Soviet leader Leonid I. Brezhnev told Somalian President Siad Barre, "Our aim is to gain control of the two great treasure houses on which the West depends -- the energy treasure house of the Persian Gulf and the mineral treasure house of Central and Southern Africa."

Mandela Lied but Communism Never Died

By Cliff Kincaid - December 9, 2013

Bill Keller of The New York Times admits Nelson Mandela was a communist, but suggests it doesn’t really matter because communism collapsed. But communism never died in South Africa. Mandela lied about his party membership, for the obvious purpose of confusing and deceiving people about what is really going on in South Africa. This deception makes it easier to force U.S. taxpayers to contribute approximately $500 million a year to help the communists in South Africa consolidate and expand their power.

South Africa is called a multiparty democracy, but the ruling African National Congress, which won 65.9% of the vote in the 2009 elections, is a front for the South African Communist Party (SACP). South Africa today is effectively a one-party state run by communists.

Officially, the SACP describes itself as a “partner” in the Tripartite Alliance consisting of the African National Congress and the Congress of South African Trade Unions.

This formulation masks the fact that the current president, Comrade Jacob Zuma, is a “former” SACP high-ranking member who continues to work openly with communists. He is the figure who announced Mandela’s death.

Zuma’s “missing years” have received some attention. Journalist David Beresford noted that although Zuma has been a life-long communist, he “seems to have been anxious not to have this detail widely known,” since his SACP membership was omitted from his government and ANC biographies.

Zuma spoke to a 2010 meeting of the Young Communist League National Congress after he had returned from communist Cuba, where he received the top honor, the Order of Jose Marti. “Our relations with Cuba were cemented by the blood of heroic Cuban soldiers who died in
Official Programme

Mr Cyril Ramaphosa and Ms Baleka Mbete
11:00 – 15:00

National Anthem: Mass Choir
Welcome and Opening Remarks: Programme Directors
Interfaith Prayers
Tribute by Family Friend: Andrew Mlangeni
Tribute by Family: General Thanduxolo Mandela
Tribute by the Grandchildren: Mbuso Mandela
Andile Mandela
Zozuko Dlamini
Phumla Mandela
Tribute by UN Representative: Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon
Tribute by AU Commission Chair: Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma
Tribute by Foreign Dignitaries: President Barack Obama (USA)
President Dilma Rousseff (Brazil)
Vice-President Li Yuanchao (China)
President Hifikepunye Pohamba (Namibia)
President Pranab Mukherjee (India)
President Raúl Castro Ruz (Cuba)

Keynote Address by the President of the Republic of South Africa:
His Excellency Jacob Zuma

Sermon:
Bishop Ivan Abrahams

Vote of Thanks:
Premier of Gauteng, Nomvula Mokonyane
combat in Africa, especially in Angola, who paid the supreme sacrifice for their belief in freedom, justice and anti-imperialism,“ he said. This was a reference to the support given by the Soviet Union and its client, Cuba, to communist takeovers in Africa.

Interestingly, this speech appears on the website of the ANC, but not on the website of Zuma’s presidential office.

During a 1999 state visit to Russia, Mandela expressed gratitude for the “solidarity of the Russian people in the South African fight against apartheid and for freedom.” Mandela and then-President Boris Yeltsin signed a declaration pledging to boost political ties and economic relations in areas such as gold and diamond production. Since that time, the countries have stepped up bilateral and multilateral cooperation. Moscow was the strongest advocate for South Africa to be included in the grouping of the world’s most dynamic emerging economies, Brazil, Russia, India and China, which was renamed from BRIC to BRICS. Source: Mandela and the Soviet Union: The struggle against apartheid. Russia Beyond the Headlines, December 6, 2013.

In the speech, he told the young communists that “the lessons we have learnt in Cuba confirm the correctness of our policy positions in making education and health some of our key priorities as government, the ruling party and the ruling alliance.” He also praised the “Cuban Five,” Castro’s spies imprisoned in the U.S.

Lauding the Cuban Communist Party dictatorship and one-party state, he told the young communists: “One of the major lessons we must glean from Cuba is the depth of their internationalism and patriotism, and how they successfully balanced these two to produce good citizens for their country and the world. The Cuban value system is based on patriotism, national pride and a very deep sense of national history, culture and is based on an ethic of hard work. As Young Communist League members you must engage with these issues and devise ways and means of how you can instill the same kind of values, and a deep sense of patriotism in our country.”

“Work begins today in earnest to improve the quality of life of all our people and to build Cuban-style patriotism and internationalism within our ranks,” he concluded.

Is communism dead in South Africa? It doesn’t appear so.

Zuma told them, “You need to have a clear understanding of dialectical and historical materialism. You need to be armed with a theory of the working class Marxism Leninism. You need to understand this theory as a guide to action.”

The deputy president of South Africa, Kgalema Motlanthe, spoke at the South African Communist Party’s 91st Celebratory Gala Dinner in 2012 and described the relationship between the ANC and SACP. He said, “Because the relationship between the SACP and the ANC is and has always been familial, it can best be described as that of siblings; brothers—with the ANC being the elder brother while the SACP is the younger brother.” He went on, “…in the course of time it turned out that the SACP would become the responsible younger brother who gives back by becoming a teacher to the older brother. This equipped those of us in the ANC
with the necessary tools of analysis and education needed for us to develop ourselves and successfully prosecute the struggle."

Incredibly, Bill Keller of The New York Times maintains that "Mandela’s brief membership in the South African Communist Party, and his long-term alliance with more devout Communists, say less about his ideology than about his pragmatism." The claim is ridiculous on its face. And paying tribute to Muammar Gaddafi after the Libyan leader bombed Pan Am 103 out of the sky, killing 189 Americans, is more evidence of this pragmatism? How can The New York Times publish this nonsense?

The South African Communist Party has now admitted that Mandela was not only a member, but a member of its important Central Committee. Keller seems unaware of this fact. If Mandela’s membership was “brief” and of no consequence, why did Mandela lie about it? And why did the SACP cover it up until after Mandela died?

The development of mineral resources – particularly diamonds, gold, manganese, platinum group metals, and rare earth elements – is one of the most promising areas of bilateral co-operation.

Source: “Russia – South Africa Relations. Beyond Revival.” The South African Foreign Policy Initiative (SAFPI) is a program established by and based at the George Soros-funded Open Society Foundation for South Africa (OSF-SA) in Cape Town.

While dismissing the idea that Soviet-style communism is alive in South Africa, Bill Keller of The New York Times mentions the work of Stephen Ellis, who discovered notes of an SACP meeting confirming Mandela’s party membership. Ellis disclosed these notes in 2011 and wrote about them in his 2012 book, External Mission. Keller, perhaps somewhat troubled by this information,
goes on to add the following: “Professor Ellis is no apologist for white rule—he occupies a university chair in Amsterdam named for another hero of the South African resistance, Archbishop Desmond Tutu—but he contends that the affiliation with the Communists shaped the A.N.C.’s ideology in ways that endure, ominously, to this day.”

Ellis told Keller in an email exchange: “Today, the A.N.C. officially claims still to be at the first stage ... of a two-phase revolution. This is a theory obtained directly from Soviet thinking.”

In other words, these communists are true believers. Communism has not collapsed as far as they are concerned. That would include Mandela, and helps explain his cordial relations with Arafat, Castro, Gaddafi, and so on over the years.

**Vladimir Putin:** I want to remind all Russians, as well as the people of South Africa, that it was our nation – the Soviet Union – that supported the nations of Africa and southern Africa most actively in their fight against racial segregation and in their fight for justice and democracy. Since then, we have developed special, very warm, trust-based relations between our peoples. Our relationship received an additional impetus during Nelson Mandela’s visit to Russia in 1999. In March of this year, President of South Africa Jacob Zuma and I signed a Declaration and announced the creation of a strategic partnership. That is the key in which we will be developing our relations with South Africa, which is a BRICS nation. In this regard, we have and are creating all the conditions for broadening our cooperation.

- Vladimir Putin visited the South African embassy in Moscow on December 9, 2013, and paid tribute to the memory of Nelson Mandela.

The erroneous assumption being made by the media and various politicians and commentators is that the immediate failure to wipe out South Africa’s white minority demonstrated the moderation of the new South African regime.

The ruling communists in South Africa are practicing what is called the “two-phase revolution.” The first phase is the success of the “national liberation movement” in Soviet revolutionary theory. In the case of South Africa, it’s called the “national democratic revolution.” This is the phase in which non-communists are used as dupes. The second phase, under SACP leadership, is the “socialist revolution” and the introduction of a “workers’ state” (also known as a people’s democracy). In this phase, the so-called “vanguard element” comes forward and eliminates its former democratic and liberal allies.

The amazing thing about all of this is that it’s out in the open on the SACP website in the document, “The South African Road to Socialism.” The document covers the period from 2012 to 2017. It warns about a “one-sided emphasis on democracy as regular multi-party elections...”

**It would be nice if our reporters, as well as those giving honor and tribute to Mandela, would spend a few minutes trying to understand the “fundamental transformation” of South Africa. Another part of this process, according to the document, is the “mobilization of private capital into an NDR [National Democratic Revolution] struggle.” The “struggle” also entails “rolling back” and “transforming” the capitalist market.**

It sounds something like the “fundamental transformation” of the United States.
By admitting Mandela was a high-ranking member, the SACP may be signaling that the second phase of the “socialist revolution” is about to get underway in South Africa. “For the SACP the passing away of Madiba [Mandela] must give all those South Africans who had not fully embraced a democratic South Africa, and who still in one way or the other hanker to the era of white domination, a second chance to come to terms with a democratic South Africa founded on the principle of majority rule,” the communist organization says.

The phrase “coming to terms” brings to mind the new anti-white party in South Africa called the “Economic Freedom Fighters” (EFF), which displayed a banner reading “Honeymoon is over for whites.”

Ominously, the Google search engine ran a tribute to Mandela on its home page directing the world to the Nelson Mandela Center of Memory website and a poster featuring a quotation of Mandela under an image of communist murderer and Castro henchman Che Guevara.

Mandela’s backers are apparently hoping for short memories or none at all. To even mention the facts, which are out in the open, might open up journalists to the charge that Keller mentions in the Times—that of “red-baiting.”

Keller writes that Mandela’s “Communist affiliation” doesn’t “justify the gleeful red baiting, and it certainly does not diminish a heroic legacy…”

The U.S. media’s treatment of Mandela will go down in history on a par with the Times’ Walter Duranty praising Joseph Stalin and covering up his murder of millions of Ukrainians. The difference is that most of the bodies have not yet piled up in South Africa. And, after all, the victims will be mostly white.

As a footnote to this terrible tragedy, protesters have knocked down a statue of Vladimir Lenin in Ukraine’s capital and attacked it with hammers. They want their country to turn away from Vladimir Putin’s Russia. However, Mandela’s government has become a “strategic partner” with the Russian regime.
The communist Workers World Party, which supports North Korea, has also reprinted the official SACP statement about Mandela. The communists are proud of Mandela and what he accomplished. His false claims of being a non-communist fooled South Africa and the world (except for his domestic and international comrades who were in on the secret). The official SACP statement includes these words: “At his arrest in August 1962, Nelson Mandela was not only a member of the then underground South African Communist Party, but was also a member of our Party’s Central Committee.”

Politicians lie, but this was a whopper, designed for the purpose of turning South Africa and its strategic materials over to the communists. The perfect front man, Mandela had always denied being a party member and, for the benefit of foreign audiences, publicly rejected Marxism as a “foreign ideology” as recently as a few years ago. It appears that was just a ploy to keep the foreign aid coming. South Africa has been among the top ten recipients of U.S. foreign aid, getting close to $500 million in fiscal year 2013.

Now that we know what’s going on, what will we do about it? American presidents—Obama, Clinton, Carter, and George W. Bush—are going to South Africa for his state funeral on December 15. Obama has ordered American flags to remain at half-staff in his honor until sunset on December 9. The con will continue. Still, the facts matter.

Many in the media are calling Mandela a “political prisoner” when he served prison time. But on the Fox News “Special Report” show on December 5, Jesse Jackson admitted Mandela told him that he was planning bombings of hospitals and schools in South Africa when he got caught. That is why Mandela went to prison. He ran Umkhonto we Sizwe, the terrorist wing of the African National Congress (ANC) and South African Communist Party. The white minority made a deal to release him because they feared for their lives against a Soviet-sponsored terrorist onslaught that was documented in 1982 Senate hearings entitled “The Role of the Soviet Union, Cuba, and East Germany in Fomenting Terrorism in Southern Africa.”

One of the witnesses before those hearings was Bartholomew Hlapane, a member of the African National Congress’s national executive committee and the South African Communist Party’s central committee. Bartholemew, who described SACP domination of the ANC, was assassinated in his home in South Africa on December 16, 1982, by an Umkhonto we Sizwe assassination squad. The ANC later admitted to the crime.

President Obama condemned the Boston Islamic terror bombings, saying, “Any time bombs are used to target innocent civilians it is an act of terror.” But that is what Mandela was orchestrating in South Africa. And Mandela is Obama’s role model. Apparently, it was okay to kill whites in the name of black majority rule.
So how is that working out for the blacks, the supposed beneficiaries of Mandela’s revolution? WikiLeaks is usually a source that our media trust. But little attention was paid to information from WikiLeaks demonstrating that the South African government is now resorting to “forced removals, violence, [and] intimidation” against poor blacks demanding their rights. Referring to a group of black shack dwellers known by the initials AbM, the U.S. embassy cable from 2010 said: “While the ANC claims to be making efforts to clean up slums and provide the poor with adequate housing, AbM leadership claims intimidation and anti-democratic tactics are used against its members by the ruling party.”
It's true that Mandela failed to authorize a bloodbath of the minority whites once the black majority took power. But that decision recognizes, as the Chinese communists did, that socialism doesn’t work. The whites had to be tolerated because of their economic expertise. However, whites are now getting killed regularly in the “new” South Africa, and the country is being featured on “Genocide Watch” because of the racist dangers there. A spin-off from the ruling African National Congress, the Economic Freedom Fighter (EFF) movement, held a rally in October in South Africa featuring banners saying the “Honeymoon is over for white people in South Africa.” The group is openly Marxist-Leninist.

Interestingly, a column in the far-left Huffington Post hints at the truth, noting that Mandela “spent much of his life as a radical Marxist allied with global communist luminaries…”

In addition to the evidence of Mandela’s secret membership in the Communist Party, those “global communist luminaries” deserve some attention. He admired Fidel Castro, praised his “brother in arms” Yasser Arafat, and was a big fan of Libya’s Muammar Gaddafi. He was awarded the Soviet Union’s International Lenin Peace Prize. Russian President Vladimir Putin congratulated Nelson Mandela on his 95th birthday in July and “gave a high assessment to Nelson Mandela’s role in developing friendly Russian-South African relations, which have now reached the level of a strategic partnership.” Indeed, Russia and South Africa have become strategic partners in the BRICS group. BRICS refers to Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

An objective source of some of Mandela’s famous quotations is the book, *In the Words of Nelson Mandela*, edited by Jennifer Crwys-Williams. They include:

- “Islam has enriched and become part of Africa; in turn, Islam was transformed and Africa became part of it.”
- “The people of Libya shared the trenches with us in our struggle for freedom.” (Spoken at a banquet in Tripoli, Libya in 1997).
- “He [Muammar Gaddafi] helped us at a time when we were all alone, when those who are now saying we should not come here were helping our enemies.” (Spoken at the start of his 1997 trip to Libya).
- “My brother leader.” (referring to Gaddafi).

Gaddafi was the terrorist leader who killed 189 Americans, most of them college students, by bombing Pan Am 103. The year was 1988. Gaddafi was also behind the La Belle bombing in Berlin in April of 1986. This killed two Americans and a Turkish woman and injured well over 200 persons, including 41 Americans.

In a story about the 1997 visit to Libya, The New York Times noted: “Although Mr. Mandela had twice visited Libya before, this is his first trip since becoming President [of South Africa] in 1994. No Western leader has visited Libya since the sanctions were imposed after Colonel Gaddafi refused to turn over suspects in the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland.”

But Mandela was thankful Gaddafi gave his terrorist movement weapons. He didn’t care about the terrorism that took American lives. Later, Gaddafi renounced terrorism, paid
restitution to the families of Pan Am 103 victims, and gave up his own nuclear program. Nevertheless, Obama authorized his overthrow and he was killed by a mob in Libya.

Bill O’Reilly said on his Fox News show that Mandela “was a communist, all right? But he was a great man. What he did for his people was stunning. … He was a great man, but he was a communist.” Throwing out the word, without documenting it, leaves people without adequate information and O’Reilly vulnerable to the tired charge of “McCarthyism.”

The notion of a good communist, considering the bloody history of the movement, seems absurd. But sadly, that is some of the best coverage of Mandela that we have seen.

The left’s hero worship of Mandela—as well as of Obama—is to be expected. Strangely, similar coverage came from Breitbart News Senior Editor-at-Large Joel Pollak, who claimed Mandela “embraced constraints on his power,” was a George Washington-type figure, a friend of Israel, opposed terrorism, and “did not turn his back on the United States and her ideals.” He went on Mark Levin’s radio show to repeat some of these dubious, and even ridiculous, claims.

Pollak quoted Mandela during his treason trial as saying, “I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities.” Mandela also declared at the time that he was not a communist.

Now we know better. Or do we?

Comrade Mandela’s Secret Life

By Cliff Kincaid – December 6, 2013

The South African Communist Party is admitting Nelson Mandela was a high-ranking member. Will the media report these facts? Or will the “myth” continue to prevail?

My friend Victor Lasky used to write books about liberal or left-wing figures that carried the name of the person and the subtitle, “The Man and the Myth.” He would compare the coverage of a political figure with the truth. The coverage of the death of Nelson Mandela has focused mostly on the myth. Key facts are being omitted, including Mandela’s secret membership in the South African Communist Party (SACP), which may shed light on the future of South Africa.

It’s very rare in all of the coverage, from Fox News to MSNBC, to find any reference to the central role that communism played in Mandela’s life. The evidence shows not only that he was a secret member of the South African Communist Party, but that he continued to deny membership in the party throughout his life. The cover-up is relevant to South Africa’s future and the role the SACP plays in the current government.

Mandela is being credited with trying to avoid a bloodbath after the black majority took power. But his denial of membership in the South African Communist Party, which turned out to be a lie, deserves attention and comment. What was he trying to hide? And was there more to it than mere membership in the SACP?
The SACP itself is not hiding the truth. In a tribute to “a true revolutionary,” its website declares, “At his arrest in August 1962, Nelson Mandela was not only a member of the then underground South African Communist Party, but was also a member of our Party’s Central Committee. To us as South African communists, Cde [Comrade] Mandela shall forever symbolize the monumental contribution of the SACP in our liberation struggle. The contribution of communists in the struggle to achieve the South African freedom has very few parallels in the history of our country. After his release from prison in 1990, Cde Madiba became a great and close friend of the communists till his last days.”

As president of South Africa, Mandela spoke to the South African Communist Party on its 75th anniversary, referring to its “alliance” with the African National Congress and others ruling South Africa.

Some of the truth about Mandela’s secret life as a communist has emerged in various books over the years.

In Mandela: The Authorized Biography, Anthony Sampson writes that Mandela started out as an anti-communist but “was impressed by The Communist Manifesto and by the biographies of South African Marxists like Paul Bunting and Bill Andrews.” Sampson went on to write, “He was struck by the Soviet Union’s support for liberation movements throughout the world, and by the relentless logic of dialectical materialism, which he felt sweeping away the superstitions and inherited beliefs of his childhood…” One of those beliefs was Christianity, and Sampson writes that Mandela “experienced some pangs at abandoning the Christian beliefs that had fortified his childhood…”

A photo in the book shows Mandela and his second wife, Winnie, at a 1958 wedding ceremony “attended by a few close friends, including the communist writer Michael Harmel.”

Harmel “joined our Party in 1939 and for the rest of his life the Party was his master,” states a tribute on the website of the South African Communist Party. It goes on, “As a dedicated internationalist he saw anti-Sovietism as a deadly weapon of the most reactionary circles; a weapon which imperialism, and its ally Zionism, use in their frenzied efforts to undermine and disrupt the underlying unity of national liberation movements and the Socialist countries…”

Mandela, Sampson wrote, studied communist revolution. “But it was the Cuban revolution which most inspired him and many of his colleagues.”

Sampson says that Mandela “recruited” Joe Slovo to Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), the armed wing of the African National Congress, for a “campaign of sabotage” in South Africa. Slovo, in turn, “brought in a small group of communist experts” who knew about explosives. Slovo, a white communist, was dubbed “the KGB colonel” by those who considered him an agent or member of Soviet intelligence.

In the 2010 book Young Mandela: The Revolutionary Years, David James Smith writes about Mandela being “present at a secret meeting of the Communist Party in December 1960 when it decided to begin its own armed struggle, six months before Mandela even raised the subject with the ANC [African National Congress].” In 1961, he continued, the South African Communist Party “was still accepting funds from Moscow, using a Johannesburg travel agent as a conduit for the money. Mandela himself never fled from communism, though neither does it appear he was ever actually a party member…” He added, “One or two people have claimed he actually
joined the party but Mandela himself always denied it...There is no doubt, however, that Mandela embraced communism and communists, considering them among his closest friends and political allies…”

Stephen Ellis, author of the 2012 book, *External Mission*, found minutes of an SACP meeting at which a member of the central committee, John Motshabi, reminisced about Mandela’s recruitment. He also reported, “Evidence of Mandela’s SACP membership includes his participation in the Party’s December 1960 conference, where the decision was made to launch the organization later known as Umkhonto we Sizwe. Furthermore, at least seven prominent members of the SACP, in addition to Joe Mathews, have testified to Mandela’s party membership.”

Now, of course, we have the SACP itself admitting Mandela’s membership in the party and its important central committee.

But that’s not the message Mandela himself was sending just a few years ago.

President Barack Obama wrote the foreword to the 2010 book, *Nelson: Conversations with Myself*, by Mandela. The book includes dialogue with Richard Stengel, the former editor of Time magazine who is going to work full-time at the Obama State Department. Mandela once again denied being a Communist Party member or being sympathetic to communism in any way. He told Stengel he had been “anti-communist” and only went to the SACP meetings because he was “invited.” He said he “attacked the communists,” and “I thought Marxism was something that actually was subjecting us to a foreign ideology.”

Now we know all of this was a lie, designed to fool foreign audiences and create the myth of Mandela. Our media have been part of the deception. Will they now correct the record and tell the truth before the communists acquire even more power in South Africa?
South Africa “Joined at the Hip” to Cuba

By Cliff Kincaid – December 11, 2013

If President Obama’s handshake with Cuban dictator Raul Castro is news, Castro’s featured presence at the Nelson Mandela memorial service and what the South African government said about him are equally newsworthy. South Africa was described as “joined at the hip” to Cuba and in its debt for “liberation.”

Yet, this part of the memorial service has been carefully edited out of most of the “mainstream media” coverage of the event.

The service was organized and orchestrated by officers of the African National Congress (ANC), the ruling party of South Africa which operates as a front of the South African Communist Party. Baleka Mbete, ANC chairperson, introduced Raul Castro’s speech by saying, “Comrades, we will now get an address from a tiny island – an island of people who liberated us, who fought for our liberation in Cuito Cuanavale -- the people of Cuba.”
Cuito Cuanavale refers to the foreign intervention of thousands of Cuban military troops on behalf of Communist Angolan government forces in Africa under the guidance of Soviet military officers during 1987 and 1988. This was a critical time when communist forces backed by the Soviet Union, Cuba, and China were determined to crush the non-communist pro-freedom movement UNITA (The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola).

As part of his effort to turn the tide against communism in Africa and elsewhere, the “Reagan Doctrine,” President Ronald Reagan strongly supported UNITA and its leader, Jonas Savimbi.

In the end, the communists solidified control of Angola, assassinated Savimbi (shot fifteen times, two to the head and one to the throat), and then took over Namibia and South Africa as the white population, fearing extinction in the face of the onslaught, made deals with the communists.

Mandela, in commemorating the 20th anniversary of the battle in 2008, referred to it as “a turning point for the liberation of our continent and my people.” This helps explain why the Cuban regime is held in such high regard by the South African government. The ANC and SWAPO (the South West Africa People’s Organization) communists in Namibia greatly benefitted from the Cuban imperialistic intervention. Of course, Mandela’s communist movement also enjoyed the support of Libya and the PLO.

After Raul Castro’s speech, during which he highlighted Mandela’s visit to Cuba to meet with and thank Fidel Castro, ANC deputy president Cyril Ramaphosa said, “Thank you President Castro. We thank you for all the support and help that we continue to get from the people of Cuba during our years of struggle and our countries continue to be joined at the hip in the areas of development…”

Our column about current South African President Jacob Zuma noted that he traveled to Cuba in 2010 to receive the top Communist award from Raul Castro himself. A communist himself,
Zuma told a meeting of young communists in South Africa, “Work begins today in earnest to improve the quality of life of all our people and to build Cuban-style patriotism and internationalism within our ranks.”
Of the 6 “foreign dignitaries” listed on the official Mandela memorial service program as giving a tribute to Mandela, five are known Marxists -- Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff (a former terrorist herself); Chinese Vice President Li Yuanchao; Namibian President Hifikepunye Pohamba; Cuba’s Raul Castro; and of course Obama. The other speaker was President Pranab Mukherjee of India, described as a “close friend” of Marxists in India who has “remained a friend” of the Communist Party of India during his political career and leadership in the United Progressive Alliance. Indeed, he has been labeled a “communist agent.” The Indian delegation to the memorial service included Sitaram Yechury of the Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M).

Earlier in the memorial service, Andrew Mlangeni, identified as a Mandela “family friend,” spoke on Mandela’s behalf. Now considered an “elder statesman” in the ANC, he had studied “military science” and “guerrilla theory” in China. The Stephen Ellis book, External Mission, confirms that Umkhonto we Sizwe, which became the military arm of the ANC, was launched by the South African Communist Party after negotiations with Chinese Communist mass murderer and dictator Mao Tse-tung. The cover of the book, which also reveals that the East German secret police trained the ANC’s security personnel, shows a photograph of Mao Tse-tung meeting with SACP leader Yusuf Dadoo, a Muslim Indian South African communist.

Mandela ran Umkhonto we Sizwe, which carried out violence and terrorism, and he went to prison as a result. He was never a “political prisoner.” He refused to renounce violence in order to be released early. He could have been hanged for his conviction for terrorism.

Although Mandela is being widely praised for his spirit of “forgiveness” and “reconciliation,” the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) led by Mangosuthu Buthelezi was never fully accepted as a legitimate partner and actor in South African politics by Mandela’s ANC. The IFP advocated the abolition of apartheid or racial segregation but refused to engage in violence and terrorism against innocent people. It also had an anti-communist orientation.

“The armed struggle, and Inkatha’s refusal to engage it, had driven a wedge between our organizations,” Buthelezi says. “Propaganda against me and Inkatha was rife and there were many attempts on my life.”

But the U.S. Government under Obama is in complete support of the South African government and provides an estimated $500 million a year in foreign aid to the regime.

The United States Ambassador to South Africa, former Democratic Party operative and radical organizer Patrick Gaspard, recently announced that American taxpayers would provide an additional $100,000 in U.S. Government funding for the purpose of the “preservation of documents” relating to Mandela. The money was given to the Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory, the official home of the Nelson Mandela Foundation. This is the same group offering a poster featuring a quotation of Mandela under an image of communist murderer and Castro henchman Che Guevara.

In supporting South Africa, the U.S. is supporting Cuba. Obama’s handshake with Castro only confirms this fact.