

ON TARGET

A WEEKLY COMMENTARY ON THE COLD WAR

"We will bury you ... your children will grow up under Communism ..." Krushchev.

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Thought for the Week: "Remember, no man escapes when freedom fails,
The best men rot in filthy jails,
And those who cried 'appease', 'appease',
Are hanged by those they tried to please".

- Author Unknown.

HAROLD WILSON IN MOSCOW: According to reports from Moscow, British Prime Minister Harold Wilson was received by Soviet leader Kossygin with warm greetings, followed by a long talk. However, the dinner in honour of Mr. Wilson at the Kremlin was postponed for two hours because of a rally there in support of North Vietnam and the Viet Cong. The fact that this calculated insult to a British Prime Minister took place without making headlines around the world, and produced no protest from Mr. Wilson, proves three things:

1. Although he is a British Prime Minister and a dedicated Socialist, Mr. Harold Wilson was reminded that he is only a boy to be seen and not heard by his Socialist elders in Moscow.
2. The Communists have demonstrated once again their contempt for Western politicians as expressed in Khrushchev's famous words, "We spit in their eyes but they think it is only dew".
3. The story of the Soviet criminals "mellowing" and being less militant is strictly for the gullibles.

The Soviet leaders made it clear to Mr. Wilson that they regarded all his proposals on the Vietnam issue with the greatest of contempt. The Wilsons of the Western world can never make any genuine contribution to the defence of Civilization against the Communist conspiracy because they will not face the truth that there can be no compromise with the promoters of this conspiracy.

PRESS CENSORSHIP: One of the "proofs" offered that Rhodesia is a "police State", is that the Rhodesian Government has imposed a press censorship. In order to preserve law and order in the face of a

deliberate campaign to incite murder, arson and native uprisings, the Rhodesian Government does operate a very mild press censorship. But what about the press of the world which attacks censorship in Rhodesia?

In spite of a very cold night, a large and representative audience of Melbourne citizens met in the Assembly Hall last Monday evening, July 18, to hear Mr. Eric Butler lecture on Rhodesia. Mr. Butler is one of the best-informed men in the world today on the Rhodesian question, and a press interested in providing its readers with an up-to-date and intimate picture of Rhodesia would have reported at least some of the many highlights of Mr. Butler's lecture. Press representatives were invited to the meeting, and at least one did attend. But not one word of Mr. Butler's factual report appeared in any Melbourne newspaper. The press in fact operates its own censorship on the Rhodesian question.

WORLD COURT DECISION ON SOUTH-WEST AFRICA: The World Court's decision on South-West Africa has enraged the revolutionaries everywhere. The action against South Africa had been initiated by Liberia and Ethiopia, two of the most backward countries in the whole world, in which the most revolting and barbaric practices are regarded as normal. If the World Court had found against South Africa, there would have been an immediate demand by the revolutionaries that military action be taken to force South Africa out of South-West Africa. And the world's press would have featured and supported this demand.

The reaction of the revolutionaries to the World Court's decision is instructive on how they regard the rule of law. They only support international institutions like the World Court when they can use these institutions to further their own objectives. It is not surprising therefore that there are demands now that the World Court be "reformed" and that its decision be ignored. As it was Australian Sir Percy Spender who had the courage and independence to use his casting vote in favour of South Africa, it is certain that the revolutionaries will now intensify their campaign to have Australia branded as one of the last of the "colonial" and "racist" nations.

NEXT STAGE IN THE RHODESIAN DRAMA: Time is running out for Mr. Harold Wilson and his revolutionary supporters on the Rhodesian drama. Rhodesia has won the first round of the struggle since Independence was declared on November 11, 1965. The Rhodesian economy has weathered the economic war launched by Wilson and is being progressively strengthened. The main losses to date have been suffered by British business organisations which previously had an excellent market in Rhodesia. Rhodesian shops are now filled with non-British goods. British subsidies to Zambia have also meant further financial burdens on the British taxpayers. The next meeting of British Commonwealth Prime Ministers is

scheduled for September 6. Mr. Wilson must therefore resort to more desperate anti-Rhodesian measures in an attempt to convince the Africans like Kenyatta that he is really trying to topple the Smith Government. Zambia is the only instrument by which the Rhodesians can be seriously affected.

Kaunda of Zambia is pressing for more drastic economic measures against Rhodesia. But this is impossible unless Zambia can be provided with really massive economic assistance from elsewhere. If Zambia broke completely with Rhodesia, there can be little doubt that there would be serious short-term effects on the Rhodesian economy. For example, the Rhodesian railways, which obtain a large amount of revenue from transporting Zambian copper and other production, are the biggest single employers of labour in Rhodesia. Then there is the Wankie coalfield. Rhodesia also exports a large amount of manufactured goods to Zambia.

While a complete economic break with Rhodesia by Zambia could seriously hurt Rhodesia for a period, it would also be a desperate gamble for Zambia. Already there is evidence that Kaunda is adopting an anti-European attitude with the removal of some senior European officials. This can only result in the fears of the European community in Zambia growing to the stage where the present trickle of Europeans leaving Zambia grows to a flood. Without sufficient Europeans, particularly on the vital copper belt, Zambia could collapse internally under the prodding of the local revolutionaries, the most dangerous of these being Kaunda's Minister for External Affairs, Kepwepwe, a man with known Communist connections. An internal collapse in Zambia would be a tremendous victory for the international revolutionaries.

With his current financial problems, Mr. Wilson would find it impossible to impose upon British taxpayers the full burden of the huge bill necessary to subsidise Zambia to break completely with Rhodesia. Press reports have suggested that all other members of the British Commonwealth will be asked to help share the cost of this proposed economic blow against Rhodesia. A major crisis is developing on the Rhodesian issue. How this is resolved may well decide not only the fate of Rhodesia, but that of the British Commonwealth. Australians must do everything possible to ensure that their Government stands firm against any proposals to bring Rhodesia down through Zambia.

THE MYTH OF CHINESE COMMUNIST POWER: Red China, so long held up as a powerful bogey man by Walter Lippmann and the "liberal" group of pro-Communist American Senators typified by Morse and Mansfield, is now backing away from direct engagement with USA forces. Traditional Chinese warfare has always involved fearsome masks and displays of

fire crackers to intimidate and to discourage the enemy. The gangsters at present running Red China with typical bureaucratic totalitarian inefficiency, have adopted similar tactics with bloodthirsty threats and warlike invective. These gangsters have relied upon the mass media to carry this psychological warfare to the Western peoples. If the bombing of Hanoi and Haiphong oil installations has done nothing else, it has demonstrated the correctness of assessments of Asian military and political leaders from the Phillipines to Formosa; that the Red Chinese fear direct military conflict.

Following the clear demonstration that the Red Chinese were not going to respond to the bombing of Hanoi and Haiphong by direct intervention in Vietnam, the oracle Walter Lippmann made a subtle slide to a new position. We imagine that even he was a little nonplussed by the Red Chinese announcement that North Vietnam was now on its own. Now Lippman takes up an old theme: that those Vietnamese Communists are really "agrarian reformers". And that America should be nice to them.

It is important to bear in mind that President Johnson's harder line on bombing followed the public opinion polls in the USA which showed a steady drop in Johnson's public support because he was not taking a stronger military stand in the war in Vietnam. There has been a steady grass-roots upsurge in the USA demanding an end to the no-win policy in Vietnam. President Johnson has had to react because of the Congressional Elections in November.

Grass - roots anti-Communist activities in the USA have therefore demonstrated two most important facts: that these can shift Government policies; and that a tougher line against the Communists exposes their basic weaknesses.

COMMUNIST SPYING IN HIGH PLACES: Anti-Communists are often met with a sneer from those sophisticated people who say it is childish to believe in conspiracies. "You people see Communists under your beds", it is said. It is not Communists under beds who threaten the West, but men like American Lt-Col William Henry Whalen, who has been charged with selling atom secrets to Soviet Russia. Whalen served with the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, the nation's highest planning group. Whalen was in the position to provide information concerning the most vital aspects of American defence.

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