

BY R. CORT KIRKWOOD

Making an Example of Trump

On January 20, the Deep State, radical Left, Never Trump Republicans, and their leftist media information ministry inaugurated their president, but they weren't going to let his predecessor go peacefully.

Defeating Donald Trump wasn't enough. And even with Joe Biden safely in the White House, the Trump Derangement did not abate. The Democrats ignored the Constitution and held an impeachment trial in the Senate after impeaching him a second time, and not because he incited an "insurrection" at the U.S. Capitol on January 6.

Trump still threatened the leftist, ruling-class political establishment, as he had since he declared his presidential candidacy in 2015, when he exposed and stigmatized it.

That was an unforgivable sin. He had to be destroyed. And so, of course, must those who supported him.

That effort began, of course, *before* he won the GOP nomination. Leftists openly discussed impeaching him in April 2016.

Trump's anti-war, anti-free trade, pro-life, pro-Christian campaign threatened the GOP establishment and begat the rise of Never Trump Republicans. The possibility of such a president terrified the pro-abortion, pro-sodomy, anti-Christian Left.

Conventional inside-the-beltway conservatism was out. Conservatives would no longer play the Washington Generals to the Democrats' Harlem Globetrotters, as Michael Anton put it in the "The Flight 93 Election," the pro-Trump essay at *American Greatness* that so infuriated the housebroken Right.

Trump didn't care whom he offended, even after he won. He railed on Twitter against "Crooked Hillary," then after defeating her, bashed and sneered at "Sleepy Joe," "Crazy Nancy," and "Cryin' Chuck." He opposed illegal immigration. His Christmas greetings were explicitly Christian. He fought for the unborn. He attacked endless imperial wars abroad, and China's frightening power over the American economy. He didn't start a new war.

For the Deep State elite, it was DefCon 1.

The 24-7-365 campaign to vilify and destroy Trump reached apogee with the failed impeachment of 2019-2020. Trump had beaten the establishment again. The only hope was Biden.

The hate-Trump alliance wasn't finished, again, even after that suspect victory. The second kangaroo court tried and failed to ruin Trump, and now he and his America First ideas are poised to control the GOP for the foreseeable future.

Beyond that positive development, Trump did something few



Republicans would. He told the truth about the political establishment. He exposed the Deep State and its auxiliaries — the radical left, the Democrats, the mainstream media, the Never Trump Republicans — for what they are: anti-white, anti-Christian, anti-American. He stigmatized them in eyes of ordinary Americans.

So too, by the way, did the late and lamented Rush Limbaugh, even with all his faults, which included supporting the failed George W. Bush, who

gave us a 17-year, \$5 trillion, 7,000 KIA war. Limbaugh relentlessly attacked Democrats, most notably Bill Clinton and Barack Obama, and ruined their images with ordinary Americans. On occasion, he uttered the unthinkable. He broke some taboos. And after blindly supporting the establishment GOP through the years, he switched to Trump. When Limbaugh died, Twitter leftists erupted in elation. "Rot in hell" and "rest in pi**," they tweeted with sadistic glee.

The hysteria is familiar. Six decades ago, when Senator Joe McCarthy proved that communists had penetrated the government, and the Democrat-Republican establishment knew about and in some cases supported the subversion, he was politically assassinated. Trump has learned McCarthy's lesson. You don't expose the Deep State and get away with it.

The second impeachment was payback. A conviction would stigmatize *him* — forever. That failed, and instead Trump is leading a more conservative, America First movement and by and large controls the GOP. So the Left is now attacking conservatives in general. Example: Any claim of election fraud is now a "lie" and "debunked conspiracy theory." Facebook and Twitter are censoring such claims.

Writing again at *American Greatness*, Anton explained that leftist pundit Andrew Sullivan obsessively insisted, during an interview, that Anton say that Biden won fair and square on November 3. So we must not only accept Biden's shady victory, we must also believe he won fair and square, *and* that tales of crooked votes are a crazy pro-Trump narrative.

Thus, what the Left calls "our democracy" really means "blues perpetually outvoting reds and ruling unopposed," Anton wrote. "The purpose of voting today is ... to give a democratic veneer to an undemocratic regime.... 'Our Democracy™' — I lost count how many times Sullivan flung it at me — is a weaponized term meant to assert moral superiority and squelch dissent."

But moral superiority cannot be asserted if dissidents relentlessly tell the truth. Trump did, and freed patriots to do the same. That explains why the Left cannot allow him to return, and why its war against the rest of us will never end. ■

R. Cort Kirkwood is a former newspaper editor.