From One Plantation to Another

The Tainted Red Legacy of John Lewis

By Cliff Kincaid – July 26, 2020

The late Congressman John Lewis will lie in state at the Capitol, “an honor that has been bestowed upon only a few dozen American politicians since the practice began in 1852,” notes Ben Shapiro’s Daily Wire. This publication, and countless others, describe Lewis as a civil rights icon, especially because of his participation in the 1965 march from Selma to Montgomery, known as "Bloody Sunday." But they ignore his public praise for the black communist Paul Robeson, the actor and singer whose fatal flaws included membership in the Moscow-funded Communist Party, love for Soviet mass murderer Joseph Stalin, and support for the Hitler-Stalin Pact that paved the way for World War II.
President Trump’s “Proclamation on the Death of John Lewis” ordered that “the flag of the United States shall be flown at half-staff” on various federal properties in his honor.

But does Lewis deserve it?

A politician who had a flirtation with a top Nazi or a figure sympathetic to Nazi Germany would never be accorded such an honor. Yet Lewis heaped much praise on Robeson, (1898-1976), who lied about his membership in the Moscow-funded Communist Party USA (CPUSA), in order to deceive fellow blacks about his real intentions. The CPUSA confirmed his party membership after his death, in much the same way that the South African Communist Party (SACP) confirmed Nelson Mandela’s membership in the SACP.

Although he avoided confirmation of party membership, his record was clear from his activities, statements, and travels to Russia. A communist to his core, despite being raised in a religious family, he took advantage of the many opportunities America offered to him, including graduating from Rutgers University and Columbia University Law School, and then using his talents to express his love for Soviet Russia and its murderous dictator. He charged America with genocide.

Indeed, Robeson said American blacks would never go to war against Russia because blacks loved Russia so much. The actual statement was, “It is unthinkable that American Negroes could go to war on behalf of those who have oppressed us for generations against the Soviet Union, which in one generation has raised our people to the full dignity of mankind.” Robeson was accused by patriotic whites and blacks of inciting treason with this statement but he never backed away from it.

For his part, Lewis lent his name to Freedomways, a journal financed by communist money from China and the Soviet Union and channeled through the Communist Party USA. All of this was set forth in revelations about SOLO, an FBI operation that infiltrated the Communist Party USA and documented its relationship with the Communist Party of
the Soviet Union. The SOLO documents are based on FBI informants, Morris and Jack Childs, who had infiltrated the highest levels of the CPUSA and had participated in meetings with foreign communist parties. President Ronald Reagan awarded Morris Childs (and posthumously, Jack) with the Presidential Medal of Freedom for their work for the U.S.

Lewis, chair of SNCC, the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, gave a speech, also published in the form of a 1965 Freedomways article, about Robeson being an “inspirer of youth” and leaving a legacy of “spiritual children,” such as Lewis himself. With pride, Lewis said about Robeson, “He talked and listened to the representatives of the Communist Party.”

Freedomways called Robeson “the great forerunner,” a reference to the path he set for American blacks to follow. Lewis followed that path, later becoming a prominent black member of the political party of slavery, the Democratic Party, and emerging as a vicious critic of President Donald J. Trump, calling him a racist.

Russia-gate Then and Now

In what can be called the real Russia-gate scandal, the path that was taken by Robeson and his “spiritual children” was based on the Communist Party USA illegally receiving millions of dollars from Moscow in order to stir up racial animosity in the U.S. and create a “Soviet America.”
Years later, Lewis would suddenly find the Russians to be so odious and obnoxious that he would accuse them of supporting Donald J. Trump in the 2016 election. Of course, these charges were based on the phony Trump Russia dossier peddled for partisan purposes by Hillary and the FBI and other U.S. intelligence agencies.

Lewis told Chuck Todd of NBC News, “I don’t see this President-elect [Donald J. Trump] as a legitimate president. I think the Russians participated in helping this man get elected. And they helped destroy the candidacy of Hillary Clinton.”

Yet, the civil rights movement, which began as a reasonable demand for equal rights for blacks, was manipulated by outside agitators associated with the Moscow-funded Communist Party USA into becoming an instrument of Russian foreign policy. One of their great successes was using communist advisers around Martin Luther King Jr. to arrange for him to denounce the American effort to stop the spread of communism in Southeast Asia. A noble effort to save South Vietnam from Communism was eventually defeated, not by the communist enemy on the military battlefield but by a Democratic Party-controlled Congress which terminated assistance to the government in Saigon. Vietnam became, and remains, a communist dictatorship.

Despite his reputation as a moderate, Martin Luther King, Jr. paid tribute to W.E.B. Du Bois, who himself joined the CPUSA in 1961, at an event also sponsored by Freedomways in New York City.

This is the real John Lewis -- a partisan Democrat to the end who never disavowed his praise for Paul Robeson and helped make the admirer of Stalin
into a hero to black youth. Millions of minds have been poisoned as a result, making it possible for a Marxist group such as Black Lives Matter to achieve prominence.

“We loved America so dearly we were ready to die for her” was one of the patriotic statements attributed to Lewis. By contrast, Lewis hero Paul Robeson and black CPUSA leader William Patterson submitted a “We Charge Genocide” petition against the United States to the United Nations in 1951. Lewis had to know this when he paid tribute to Robeson. His knowledge of Robeson’s service to the Soviet Union was evident in Lewis’s reference to Robeson seeking advice from the CPUSA.

There are busts and plaques in honor of Robeson at various colleges and universities, including North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University, and there is a Paul Robeson High School in Philadelphia. On the national level, the United States Postal Service issued a Paul Robeson stamp in 2004.

One of the co-founders of Black Lives Matter (BLM) was on the campus of Rutgers University, where the Paul Robeson Cultural Center is located, to pay homage to Robeson. His “inspiration” for youth can be seen in BLM’s dedicated to the destruction of the nuclear family and tribute to black cop-killer Assata Shakur, living in Cuba under the protection of the Communist regime there.

Anti-White Racism

It was John Lewis who coauthored and sponsored the legislation that created the federally-funded Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC). Interestingly, it includes an item, “Paul Robeson: An American Communist,” created by the CPUSA and written by party chairman Gus Hall, confirming Robeson’s CPUSA membership. The identity of Comrade Robeson, Hall said, was with a “socialist USA and the Communist movement.” He was not able to declare his party membership openly, Hall claimed, because of the “extreme repression” of the anti-communism of that period.

Asked by various official committees about his party membership, Robeson would either lie or cite the Fifth Amendment. He took advantage of America’s constitutional protections when it was in his interest to do so. This was deliberate on his part, in order to deceive blacks and others about the details surrounding his service to the bloody Soviet dictatorship.

Today, the CPUSA is out in the open, after having endorsed Barack Hussein Obama for two presidential terms and issuing statements through social media platforms such as Facebook in support of such figures as Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. It is strongly opposed to Trump and his re-election.

Corrupting the Culture

The Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture has now moved beyond celebrating the communist Robeson to attacking the white people who
help make it possible through their tax dollars. It has recently been in the news for a presentation on “whiteness” that was so ridiculously racist that parts of it were subsequently withdrawn.

SOLO
Operation SOLO was a long-running FBI program to infiltrate the Communist Party of the United States and gather intelligence about its relationship to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, China, and other communist nations. It officially began in 1958 and ended in 1977, although Morris and Jack Childs, two of the principal agents in the operation, had been involved with the Bureau for several years prior. The files range from March 1958 to April 1966. Read a related story at http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2011/august/byte-out-of-history-communist-agent-tells-all/.

In fact, Senator Josh Hawley (R-Mo.) sent a letter to Smithsonian Secretary Lonnie Bunch noting that “the materials published under this initiative – some of which have recently been removed after public scrutiny – appear to embrace ideas likelier to foment racial division than mutual respect and understanding.” He asked why the initiative claimed “the nuclear family,” “self-reliance,” and “objective, rational linear thinking” were traits of whiteness and symbols of structural racism that should be “rejected rather than embraced.”

According to the NMAAHC, Hawley noted, “white culture, as distinct from the cultures of other races in America, is defined by commitment to the following ideas”:

- “Self-reliance”
- “The nuclear family”
- “Objective, rational linear thinking”
- “Hard work is the key to success”
- “Plan for the future”
- “Quantitative emphasis”
- “Intent counts”
- “Be polite”
Lewis spoke at NMAAHC’s dedication ceremony on September 24, 2016, as President Barack Hussein Obama and Vice President Joe Biden stood and applauded him from the audience.

It is truly unfortunate that the name of Manning Johnson is not as familiar as that of Robeson. Johnson, a black American who joined but left the CPUSA, exposed Robeson’s CPUSA membership before the party itself acknowledged his membership after his death. Johnson testified that “Paul's assignment was to work among the intellectuals, the professionals and artists that the party was seeking to penetrate and influence along Communist lines. As long as Paul Robeson’s identity with the party was kept secret, so long would his work among these groups be effective and serve the best interests of the party…”

Lewis was just one of those drawn into Robeson's orbit, a communist plantation of compliant and obedient blacks seemingly unaware of the evidence of how figures like Robeson had sold them out.

There are those, such as conservative columnist David Limbaugh, who say President Trump should appeal to blacks by emphasizing policies that help them. He expresses the hope more will vote Republican. But the love of Robeson by the black establishment, including top figures like Lewis, demonstrates why this is not politically possible. Most blacks have followed their leaders to the communist plantation.

The Long-Term Plan

Communists have targeted black Americans for exploitation almost since the time of the Russian revolution in 1917. This is an open secret on the left. The article, “Black Liberation and the Communist International,” describes a Soviet campaign, launched shortly after the Russian revolution, to exploit the “Negro question” in the U.S. and manipulate blacks and members of other minority groups for communist purposes.
These efforts eventually took the form of the publication Freedomways, which began in 1961 and ceased publication in 1986.

In his speech, “Rethinking the History and Future of the Communist Party,” historian Gerald Horne, the author of a book on Robeson, referred to African-Americans as “a people who have been the least anticommunist and the most left-leaning of any constituency” in the United States. He made this comment in the context of noting how a young man by the name of Barack Obama had come under the influence of a black communist by the name of Frank Marshall Davis. Horne, a history professor at the University of Houston, noted that Davis, who moved to Honolulu from Kansas in 1948 “at the suggestion of his good friend Paul Robeson,” came into contact with Barack Obama and his family and became the young man’s mentor, influencing Obama’s sense of identity and career moves.

Davis was an unrepentant communist who stayed with the Communist Party even after the Hitler-Stalin pact.

Today, despite what David Limbaugh says, black America remains a reliable voting bloc for the socialist policies of the Democratic Party. Trump in 2016 received only 8 percent of the black vote. Among blacks, Joe Biden leads in current polls by an 83-8 percent, or 75-point, margin. Claims by websites such as Gateway Pundit about black support for Trump being “at historic levels” are not based in reality.

After President Trump tweeted that he was “saddened to hear the news of civil rights hero John Lewis passing,” Congressional Black Caucus Chair Rep. Karen Bass, (D-Calif.), rejected his statement, saying, “Please let us mourn in peace.” This was another indication that no matter what Trump does for the black community, in terms of jobs and economic opportunities, its “leaders” will always reject Republicans, conservatives, and capitalism.
But there’s more to the story than blacks being regarded as a voting bloc for socialism. There is racism. Davis, who called Robeson “the great one,” had anti-white attitudes, having been accused of being a “haole (Caucasian) hater” in Hawaii, and told a young Obama that black people “have a reason to hate [white people].” That is now coming out in the open through the presentations about “whiteness” at the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Ironically, Marx himself was a racist. Indeed, Nathaniel Weyl’s book, *Karl Marx: Racist*, documents his racially prejudiced views and how he would use the N-word about people and nations he regarded as inferior. Weyl was an ex-communist who broke with the Communist Party at the time of the Hitler-Stalin Pact in 1939.

By contrast, Robeson supported the Hitler-Stalin pact and was awarded the Stalin Peace Prize in 1952. This was 13 years before Lewis praised him at the Freedomways event.

Those who remain silent about this terrible stain on Lewis’s career are moral cowards, fearing status as would-be victims of cancel-culture. But blacks deserve the truth about how their own “leaders” betrayed them for a foreign ideology of slavery and murder that killed millions and still oppresses and threatens millions today.

By any objective standard, the Soviet Union’s bloody history makes America’s “Bloody Sunday” look minor by comparison. America made progress for people of all races while the USSR spread misery, death, and suffering. But John Lewis couldn’t bring himself to break with the legacy of Paul Robeson.

By appearing at the Freedomways event to pay tribute to Robeson, Lewis helped make communism acceptable in the black community. It is a terrible blot on his record that must be remembered as the American flag is lowered to half-staff in his honor. The
passing of John Lewis is indeed a tragedy but his legacy, which includes public praise of the communist liar Robeson, is in a way a tragedy, too.

It's sad to say, but Lewis actually set back the cause of civil rights by incorporating support for a communist figure and his ideology into a great and noble cause. Lewis’s devotion to “non-violence” was tainted by his praise for Robeson, a Soviet agent and stooge. He doesn’t deserve America’s accolades.

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