curbing price rises, if not to the full extent required. Floating exchange rates made the insulation against imported inflation more effective. Gradually, however, more countries came to share the view that inflation destroys jobs instead of creating them. Experience has shown that it is not possible in the long term to buy full employment and a high rate of economic growth with "easy money" and soaring inflation. Greatest success was registered by the countries that had come to grips with inflation by applying restrictive policies.

At the world level, inflation started to gather pace again a year ago. In October 1979, the consumer price average in the industrialized countries registered some 10 per cent, the first time it had reached two figures since August 1975. The upward movement of prices can be attributed to another very marked rise in the price of oil and other raw materials and also to the acceleration of "homemade" inflation. In other words: inflation is just as dependent on the price of oil as on the money supply. The rush to buy gold is symptomatic of the growing fear of inflation. The price of gold has become the "temperature chart of international fears." With rising rates of inflation there has also been greater regional dispersion of price increase rates. Thus the inflation differential between the U.S. and Europe increased from 0.1 percentage points in 1978 to 2.5 percentage points in 1979.

The future of the dollar, too, will ultimately depend on whether the U.S. is able to get a grip on price increases, where the annual rate of some 13 per cent has assumed dimensions unknown since the end of the Second World War. This price increase rate is even higher than the average rate of inflation in the European Community at roughly 10 per cent. A stable dollar is in the interest of us all. The dollar is still the most important currency in the Western world and can be replaced by no other. On the strength of its dominant position in the world economy, the U.S. assumed the role of the country providing the key currency after the Second World War. Today the dollar is still the major reserve currency, and approximately four-fifths of world currency reserves are held in dollars. The dollar has similar importance as a world trade currency. Roughly 60 per cent of world trade is transacted in dollars, as compared to about 40 per cent in Deutschmarks. Finally, the dollar fulfills a function of prime importance as an intervention currency.

While the U.S. would clearly be quite content if the dollar were to surrender some of its importance as the key currency, the Europeans resist the idea of their currencies gradually assuming the role of reserve assets. Many Europeans claim

10. *The possibility of something resembling a North America bloc.* One aspect of North American-European economic relations that should be mentioned is the fact that North America, unlike the European community, has not formed a united economic bloc. There have been intensified debates concerning that possibility, especially in the last several years, but as yet, no formal agreements have been contemplated or proposed. If a North American economic union was envisaged as a goal similar to the Western Europe Common Market, there could be three major agreements between the three North America countries. First of all, free trade would certainly prevail between the three countries, i.e., the prohibition of all duties on exports and imports across the North American borders. Secondly, there could be movement in the direction of a customs union, covering the exchange of goods and a common external tariff in dealings with other countries. Thirdly, an eventual possibility would be a North American Common Market, including the free movement of labor and capital between Canada, the U.S. and Mexico.

On balance, the European Common Market has worked well, and is now in its twenty-first year of operation. There are several good reasons to believe that a North American Common Market could work equally as well, if not better. With the huge reserves of oil in Canada, and to a lesser degree in the U.S. and Mexico, there is a definite possibility that the North American bloc could become energy self-sufficient. Also, almost one-quarter of the world's grain production is grown in North America. In comparison to the nine-nation European community, North America has a higher population, and also a larger G.N.P. Besides the belief that North America has the resources to work as an effective common bloc, a North American Common Market could also effectively increase the bargaining power for all three countries. With increased competition for Third World markets and raw materials, a North American bloc could deal more effectively with the competition than could the individual countries. It is also possible that European-North American relations might be greatly improved and enhanced if the EEC could make agreements with North America as a bloc, rather than with the individual countries.

However, it is doubtful whether a North American Common Market will be accomplished in the near future, if one is ever set up at all. Canada and Mexico have been traditionally unwilling to enter into such agreements with the U.S. since, as the most powerful nation, the U.S. would be the dominant force. Mexico is also strongly protectionist, and would be unlikely to agree to free trade with Canada and the U.S. (Mexico even refused to join the GATT agreements). Canada, too, is unwilling to enter into a Common Market with the U.S. and Mexico for fear of being engulfed and overpowered by the U.S. However, Canada is also hesitant about joining forces with the other two countries for fear of losing a major portion of her oil reserves to them. The U.S., in particular, has been accused by Canada of using the Common Market scheme as a means of obtaining cheap oil from Canada. Despite the fact that a total North America Common Market is very unlikely, there has been talk about free trade between Canada and the U.S. However, it has been simply that — talk — and the likelihood of such an arrangement, at least in the near future, is also doubtful.

limitations on OPEC would be such that sufficient oil would just not be produced, and the sky would be the limit for prices. We could not temporize; we had to be prepared to act more courageously. The free market concept for a commodity like oil simply did not operate when it came into short supply. The spot market would take over at unbelievable prices. OPEC followed the spot market and, having set a price, would never let it go down again.

A German remarked that, after 30 years of cheap oil, we needed longer than 30 months to adjust our assumptions and ways of thinking. We would have to realize that higher prices in real terms were unavoidable, and to work hard on conservation and the development of alternative sources. An American commented that the need to reduce oil imports in his country made a strong case for either rationing or increased gasoline taxes.

Western Canadian oil, at nine cents a kilo, was still a cheap commodity in relation to other ones, according to a Canadian participant. Beef was \$9.00 a kilo, and butter \$3.50. An irrational system subsidized the price of oil to keep the retail level so low that consumers wasted it, while denying oil and gas companies enough income to replace reserves. Canada subsidized the cost of imported crude oil, which discouraged refiners from upgrading heavy fuel oil into gasoline and diesel oil. So one-third more crude than was needed was imported to supply motor fuels and heating oil, while a glut of heavy fuel oil was created in Eastern Canada. If the subsidy were removed, the refiner would have to pay \$30 a barrel instead of \$14.75. This would discourage heavy fuel oil production, to be replaced by natural gas (of which Canada had a large surplus), thus cutting back imports which would be available to countries which had a much greater need.

Conservation was probably the most important factor in solving the fuel crisis, but so far it was practically non-existent in Canada. Everyone agreed that oil and gas should be conserved in North America, but this would not happen until it hurt in the pocketbook. No one cared much if he paid \$1.00 a gallon for gasoline, but if he had to pay \$2.50, as in Europe, we would see more conservation in North America.

A Swiss participant said that, as a consequence of the oil crisis, economic policy would have to be reoriented toward lower growth rates, which were to be welcomed only insofar as they decreased our dependence on oil. A decline in the prosperity of industrial nations was the necessary price, but there were political limits to this policy. We had to rely on the price mechanism, but we should not be opposed to an artificial increase in fuel prices through new consumption taxes. Such taxes did not inactivate the regulatory mechanism of the market economy; they merely accelerated inevitable developments. The application of such a tax should preferably be done through an international concert of industrialized nations, as the introduction of it here and there would be difficult politically and would distort competition. Concerted action of this kind would have a great psychological effect, and might even cause producers to adopt a more cautious policy.

Beyond this, we needed alternative energy sources and improved productivity. Huge investments would be required to achieve these goals, and they should be financed in as noninflationary a manner as possible. This meant that our

PRESS RELEASE

BILDERBERG MEETINGS

8 June 2006

The 54th Bilderberg Meeting will be held in Ottawa, Canada, 8-11 June 2006. The Conference will deal mainly with European-American relations, Energy, Russia, Iran, the Middle East, Asia, Terrorism, and Immigration.

Approximately 130 participants will attend of whom about two-thirds come from Europe and the balance from North America. About one-third is from government and politics, and two-thirds are from finance, industry, labor, education, and communications. The meeting is private in order to encourage frank and open discussion.

Bilderberg takes its name from the hotel in Holland, where the first meeting took place in May 1954. That pioneering meeting grew out of the concern expressed by leading citizens on both sides of the Atlantic that Western Europe and North America were not working together as closely as they should on common problems of critical importance. It was felt that regular, off-the-record discussions would help create a better understanding of the complex forces and major trends affecting Western nations in the difficult post-war period.

The Cold War has now ended. But in practically all respects there are more, not fewer, common problems - from trade to jobs, from monetary policy to investment, from ecological challenges to the task of promoting international security. It is hard to think of any major issue in either Europe or North America whose unilateral solution would not have repercussions for the other.

Thus the concept of a European-American forum has not been overtaken by time. The dialogue between these two regions is still - even increasingly - critical.

What is unique about Bilderberg as a forum is the broad cross-section of leading citizens that are assembled for nearly three days of informal and off-the-record discussion about topics of current concern especially in the fields of foreign affairs and the international economy; the strong feeling among participants that in view of the differing attitudes and experiences of the Western nations, there remains a clear need to further develop an understanding in which these concerns can be accommodated; the privacy of the meetings, which has no purpose other than to allow participants to speak their minds openly and freely.

In short, Bilderberg is a small, flexible, informal and off-the-record international forum in which different viewpoints can be expressed and mutual understanding enhanced.

Bilderberg's only activity is its annual Conference. At the meetings, no resolutions are proposed, no votes taken, and no policy statements issued. Since 1954, fifty-three conferences have been held. The names of the participants are made available to the press. Participants are chosen for their experience, their knowledge, and their standing; all participants attend Bilderberg in a private and not an official capacity.

Participants have agreed not to give interviews to the press during the meeting. In contacts with the news media after the conference it is an established rule that no attribution should be made to individual participants of what was discussed during the meeting.

There will be no press conference. A list of participants is appended.

08/06/2006

BILDERBERG MEETINGS

Ottawa, Canada

8-11 June 2006

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

| Honorary Chairman | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| B | Davignon, Etienne | Vice Chairman, Suez-Tractebel |
| PNA | Abu-Amr, Ziad | Member of the Palestinian Legislative Council; President of the Palestinian Council on Foreign Relations; Professor of Political Science, Birzeit University |
| P | Aguiar-Branco, José Pedro | Former Minister of Justice; Member of Parliament (PSD) |
| CH | Aigrain, Jacques | CEO, Swiss Re |
| USA | Ajami, Fouad | Director, Middle East Studies Program, The Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, The Johns Hopkins University |
| GR | Alogoskoufis, George | Minister of Economy and Finance |
| TR | Bağış, Egemen | Member of Parliament; Foreign Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister |
| GB | Balls, Edward | Economic Secretary to the Treasury |
| P | Balsemão, Francisco Pinto | Chairman and CEO, IMPRESA, S.G.P.S.; Former Prime Minister |
| F | Barnier, Michel | Former Minister for Foreign Affairs; Corporate Vice-President, Mérieux Alliance |
| A | Bartenstein, Martin | Minister of Economics and Labour |
| I | Bemabé, Franco | Vice Chairman, Rothschild Europe |
| S | Bildt, Carl | Former Prime Minister |
| TR | Boyner, Ümit N. | Member of the Executive Board, Boyner Holding |
| F | Bressand, Albert | Professor and Managing Director designate, Center for Energy, Marine Transportation and Public Policy, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University |
| A | Bronner, Oscar | Publisher and Editor, Der Standard |
| GB | Browne, John | Group Chief Executive, BP plc |
| B | Burda, Hubert | Publisher and CEO, Hubert Burda Media Holding GmbH & Co. KG |
| F | Castries, Henri de | Chairman of the Management Board and CEO, AXA |
| E | Cebrián, Juan Luis | CEO, PRISA |
| IRQ | Chalabi, Ahmad | Former Deputy Prime Minister |
| CDN | Clark, Edmund | President and CEO, TD Bank Financial Group |
| GB | Clarke, Kenneth | Member of Parliament |
| USA | Collins, Timothy C. | Senior Managing Director and CEO, Ripplewood Holdings, LLC |
| F | Collomb, Bertrand | Chairman, Lafarge |
| CDN | Comper, Tony | President and CEO, BMO Financial Group |
| CDN | Crawley, Phillip | Publisher and CEO, The Globe and Mail |
| GR | David, George A. | Chairman, Coca-Cola H.B.C. S.A. |
| INT | Derviş, Kemal | Administrator, UNDP |
| F | Descoings, Richard | Director, Institut d'Études Politiques |
| CDN | Desmarais, Jr., Paul | CEO, Power Corporation |

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| F | Devedjian, Patrick | Member of Parliament |
| USA | Donilon, Thomas E. | Partner, O'Melveny & Myers LLP |
| D | Döpfner, Mathias | Chairman of the Board of Management, Axel Springer AG |
| DK | Eldrup, Anders | President, DONG A/S |
| I | Elkann, John | Vice Chairman, Fiat S.p.A. |
| USA | Feldstein, Martin S. | President and CEO, National Bureau of Economic Research |
| USA | Geithner, Timothy F. | President and CEO, Federal Reserve Bank of New York |
| USA | Gigot, Paul A. | Editor of the Editorial Page, The Wall Street Journal |
| ISR | Gilady, Eival | Head of Coordination and Strategy at the Office of the Prime Minister |
| IRL | Gleeson, Dermot | Chairman, AIB Group |
| B | Goldschmidt, Pierre | Former IAEA Deputy Director General and Former Head of the Department of Safeguards; Visiting Scholar, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace |
| A | Gusenbauer, Alfred | Parliamentary Leader SPÖ |
| NL | Halberstadt, Victor | Professor of Economics, Leiden University; Former Honorary Secretary General of Bilderberg Meetings |
| B | Hansen, Jean-Pierre | CEO, Suez-Tractebel S.A. |
| FIN | Heinäluoma, Eero | Minister of Finance |
| USA | Holbrooke, Richard C. | Vice Chairman, Perseus, LLC |
| USA | Hubbard, Allan B. | Assistant to the President for Economic Policy, Director National Economic Council |
| N | Jensen, Siv | Member of Parliament |
| D | Joffe, Josef | Publisher-Editor, Die Zeit |
| USA | Johnson, James A. | Vice Chairman, Perseus, LLC |
| USA | Jordan, Jr., Vernon E. | Senior Managing Director, Lazard Frères & Co. LLC |
| GB | Kaletsy, Anatole | Editor at Large, The Times |
| F | Kerdrel, Yves de | Editor, Le Figaro |
| GB | Kerr of Kinlochard, John | Deputy Chairman, Royal Dutch Shell plc |
| USA | Kimsey, James V. | Founding CEO and Chairman Emeritus, America Online, Inc. |
| USA | Kissinger, Henry A. | Chairman, Kissinger Associates |
| NL | Kleisterlee, Gerard J. | President and CEO, Royal Philips Electronics |
| TR | Koç, Mustafa V. | Chairman, Koç Holding A.S. |
| TR | Köprülü, Kemal | Founding Chairman, ARI Movement |
| FIN | Korkman, Sixten | Managing Director, The Research Institute of the Finnish Economy ETLA and Finnish Business and Policy Forum EVA |
| TR | Koru, Fehmi | Senior Writer, Yeni Safak |
| CDN | Koss, Johann O. | President and CEO, Right To Play |
| USA | Kravis, Henry R. | Founding Partner, Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. |
| USA | Kravis, Marie-Josée | Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute, Inc. |
| INT | Kroes, Neelie | Commissioner, European Commission |
| INT | Kronenburg, Ed | Director of the Private Office, NATO Headquarters |
| CH | Kudelski, André | Chairman of the Board and CEO, Kudelski Group |
| F | Lauvergeon, Anne | Chairman of the Executive Board, AREVA |
| E | León Gross, Bernardino | Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs |

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| B | Lippens, Maurice | Chairman, FORTIS |
| CDN | Lloyd, Ronald S. | Chairman and CEO, Credit Suisse First Boston |
| USA | Luti, William J. | Special Assistant to the President for Defense Policy and Strategy, National Security Council |
| USA | Mathews, Jessica T. | President, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace |
| CDN | McKenna, Frank | Deputy Chair, Toronto Dominion Bank Financial Group |
| USA | Medish, Mark C. | Partner, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP |
| F | Montbrial, Thierry de | President, French Institute for International Relations |
| INT | Monti, Mario | President, Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi |
| USA | Mundie, Craig J. | Chief Technical Officer Advanced Strategies and Policy, Microsoft Corporation |
| N | Myklebust, Egil | Chairman of the Board of Directors SAS, Norsk Hydro ASA |
| D | Nass, Matthias | Deputy Editor, Die Zeit |
| NL | Netherlands, H.M. the Queen of The | |
| CDN | Nickerson, Ken | iBinary Corp |
| CDN | Nixon, Gordon | President and CEO, Royal Bank of Canada |
| N | Norvik, Harald | Chairman & Partner, ECON Management AS |
| IRL | O'Brien, Denis | Chairman, Communicorp Group Ltd. |
| PL | Olechowski, Andrzej | Leader Civic Platform |
| FIN | Ollila, Jorma | Chairman, Royal Dutch Shell plc |
| GB | Osborne, George | Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer |
| TR | Özel, Soli | Professor of International Relations and Political Science, Istanbul Bilgi University |
| I | Padoa-Schioppa, Tommaso | Minister of Finance |
| USA | Pataki, George E. | Governor of New York State |
| USA | Pearlstine, Norman | Senior Advisor, Time Warner Inc. |
| USA | Pei, Minxin | Director, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace |
| USA | Perle, Richard N. | Resident Fellow, American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research |
| D | Pflüger, Friedbert | State Secretary of Defence |
| INT | Piebalgs, Andris | Commissioner, European Commission |
| F | Pinault, François-Henri | President, Artemis; Chairman and CEO, PPR Group |
| CDN | Prichard, J. Robert S. | President, Torstar Corporation |
| USA | Rattner, Steven | Managing Principal, Quadrangle Group LLC |
| S | Reinfeldt, Fredrik | Chairman Conservative Party |
| CDN | Reisman, Heather | Chair and CEO, Indigo Books & Music Inc. |
| USA | Rockefeller, David | Former Member, JP Morgan International Council |
| E | Rodriguez Inciarte, Matías | Executive Vice Chairman, Grupo Santander, Ciudad Grupo Santander |
| USA | Ross, Dennis B. | Director, Washington Institute for Near East Policy |
| F | Roy, Olivier | Senior Researcher, French National Center for Scientific Research |
| USA | Roy, J. Stapleton | Managing Director, Kissinger Associates, Inc. |
| USA | Sadjapour, Karim | Analyst, International Crisis Group |

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| USA | Sant, Roger | Co-Founder and Chairman Emeritus, The AES Corporation The Summit Foundation |
| IRN | Sariolghalam, Mahmood | Associate Professor of International Relations, School of Economic and Political Sciences, National University of Iran (Shahid Beheshti) |
| I | Scaroni, Paolo | CEO, Eni S.p.A. |
| D | Schily, Otto | Former Minister of Interior Affairs; Member of Parliament; Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs |
| A | Scholten, Rudolf | Member of the Board of Executive Directors, Oesterreichische Kontrollbank AG |
| D | Schrempp, Jürgen E. | Former Chairman of the Board of Management, DaimlerChrysler AG |
| D | Schulz, Ekkhard D. | Chairman, ThyssenKrupp AG |
| DK | Seidenfaden, Tøger | Executive Editor-in-Chief, Politiken |
| P | Silva, Augusto Santos | Minister for Parliamentary Affairs |
| USA | Steinberg, James B. | Dean, Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas |
| S | Stråberg, Hans | President and CEO, AB Electrolux |
| IRL | Sutherland, Peter D. | Chairman, BP plc and Chairman, Goldman Sachs International |
| I | Tremonti, Giulio | Vice President of the Chamber of Deputies |
| GR | Tsoukalis, Loukas | President, Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP) |
| NL | Verhagen, Maxime J.M. | Parliamentary Leader, Christian Democratic Appeal (CDA) |
| USA | Vinocur, John | Senior Correspondent, International Herald Tribune |
| S | Wallenberg, Jacob | Chairman, Investor AB |
| CDN | Waugh, Richard E. | President and CEO, Bank of Nova Scotia |
| NL | Wellink, A.H.E.M. | President, De Nederlandsche Bank |
| GB | Wolf, Martin H. | Associate Editor and Economics Commentator, The Financial Times |
| USA | Wolfensohn, James D. | Special Envoy for the Gaza Disengagement |
| USA | Zelikow, Philip D. | Counselor of the Department, US Department of State |
| CHN | Zhang, Yi | Deputy Secretary General, China Society for Strategy and Management Research |
| USA | Zoclick, Robert B. | Deputy Secretary of State |
| D | Zumwinkel, Klaus | Chairman of the Board of Management, Deutsche Post AG |
| Rapporteurs | | |
| GB | Bredow, Vendelinc von | Paris Correspondent, The Economist |
| GB | Wooldridge, Adrian D. | Foreign Correspondent, The Economist |

SENATOR JACOB JAVIT'S REPORT ON THE 1964 BILDERBERG MEETING

The following report was entered into the Congressional Record by Sen. Jacob Javits on April 11, 1964. Sen. Javits attended the 1964 Bilderberg Meetings in Williamsburg, Virginia. (See the Congressional Record, Volume 110, Part 6, April 11, 1964, pp. 7684-7685.)

THE BILDERBERG MEETINGS

Mr. JAVITS. Mr. President, the 13th in a series of Bilderberg meetings on international affairs, in which I participated, was held in Williamsburg, Va., on March 20, 21 and 22. These meetings are designed to bring together leading figures in the United States, Canada, and Western Europe for informal roundtable discussions of international problems, particularly those affecting the Atlantic community. In keeping with the basic objectives of increasing mutual understanding on both sides of the Atlantic through a free and relaxed exchange of ideas, the meetings do not attempt to reach formal conclusions or adopt resolutions. Representatives of governments as well as authorities in the fields under discussion attend in a personal capacity, not official. The meetings are private and off the record, and attendance is confined to those who are actually participating.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record a background paper entitled "The Bilderberg Meetings," explaining the origin and purpose of the Bilderberg meetings, a list of the persons who attended the Williamsburg series, and a list of the 12 meetings which had preceded this one.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

THE BILDERBERG MEETINGS

The idea of the Bilderberg meetings originated in the early fifties. Changes had taken place on the international political and economic scene after World War II. The countries of the Western World felt the need for closer collaboration to protect their moral and ethical values, their democratic institutions, and their independence against the growing Communist threat. The Marshall plan and NATO were examples of collective efforts of Western countries to join hands in economic and military matters after World War II.

In the early 1950's a number of people on both sides of the Atlantic sought a means of bringing together leading citizens, not necessarily connected with government, for informal discussions of problems facing the Atlantic community. Such meetings, they felt, would create a better understanding of the forces and trends affecting Western nations; in particular, they believed that direct exchanges could help to clear up differences and misunderstandings that might weaken the West.

ORIGIN

One of the men who saw the need for such discussions was the late Joseph Retinger. In 1952 he approached H.R.H. Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands with the suggestion of informal and unofficial meetings to discuss the problems facing the Atlantic community. Others in Europe wholeheartedly supported the idea, and proposals were submitted to American friends to join in the undertaking. A number of Americans, including C.D. Jackson, the late General Walter Bedell Smith, and the late John Coleman, agreed to cooperate.

The first meeting that brought Americans and Europeans together took place under the chairmanship of Prince Bernhard at the Bilderberg Hotel in Oosterbeek, Holland, from May 29 to May 31, 1954. Ever since, the meetings have been called Bilderberg meetings.

NO STRICT RULES OF PROCEDURE

From the outset it was the intention of the Bilderberg founders and participants that no strict rules of procedure govern the meetings. Every effort was made to create a relaxed, informal atmosphere conducive to free and frank discussions. Bilderberg is in no sense a policymaking body. No conclusions are reached. There is no voting and no resolutions are passed.

The meetings are off the record. Only the participants themselves may attend the meetings.

PARTICIPANTS

It was obvious from the first that the success of the meetings would depend primarily on the level of the participants. Leading figures from many fields -- industry, labor, education, government, etc. -- are invited, who, through their special knowledge or experience, can help to further Bilderberg objectives. Representatives of government attend in a personal and not an official capacity. An attempt is made to include participants representing many political parties and points of view. American participation has included Members of Congress of both parties.

Over the years, Bilderberg participants have come from the NATO countries, Switzerland, Sweden, Austria, and Finland, and have included prominent individuals such as Dean Rusk, Christian A. Herter, Maurice Faure, Franz-Josef Strauss, Amintore Fanfani, Panayotis Pipinelis,

Reginald Maudling, the late Hugh Gaitskell, Omer Becu, Guy Mollet, the late Michael Ross, Herman Abs, C.L. Sulzberger, Joseph Harsch, and T.M. Terkelsen. Individuals with international responsibilities have also participated, among them being Gen. Alfred Gruenther, Lord Ismay, Eugene Black, Gen. Lyman Lemnitzer, Paul-Henri Spaak, and the late Per Jacobsson.

THE MEETINGS

Bilderberg meetings are held at irregular intervals but have taken place once or twice a year since 1954. All the early conferences were held in Europe, but a meeting is now held on this side of the Atlantic every few years to provide a convenient opportunity for American and Canadian participants to attend.

The Bilderberg meeting at Williamsburg, Va., on March 20, 21, and 22, is the 13th to take place since 1954. The 12 preceding meetings were held at:

1. Oosterbeek, the Netherlands, May 29-31, 1954.
2. Barbizon, France, March 18-20, 1955.
3. Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, September 23-25, 1955.
4. Fredensborg, Denmark, May 11-13, 1956.
5. St. Simon's Island, Georgia, United States, February 15-17, 1957.
6. Fiuggi, Italy, October 4-6, 1957.
7. Buxton, United Kingdom, September 13-15, 1958.
8. Yesilkoy, Turkey, September 18-20, 1959.
9. Burgenstock, Switzerland, May 28-29, 1960.
10. St. Castin, Canada, April 21-23, 1961.
11. Saltsjobadan, Sweden, May 18-20, 1962.
12. Cannes, France, March 29-31, 1963.



European Central Bank (ECB) President Jean-Claude Trichet gestures as he gives a press conference on in Frankfurt am Main, Germany August 7, 2008. ([AFP/Getty Images](#))

BILDERBERG MEETINGS VENUES & CONFERENCES SINCE 1954

1. 29-31 May 1954: Oosterbeek, Netherlands
2. 18-20 March 1955: Barbizon, France
3. 23-25 September 1955: Garmisch-Partenkirchen, West Germany
4. 11-13 May 1956: Fredensborg, Denmark
5. 15-17 February 1957: St. Simons Island, Georgia, USA
6. 4-6 October 1957: Fiuggi, Italy
7. 13-15 September 1958: Buxton, England
8. 18-20 September 1959: Yesilköy, Turkey
9. 28-29 May 1960: Bürgenstock, Switzerland
10. 21-23 April 1961: St. Castin, Canada
11. 18-20 May 1962: Saltsjöbaden, Sweden
12. 29-31 May 1963: Cannes, France
13. 20-22 March 1964: Williamsburg, Virginia, USA
14. 2-4 April 1965: Villa d'Este, Italy
15. 25-27 March 1966: Wiesbaden, West Germany
16. 31 March - 2 April 1967: Cambridge, England
17. 26-28 April 1968: Mont Tremblant, Canada
18. 9-11 May 1969: Marienlyst, Denmark
19. 17-19 April 1970: Bad Ragaz, Switzerland
20. 23-25 April 1971: Woodstock, Vermont, USA
21. 21-23 April 1972: Knokke, Belgium
22. 11-13 May 1973: Saltsjöbaden, Sweden
23. 19-21 April 1974: Megève, France
24. 25-27 April 1975: Çesme, Turkey
25. 22-25 April 1976: Hot Springs, Virginia, USA **CANCELLED [Prince Bernhard-Lockheed Martin bribery scandal]**
26. 22-24 April 1977: Torquay, England
27. 21-23 April 1978: Princeton, New Jersey, USA
28. 27-29 April 1979: Baden, Austria
29. 18-20 April 1980: Aachen, W. Germany
30. 15-17 May 1981: Bürgenstock, Switzerland
31. 14-16 May 1982: Sandefjord, Norway
32. 13-15 May 1983: Montebello, Canada
33. 11-13 May 1984: Saltsjöbaden, Sweden
34. 10-12 May 1985: Rye Brook, New York USA
35. 25-27 April 1986: Gleneagles, Scotland
36. 24-26 April 1987: Villa d'Este, Italy
37. 3-5 June 1988: Telfs-Buchen, Austria
38. 12-14 May 1989: La Toja, Spain
39. 11-13 May 1990: Glen Cove, New York, USA
40. 6-9 June 1991: Baden-Baden, Germany
41. 21-24 May 1992: Evian-les-Bains, France
42. 22-25 April 1993: Athens, Greece
43. 3-5 June 1994: Helsinki, Finland
44. 8-11 June 1995: Zurich, Switzerland
45. 30 May - 2 June 1996: Toronto, Canada
46. 12-15 June 1997: Lake Lanier, Georgia, USA
47. 14-17 May 1998: Turnberry, Ayrshire, Scotland
48. 3-6 June 1999: Sintra, Portugal
49. 1-4 June 2000: Genval, Brussels, Belgium
50. 24-27 May 2001: Gothenburg, Sweden
51. 30 May - 2 June 2002: Chantilly, Virginia, USA
52. 15-18 May 2003: Versailles, France
53. 3-6 June 2004: Stresa, Italy
54. 5-8 May 2005: Rottach-Egern, Germany
55. 8-11 June 2006: Ottawa, Canada
56. 31 May - 3 June 2007: Istanbul, Turkey
57. 5-8 June 2008: Chantilly, Virginia, USA
58. 14-17 May 2009: Vouliagmeni, Greece
59. 3-6 June 2010: Sitges, Spain
60. 9-12 June 2011: St. Moritz, Switzerland
61. 31 May - 3 June 2012: Chantilly, Virginia, USA

Photos of the Bilderberg Meetings

2012 Bilderberg Meetings at Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A.
31 May-3 June 2012



Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger is seen leaving the 2012 Bilderberg Meetings in a limousine in Chantilly, Virginia on Sunday, June 3, 2012. (Photo: <http://www.prisonplanet.com/war-criminal-kissinger-pictured-leaving-bilderberg.html>)



Left photo: British Lord Chancellor Kenneth Clarke is seen leaving the 2012 Bilderberg Meetings in a limousine in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. on Sunday, June 3, 2012. (Photo: Charlie Skelton/[The Guardian](#))



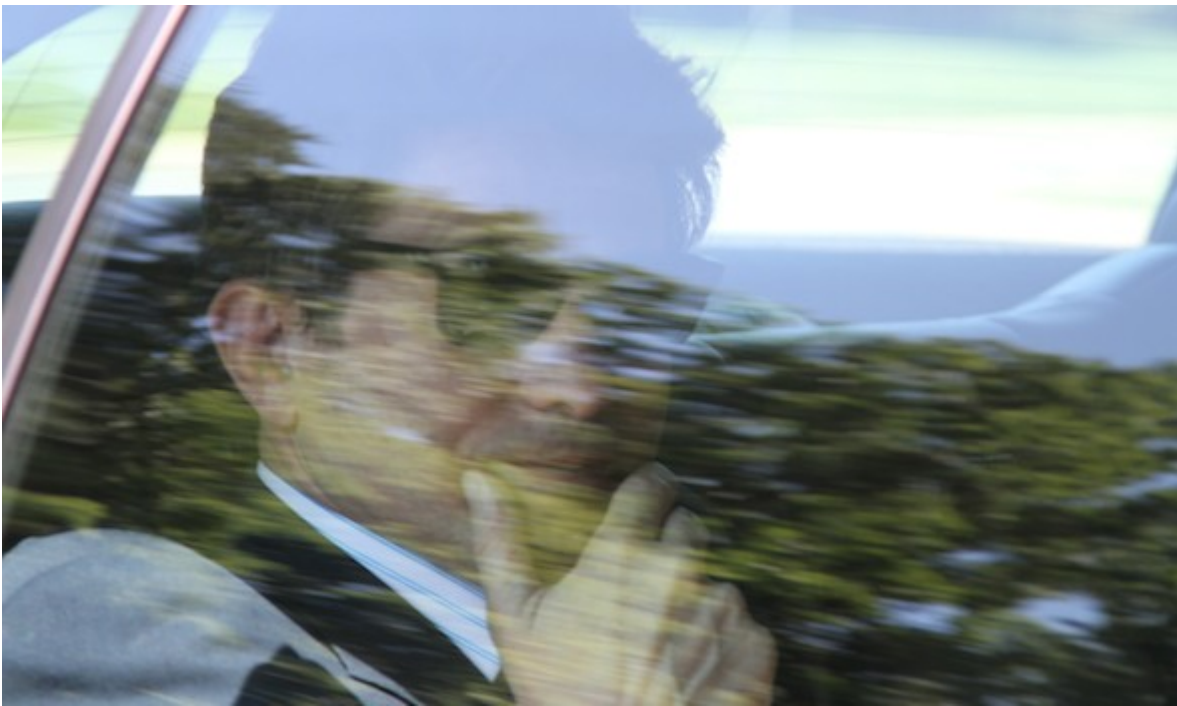
Right photo: Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands is seen leaving the 2012 Bilderberg Meetings in a limousine in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. on Sunday, June 3, 2012. (Photo: Hannah Borno/[The Guardian](#))



Her Royal Majesty Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands is seen leaving the 2012 Bilderberg Meetings in a limousine in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. on Sunday, June 3, 2012. (Photo: Hannah Borno/[The Guardian](#))



British Lord Chancellor Kenneth Clarke is seen leaving the 2012 Bilderberg Meetings in a limousine in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. on Sunday, June 3, 2012. (Photo: Charlie Skelton/The Guardian via [Prisonplanet.com](#))



Henri de Castries, Chairman and CEO of AXA (France), arrives at the Westfield Marriott in Chantilly, Virginia on Thursday, May 31, 2012 as he prepares to attend the exclusive Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: Shepard Ambellas, © theintelhub.com/<http://theintelhub.com/2012/06/01/exclusive-photos-bilderberg-attendees-revealed/>)



Swedish investor Jacob Wallenberg and his wife arrive at the Westfield Marriott in Chantilly, Virginia on Thursday, May 31, 2012 as he prepares to attend the exclusive Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: Shepard Ambellas, © theintelhub.com/<http://theintelhub.com/2012/06/01/exclusive-photos-bilderberg-attendees-revealed/>)



Josette Sheeran, the Vice Chairman of the World Economic Forum, arrives at the Westfield Marriott in Chantilly, Virginia on Thursday, May 31, 2012 as she prepares to attend the exclusive Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: Shepard Ambellas, © theintelhub.com/<http://theintelhub.com/2012/06/01/exclusive-photos-bilderberg-attendees-revealed/>)



Alison Redford, the Premier of Alberta, Canada, arrives at the Westfield Marriott in Chantilly, Virginia on Thursday, May 31, 2012 as she prepares to attend the exclusive Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: Shepard Ambellas, © theintelhub.com/<http://theintelhub.com/2012/06/01/exclusive-photos-bilderberg-attendees-revealed/>)



Heather Reisman, founder and chief executive of Canadian retail chain Indigo Books and Music, arrives at the Westfield Marriott in Chantilly, Virginia on Thursday, May 31, 2012 as she prepares to attend the exclusive Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: Shepard Ambellas, © theintelhub.com/<http://theintelhub.com/2012/06/01/exclusive-photos-bilderberg-attendees-revealed/>)



Kevin Warsh, visiting fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution and former Member of the Federal Reserve Board, arrives at the Westfield Marriott in Chantilly, Virginia on Thursday, May 31, 2012 as he prepares to attend the exclusive Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: Marcus Gabrel/<http://theintelhub.com/2012/06/01/exclusive-photos-bilderberg-attendees-revealed/>)



Austan Goolsbee, former Chairman of Council of Economic Advisers under President Obama, arrives at the Westfield Marriott in Chantilly, Virginia on Thursday, May 31, 2012 as he prepares to attend the exclusive Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: Shepard Ambellas/© theintelhub.com/<http://theintelhub.com/2012/06/02/exclusive-bilderberg-2012-unidentified-attendee-photos/>)



Harvard University history professor Niall Ferguson is seen riding in the back of a limousine during the 2012 Bilderberg Meetings held in Chantilly, Virginia. (Photo: We Are Change San Antonio via Prisonplanet.com)



Ying Fu, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Communist China, arrives at the Westfield Marriott in Chantilly, Virginia on Thursday, May 31, 2012 as she prepares to attend the exclusive Bilderberg Meetings.

(Photo: Hannah Borno/<http://theintelhub.com/2012/06/01/exclusive-photos-bilderberg-attendees-revealed/>)



Soraya Sáenz de Santamaría (seated in the rear passenger seat), the Vice President of Spain, arrives at the Westfield Marriott in Chantilly, Virginia on Thursday, May 31, 2012 as she prepares to attend the exclusive Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: Hannah Borno/[The Guardian](http://TheGuardian.com))



Itamar Rabinovich, former Israeli Ambassador to the United States of America, arrives at the Westfield Marriott in Chantilly, Virginia on Thursday, May 31, 2012 as he prepares to attend the exclusive Bilderberg Meetings.

(Photo: Shepard Ambellas/© theintelhub.com/<http://theintelhub.com/2012/06/02/exclusive-bilderberg-2012-identified-attendee-photos/>)



Finns can only get better. Matti Apunen, the Director of Finnish Business and Policy Forum EVA, is seen riding in a limousine as he departs the Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia on Sunday, June 3, 2012 following the conclusion of the 2012 Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: Charlie Skelton/The Guardian via Prisonplanet.com)



Russian chess master and anti-Putin political activist Gary Kasparov is seen riding in a limousine in Chantilly, Virginia during the 2012 Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: Hannah Borno/The Guardian via Prisonplanet.com)



Irish businessman Peter Sutherland (left), chairman of Goldman Sachs International, chats with Paul Gallagher (right, wearing a hat), former Attorney General of Ireland, outside the Westfields Marriott Hotel during a break between sessions at the 2012 Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: Hannah Borno via Prisonplanet.com)



Wall Street financier Henry Kravis is seen riding in a limousine as he departs the Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. on Sunday, June 3, 2012 following the conclusion of the 2012 Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: Hannah Borno/The Guardian via Prisonplanet.com)



Police officers stand guard at the entrance to the Westfields Marriott where the annual Bilderberg Conference is being held, Chantilly, Va., Thursday, May 31, 2012. The Bilderberg Conference is an annual meeting of highly influential people in private industry and public office from North America and Western Europe. (Andrew Harnik/[The Washington Times](#))



Protesters demonstrate at the entrance to the Westfields Marriott where the annual Bilderberg Conference is being held, Chantilly, Virginia on Thursday, May 31, 2012. The Bilderberg Conference is an annual meeting of highly influential people in private industry and public office from North America and Western Europe. (Andrew Harnik/[The Washington Times](#))



Hundreds of protesters appear on the sidewalk outside the premises of the Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. during the 2012 Bilderberg Meetings on Friday, June 1, 2012. (Photo: <http://cryptome.org/2012-info/bilderberg-2012/bilderberg-2012.htm>)



A Fairfax County police officer monitors a group of protesters with a video camera while two other Fairfax County police officers monitor the protesters standing outside the Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia on Saturday June 2, 2012 during the 2012 Bilderberg Meetings held at the Westfields Marriott Hotel. (Photo: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/n3tel/7332408558/in/photostream>)



Fairfax County police officers kidnap an American citizen outside the Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia during the 2012 Bilderberg Meetings in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. on Friday, June 1, 2012. The young man wearing a white shirt was walking along the curb of the road and attempted to return to the sidewalk when police officers kidnapped him and escorted him to a nearby police car. Alex Jones (wearing sunglasses), a radio talk show host from Austin, Texas, is seen standing in the crowd, just behind a dark-skinned police officer. (Photo: <http://cryptome.org/2012-info/bilderberg-2012/bilderberg-2012.htm>)



Fairfax County police officers arrest an American citizen outside the Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia during the 2012 Bilderberg Meetings in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. on Friday, June 1, 2012. (Photo: <http://cryptome.org/2012-info/bilderberg-2012/bilderberg-2012.htm>)

2011 Bilderberg Meetings at St. Moritz, Switzerland
9-12 June 2011



Longtime Bilderberg Meetings participant David Rockefeller is seen riding in an automobile in St. Moritz, Switzerland on June 9, 2011 enroute to the 2011 Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: <http://www.prisonplanet.com/bilderberg-2011-attendee-photos.html>)



Anders Rasmussen, Secretary General of NATO, is seen riding in an automobile in St. Moritz, Switzerland on June 9, 2011 enroute to the 2011 Bilderberg Meetings. NATO is involved in the Libyan Civil War that began in 2011. (Photo: <http://www.prisonplanet.com/bilderberg-2011-attendee-photos.html>)



Activists are seen near the Hotel Suvretta, the venue of the 2011 Bilderberg Meetings, in St. Moritz, Switzerland on June 9, 2011. (Photo: <http://cryptome.org/0004/bilderberg-2011.htm>)



A Swiss police officer guards the premises of Hotel Suvretta in St. Moritz, Switzerland during the 2011 Bilderberg Meetings.



Police officers appear outside Hotel Suvretta during the 2011 Bilderberg Meetings in St. Moritz, Switzerland in June 2011.



Police officers guard a security checkpoint outside Hotel Suvretta during the 2011 Bilderberg Meetings in St. Moritz, Switzerland in June 2011.



Hotel Suvretta in St. Moritz, Switzerland, with mountains and lakes in the background



The luxurious dining room at Hotel Suvretta in St. Moritz, Switzerland



(From left to right) Greece's Finance Minister Evangelos Venizelos, European Competition Commissioner Joaquin Almunia, Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne, Italy's Finance Minister Giulio Tremonti and IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde arrive at an EU finance ministers meeting in Brussels, Belgium on October 22, 2011. Almunia, Osborne, and Tremonti attended the 2011 Bilderberg Meetings in St. Moritz, Switzerland in June 2011. (Photo: Reuters/Thierry Roge)



Mervyn King (left), Governor of the Bank of England, talks to U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner (center) and Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne (right) before the beginning of a meeting on the second day of the G20 meeting of Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors in Paris, France on October 15, 2011. (Getty Images)



Nestle Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Peter Brabeck-Letmathe speaks at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York City on March 22, 2011. Peter Brabeck-Letmathe attended the 2011 Bilderberg Meetings in St. Moritz, Switzerland. (Reuters)



Peter R. Orszag, Vice Chairman, Global Banking for Citigroup, Inc., speaks at the Council on Foreign Relations World Economic Update in New York City on March 16, 2011. Peter R. Orszag attended the 2011 Bilderberg Meetings in St. Moritz, Switzerland. (Reuters)

2010 Bilderberg Meetings at Sitges, Spain
3-6 June 2010



James Wolfensohn, former President of the World Bank, arrives at the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain, located on the Mediterranean coast just southwest of Barcelona, on June 3, 2010.

(Photo: <http://www.infocon.ro/2010/06/bilderberg-2010-primele-poze-cu-membrii-bilderberg/>)



Spanish police officers guard the perimeter of Hotel Dolce where the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings were held.

(Photo: <http://www.prisonplanet.com/bilderberg-2010-photographs.html>)



Etienne Davignon, the honorary chairman of the Bilderberg Meetings, arrives at the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain on June 3, 2010. (Photo: <http://www.infocon.ro/2010/06/bilderberg-2010-primele-poze-cu-membrii-bilderberg/>)



Hotel Dolce in Sitges, Spain, located on the Mediterranean coast just southwest of Barcelona.



Craig Mundie (Microsoft), the Chief Research and Strategy Officer of Microsoft Corporation, arrives at the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain on June 3, 2010. (Photo: <http://www.infocon.ro/2010/06/bilderberg-2010-primele-poze-cu-membrii-bilderberg/>)



Spanish police officers guard the perimeter of Hotel Dolce where the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings were held. (Both photos: <http://www.prisonplanet.com/bilderberg-2010-photographs.html>)



Robert Zoellick, the President of the World Bank, appears at the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain.
(Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/08/bilderberg-spain-delegates?picture=363444893>)



Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands rides on a tour bus at the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain.
(Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/08/bilderberg-spain-delegates?picture=363444888>)



Bilderberg Meetings participants prepare for a conference at their hotel in Sitges, Spain in June 2010.
(Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/08/bilderberg-spain-delegates?picture=363452150>)



Bilderberg Meetings participants prepare for a conference at their hotel in Sitges, Spain in June 2010.
(Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/08/bilderberg-spain-delegates?picture=363444883>)



Henry Kissinger appears at the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain.
(Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain>)



Henry Kissinger and his entourage attend the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain.
(<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502588>)



Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, a major stakeholder in Royal Dutch Shell, attends the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain. (Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502586>)



Left photo: Viscount Etienne Davignon, the honorary chairman of the Bilderberg Meetings, attends the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain. (Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502592>)



Right photo: Peter Voser, CEO of Royal Dutch Shell, attends the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain. (Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502584>)



Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa, the 'founding father' of the EU and 'intellectual impetus' behind the Euro dollar, President of the think tank Notre Europe, and Member of the 'Group of Thirty', attend the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain. (Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502590>)



Bilderberg Meetings participants prepare to attend the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain. From left to right: in the background, Jyrki Katainen, Minister of Finance of Finland; in the center, with moustache, Dieter Zetsche, chairman of Daimler AG, head of Mercedes-Benz Cars; to right of pillar, Jorma Ollila, chairman of Nokia, member of the board of directors of Ford and non-executive chairman of Royal Dutch Shell. (Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502568>)



John Micklethwait (left), editor-in-chief of the Economist, and Robert Zoellick (center), President of the World Bank, prepare to attend the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain. (Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502564>)



Nout Wellink, president of the Bank of the Netherlands, prepares to attend the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain. (Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502577>)



Paul Volcker (center), former Chairman of the Federal Reserve and chairman of President Barack Obama's Economic Recovery Board, appears with James A. Johnson (right), vice-chairman of Perseus, at the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain. (Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502581>)



Olaf Scholz (left), vice-chairman of the German Social Democrat Party appears with Craig Mundie (right), chief research officer of Microsoft, at the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain. (Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502579>)



Left photo: Mustafa Koç, billionaire heir to Turkish corporation Koç Holdings, attends the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain. (Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502570>)



Right photo: Joaquín Almunia (right), a European Commissioner, attends the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain. The man on the left is unidentified. (Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502560>)



Jacob Wallenberg, director of Coca-Cola, banker, industrialist, from Sweden's billionaire Wallenberg family, attends the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain. (Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502556>)



Left photo: Francisco Pinto Balsemão, former prime minister of Portugal and CEO of Impresa, says his fond farewells to a mystery delegate at the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain.

(Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502548>)



Right photo: Neelie Kroes, Dutch politician, former European commissioner for competition and current European commissioner for digital agenda, attends the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain.

(Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502574>)



Gustavo Cisneros (wearing a beige suit), head of the Cisneros Group and richest man in Latin America, attends the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain. (Photo: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/gallery/2010/jun/09/bilderberg-spain?picture=363502552>)



OSU Lischer, Peter
Chairman of the Board of
Management, Siemens AG

NT Solana Macheaga, Javier
Former Secretary General,
Council of the European Union

Former NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana (second from right) attends the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain. (Photo: [Photobucket](#))



Swedish businessman Jacob Wallenberg (center) attends the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings in Sitges, Spain. (Photo: [Photobucket](#))



Police convoys escort Bilderberg Meetings participants in Sitges, Spain in June 2010.
(Photo: <http://www.infocon.ro/2010/06/bilderberg-2010-ultima-zi/>)



Spanish police officers guard the perimeter of Hotel Dolce where the 2010 Bilderberg Meetings were held.
(Photo: <http://www.prisonplanet.com/bilderberg-2010-photographs.html>)

2008 Bilderberg Meetings at Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A.
5-8 June 2008



Federal Reserve Chairman Ben S. Bernanke is seen leaving the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings at the Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. on Sunday, June 8, 2008.





An aerial photo of Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A., where the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings were held



The entrance of Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A., site of the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings



Three unidentified men guard the entrance to the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings at Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. in the first week of June 2008.



Virginia's Fairfax County Police officers and U.S. Secret Service agents guard the entrance of Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. during the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings in the first week of June 2008.



Westfields Marriott Hotel staff posts a sign inside the Hotel lobby informing hotel guests that the Hotel "will be closed to the public" as a result of a "private function". The "private function" refers to the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings that was held at the Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. from June 5-8, 2008.

(Photo: <http://www.prisonplanet.com/articles/june2008/050608Photos.htm>)



The lobby inside the Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A.

(Photo: <http://picasaweb.google.com/lh/photo/LaqFmGzeUQWq6N5S-qc3cQ>)



Security guards and police officers keep a close watch on protesters, primarily American citizens, at the entrance of Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. in June 2008 while the Bilderberg Meetings were held inside the Westfields Marriott Hotel. (Photo: [Flickr](#))



Federal agents and police officers escort Bilderberg Meetings participants during the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A., located near Washington-Dulles International Airport in June 2008. (Photo: [Flickr](#))



The man on the left, who identified himself as an agent with the Bureau of Diplomatic Security, appears with a local police officer in a parking lot near the Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. during the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings in June 2008. (Photo: <http://cryptome.org/info/bilderberg08/bilderberg08.htm>)



A United States State Department Bureau of Diplomatic Security agent is seen sitting in the passenger's seat in a parking lot near the Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia during the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings in June 2008. (Photo: <http://cryptome.org/info/bilderberg08/bilderberg08.htm>)



Former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is seen driving a Mercedes as she leaves the Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. on Friday night June 6, 2008 during the second day of the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: [Flickr](#))



A chauffeur and a passenger leave the Westfields Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. on Saturday, June 7, 2008 during the third day of the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: [Flickr](#))



Federal Reserve Chairman Ben S. Bernanke (left) chats with Economic Club of New York Trustee and President and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Timothy F. Geithner (right), during an Economic Club of New York conference held at the Hilton New York in New York City on October 15, 2008. (Photo: [Economic Club of New York](#))



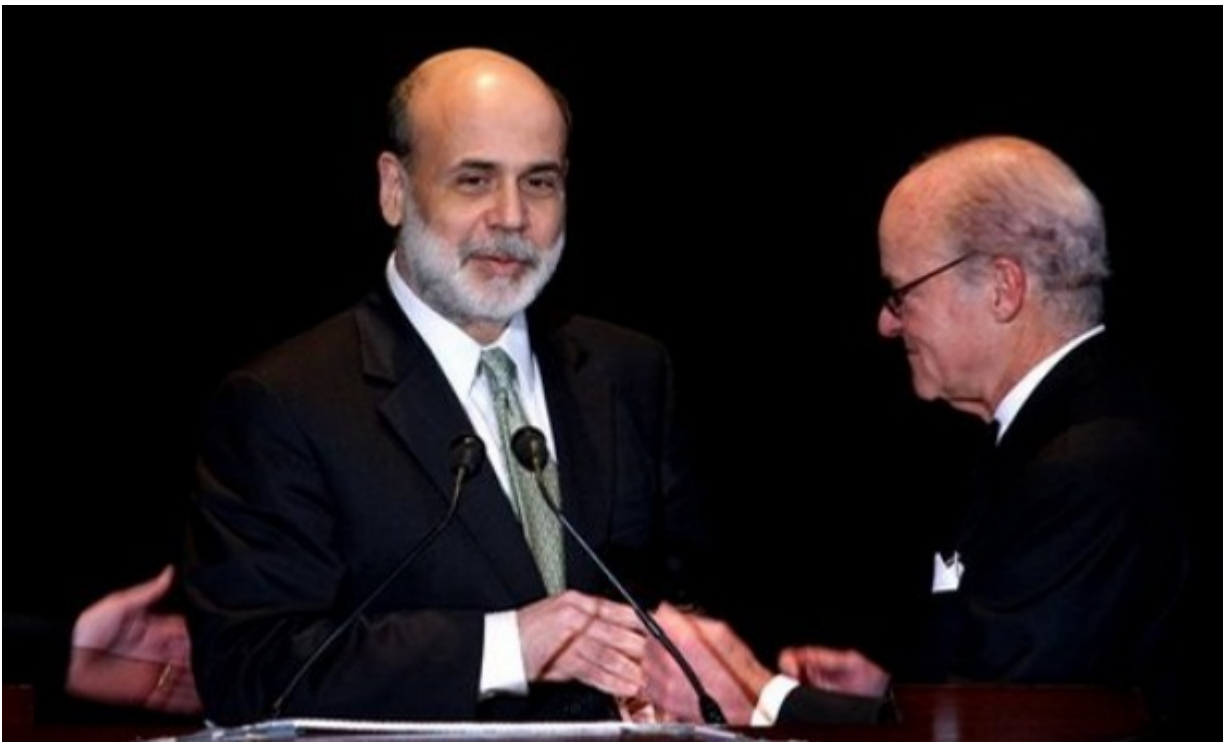
Federal Reserve Chairman Ben S. Bernanke (left) chats with Professor of Economics at Harvard University Martin Feldstein during an Economic Club of New York conference held at the Hilton New York in New York City on October 15, 2008. (Photo: [Economic Club of New York](#))



Guest of Honor, Timothy F. Geithner, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, addresses the Economic Club of New York at the Grand Hyatt in New York City on June 9, 2008. (Photo: [Economic Club of New York](#))



Economic Club of New York members and guests pose with Jean-Claude Trichet, President of the European Central Bank, at a luncheon at the Hilton New York in New York City on October 14, 2008. The European Central Bank is the bank that issues the Euro currency. From left to right: George Soros, Marie-Josée Kravis, Barbara Hackman Franklin, William R. Rhodes, Jean-Claude Trichet, Jan Hopkins, unidentified, and R. Glenn Hubbard. Trichet and Kravis attended the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings in Chantilly, Virginia. (Photo: [Economic Club of New York](#))



Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke (left) smiles after receiving the Columbia Business School Award in Distinguished Leadership in Government from Henry Kravis (right), member of the board of overseers at the Columbia Business School, during the 32nd annual dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel in New York City on May 5, 2008. Bernanke and Kravis attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. from June 5-8, 2008. (AP Photo by Craig Ruttle)



Left to right: Paolo Mieli, Ha-Joon Chang, Jean-Claude Trichet, Mario Monti, Michael Spence, Alessandro Profumo and Dani Rodrik attend the Economy and the Open Society International Forum "Goodbye Globalization?" held at Palazzo Mezzanotte in Milan, Italy on May 12, 2008. Jean-Claude Trichet and Mario Monti attended the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. from June 5-8, 2008. (Getty Images)



Indra K. Nooyi (left), the Chairman and CEO of PepsiCo, watches Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice embrace former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, at the end of the opening session of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland on January 23, 2008. Condoleezza Rice and Henry Kissinger attended the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings in Chantilly, Virginia in June 2008. Indra Nooyi attended the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004. (AP Photo by Peter DeJong)



Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger (left) talks to Fiat Vice Chairman John Elkann during a U.S.-Italy meeting called "Italy, Europe and the U.S., The transatlantic link and its future", in memory of late Fiat chairman Gianni Agnelli, organized by the Aspen Institute in Rome, Italy on July 1, 2008. Kissinger and Elkann attended several Bilderberg Meetings together (2005-2008, 2010-2011), including the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. in June 2008. (AP Photo by Pier Paolo Cito)



Henry Kissinger (left) listens to Google CEO Eric Schmidt on **July 17, 2008**. Henry Kissinger and Eric Schmidt attended the Bilderberg Meetings in Chantilly, Virginia in June 2008. (Source: [Flickr](#))

2007 Bilderberg Meetings at Istanbul, Turkey
May 31-June 3, 2007



World Bank President Paul Wolfowitz meets with Turkish State Minister Ali Babacan (left) in Istanbul, Turkey on January 28, 2007. Wolfowitz and Babacan attended the 2007 Bilderberg Meetings together. The 2007 Bilderberg Meetings was held in Istanbul, Turkey from May 31-June 3, 2007. (Photo: © World Bank/ Nurullah Altan Burgucu)

“We are grateful to *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *Time Magazine* and other great publications whose directors have attended our meetings and respected their promises of discretion for almost forty years. It would have been impossible for us to develop our plan for the world if we had been subject to the bright lights of publicity during those years. But, the work is now much more sophisticated and prepared to march towards a **world government**. The supranational sovereignty of an intellectual elite and world bankers is surely preferable to the national auto-determination practiced in past centuries.”

– David Rockefeller, in a speech at the 1991 Bilderberg Meetings in Baden-Baden, Germany in June 1991

“Today Americans would be outraged if U.N. troops entered Los Angeles to restore order; tomorrow they will be grateful! This is especially true if they were told there was an outside threat from beyond, whether real or promulgated, that threatened our very existence. It is then that all people of the world will plead with world leaders to deliver them from this evil. The one thing every man fears is the unknown. When presented with this scenario, individual rights will be willingly relinquished for the guarantee of their well being granted to them by their **world government**.”

– Henry Kissinger, in a speech at the 1992 Bilderberg Meetings in Evian, France on May 21, 1992. (Note: Henry Kissinger’s speech was tape-recorded by one of the Swiss delegates at the 1992 Bilderberg Meetings.)

2006 Bilderberg Meetings at Ottawa, Canada
8-11 June 2006



Brookstreet Hotel in Ottawa, Canada (Photo: [Flickr](#))



Bilderberg Meetings participants depart the Brookstreet Hotel during the 2006 Bilderberg Meetings in Ottawa, Canada in June 2006.

2005 Bilderberg Meetings at Rottach-Egern, Germany
5-8 May 2005



James Wolfensohn, president of the World Bank, succeeded by Paul Wolfowitz on June 1.



David Rockefeller with his personal bodyguard.



Etienne Davignon, honorary chairman Bilderberg and vice chairman Suez-Tractebel with president-elect of the World Bank Paul Wolfowitz.



Vernon E. Jordan, Jr., (r) senior managing director of Lazard Frères (the man who brought Clinton into the Bilderberg Group in 1991) with Jaco Elkann (l), vice chairman of Fiat.



Prince Philippe of Belgium (left), Jeroen van der Veer (center, wearing glasses), chief executive of Royal Dutch/Shell Group of Companies and president of Royal Dutch Petroleum Company, talking to Peter Sutherland, chairman of BP (right).



Jaap Hoop Scheffer, Secretary General of NATO.

Photos from the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings at Rottach-Egern, Germany, a small resort town located south of Munich



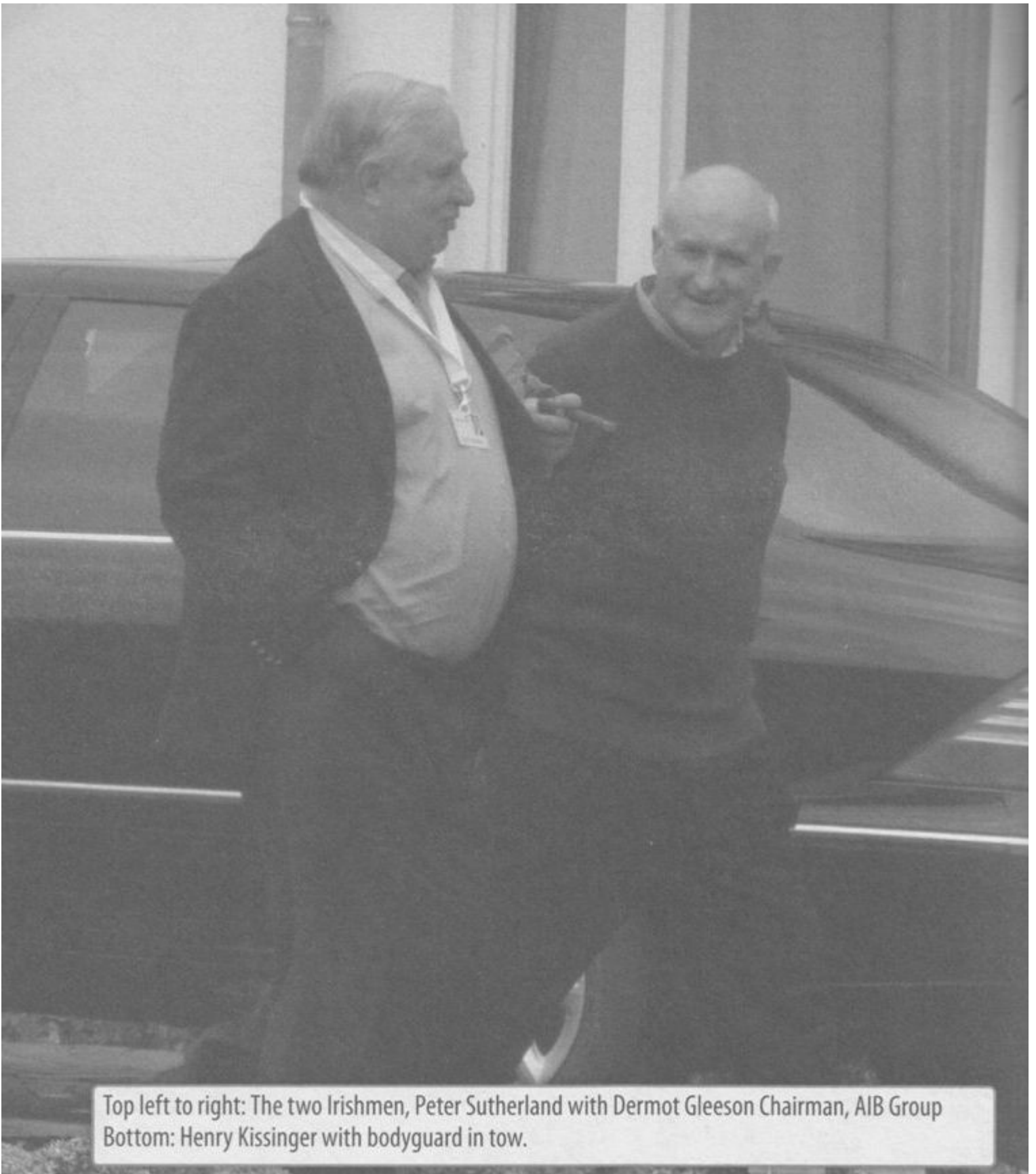
Council on Foreign Relations members Dennis Ross (left) and Richard N. Haass, the President of the Council on Foreign Relations, prepare to attend the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings at Rottach-Egern, Germany in May 2005. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)



Left photo: Timothy Geithner, the President of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, appears at the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings in Rottach-Egern, Germany in May 2005. Timothy Geithner is current serving as Secretary of the Treasury under U.S. President Barack Obama.



Arthur W.H. Docters van Leeuwen (far left), chairman of the Executive Board, Netherlands Authority for the Financial Markets, chats with unidentified attendee (back to camera), while Jeroen van der Veer (center, wearing glasses), chief executive of Royal Dutch/Shell Group of Companies and president of Royal Dutch Petroleum Company, converses with Prince Philippe of Belgium (second from right), while a security guard (far right) keeps a lookout.



Top left to right: The two Irishmen, Peter Sutherland with Dermot Gleeson Chairman, AIB Group
Bottom: Henry Kissinger with bodyguard in tow.

Peter D. Sutherland (left) chats with Dermot Gleeson at the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings in Rottach-Egern, Germany in May 2005.
(Source: *The True Story of The Bilderberg Group* by Daniel Estulin) (Photo by Daniel Estulin)



Prince Philippe of Belgium walks with a bodyguard at the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings in Rottach-Egern, Germany in May 2005. (Photo by Daniel Estulin) (Source: *The True Story of The Bilderberg Group* by Daniel Estulin)



The guests are beginning to arrive. Extremely heavy protection for the most powerful men and a few women attending the super secret Bilderberg meeting. The Bilderbergers are protected by MI6, CIA, Mossad, German special forces and secret police.

Iraqi powerbroker Ahmad Chalabi (center) is seen attending the 2006 Bilderberg Meetings in Ottawa, Canada in June 2006.



Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel (left) and Josef Ackermann are seen laughing at a meeting in 2006. Merkel and Ackermann attended the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings in Rottach-Egern, Germany in May 2005.

(Photo: <http://www.news.de/wirtschaft/855022325/spd-will-aufklaerung-ueber-merkels-feier-fuer-ackermann-erste-zusammenfassung-neu-oppermann-im-1-absatz/1/>)



Josef Ackermann (left) and Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel are seen smiling during a meeting. (AP Photo)

<http://www.n-tv.de/wirtschaft/kolumnen/Das-perfekte-Dinner-article480450.html>



International Monetary Fund Managing Director Rodrigo de Rato (left) embraces outgoing World Bank President James Wolfensohn at the conclusion of the Development Committee Press Conference at International Monetary Fund Headquarters during the 2005 World Bank/IMF Spring Meetings in Washington, D.C. on **April 17, 2005**. Both James Wolfensohn and Rodrigo de Rato attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 1992, 1994, 2005, and 2007. (Photo: [International Monetary Fund](#))



Incoming World Bank President Paul Wolfowitz greets outgoing World Bank President James Wolfensohn in **March 2005**. James Wolfensohn and Paul Wolfowitz attended the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings together in Rottach-Egern, Germany in May 2005. (Photo: [The World Bank](#))



Richard Perle (left) is seen talking to Michael Ledeen at the American Enterprise Institute. Richard Perle and Michael Ledeen attended the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings together. (James A. Parcell/Washington Post)

2004 Bilderberg Meetings at Stresa, Italy
3-6 June 2004



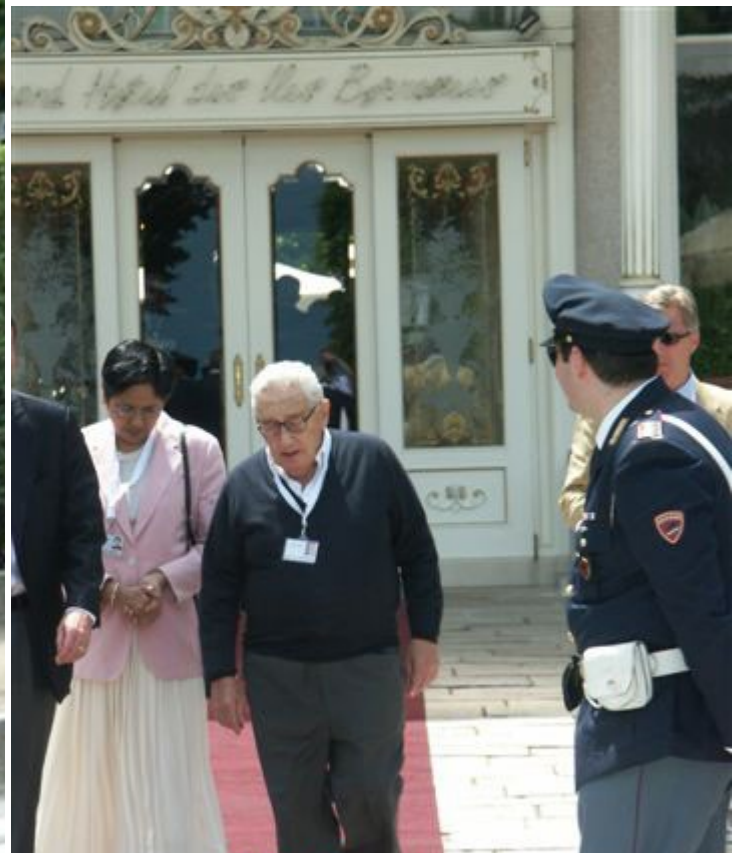
Vernon Jordan and Jessica T. Mathews, the President of Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, attend the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004. Vernon Jordan and Jessica T. Mathews have appeared in the Bilderberg Meetings together 10 times. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)



Henry Kissinger (sunglasses) talks to Marie-Josée Kravis (third from right) and Henry R. Kravis (second from right) while Indra Nooyi (left) talks to Donald E. Graham at the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)



Left: Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands attends the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)



Right: Henry Kissinger talks to PepsiCo CEO Indra Nooyi at the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)



Left photo: David Rockefeller and his bodyguard have a meal at the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)



Right photo Donald E. Graham (left), the Chairman and CEO of The Washington Post Co., and Indra Nooyi, the CEO of PepsiCo, appear at the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)



Rothschild representative Franco Bernabé talks with Henry Kravis, while Ruchard Haass, President of the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) talks on the phone. Diplomat/nvestment banker Richard Holbrooke is in the back with a glass at Bilderberg 2004.

This photo was published in Daniel Estulin's book *The True Story of The Bilderberg Group*. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)



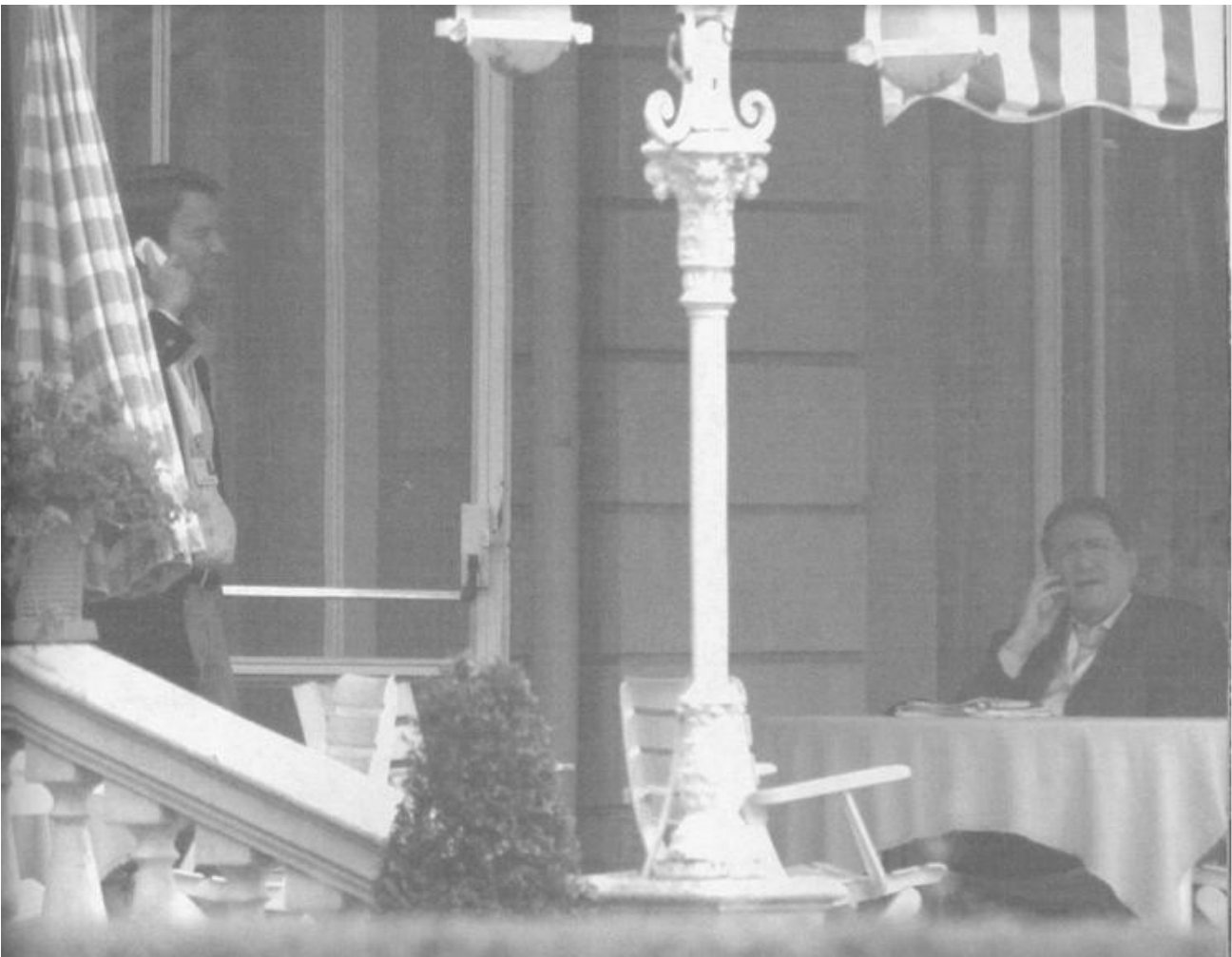
Left photo: Council on Foreign Relations President Richard N. Haass (second from right) appears at the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004.



Right photo: Douglas J. Feith, the Under U.S. Secretary of Defense for Policy, appears at the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004.



Dennis Ross (far left) appears with James D. Wolfensohn, President of the World Bank, at the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004. (Photo by Daniel Estulin) (Source: *The True Story of The Bilderberg Group* by Daniel Estulin)



U.S. Senator John Edwards (left) and former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Richard C. Holbrooke talk on a cell phone at the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)
(Source: *The True Story of The Bilderberg Group* by Daniel Estulin)



Left photo: David Rockefeller (left), Henry Kravis, and Marie-Josée Kravis make their presence at the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)



Right photo: Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands (center) appears at the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004.



Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger (wearing sunglasses) is seen walking with PepsiCo. CEO Indra Nooyi and Washington Post Co. Chairman and CEO Donald E. Graham at the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004. Henry Kissinger, Indra Nooyi, and Donald E. Graham are members of the Trilateral Commission. The man on the far left is unidentified. (Photo by Daniel Estulin) (Source: *The True Story of The Bilderberg Group* by Daniel Estulin)



David Rockefeller and Vernon E. Jordan Jr. appear at the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)



Marie-Josée Kravis, Washington Post Co. Chairman and CEO Donald E. Graham, and PepsiCo CEO Indra Nooyi are seen smiling at the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)
(Source: *The True Story of The Bilderberg Group* by Daniel Estulin)



Vernon E. Jordan (left), Henry Kravis (center), and Marie-Josée Kravis (second from right) appear at the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)



American journalist Jim Tucker (wearing a straw hat) approaches a group of Italian security guards at the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy in June 2004. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)



A group of Italian soldiers guard the perimeters of a hotel during the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings that took place in Stresa, Italy in June 2004. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)



The Grand Hotel des Iles Borromees in Stresa, Italy, site of the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings.



The interior of the Grand Hotel des Iles Borromees in Stresa, Italy, located northwest of Milan and southwest of Lugano, Switzerland



The elegant lake view dining room inside the Grand Hotel des Iles Borromees in Stresa, Italy



A conference room inside the Grand Hotel des Iles Borromees in Stresa, Italy



Under Secretary of Defense for Policy Douglas Feith (left) and Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Near Eastern South Asian Affairs and Special Plans William Luti brief reporters on policy and intelligence during a Pentagon press conference on June 4, 2003. Douglas Feith and William Luti attended the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings together. (Photo: U.S. Department of Defense)

2003 Bilderberg Meetings at Versailles, France
15-18 May 2003



Police controls at the accesses of the castle near the site of the 2003 Bilderberg Meetings in Versailles, France in May 2003.
(Photo: <http://www.havenvideo.com/viewtopic.php?f=33&t=9230>)



Bodyguards and police officers check the identification of Bilderberg Meetings participants.
(Photo: <http://www.havenvideo.com/viewtopic.php?f=33&t=9230>)



Unidentified Bilderberg Meetings participants arrive for their private meeting in their limousines.
(Photo: <http://www.havenvideo.com/viewtopic.php?f=33&t=9230>)



Jean Claude Trichet, President of the European Central Bank and former governor of the Bank of France, appear at the 2003 Bilderberg Meetings in Versailles, France in May 2003. (Photo: <http://www.havenvideo.com/viewtopic.php?f=33&t=9230>)



David Rockefeller and his bodyguard at the 2003 Bilderberg Meetings in Versailles, France in May 2003. (Photo: <http://www.havenvideo.com/viewtopic.php?f=33&t=9230>)



Unidentified Bilderberg Meetings participants arrive for their private meeting in their limousines.

(Photo: <http://www.havenvideo.com/viewtopic.php?f=33&t=9230>)



Queen Sofia of Spain (left) and Richard Perle (right), President George W. Bush's adviser and one of the supporters of America's war in Iraq, arrive at the 2003 Bilderberg Meetings in their limousines. (Photo: <http://www.havenvideo.com/viewtopic.php?f=33&t=9230>)



Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands (left) appear at the 2003 Bilderberg Meetings in Versailles, France near Paris in May 2003. (Photo: <http://www.havenvideo.com/viewtopic.php?f=33&t=9230>)



Willy Claes (left), former Secretary General of NATO, arrives at the 2003 Bilderberg Meetings in Versailles, France in May 2003. (Photo: <http://www.havenvideo.com/viewtopic.php?f=33&t=9230>)

Bilderberg Legacy, Part 1: European Union



Jose Manuel Barroso (right), President of the European Commission, embraces Viscount Etienne Davignon (left), President of Friends of Europe, during a meeting in Brussels, Belgium on October 13, 2011. The name of the meeting was called "[The State of Europe: Re-thinking the European Project](#)". (Photo: [Flickr](#))



Princess Mathilde of Belgium (left) and Prince Philippe of Belgium (center) are accompanied by legendary Bilderberg Meetings participant Etienne Davignon (right) during their visit to the "Le Sourire de Bouddha" exhibition at the Palais des Beaux-Arts in Brussels, Belgium on January 13, 2009. (Photo by Mark Renders/Getty Images)



Viscount Etienne Davignon (2nd left), President of Friends of Europe, appears with Mario Monti (2nd right), President of Bocconi University in Milan, during a meeting in Brussels, Belgium on October 13, 2011. The name of the meeting was called "[The State of Europe: Re-thinking the European Project](#)". (Photo: [Flickr](#))



Jose Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission (left), Viscount Etienne Davignon, President of Friends of Europe (middle), and Duncan L. Niederauer, Chief Executive Officer and Director of NYSE Euronext, sit together during a meeting in Brussels, Belgium on October 13, 2011. The name of the meeting was called "[The State of Europe: Re-thinking the European Project](#)". (Photo: [Flickr](#))



Mario Monti (left), the Prime Minister of Italy, greets Jose Manuel Barroso (right), President of the European Commission, in Brussels, Belgium on November 22, 2011. Both men have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (AP Photo)



Left to right: Mario Monti, Prime Minister of Italy and Italian President of the council of ministers, Josef Ackermann of the Deutsche Bank, Robert B. Zoellick, President of the World Bank, former German Finance Minister Peer Steinbrueck, and George Soros participates in a panel talk during day 2 of the 48th Munich Security Conference at Hotel Bayerischer Hof in Munich, Germany on February 4, 2012. All five men have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past; everyone except for Soros attended the 2011 Bilderberg Meetings. (Getty Images)



Left to right: World Trade Organization (WTO) Director-General Pascal Lamy, International Labour Organization (ILO) Director-General Juan Somavia, International Monetary Fund Managing Director Christine Lagarde, Chancellor of Germany Angela Merkel, Head of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Angel Gurría and World Bank President Robert Zoellick pose during a second meeting on the reform of the international monetary system at the Chancellery in Berlin, Germany on October 6, 2011. The group, that also includes European Central Bank President Jean-Claude Trichet and World Bank President Robert Zoellick, met to discuss measures to counter the growing European debt crisis. Lamy, Lagarde, Merkel, and Zoellick have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Photo: Pool/Getty Images Europe)



Mario Draghi (left), President of the European Central Bank (ECB), speaks with Pascal Lamy (center), Director-General of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and Herman Van Rompuy (right), President of the European Council ahead of a working session on the second day of the G20 Summit in Cannes, France on November 4, 2011. World's top economic leaders are attending the G20 summit in Cannes on November 3rd and 4th, and are expected to debate current issues surrounding the global financial system in the hope of fending off a global recession and finding an answer to the Eurozone crisis. Draghi, Lamy, and Van Rompuy have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Photo: Pool/Getty Images Europe)



Prime Minister of Greece George Papandreou (left), President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy (center), and President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso smile at the final press conference during the Meeting of Eurozone Heads of State or Government held in Brussels, Belgium on July 21, 2011. The Greek government sought to achieve austerity in 2011 in an attempt to reduce its debt; however, the Greek economy continued to fall into a deep recession. George Papandreou resigned as Prime Minister of Greece on November 11, 2011; Papandreou continues to serve as the President of Socialist International. (Photo: [The Council of the European Union](#))



Prime Minister of Greece Kostas Karamanlis (left) greets European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso in 2006. (Photo: European Community)



From left to right: Mr Jean-Claude TRICHET, President of the European Central Bank, Commission President Jose Manuel BARROSO, German Chancellor Angela MERKEL, Mr Georgios PAPANDEOU, Greek Prime Minister of Greece, Mr Nicolas SARKOZY, French President, Mr Herman VAN ROMPUY, President of the European Council appear for a group photo in Brussels, Belgium on February 11, 2010. Heads of state of the European Union met in Brussels to discuss the Greek debt crisis. Everyone except for Sarkozy has attended the Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: [The Council of the European Union](#))



Left to right: Jean Claude Trichet, Greek Finance Minister G. Papakonstantinou, Jean-Claude Juncker, and European Commissioner Olli Rehn appear at a conference in May 2010. Everyone except for Juncker has attended the Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: [Euobserver](#))



European powerbrokers meet at a summit in Brussels, Belgium on September 7, 2010. Left to right: European Commissioner of Economic and Financial Affairs Olli Rehn, European Central Bank President Jean-Claude Trichet and Greek Minister of Finance George Papaconstantinou. All three men attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Photo: [Greek Ministry of Finance Office](#))



Chancellor of Germany Angela Merkel (left) flirts with European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso in Brussels, Belgium on June 23, 2007. Jose Manuel Barroso (left) and Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel attended the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings together. (AFP Photo)



Prime Minister of Greece Giorgos Papandreou (right) receives an award by Josef Ackermann, CEO Deutsche Bank, during the Quadriga awards ceremony at the Konzerthaus on Gendarmenmarkt in Berlin, Germany on October 3, 2010. (Photo: Andreas Rentz/Getty Images Europe)



Deutsche Bank CEO Josef Ackermann (left) chats with Greek Prime Minister of Greece Giorgos Papandreou during the Quadriga awards at the Konzerthaus on Gendarmenmarkt in Berlin, Germany on October 3, 2010. Ackermann and Papandreou attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 1995 and 2005. (Photo: Andreas Rentz/Getty Images Europe)



European Commissioner Neelie Kroes (left) with European Commissioner Joaquin Almunia attend a European Union conference in Brussels, Belgium on November 10, 2009. Kroes and Almunia attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 2005, 2008, 2010, 2011, and 2012. (Photo: [The Council of the European Union](#))



Giulio Tremonti, Italian Minister for Economic Affairs and Finance, meets with Neelie Kroes, Member of the European Commission, at a European Union conference in Brussels, Belgium on November 10, 2009. (Photo: The Council of the European Union)



Giulio Tremonti (left), Italian Minister for Economic Affairs and Finance, meets with Joaquín Almunia, Member of the European Commission at a European Union conference in Brussels, Belgium on November 10, 2009. (Photo: The Council of the European Union)



Press conference, from left to right: European Commissioner Joaquín Almunia, Anders Borg, Swedish Minister for Finance and President of the Council, and European Commissioner Laszlo Kovacs appear at a European Union conference in Brussels, Belgium on November 10, 2009. (Photo: The Council of the European Union)



Wolfgang Schauble, German Federal Minister for Finance, Christine Lagarde, French Minister for Economic Affairs, Finance and Employment, appear a European Union conference in Brussels, Belgium on November 10, 2009. (Photo: The Council of the European Union)



Director-General of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Pascal Lamy (left) and World Bank President Robert Zoellick attend a meeting at the Chancellery in Berlin, Germany on April 28, 2010. German Chancellor Angela Merkel met with International Organizations to discuss a solution for the Greece debt crisis that is intensifying pressure on policy makers to widen a bailout package beyond Greece after the Greek debt rating was decreased to 'junk' status. Newsmakers report that the 45 billion euros (\$60 billion) already pledged by the International Monetary Fund and European Union will be insufficient to tackle Greece's mounting debt crisis. (Photo: Andreas Rentz/Getty Images Europe)



President of the European Commission Romano Prodi (left) listens to Mario Monti (right), EU Competition Commissioner, at a meeting in Strasbourg, France on July 3, 2001. Romano Prodi and Mario Monti attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 1987 and 1990. (Damien Meyer/AFP/Getty Images)



European Union Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy (left) talks to Mario Monti, EU Competition Commissioner, at a meeting in Strasbourg, France on July 3, 2001. Pascal Lamy and Mario Monti attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 2001, 2003, and 2005. (Damien Meyer/AFP/Getty Images)



European Central Bank President Jean-Claude Trichet (left) chats with IMF Managing Director Rodrigo De Rato at the beginning of the G20 finance ministers and central bank governors' meeting in Berlin, Germany on November 20, 2004. (Photo by Sean Gallup/Getty Images)



Left to right: Mario Draghi, the Governor of the Bank of Italy, Jean-Claude Trichet, the President of the European Central Bank (ECB), and Italy's Finance Minister Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa share a joke during the G7 summit in Essen, Germany on February 10, 2007. The three men in this photograph went to the Bilderberg Meetings together in 2001, 2002, 2004, and 2008. (Photo by Ralph Orlowski/Getty Images)



Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel (right) shakes hands with Jose Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, at the Reichstag in Berlin on October 15, 2007. (Photo by Andreas Rentz/Getty Images)



Chancellor of Germany Angela Merkel (center) smiles as Prime Minister of Canada Stephen Harper (left) shakes hands with EU Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso at a summit in Berlin in June 2007. All three individuals have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



European Central Bank President Jean-Claude Trichet (left) and the Governor of the Bank of Israel Stanley Fischer (right) participate during the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Paris Club in the ministry of Finances in Paris on June 14, 2006. Stanley Fischer and Jean-Claude Trichet attended the 1999 Bilderberg Meetings together. (Pierre Verdy/AFP/Getty Images)



Israel's Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni (far right) stands with (left to right) European Union foreign policy chief Javier Solana, France's Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner and Sweden's Foreign Minister Carl Bildt before their meeting in Jerusalem on January 5, 2009. Solana, Kouchner, and Bildt have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Reuters)



Belgium's utility corporate executive Suez Vice Chairman Etienne Davignon (left), Belgium's Energy Minister Marc Verwilghen (center), and Belgium's utility Electrabel's Chief Executive Officer Jean-Pierre Hansen (right) greet each other before a meeting in Brussels on September 4, 2007 to discuss the merger between Suez and Gaz de France. Etienne Davignon and Jean-Pierre Hansen have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Reuters)



Sweden's Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt (left) and Foreign Minister Carl Bildt give a news conference at the European Council headquarters at the end of an EU summit in Brussels on June 20, 2008. Both men have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Reuters)



Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt (center) talks to French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner (right) and Hungarian bureaucrat Kinga Góncz (left) before a General Affairs Council meeting at the European Union headquarters in Luxembourg City on June 16, 2008, four days after the Irish people voted against the Lisbon Treaty. Carl Bildt and Bernard Kouchner have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (AFP/Getty Images)



French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner (R) gestures next to his Hungarian counterpart Kinga Góncz (L) and Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt, on June 16, 2008 before a General Affairs Council meeting at EU headquarters in Luxembourg. EU foreign ministers admitted on June 16 that they had no quick-fix solution after Irish voters plunged the bloc into crisis by rejecting its reforming Lisbon Treaty. Irish voters, the only ones in Europe obliged to hold a referendum, delivered a resounding "no" to the European Union's reform treaty by 53.4 percent to 46.6 percent on June 12, plunging the 27-member bloc into a new period of institutional uncertainty. (AFP/Getty Images)



Middle East Envoy Tony Blair (left) listens to European Union Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso at his office at the European Union Commission headquarters in Brussels, Belgium on July 22, 2008. (AP Photo by Geert Vanden Wijngaert)



European Union Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso stands next to Middle East Envoy Tony Blair (left) as they talk to the press after a meeting at the European Union Commission headquarters in Brussels, Belgium on July 22, 2008. Tony Blair and Jose Manuel Barroso have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (AP Photo by Geert Vanden Wijngaert)



Spain's High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union Javier Solana (left) chats with Sweden's Foreign Minister Carl Bildt at a press conference in Stockholm, Sweden on June 23, 2009, in order to prepare the European Union (EU) presidency by Sweden on July 1, 2009. (Getty Images)



The President of the European Central Bank Jean Claude Trichet (left) chats with Germany's Finance Minister Wolfgang Schauble (right), France's Finance Minister Christine Lagarde (2nd right), and Finland's Finance Minister Jyrki Katainen at the start of an Eurogroup meeting at the EU Council in Brussels, Belgium on January 18, 2010. Trichet, Lagarde, and Katainen attended the 2009 Bilderberg Meetings in Vouliagmeni, Greece in May 2009. All four individuals have attended the Bilderberg Meetings at least once. (AP Photo)



Spain's Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez Marquez (left) meets with Chancellor of West Germany Helmut Kohl in 1989. Felipe Gonzalez Marquez attended the 1989 Bilderberg Meetings. Helmut Kohl attended the 1988 Bilderberg Meetings.



Italy's Prime Minister Romano Prodi meets with British Prime Minister Tony Blair at Villa Pamphili in Rome, Italy on June 2, 2006. Romano Prodi and Tony Blair have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Photo by Franco Origlia/Getty Images)



Sir John Browne (left), Group Chief Executive of The British Petroleum Company, Laurance Fuller (center), Chairman and CEO of Amoco Corporation, and Peter Sutherland, Chairman of The British Petroleum Company, shake hands at a press conference in London on August 11, 1998, after British Petroleum and U.S. oil corporation Amoco announced plans for a \$67 billion merger that will create Britain's biggest company, BP Amoco, with its headquarters in London. Sir John Browne and Peter D. Sutherland have attended several Bilderberg Meetings together. (Johnny Eggitt/AFP/Getty Images)



Peter D. Sutherland (left), the Chairman of Goldman Sachs International, meets with Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair in London on March 22, 2004. Peter D. Sutherland and Tony Blair attended the 1993 Bilderberg Meetings together. (Paul Hackett/AFP/Getty Images)



Chairman of the Lafarge group Bertrand Collomb (left), Chairman and CEO of Nokia Corporation Jorma Ollila (center), and President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso meet privately at the European Union headquarters in Brussels, Belgium on December 11, 2006. Bertrand Collomb, Jorma Ollila, and Jose Manuel Barroso attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 2003 and 2005. (Jacques Collet/AFP/Getty Images)



European Union President José Manuel Barroso shakes hands with NATO Secretary General, Jaap de Hoop Scheffer on December 20, 2004. Barroso and Scheffer attended the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings together. Jaap de Hoop Scheffer served as NATO Secretary General from January 5, 2004 to August 1, 2009. ([NATO Photo](#))



NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen and the President of the European Commission, Jose Manuel Barroso at the NATO Summit in Chicago on May 21, 2012. ([NATO Photo](#))



President of the European Commission, Jose Manuel Barroso (left) welcomes former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger prior to a meeting in Brussels, Belgium on May 4, 2005. Both men have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Thierry Tronnel/Corbis)



Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan (center) meets with European Central Bank President Jean-Claude Trichet (right) and Bank of England Governor Mervyn King at the beginning of the G20 finance ministers and central bank governors' meeting in Berlin on November 19, 2004. All three men have attended the Bilderberg Meetings at least once. (Photo by Sean Gallup/Getty Images)



President of the European Central Bank Jean Claude Trichet (left) laughs with Chancellor of Germany Angela Merkel during the ceremonial act of the German Bundesbank at the Palais am Zoo in Frankfurt, Germany on September 20, 2007. Merkel and Trichet attended the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings together. (Photo by Alexander Heimann/Getty Images)

Former EU commissioner tells the media that Bilderberg helped create the Euro *

[EU Observer](#)

16.03.2009 [March 16, 2009]

ANDREW RETTMAN

'Jury's out' on future of Europe, EU doyen says

EUOBSERVER / BRUSSELS - The financial crisis is likely to create fundamental changes in the EU. But the bloc is still at an early stage of formulating its response, Belgian industrialist and former EU commissioner Etienne Davignon told EUobserver.

"It's clear that the world will not be the same after September 2008," he said in an interview on 12 March, referring to events last year such as the fall of Lehman Brothers bank in the US, which first put in the public eye what has since become the global economic crisis.

The 77-year old Mr Davignon is vice-chairman of Belgian energy firm Suez-Tractebel and president of Brussels-based NGO Friends of Europe. In the 1960s he worked under EU 'founding father' Paul-Henri Spaak in the Belgian foreign ministry and in the 1980s was EU commissioner for industry.

A meeting in June in Europe of the Bilderberg Group - an informal club of leading politicians, businessmen and thinkers chaired by Mr Davignon - could also "improve understanding" on future action, in the same way it helped create the euro in the 1990s, he said.

"When we were having debates on the euro, people [at Bilderberg events] could explain why it was worth taking risks and the others, for whom the formal policy was not to believe in it, were not obliged not to listen and had to stand up and come up with real arguments."

In the current "grey period," Mr Davignon expects the 19 March EU summit and the 2 April G20 meeting in London to generate goodwill for co-ordinated action, but not to come out with detailed agendas.

"These two meetings are going to be important because of what [the media] will say - is it a lot of jaw-jaw and everything will get worse? Or maybe it's the beginning of a realisation that the world will no longer be the same and we are going to do something about it."

Six months into the crisis, EU governments are at the stage of studying technical measures such as greater bank regulation and galvanising political will for future change, Mr Davignon said. But it will take another **18 to 24 months before the full effects of the crunch become clear.**

Future horizons

Mr Davignon spoke in favour of international bank regulation and dismissed fears that the potential creation of eurobonds - a government bond guaranteed by all 16 eurozone countries - would increase the cost of borrowing for the other 11 EU members.

"National regulation of the financial sector has been a disaster. Ireland is a case. Iceland is a case," he said. "The fact that you are making the euro countries healthier [via eurobonds] is an element that makes the situation of the less healthy less difficult to solve."

"That is totally unacceptable ... Yesterday, a French car producer was a French car producer. A German car producer was a German producer. Fiat was an Italian producer. Now they have a French origin, a German origin, an Italian origin. But they are European producers and we told them to be like this."

Mr Davignon predicted that deeper EU integration as envisaged in the Lisbon treaty will continue due to a "majority movement" that is "irresistible over a period of time," even if an individual member state opts out.

A second negative referendum in Ireland on Lisbon "would put on the agenda the notion that if somebody says No, why do we have to care about them?" he said.

Godless and confused

“People understand confusedly that there is a change [in the air],” he said. “But no government will satisfy the reactions of the people. They have the greatest reticence and cynicism against anybody who holds responsibility.

“Against the business community because of the financial excesses. Also, the church has disappeared. The popular reaction is also a consequence of the fact that a number of traditional references have disappeared. People are looking for what is the reference.”

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Related

What does Bilderberg mean? Bilder means builder. The dominant minority and their guardian political experts (this is what Plato called them) consider themselves to be builders of artificial societies/civilizations outside of the natural tribe environment. Berg as in iceberg (ice-mountain) meaning a mountain, a pyramid is an artificial mountain. Bilderberg means builders of the mountain, but they are no sun king Pharaohs. The Bilderberg hotel was chosen for the first meeting. It was not a surprise they unimaginatively chose the [Excel centre](#) for the 2009 G20 meeting which you can see [here](#) has a glass pyramid entrance with a capital C letter floating above it for the missing capstone not unlike the pyramid on the [back of the dollar bill](#) with the sun eye capstone floating above that. They never grow tired of using this, it must be their corporate logo like [AOL](#) or their religious symbol like a cross. Christians use the cross as their symbol regardless of what others believe and the elite use their own symbols whether you believe in their religion or not, whether you take conscience notice of their logos and “bright” puns or not. We all know the Nazis used the ancient sun symbol, the swastika. These people are undemocratically deciding the future and the public do not know their common ideologies, it’s not a laughing matter even if their logos are.

“**The Constitution is the capstone of a European Federal State**” - Guy Verhofstadt, Belgian Prime Minister, Financial Times, 21 June 2004

“The pooling of coal and steel production should immediately provide for the setting up of common foundations for economic development as **a first step in the federation of Europe.**” - Schumann Declaration, 9 May 1950, announcing the formation of the European Coal and Steel Community

“France was just ahead of all the other countries in voting No. It would happen in all Member States if they have a referendum. There is a cleavage between people and governments... There will be no Treaty if we had a referendum in France, which would again be followed by a referendum in the UK.” - French President Nicolas Sarkozy, at meeting of MEP Group leaders discussing the Lisbon treaty, EU Observer, 14 November 2007

“Public opinion will be led to adopt, without knowing it, the proposals that we dare not present to them directly ... All the earlier proposals will be in the new text, but will be hidden and disguised in some way.” - Former French President V.Giscard D’Estaing, Le Monde, 14 June 20

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[Architect of the Euro backs UN global currency *](#)

[Telegraph: Euro trap closes to allow ‘the EU do things it cannot do now’ *](#)

[Sky News: Global Governance deal requires ‘all continents’ and ‘all countries’ to conform](#)

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Bilderberg Legacy, Part 2: NATO



Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld (left) shares a laugh with NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer (right) before sitting down to a working lunch in the Pentagon on June 1, 2005. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer have attended Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Department of Defense photo by R.D. Ward)



NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer listens as Richard Holbrooke (left) gesture while speaking during a panel 'Can We Still Win In Afghanistan' during the Brussels Forum in Brussels on April 28, 2007. Jaap de Hoop Scheffer and Richard Holbrooke attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 2005, 2008, and 2009. (AP Photo by Virginia Mayo)



NATO Secretary General Javier Solana watches President Bill Clinton shake hands with British Prime Minister Tony Blair on April 23, 1999. All three men have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (NATO Photo)



President Bill Clinton (left) and NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana (right) listen as British Prime Minister Tony Blair deliver a speech on April 23, 1999. All three men have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. ([NATO Photo](#))



Left to right: Donald Rumsfeld (Secretary of Defense); Colin Powell (Secretary of State); Ambassador R. Nicholas Burns (Permanent Representative to NATO for the USA); U.S. President George W. Bush; NATO Secretary General, Jaap de Hoop Scheffer meet privately on June 27, 2004. Rumsfeld, Powell, and Jaap de Hoop Scheffer have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. ([NATO Photo](#))



British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Donald Rumsfeld, Colin Powell, Gen. James L. Jones, and R. Nicholas Burns (sitting behind Powell) attend a NATO meeting on June 28, 2004. Blair, Rumsfeld, Powell, and Gen. Jones have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. ([NATO Photo](#))



U.S. Marine Corps General James L. Jones (left), the Supreme Allied Commander of Europe, and NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 2005 and 2009. (NATO Photo)



Henry Kissinger (left) and former NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana attended the Bilderberg Meetings together



NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson (left) talks to Carl Bildt, UN Special Envoy for the Balkans, privately at the NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium on September 13, 2000. Lord Robertson and Carl Bildt have been to the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. ([NATO Photo](#))



Deputy Secretary of State Robert Zoellick (left) shakes hands with NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer at the NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium on March 8, 2006. Zoellick and Scheffer have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (NATO Photo)



NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana (left) and Council on Foreign Relations director Richard Holbrooke meet privately on October 12, 1998. Solana and Holbrooke attend the 1998 Bilderberg Meetings together. (Photo: © VAN PARYS/CORBIS SYGMA)



Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz (right) and former Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaap de Hoop Scheffer attended the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings together. Paul Wolfowitz once described the Bilderberg Meetings as “a valuable opportunity to meet many people and make acquaintances.” (Photo: U.S. Department of Defense)



Colin Powell, Gen. James L. Jones, and Jaap de Hoop Scheffer have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (NATO Photo)



Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld (left) and NATO Secretary General Lord George Robertson (right) listen to a reporter's question during a press conference following their meeting at the Pentagon on June 20, 2001. Donald Rumsfeld and Lord Robertson have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Photo by Helene C. Stikkel, U.S. Department of Defense)



Colin Powell and Lord Robertson attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (NATO Photo/State Department)



Paul Wolfowitz and former NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson attended the 1998 Bilderberg Meetings together. (NATO Photo)



From left to right: Jean Monnet, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, Dirk Spierenburg, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, David K.E. Bruce, Franz Etzel, and William Rand meet in Washington D.C. from June 3-7, 1953. Jean Monnet attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



Norway's Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg (left) and NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (NATO Photo)



Former Prime Minister of Portugal António Guterres and former NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (NATO Photo)



British Prime Minister Tony Blair and former NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (The man on the right is Jack Straw, British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.) (NATO Photo)



European Union High Representative Javier Solana and former NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson attended the 1998 Bilderberg Meetings together. (NATO Photo)



Paul Wolfowitz (left), Deputy Secretary of Defense, and Marine Corps Gen. James L. Jones (right), Supreme Allied Commander of Europe, attended the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings together.



Former Prime Minister of Canada Jean Chretien (left) and former NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson have attended Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (NATO Photo)



NATO Secretary General Lord George Robertson (left) talks to Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands during his visit to the Huis ten Bosch palace in The Hague, Netherlands on September 8, 2003. Lord Robertson and Queen Beatrix attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 1998 and 2001. (Continental/AFP/Getty Images)



Left photo: Bill Clinton and Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 1991.



Right photo: Bill Clinton and former NATO Secretary General Javier Solana have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



French politician and Prime Minister Antoine Pinay greets General Lord Ismay (left), the newly appointed Secretary General of NATO in Paris on April 19, 1952. Antoine Pinay attended the Bilderberg Meetings in 1954 and 1964. (Photo by Keystone/Getty Images)



Former NATO Secretary-General Paul-Henri Spaak (left), former U.S. Ambassador to Peru Theodore Achilles (center), and Paul Martin have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



Prime Minister of Canada Jean Chretien (left) talks to Prime Minister of Great Britain Tony Blair at a NATO meeting on April 23, 1999. Chretien and Blair attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. ([NATO Photo](#))

Bilderberg Legacy, Part 3: World Bank & IMF



International Monetary Fund Managing Director Rodrigo de Rato (left) and World Bank President Paul Wolfowitz (right) pose for a photograph at the beginning of a World Bank Development Committee meeting, as part of the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank in Singapore on September 18, 2006. Rato and Wolfowitz attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 1994, 2005, and 2007.



From left to right: Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, U.S. Treasury Secretary John Snow, (unidentified), European Central Bank President Jean-Claude Trichet, International Monetary Fund Managing Director Rodrigo de Rato, and World Bank President James D. Wolfensohn appear at the beginning of the G-7 ministerial meeting on April 16, 2005 in Washington, D.C. Greenspan, Trichet, Rodrigo de Rato, and Wolfensohn have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (AP Photo)



President of the World Bank Robert B. Zoellick listens to International Monetary Fund Managing Director Rodrigo de Rato at the 2007 World Bank/IMF Annual Meetings on October 21, 2007. (Photo: [The World Bank](#))



Thierry de Montbrial, Director of the French Institute of International Affairs (IFRI), welcomes President of The World Bank Paul Wolfowitz at the Institute in Paris, France on October 18, 2006. (Photo: [© World Bank/Fabien Marry](#))



Paul Wolfowitz, President of The World Bank (left) chats with Mr. Kemal Dervis, the Administrator of United Nations Development Programme. Both men have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Photo: [The World Bank](#))



(Second row, left to right) DAVID DODGE, Governor of the Bank of Canada, U.S. Federal Reserve Board Chairman BEN BERNANKE (in 2008), JEAN-CLAUDE TRICHET, President of the European Central bank, Christian Noyer, Governor of the Banque de France, Axel Weber, President of the Deutsche Bundesbank, RODRIGO DE RATO, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Toshihiko Fukui, Governor of the Bank of Japan, PAUL WOLFOWITZ, President of the World Bank, MERVYN KING, Governor of the Bank of England, and MARIO DRAGHI, Governor of the Bank of Italy. (First row, left to right) Jean-Claude Juncker, President Eurogroup, Koji Omi, Minister of Finance of Japan, HENRY PAULSON (in 2008), U.S. Secretary of Treasury, German Finance Minister PEER STEINBRUECK, French Finance and Industry Minister Thierry Breton, Italian Economy and Finance minister TOMMASO PADOA-SCHIOPPA, British Chancellor of the Exchequer GORDON BROWN, and Canadian Minister of Finance James Flaherty pose for the official picture of the G7 summit in Essen, Germany on February 10, 2007. The G7 finance ministers and central bank governors met to discuss the development of global economy in 2007. [CAPS = Bilderberg Meetings participants] (Photo by Ralph Orlowski/Getty Images)



World Bank Chairman James Wolfensohn (left) talks to European Union Commission Chairman Jose Manuel Barroso at the European Union headquarters in Brussels on March 3, 2005. Wolfensohn and Barroso attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 2003 and 2005. (Gerard Cerles/AFP/Getty Images)



Left to right: James Flaherty of Canada, CHRISTINE LAGARDE of France, RODRIGO DE RATO (Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund), PEER STEINBRUECK of Germany, DAVID DODGE of Canada, HENRY PAULSON JR. of the United States, Christian Noyer of France, TOMMASO PADOA-SCHIOPPA of Italy, Axel Weber of Germany, BEN BERNANKE of the United States, Fukushima Nukaga of Japan, MARIO DRAGHI of Italy, Alistair Darling of the United Kingdom, Toshihiko Fukui of Japan, Jean-Claude Juncker of the Eurogroup, MERVYN KING of the United Kingdom, JEAN-CLAUDE TRICHET of the European Central Bank, and World Bank President ROBERT ZOELLICK pose during the G7 class photo at the U.S. Treasury in Washington, D.C. on October 19, 2007. (Photo by Brendan Smialowski/Getty Images)



World Bank President Robert B. Zoellick speaks with Finland's Finance Minister Jyrki Katainen at the Government Banquet Hall in Helsinki, Finland on May 20, 2009. Both Robert B. Zoellick and Jyrki Katainen attended the 2009 Bilderberg Meetings in Vouliagmeni, Greece that was held from May 14, 2009 to May 17, 2009. (Getty Images)



European Union (EU) foreign policy chief Javier Solana (left) and World Bank President Paul Wolfowitz head to a working lunch at EU headquarters in Brussels on November 15, 2006. Javier Solana and Paul Wolfowitz have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Jacques Collet/AFP/Getty Images)



President of the World Bank James Wolfensohn (left) meets with Romano Prodi, President of the European Commission, in Brussels, Belgium on May 11, 2004. James Wolfensohn was in Brussels for the annual Bank Conference on development economics. James Wolfensohn and Romano Prodi attended the 1990 Bilderberg Meetings together. (Photo by Mark Renders/Getty Images)

Bilderberg Legacy, Part 4: International Summits



Left to right: **TONY BLAIR** (Prime Minister of Great Britain), **ROMANO PRODI** (Prime Minister of Italy), Vladimir Putin (President of Russia), Nicholas Sarkozy (President of France), **ANGELA MERKEL** (Chancellor of Germany), George W. Bush (President of the U.S.), **STEPHEN HARPER** (Prime Minister of Canada), Shinzo Abe (Prime Minister of Japan), and **JOSE MANUEL BARROSO** (President of the European Commission) appear on the docks of Heiligendamm, Germany at the G-8 Summit on June 7, 2007. ([G-8 Summit website](#)) (CAPS = Bilderberg Meetings participants)



(Left to right) Italian Prime Minister **ROMANO PRODI**, German Chancellor **ANGELA MERKEL**, British Prime Minister **TONY BLAIR**, French President Jacques Chirac, Russian President Vladimir Putin (host), U.S. President George W. Bush, Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, Canadian Prime Minister **STEPHEN HARPER**, Finnish Prime Minister Matti Taneli Vanhanen, and European Commission President **JOSE MANUEL BARROSO** wave to the camera during the G-8 Summit at Constantine Palace in St. Petersburg, Russia on July 16, 2006. ([G-8 Photo](#)) (**CAPS = Bilderberg Meetings participants**)



Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel stands beside Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper at the G8 Summit in Heiligendamm, Germany on June 7, 2007. (Photo by Peter Macdiarmid/Getty Images)



French President Giscard d'Estaing hosted the Rambouillet economic summit in November 1975. At its concluding press conference, from left: Prime Minister Aldo Moro of Italy, Prime Minister Harold Wilson of the United Kingdom, President Ford, our French Presidential host (seated behind, HAK), Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, and Prime Minister Takeo Miki of Japan.

Henry Kissinger, Gerald Ford, Helmut Schmidt, and Giscard d'Estaing have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



From left to right: Ryutaro Hashimoto, Prime Minister, Japan; Jean Chretien, Prime Minister, Canada; William J. Clinton, President, United States; Jacques Chirac, President of the Republic, France; Helmut Kohl, Chancellor, Germany; John Major, Prime Minister, United Kingdom; Romano Prodi, President, Italy; Jacques Santer, President, European Commission. This photo was taken at a G7 Summit in 1996. Clinton, Chretien, Kohl, and Prodi have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.

([G7 Photo](#))



Heads of state attend at a G-8 Meeting in Denver. From left to right: Jacques Delors, Prime Minister of Great Britain TONY BLAIR, Prime Minister of Japan Ryutaro Hashimoto, Chancellor of Germany HELMUT KOHL, President of Russia Boris Yeltsin, President of the United States of America BILL CLINTON, President of France Jacques Chirac, Prime Minister of Canada JEAN CHRETIEN, President of Italy ROMANO PRODI, and Prime Minister of the Netherlands WIM KOK.
(CAPS = Bilderberg Meetings Participants)



Finance Ministers of the Group of Seven (G7) leading industrial countries pose for a group photo in the courtyard of Blair House in Washington, D.C. on October 3, 1998. From left to right: Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer GORDON BROWN, German Director General of the Finance Ministry Klaus Regling, French Finance Minister DOMINIQUE STRAUSS-KAHN, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, Treasury Minister of Italy CARLO CIAMPI, Japan's Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, and Finance Minister of Canada PAUL MARTIN.
(CAPS = Bilderberg Meetings participants) (Tim Sloan/AFP/Getty Images)

Bilderberg Legacy, Part 5: European-American Relations



Barack Obama and the Bilderberg Group: From left to right: European Council High Representative Javier Solana, President Barack Obama, President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso and Prime Minister of Sweden Fredrik Reinfeldt walk from the Oval Office to the Cabinet Room at the White House on November 3, 2009. The statesmen are in the U.S. to participate in the U.S.-European Union Summit. Solana, Barroso, and Reinfeldt have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Getty Images)



U.S. President Barack Obama meets with Italy's Prime Minister Mario Monti in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, D.C. on February 9, 2012. (Reuters)



U.S. President Barack Obama (right) shakes hands with Sweden's Foreign Minister Carl Bildt (center) as British Foreign Secretary William Hague (left) looks on at the start of the International Security Assistance Force meeting on Afghanistan during the 2012 NATO Summit at the McCormick Place convention center in Chicago on May 21, 2012. (Getty Images)



President Barack Obama, right, thanks NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the opening of the NATO Summit in Chicago, May 20, 2012.



President Barack Obama talks with, from left, José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany, Prime Minister Mario Monti of Italy, President François Hollande of France, and Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council, on the Laurel Cabin patio during the G8 Summit at Camp David, Md., May 19, 2012. Mike Froman, Deputy NSA for International and Economic Affairs, listens in the background, third from left. Barroso, Merkel, Monti, and Van Rompuy have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)



NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen and U.S. President Barack Obama welcome Jose Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, at the NATO Summit in Chicago on May 20, 2012. ([NATO Photo](#))



NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen and U.S. President Barack Obama welcome the Prime Minister of Italy Mario Monti at the NATO Summit in Chicago on May 20, 2012. ([NATO Photo](#))



U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, left, shakes hand with Prime Minister of Italy Mario Monti after their talks in Milan, Italy on Thursday, December 8, 2011. Geithner's visit to Europe comes on the eve of a summit of European leaders Friday that could yield a plan for resolving the crisis. (Photo: Luca Bruno/AP)



Greek Minister of Finance George Papaconstantinou meets the United States Secretary of the Treasury Timothy Geithner on October 9, 2010. (Photo: [Greek Ministry of Finance Office](#))



Secretary of the Treasury Timothy Geithner (left) appears with Olli Rehn (right), European Commissioner for Economic and Monetary Affairs and the Euro, at a summit.



Jean Claude Trichet (left), President of the European Central Bank, walks with Timothy Geithner (right), U.S. Secretary of the Treasury. (Photo: Joshua Roberts/Bloomberg)



U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Italy's Prime Minister Mario Monti pose before bilateral talks at the 48th Conference on Security Policy in Munich, Germany on February 4, 2012. The Security Conference was a three-day event bringing together top defense and diplomacy officials from around the world discussing the winding down of the NATO engagement in Afghanistan and other looming challenges. Mario Monti is a regular Bilderberg Meetings participant. (Reuters)



Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger appears with U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton at the U.S. State Department in Washington, D.C., U.S.A. (Photo: U.S. State Department)



Secretary of State Hillary Clinton delivers remarks after meeting with Quartet Envoy Tony Blair in the Treaty Room at the State Department in Washington, D.C. on February 4, 2009. Tony Blair has attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. ([State Department photo by Michael Gross](#))



Remarks by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner (left) appear at a press conference in the Treaty Room at the State Department in Washington, D.C. on May 11, 2009. Bernard Kouchner has attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. ([State Department photo by Michael Gross](#))



U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton is welcomed by European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso (L) before a meeting at the EU Commission's headquarters in Brussels, Belgium on March 5, 2009. ([Reuters](#))



NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer (L) listens to U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton as they pose for a family photo during a NATO foreign ministers meeting at the Alliance headquarters in Brussels, Belgium on March 5, 2009. ([Reuters](#))



Secretary of State Hillary Clinton appears with Sweden's Foreign Minister Carl Bildt in the Treaty Room at the State Department in Washington, D.C. on May 5, 2009. Carl Bildt is a regular Bilderberg Meetings participant. ([State Department photo by Michael Gross](#))



Secretary of State Hillary Clinton meets with Javier Solana, Secretary General of the Council of the European Union and High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy, in Washington, D.C. on April 15, 2009. Javier Solana has attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. ([State Department photo by Michael Gross](#))



Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton meets with Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel in Berlin, Germany on November 9, 2009. Angela Merkel attended the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo: [U.S. State Department](#))



EU Commissioner for Enlargement, Olli Rehn (L), Sweden's Foreign Minister Carl Bildt (C) and U.S. Deputy Secretary of State James Steinberg (R) addresses journalists during a press conference at EUFOR Headquarters in Butmir, Bosnia, near Sarajevo, on October 9, 2009. Rehn, Steinberg and Bildt attended a meeting with leaders of all major political parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina and presented the EU and US's newest strategy for Bosnia approaching European and NATO integration. A new meeting is scheduled for October 20. All three men have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. Rehn and Bildt attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in Istanbul, Turkey in June 2007. (Getty Images)



Bernard Kouchner (left), the French Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, embraces Richard Holbrooke, former U.S. Representative to the United Nations, after presenting him with the insignia of the Officer of the Legion of Honor in New York City on September 28, 2007. Bernard Kouchner and Richard Holbrooke attended the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings together. ([AP Photo](#))



Bernard Kouchner (left), the French Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, kisses Richard Holbrooke, former U.S. Representative to the United Nations, after presenting him with the insignia of the Officer of the Legion of Honor in New York City on September 28, 2007. ([AP Photo](#))



Richard Holbrooke (right) talks with Carl Bildt (center), the Foreign Minister of Sweden, during the opening of the Brussels Forum in Brussels on April 27, 2007. Carl Bildt and Richard Holbrooke have attended several Bilderberg Meetings together. (AP Photo by Virginia Mayo)



Norman Pearlstine (left), President of American Academy in Berlin and former Editor-in-Chief of Time magazine, German Chancellor Angela Merkel (center), and Richard C. Holbrooke (right), Chairman of American Academy in Berlin and former U.S. Ambassador to Germany, prepare for a ceremony commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Marshall Plan in Berlin on November 19, 2007. All three individuals have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Reuters)



American financier George Soros (left) meets with United Nations Special Envoy Carl Bildt. George Soros and Carl Bildt attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 1996 and 2000.



LaFarge Chairman and CEO Bertrand Collomb (left), DaimlerChrysler CEO Jurgen Schrempp (center), and former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Richard Holbrooke stand together in Berlin, Germany on April 21, 2004. Collomb, Schrempp, and Holbrooke have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Photo by Sean Gallup/Getty Images)



Presiding at Family of Man Award dinner honoring Jean Monnet (*at lectern*).
Left to right: George Ball, The Hon. John J. McCloy, and Norman Vincent Peale,
1967.

George W. Ball, John J. McCloy, and Jean Monnet attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. This photo appears in George W. Ball's book *The Past Has Another Pattern: Memoirs*.



Under Secretary of State George W. Ball visits Chancellor of West Germany Ludwig Erhard in 1964. George W. Ball and Ludwig Erhard attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. This photo appears in George W. Ball's book *The Past Has Another Pattern: Memoirs*.



British Foreign Secretary Sir Harold MacMillan (left), French Foreign Secretary Antoine Pinay (center), and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles meet at the Geneva Conference on November 3, 1955. Antoine Pinay attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Photo by Keystone/Getty Images)



Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara stands with Otto Grieg Tidemand (left), Norway's Minister of Defense, during a full honors arrival ceremony at the Pentagon on April 21, 1966. Otto Grieg Tidemand was a regular Bilderberg Meetings participant. (Photo: [U.S. Department of Defense](#))



Secretary of State Henry Kissinger meets with Senator Henry M. Jackson on June 24, 1974. Kissinger and Jackson attended the 1964 Bilderberg Meetings together.



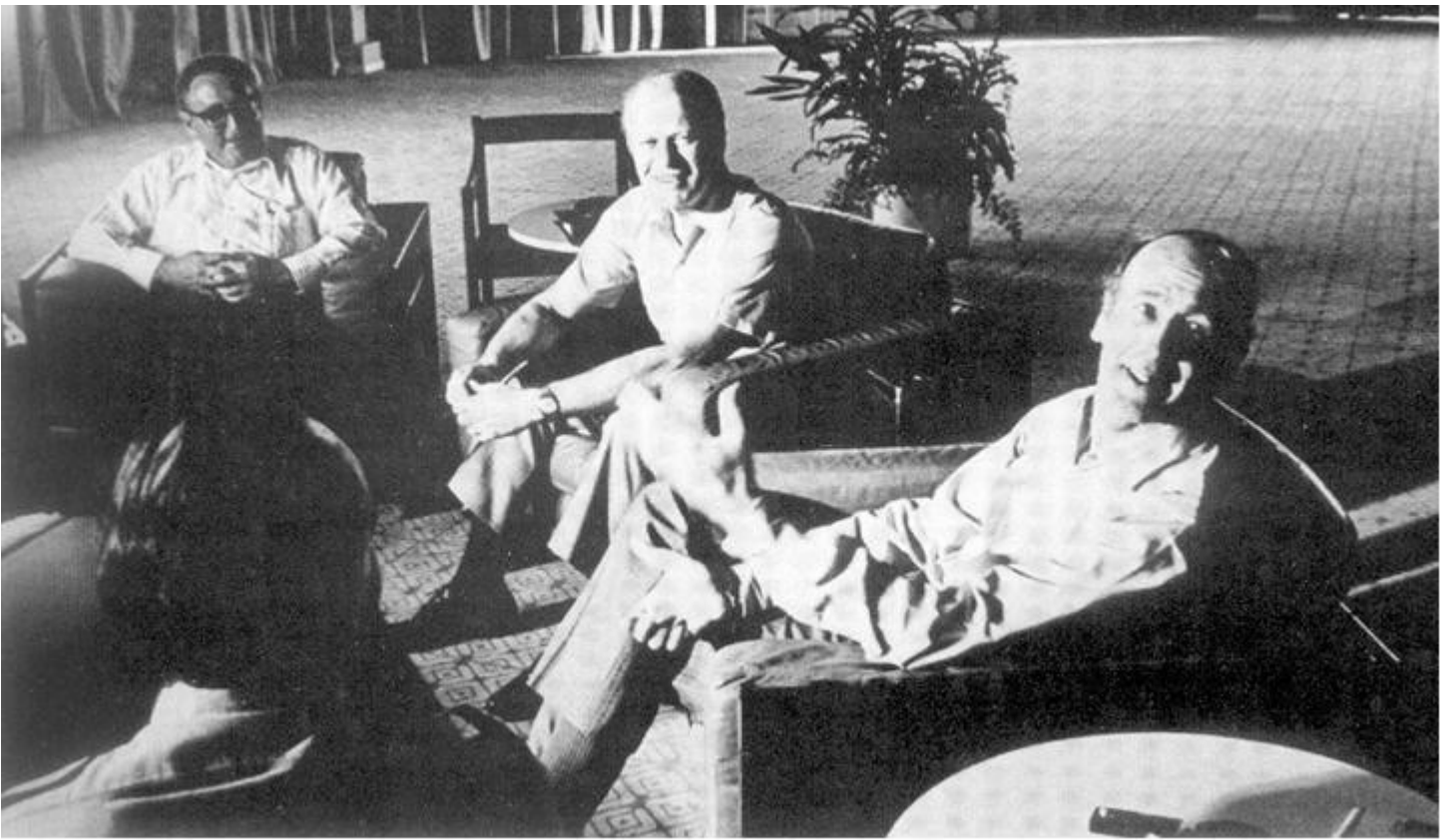
Former French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing (left) and David Rockefeller attended the Bilderberg Meetings in 2003. (Photo: Council on Foreign Relations Annual Report)



Secretary of State Henry Kissinger meets with West Germany's Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in Munich on July 7, 1974. Henry Kissinger and Helmut Schmidt attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 1980, 1983, and 1986.



National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski (left) talks to West Germany's Chancellor Helmut Schmidt during a meeting in Bonn on October 3, 1978. Zbigniew Brzezinski and Helmut Schmidt attended the 1973 Bilderberg Meetings together.



Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and President Gerald Ford (center) meet with French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing (right) on the island of Martinique in December 1974. Kissinger, Ford, and d'Estaing have attended the Bilderberg Meetings at least once.



A lunch break at the Helsinki summit in Helsinki, Finland on July 31, 1975. From left to right: British Prime Minister Harold Wilson, President Gerald Ford, French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, Chancellor of West Germany Helmut Schmidt, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, James Callaghan, Jean Sauvagnargues, and Henry Kissinger. Everyone in that photo except for Genscher and Sauvagnargues has attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. This photo was published in Henry Kissinger's book *Years of Renewal: The Concluding Volume of His Memoirs*. (Lehtikuva Oy/Saba Photo)



Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan (center) and Mervyn King (right), Governor of The Bank of England, pose with Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown after collecting their honorary doctorate degrees in the presence of The Duke of Edinburgh on February 7, 2005 in Edinburgh, Scotland. Greenspan, King, and Brown have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Photo by Christopher Furlong/Getty Images)



Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger chats (left) with Giovanni Agnelli, the honorary chairman of Fiat, before the 1998 Soccer World Cup quarter final match between France and Italy at the Stade de France in Saint-Denis, France on July 3, 1998. Giovanni Agnelli and Henry Kissinger have attended the Bilderberg Meetings together on 19 different occasions, including the 1998 Bilderberg Meetings that took place in Scotland in May 1998. (Gerard Julien/AFP/Getty Images)



(From left to right) Minister Karel De Gucht, Ambassador Fans van Daele, Henry A. Kissinger, James Wolfensohn, Viscount Etienne Davignon, Mr. Patrick Daems, Mr. Jean-Pierre Paulet, and Mr. Georges Ugeux appear at a party. Kissinger, Wolfensohn, and Davignon have attended over 20 Bilderberg Meetings together. ([Belgian-American Chamber of Commerce](#))



Left to right: Former German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, Austrian Chancellor Alfred Gusenbauer, Austrian President Heinz Fischer, former Austrian Chancellor Franz Vranitzky and former World Bank President James Wolfensohn pose for photographers before celebrating Vranitzky's 70th birthday at the historic Hofburg Palace in Vienna on October 4, 2007. Gusenbauer, Fischer, Vranitzky, and Wolfensohn have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. ([Reuters](#))



Left photo: Left to right: Gordon McCready (Britain), John J. McCloy (U.S.), Jean Monnet (France), and Armand Bérard (France) meet privately. John McCloy and Jean Monnet attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.
 Right photo: U.S. President Bill Clinton (left) meets with Prime Minister of Netherlands Wim Kok. Bill Clinton and Wim Kok attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.

Miscellaneous Photographs of Bilderberg Meetings Participants



Bilderberg Meetings participant Jean-Claude Trichet (center), President of European Central Bank, addresses the Economic Club of New York at a luncheon in New York City on October 12, 2010. Bilderberg Meetings participant William J. McDonough, former President of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, is seated in the front row on the far right. (Photo: [Economic Club of New York](#))



Left to right: David Rockefeller, CFR Chairman Emeritus Peter G. Peterson, CFR Board Co-Chairman Carla A. Hills, CFR President Richard N. Haass, and CFR Board Co-Chairman Robert E. Rubin attend the dedication of CFR's Washington, D.C. building. All five individuals have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Photo: [Council on Foreign Relations 2010 Annual Report](#))



Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain greets Secretary of State for Business Peter Mandelson during the State Opening of Parliament in London on November 18, 2009. Queen Elizabeth II unveiled the Government's legislative programme in a speech delivered from the Throne in The House of Lords. This new session of Parliament will only last until the general election which has to be called by June 3, 2010. Peter Mandelson attended the 2009 Bilderberg Meetings in Vouliagmeni, Greece, near Athens, in May 2009. (Photo: Pool/Getty Images Europe)



Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain sits next to Lord Chancellor Ken Clarke (second from right) in London on December 7, 2011 as she officially opens the Rolls Building, the latest addition to the Royal Courts of Justice. (Photo: WPA Pool/[Getty Images Europe](#))



Conservative party leader David Cameron (left) appears with Shadow Chancellor George Osborne (center) as he introduces Kenneth Clarke (right) to his economic team at Portcullis House in London on January 19, 2009. Kenneth Clarke returned to the Conservative front bench to assume the role of Shadow Business Secretary. George Osborne and Kenneth Clarke are regular Bilderberg Meetings participants. (Photo by Oli Scarff/Getty Images)



Member of Parliament Kenneth Clarke (left) and Peter Mandelson speak at the British Chamber of Commerce annual conference in March 2010. Kenneth Clarke and Peter Mandelson are regular Bilderberg Meetings participant. (Photo: Oli Scarff/Getty Images)



Jorma Ollila (right), Chairman of Royal Dutch Shell, speaks while Robert Dudley (left), CEO of British Petroleum (BP), listens during the second day of the St. Gallen Symposium, a platform for dialogue on key issues in management, the entrepreneurial environment and the interfaces between business, politics and civil society, at the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland on May 13, 2011. Ollila and Dudley attended the 2012 Bilderberg Meetings in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. from May 31-June 3, 2012. (Photo: EPA/ENNIO LEANZA)



Left to right: Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne, Mukesh Ambani, Chairman and Managing Director of Reliance Industries, Robert Dudley, CEO of BP, and Carl-Henric Svanberg, Chairman of BP, during a signing ceremony at 11 Downing Street, February 21, 2011, in London, England. The deal will see BP take a 30 percent stake in oil and gas fields owned by Reliance Industries, after signing a 7.2 billion US dollar (£4.5 billion) deal with one of the country's biggest companies. Osborne, Dudley, and Svanberg have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Photo: WPA Pool/Getty Images Europe)



British Petroleum Chairman Carl-Henric Svanberg (L), Chief Executive Tony Hayward (2L) and Managing Director Robert Dudley (2R) leave the West Wing of the White House June 16, 2010 in Washington, DC. British Petroleum Chairman Carl-Henric Svanberg, Chief Executive Tony Hayward, America President Lamar McKay and Managing Director Robert Dudley met with President Barack Obama and administration officials to discuss the oil spill caused by the sinking of the Deepwater Horizon drilling platform in the Gulf of Mexico, which was run by British Petroleum. Svanberg and Dudley have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Photo: Brendan Smialowski/Getty Images North America)



U.S. President Barack Obama (2nd R) meets with (left to right) British Petroleum (BP) CEO Tony Hayward, BP Chairman Carl-Henric Svanberg, BP General Counsel Rupert Bondy, BP Managing Director Robert Dudley, Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett, Labor Secretary Hilda Solis, Attorney General Eric Holder, U.S. Vice President Joe Biden and Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano in the White House June 16, 2010 in Washington, DC. According to reports, BP has agreed to put 20 billion dollars into an escrow account for reimbursing. Svanberg and Dudley have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Photo: The White House/Getty Images North America)



U.S. President Barack Obama (left) laughs as he speaks with Pascal Lamy, Director-General of the World Trade Organization (WTO), ahead of a working session on the second day of the G20 Summit in Cannes, France on November 4, 2011. World's top economic leaders are attending the G20 summit in Cannes on November 3rd and 4th, and are expected to debate current issues surrounding the global financial system in the hope of fending off a global recession and finding an answer to the Eurozone crisis. Pascal Lamy attended the Bilderberg Meetings in 2011 and 2012. (Photo: Pool/Getty Images Europe)



Peter Voser (left, chief financial officer of Royal Dutch Shell), Jeroen van der Veer (center, chief executive of Royal Dutch Shell), and Jorma Ollila (right, chairman of Royal Dutch Shell) attend a Royal Dutch Shell annual meeting. All three men have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Olaf Kraak/Agence France-Presse/Getty Images)



James Wolfensohn (left), former President of the World Bank, and German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle (right) awarded the inaugural Moses Mendelssohn Award for Critical Thinking to former U.S. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger during the annual Leo Baeck Institute Gala Award Diner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City on December 12, 2011. All three men attended the 2007 Bilderberg Meetings in Istanbul, Turkey from 31 May-3 June 2007.

(Photo: <http://www.lbi.org/2011/12/inaugural-moses-mendelssohn-award-for-critical-thinking-awarded-henry-kissinger/>)



Former German Foreign Minister/Vice Chancellor Joschka Fischer (right) holds up the Leo Baeck Medal that was presented to him by Gala Co-Chairman James D. Wolfensohn (center) and former U.S. Secretary of State, Henry A. Kissinger during a ceremony in New York City, USA, on November 19, 2009. All three men attended the 2008 Bilderberg Meetings in Chantilly, Virginia, U.S.A. in June 2008.

(© picture-alliance/dpa) http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/_pr/GKs/NEWY/2009/11/19_LeoBeck.html



Left to right: David Rockefeller, Peter G. Peterson, Marie Josee Kravis, and Richard Salomon. David Rockefeller, Peter G. Peterson, and Marie Josee Kravis have attended Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



Left to right: David Rockefeller Jr., David Rockefeller, and Peter G. Peterson have attended Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



Morgan Stanley Vice Chairman David W. Helleniak (center) listens as Bilderberg Meetings participant Mario Monti (right), European Commissioner for Competition, speaks to Lazard Freres Chairman and CEO Bruce Wasserstein at the Harold Pratt House in New York City. Bruce Wasserstein and David W. Helleniak are (or were) members of the Council on Foreign Relations. This photo appears in the 2004 Council on Foreign Relations Annual Report.



Left: Prince Bernhard, the co-founder of the Bilderberg Meetings. Prince Bernhard was a Nazi SS stormtrooper before World War II; when asked about his Nazi experience, Prince Bernhard replied: "we had a lot of fun."
Right: Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands walks with her father Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands.



Left photo: Umberto Agnelli (left) and his older brother Giovanni Agnelli (right) have attended the Bilderberg Meetings together on several occasions.
Right photo: Bilderberg Meetings participants Council on Foreign Relations President Richard N. Haass (left) and Council on Foreign Relations Honorary Chairman David Rockefeller smile for the camera. (Photo: [Council on Foreign Relations](#))



Left: Etienne Davignon appears at one of the Bilderberg Meetings. (Photo by Daniel Estulin)
Right: Colin Powell and Renato Ruggiero, Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



Evelyn de Rothschild (left) and his wife Lynn Forester de Rothschild attended the 1998 Bilderberg Meetings that was held in Scotland in May 1998.



Henry R. Kravis and his wife Marie-Josée Kravis (left) have attended the Bilderberg Meetings together.



King Juan Carlos of Spain (left), Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands (center), and Queen Sofia of Spain attended the 1989 Bilderberg Meetings in La Toja, Spain in May 1989.



Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands and Prince Charles of Wales attended the 1986 Bilderberg Meetings in Gleneagles, Scotland in April 1986.



King Carl Gustaf of Sweden (left), Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, and Queen Sofia of Spain have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



Left photo: Prince Philip of England (left), the Duke of Edinburgh, and Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands have attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 1965 and 1967.



Right photo: Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, her son Prince Willem-Alexander, her future daughter-in-law Princess Maxima, and her late husband Prince Claus of the Netherlands smile for the camera prior to Willem-Alexander's marriage. Queen Beatrix, Prince Willem-Alexander, and Prince Claus have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



Ahmad Chalabi (left) and Colin Powell have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



Marie-Josée Kravis and former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger have attended the Bilderberg Meetings together.



James Wolfensohn and David Rockefeller have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.
(Photo: Council on Foreign Relations Annual Report)



Left: Henry Kissinger, Gerald Ford, and John McCloy attended the 1964 Bilderberg Meetings together.
Right: McGeorge Bundy and his brother William Bundy have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



Former Under Secretary of State George W. Ball (left) and former Secretary of State Dean Rusk attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 1957 and 1969. (Photo: Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library)



Richard Holbrooke and Richard Perle attended the Bilderberg Meetings together from 2004 to 2009.
(Photo: Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) Annual Report)



Senator H. John Heinz III (left), Senator Lloyd M. Bentsen Jr. (center), and Senator John H. Chafee appear at a press conference in February 1987. All three men were members of the Council on Foreign Relations. Senator H. John Heinz III attended the Bilderberg Meetings in 1978. Lloyd M. Bentsen Jr. and John H. Chafee have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Photo by Cynthia Johnson/Time Life Pictures/Getty Images)



President Bill Clinton (center), Microsoft Founder Bill Gates (left), and World Bank President James D. Wolfensohn listen to questions during the Conference on the New Economy in the East Room of the White House on April 5, 2000. Bill Clinton and James Wolfensohn attended the 1991 Bilderberg Meetings. Bill Gates' wife Melinda Gates attended the 2004 Bilderberg Meetings in Stresa, Italy. (Photo by Mark Wilson)



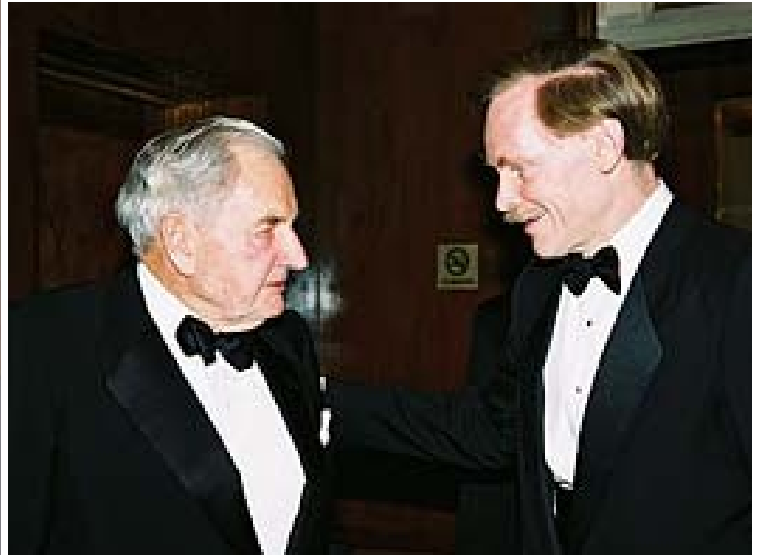
Paul Volcker (left), Stanley Fischer (center, red tie), and William J. McDonough (right) have attended several Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



President of the World Bank James Wolfensohn (left) and Colin Powell, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 1996.

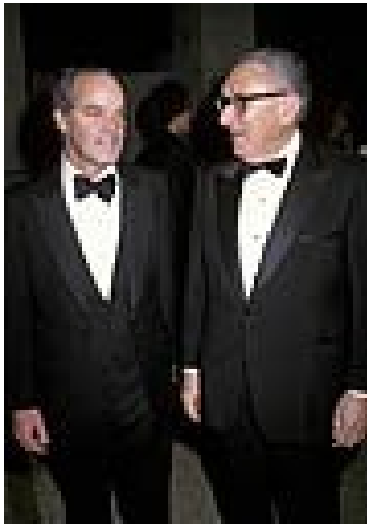


Winston Lord, J. Stapleton Roy, Irina Faskianos, and Joseph S. Nye Jr. meet at the Harold Pratt House. Lord, Roy, and Nye have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (CFR Annual Report)



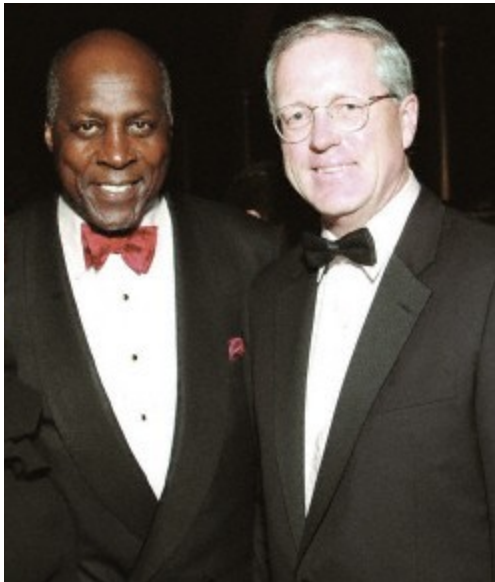
Left: Alan Greenspan and his wife Andrea Mitchell attended the 2002 Bilderberg Meetings together.

Right: David Rockefeller and Robert Zoellick attended the Bilderberg Meetings together in 1991, 2003, 2006, and 2008.



Left: Henry R. Kravis (left) and Henry Kissinger have attended the Bilderberg Meetings together.

Right: George Soros and David Rockefeller have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



Left: Vernon Jordan and James A. Johnson have attended the Bilderberg Meetings together.

Right: David Rockefeller (left), Canada's Prime Minister Jean Chretien (center), and John C. Whitehead attended the 1996 Bilderberg Meetings in Toronto, Canada.



Left photo: James D. Wolfensohn (left), President of The World Bank, and Vernon Jordan arrive at the United Nations Ambassadors Dinner at the Imperial Ballroom of the Sheraton Hotel in New York City on October 26, 2000. James Wolfensohn and Vernon Jordan have attended the Bilderberg Meetings together. (Photo by Jason Szenes/CORBIS SYGMA)

Right photo: Italy's Prime Minister Romano Prodi (left) shakes hands with Austria's Chancellor Wolfgang Schuessel on June 13, 2006. Romano Prodi and Wolfgang Schuessel have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (Photo: [Hopi-Media/Georges Schneider](#))



Antonio Guterres (left), former Prime Minister of Portugal, and United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan appear at a press conference on June 27, 2005. Kofi Annan appointed Antonio Guterres as the new United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Antonio Guterres attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. (UN Photo by [Evan Schneider](#))



Henry Kissinger and Paul Nitze have attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past.



Christian Herter (left), Dean Rusk (center), and Dean Acheson attended the Bilderberg Meetings in the past. All three men served as Secretary of State, and all three men were members of the Council on Foreign Relations. This photo was published in Dean Rusk's autobiography *As I Saw It*. (UPI Photo)



Martin Feldstein (left) and Alan Greenspan attended the 2002 Bilderberg Meetings in Chantilly, Virginia. (Photo: Council on Foreign Relations Annual Report)



Senators Henry M. Jackson, Jacob Javits, and Abraham Ribicoff talk to Gerald Ford at the White House. Everyone in that photo except for Ribicoff attended the 1964 Bilderberg Meetings in Williamsburg, Virginia in March 1964.



Henry Kissinger (left) speaks with Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan in Philadelphia on May 20, 2004. Kissinger and Greenspan went to the 2002 Bilderberg Meetings in Chantilly, Virginia. (Photo by William Thomas Cain/Getty Images)



Fox News founder Rupert Murdoch (left) and World Bank President James D. Wolfensohn smile for the camera at a American-Australian Association event on June 30, 1998. Rupert Murdoch and James Wolfensohn attended the 1988 Bilderberg Meetings together. (Photo by Ron Galella, Ltd./WireImage)



Libya's strongman Muammar Gaddafi (left) meets with Pascal Lamy, Director-General of World Trade Organization.



European Council President Herman Van Rompuy (left) greets Libya's strongman Muammar Gaddafi.



European Commission president Jose Manuel Barroso (left) greets Libya's strongman Muammar Gaddafi.



Russian President Vladimir Putin (center), President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso (right) and Herman Van Rompuy (left), President of the European Council, attend a news conference as part of the Russia-EU summit in Konstantinovsky Palace, at Strelina in St. Petersburg, Russia on June 4, 2012. (Reuters)



International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Christine Lagarde (left) talks with Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Ali Babacan (center) and Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan (right) during an Investment Advisory Council of Turkey Meeting in Istanbul, Turkey on May 11, 2012. Christine Lagarde and Ali Babacan attended the 2009 Bilderberg Meetings in Vouliagmeni, Greece, near Athens, in May 2009. (Getty Images)



Denmark's Minister for Climate and Energy Connie Hedegaard (left) meets with former U.S. President Bill Clinton at the Clinton Global Initiative in New York City on September 21, 2009. Connie Hedegaard, the current European Commissioner for Climate Action, attended the 2005 Bilderberg Meetings in Rottach-Egern, Germany, near Munich in May 2005.



Connie Hedegaard, the current European Commissioner for Climate Action, shakes hand with former president of Soviet Union Mikhail Gorbachev at the 6th World Water Forum on March 12, 2012. (Photo: [European Commission](#))



Gen. Colin Powell and George Stephanopoulos attended the 1997 Bilderberg Meetings together. David Gergen (hiding in the background) went to the 1991 Bilderberg Meetings.



Democratic Party presidential contenders (left to right) New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson, Senator Hillary Clinton former U.S. Senator John Edwards, and Senator Barack Obama pose for photographs after a televised debate at Saint Anselm College in Manchester, New Hampshire on January 5, 2008. Bill Richardson and John Edwards have attended Bilderberg Meetings in the past. Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton and Senator Barack Obama were reportedly meeting with Senator Dianne Feinstein, a past Bilderberg participant, and other Bilderberg participants near Chantilly, Virginia on June 5, 2008. (Getty Images)



Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld (right) congratulates Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan (left) after awarding him the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service at the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia on January 23, 2006. Alan Greenspan and Donald Rumsfeld attended the 2002 Bilderberg Meetings in Chantilly, Virginia. (Department of Defense photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Chad J. McNeeley, U.S. Navy)



Jean-Claude Trichet, the President of European Central Bank, gestures at a meeting.