



# Socialist Fight

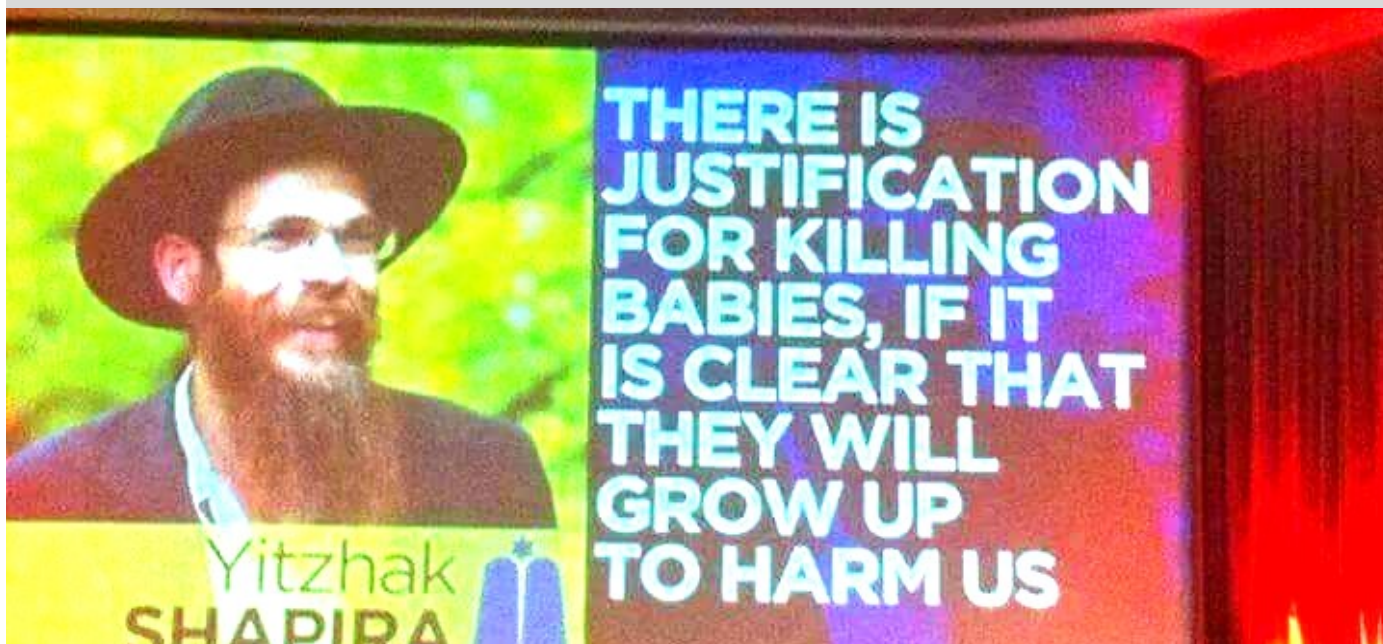
**Liaison Committee for the Fourth International**

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**John Bolton Donald Trump Mike Pompeo Gina Haspel**

**The most warmongering, right-wing bigots ever to control the White House**



Rabbi Yitzhak Shapira - he co-wrote 'Torat HaMelech' (the King's Torah) which is a guide book to how you can legally kill a non-Jew, including non-Jewish children and infants



Unity is strength, L'union fait la force, La union hace la fuerza, Η ενότητα είναι δύναμη, اتحاد قدرت است, đoàn kết là sức mạnh, Jedność jest siła, ykseys on kesto, Η ενότητα είναι δύναμη. Midnimo iyo waa awood, hundeb ydy chryfder, Einheit ist Stärke, Всеединство прочность, единство наша сила, vienybės jėga, bashkimi ben fuqine, אחדות היא סוס, unità è la resistenza, 団結は力だ, A união faz a força, eining er styrkur, De eenheid is de sterkte, الوحدة هو القوة, Ni neart go chur le céile, pagkakaisa ay kalakasan, jednota is síla, 일성은 이다 힘 힘, Workers of the World

# Socialist Fight Where We Stand (extracts)

Socialist Fight is a member of the Liaison Committee for the Fourth International with The Communist Workers Front, Brazil The Socialist Workers League, USA and Tendencia Militante Bolchevique, Argentina

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## Revolutionary socialism

1. We stand with Karl Marx: 'The emancipation of the working classes must be conquered by the working classes themselves. The struggle for the emancipation of the working class means not a struggle for class privileges and monopolies but for equal rights and duties and the abolition of all class rule' (The International Workingmen's Association 1864, General Rules).
2. In the class struggle we shall fight to develop every struggle of the working class and oppressed in the direction of democratic workers' councils as the instruments of participatory democracy which must be the basis of the successful struggle for workers' power.

## Revolutionary strategy and tactics

3. We recognise the necessity for serious ideological and political struggle as direct participants in the trade unions (always) and in the mass reformist social democratic bourgeois workers' parties despite their pro-capitalist leaderships when conditions are favourable. In fighting the attacks of this Tory government it is now necessary

to work within the Labour party as well as within other proto-parties such as Left Unity and RESPECT that seek to present socialist and anti-imperialist policies in opposition to the neo-liberalism that is now deeply embedded within the Labour Party. We support all genuine left developments within Labour, such as the Corbyn for leader campaign.

4. We strongly support campaigns to democratise the trade unions' traditional link to the Labour party. We are for funding only those MPs who agree to and have a record of fighting for union policies.

5. We fight for rank-and-file organisations in the trade unions within which we will fight for consciously revolutionary socialist leadership in line with Trotsky's Transitional Programme statement:

"Therefore, the sections of the Fourth International should always strive not only to renew the top leadership of the trade unions, boldly and resolutely in critical moments advancing new militant leaders in place of routine functionaries and careerists, but also to create in all possible instances independent militant organizations corresponding more closely to the tasks of mass struggle against bourgeois society; and, if necessary, not flinching even in the face of a direct break with the conservative apparatus of the trade unions. If it be criminal to turn one's back on mass organizations for the sake of fostering sectarian factions, it is no less so passively to tolerate subordination of the revolutionary mass movement to the control of openly reactionary or disguised conservative ("progressive") bureaucratic cliques. Trade unions are not ends in themselves; they are but means along the road to proletarian revolution."

6. We totally oppose all economic nationalist campaigns like for 'British jobs for British workers' that means capitulation to national chauvinism and so to the political and economic interests of the ruling class itself. We are therefore unreservedly for a Socialist United States of Europe.

9. We are completely opposed to man-made climate change and the degradation of the biosphere which is caused by the anarchy of capitalist production for profits of transnational corporations. Ecological catastrophe is not 'as crucial as imperialism' but caused by imperialism so to combat this threat we must redouble our efforts to forward the world revolution.

## Special Oppression and Racism

10. We recognise that class society, and capitalism as the last form of class society, is by its nature patriarchal. In that sense the oppression of women is different from all other forms of oppression and discrimination. Sexism and the oppression of women is inextricable tied to the ownership and the inheritance of private property. To achieve sexual and individual freedom women need to fight in the class struggle in general to overthrow class society itself. We cannot leave the struggle against women's oppression until the revolution but must recognise it as one of the most fundamental aspects of the revolutionary struggle itself or we will never make that revolution. We therefore reject the reactionary "intersectional"

theory as hostile to Marxism, to the class struggle and to revolutionary socialism.

11. We also support the fight of all other specially oppressed including lesbians and gay men, bisexuals and transgender people and the disabled against discrimination in all its forms and their right to organise separately in that fight in society as a whole.

13. We fight racism and fascism. We support the right of people to fight back against racist and fascist attacks by any means necessary. Self-defence is no offence, we support it. Two people might make racist/ far right comments but on challenging them one might turn out to be a hardened racist/fascist and the other might be mindlessly repeating the Sun editorial. It is necessary to distinguish. It is a legitimate act of self-defence for the working class to 'No Platform' fascists but we never call on the capitalist state to ban fascist marches or parties; these laws would inevitably primarily be used against workers' organisations, as history has shown.

14. We oppose all immigration controls. International finance capital roams the planet in search of profit and imperialist governments disrupts the lives of workers and cause the collapse of whole nations with their direct intervention in the Balkans, Iraq and Afghanistan and their proxy wars in Somalia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, etc. Workers have the right to sell their labour internationally wherever they get the best price.

## Revolutionary internationalism

16. We were and are for the immediate withdrawal and/or defeat of imperialist armies in wars like Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, Syria and Ukraine. Whilst giving no political support to the Taliban in Afghanistan, the Sunni and Shia militias in Iraq, Hamas or Fatah in Palestine, Gaddafi (as was) in Libya, Assad in Syria, the 'Islamic State' in Syria and Iraq, the theocratic regime in Iran or the Donbass leadership in Eastern Ukraine we recognise US-led world imperialism as the main enemy of humanity and so advocate critical support and tactical military assistance from the working class to all those fighting for the defeat of imperialism as part of the perspective of Permanent Revolution.

18. We are for the overthrow of the Zionist state of Israel and for a Multi-Ethnic workers' state of Palestine as part of the Socialist Federation of the Middle East.

19. As socialists living in Britain we take our responsibilities to support the struggle against British imperialism's occupation of the six north-eastern counties of Ireland very seriously. For this reason we have assisted in founding the Irish Republican Prisoners Support Group and we will campaign for political status these Irish prisoners of war and for a 32-county united Socialist Ireland. We reject all 'two nations in Ireland' theories.

21. We are for the re-creation of a World Party of Socialist Revolution, a revolutionary international, based on the best traditions of the previous revolutionary internationals, critically understood, particularly the early Third and Fourth Internationals, with their determination to combat and overcome both reformism and centrism. ▲

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Leon Trotsky: I am confident of the victory of the Fourth International; Go Forward!



# Editorial: US Trade War against China + War against Russia = WWII

**M**arxists understand that the crisis of global imperialism has its different manifestations in each country and region, but they are all interconnected. And we also understand that

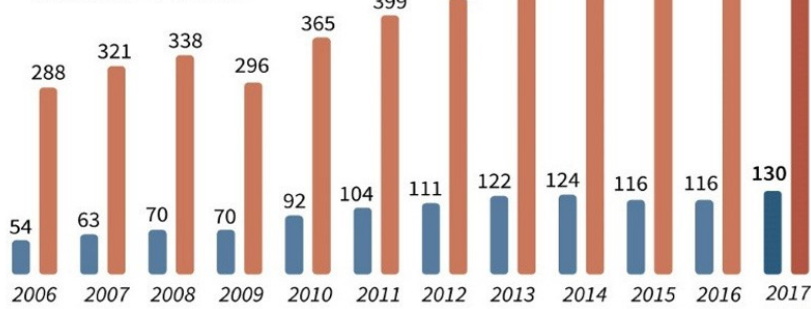
the economic crisis of capitalism is the driving force of the crisis and this is reflected dialectically in the crisis of political leadership of imperialism, which in turn exasperates the economic crisis. The global hegemonic imperialist power is the USA and it is beset by that global crisis of the capitalist system most acutely. This is a huge economic and political crisis for them; its profit rates are falling, and it is failing to redress this problem by increasing the exploitation of its own working class sufficiently and imposing its will on regions like the Ukraine, Iraq, Syria or even Libya despite regime change and funding stooge regimes and proxy jihadist armies.

## The Offensive against Russia and China

This has led to the election of Donald Trump and the most severe internal crisis of ruling class leadership since the Watergate scandal brought down Nixon on 8 August 1974. Only this time USA imperialism is determined to go to war to finally expunge the Vietnam syndrome caused by their defeat in the consequent liberation of Saigon on 30 April 1975. To solve this crisis, they need to establish global hegemony over not only Syria and Iran but ultimately over Russia and China too. Differences between

## US-China goods trade

■ Chinese exports to US  
■ US exports to China  
In billions of dollars



Trump and the deep state CIA/FBI, allied with the Clinton Democrats and some Republicans, are only about how to conduct that war; once it begins these differences will disappear, with or without Trump.

The fall of East Ghouta is the latest failure of the US in its regime change efforts in Syria and this is what is behind the feverish changes of personnel in the Trump administration to the most warlike hawks and also the extraordinary warmongering by Theresa May over the alleged nerve gas attack by Russia on Sergei Skripal and his daughter, Yulia. Consistent reports are that after East Ghouta is liberated by Assad and Russia the USA and Israel will launch a strike against Damascus, in an attempt to kill Assad and his government and so begin an invasion for regime change. Russia is aware of the plans and has promised retaliation against US forces who have illegally invaded Syria east of the Euphrates and US warships in the Mediterranean and the Gulf.

The New York Times commented that with the dismissal of the more moderate H.R. McMaster and the appointment of the warmongering John Bolton on 21 March, just a week after dismissing the more moderate Rex Tillerson and the appointment of CIA Director Mike Pompeo, Trump now has “the most radically aggressive for-

eign policy team around the American president in modern memory.” The torture advocate Gina Haspel, Trump’s nomination as the new CIA chief, yet to be approved by Congress, makes up the trio of reaction.

## The economic causes of war

**T**heresa May’s unexpected success in isolating Russia and getting many EU and Commonwealth states to expel Russian diplomats can only be understood by postulating the secret intervention of the USA to force compliance. Germany was expected to refuse, given its dependence on Russian gas and oil but the escalating trade war with China and the exemption won, for now, by the EU over the tariff on steel and aluminium was the decisive factor. The UK was granted exemption first, to indicate how to gain favour with Trump. A quick glance at Germany’s trade balances with the USA compared to Russia tells the full story.

Germany’s exports to Russia in 2017 were worth approximately \$32 billion and imports were \$35, mainly natural gas and crude oil. Germany exported about \$100 billion to the US and imported about \$35 billion in the same year. The US has had huge trade deficits beginning in 1975. Its total goods and services deficit in 2017 was \$566 billion; it imported \$2.895 trillion and exported \$2.329 trillion in 2017. Other nations with deficits with the USA are China, \$375 billion, Canada \$18 billion, Mexico \$71 billion, Japan \$69 billion, and Germany \$65 billion. Germany was therefore forced to comply, but Japan did not, given its proximity to and mutual trade relations with China.

Germany’s trade with China in goods and services was \$230 billion in

2017, supplying the internal opponents of sanctions on Russia with more ammunition, given the emergence of the Euro-Asian block advocated by Aleksandr Dugin, Putin's ideologue. Trade between Japan and China is now approximately \$25 billion, Japan exports about US\$ 8.5 billion and imports about \$16.5 billion to and from China, increasing by about 15% in the last year. China is Japan's second-largest export destination and its largest source of imports. China exports to Russia were about \$45 billion last year, and Russian exports the other way are about \$42 billion, showing a year-on-year increase of almost 30%. China and Japan are nominally the second and third largest economies in the world, followed by Germany, India, UK, France, Brazil, Italy and Canada in that order. Only China at 6.5% and India, at 7.4% are still growing strongly, the rest are at or near 2% now and future projections are little better.

Germany's worldwide current account surplus is about \$300 billion. It has withstood competition from China far better than the USA, its share of the world's exports only declined from 11% to 10.4% between 1997 and 2013 whilst the U.S. share fell from 13.7% to 9.5%. The USA is now in third place behind China and Germany. However, US exports represent only a small part of its economy, German exports account for nearly half of its GDP, making it far more vulnerable to a trade war.

Moreover, national statistics from China and other destinations do not reflect the fact that US transnationals export raw materials and parts to China, Mexico and Indonesia, for example, to be assembled there by far cheaper labour and re-exported to the US, contributing vast profits to those US corporations.

These do not appear in bald national trade statistics. But that practice does cost jobs, says Trump, "America First, bring home the

jobs", so he has cut corporation tax from 35% to 21% to tempt home those, and the other important service transnationals, located in Ireland and elsewhere for tax avoidance purposes.

From these statistics we can glean that the likely outcome of the increasing trade war by the Trump administration is world war; only such a war will force compliance on Russia and China. Germany, its immediate peripheral states in the EU and Japan very unreliable allies of the USA. And as we have outlined elsewhere, the US military capacity combined with its NATO allies is more than four times greater than the combined military might of China and Russia. That and the other financial and political advantages the US have make it still the world's hegemonic imperialist power.

### Foreign Ownership of U.S. Debt

As the trade war escalates China has hinted darkly that it has further options in this struggle. They are undoubtedly referring to the amount of US foreign debt China holds. The total U.S. debt is \$21 trillion as of December 2017; much of that is domestic but foreign-held debt is a seriously large portion of the total, just over \$6 trillion.

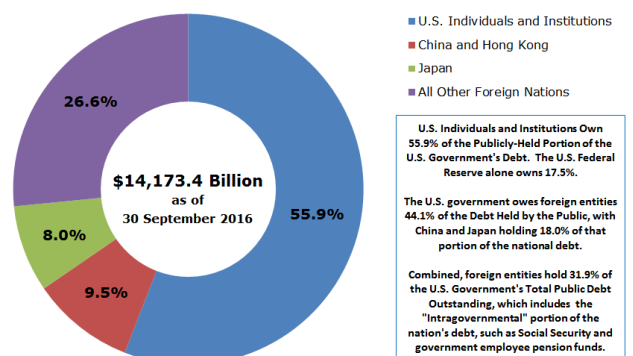
As of December 2017, China held the biggest tranche of US foreign debt, \$1.2 trillion worth of U.S. Treasury securities, just ahead of Japan of at \$1.1 trillion. Surprisingly Ireland is the third largest holder of US debts, at \$326 billion and next is the Cayman Islands at \$270 billion, then Luxembourg at \$218 billion and Belgium at \$119 billion. None of these four are debts held by sovereign

governments but are little more than fronts for sovereign wealth and hedge funds and US corporations who did not want to repatriate their profits and suffer the 35% tax rate that applied until Trump reduced it to 21% in December 2017. Brazil, the UK, Switzerland, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Saudi Arabia, and India are other holders of lesser amounts of US Treasury bonds.

Both Japan and China want to keep the value of the dollar higher than the value of their currencies. If they were to begin to sell off that debt their currencies would rise and their exports to the USA would become far more expensive. But Trump's trade war tariffs are already doing that now to China and the US might struggle to fill that gap if it starts to sell the debts. A war might temporarily instil enough patriotism to get the domestic market to fill the gap, and the Fed could print more but a collapse of the US dollar would be on the cards due to a default, with hyperinflation looming.

And it is doubtful if they could get enough alternative foreign nations to fill the gap. If the US defaulted on its debts it would do immense damage to global trade, but the main domestic victims would be the pension funds of US retirees, which would be wiped out. But if both China and Japan were to begin selling US Treasuries that would surely trigger a default and consequently war. ▲

**FY 2016: Who Owns the Public Portion of the U.S. National Debt?**



Sources: U.S. Treasury Department, U.S. Federal Reserve

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**Leon Trotsky: I am confident of the victory of the Fourth International; Go Forward!**

# Witch Hunters United: Gerry Downing interviewed by Gilad Atzmon 5 January 2018

I do not agree with Gilad on the question of Jewish identity. it is entirely wrong to equate Jewishness or Jewish cultural identity with Zionism. Zionism is a modern, right wing, racist political construct, that takes some aspects of Jewish history and oppression and uses this to distort and falsify the whole historical materialist basis of that history, as explained so well by Abram Leon in *On the Jewish Question*.

I do not agree with ostracising him and his co-thinkers from the struggle against Zionism, despite these disagreements. I don not agree he is either racist or anti-Semitic. Gerry Downing

## Gerry Downing Speaks with Gilad Atzmon

You were accused of Anti-Semitism. You, along with thousands of other Labour Party members, were labelled anti-Semitic and expelled from the party for expressing universalist ideas and opposing all forms of racism including Jewish racism.

**Q: What is anti-Semitism?**

**GD:** Anti-Semitism is the hatred of Jews as Jews. Full stop. Nothing else. It is not criticism of the state of Israel or Jewish institutions.

**Q: Under this definition of anti-Semitism are you or your organization anti-Semitic?**

**GD:** No. Not Gerry Downing or Ian Donovan nor any member or supporter of Socialist Fight, past or present, are in any way anti-Semitic. We are members of the Palestine Solidarity Campaign and are well-known defenders of Palestinian rights and opponents of the state of Israel. There is not a single act or political stance alleged that is in any way racist or anti-Semitic except in the minds of those who want to appease the Labour Party bureaucracy of Ian McNichol. These same people also attempt to prove that they are not revolutionary socialists and agree with McNichol that Trotskyists should not be afforded any democratic rights in a throwback to the Great Purges in the USSR in the 1930s and 1940s.

**Q: You are part of a radical Left group called [Socialist Fight](#). Can you brief us shortly about this group and its principles?**

**GD:** It is best summed up in the first point of the Where We Stand document on our [website](#):

“We stand with Karl Marx: ‘The emancipation of the working classes must be conquered by the working classes themselves. The struggle for the emancipation of the working class means not a struggle for class privileges and monopolies but for equal rights and duties and the abolition of all class rule’ (The International Workingmen’s Association 1864, General Rules). The working class ‘cannot emancipate itself without emancipating itself from all other sphere of society and thereby emancipating all other spheres of society’ (Marx, A Contribution to a Critique of Hegel’s Philosophy of Right, 1843).”

**Q: We met today because I learned from the British and Jewish press that Labour Against the Witch-hunt (LAW) a newly formed body, has decided to expel half of its members or more precisely, to kick out Socialist Fight from its ranks. Is that true?**

**GD:** The ostensibly broad campaign, LAW, was launched on 21 October 2017 after professor Moshé Machover was auto-excluded, and, as the Labour Party Marxists reported, he was only “one of a long line of socialists, Corbyn supporters and defenders of Palestinian rights expelled or suspended on bogus charges of anti-Semitism”.



Socialist Fight participated in the formation of LAW, through Gerry Downing and Ian Donovan and contributed to the discussion and to collection, as Socialist Fight expected to participate in LAW’s work.

Soon after the launch, one Lee Rock began a vitriolic witch hunt against us on LAW’s Facebook page, claiming we were anti-Semitic and should be expelled from LAW. The three remaining LAW Steering Committee members, Tony Greenstein, Stan Keable and Jackie Walker (Peter Firmin had resigned), duly obliged by auto-excluding us without a hearing or right to appeal, the very practice the group had been set up to overturn in the Labour party. We were instructed not to attend the next LAW meeting as we were no longer members and we were blocked from the LAW Facebook page.

We did, however, turn up early for the meeting on 2nd December with 3 supporters and, as Tony Greenstein reported, the meeting was “effectively ambushed by a small Trotskyist grouping, Socialist Fight” i.e., our band of 5 managed to persuade the meeting, some 24 at its height, to refuse to accept the undemocratic, not to say autocratic, decisions of the triumvirate. We were accepted back in and reinstated to the Facebook page by Tony Greenstein.

**Q: According to the Jewish press, LAW is led by Jackie Walker and Tony Greenstein both of whom identify politically ‘as Jews.’ Both Greenstein and Walker were also expelled from the Labour Party for being anti-Semitic. However, they believe that while the slur of anti-Semite is mostly delusional, on rare occasions they can decide it is real. Where do you think Greenstein/Walker set that kosher demarcation line?**

**GD:** it is my belief that there are two key questions to understand in this. 1. the motivations of Jackie Walker and Tony Greenstein, which are slightly different and 2. The motivation of Jack Conrad, the leader of the Communist Party of Great Britain/Weekly Worker which has influence in the Labour Party Marxists, led by Stan Keable, another member of the LAW Steering Committee.

On the first point the key is found in the statement Tony Greenstein issued on March 22, 2016 made after he got a letter from the Labour Party informing him he had been suspended. He wrote the following:

“I can only assume, in the current climate of media engineered hysteria over ‘anti-Semitism’ in the Labour Party and amongst Corbyn supporters, that it is related to this. I can think of no other reason. If this is the case what is involved is a witch hunt of anti-Zionists using the cover of anti-Semitism since even the Zionist Board of



**Deputies of British Jews (BOD) and other Zionists have acknowledged my role in combatting Gilad Atzmon, a notorious anti-Semite who used to be associated with the Palestine solidarity movement.”**

So, suspended from Labour for ‘anti-Semitism’ he (Greenstein) tried to ingratiate himself with the pro-Zionist witch hunters by pointing to his own role in witch hunting Gilad Atzmon. Today he is in a de-facto bloc with Zionist/Blairite witch hunters against Socialist Fight.

Jackie Walker is slightly different, she largely rejects the politics of identity and is more cosmopolitan than Greenstein. She also strongly champions black rights. She is repelled by the outright revolutionary politics of Socialist Fight as she revealed during the Labour Representation Committee AGM in 2012, when she verbally abused me for heckling a speaker who was defending the role of the ANC in the Marikana massacre after I had made a motion condemning them.

Jack Conrad suffered a major embarrassment at their annual Communist University when Socialist Fight exposed his narrative on the Russian Revolution, which he promotes in conjunction with the Swedish academic Lars T Lih. They put forward the revisionist theory that Lenin’s April Theses was of no particular significance, and that Kamenev, Zinoviev and Stalin were doing fine before Lenin returned in April and had only to make a slight adjustment, despite Lenin’s powerful condemnations of their capitulation to the provisional government. And then his accusation of treason against Kamenev and Zinoviev when they went public with the plans for the October insurrection, thereby putting all their lives in immediate danger.

**Q: In the recent LAW meeting Greenstein and Walker reportedly said that “making a connection between the number of Jewish billionaires in the US or who is Jewish amongst the richest sections of society and imperialist support for Israel is anti-Semitic.” I guess that Walker and Greenstein believe that Jewish politics and mammon are beyond criticism. Can you tell us which political school may adhere to such a peculiar approach? Is there any Left ideology or working-class politics that excludes criticism of Jewish mammon and influence?**

**GD:** Of course, that ideology is Zionism. I can do no better than to quote Daniel Waterman, the famous author and anti-Zionist activist. His mother, Ruth Kupferschmidt, survived the Holocaust. He wrote on the LAW Facebook page in refutation of this cowardly capitulation:

The following statement (from Tony Greenstein) therefore makes for uncomfortable reading:

“Making a connection between the number of Jewish billionaires in the United States or who is Jewish amongst the richest sections of society and imperialist support for Israel is anti-Semitic.”

NO NO NO! (Waterman responded) We all know that there are many Jewish millionaires and billionaires in the US. We also know that many of them are involved with determining policy with respect

to Israel. We even know that many of them are outspoken supporters of Israel. Why on earth is it then taboo to speak about this openly?

Yes, mentioning the power of the Jewish lobby was and remains a tactic of antisemites. But that does not make the statement, or the reality, inherently anti-Semitic. The reason why ought to be clear to anyone with half a brain but let’s just spell it out: because not all Jews are billionaires and not all Jews are Zionists or supporters of Israel.

So, why has this issue become such a point in this group? First of all we can consider quite legitimate concerns about the possibility of any discussion of ‘Jewish billionaires supporting Israel’ being interpreted as anti-Semitic, but then that is also exactly why this group was created, to defend others who are legitimately criticising Israel ‘and making comparisons to Nazi Germany’ from being accused of antisemitism.”

**Q: You and your political group were expelled by Greenstein/Walker in a non-democratic manner. You were pushed out despite the fact that the democratic vote of LAW members opposed your expulsion. What can we learn from this development about the authoritarian tendencies of Greenstein and Walker? Do you believe that people of that type can present a better future for Britain’s working people?**

**GD:** It really is shocking that the LAW Steering Committee are pursuing these utterly undemocratic and unprincipled manoeuvres against us. If we are all agreed that the way that John Lansman closed down the democratic structures of Momentum was utterly wrong and justly criticised him for that how can they do the same themselves? How can either John’s Lansman’s Momentum or the far smaller LAW group of Tony Greenstein fight to democratise the structures of the Labour Party when their own structures and practices are so undemocratic? And what kind of a new society of social and economic equality, “from each according to his ability, to each according to his needs” can be forged with these methods? Do what I say, don’t do what I do, as Joe Stalin and Ian McNichol hypocritically might say.

**Q:** When two Jews expel two Goyim from a socialist organisation how would you call it *herem* or excommunication?

**GD:** I don’t know how to answer this question. I do not think it is of any significance that the two signatures of the post accusing us of antisemitism are Jewish. These are political conflicts and I don’t think it is just about Israel and Jewish communal politics but it is part of the whole of the political class struggle worldwide.

**Q: What is next? I understand that on Saturday Greenstein/Walker are planning another bogus meeting in an attempt to overrule their previous defeat. How can we help you? Can we attend the meeting? Where is it?**

**GD:** The Labour Against the Witch hunt meeting was due to be held at 12 noon on Saturday 6 January in the Calthorpe Arms, 252 Greys Inn Road, London, WC1X 8JR. Please get there by 11.30.

However, on the one hand, Tony Greenstein tells us the landlord of the Calthorpe Arms has rung him up cancelling the meeting: “There will therefore be no meeting on Saturday, the meeting is cancelled”. Stan Keable, the LAW Secretary on the other hand, tells us that a nearby alternative venue has been found and we can all come. Stan Keable:

“We regret that Calthorpe Arms has cancelled our booking, but the meeting will go ahead in a nearby alternative venue. Please come to Calthorpe Arms, 252 Grays Inn Road, at 12 noon, and we will direct you to the nearby alternative venue.” ▲





## **“Lies are truth, truth are lies”....**

**By Turan Basri 15-5-18**

During this evening's demonstration outside Downing Street to express disgust at the Israeli state's killing of unarmed Palestinians, it became clear that there were around 6 individuals who were clearly pro-Zionist and were glorifying in this diabolical act of wholesale slaughter of unarmed protesters.

Anti-Zionist Orthodox Jews from Naturei Karta attended the protest in support of their brothers and sisters in Palestine, only to be hurled abuse from this small group calling them 'Kapos'. This derogatory term was given to Jews that were co-operating with the Nazis in the concentration camps. This group then started singing "we got 50 more than you", which was in reference to the number of unarmed Palestinian protesters who have been innocently slaughtered by the IDF. This despicable group are none other than members of the Jewish Defence League, a group that has been declared a terrorist organisation in the US by the FBI.

Their web site states that its position is against; Black Lives Matter; Occupy Wall Street; Hitler Loyalists; Nation of Islam; La Raza; Soros funded left groups and Politicians and media who enable these. Even more disturbing are some of their five principles which would not look out of place in Mein Kampf; Love of Israel & Judaism; Dignity & Pride; Iron Strength; Discipline & Unity; Faith in the indestructibility of the Jewish People. One of the group was identified as Gemma Sheridan, who along with a bearded



male, are the rabble rousers who disrupted a book launch for a book published by the Jewish Voice for Peace, at an event held by the SOAS in 2017. The leader of this group is none other than Roberta Moore, who was in the EDL before (she claims) learning that the group were harbouring anti-Semites, but it seems that she was kicked out for reaching to extreme Jewish groups that were too extreme even for the EDL. She was initially convicted (along with her partner) at Highbury Corner Magistrates Court on a count of two assaults and possession of an offensive weapon before she was acquitted on appeal after prosecutors lost phone camera footage. However, here's a video of another arrest after she insulted and harassed Muslims at a pro-Palestine rally in Whitehall.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ze51nfVPljg>

Another shady character in attendance with this group was Paul Besser, who

was actually videoing me. His climb to notoriety is 'Intelligence Officer' for Britain First, with the word 'intelligence' probably missing from the equation. It is becoming increasingly clear, which those on the left have known for some time, and who are then charged with the false claim of anti-Semitism when pointing out the obvious, that these right wing ultra nationalist Zionists are actually in bed with far right neo-Nazis. So here we are. Fascists calling pious Orthodox Jews Nazi collaborators, when it is themselves that are cosyng up with the real neo-Nazis from the right, both on an anti-Muslim platform. It's ironic that the JDL web site purports to be against 'Hitler Loyalists', when they are actually in bed with them.

Photographs show an Orthodox Jew from Naturei Karta, facing up to the group in the aftermath of being abused when called a 'Kapo', and the three individuals circled. ▲



**Leon Trotsky: I am confident of the victory of the Fourth International; Go Forward!**



# Fascism and the Football Lads Alliance

By Turan Basri

Leon Trotsky: "The historic function of fascism is to smash the working class, destroy its organisations, and stifle political liberties when the capitalists find themselves unable to govern and dominate with the help of democratic machinery. The advanced workers must know that they will have a fight and win a struggle to the death".

Concerned citizens, or a cover for racists and fascists? The Football Lads' Alliance started out as football fans concerned about terrorism and Islamic extremism, however it hasn't taken too long for the leopard to show its spots with this group being openly racist, or covertly using 'private' forums to organise and communicate. The Premier League has warned football clubs over this groups rhetoric, which will undo all that hard work done against racism in football since the 80s, this is a throwback to those times when racists were rife at football grounds.

Be under no illusions that this group already riven with infiltration are harbouring vile hard-core football thugs with links to groups such as Combat18 and the Stoke Infidels. Their pitch seems to be that they are not like the EDL and not just another Islamophobic group, however any visit to their Twitter feeds, or some of the posts by 'members' on Facebook shows their true intentions.

Stephen Yaxley Lennon aka Tommy Robinson is treated like some messiah, with Gerard Batten of UKIP recently announcing a recruitment drive endorsed by both the Veterans Against Terrorism and the Football Lads Alliance. Speakers such as Anne Marie Waters of the For Britain Movement are invited to speak at their rallies and to propagate their message of hate not only against Muslims, immigrants and refugees but also against the left, who they see as the main culprit and being responsible for the 'decline in society' and 'British' values. This group despite its claim that it opposes all forms of extremism, has harboured individuals like Frank Portinari, with links to the paramilitary UDA, and a convicted weapons smuggler to Irish terrorists being a member of Combat18, before being 'expelled' when called out.

What do we do about this? Ignore it in the hope that it will be just another group that

splits and disappears as previous groups like the BNP and EDL true to form had? No, this group has mobilised very quick-

ly compared to the EDL and is using street marching to grow its numbers very rapidly, being a key feature of fascist street movements.

This left unchecked would be a serious mistake. We have seen far right groups in Europe pollute the political environment including here in the UK, with the Tories having taken over UKIP's crown and using their thunder. Reading the Tory manifesto and watching their policies unfold with its 'hostile environment' towards refugees, and even deporting British citizens to the Caribbean on the basis of their skin colour, would be something that would make the BNP proud. The first step is to highlight this group and expose its racist agenda and those associated with it, followed by meeting it on the streets.

History has shown how street opposition is essential both with Communists in the Battle of Cable Street in 1936, and the SWP and ANL in Lewisham in 1977. On both occasions fascists were defeated by the mobilisation of the working class. It is essential that this message is put across in the workplace and requires workers, their unions and community groups to become involved and united in confronting this danger, the alternatives in today's political climate do not bear thinking about.

We are seeing a 'creep' towards fascism right across Europe and in other countries such as in the US, Canada and Australia. This gradual lurch rightwards does not involve strutting around in uniform with all the regalia associated with fascism, this would no longer be politically acceptable and would be suicidal. To even accept this traditional imagery as what fascism is places us into a false sense of security and is dangerous.

It has taken a political mantra of being anti-Muslim, anti-refugee, anti-immigrant and pro-nationalist with politicians in suits using the rhetoric associated with this becoming mainstream both on the political stage and in the media as a whole. The state doesn't require boots on the ground to harass the working class and any remnants of organised labour, it has the full machinery of the state already in its possession, introducing ever more powers to dismantle workers' rights, prevent freedom of movement, and increasing surveillance of its citizens.

Neoliberal economics and the concentration of wealth to an ever-increasing minority



Tommy Robinson spewing his fascist hate

have left the door wide open for fascists to penetrate the levers of government with the political void ready to be filled. Be under no illusions that this is happening with politics being built on a platform of national values, race, family values, and a longing for the past and its imperial glories.

Concentration of capital has left a society that is fragmented and splintered; this 'atomisation' is deliberate as organised labour would challenge their whole political doctrine and wealth accumulation.

Today's politicians, whether previously New Labour or today's Conservatives, are increasingly using race and immigration as a platform for the populist vote, pandering to the right when blaming immigrants for all of societies' problems. Deliberately ignoring the role of the financial institutions and the concentration of capital in the process, which their own policies are supporting.

The working class are looking for answers and the politicians are selling them a pup, which many are accepting. However, we have seen an increase in support for the Labour Party under the leadership of Jeremy Corbyn, who now have a base of 600,000 members, who are desperate for change, where this goes is yet to materialise as we are in uncharted waters.

This shows that the young in particular are not looking towards the right for answers, it is this base that we need to look towards embracing for the battles ahead being vitally important that those of us on the left work to get this message across. We do not fight fascism by using, or accepting, the same arguments; it's fought by providing the working class with a detailed argument that the fault lies squarely with the very capitalists who are exploiting them.

The previous and current position of political parties on the left attempting to be a 'broad church' to gain everyone's vote is not the answer, the understanding of why the system is collapsing and what radical change is required is the answer. People are feeling disenfranchised and powerless, these people are looking for answers, and we need to ensure that those on the right are not the ones to hoodwink them into believing that they do. ▲



Leon Trotsky: I am confident of the victory of the Fourth International; Go Forward!



# Windrush: Jail Racist May and ALL her accomplices! For a Peoples' 'Nuremberg tribunal' for the Tories

By Ian Donovan

**T**he Windrush scandal is a flash of lightning that has illuminated the real face of the British ruling class and its bourgeois politics. It is racist to the core. Even within the ruling class and its cabinet, it has been acknowledged that the policies pursued by the Conservatives under David Cameron, both in coalition with the Liberal Democrats and alone under Cameron and May since 2015, owe a certain debt to the policies of Nazi Germany.

Not in the sense of people being actually exterminated physically, but in terms of the systematic deprivation of civil rights to those who have the temerity to be poor migrants, or the children of such, or who have non-UK partners, or are overseas students, to mention only a sample: the persecution of vulnerable minorities.

The anti-migrant hate-campaign has been the ruling class's answer to the near collapse of the capitalist financial system in 2007-9. In order to recover profitability from this near-death event, it went on a massive austerity drive to knock hell out of the living standards of public sector workers, benefit claimants, the sick, the disabled, you name it. The only way it has been able to sell this is with a tidal wave of anti-migrant hate-propaganda in the media, aimed at finding a scapegoat for austerity in various groups of 'foreigners'.

The result, in Britain, in the UK, and in Europe, has been manipulated waves of right-wing populism, with the rise of Trump in the US, Brexit in Britain, Marine Le Pen reaching the presidential run off in France, and similar things elsewhere in Europe.

The rise of Jeremy Corbyn to lead Labour in the aftermath of the shock Tory election victory in 2015 was the first major crack in the neo-liberal domination of politics in the Western world for a generation. Under Corbyn's leadership, Labour has in excess of 600,000 members and is the biggest social-democratic party in Europe, pursuing a programme that, while hardly massively radical even by the standards of the Labour left, is strongly antagonistic to the post-2009 austerity.

## A crack in neoliberal reaction

Now we have another potentially really important crack in this most reactionary period; the exposure of the Tory government's despicable treatment of African-Caribbeans has blown the lid off the festering scandal of what is behind the migrant-bashing: racist barbarism.

Such is the depth of anger at the base of society about this that May has had to rapidly retreat, announcing that this layer of older black citizens are to have their citizenship 'granted' free of charge, though they already are citizens, and the so-called citizenship test, which is now a test for permanent residency, not just citizen-

ship, is to be waived for them. Apparently the government plan- For a Peoples' 'Nuremberg tribunal' for the Tories to pay compensation to the victims of this policy. This is one of the most dramatic U-turns of a government in recent history, as only just over a week earlier, May had refused to meet with heads of government of Caribbean nations at the Commonwealth summit who wanted to raise this issue with her.

This U-turn has happened despite the fact that, with the exception of the liberal *Independent* and sometimes liberal *Guardian* newspapers, the media, including the BBC has played down the scandal and tried to get May off the hook. But to no avail, such was the tremor of popular disgust. The promises of May and Rudd should be given no credence; they were given reluctantly and are primarily intended to defuse the issue. This is reminiscent of the aftermath of the Grenfell House fire, where immigrants with few rights were among those who died and the popular anger was considerable against the cynical neglect of safety and elementary rights by the state and its local agents. Many promises were made then, which have turned out to be worth virtually nothing.

The racism that drives today's anti-migrant bigotry is partially camouflaged by a curious double-speak ideology of spin which tries to portray itself as being dictated by economics: protecting UK workers from being supposedly undercut by migrants willing to work for less. This was always complete nonsense, as under both Tory and New Labour neo-liberal governments, trade unions, which ought to be organising both 'home-grown' and migrant workers in a struggle for better pay and living standards for all, have been subjected to the most draconian anti-union laws in the advanced capitalist world.

The trade union bureaucracy is a separate layer in the workers' movement who are tied to the capitalist system in order to defend their own privileges. They have made no real attempt to oppose these laws, most secretly welcoming the assistance in 'disciplining' their more militant members and cooperating in every way in imposing austerity.

Workers have no class interest at all in supporting 'controls' on migrants; all they do is create a pariah layer of the working class that has no rights and inevitably is in no position to resist the very undercutting and super-exploitation that chauvinists always complain about. Working class people have an interest in class organisation across the lines of 'migrant vs home-grown', not anti-migrant repression.



## Racism and Proof

Of all the horrible stories about people being denied cancer treatment, being detained and deported, people visiting relatives in the Caribbean being refused re-entry to the UK after living here for 40 or 50 years, being prevented from attending their mother's funeral, or their daughter's wedding, NHS workers being denied the right to treatment in the NHS, etc., one that stands out was the 'guidance' the Home Office gave to people being deported to Jamaica.

They were told to pretend to be Jamaicans, to fit in, to imitate the local accent, etc. That alone is conclusive proof that the Home Office was 100% aware that it was engaged in racial persecution, that the people it was deporting were black Britons, not Jamaicans.

That in a microcosm is proof of racism, and racial persecution, against this government, and against everyone involved in formulating this policy. Racial persecution is the logic of anti-immigrant xenophobia, and there was no way they could ever 'cordon off' the repressive laws formulated against recent non-EU immigrants, from Africa, Asia etc, from the more established immigrant communities. Indeed those from the Indian subcontinent are also in danger. Abuse of one group of migrants inevitably results in abuse of all people of migrant origin. In the climate of xenophobia and racism post-financial crisis, Brexit has brought the beginning of such abuses against EU citizens also, as part of a recrudescence of the organic racism of Britain's island-based ruling class, that 'wogs begin at Calais'.

All the parties of neo-liberalism in Britain are complicit in these crimes. May tried to palm off responsibility for destroying the landing cards of the Windrush generation onto the previous Labour government. This was not an outrageous suggestion; everyone knows that New Labour in office, particularly after the financial crisis, carried out its own hate campaigns against some immigrants; the disgusting cam-

paign against overseas students by Alan Johnson in 2010 was a case in point as many were detained or deported simply for being at colleges the government arbitrarily decided it disapproved of, driven by a hate campaign in the racist gutter press.

May's attempt to deflect responsibility, when confronted by Jeremy Corbyn at Prime Minister's Questions, was mendacious, as was subsequently proven; New Labour made a decision in principle to get rid of 'surplus' paper documents from the Home Office's repositories, but it was clearly under the Coalition that the decision was made to override objections from case-work staff and destroy these important documents without making digital copies, after which May brought in the Immigration Act of 2014, which instituted 'checks' on immigration status in the NHS, in rented accommodation, of bank accounts, for benefits, which would obviously ensnare people who came here before any such documents were even necessary. That was the mechanism of the persecution and it was known at the time this would happen, as has been revealed in the aftermath of May's debacle and 'apology'.

### Cross-Party Neoliberal Crimes

And in fact, both the Blairites in Labour, and of course the Liberal Democrats, supported May's foul 2014 Act. It is interesting to note the real relationship of this racism to the Tory-Blairite-Zionist smear of 'anti-Semitism' that is currently being trumpeted by the establishment media against the Labour Party. Only a handful of Labour MP's voted against the Act: these included Jeremy Corbyn, Diane Abbot and John McDonnell, along with Respect's George Galoway.

The cowardly policy of Ed Miliband, who subsequently fought and lost a General Election with specially-made Labour mugs promising to 'control immigration', meant Labour deliberately abstained to allow the law to go through with minimal opposition. All the Blairite MP's who are currently smearing Corbyn as anti-Semitic failed to oppose this racist law. And what is interesting also, since the Liberal Democrats were in coalition with the Tories at the time, and therefore bear co-responsibility for this persecution, is that two Lib-Dem MP's voted against it. One was David Ward, who was smeared as an anti-Semite and hounded out of office by Nick Clegg for outspokenly defending the Palestinians. The connection between the false anti-Semitism smear and neoliberal racism could not be clearer from this record.

In terms of its implications, this is a very far-reaching scandal indeed. The racism of the Tories and Theresa May has suddenly come into public consciousness in a way that has the Tories running scared. As one wag in the Labour Party milieu in London wryly tweeted over this: "We don't need laws to scare people off social media, Theresa May has managed to scare every fucking Tory off social media in the past few days."

There are contradictions in popular consciousness about this, as many delude them-

selves with the common adage that "it's not racist to be concerned about immigration" and similar shallow homilies. But underlying anti-immigrant xenophobia is always racism in some mediated form, hatred and fear of the 'other' and this contradiction, when the racism becomes starkly visible, has now produced a wave of popular revulsion against a racist policy, the likes of which has not been seen for many years, and against the racism of a sitting Prime Minister to boot.

### Windrush and the left

It is the responsibility of the left to seek to generalise and intensify this, to deepen the breach in popular consciousness. We have to raise demands that give voice to the outrage of the oppressed who have been the victims of these crimes, who have been deported or detained, who have experienced living hell, who have had loved ones die because of these crimes... We must demand that the Labour movement rejects any putative apologies, and demand that May resign and that all her partners in crime, such as Rudd and many others, be driven from office as well. The government must fall...

But this is not enough. Enormous suffering has been caused by the actions of individuals in the government, who are known, and whose responsibility and premeditation of these crimes can be precisely calibrated. It is not just the Windrush generation that have suffered. Many other migrants from other backgrounds have suffered, been put in indefinite detention, been subjected to insecurity and fear, been put into the hands of unscrupulous people whom these racist laws have given the power and the motivation to abuse migrants.

This goes hand in hand with this government's other murderous crimes, its cull of disabled people, its driving people to suicide, it's forcing even terminally-ill cancer patients to 'seek work' through removing their benefits. The calculation is that many will die, and it will save on the bill for basic social benefits and allow corporate tax cuts to help raise the rate of profit.

So what should the left call for in this situation? The resignation of these scum from office is not enough. We have to demand punishment! May, Cameron, Rudd etc. are criminals, Clegg, Cable, and the Blairites in Labour who are still trying to destabilise the leadership of Corbyn, are their accomplices. This is one issue, but there are so many more that must be addressed. Obviously, we demand a Labour government to overturn the specific attacks on all the oppressed who have suffered from these crimes. But what about justice for the many victims of these criminals? We have to demand a popular body, breaking with bourgeois concepts of legality, which mean legalised murder, physical and psychological torture of the oppressed, while the oppressors get off scot-free.

The left should be demanding a popular, working class centred body to try and hand out sentences to the criminals, racists and murderers in the current government, irrespective of

bourgeois legality. Something along the lines of a working class version of the Nuremberg tribunal that tried and executed the Nazis. It would take an extra-parliamentary working class movement of great scope to bring such a thing into being, but it is an objective necessity anyway. Socialists have to demand the imprisonment of the racist criminals, of the murderers of the sick and disabled, in the current government.

Something like the demand for a 'People's Nuremberg for the Tories' could be fought for by class conscious militants through the Labour Party and the trade unions, alongside and in conjunction with the struggle to elect a Labour government led by Corbyn and the left. We need a discussion on the left as to what can be done to punish and jail the criminals of Windrush, and the Premier racist criminal that leads them. This demands action, not passive parliamentarism, of the working class movement in Britain.

### For a Peoples' 'Nuremberg tribunal' for the Tories! ▲

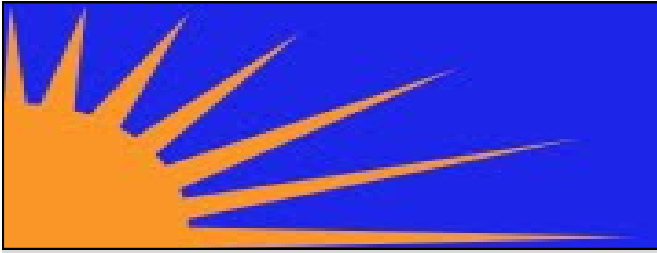
### Ben Stimson, political prisoner, on hunger strike again!

Ben is in prison for over five years for fighting fascism in the Ukraine. In the words of Christopher Black, an international criminal lawyer based in Toronto: "The NATO backed war in Ukraine against the peoples of the Donbass has thousands of victims. Now it has a victim in Britain, another political prisoner in a British jail. Ben Stimson is a man who should never have been charged, who was denied a fair trial, whose liberty must be restored. So long as liberty is denied him we can have none. So free Ben Stimson, to free us all".

The latest news from Ben is that he's started another hunger strike and sounds fairly serious about it. His visitor tried to persuade him to try other channels first, such as his supporters to write in for him with his official endorsement in a letter we can send in. He's going to do this. Apparently HMP Wymott intends to cut Gerry Downing/Socialist Fight off completely after they got details about a demo we helped organize. Sorry to have to say this, we hope we can get it reversed. we think is one of several reasons he's on hunger strike. He is also still subjected to antisemitic abuse.

Please write to him at the new address. Ben Stimson, Prison number AO998DW, HMP Wymott, Ulnes Walton Lane, Leyland, Preston, Lancashire, PR26 8LW ▲





## Irish Republican Prisoners Support Group

PO Box 59188, London, NW2 9LJ, irpsgroup@gmail.com

"They have nothing in their whole imperial arsenal that can break the spirit of one Irishman who

### Political Status for all Irish Republican prisoners!

**Free Niall Lehd, Neil Hegarty, Gabriel Mackle, Tony Taylor and Craigavon 2, no extradition for Liam Campbell! Write to the Irish Republican Prisoners**

**Free Brendan McConville, John Paul Wotton and Tony Taylor**

#### Free Brendan McConville, John Paul Wotton and Tony Taylor

The two young men were convicted of the killing of PSNI officer Stephen Carroll in March 2009. These two men are innocent, that they have been wrongfully convicted and are victims of another frameup by the British State. Gerry Conlon, of the Guildford 4, many Irish TDs and public figures have recognised their innocence and campaigned for them.

On 10 March 2016 armed police surrounded Tony Taylor's family car he was arrested and taken to Maghaberry prison. Tony's solicitor has been told that he was returned to gaol on the basis of intelligence reports that he cannot see or challenge.

This is a case of internment in all but name. He has now been held without charge or information on why he was incarcerated since 10 March 2016. Tony has positively contributed to local politics in Derry by peacefully raising benefit cuts, prison conditions and policing issues before his arrest, which was entirely prompted by his political stance against British occupation of the six counties; there were no "illegal activities". He "spearheaded the revival of RNU in Derry", his real 'crime'. ▲

#### Irish Republican News 31-3-18

##### Luke O'Neill bailed; Niall Lehd interned

Luke O'Neill has been granted bail, a judge refused efforts by the Crown to continue detaining 24-year-old Luke because he would otherwise spend more than two years behind bars before his case is dealt with. The trainee teacher had already spend 17 months behind bars without trial. Justice Maguire said: "The length of time involved here, pre-trial, is just too great."

Mr O'Neill had been subjected to an unusually harsh prison regime when he was held against his will on the criminal wing of Maghaberry. Held in isolation after receiving death threats from loyalists, he then had to endure attempts by MI5 to recruit him as an informer. Defence counsel Stephen Toal pointed out that Mr O'Neill would not go on trial any earlier than 2019.

However a County Antrim man, father-of-three Niall Lehdh, as been interned on the orders of British Direct Ruler Karen Bradley. He is a member of the little known Irish Republican National Congress (IRNC), was sentenced to prison in 2014 after pleading guilty to arms charges. At the time, a judge said he did not consider Lehd to be dangerous and said there was "more of a risk to yourself than to others". He was released two years ago.

A Facebook page set up to highlight his case said Mr Lehd was taken to Maghaberry jail on March 8. After the end of his prison sentence he set about rebuilding a life for himself, his Protestant partner and children, in the face of loyalist threats and attacks on their home:

"Our hopes for any kind of a normal life were being crushed by the PSNI, media and loyalist paramilitaries but we did not give up. We persevered to improve our lives for our children throughout all that's been thrown at us. All the sectarianism and raids that have come since we persevered until nearly two weeks ago when the Secretary of State saw fit to revoke my licence and return me to prison. I have been given no reason why it has been seen fit to take a father away from his children the youngest being 18 months old. It's not just me but my family, friends and comrades who suffer at the hands of British internment. Today it is me, tomorrow it could be you." ▲

#### IRPWA reports discrimination against Irish cultural identity in Maghaberry

On 05/10/2016 a prison governor responded to a solicitor's letter stating: "The Northern Ireland Prison Service has over recent months been required to remove such (sic) inflammatory items such as Irish tricolours and signs erected by prisoners in Irish."

This is a response to a challenge regarding a printed issue the 'Scairt Amach' magazine which was refused although it was composed in the jail to begin with. It is clear, however, that the Irish language and national flag are 'inflammatory'.

In response to a challenge regarding CD's being denied entry on 07/07/2016 the security governor wrote:

"Several songs included in the CD your client has requested are inextricably linked to the 1916 Rising and other Republican terrorist campaigns since then (straightforward Loyalist propaganda—IRPSG!). These include *Kevin Barry*, *The Time has Come*, *The Broad Black Brimmer*, *The Men Behind the Wire*.

These songs glorify armed insurrection and rebellion, prison related deaths of Republican terrorists and are supportive of terrorist organisations (past and present)". ▲

#### Irish Republican Prisoner News

This is the current up to date Irish Republican Prisoner list for 2018. Full list of Republican Political Prisoners

Darren Gleeson  
Hydebank Wood Gaol  
Hospital Road  
Belfast BT8 8NA  
Christine Connor  
Portlaoise Gaol  
Dublin Road  
Portlaoise  
Co Laois  
Ireland  
E1 Portlaoise  
Dónal Billings  
Sharif Kelly  
Michael Connolly  
Vincent Banks  
Paddy Kennedy

E2  
Charles Anthony Deery  
Garret Mulley  
Seamus McGrane  
Ryan Glennon  
E3 & E4  
Philip Barney  
McKevitt  
Patrick Brennan  
Stephen Hendrick  
Pierce Moran  
Tony Carroll  
Dean Byrne  
John McGreal  
Dónal Ó Coisdealbha  
Edward McGrath

Connor Hughes  
Darren Fox  
Owen McCann  
Conan Murphy  
James Smithers  
Joe Walsh  
Seán Walsh  
Mick Gilmartin  
Martin McHale  
David Murray  
Brian Kenna  
Dylan Cahill  
Jim Smyth  
Colm Mannion  
Brian Mannion  
Kevin Braney  
Ciaran Maguire  
Dean Evans

Dóchas Centre  
Mountjoy Prison  
North Circular Road  
Dublin 7  
Ireland.  
Ursula Ní Shionnáin  
Maghaberry Prison,  
Old Road  
Ballinderry Upper  
Lisburn, BT28 2PT  
Ireland  
Roe House  
S.S.U  
Barry Petticrew  
Roe 3  
Tony Taylor  
Conor Hughes  
Ciarán McLaughlin  
Seamus McLaughlin

Roe 4  
Brendan McConville  
Vincent Kelly  
Darren Poleon  
Seán McVeigh  
Joseph Hughes  
Gavin Coyle  
Ta McWilliams  
Patrick O'Neill  
Matt Johnston  
Damien McLaughlin  
Quoile House  
JP Wootton  
Bann House  
Brian Walsh  
Niall Lehd  
Limerick Prison Mulgrave Street, Limerick, Ireland  
Rose Lynch

## Extraditions and Liam Campbell

Irish Republicans have been recently extradited from the Free State to the 6 counties. When extradited they face the same inhuman torture, beatings and forced strip searching endured by all Irish POWs there.

Liam Campbell is facing extradition to Lithuania. Judgement is pending in the case. If extradited and found guilty, he faces a potential sentence of 20 years.

The IRPSG campaigned for Liam Campbell's brother, Michael, in 2012 and 2013; we put a motion defending him to the 2013 LRC AGM. Led by our new Chair John Carty, we will campaign for Liam now.

In October 2013 Michael was acquitted of all charges in Lithuania because the court believed he was framed by MI5. His lawyer said "a person cannot be sentenced for a crime committed by state officials. He was acquitted because the court found that what he was accused of was a provocation. It was just an activity of the state security services," she said.

We picketed the Irish Embassy in London on 20 April 2012 and the Lithuanian Embassy on 6 March 2012 on Michael and Liam's behalf with the following flyer text:

"Michael Campbell was set up in a 'sting' operation by MI5, the Irish and Lithuanian intelligence agencies and jailed in Lithuania on 21 October 2011 for 12 years.

The spooks had in fact initiated the arms deal on which he was convicted. His lawyer, Ingrida Botyriene, said:

"He would never be involved in arms deals and would never go to Lithuania for such an affair if he had not been provoked by secret agents."

Following his sentence the Lithuanian Director of Public Prosecution have indicated that they intend to hold a new trial; he wrote to an IRPSG supporter (the late Michael Holden),

"The DPP appealed the case, he was not happy with 12 years, wants 16 but case could go on for 2 years."

The DPP originally demanded 16 years. This is a travesty, he has been tried and sentenced, he should now be repatriated to serve his time in Ireland, where his family can visit him."

Similarly we demand that the British authorities cease the hounding of his brother Liam who wrote to the IRPSG,

"I am held here in Maghaberry prison by the Brits. They want to extradite me to Lithuania, a country I was



Irish Republican Prisoners Support Group Picket of the Irish Embassy, 17 Grosvenor Pl, Belgravia, Saturday 28 April,

never in.

So I am here for two and a half now where I have no rights as an Irish man up in front of a Brit judge in my own country".

We like to think that, in conjunction with the campaign in Ireland, we contributed something towards Michael's release in October 2013.

And we will struggle to defend Liam now too.

On November 9th 2017 Gabriel Mackle was arrested in his home by the RUC/PSNI leaving his wife and two small children traumatised. On an order from the British Secretary of State Gabriel's licence was revoked and he was taken straight back to Maghaberry goal, from which he had been released in August after serving over three years. As with Tony Taylor and Neil Hegarty this is effectively internment without charge or trial and is based solely on their Republican political beliefs of opposing the sell out of Gerry Adams and Sinn Fein to British imperialism.

On 7 December 2017 Neil Hegarty's licence was revoked, he was arrested by armed police and returned to Maghaberry. Saoradh reported that: "Neil was only released on 5th December after five years in gaol, and had been at home with family and friends celebrating his release when armed Crown Forces arrived to return him to captivity ...

Neil Hegarty is an unashamed Irish Republican, who has been returned to captivity by a foreign government with no right to be in Ireland. He is yet another victim of Internment via revocation of licence and should be released back to his family immediately.



### 'I couldn't believe the injustice': Irish grandparents explain why they're voting Yes

I couldn't believe the injustice': Irish grandparents explain why they're voting Yes Parents of women who had received a fatal foetal diagnosis and travelled to the UK for a termination shared their stories today.

May 8th 2018

...when she told me she could not be treated compassionately in her own country, I was flabbergasted.

PAM BOWIE DESCRIBES herself as a woman who had always been pro-life, someone who had a "very sincere Christian faith". When her daughter Ruth received a fatal foetal diagnosis 12 week into her pregnancy, she said she was shocked at the lack of options available to her.

The diagnosis was a severe case of anencephaly and speaking today alongside his wife, Doug Bowie, a retired GP, explained this meant that the "at least half the brain and half the skull were missing and so it was a non-viable pregnancy". He said his daughter was told she could not have a termination in Ireland and so she "spent a horrific 24 hours in England".

"I actually couldn't believe the injustice of the Eighth Amendment that she would be expected to carry that baby as a life support machine, with a brain-dead baby until maybe the heart stopped, maybe she'd have to deliver, and the baby would not live," his wife said today at a press conference for Grandparents for Repeal. ▲



# Fight for World Revolution!

## Internationalist revolutionary Socialist May Day Statement

**Frente Comunista dos Trabalhadores – Brazil**

**Akhar Bandyopadhyay, Bhagat**

**Singh's Socialist India**

**Socialist Fight – Britain**

**Workers Socialist League – USA**

**Tendência Militante Bolchevique – Argentina**

**Communist Revolutionary Action – Greece**

The year 2018 sees the deepening of the threat of WWII primarily from the USA. The main trends of the world class struggle in 2018 highlight that the empire struck back and regained a part of the planet lost to the Eurasian bloc after the economic crisis of 2008. The US has declared a trade war against China and imposed new sanctions on that country, Russia and Iran. In recent years, through various mechanisms of hybrid warfare, coups, media bombings and fraudulent elections, the US regained neo-colonialism in Latin America (Brazil, Argentina, Peru, Ecuador, Chile, Paraguay, Honduras). Stabilizing relations at its core with Europe, between the United States, England and France, imperialism once again has the main target of the dispute in the Middle East, refusing to accept defeat to the Eurasian bloc in Syria (Russia, Syria, Iran, Hezbollah) and they are set to break the agreements signed by the Obama administration. Allied with Israel, it has resumed hostilities against Iran, threatening to nullify the agreements signed in 2015; it supplies heavy weapons (including missiles) to Ukraine, breaking what was established in the 2015 Minsk peace agreement.

Similarly, imperialism wage the asymmetric warfare called Lawfare, internal agents of imperialism use the legal system against their national bourgeois enemies. They have used it against Brazil, Zimbabwe (though this combined was clear aspects of a coup), South Africa, and Armenia. And Venezuela Afghanistan, Bangladesh/Myanmar, Cameroon, Colombia, Egypt, Iraq, Tunisia, and Ukraine are all instable semi-colonies where the CIA and the agents of imperialism are working overtime to secure regime change or defend regimes already installed against revolts of the working class and poor.

The imperative is to secure imperialist domination over not only Syria but also over Iran and ultimately over Russia and China by balkanisation and regime change. This involves the crippling of all and every Arab and Middle Eastern regime, whether autocratic or democratic, that shows the slightest

potential to stand up to Israel in the Middle East and North Africa.

*The New York Times* commented that with the dismissal of the more moderate H.R. McMaster and the appointment of the warmongering John Bolton on 21 March, just a week after dismissing the more moderate Rex Tillerson and the appointment of CIA Director Mike Pompeo, Trump now has “the most radically aggressive foreign policy team around the American president in modern memory.”

The torture advocate Gina Haspel, Trump's nomination as the new CIA chief, yet to be approved by Congress, makes up the trio of reaction. The supposed rapprochement with Kin Jong-un and North Korea is merely a temporary tactical retreat in that arena whilst war is prepared in the Middle East and Ukraine.

### ARGENTINA

Since the FED - the federal reserve of the United States - began to raise the interest rate, Argentina has suffered from the flight of dollars. USA attracts capital from all over the world and speculative capital is beginning to withdraw from Argentina. The Argentine central bank is attempting to stop the run on the exchange rate and the fall of the reserves and the economic turbulence that generates. Thus the entire government of Macri is pushing ahead with the adjustment, by rising tariffs, inflation, etc. Adjustment that the government of the right deepens in a context where it is unable to resolve Argentina's relationship with the world market and activate the “engines of growth”, as seen with fiscal deficit and especially the trade deficit. This situation can be maintained only as long as it can continue to build up its external indebtedness. When that snowball of the indebtedness is over, we will witness a big debt crisis.

In order to impose its adjustment, the pro-imperialist government needs to deepen its repressive orientation as it has already been doing by persecuting popular fighters. In a context where, because of its neo-colonialist contradictions, the right marches to liquidate the country economically as it did during the ¡Que se vayan todos! (“All of them must go!”) uprising that broke out in 2001. The hybrid war continues in the judicial persecution of the Kichnerism, the political group of supporters of the late Néstor Kirchner, President of Argentina from 2003 to 2007; and of his wife Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, President from 2007 until 2015, for the crushing of the most timid of the nationalist opposition.



**Brazil's ex-president Lula surrenders to the prison**

That is why the working class must take advantage of the situation of capitalist crisis that is coming to give a political response, combining the united front of the masses against imperialism and its national agents, with the struggle for its independent organization in a revolutionary party to fight for the power and not to fall prey to the tendency of the petty-bourgeois impotence how use the slogan hoping “that it will all go away”, etc.

### BRAZIL

The parliamentary coup d'état in Brazil in 2016 may have been the most important victory of imperialism in its battles for its hybrid war and revenge campaign against the rise of the BRICS. To ensure that the Workers' Party does not rule again, they arrested their leader, the former labourer Lula, through a fraudulent and typical trial of dictatorial regimes, and kept him in solitary confinement, politically neutralising and transforming him into a new Brazilian Nelson Mandela. The coup is wiping out each and every one of the workers' social achievements. The freezing of state social spending for 20 years is rapidly sapping with the health, education and wages of state workers. Official unemployment has reached more than 14 million people, public debt is 59% of GDP and last year extreme poverty grew 35% in the country's largest metropolitan and industrial region, Sao Paulo.

These anti-worker reforms will promote an extreme precariousness of labour, a new slavery. The privatisation of the state assets, oil and energy, in particular, will mean a new colonisation. State sponsored fascism, with its increasingly systematic physical attacks, assassinations such as that of the black socialist alderwoman Marielle Franco, and the threat of a military coup, which began with the intervention of the Army in Rio de Janeiro, are instruments of imperialism and the bourgeoisie to frighten the workers and facilitate the expropriation of the rights of the people. Dialectically, this offensive of the





current rate of expansion. Powell acknowledges that “the difference, of course, is in productivity, which had double the growth rate in the early 2000s than now. And from a broader perspective, the average rate of growth in labour productivity, from 2010 to date, is the slowest since World War II, and about a quarter of the average postwar rate.

The fall in productivity is a generalised factor, “not only in the US, but also reflects the disqualification of the generation of new jobs that are increasingly precarious, disqualified, unproductive and that impoverish the consumer market, also weakening the capital movement and consumption of goods. As a measure of the economic war, the Fed has announced that it will raise its benchmark interest rate to 1.75%, a steady rise, which began in 2015 and is expected to continue to rise in the coming years. It is an anti-crisis measure, to guard against capital flight, attracting dollars and speculative investments from the rest of the world. So that it does not affect big US capital, or a recession is created, fiscal stimulus was approved through huge tax cuts of around \$1.5 trillion, and \$300 billion in additional indirect government transfers to corporations. But the working class and the petty bourgeoisie will suffer from rising interest rates on credit cards, mortgages, auto and home loans, and other lines of credit that do not have flat rates.

Trump imposed the most severe income tax reform for the middle class in recent years, benefiting corporations, mainly real estate speculation. The internal plunder of the proletariat, the expansion of the gains of the imperialist bourgeoisie and the reconquest of the lost international space for Russia and China in the American continent, allow Trump to ensure a level of political stabilisation within the imperialist superclass to renegotiate with France and Germany and re-establish US leadership on the world stage. The farce of a humanitarian protector is maintained, but now the US collectively demands the NATO partners share the cost of defence and military adventures. In this way Trump fulfils the promises of reducing unemployment, US primacy over others (America

First!) and the resumption of the US initiative in the conduct of world politics, with a strategic plan, to defeat Russia and China. The United States feels threatened by the growth of the BRICS. Thus, the Trump era announces the end of rights established after World War II, the elimination of labour rights, social security, humanitarian protections for immigrants. Racial internal warfare is fuelled by neo-Nazi appeals. This is an attempt to shift the attention of the poor white working class from its current chaotic situation.

The capitalist crisis is solved by the entrance onto the scene of fascist elements in the social control that ensures enslavement of the working class. The phenomenon of overexploitation of the labour force, which are paid less than the minimum necessary for its reproduction, is amplified. Wall Street has never made so much money and entrepreneurs are all satisfied. Heroically resisting this capital offensive, in several states, West Virginia, Kentucky, Oklahoma, Arizona, workers are taking to the streets, with teachers at the forefront, moving toward wage increases, rising welfare education cuts, cuts that have cut classes to four days a week in some schools. Even though strikes were declared illegal by the judiciary, and despite the treacherous policies of the democratic trade union leadership, thousands of teachers were striking red and reviving the class struggle at the heart of the imperialist monster. Each victory of these workers is part of humanity's victory against barbarism.

## INDIA

Currently, India's political condition is within a decadent phase. India's growing indebtedness to the World bank/International Monetary Fund (WB-IMF) has contributed to the rise of the far-right fascist elements. With the far-rights in the power at the centre, a fascist trend is on the move. Religious fundamentalism, communalism and casteism are the deadly weapons of the existing ruling class which it uses to repress the protesting mass activities. Frequent talks about creating a united federal front of all the so-called ‘anti-fascist parties’ (all of which are bourgeois parliamentary parties) in a common alliance under a common minimum programme are beginning to be heard in the political atmosphere of India. Growing insecurity on the part of the oppressed castes and other minorities in reached a fearful height. Farmers' suicides have increased in a manner which seems to be unstoppable so long as this anti-people fascist politics of hate and intolerance persists. The most-recent farmers' long march in Maharashtra

and farmers' protests in some other states, though exemplary, yet have failed to achieve any long-term success.

The farmers are not yet really breaking from belief in the capitalist agricultural model as the only practical alternative. The Bhartiya Janta Party, a fascist neo-liberal party, is the main catalyst behind this dangerous condition of Indian politics today. It has won over many elections by means of its bourgeois manipulative tactics in a majority of the states of the Indian union. It has, everywhere, allegedly hacked and manipulated the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) to win the elections at any cost. The callousness of the existing communist parties and the BJP's efforts towards excluding the communists and calling them “anti-nationals” has made India a country, where one has to live in a state of constant fear and submissiveness.

The BJP's efforts to create one mono-cultural Hindu nation on the basis of one-language and one-religion undermine and destroy the syncretic culture of our country. The Taj Mahal is generally taken as a powerful symbol of India's treasured shared, syncretic culture. The sense of peaceful coexistence and the freedom of speech and expression which have existed in India are under the threat of this fascist party's increasing influence. The anti-fascist Left students' movement, on the other hand, has gained momentum and plenty of the student leaders have attained national fame. Their focus is now centred on fighting against the evil of fascism. Federal Front politics is not going to destroy fascism and the far-rightist politics in India. Only an anti-fascist Revolutionary Peasants' and Workers' front, guided by the youth trained in Marxist-Leninist theory, can bring about a possible alternative change to a form of politics that will be able to fulfil the rights of the oppressed citizens of India.

The present world situation demands a global anti-imperialist struggle. Neo-Imperialism's death knells are sounding out loud. Whatever be the case, reformism and gradualism are not going to sustain. This is the question of the lives of millions of the exploited working citizens of the world. The oppressed working people of the world are calling for the abolition of the exploitation of humans by humans. Let us study more, organize more, agitate more and fight the final struggle against transnational capital. Let us promise to fulfil the ideals of the May Day Declaration!

## GREECE

Greek capitalism has survived the crisis by imposing a 60-year long austerity on the proletariat. The huge, militant demonstrations of 2010-2012 and the massive wave of radicalization belong to the past. The defeat on the streets combined with the bankruptcy of the



*The march of the Maharashtra unit of the All India Kisan Sabha on its fourth day, 11 March.*



parliamentary road and the full capitulation of SYRIZA to the diktats of the Greek bourgeoisie, the EU and the IMF has left the biggest part of the proletariat demoralized and in the search of individual solutions, especially in the absence of a credible working class political alternative.

Greek capitalism might have lost a large part of its GDP and moved down a few places in the hierarchy chain, but this does not stop it from dreaming of recovering the lost ground through the upgrade of its geopolitical position. It is deepening its alliance with the US and the Zionist state and it is trying to claim huge parts of the Mediterranean Sea, that contain oil and gas, as its own Exclusive Economic Zone at the expense of the peoples of the region. It sells arms to the Saudi murderers, shamelessly supporting them in their almost genocidal war against

the Yemeni people. The US ships that bomb Syria often sail off Greek ports.

In Greece, the time of social protest and class struggle within the acceptable bounds of the previous period is over. This is something that needs to be understood by the vanguard and the movement. The SYRIZA experience provides further proof that there is no way forward but the intransigent struggle against the bourgeoisie and its state.

## CONCLUSION

132 years since the workers' uprising in Chicago and 50 years since May 1968, the international bourgeois reaction may boast that the ghost of communism is gone forever.

They may feel comfortable thinking that the workers' movement is no longer a cause of grave concern. But they have not done away with the Red May Day; not as long as revolution and communism continue to inspire hundreds of thousands of people across the globe. Not as long as the Empire, guarantor of the capitalist order in the planet, is being battered where it reasserts its hegemony, exposing the structural reproductive weakness of a system that lives off its own flesh.

136 years since Chicago, the struggle continues. For the defeat of the Empire in Syria

with the victory of the Syrian Arab Army and its allies. For the defence of the Donbass and the defeat of the NATO-backed fascist forces of Kiev. For the defence of the DPRK against the threats of the imperialist gangsters who reserve for themselves the monopoly in the use of violence across the planet. For the victory of the Ansarullah (Houthis) in Yemen against the US-backed Saudi murderers. For the victory of the Palestinian Intifada against the racist sheriff of imperialism which is the Zionist state. For the defence of the independent governments in Latin America that find themselves at the crosshairs of imperialism and its coupists.

The struggle also continues in the heart of the imperialist metropolises, where bourgeois "democracy" is being transformed into a constant state of exception against immigrants, refugees, Black people, foreigners and all those who are different. Where fascists roam. Where the social gains are being torn apart, with the working class being sentenced to a state of constant austerity and insecurity.

Therein lies the hope of the workers' movement regaining its class pride. Therein shall it rediscover its flag: the red flag of the revolution and communism. Therein shall it rediscover its soul. ▲

## From facing page

munists they murdered.

Later, as capitalist counterrevolution swept much of the world, Saddam Hussein's counterrevolutionary efforts on behalf of U.S. imperialism like invading Iran, murdering Kurds, and killing communists simply were not enough. In their way of looking at things, he was cutting in to imperialist profits. His continuation of a good number of socialist policies, including nationalized oil paying for healthcare and education, needed to be ended. This type of socialist spending on human needs is unacceptable to the U.S. imperial capitalists, as it cuts into their profits. The majority of the PMU are Shias who had huge motivation to fight in the fact that the Wahhabist ISIS fascists were committing genocide against them. The PMU was established by the Shia leadership, but was clear from its beginnings it did not intend to remain only Shia. The PMU also contains Christian, Turkman, Kurd, and Yazidi forces. Other important forces fought as well outside of the PMU. These included Kurdish Peshmerga forces and Kurdish PKK forces. Also fighting against ISIS in Iraq were the Red Army, formed by the Iraqi Communist Party and the internationalist communists of the MLKP.

Trump falsely claims U.S. credit for the defeat of ISIS. He escalated the indiscriminate bombing of major cities when he came into office, killing a lot of civilians, but it was

mostly Russia, Syria, Iran, the Kurdish YPG / YPJ, Hezbollah, and the Iraqi Popular Mobilization Units (PMU), with Iranian backing, that defeated ISIS. Among these was Russia who ended the massive convoys of oil that ISIS was looting from Iraq and Syria and refining with the help of U.S. ally Turkey, the destination of the oil convoys. Obama didn't touch those convoys and didn't try to get Turkey to stop accepting it. Russia, as an early major act of their entry into the war, bombed the oil convoys and cut off an important part of the capitalist financing of ISIS.

There is no problem in the world that U.S. imperialist intervention won't make worse. Whatever any country's problems are, as today western imperialist propaganda both lies and greatly exaggerates what they are in Syria, Iran, and North Korea, but whatever those problems are, all of history proves that U.S. imperialist invasions and U.S. backed capitalist counterrevolutions are far worse. From the U.S. making Libya safe for slavery again to the mass murder and chaos the U.S. caused in Iraq, the lesson is clear, nations may well need weapons of mass destruction to defend themselves from the United States. This is part of why communists defend the right of Iran to a nuclear energy program, whether or not its intent was to build nuclear weapons, and we support North Korea's right to an armed nuclear self-defence.

The secular coalition the Iraqi Communist

Party has formed with Shia cleric Moqtada al-Sadr may well offer radical solutions to Iraq's problems imposed by U.S. imperialism. Strong campaigns are being waged against this coalition by the U.S. imposed puppet establishment. The more successful they are, the more likely they will come under more imperialist attack as well. In such events, it will be important for anti-imperialists, peace activists, Arab nationalists, supporters of secularism, trade unionists, communists, and socialists of all other stripes around the world to defend Iraq's right to their own representation and their own government as part of regaining Iraq's self-determination

**For Socialism! For Secularism! Against Sectarianism!**

**U.S. Imperialists Out of The Middle East!**

**U.S. Troops and Mercenaries Out of Iraq, Syria, and Afghanistan!**

**End the Colonial Occupation of The Green Zone!**

**Down with The Corrupt Sectarian Shia Government of U.S. Imperialism in Iraq!**

**End the Uninvited U.S., Turkish, and Israeli Military Occupations of Syria!**

**End U.S. Military Aid to The Sunni Supremacist Fascists Fighting to Overthrow Secular Government of Bashar al-Assad!**

**End the U.S. Led Economic Blockades of Iran, Syria, Gaza, Qatar and Yemen!▲**



## Anti-Imperialists Come In First And Second in Iraq's Election Communists in Coalition with Shia Cleric Moqtada al-Sadr

By Steven Argue, Revolutionary Tendency

The following article by Steve Argue appeared in the Revolutionary Tendency's Facebook page on 14 May, following from his 12 May article before the election. Below is a shortened version for space reasons. The full article is here: <https://www.facebook.com/RevolutionaryTendency/posts/1883070061705682>

### Iraqi Communist Party & Moqtada al-Sadr Coalition Projected Winner Iranian Backed Hadi al-Amiri Coming in Second

Celebrators have poured out into the streets of Iraq in response to announcements of preliminary unexpected results. With 95% of votes counted, preliminary results of the Iraqi elections indicate that the secular anti-establishment and anti-imperialist coalition of the Iraqi Communist Party and Shia cleric Moqtada al-Sadr has come in first in the Iraqi elections. The Iranian backed slate of Shia leader Hadi al-Amiri is coming in second. Hadi al-Amiri literally fought on the side of Iran during Saddam Hussein's U.S. backed war against Iran. Both defeated the sectarian Shia U.S. puppet regime of Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi whose bloc is coming in third. Earlier security and commissions sources had earlier said al-Abadi was the winner.

I attach an article I wrote and put out the day before the election which, I'm happy to say, got high recommendations from Iraqis themselves.

### May 12 Elections in Iraq: Communists in Coalition with Shia Cleric Moqtada al-Sadr

By Steven Argue

Running as part of a secular coalition that includes the Iraqi Communist Party is Shia cleric Moqtada al-Sadr against the U.S. imposed puppet regime of Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi. The communists and the forces of Moqtada al-Sadr have been in an alliance since 2015 that has been protesting in the streets demanding anti-sectarian reforms, better public services, and an end to corruption. These protests are a major movement that included a protest of nearly a million people held in Baghdad's Tahrir Square February 26, 2016.

This is a protest movement and election campaign against the U.S. imposed puppet regime of Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi and the corrupt sectarian system the United



These protests are a major movement that included a protest of nearly a million people held in Baghdad's Tahrir Square February 26, 2016.

States has imposed on Iraq. This spells an important secular nationalist challenge to the system the U.S. set-up after the invasion, one that promotes external control and manipulation through narrow sectarian division and corrupt patronage-only politics. In a 2003 CBS interview, soon after the U.S. invasion of Iraq, Moqtada al-Sadr said, "The little serpent has left, and the great serpent [the United States] has come." Moqtada al-Sadr and his Mahdi Army resisted the U.S. occupation of Iraq earning him (under U.S. corporate media standards) being named the most dangerous man of the year on the cover of Newsweek in 2006.

In the fight against the Sunni supremacist fascists of ISIS, Moqtada al-Sadr's Peace Companies participated in offensive operations that included the liberation of Jurf Al Nasr in October 2014 and Tikrit in March 2015. At the same time, Moqtada al-Sadr opposed all U.S. troop participation in the campaign against ISIS, declaring their continued status as legitimate military targets for attack in resistance to the U.S. occupation and opposed to all U.S. intervention, including U.S. bombing.

Moqtada al-Sadr's Peace Companies were part of the Iraqi Popular Mobilization Units (PMU) of about 100,000 fighters that played a central role in defeating ISIS in Iraq. There are 70 different ideological militia groupings within the PMU, many of which get Iranian backing. They are Iraqis, yet U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson laughably declared it time for them to leave Iraq after they defeated ISIS. While the PMU did get essential Iranian backing in the fight to defeat ISIS, reality is, the foreign troops that don't belong in Iraq are the U.S. troops. Fact is, the Iraqi Popular Mobilization Units (PMU) became necessary because Iraqi mili-

tary crumbled in the face of a relatively few ISIS soldiers. This is because they are a U.S. puppet without heart, working for a pay check. The most powerful militias of the PMU all fought against the troops of the U.S. occupation and, at times, the Iraqi military. These were the Peace Brigades, the Badr Organization, al-Nujaba, Asaib Ahl al-Haq, and Kitaeb Hezbollah. The official Iraqi military lacks popular support both for its attacks on these militias and its sectarian crimes against Sunnis. That is not to say independent Shia militias haven't carried out sectarian crimes as well, but the idea of the U.S. imposed Iraqi military being a less sectarian moderating influence over the anti-imperialist militias is pure nonsense.

The Iraqi Communist Party opposed the US invasion of Iraq in 2003. Their resistance to the U.S. occupation, however, was not consistent. In 2014, the Iraqi Communist Party organized in the Red Army in response to the threat of inhalation at the hands of the Sunni supremacist fascists of ISIS after they spilled over from the U.S. sponsored counterrevolutionary war in Syria. Red Army fighters have been credited with a battle victory with dozens of ISIS casualties in a fight near Baghdad. The Iraqi Communist Party also presently has an elected representative in Iraq's national parliament. The Iraqi Communist Party was a major force in Iraqi politics in the 1950's and 60's. With CIA assistance, it was mostly wiped out through the execution of thousands in the 1960's after the Baathist Party and Saddam Hussein were brought to power, also with U.S. backing. Much of the secular, pro-woman, and socialist nature of the regime of Saddam Hussein can be credited to the socialist government the Baathists smashed and the com-

See facing page

# **IDF massacres over 100 in Gaza: overthrow the racist state, for a multi-ethnic workers' state of Palestine!**

## **Reinstate Marc Wadsworth, Tony Greenstein, reject the expulsions of Ken Livingstone, Jackie Walker and all Palestinian defenders!**

The cold blooded massacre of 60 defenceless Palestinians on 14 May following the murders of almost 50 in the previous weeks, the deliberate maiming and wounding of thousands who posed no threat to the soldiers are horrendous war crimes. Surely the stomachs of every socialist, democrat and humanitarian turned at the sight of such barbarism and then, on the very same day and at the very time these crimes were being committed, to see Netanyahu and Trump celebrating the moving of the capital of the Zionist state to Jerusalem and talking and justice and peace, has enraged us all.

The Labour Left has been plunged into something of a crisis in the last few weeks. Instead of just going after individual members of the Labour Party, the ruling class and its overt political servants in the Labour Party have gone for Jeremy Corbyn himself.

So the Tories, their Blairite friends in Labour and bourgeois elements of the Jewish population, who see Corbyn as a long-time supporter of the Palestinians and therefore an enemy of Israel, have gone for the jugular and have so far succeeded only too well.

### **A tidal-wave of smears**

Blairite MP Luciana Berger's attack on him by for having, in 2012, queried the removal of a mural in Brick Lane depicting Wall Street banker-capitalists playing Monopoly on the backs of the world's poor — as supposedly defending 'anti-Semitism' —, (see overleaf) was the trigger for a tidal-wave of smears from the reactionary media, Blairites and Zionists.

Corbyn forced his close ally, Christine Shawcroft, to resign both as head of the National Constitutional Committee and from the NEC, for defending yet another falsely accused victim. This capitulation is characteristic of the ideological formlessness of the Labour left, its pacifism, its failure to understand that imperialist capitalism is an implacable enemy of the working class movement which will resort to every method that comes to hand to defeat Labour even as a resurgent social democratic party.

As on all these things, you give an inch to the reactionaries and they take a mile. Corbyn capitulated and apologised, and a whole swathe of the left went along with that. Then the Board of Deputies of British Jews, dominated by Tory and Blairite Zionists, together with the Zionist provocateur so-called 'Campaign Against Anti-Semitism' (CAA) — a fake charity tolerated by the venal Charity Commission that does

not campaign against racism at all but systematically concocts lies against anti-racists who campaign against the racist Israeli state — organised a demonstration in Parliament Square on 26 March, denouncing Corbyn as being supportive of anti-Semites and Holocaust-deniers.

A smaller counter-demonstration was called at very short notice by Jewish Voice for Labour, and some other left groups such as Labour Against the Witchhunt participated, but Momentum itself was notable by its absence. The CAA also picketed Labour party HQ in Victoria street on Sunday 8 April. About 40 Union Jacks and only 4 Israeli flags seen. It looked just like a fascist mobilisation. One speaker called Corbyn a Nazi and another, who had the cheek to assert Jeremy Corbyn was not anti-Semitic, was howled down by the enraged racist bigots.

Corbyn, McDonnell, the Momentum leadership under Jon Lansman, the Morning Star's Mary Davis etc., have capitulated and made great concessions to this attack. Mary Davis objected to Livingstone's column in the *Morning Star* in May 2016:

*"It is thus hugely embarrassing on our paper's part to offer Livingstone this lifeline at the present moment and serves to muddy the waters among our allies while at the same time detracting from our own stated opposition to anti-Semitism."*

He still writes that column, not all have capitulated like that. Meanwhile, in the real world, on Good Friday Palestinians in the Gaza strip, who were ethnically cleansed from what is now Israel decades ago and have lived in a nightmarish, impoverished and brutal exile ever since, began a civil rights march, the Great March of Return, to claim the right to return to their homes that even the UN admit is their right.

Such things mean little in the face of racist brutality; the Israelis used 100 snipers to strafe the marchers with live ammunition; deliberately using explosive bullets to maim as many as possible by blowing big holes in arms, legs etc, they shot over 1000 people.



May 14, 2018: Top: Benjamin Netanyahu, his wife and Senior White House Advisers Jared Kushner and Ivanka Trump applaud during the dedication ceremony of the new U.S. embassy in Jerusalem. Below: At the same time the real truth about Israel emerges; the contrast between the facial expressions of the brutal war criminals and their victims could not be clearer.

But they also shot to kill; and unarmed youth running across fields, and even women in full-length Islamic dress, were killed by snipers in material that was quickly made available online.

This affected the 3 May Council elections where a weak image of Corbyn capitulating to the Board of Deputies of British Jews and writing an appalling grovelling article in the *Evening Standard* promising to do as they demanded averted a major political blow to the Tories in loss of councils and seats.

### **Bogus anti-Semitism in Labour and real murderous Zionist racism in Gaza**

While the Labour Party was consumed with a fake angst about non-existent 'left' anti-Semitism, real murderous racism went unremarked for the most part until now. Until 14 May the Zionist groups in Labour had nothing to say about the shooting and killing; Labour Friends of Israel, Jewish Labour Movement and Progress, all kept quiet. They all defend the ethnic cleansing of Palestine, so could hardly condemn the shooting of Palestinians trying by a civil rights march to exercise their right to return. But the BOD put out its own statement blaming



Hamas for the killing, supposedly using the victims as 'human shields', and the LFI have now followed the BOD:

***"Tragic events on the Gazan border; all civilian deaths are regrettable. Hamas must accept responsibility for these events. Their successful attempt to hijack peaceful protest as cover to attack Israeli border communities must be condemned by all who seek peace in the Middle East."***

Surely such sentiments are incompatible with membership of the Labour party. Corbyn himself was late in condemning the killings over Easter weekend, 15 hours after Gerry Adams, for instance. Condemnation now is forced upon him and Emily Thornberry by the horrific nature of this latest slaughter.

The long history of Zionism in Labour is crucially important in that respect; for instance, Labour in 1941, during WWII but seven years before the Naqba, voted a policy at its conference in favour of the 'transfer' (expulsion) of Arabs from Palestine to make way for the Jewish state.

Obviously, on the question of Zionism, we need a new left. False allegations of anti-Semitism are a potent weapon against the Labour left because of this history, and because, while the Nazi holocaust discredited anti-Semitism and most other forms of racism, one paradoxical outcome was also that political Zionism, whose very foundation is the ethnic cleansing of Arabs and is therefore itself a racist ideology, remained as the only socially and intellectually acceptable form of racism.

This has enabled it to become ideologically hegemonic, and the historic Zionism of Labour, including the Labour left, means that this racist ideology has considerable influence even on the Labour left.

**We must form a new Labour left that, as an immediate minimum, totally breaks from this form of racism.**

It would have been unthinkable that overt supporters of past racist states such as Nazi Germany and apartheid South Africa could exist within Labour. But Israel has a

different history vis-à-vis Labour and a real hold, thanks to Israel's pseudo-left history, the long-established role of Poale Zion (JLM predecessor) in Labour, and Blairism. Tony Benn and Eric Hefner were members of the LFI until the 1982 Lebanon war.

### **End bogus anti-Semitism expulsions and suspensions, reinstate all the expelled leftists!**

We must demand and end to the draconian auto expulsion clause where Labour members were expelled without a hearing or right of appeal. Socialist Fight's Gerry Downing, Stan Keable of the Labour party Marxists, also suspended by Labour-run Hammersmith & Fulham Council, many supporters of Socialist Appeal and even supporter of the pro-Zionist AWL, despite the latter's political assistance to the right wing in endorsing the bogus charge of left wing anti-Semitism. Socialist Resistance's Fred Leplat is the latest victim we must defend, in spite of his comrade, Roland Rance, voting to expel Socialist Fight from Labour Against the Witchhunt in the vain hope of escaping the witchhunt.

We must fight for the reinstatement all socialist expelled by Labour; Tony Greenstein, Marc Wadsworth and others and fight against the expulsion of Jackie Walker and Ken Livingstone. Tony and Jackie are Jewish, expelled for anti-Semitism, Marc's expulsion was obviously racist and Ken's expulsion is the big prize the Zionist want; his is a history of defending the Palestinian going back some 40 years, and they have tried and failed to get him many times in the past.

We must grasp this nettle if the Labour left is to advance, we must form a bloc around a simple point; to defend real Labour democracy. To enable the left to go forward Labour must proscribe Zionist racism. Labour must declare support for the genocidal acts of Israel against the Palestinians to be incompatible with Labour membership. **Proscribe LFI, JLM, Progress and any other trend that justifies the slaughter of Pales-**



When Corbyn accepted this mural as anti-Semitic a vast layer of Labour lefts followed him in this crucial act of capitulation. It was now accepted that finance capitalism itself was synonymous with Jewish bankers and therefore it was anti-semitic to oppose capitalism in general. After all a key point of Lenin's 1916 book *Imperialism, the highest stage of Capitalism* was that finance capital dominated capitalism in general in the epoch of imperialism.

Clearly the mural is a condemnation of the entire capitalist establishment. If Zionists are offended it is because they empathise with that establishment and thus contribute to the old prejudices of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion and the anti-Semitic conspiracy charge against all Jews. They seek to remove Corbyn because they fear that the leftward surge in the mass base of the Labour party threatens capitalism itself because the general election result showed a left surge in the working class as a whole.

The US artist who painted the mural, Kalen Ockerman, has identified the early 20th century men, left to right as, "Rothschild, Rockefeller, Morgan, Carnegie, Warburg and Aleister Crowley". Two, Rothschild and Warburg, were from families of German Jewish bankers. Three others were bankers and leading US capitalists.

Aleister Crowley was an English occultist and magician, who founded a cultist religion called Thelema, still with followers. He was a vile racist and anti-Semite denouncing Jews for their "avarice, servility, falseness, cunning and the rest". Portraying him as an oppressor, thus condemning anti-Semitism, is now anti-Semitic!

The placard reads: "The new world order is the enemy of humanity" – the rebel clenched fist is arguably a condemnation of the 'end of history' triumphalism of George Bush senior after the first Gulf War and the fall of the Berlin Wall and of the USSR. The machine cogs and furnace fires are capitalist oppression, the all-seeing eye is on all US dollars and indicates US world domination via a ridiculous Illuminati conspiracy theory, not anti-Semitism.

It is also inspirational; if the oppressed masses of the world listen to the man on the left and rise up and the game is over for the masters of life! ▲

The expulsion of Marc Wadsworth from the Labour Party on 27 April was a racist act, pure and simple. But although the charge of bringing the party into disrepute was a pack of lies, it was endorsed by the Labour Party's National Constitutional Committee and Marc was duly expelled. The body is still Blairite dominated, but actually Jeremy Corbyn, as with all the recent travesties of justice and racist expulsions by this body, could have destroyed politically its ability to victimise left-wing activists by publicly denouncing the lies, solidary with the victims, and mobilising the mass membership of the party to besiege the fraudulent proceedings in solidarity with the victims. Something like this could have been done ages ago and stopped the fraudulent 'anti-Semitism' witchhunt dead; the reason that it has not is because Jeremy Corbyn has capitulated politically to the pro-Zionist trends within the Labour Party, and is now, albeit shamefacedly, dancing to their tune. ▲

## No to Stalinist Lies about the Spanish Socialist Revolution! Dolores Ibárruri was a Counterrevolutionary Murderer!

By Tony Fox

**K**en Loach's *Land and Freedom* showed a huge audience of youth and workers the counterrevolutionary role of Stalinism in the Spanish Civil War. She defended the Stalinist two stage theory of revolution where it was proposed that the main task was to defend bourgeois democracy and the working class had to wait for socialism until 'democracy' was restored. The real purpose was to maintain Stalin's alliance with Churchill, Roosevelt and France, the "democratic imperialists" against Hitler and Mussolini, the "fascist" imperialists.

Therefore socialist revolution could not be tolerated in Spain, lest these "allies" were alienated. And those who fought for it had to be shot to maintain the Popular Front. Hitler then had to be appeased – the Republic was not yet cold in its grave when Molotov signed his pact with Ribbentrop in August 1939. And today a broad array of radical artists and trade union 'left' bureaucrats are seeking to burnish their leftism by association with a supposedly revolutionary or at least a very radical leftist individual.

### Who was Dolores Ibárruri?

Dolores Ibárruri was a revolutionary fighter politically corrupted by the counter-revolutionary politics of Stalinism to betray her class. She described the fighting in the streets of Barcelona in May 1937 as a 'fascist anarcho-trotskyist putsch'. This word had the advantage that it labelled all revolutionary opponents of the bourgeoisie in Spain as agents of Franco. She was the public face of Stalinism whose NKVD agents hunted down and executed thousands of revolutionary fighters from the United Marxist Workers Party (POUM), National Confederation of Workers (CNT) and the Iberian Anarchist Federation (FAI) on the basis that if you did not support bourgeois parliamentarianism you were a fascist.

By armed insurrection the Spanish workers had seized the factories, collectivised the land and set up their own popular committees which ruled the local areas; this was actual workers' rule which only lacked a workers' state or a revolutionary junta to organise it in the parts of Spain where they had thwarted Franco's coup. There are no words for this other than the socialist revolution.

The tasks that Ibárruri's Stalinists set themselves were firstly, to prevent this revolution from seizing state power, secondly, to reverse its gains in order to cement an alliance with Britain and France, and thirdly, when this failed, to neutralise the threat from Hitler by signing a pact with him in which they naively placed their full confidence.

### Kidnapping and Execution of the POUM Leader Andrés Nin

The Stalinist General Alexander Orlov used his NKVD agents to deal with left-wing opponents of the Communists in Republican held areas. This included the arrest and execution of leaders of the POUM, CNT and FAI. He was responsible for fabricating the evidence which led to the arrest and purge of the leaders of the POUM, many of whom vanished. The evidence also proves he directed the kidnapping and execution of the POUM leader Andrés Nin on 20 June 1937.

In a report to his superiors in Moscow, dated August 1937, Orlov outlined his plan for the capture and liquidation of the Austrian Socialist Kurt Landau. He built a crematorium for the untraceable disposal of enemies. Erwin Wolf, Trotsky's former secretary, and Mark Rein, son of a Menshevik leader,

disappeared in Spain, the victims of Orlov's terror.

Members of the International Brigade were directly implicated in murder of Andrés Nin. After Nin had refused to make a false confession, and faced with the problem of covering up the appalling tortures the POUM leader had suffered at the hands of NKVD general Alexander Orlov, it was the Italian International Brigader Vittorio Vidali who, according to Hernández's account, organised a group of German brigaders masquerading as fascists to raid the prison where Nin was held and "liberate" him. Nin was then killed and his mutilated body buried somewhere along the road between Alcalá de Henares and Perales de Tajuña.

Grovelling to Hitler Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov declared in Autumn 1939:

*"During the last few months such concepts as 'aggression' and 'aggressor' have acquired a new concrete content, have taken on another meaning...Now...it is Germany that is striving for a quick end to the war, for peace, while England and France, who only yesterday were campaigning against aggression, are for continuation of the war and against concluding a peace. Roles, as you see, change...The ideology of Hitlerism, like any other ideological system, can be accepted or rejected - that is a matter of one's political views. But everyone can see that an ideology cannot be destroyed by force...Thus it is not only senseless, it is criminal to wage such a war as a war for 'the destruction of Hitlerism,' under the false flag of a struggle for democracy."*

### Why the Truth Matters

Does it matter today who did what in Spain so long ago? The International Brigaders were brave fighters even if they did not understand anything about the socialist revolution and believed everything they were told by Stalin's professional liars. But it is only on the basis of the truth that we can even begin to fight anew for the socialist revolution and communist future.

In truth neither the POUM nor the CNT/FAI leaders provided any revolutionary alternative to Stalinism, and ultimately betrayed the revolution themselves.

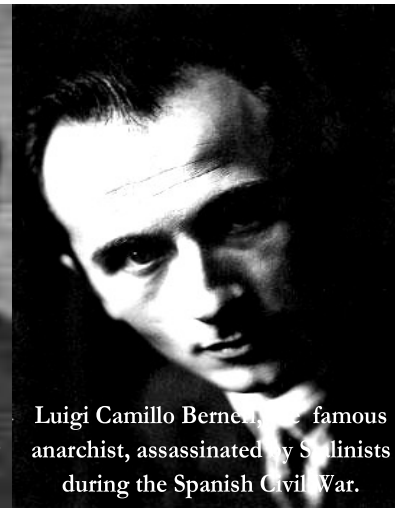
They had entered the anti-working class Popular Front in the Catalan Generalitat government and refused to support the Barcelona working class in the terrible May Days of 1937 when the revolution was bloodily suppressed by the Stalinists and right Socialists.

However they had the overwhelming bulk of the best revolutionists in their ranks, the left Socialist followers of Largo Caballero had many also but the right Socialist of Indalecio Prieto and Ibárruri's Stalinists had none and stood on the counterrevolutionary right of all the working class forces in Spain at the time. The bourgeoisie themselves had almost no support in these revolutionary times.

Ibárruri's glorification and rehabilitation is supported by leading trade union bureaucrats; 'TUC Deputy General Secretary Frances O'Grady, Unison and the RMT' and the Morning Star/CPB supporters of the Stalinist-led International Brigades.



Dolores Ibárruri, "La Pasionaria".  
Trotskyists and Anarchists called her  
"La Assassinaria"



Luigi Camillo Bernecker - famous  
anarchist, assassinated by Stalinists  
during the Spanish Civil War.

Why do they want to sanitise the bloody counterrevolutionary history of Stalinism in Spain, which exactly mirrored the monstrous fraud of the contemporaneous Moscow Trials where all the remaining leaders of the Russian Revolution, Lenin's Central Committee, perished under Stalin's terror?

Of course it is to defend their own record in dealing with the British working class and to insist that there is no alternative to this class collaboration. So the history of the most class conscious, revolutionary socialist era in the history of the world working class, the revolutionary offensive of the Spanish workers from 1936-39, must be falsified and denigrated and its champions, from the best to the very inadequate ones, labelled as fascists to deny all workers the aspiration of a socialist future. They will not succeed!

They are allowing Theresa May to destroy the welfare state, they acquiesce in the foul anti-immigrant campaigns of the governments which is assisting the rise of the fascists and they are clearly announcing that when revolutionary struggles break out in Britain they will seek to compromise these to defeat in order to defend capitalism and maintain their privileges within the system, just as they betray all serious struggles for even partial gains by the working class today. They know the truth of Spain but they do not want the working class to know it lest they seek an alternative revolutionary socialist leadership. We will fight to let the working class know the truth.

All serious revolutionary socialists and anarchists should cooperate in fighting these falsifications of history which prepare new betrayals by the trade union bureaucrats and Labour leaders. ▲



A POUM Civil War poster rallying the peasantry. They entered the Generalitat Popular Front government and betrayed the Spanish workers and their own followers particularly in the 'May Days' of 1937 in Barcelona.

**Leon Trotsky: I am confident of the victory of the Fourth International; Go Forward!**