

# Michael Flynn appears to have called QAnon 'total nonsense' despite his links | The Guardian

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November 30, 2021

Michael Flynn, Donald Trump's first national security adviser, appears to have called QAnon "total nonsense" and a "disinformation campaign" created by the CIA and the political left – despite his own extensive links to the conspiracy theory and seeming eagerness to serve as its hero.

Flynn's apparent statement was revealed by Lin Wood, a pro-Trump attorney and QAnon supporter once allied with the disgraced former general.

QAnon followers believe in the existence of a secret cabal of pederastic cannibal Satanists, dominated by Democrats, against whom Trump is fighting. Followers also believe John F Kennedy Jr is not dead and will soon return to lead them. Many recently congregated in Dallas, waiting for that to happen. The FBI considers QAnon a potential source of extremist violence.

Trump has refused to disavow QAnon believers. Tucker Carlson, of Fox News, called them "gentle patriots".

Late on Saturday, Wood released a recording of what appeared to be a call between him and Flynn on Telegram, a social media and messaging app favored by far-right extremists. During the conversation, a voice that appears to be Wood is heard to complain that QAnon followers are coming after him online.

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