

The Making of the Modern British State

I. Major Historical Trends

A. Parliamentary Governance

B. Popular Democracy

C. Industrialization and Empire

II. Post World War II Politics

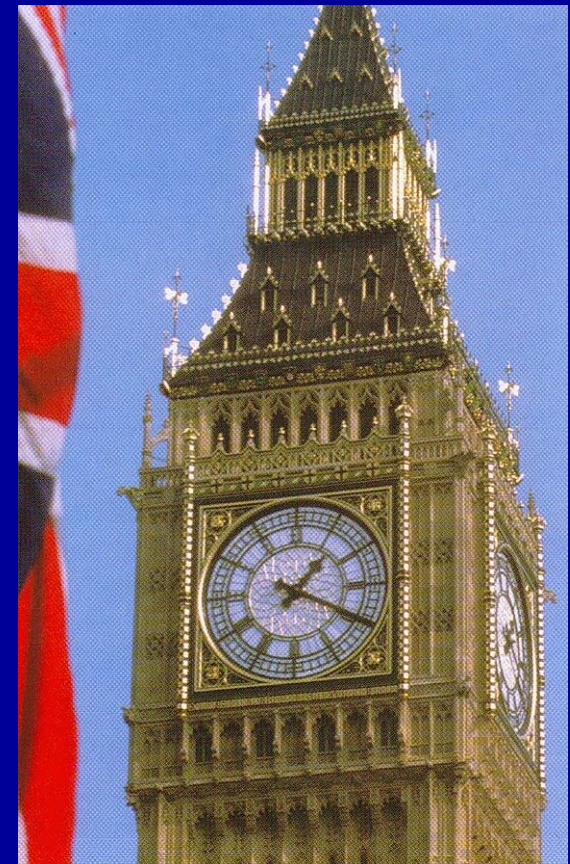
A. Welfare State and Prosperity

B. Crisis of the Welfare State

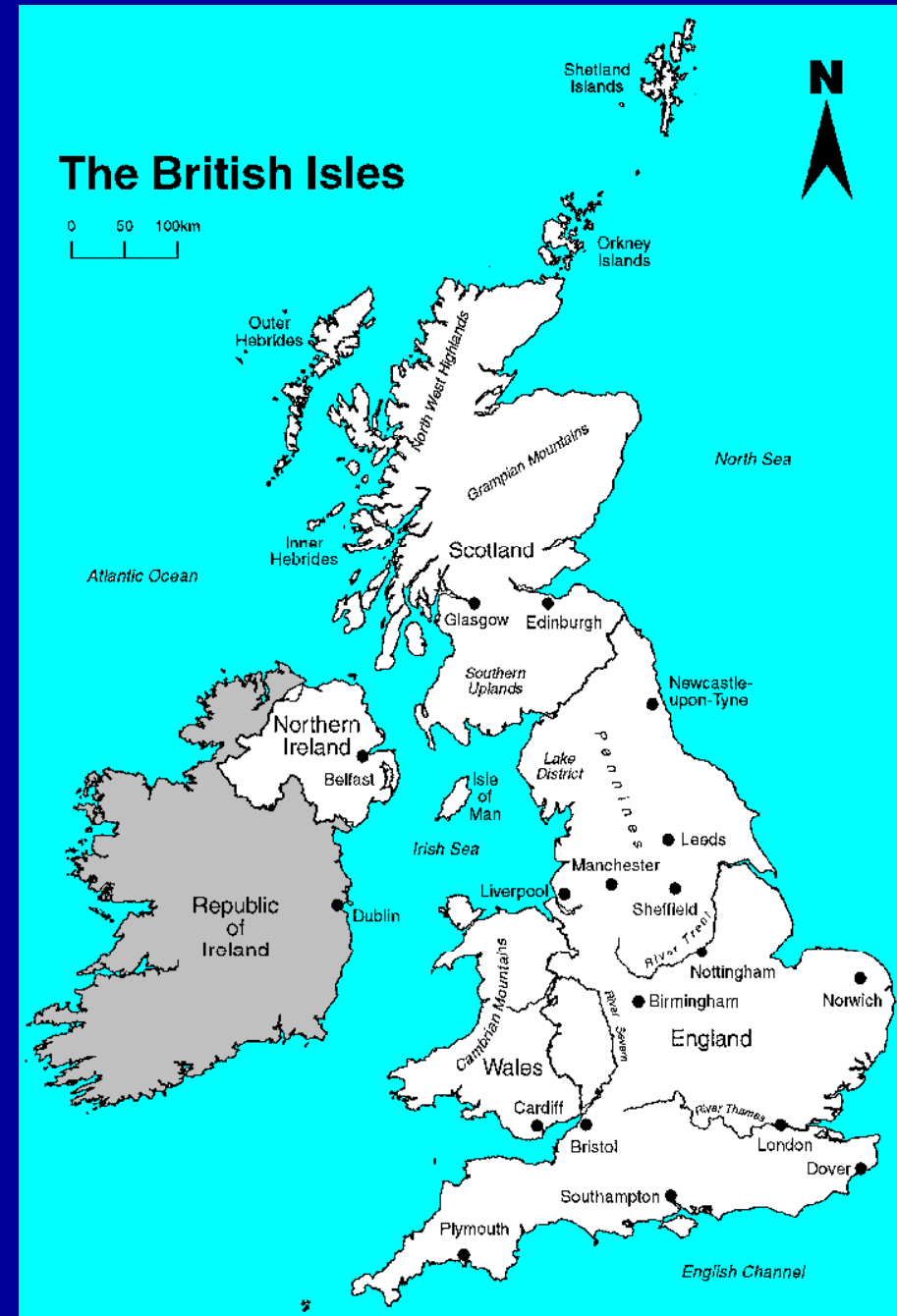
C. Thatcherism and Renewal

D. Blair and “New Labour”

E. Brown and the Blair Legacy

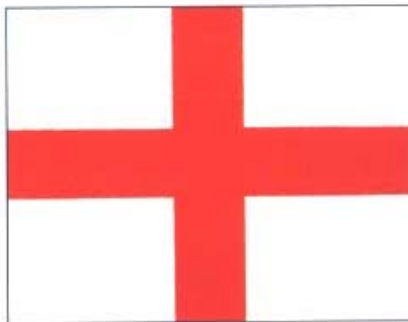


The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland



The “Union Jack”

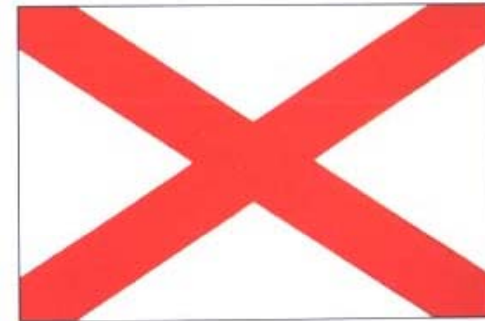
GENEALOGY OF THE UNION JACK



ST GEORGE'S CROSS



ST ANDREW'S CROSS



ST PATRICK'S CROSS



UNION FLAG 1606-1801



UNION FLAG SINCE 1801

I. Major Historical Trends

A. PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY:

- **Magna Carta (1215)**
- **Tudors and Break with Rome**
- **Stuarts Monarchy (James I)**
- **Charles I & English Civil War
(1642-51)**
- **Oliver Cromwell's Commonwealth**
- **Stuart Restoration (Charles II and James II)**
- **Glorious Revolution (1688) and Bill of Rights
(1689)**



Charles I...
Lost his head

I. Major Historical Trends

B. POPULAR DEMOCRACY:

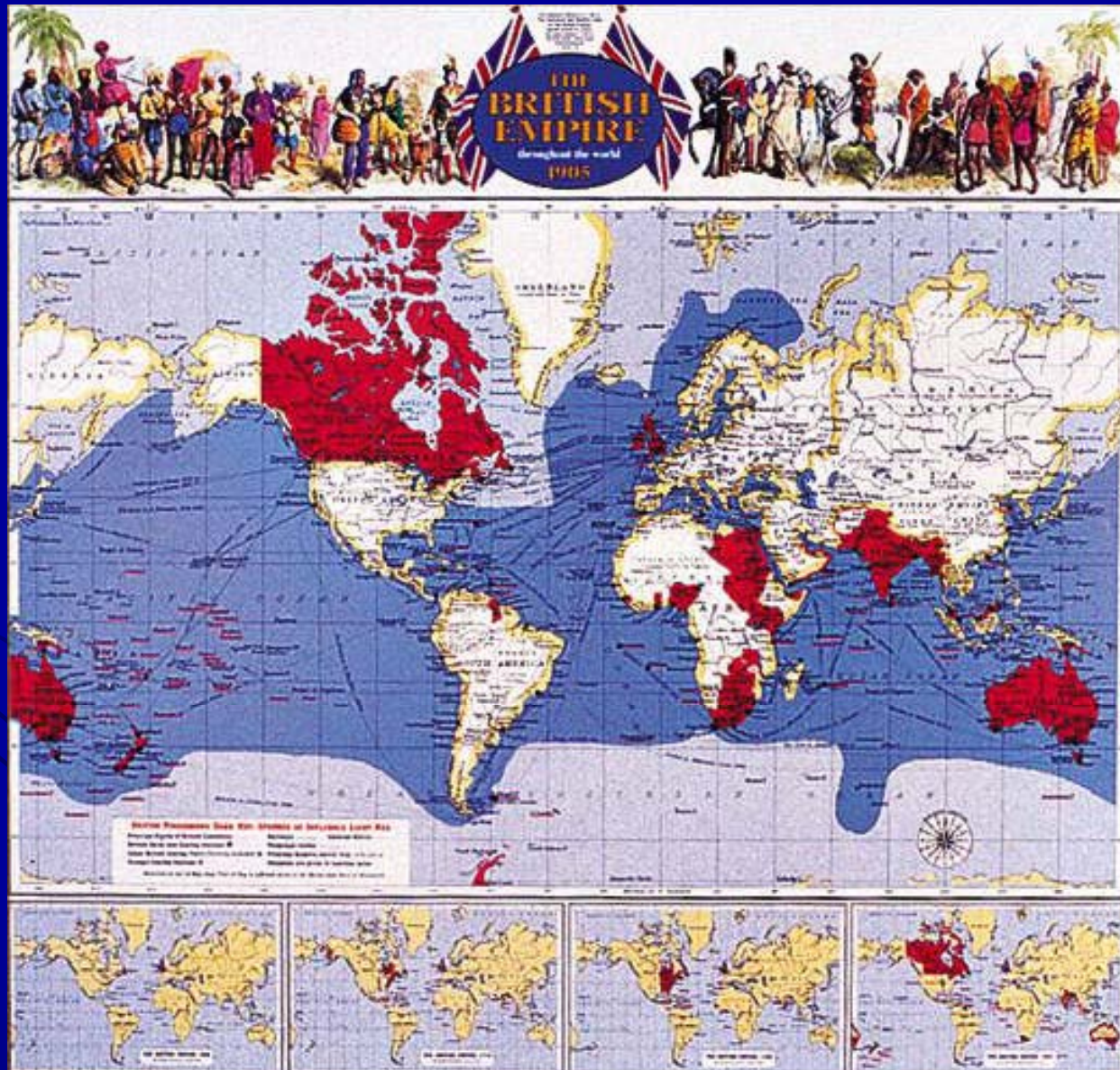
- **American and French Revolutions**
- **Industrialization and the 'Industrial Elite'**
- **First Reform Act (1832)**
- **Second Reform Act (1867)**
 - **1884: included almost all working males**
 - **1918: married women**
 - **1928: Single Women over 21**
 - **1969: lowered from 21 to 18**
- **Stripping House of Lords of power (1911)**

I. Major Historical Trends

C. INDUSTRIALIZATION AND EMPIRE

- **1870: 1/4 of all manufactured production from UK**
- **1905: About 1/4 of all people on earth**
- **Pervasive Problem of Decline**
 - **Catch-Up on Industrialization (US, Germany)**
 - **Decolonization**
 - **World Wars**
- **Postwar Decline**
 - **2nd largest industrial power in 1950**
 - **2004: 19th in per capita GDP**

The British Empire (1905)



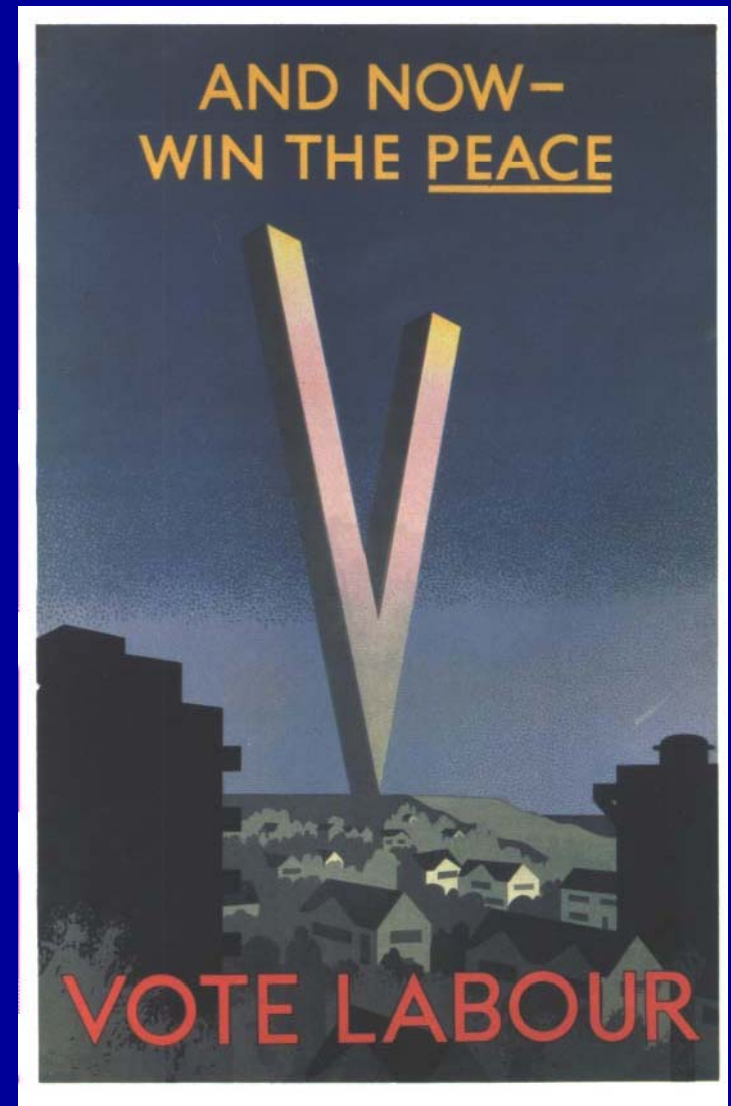
Britain and WW II

- **World War I Experience**
- **Appeasement**
- **Course of the War**
 - **Battle of France (May-June 1940)**
 - **Battle of Britain (July 1940-June 1941)**



Welfare State and Prosperity

- **1945 General Election – Labour Landslide**
- **Q: Why did the British give Winston Churchill – as he called it – ‘The Royal Order of the Boot’?!?!?**



Welfare State and Prosperity

- **1942 Beveridge Report (advocating 'cradle to grave' welfare system)**
- **Elements of 'Welfare State'**
 - **National Health System (NHS -- 1946)**
 - **National Insurance Act (1946)**
 - **Nationalized the coal, steel, electricity, gas, public transport, etc. industries**



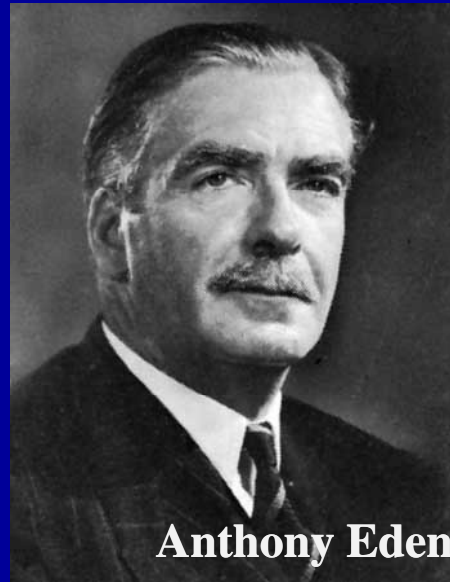
Clement Attlee

The 'Postwar Consensus'

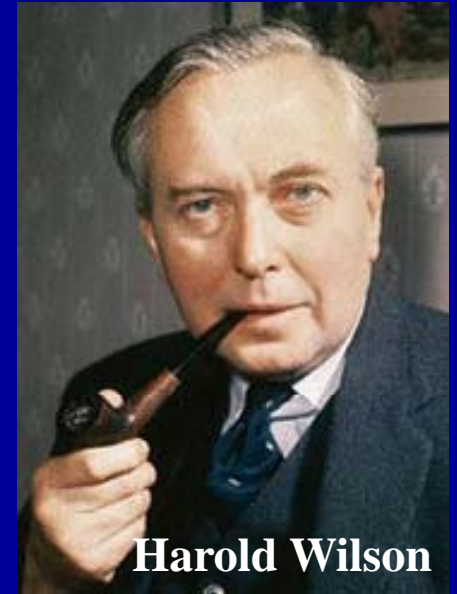
- **Return of Conservatives (1951)**
- **'Postwar Consensus' (or 'Butskellism')**
 - **Welfare State (especially the NHS)**
 - **Nationalization of Key Industries**
 - **Full Employment Policies**
 - **Keynesian Demand management**
 - **'Soft Corporatist' Politics**

Postwar British Prime Ministers

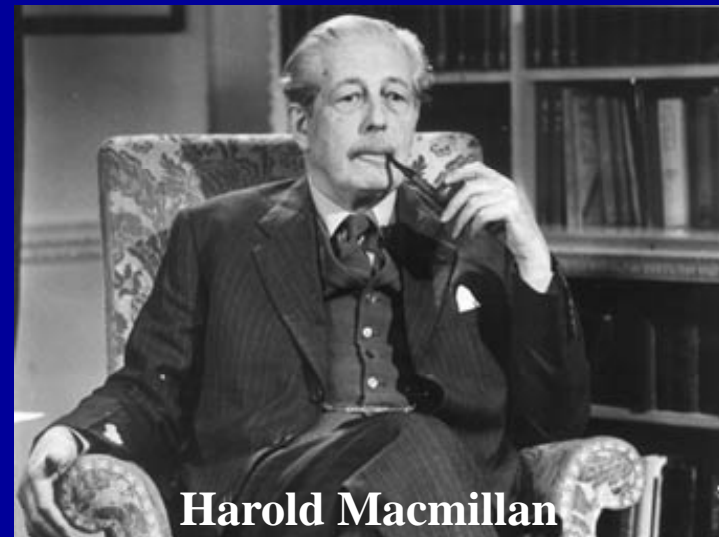
- **Eden and Suez Crisis (1956)**
- **Macmillan – ‘You’ve never had it so good’**
 - **Alec Douglas-Home**
- **Wilson the Modernizer**
 - **NEDC**
 - **Devaluation**



Anthony Eden



Harold Wilson



Harold Macmillan

B. Crisis of the Welfare State

- **Relative Economic Decline**
- **Heath and the U-Turn**
- **1973 Coal Miners Strike**
- **Labour and the
‘Social Contract’**
- **Corporatism and ‘Incomes
Policy’**
- **The ‘Winter of Discontent’**



Ted Heath ponders
a U-turn



Trash piles up in central
London during the ‘Winter
Of Discontent’ 1978-79

C. Thatcherism and Renewal

- **Elements of Thatcherism**

- **Monetarism**
- **Reducing Taxation and Spending**
- **Reducing the Power of the Trade Unions**
- **Privatization of State Owned Industries**
- **Deregulation of the Economy**

- **1983 Election**

- **Splits in the Left (SDP)**
- **Falklands War**
- **Economic Recovery**

“The Lady’s
not for turning...”



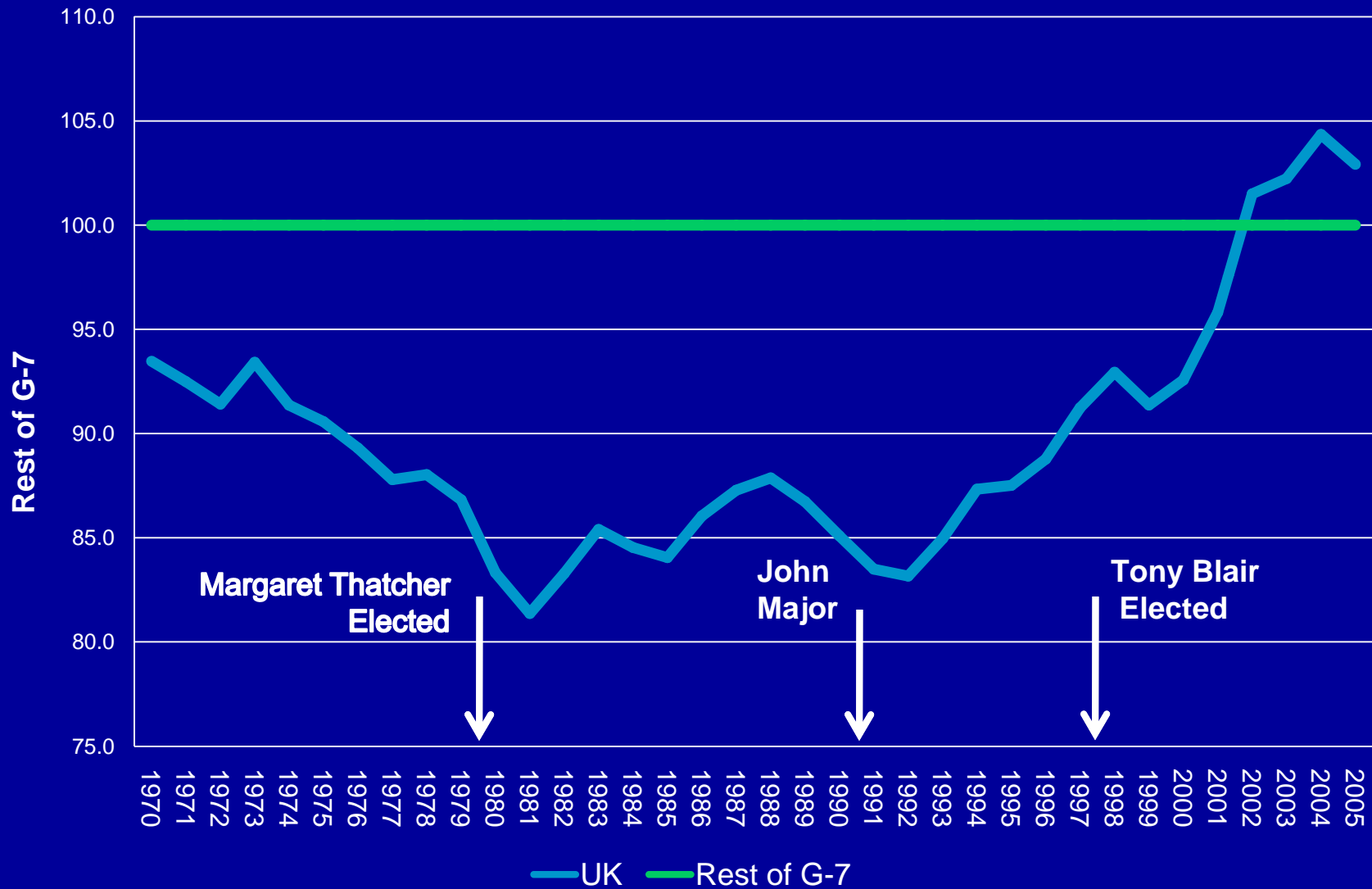
Success and Demise of Thatcher

- **1984 Miners' Strike**
- **Full-Scale Privatization**
- **Economic Boom**
- **1987 General Election**
- **Political Problems**
 - **Recession**
 - **Europe**
 - **'Poll Tax'**
- **Leadership Challenge and Resignation**



Q: Did Thatcherism work???

UK per capita GDP against Rest of G-7

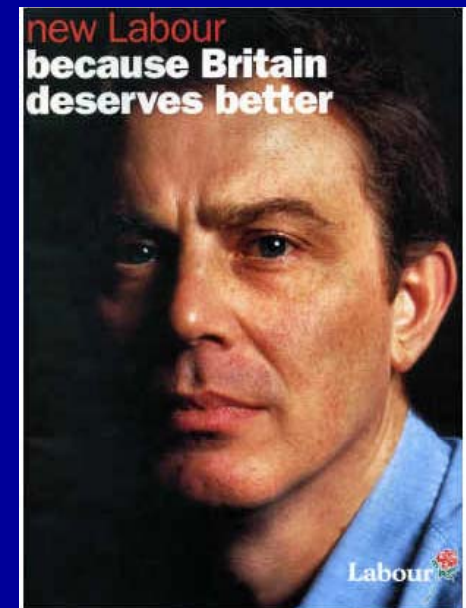


Major, Blair, and The Rise of 'New Labour'

- **John Major and the 1992 Election**
- **Problems for the Tories**
 - **Economic Competence Shattered**
 - **Divisions within Conservative Party**
 - **Changes in Labour Party**
- **Tony Blair and 'New Labour'**
 - **Reducing the Power of the Unions**
 - **Clause 4**



John Major has
a tough time



Tony Blair promises
better things...

New Labour in Power

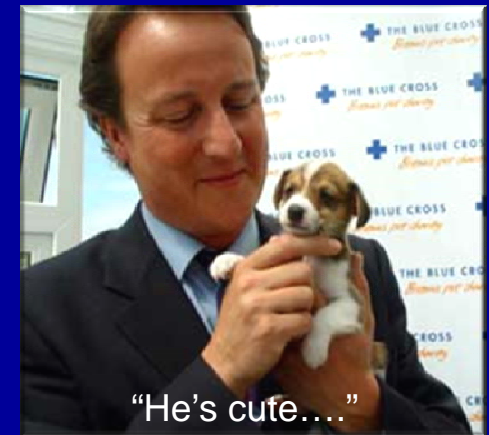
- **Constitutional Reform**
- **Economic Management & Public Spending**
- **Britain as a Leading European Economy**
- **Three Landslide Election Victories**
- **Divisions within the Labour Party**
 - **The Iraq War**
 - **Gordon Brown as 'Heir'**

Gordon and Tony
run the show..



Gordon Brown and the Blair Legacy

- Brown's 'poisoned inheritance'
 - Economic Slowdown
 - Still in Iraq
 - Too many years of Labour
- The Revival of the Tories
 - David Cameron
 - 'Compassionate Conservatism'?



...but is he anything new???