**None of the Above: Floating Voter considers famous fringe candidates from elections past**

No 2: Colin Jordan

[INSERT PIC 1]

Colin Jordan was a stalwart of British fascism during its post-war doldrums, and over the following decades he was involved in most of the right-wing parties that subsequently emerged and dissolved.

[INSERT PIC 2]

As one of the White Defence League, he was synonymous with the ‘KBW’ graffiti (‘Keep Britain White’) that was daubed on London walls during the late 1950s.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ljI2PMUfwY>

At an international conference in the Cotswolds in the summer of 1962, Jordan and George Lincoln Rockwell, leader of the American Nazi Party, established the World Union of National Socialists and declared Jordan its World Führer.

When he married, it was not a traditional C of E job. Jesus, in Jordan’s view, was ‘the counterfeit Christ of the Christians’. Jordan was literally a Hitler-worshipper, declaring Der Führer **a** ‘messiah" and a ‘saviour’. He married the fiancé of fellow Hitlerite John Tyndal while he was in prison, leading to a falling out between the two men. Françoise Dior, was Christian Dior’s niece, and a die-hard national socialist herself. The marriage ceremony involved mingling their Aryan blood over a copy of Mein Kampf.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YTcOfCBdpns>

While leading the paramilitary group Spearhead, he was raided by police, who seized Nazi memorabilia, guns, blades, uniforms, and a container of weed killer, relabeled ‘Jew killer’. He was jailed for this, and then jailed again in 1965, under race relations laws.

That year, Jordan led a dramatic intervention in the Leyton by-election, which involved a Labour candidate, foreign secretary Patrick Gordon Walker, who needed a safe seat after losing Smethwick at the general election after a racist campaign by the Conservatives.

[INSERT PIC 3]

Jordan attempted to storm the platform during Gordon Walker’s public meeting, only to be ejected by force. Watch the clip closely and you will see Denis Healey (Secretary of State for Defence) checking his knuckles after delivering the decisive blow.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23JqSNPqtFY>

Jordan’s run-ins with the authorities continued. In 1975 he was fined for stealing three items of women’s underwear from Tesco in Leamington Spa. His defence rested on three claims: that they were intended for his 89-year-old mother; that he had stuffed them in his trouser pockets because it was ‘embarrassing’ carrying them round the shop; and that he was the victim of a Jewish plot.

Postscript: Patrick Gordon Walker lost the by-election to the Tories by a couple of hundred votes but won it back at the general election the following year.

By ‘Floating Voter’