

## Why the UK Establishment Hates Jeremy Corbyn

By Johanna Ross

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He's been termed a 'national security risk' and an 'enemy of the state' by the mainstream media. On Sky News recently former Conservative and Times columnist Matthew Parris referred to his 'mad' conspiracy theories as he discussed with other journalists the danger of him being elected to power. One might think they were discussing a terrorist or criminal, but instead it was none other than Jeremy Corbyn, leader of the opposition, whose only crime has been to speak out against the harmful aspects of Britain's foreign policy in recent years. Against regime change wars, against arms sales to Saudi Arabia and a supporter of Palestine - Corbyn has openly contradicted the establishment position for decades. Why? Because, like most conscious individuals, he deemed it to be immoral.

You see the problem with Jeremy Corbyn is that he tells the truth. Lord Finkelstein, writing in The Times on Wednesday, wrote a piece designed to send shivers down the spine of Britain's most ardent capitalists. 'How Lenin inspired Corbyn's world view' it was entitled, as he tried to persuade the public that the Labour leader threatens everything the UK establishment stands for. He quotes from a 2011 <u>foreword</u> written by Corbyn to the book Imperialism, in which he wrote,

"Since World War Two, the big imperial force has been the United States on behalf of global capitalism and the biggest, mostly US-based corporations. The propaganda for this has presented itself as a voice for 'freedom' and carefully and consciously conflated it with market economics."

He goes further to suggest that Soviet expansionism was different from that of the US:

"The influence of the Soviet Union around the world was huge, but tempered by an inadequate industrial base in comparison to the United States and the ruinously expensive arms race that hastened its decline, and eventual collapse in 1990. But the Soviet influence was always different, and its allies often acted quite independently."

These 'dangerous' opinions are of course opposed by the establishment, whose very existence depends on a flourishing capitalist order.

The reason this subject has resurfaced of late is, of course, because of the 70th anniversary of NATO. This military alliance, consistently portrayed in the West as a force only for good in the world, has been criticised by Corbyn in the past for its 'obsession with Cold War politics' and for provoking Russia through its expansion into Eastern Europe. Describing it as a 'US tool' for shaping policy in Europe, in his 2014 Corbyn article entitled 'NATO belligerence endangers us all' has dared to venture into territory that no other UK politician would dare go into. Suggesting that there were 'huge questions surrounding the West's intentions in

Ukraine', that NATO has been wrongly allowed 'to act outside its own area since the Afghan war' and that 'it's time we talked with Russia' are statements strong enough to raise more than a few eyebrows in Westminster. Dismissed as crackpot conspiracy theories, there are very few mainstream journalists and commentators willing to tolerate such views for a second, let alone work out what they might mean.

Thankfully there are some who have been able to see past the propaganda that Corbyn is some kind of 'Soviet sleeper' and terrorist sympathiser intent on undermining national security and destroying Britain's 'special relationship' with the US, and as such he has got to the position he is in. For the reality is that Corbyn's mantra is essentially based on one basic principle: promote peace not war. And that is something which unfortunately is a huge threat to weapons manufacturers, from which the UK made £14bn last year, making it the world's second largest arms exporter.

Therefore the 'deep state', will do everything it can to persuade the British public that Jeremy Corbyn is our enemy. Former MI6 head, Sir Richard Dearlove, writing in the Mail on Sunday last month warned 'do not even think about taking the risk of handing this politician the keys of No.10' as he boasted that neither Corbyn nor many of his close allies would have passed security vetting in order to join the agency. He asserted that Corbyn and his strategist, Seamus Milne, were 'compromised by their past' as they had 'embraced the interests' of Britain's enemies. Dearlove, whose resilience has survived the criticism he faced over his role in the Iraq war, is still be listened to it seems. Indeed, his anti-Corbyn articles have featured regular in the mainstream press in recent years, along with several television interviews. And he is not the only former intelligence officer to have spoken out against Corbyn, despite the fact that the security services are supposed to remain neutral.

A recent article by Mark Kennard illustrates the extent to which this principle is being flouted. He writes "The stories — which quote former or current members of the army, navy and special forces, as well as MI5, MI6 and an ex-senior civil servant — have averaged one every six weeks since Jeremy Corbyn was elected leader of the Labour Party in September 2015. There have, however, been significant spikes in frequency during the 2017 and 2019 general election campaigns." Kennard goes on suggest that intelligence officers have in fact provided journalists in the mainstream media with secret documents as part of what he terms a 'campaign'. It's not hard to agree that this is a strong possibility. In 2018 the government's Integrity Initiative scheme – an intelligence operation involving journalists and academics, designed to counter 'Russian propaganda' – was exposed, and it was found to be openly tweeting against Corbyn. This was one of the first indications that the media campaign against Corbyn could be orchestrated. In a previous interview with Professor David Miller at the University of Bristol, he also told me of the 'unconstitional animus' towards the Labour leader which he said was operating in the same way as the Zinoviev case in 1924.

So the threat Corbyn poses is, in fact nothing new – we've been here before with previous potential socialist governments. With baited breath one awaits the result of next week's election; for if indeed Jeremy Corbyn does gain the keys to No.10 Downing Street we can only imagine what turmoil the establishment will be in...

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Johanna Ross is a journalist based in Edinburgh, Scotland.

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