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## **Nick Griffin's Fantasy Island**

**THE BRITISH NATIONAL PARTY** believes in national self-sufficiency. Accordingly, it would do everything it could to reduce imports by banning many foreign-made goods, by shifting agriculture to organic farming, and by excluding foreign trawlers from our coastal waters. It would reincorporate the Irish Republic into Britain, withdraw from the European Union, and establish closer ties with our white relations in Australia, Canada, and New Zealand.

The BNP would take Britain out of NATO and pursue a policy of "armed neutrality"; it would break-up monopolies, ensure that "native Britons" got jobs, encourage shareholding by workers, and introduce widespread cooperative schemes in recognition of the Party's belief that British industry, commerce, and land belong "in the final analysis" to the British people.

On top of all this it would fight low pay in the NHS, reduce fuel tax, get rid of speed cameras, raise speed limits, invest in public transport, and reintroduce corporal punishment for petty theft; it would hang paedophiles, terrorists and murderers, and restore compulsory military service for the young; it would also throw out illegal immigrants and encourage the repatriation of all non-white people to the land of their "ethnic origin".

It is unclear what the Party would do about people whose ethnic origin is divided between here and there, or exactly how it would decide where one's land of ethnic origin was. For many people this might be divided more or less between parents, grand parents and great grandparents, and great, great grandparents hailing from England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, India, Pakistan, China, Africa, and the West Indies. Hey Ho, such is the heritage of empire, not to mention

Free Trade, and the more recent embrace of globalisation.

It is clear from all this that the British National Party is a fascist party of a classic type. In Nick Griffin, it does not have a charismatic leader on the model of Benito Mussolini or Oswald Mosley, it does not have a party uniform, or an armed phalanx of blond young men sworn to defend the Leader and the Cause to the death. The BNP does not believe in dictatorship. On the contrary, it calls for democratic accountability and the devolution of power to the most local level possible. In fact the BNP is a 'democratic' fascist party, which proposes to restrict *full* British citizenship to those who were born to reliably white parents in the British Isles. Those lacking white parents would come second in jobs and education and would be encouraged to leave the country as quickly as possible.

So, the British National Party is a party committed to the interests of small shopkeepers and small businesses in general. Its socialist policies and rhetoric are without doubt of the *national socialist* type and in favouring a policy of deportation for the racially misplaced and impure, it echoes Nazi plans for those unfortunate enough not to be Aryan, before crisis and war impelled Hitler towards the Final Solution.

This is because the BNP is committed to the doctrine of 'blood and soil', in which people of a certain racial and ethnic identity must live upon a special piece of land, or in a special country, consigned to them by both God and history for their exclusive use and enjoyment. In accordance with this ideology the party puts national interests above class interests, and insists rather airily that the nation and all its assets belong to its natives, or as the Party likes to say, "its indigenous people". In practice, of course, this does not mean a great deal, except that they want to promote the Robinson Crusoe economics of self-sufficiency and protectionism *without* the assistance of Man Friday. It's a mad scheme that might have seemed plausible in the nineteen twenties and thirties

when autarchy was all the rage in Berlin and Moscow; now that its reach has shrunk to the realm of the Dear Leader in Pyongyang, its pretty much a non-starter.

There is absolutely no prospect of our sixty million people being able to become self-sufficient in food, or manufactured goods. There is no possibility that we could restrict the entry of foreign goods without bringing down on our heads wholesale retaliation by those pesky foreigners; the disappearance of tropical fruit and French wine from our diets would be the least of our problems. Foreign investors would flee with their money along with the 'repatriation' of the unwanted races, and jobs for the remaining white Britons would disappear by the million, as the rest of the wacky programme was implemented.

It is as well to remember that the only reason that our British fascists think any of this is possible is because they are banking on the meltdown of our society; all their political calculations rest upon the eager anticipation of catastrophic economic collapse followed by the outbreak of Race War and the final disintegration of our liberal democratic institutions. Like any revolutionary, Nick Griffin, lives for the moment when things fall apart and he, the saviour of the nation, can strut upon the stage of history

This is the one characteristic that the fascists share with the revolutionaries of the left. The outlook of revolutionary communists, anarchists, and Trotskyists of all sorts, rests entirely upon the thesis that the collapse of the bourgeois order and of liberal institutions will necessitate the seizure of power by those committed to the establishment of a new world order – a new dispensation – in which injustice and inequality will be vanquished and replaced by the reign of human solidarity and workers' control.

For the revolutionaries of the left, economic collapse is followed, *as night follows day*, by the rise of fascism; just as for the fascists economic collapse is inevitably followed by the Race War. The far right and the far left are separated by many things – one side believing in internationalism and human solidarity, the other side

advocating racism, nationalism, and the defence of small business – but they are both united in the need for a crisis of gargantuan proportions. They both need an apocalypse, an End of Days for liberal democracy that will usher in decisive opportunities for the seizure of power by the left or the right.

It is this strange need that has been exercising the revolutionary left throughout the recent elections in the UK. The prospect of the fascists winning a seat or two in the European Parliament and a county councillor or two, to add to their clutch of local councillors scattered across the country has led to much activity and dire predictions. Unable to field their own candidates the far left have done everything in their power to get people out to vote for the major parties and against the fascists. This is because ‘the threat of fascism’ is a key component of their political outlook. According to the revolutionary left, fascism is the product of capitalism in crisis, and it is always there in the shadows waiting to emerge bloodily in full hue and cry against the working class and its allies.

It is the deepest irony that both the far right and the far left need the threat of economic calamity, and *the threat of each other*, to keep their respective shows on the road. This does particular damage to the left. It means that instead of concentrating upon what it can do to promote social solidarity in the face of unemployment and big cuts in welfare and public spending, it feels the overwhelming need to frighten the wits out of us with ‘the threat of fascism’. To be sure, Nick Griffin and his fellow fantasists present a real danger to immigrants and to people of Asian descent in some neighbourhoods, but for the country as a whole, they will always remain no-hopers. Consequently, we should all stop exaggerating the threat of fascism and concentrate instead upon the development of positive ideas and positive policies for the development of our society and of our liberal democratic institutions.