

## Communist Party of England (Marxist-Leninist), counter-revolutionary group

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*EROL Note: A report from police spy HN45, embedded around the Revolutionary Marxist Leninist League, in December 1972 to Special Branch (referenced as “from a usually reliable source”) repeated an analysis purporting to be “obtained from a source close to the Chinese Embassy” in London that accused the CPE(ML) of being a “counter-revolutionary” group and even possibly financed by the Soviet Union. Neither charge were true or substantiated but were reflective of the political distrust and hyperbole that passed for political analysis. The young CPE(ML) seems millennial, ultra-activist and sectarian in their idealism and political practice. The state’s security forces, in a self-serving exaggeration, boasted of “securely penetrated the CPE (M-L) — the most violent organisation of the ultra-left whose basic policies include direct confrontation with police.” [source](#) RMLL leader, Manchanda is most likely candidate referred to in the report as “a source close to the Chinese Embassy.”*

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“For some time now, it has been generally agreed that the work carried out by the CPE(ML) is in fact ‘counter-revolutionary’ and that they are generally mistrusted by most other revolutionary and left wing groups; There is widespread speculation as to the Party’s motives and it is felt in certain circles they are being manipulated in order to bring discredit on the country whose doctrines they allegedly follow, ie China.

The reason given for the party being ultra-left to the point of fascism and thus being counter-revolutionary are:

- 1) They have no communication between other left groups, nor do they supply literature in persons other than working class people, usually in

- the streets. Certain of their policies, which appear to be communist would not stand up to argument by other politically minded persons.
- 2) When confronting working class people, they behave in a vehement manner, shouting slogans and acting in what is described as “the fascist way”.
  - 3) Although they advocate armed revolution for the working class and say that they will lead them to become the ruling class there are very few workers involved in the party. When ordinary people attended so-called public meetings they are met with such suspicion and hostility that they often leave the meeting.
  - 4) Visitors to their bookshop in Old Kent Road are usually asked in no uncertain terms why they have come to the shop and why they wish to purchase literature.
  - 5) At every opportunity they will have a violent confrontation with Police, usually in a public place, where ordinary people can see. These confrontations are invariably accompanied by the waving of red books and shouting of slogans.

The overall picture therefore is one of an attempt to discredit China in the eyes of ordinary working class people. It is also accepted that public opinion is usually pro-Police and for this reason they (CPE(ML)) confront Police at every opportunity.

It now follows that if the Party is seen in a counter-revolutionary role and attempting in a subtle way to discredit the Peoples Republic of China then some other organisation must be manipulating the CPE(ML) from behind the scene.

There is one theory prevalent among many other groups, and is discussed quite openly, that the party was set up by the CIA. This however is discounted by sources close to the Chinese Embassy who believe that the CPE (ML) is financed and run from the Soviet Embassy.

The CPE (ML) seems to have plentiful resources and are able to produce vast amounts of literature, much of which is given free of charge. No collections are ever made at public meetings and refreshments are usually available free of charge.

All the above information has been obtained from a source close to the Chinese Embassy.”

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