



ENTENT-TÚ



A journal of free Talossan news and opinion

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Gary dares call it treason!

King Robert I may be gone, but his spirit lives on in some corners of the Kingdom of Talossa. Gary Cone, friend of the King for over twenty-five years, has broken the hopeful consensus of the past few days and come out swinging on the Kingdom's discussion forum.

Cone's attack sounds like something that could have been drafted by the ex-King (perhaps it was?), including the overheated rhetoric about "traitors" and "treachery" which comes out whenever Madison is threatened. Cone repeats the ex-King's demand that to be a loyal Talossan, one must "disavow all links" to traitors - defined as whoever is pissing him off that week.

Interestingly enough, Cone goes on to comment that "new traitors always link back to previous ones". This is actually true - in as far as the definition of a traitor in Ben's eyes, since 1997, is anyone who he sees as "linked" to a political enemy. Of course, it's this very demand for "disavowal" which **creates traitors**. People who won't give up their friendships and alliances because their friend or ally is on Ben's shit-list go on that shitlist itself. And new people who go on the shitlist often become curious whether the older names on the shitlist were all that bad, really.

It's clear that Gary only knows as much about the true history of Talossa (post 1980) as Ben has seen fit to tell him. As a public service to our readers, we give short corrections to some of Gary's claims here:

GARY: "The ROTters linked back to the Penguins [sic]."

FACT: The founders of the Republic only hooked up with ex-Penguineans

Who we are

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after having been driven out of the Kingdom.

GARY: "The Penguins [sic] linked back to Wardlow and Sauls."

FACT: Gary's time sequence is backward, as well as his chain of causality. Wardlow and Sauls were declared traitors *only because* of their refusal to break all links with Penguineans, who had done nothing worse than start a new micronation and complain about their treatment by the then-King.

GARY: "The ZPT name means "Defenders of the Kingdom of Talossa", and true to the name, it has always been the true conscience of Talossa, even as a lonely voice in the wilderness."

FACT: The ZPT, under the leadership of Marcüs Pitz from 1997-1999, were opposed to the demonisation of Penguineans, before as well as after their expulsion from Talossa. In fact, the ZPT was part of Dan Wardlow's "Peace And Freedom Party" coalition in 1998. If under Gary's leadership the ZPT are now just another mouthpiece for the ex-King's twisted view of the world, then it's a sad betrayal of the history of a fine party.

GARY: "The CLP represents nothing more than naked aggression, power hunger, and underhanded maneuvers."

FACT: Coming from an associate of

R. Ben Madison, the only possible response to that is **pot, kettle, black**.

Gary Cone has never met most of the people he's slandering as "traitors". Instead, he takes his old friend Ben's view of things as gospel. In announcing that he intends to quit immediately after casting a spoiler vote "to deny the CLP what few slivers of the Ziu I can", Gary has joined the ranks of those who, in the words of new Prime Minister Fritz Buchholtz, put their loyalty to the King above their loyalty to Talossa.

As Buchholtz also points out, "it's not the Republic who are trying to destroy the Kingdom" - it becomes more and more obvious that it's the ex-King and his cronies who are trying to do that. Gary's closing remarks, hinting not-too-subtly that the CLP leadership are neo-Nazis, effectively sum up the Royalist attitude to debate in Talossa - smear and witchhunting.

Thankfully, after Cone departs to join his monarch, the ZPT seats will probably be in the hands of the significantly less prejudiced and vitriolic Marc Moisan. It's to be hoped that the new Kingdom leadership will encourage a culture of open and friendly debate in the new Talossa.

ROYALISTS SABOTAGE IMMIGRATION?

What has happened to the Kingdom's Immigration page: <http://my.execpc.com/~talossalimmigration.html>? All the rest of the Kingdom's official webpages - now in the possession of the ex-King - are still functioning. The fact that the ex-King seems to have taken down only the Immigration page suggests a deliberate act of sabotage - but also that he hasn't given up on Talossa yet. Could the ex-King be planning to declare his circle of friends "the real Talossa" and resort to the same kind of "poaching of potential citizens online" which he has falsely accused the Republic? The Kingdom should be repairing its online immigration service as a matter of urgency.