

Book Review: James Heartfield, *British Workers & the US Civil War: How Karl Marx and the Lancashire Weavers Joined Abraham Lincoln's Fight against Slavery 150 Years Ago*. London: Reverspective, Ltd., 2012. ISBN: 978-0956806123 (Paperback). 40 Pages. £5

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You may have caught late night classics-in-the-making such as *Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter* or *Abraham Lincoln vs. Zombies*. Well, I have one for you that happens to be true according to historian James Heartfield. What do Abraham Lincoln, weavers in Lancashire, Britain, Karl Marx, and the US Republican Party have in common? They all collaborated in the fight against the Confederacy and the regime of slavery that it represented.

In his fascinating albeit abbreviated work, Heartfield, a British journalist and former member of the Revolutionary Communist Party, weaves a story of cross-Atlantic solidarity and social movement building while laying bare uncomfortable truths. He shows us that Britain was in a position to determine the balance of the US Civil War for a number of years until 1963. However, the British government and elites displayed a contradiction that uncovered the dark nature of power in the classical manner that Chomsky lays bare as the nature of American Imperialism. Britain publically disdained slavery, going so far as to search its merchant ships on the high seas under suspicion of slave activity. Logically, then, one would expect that had Britain intervened in the Civil War, it would be on the side of the Union lead by Lincoln. According to

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