

The Guardian

THE MILPOOL NIXON INTERVIEW

By Mambo Italiano



There is no right way to fully describe the terror of being assigned the Nixon interview.

Nothing will prepare you for opening your email, bleary eyed, on a lazy Sunday to find that

you've drawn the short straw (literally, as is the case with unpopular figures at the Guardian). No, they should have sent a poet to describe the sinking feeling that accompanies the subject "Interview: Milpool Nixon (Sorry) Brief". I've been to Syria twice, goddamn it.

It is not an auspicious sign when the office of a public figure shares its phone number with a mid-tier escort service, "to save money", as I would later learn. Nor is it a happy experience being emailed a grainy scan of a map marked "mines on the Nixon estate". And it certainly does not fill one with much hope to find the scorched husks of several Ocado trucks, two bullet-ridden DHL vans, and countless pizza scooters reduced to nothing but a black frame (all mail addressed to Nixon now arrives by air). Not everybody, it would seem, is extended the courtesy of a warning.

Swine Wood is a sprawling estate that would no doubt evoke a certain glee in fans of 'Apocalypse Now'. This much is intentional; Nixon paid the set dressers a princely sum to kit out his grounds with all manner of guerrilla cosmetics, then dressed the rest himself. The result can be described as what mid-century modern might look like were Henry Kissinger the architect. In one homely corner of the ranch, the original Madame Tussaud figure of the Prime Minister stands, clad head to toe in bondage gear.

"Don't worry, they know. That's the prototype, you geek. The frog gave me a fair price."

“Here’s how this is gonna work.” He began. “You’re going to ask these questions, and I am going to respond to each in under fifteen seconds. In the event that I stammer, or pause, or take even a second longer than the fifteen, that gimp is gonna pull the trigger.” It was at this point I first realised that the latex-clad, shotgun-wielding mannequin in the corner of the room was not a mannequin, but a middle-aged man in Nixon’s employ.

“Deviate from the script and he’ll blow *you* away.”

It was against this background that the Milpool Nixon interview took place.

Interviewer: What is the basic tenet of your political philosophy?

Nixon: Every person has a property right in themselves and their possessions. They do not have a right to others or the property of others.

Interviewer: But Milly, what is a property right?

Nixon: A separable and savagely infinite bundle of entitlements to use, control, or get rid of an object or corporeal or non corporeal entity.

Interviewer: Which key aspects of the Freak Power platform would you like to emphasise to voters?

Nixon: Individualism, Spontaneity, Limited Government.

Interviewer: What is individualism?

Nixon: The belief that the individual is the basic unit of societal analysis, and should be able to order their own life as they see fit.

Interviewer: Why do you believe that the individual is the basic unit of societal analysis?

Nixon: Only individuals are responsible for their actions. Some awful, altruistic types may form voluntary associations, but society is experienced not by the collective but by the individual. Even the government is made up of fleshy, mortal individual fuckheads.

Interviewer: What is spontaneity?

At this juncture, Nixon fired twelve shots from two previously concealed revolvers into the air, covering his velvet shirt with dust and wood shavings.

Interviewer: Why do you believe in spontaneity?

Nixon once more procured two more previously concealed revolvers and emptied them into the air.

Interviewer: What is limited government?

Nixon: The practice of limiting the government's role in society. Our society was in place long before the government, but not before the individual. We have conceded too many powers to the government. We should only have conceded-

At this point in the tape, the gimp fired a single shot at Nixon, who dove out of the way in time, and fired twelve back, from two more concealed revolvers, all missing their target, and instead hitting the tape recorder, terminating the interview.