

Dump this Cold War hangover, or brace for real war



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Confidential British memos and cables leaked to the Mail on Sunday revealed that the British government and embassy “cultivated” friends and advisors of US President Donald Trump to influence his policy, referring to those recruited as “gatekeepers” or “Trump Whisperers”. “It’s important to ‘flood the zone’”, one communication spelled out, “you want as many as possible of those who Trump consults to give him the same answer”.



This is the definition of foreign interference. If it were China or Russia, it would mean World War III!

This 2016 article signalled British foreign interference into US policy.

One of the foremost policies pushed on Trump was regime change in Syria, both to continue the Anglo-American agenda and to sabotage Trump’s promised US-Russia collaboration. Then UK Foreign Minister Boris Johnson flew to America after Trump’s election victory to persuade Trump that “Assad must go”. He was unsuccessful, but by April 2017, admitting regime change had thus far been stymied, Johnson crowed, “And then came the attack on Khan Sheikhoun.” The alleged chemical weapon attack that Trump used to justify missile strikes has since been proved a staged provocation, covered up by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, as was the attack one year later in Douma. ([“OPCW corruption vs Syria exposed”](#), AAS 10 July.)

Trump was almost drawn into air strikes against Iran when a US reconnaissance drone was shot down on 20 June. Fortunately he ignored the advice of rabid warmongers like National Security Advisor John Bolton, but the effort to start a new war is not over.

London accused Teheran of trying to “impede the passage” of a British oil tanker in the Persian Gulf on 10 July. The British warship *HMS Montrose* intervened with a verbal warning and the vessels retreated—or so their story goes. The whole affair is curious, however. Although the tanker had already passed through the Persian Gulf, it was not carrying any oil; the *HMS Montrose* was conveniently shadowing it; and for almost 24 hours it turned off its transponders, making it undetectable by radars. Its lack of transponder signal would have made it suspicious to Iranian surveillance. Fortunately, Iran, which denies any incident occurred, did not take the bait.

Days earlier at Gibraltar on 4 July, the British military had seized the *Grace 1* supertanker, allegedly carrying Iranian oil to Syria in violation of EU sanctions. Britain has since released the ship, but has ordered the destroyer *HMS Duncan* to the Strait of Hormuz to protect British oil tankers. “The next time there is a stand-off in the Persian Gulf, the Royal Navy must send the strongest possible signal to Iran”, said former UK Armed Forces commander Colonel Richard Kemp.

Efforts to suppress the truth of British intrigues in the Trump administration are reaching desperate levels. On instruction from PM Theresa May’s Cabinet Office, Scotland Yard launched a criminal

investigation regarding the leak of US Ambassador Kim Darroch's secret cables, to be led by the Metropolitan Police's Counter Terrorism Command. According to the 12 July London *Telegraph*, Met Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu threatened press outlets against publishing any further leaked documents, saying it may "be a criminal matter". Human rights QC Geoffrey Robertson shot back: "This is outrageous. If editors do not publish leaks, there will not be much real news—only government press releases and ministerial blabber." London's duplicitous "media freedom conference" (p. 11) exemplified the same suppression of truth.

The now-crumbling US-UK "special relationship" is a hangover from the Cold War. America should ditch it and so should we. It stemmed from the 1946 UKUSA Agreement which was the basis of the Five Eyes spying alliance (UK, USA, Australia, NZ, Canada) which is driving the war agenda. A better basis for our relationship with the USA would be to accept its invitation to participate in its revived space project, 50 years after man walked on the moon (back page).

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