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David Myatt

In the UK, journalists with the BBC and various newspapers have reported quite extensively on one David Myatt (1950–), who has held prominent positions in Satanic, Neo-Nazi, and Muslim Jihadist circles. An almost mythical figure, he has since the 1960s been one of the leading intellectuals among British national socialists. He was allegedly the mentor of notorious racist nail bomber David Copeland, whose 1999 bombing campaign resulted in three deaths and numerous serious injuries. By 1998, Myatt himself had converted to Islam, and became somewhat influential among radical Muslims. For example, he spoke in extremist mosques and wrote an essay defending suicide bombings, which was displayed on an official Hamas website for several years.

It has been suggested that his Nazism and militant Islamism are both only tools in a (literally) Satanic scheme, which aims to bring down the current order. Danish scholar Jacob Senholt has convincingly demonstrated that Myatt – though he himself denies it – is the man behind the →Order of the Nine Angles (ONA), a sinister theistic Satanist group with roots that may stretch as far back as the 1960s. Hiding behind a plethora of different identities, prominently that of "Anton Long", Myatt has probably been the chief ideologue of this secretive order all along. Using extreme political groups to further the apocalyptic goals of the ONA is fully congruent with tactics suggested in its various esoteric documents. A man of many interests, Myatt has also made translations from ancient Greek, including poems by Sappho and Hermetic texts. In 2010, Myatt left Islam, and has recently been preoccupied with developing a philosophical system drawing on classical Greek thinkers, which he calls the Numinous Way. As part of this turn in his ideological career, he now claims to reject his own earlier extremism and lauding of violence. Whether this is yet another of his many masks, to be replaced by something different and perhaps again more frightening, remains to be seen.

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