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The Price of Freedom is Eternal Vigilance

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Thought for the Week: In politics, nothing happens by accident.

If it happens, you can bet it was planned that way. - *Franklin D. Roosevelt*

WHY GOVERNMENT WILL NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN By Tom Burton

Apr 14, 2020 <https://www.afr.com/politics/federal/why-government-will-never-be-the-same-again-20200408-p54i3n>

Three weeks into the COVID-19 crisis and it is clear government will never be the same again. Federal and state old-school portfolios are being subsumed into new whole-of-government approaches, Cabinet government has been rewritten, federalism is being flattened, and a raft of radical new digital practices adopted... In the front end, schools and universities are completely rewriting curriculums for online delivery; prescription drugs can now be obtained without visiting a doctor or chemist; and the entire judiciary has gone virtual. All this in weeks.

Chris Eccles, now resigned, the head of Victoria's Department of Premier and Cabinet, has redesigned the Victorian public service in a fortnight...The Victorian public service... has in less than a fortnight been completely rebuilt around eight core missions — ditching its decades-long, powerful cluster model.

Secretaries are leading these missions and reporting to a Crisis Council of Cabinet (CCC). Seven ministers have been sworn-in with new portfolios with responsibility for leading all COVID-19 response activities in their respective departments, while keeping their current portfolio responsibilities.

The remake see's the CCC subsume all cabinet committees and the CCC determine all significant matters of policy, administration, budget and legislation required to respond to COVID-19. The CCC is now the primary Victorian decision-making body to authorise and implement the decisions of the National Cabinet...

Included in the plan is a special group of ministerial advisers and senior bureaucrats to ensure the politics and policy are aligned. This is a revolutionary idea for traditional Westminster government where officials have long complained about the influence of (often youthful) ministerial "staffers."

NOTHING HAPPENS BY ACCIDENT By Arnis Luks

In my research for this week I have looked at the public service in particular. My principal concern is the deconstruction of our ancient freedoms and how this may have come about. In Victoria in particular, with the declaration of the 'state of emergency' and subsequent 'state of disaster', freedoms held for over 800 years, that were then (*Magna Carta 1215*) wrestled from an ancient tyrant are now being undone by a modern day tyrant. What shape has this tyrant taken ?

The prerogative writ of *habeas corpus* is one of the most ancient rights in our legal system. In the past few years it has been the remedy sought in a number of widely reported cases, be it those cases involving "detainees" in immigration facilities in Australia and Nauru, or those cases brought in the US regarding detainees in Guantanamo Bay. In each of these cases, the release of these people has been sought via the writ of habeas corpus. With the COVID-19 lockdown, the courts were able to roll back this ancient Right in a matter of several days. Video court hearings are now taking place. Private conversations between parties (judge, lawyer, defendant, plaintiff) in any litigation are now potentially available for interception. It couldn't happen you say! Microsoft, Apple, Google, Facebook, Twitter and Zoom are all your friends and wouldn't do that, you say !

Another ancient freedom put aside is trial by jury. The prospect of languishing in jail to await the lockdown being lifted is now before many who face the courts. The jury system has also been rolled back due to the lockdown, limiting to trial by video & judge alone. Justice Delayed is Justice Denied.

Magna Carta 1215 had something to say about these two ancient Rights, *habeas corpus* going further back to the Common Law. It is extraordinary that this could be put in place in such a narrow time window.

These things cannot occur without a raft of planning measures, legislation and budget allocations being put in place over many, many years. *(I worked for a company with a staff of around 2,000. Any structural changes were small and demonstrably logical in their progression. They were not hugely radical that may upset the good workings and stable function of the company.-ed)* With a public service of some 1.8 million, any changes would be significantly smaller and carefully viewed, reviewed and considered many times over. *(Secure video conferencing for that company I worked for cost them many millions, from the original feasibility study, to planning, facilities design and construction, procurement, installation and testing, all prior to handover to begin training and final sign off.-ed)*

The Prime Minister announced on 5 March 2020, the Australian Government has activated the National Coordination Mechanism (NCM) in response to the spread of COVID-19. This occurred the week before the pandemic was declared by the WHO 11th March.

*WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing on COVID-19 11 March 2020
There are now more than 118,000 cases in 114 countries, and 4,291 people have lost their lives...
Thousands more are fighting for their lives in hospitals.*

COVID-19 TESTING IN AUSTRALIA

- information for health professionals 1 October 2020.
<https://www.tga.gov.au/covid-19-testing-australia-information-health-professionals>

Tests for COVID-19 aim to detect the causative virus, SARS-CoV-2, or an immune response to SARS-CoV-2.

The reliability of COVID-19 tests is uncertain due to the limited evidence base. Available evidence mainly comes from symptomatic patients, and their clinical role in detecting asymptomatic carriers is unclear.

In light of the publicised information that (COAG) Council of Australian Governments restructured into the National Cabinet across the weekend 13th to 15th of March by the suggestion of our Prime Minister is extraordinary to say the least, almost unbelievable that the Westminster system of parliamentary democracy was put aside over that weekend by the actions of one man. Can you believe it !

<https://theconversation.com/will-national-cabinet-change-federal-state-dynamics-145443>

On 14 April 2020, Prime Minister Morrison was reported saying, "The processes we've established for the National Cabinet may prove to be a better way for our federal system to work in the future, but this will be a matter for another time".

On 29 May 2020 Prime Minister Scott Morrison says all states and territories have agreed to dump COAG and replace it with National Cabinet

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-05-29/coronavirus-australia-live-news-covid-19-latest-national-cabinet/12297804>

No public consultation - no discussion - no endorsement by Parliament (voting across both houses with Royal Assent), no referenda for the people, nothing. A temporary measure of an unverifiable threat becoming permanent over a 10 week period.

Public policy specialist Jennifer Menzies describes the National Cabinet as "COAG by another name", which has taken on a leadership role during a time of national crisis. She writes "Though called a cabinet, the National Cabinet is technically an intergovernmental forum. The conventions and rules of cabinet, such as cabinet solidarity and the secrecy provisions, do not apply to the National Cabinet. Its power is that which the leaders of all Australian jurisdictions bring to negotiate on behalf of their people, and to implement the decisions reached. This model is called "Executive Federalism".

In this model, the citizens of each state or territory are represented by their elected heads, and the smaller states have equal representation. A forum such as the National Cabinet is open to criticism as undemocratic, as the role of the Australian Parliament is put to one side. However, the National Cabinet is based on negotiation and compromise among the states, rather than the will of the majority. Parliament is suspended rather than prorogued (dissolved); Parliament will pass legislation based on decisions made by the National Cabinet. Once the crisis has passed, all decisions taken by the Cabinet will fall under the scrutiny of normal democratic processes and thus be accountable for all decisions taken."

Further reading on a similar line dated 2011 is available here: Kildea, Paul; Lynch, Andrew --- "Entrenching 'Cooperative Federalism': Is it Time to Formalise COAG's place in the Australian Federation?" [2011] UNSWLRS 25 <http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/journals/UNSWLRS/2011/25.html>

In an Institute of Public Administration Australia podcast, Public Service Commissioner Peter Woolcott observed: "What this crisis (COVID-19) is doing is actually driving those reforms in a very real and practical way." Woolcott comes from a storied public service family (he is the son of long-time diplomat Richard

Woolcott) and was chief of staff to former prime minister Malcolm Turnbull...The same sentiment was reflected in an open letter sent out on Easter Eve to all APS staff from Prime Minister and Cabinet Secretary, Phil Gaetjens and Public Service Commissioner Peter Woolcott. "The change that is taking place right now and the lessons of this crisis will be fundamental to the future of the APS, Gatjens said. We are reforming in practice as we act to respond to COVID-19. We are more connected, responsive and adaptable than ever."

PUBLIC SERVICE ACT 1999 - SECT 64 established the Secretaries Board as the Australian Public Servants' principal service-wide governance body.

Established by the Secretaries Board, the Chief Operating Officers Committee includes the COOs from all departments and major agencies, first met in February 2020 (*a couple of weeks before COVID-19 declaration as a pandemic-ed*) with a remit to embed an enterprise-wide approach to APS operations and management – has emerged as the clearing house for the nearly \$70 billion of resources federal agencies typically spend across over 1000 different entities.

The COO Committee was set up in response to the primary recommendation of David Thodey's Australian Public Service (APS) reform plan for "one APS" March 1999, (*a period of 21 years in the ongoing consultation, research, analysis, recommendational reviews, planning, development and implementation just several weeks*

before the pandemic declaration with an allocated spend of \$70 Billion. It is hard to believe how lucky we are).

"Just prior to the Second World War a spokesman for the Fabian-Marxist organisation known as (PEP) Political and Economic Planning, made the highly significant statement that it was only in war, or "under the threat of war", that the British people would accept large-scale planning. Since that statement was made there has been both war and the threat of war, with the result that the British world has been badly fragmented, while British communities everywhere have been subjected to policies designed to destroy their traditional foundations. Growing instability and a series of ever-worsening crises have been used to try to stampede the individual into surrendering more control over his own affairs to centralised bureaucracies. The ultimate objective of the Big Idea is the World State." *The New Times* Vol. 39, No. 11 November 1973

Extraordinary you say! It gets better including the Rockefeller Foundation and RAND Corporation, the World Economic Forum and United Nations. The concept, design and planning for the surveillance state was from western think tanks, institutes and corporations and then trialled firstly in China, the existing police state. Suffice to repeat Franklin D. Roosevelt's Thought for the Week:

*In politics, nothing happens by accident.
If it happens, you can bet it was planned that way.*

THE ACCELERATING BREAK UP by Eric D. Butler

On Target Vol 33 No 06 21 February 1997

A major feature of the break up of every Civilisation is that the great majority of people do not realise what is happening. A few more perceptive people, who have sometimes been described as prophets, have attempted in vain to warn their fellows of what is going to happen if they do not mend their ways. The story of Isaiah is well known to most Christians. God did warn Isaiah that he was not going to get too far with his warnings to his fellows. But God did refer to a remnant, which was the hope for the future.

There have been some brilliant descriptions of the break up of past Civilisations. Gibbon comes to mind. But Gibbon did not deal with basic causes. The genius of the man who gave the world what he described as "Social Credit", C.H. Douglas, correctly pointed out that the major cause of the collapse of Rome was the debt system of finance, along with high taxation and continuous monetary inflation, thus fostering an increasing centralisation of power in an attempt to deal with what in essence were effects. It was the centralisation of power, which was the major cause of the ultimate collapse.

It is a folly and wishful thinking to believe that the

death of Western Civilisation can be avoided by still more centralisation, which is akin to attempting to cure alcoholism by increased consumption of alcohol. The creation of a united Western Europe was the first major attempt to reconstruct the world, ultimately leading to some type of a New World Order. Social Crediters, having studied social dynamics, correctly predicted that what is commonly known, as the Common Market must ultimately prove disastrous.

The evidence now pours in from all parts of Western Europe: The Common Market is rapidly disintegrating. Much to the consternation of the centralisers, the younger members of the Western European nations are becoming increasingly nationalistic. There is increasing violence as young Germans, for example, watch a flood of non Germans pouring into a country where unemployment is running at high levels. Increasing numbers of French electors are turning to the Le Pen movement. The massive electoral support this movement is recruiting is a reaction to the centralist programme. Clearly public opinion in the United Kingdom has become increasingly hostile to the Common Market concept. Multiculturalism is in disarray everywhere.

Most people have forgotten that a United Nations "peacekeeping" force has been operating for several decades now in Cyprus. In spite of this there are periodic outbreaks of violence between the Greeks and the Turks. A United Nations force has operated in the Middle East ever since the Zionist invasion took place back in 1948. Those who believe that the Middle East is any closer to peace and stability because of numerous "summit" talks are deluding themselves. The Tamils in Sri-Lanka continue to make their violent protests against the Central Government. The less said about what is happening in Central Africa, the better. The euphoria concerning South Africa becomes weaker as growing violence takes place. The realists always insisted that this would be inevitable. The increasingly militant Moslems in Indonesia are now openly engaged in an orgy of destruction against the Chinese minority, many of whom are Christians. Clearly there is worse to come.

A major feature of growing conflict globally is the attempt to force nations to accept trade programmes at the expense of local communities. A feature of the current global scene is that the U.S.A. is being used as a major base by the Globalists to impose their policies internationally. The government of Taiwan has been bluntly told that they have to stop imposing protective policies against American food exports. Taiwan was led to believe over the years that it was a favoured ally of the United States. They are now learning that the policy makers of the U.S.A. have their own ideas concerning "allies". Australia's Minister for Trade, Tim Fischer, is currently starting to bleat about the threat of American exports to Australian markets. The reality is that a developing war programme, with the World Trade Organisation a major tool of the centralists, is producing one disaster after another.

Those Australians, who believe that the policy makers in the U.S.A. care two hoots about the much-vaunted ANZAS alliance, are living in a world of complete make-believe. Tensions inside Australia continue to mount as the Howard Government doggedly continues to try to impose policies, which must produce even greater social and other tensions.

Australia's only hope of survival is an acceptance of the fact that the human drama is dominated by absolutes. These absolutes can be violated but at a price. As centralism grows, social disorder grows. It can end in violence. Salvation depends upon an acceptance of the reality of absolutes. Decentralisation of power is a basic essential. Defeat of all policies of centralism slows down the growth of the tension and dislocation.

In order to understand fully the world scene as currently developing, it is essential to draw attention

to the Zionist-Jewish domination of the Clinton Administration in the U.S.A. Following the last American elections, with the re-election of President Clinton, over 50 percent of all major appointments in the field of policy making have been Jews. Although hushed up for a period, the background of Clinton American Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, has now been revealed. Her father was a prominent Jewish official in the Czech Communist Government before it collapsed.

It was the distinguished anti-Zionist Jewish writer and philosopher, Dr. Oscar Levy, who along with other courageous Jews warned the world of the consequences of over 2,000 years of Talmudic Madness, the concept of a Chosen Race. Levy said that every honest thinker had to face this reality. The madness, which is world wide, must produce its own bitter fruits. The rank and file of the Jewish people must be major victims of the growing backlash against the programme of those who claim to speak in their name.

As G.K. Chesterton said, the only hope for the world is the plight of the world and acceptance of the reality of absolutes. If those absolutes did not exist, mankind's plight would be hopeless. But it is not hopeless. The immediate future is going to be turbulent. Events have reached such a momentum that this truth must be accepted. This is not an expression of negative hopelessness but one of realism. We were told a long time ago that the truth will make us free. We must hold firmly to that faith as the storm clouds become increasingly more turbulent.

(The above are the notes of a series of addresses the author has been giving in northern New South Wales and southern Queensland.-ed)

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