

Greens dance with warmongers to provoke war with China

By Jeremy Beck

A bitter internal battle in the Greens party over China is erupting into the public sphere. On one side prominent Greens politicians are dancing to a hysterical anti-China tune, in lockstep with the regime change advocates of the military industrial complex. Other Greens leaders are vocal in opposing this xenophobia, but they all fail to grasp the dire consequences of the City of London-centred oligarchy's geopolitical endgame in its strategy to confront China.

In the Tasmanian state parliament on 25 September, Tasmanian Greens Leader Cassy O'Connor accused Premier Will Hodgman of "cosying up to a totalitarian regime, which has no respect for human rights or freedoms", and peddled the story that the Chinese government has locked up one million Uighur and Kazakh people. (See "Uighur 'mass detention' reports fabricated by US, British propagandists", AAS 26 Sept. 2018.) O'Connor continued with her anti-China rhetoric in parliament on 27 September, saying there's a "growing body of extremely credible evidence that the Chinese government is seeking to influence the outcome of Hobart City Council elections", and named Yongbei Tang, candidate for Hobart City Council in this October's election, as the political agent in question. Greens Member for Franklin Dr Rosalie Woodruff followed on from O'Connor, saying, "Yongbei Tang may well be an Australian citizen but she is also a cadre of the Chinese Communist Party. ... The Chinese Communist Party is using Tasmania as a convenient launching pad to move into the Antarctic, to create a bridge to exploit minerals. They have already been identified by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute as undergoing [sic] undeclared military activity in the Antarctic and ongoing mineral exploration."

This debate infuriated many Greens, including Greens-endorsed Hobart City Council candidate Holly Ewin, who was emphatic in a 7 October Facebook post: "Would like to go on record as saying I am incredibly angered by Cassy O'Connor's racial comments about council candidates. If there is evidence of foreign political interference, let's see it. Until such evidence is forthcoming, I'll call such comments for what they are: racist speculation. And to the rest of everybody, this reflects terribly on the whole party and community." Ewin also ran alongside Woodruff as a Greens candidate for Franklin in the March 2018 state election. Brisbane-based Young Greens national co-convenor Mark Clayton accused O'Connor of "straight-up racist dog-whistling" and "Yellow Peril 2.0 stuff".

One might be perplexed that the nominally left-wing Woodruff identified the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) think tank as an authority on China, given it's no secret that ASPI is a hard-line mouthpiece of the Anglo-American military-industrial complex. ASPI sponsors include defence giants Lockheed Martin, Raytheon, Thales and MBDA Missile Systems, and unsurprisingly the paid propagandists at ASPI have a track record of endorsing regime-change wars.

And nominally left-wing O'Connor cited Christopher Johnson, a former senior China analyst at the US Central Intelligence Agency who now works for the "right-wing" neoconservative-led Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS): "China has been very active in recent years placing and cultivating people at the grassroots political levels of western democracies and helping them to reach positions of influence." CSIS is a think tank chaired by multi-billionaire Thomas Pritzker; its Board of Trustees includes Henry Kissinger, former US Secretary of State; Richard Armitage,

a former US Deputy Secretary of State under George W. Bush who has long pro-pounded a "more muscular" American foreign policy; Brendan Bechtel, Chairman and CEO, Bechtel Group; and William K. Reilly, Chairman Emeritus, World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

Tasmanian Labor's Dr Shane Broad intervened in parliament on 27 September: "Some of the things I hear ... are still harking back to the days of the yellow peril. In the 1950s there was the issue of reds under the bed. My mother grew up in Queensland and she used to do drills underneath the desk at school for when the yellow peril invaded the relatively empty northern Australia. Apparently, we are still in danger of Chinese invasion...." O'Connor was infuriated! "It is a disgusting slur to accuse us of returning to reds under the bed. It is also denial of the evidence put forward by the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation [ASIO]. It is denial that the Five Eyes alliance, the intelligence alliance of which we are a part.... Dr Broad is making a complete jerk of himself." Following some argy-bargy, O'Connor declared: "We are very clear that this is about foreign influence. We have briefed ourselves, listened to experts of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute, the ANU Centre for Strategic and Defence Studies, what we have read from ASIO ... [and] Professor Anne-Marie Brady from the University of Canterbury [in New Zealand]."

Missing from this debate is Greens leader Richard Di Natale, who has declined to comment. But in May 2016 he warned that Australia should stop orienting its world view around the US alliance given "the horrific consequences of US foreign policy". Di Natale slammed the "enormous sums of money" wasted in military spending. "Australia is rapidly escalating our military technology so as to join and contribute to a regional arms race, interceding in a South China Sea proxy war between two of our largest trading partners over 4,000 kilometres from our shores, all without diplomatic efforts having even gotten out of first gear", he warned.

Many Greens members are alarmed, but little do they know that their party was always a front for the financial oligarchy, which directs and funds the WWF and Greenpeace et al. and the environmentalist movement in general. The British imperial oligarchy around Prince Philip, who founded both the WWF and Tasmania's Green Party, have waged a war against the economic growth necessary to uplift the masses from poverty, driven by their twisted Malthusian ideology that sees the poor wanting to improve their conditions as a threat to the wealth and power of the elites. China's economic growth, and its system of public investment in infrastructure projects, combined with its desire to cooperate with other nations on mutually beneficial development projects, is the actual target of this Malthusian oligarchy and its Green minions.



Yongbei Tang, candidate for Hobart City Council, has been singled out for her connections to China, which she told *The Australian* she has found "very stressful"