



Socialist Labour Bulletin

Durham Miners Gala July 9-10 2016, donations 50p

Socialist Labour - Who We Are

Socialist Labour is a bulletin issued by a wide range of Labour Party socialists and trade union militants who want to see the working-class take power in society and create a socialist Britain and world. We welcome any socialists to our discussion groups and open editorial board. We have no political or organisational affiliation to the Socialist Labour Party, led by Arthur Scargill. If you would like to join the discussion group or find out more about Socialist Labour contact:

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Members protest at Labour HQ on Sunday 26 June: ... we support Jeremy Corbyn; no to the neo-liberal Blairite coup



DEFEND JEREMY CORBYN, DEFEAT THE COUP, FOR A LABOUR PARTY GOVERNED BY THE MEMBERS

By Graham Durham Brent Central CLP, Ed. Socialist Labour.
LEN MCCLUSKEY HAS correctly declared the right -wing coup attempt to oust Jeremy Corbyn has failed. The strategy of Hilary Benn, Blair and Mandelson themselves and the other 172 PLP traitors who have defied the Party members who selected and helped them involves, if necessary, wrecking the Labour Party in parliament and handing the Tories the ability to impose further austerity. No price is too high to be paid to prevent the Party choice of leader being allowed to continue.

It is a tribute to the leadership qualities of Jeremy Corbyn and to the strength and energy of Party members who are rallying strongly against the plotters that the coup is failing.

It is an open secret that the resignations of last weekend, the threat to stand a candidate and the ongoing media blitz has occurred not just because of the EU referendum but because the Chilcot report has confirmed that Blair agreed with Bush 8 months before the invasion to join a US assault on Iraq "WHATEVER" to achieve regime change. We also know he lied to us all about the infamous weapons of mass destruction which he knew were not there. Labour MPs who supported the invasion and who now want to oust Corbyn should resign from the party.

Estimates of war dead in Iraq range from hundreds of thousands to a million or more. These are horrific war crime and it is clear Blair should be referred to the Hague for trial or tried here in Britain. He is the "world's worst terrorist" says a woman whose brother was killed in Iraq. Trying individual soldiers and commanders for atrocities is all very well but we must not let "the greater villain loose".

All the PLP selected and in many cases imposed by the Blair /Campbell/Mandelson New Labour machine supported the Iraq war ... those touted as contenders supported as MPs (or from outside the PLP) the Iraq invasion. This is a key reason why they are trying to oust Jeremy Corbyn before he leads for Labour on a response to the war crimes of Bush and Blair.

It is a desperate gamble with our Party - the hope of millions of workers faced with austerity and declining labour rights - and a cynical attempt to defy the Party members.

It is a moment of great danger for our Party - we must resist the Blairites with every ounce of our strength and emerge with a democratic party which opposes austerity and concentrates our fire on the Tories.

Comments on the above:

PG: I hoped that in years to come my future family might be proud their Nan/Great Nan stood in the 2005 General Election as a Blair Babe. Right now I am feeling sick that I was somehow a part of all that. I am proud Labour from my upbringing in Trades Unionism and the struggle of working families to survive all that could be thrown at them. Our Party will survive as long as we remember why it was formed in the first place and put those who need us most first.

SM: Many of these MPs seem to be more concerned with saving their jobs than the future of country and the Labour Party
KJW: Snakes in the grass

LGD: There has to be mass deselection

KU: Ordinary grass root members should now attend local ward meetings to defend JC and put those MPs who have conspired against the LP Leader under notice that such actions will not be tolerated, furthermore those involved in this failed "chicken coup" should be brought to task under party rules!!

OL: A left wing member of the NEC is facing suspension for the usual shallow reasons. All those who have been suspended since last September are on the left. The party is led by Jeremy Corbyn but he isn't in control of the suspension unit. That needs to change as a matter of urgency.

MA: Actually the cross party Westminster boys' club (of which 22 of the Labour turncoats are in) want Jeremy out because they're due to call a National Election & they don't want him given a sniff at becoming PM. Also; the coup is far from over. Of the 60,000 new Labour memberships per week, at least 50% of them are Tories, infiltrating the membership in order to vote against Jeremy. There will be no leadership challenge until the figures are right & no National Election until Jeremy is out of the running. The Blair/Chilcot story is a bit of a "red herring".

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Left-wing anti-semitism is a bogus category; it does not exist!

By Gerry Downing

WHAT IS ANTI-SEMITISM

and what is anti-Zionism?

The source of the current witch hunt against the Labour left is the far right blogger Guido Fawkes (aka Paul Staines) and Zionist organisations like the Jewish Chronicle and then it is pursued by David Cameron and right wing Blairite MPs like John Mann and Wes Streeting. For them antisemitism is the same as anti-Zionism; essentially criticism of actions of the state of Israel against the Palestinians.

In fact Jonathan Arkush, the president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, thinks genuine Nazi-type anti-semites are to be preferred to those 'left anti-Semites' who defend the Palestinians today. On 17 March he said: "It confirms the belief we have had for a long time that there is a real problem of anti-Semitism on the far left, which now eclipses the anti-Semitism that we have always seen coming from the far right."

Really? The fascists that infest the Ukraine government, the only state in the world that honours its Nazi collaborator, Stepan Bandera, who fly their Nazi-era emblems proudly today, who do not deny the Holocaust but celebrate it and want to do it again are better in the considered opinion of Akhurst than left wing supporters of the Palestinians whose sympathy for them sometimes leads them to go over the top in condemning their oppressors by using some antisemitic terms?

I was auto-excluded from the Labour party in August 2015. The reason for the exclusion was given as "as the support you have shown through social media, for the organisation Socialist Fight. Your Twitter account also states "I am a Trotskyist retired bus driver with ambitions to end capitalism on the planet by socialist revolution", which (are) against the aims and values of the Labour Party." I was reinstated on appeal at the end of November as my appeal was accepted as my case was review by a "different NC panel".

I was expelled again on 9 March two hours following a question by David Cameron to Jeremy Corbyn during Prime Minister's Question time, prompted by an article by the right wing Tory blogger Guido Fawkes. There was no hearing and the expulsion letter excluded any right of appeal under the very undemocratic structures set up by Neil Kinnock to expel Militant. I have never done or said an antisemitic thing in my 40 years of leftist political activity.

And then there is Ken Livingstone. Following the hounding of Naz Shah MP for anti-Israel remarks Livingstone stepped in to defend her. In the course of his defence he said: "Let's remember,



Ken Livingstone, anti-Zionist Palestinian supporter, is confronted by right wing Blairite Zionist-sympathizing bigot John Mann MP. Livingstone, who said nothing, is suspended, Mann, who verbally assaulted and physically menaced him, got off with a caution.

when Hitler won his election in 1932, his policy then was that Jews should be moved to Israel — he was supporting Zionism ... This was before he went mad and ended up killing six million Jews". He also said that Hitler's policy initially was to deport Germany's Jews to Israel only. Zionist leaders "had secret meetings with his administration talking about that". These remarks are essentially correct, apart from minor and incon-

sequential mistakes; inaccurate historical facts and analysis.

Israeli historian Tom Segev described it in his book, *The Seventh Million*: "The haavara ("transfer") agreement — the Hebrew term was used in the Nazi documents as well — was based on the complementary interests of the German government and the Zionist movement: the Nazis wanted the Jews out of Germany; the Zionists wanted them to come to Palestine."

That the agreement remained in force until 1942, the middle of World War II. But almost everyone now insists he was not only wrong but antisemitic to speak the truth. Lying is clearly required to avoid these charges. Momentum leader John Lansman celebrated his suspension, saying:

"A period of silence from Ken Livingstone is overdue, especially on anti-semitism racism & Zionism. It's time he left politics altogether ... Ken Livingstone achieved many good things for London and beyond. But all political lives end in failure, and he should now depart voluntarily."

Lansman had instructed local Momentum groups to cease any public comments or debate on the issue surrounding Ken Livingstone's suspension from the Party and then felt free to make the above comment himself, displaying his total contempt for the democratic structures he was supposedly organising in Momentum. Infamously right-wing Blairite MP John Mann MP verbally assaulted Livingstone and physically menaced him for telling these truths, accusing him of being a Hitler apologist.

Outrageously Livingstone was suspended from Labour following this assault and Mann got off with a caution. Lansman wrote an article recently called: *The left should stop using the word "Zionism"* (i.e. stop criticising the ideology behind the murderous assaults on the Palestinians), has written "discussion articles" for the Jewish Chronicle and is seeking to appease the racist Jewish Labour Movement.

Reinstate Tony Greenstein, Ken Livingstone, Gerry Downing, and all the Muslim Labour councillors and every other victims of this racist Tory, Blairite right Labour, Zionist Labour Friends of Israel and the Jewish Labour Movement witch hunt.