

Somme Centenary July 2016

You might remember the general election's losers resigning as party leaders last year. Now it's all in meltdown at Westminster and the maneuverings remind us that one of the 'issues' about Europe is unelected bureaucrats. I am sure that Roy Jenkins had his eye on one such post when he campaigned to keep us in the common market and said it would not lead to closer political union.

Tony Blair likewise had his eye on filling an unelected European seat. Conservative Prime Ministers each tried renegotiating the deal while failing to sort the problems that bother the rest of us. Now we're getting a new Prime Minister, and like so many of those despised, unelected Eurocrats, we don't get much of a say in whom it will be.

Theresa May has been at the Home Office since 2010, during which time she has done nothing to sort out the refugee/migrant crisis at Calais and she's put more of the police state agenda on the statute books than anyone else in living memory.

Michael Gove adopted the 'Rupert of Hentzau' knifeman approach to climbing to the top when he put Boris Johnson out of it. His background is in journalism, same as Winston Churchill. Andrea Leadsom was in the banking industry and Stephen Crabb has a consultancy background. Liam Fox reads as a 'safe' pair of hands and none of them is obviously the solution to our country's problems. Stephen Crabb read my book 'Does the Trigger pull the Finger' and receives the SRA journal, but hasn't engaged with 'our' problems.

In the Labour Party, Jeremy Corbyn was elected last year by a hefty margin of rank and file members, so one has to wonder why so many of his MPs are 'off message'.

I suspect an early general election coming out of all this, but whether that will be in time to scupper the Crime and Policing Bill, or whether Theresa May will strip out the European requirements from it in line with the referendum result or whether we'll get stuck with that nonsense (and her) remains to be seen.

It's not the ideal political scene in which to remember that this is the centenary of the first day of the Battle of the Somme. The objective a hundred years ago was to take the pressure off the French at Verdun, where the German offensive had been aimed at bleeding France white.

Now they are ganging up on us. One can imagine an eventual scenario in which our failed state is taken over by Germany to safeguard the rights of Scots and Poles who live here and want to remain in Europe. It wouldn't be difficult. Our police would carry on policing, as they did in the Channel Islands and Falklands during previous invasions, after using the firearm and shot gun certificate records to make sure that only they, the invading forces and our nation's bad guys, have guns.