



ON TARGET

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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance—

Vol. 12 No. 5

February 20th, 1976

Thought for the Week: "The history of the world-revolution conspiracy is of absorbing interest to students. It is so old that its original root is hard to find, but the continuing development of the idea can be picked up at almost any period. In this century it has made great gains and the present ambition is evidently to complete the process during the remainder of the century: to this end the ruination of all law and order in Africa is obviously held to be a paramount necessity".

- Douglas Reed in "The Siege of Southern Africa".

RHODESIA "TO FIGHT ON; WITH COURAGE, DETERMINATION AND FAITH!": With the Soviet victory in Angola almost complete, it is not surprising that the Soviet is now preparing to promote a major assault on Rhodesia. Intelligence sources estimate that there are fifteen thousand African guerrillas, many Soviet-trained, in holding camps in Northern Mozambique, waiting to infiltrate Rhodesia. As South African Prime Minister John Vorster has charged, "the free world shirked its duty in Angola". The vital question now facing the non-Communist world is whether it can find the moral backbone to back the Rhodesians to defend a major front line in the battle for the world. We have over the years warned that the non-Communist nations were helping to dig their own graves by uniting with the Communists in the "United" Nations against Rhodesia. Even as the Rhodesians brace themselves for their greatest test to date, Western nations including Australia, still maintain economic sanctions against Rhodesia while at the same time sending further economic blood transfusions to the Soviet Union.

While all those who know the realities of Africa are not surprised that a majority of the members of the Organisation of African Unity are now moving towards accepting the Soviet-backed MPLA as the legal government of Angola, they observe that the Africans are merely reflecting the policies of the Western nations. Running true to form, the Wilson Government in the U.K. is letting it be known that it will accept the MPLA. It is argued that any Government clearly in control of a country must be accepted as the legitimate Government, irrespective of how it came to power. But this argument does not apply to the Rhodesians, whose internal stability may be judged by the fact that large numbers of European women are running their farms while their husbands are away in the armed forces. The Africans continue to maintain their traditional loyalty to those who have done so much to help them along the road to real progress. Where is the loyalty of the European world towards a small group of fellow Europeans holding a front line for them on the Zambesi? This is a question which Prime Minister Fraser and his colleagues might care to direct their attention. Mr. Fraser is to be congratulated for drawing attention to the Soviet's strategy in the Indian Ocean, and to the significance of the re-opening of the Suez Canal. But can his Government not give a lead to the rest of the non-Communist

world on the Soviet thrust against Rhodesia and South Africa? Some of our readers will recall a stirring address some years back by Defence Minister Jim Killen, who assured his listeners that he would stand or fall on the Rhodesian issue. Now would be an opportune time for a stand.

If press reports are correct, the South Africans do not appear to feel that the West is going to back them to make a stand. They are therefore attempting to play for time by seeking to avoid a major military confrontation in Southern Angola. South African leaders may feel that the MPLA will ultimately free itself of Soviet control and that they should therefore attempt to come to some type of terms with it. But the South Africans attempted to come to terms with the Marxist Government in Mozambique. That Government has now made it clear that it is going to support the coming assault on Rhodesia. Supplies of Soviet military equipment, some of it extremely sophisticated, are now pouring into Mozambique through the Port of Beira.

How do the Rhodesians see the deepening crisis? We have no doubt that Prime Minister Ian Smith, in a public address on February 6th, summarised the mood of the overwhelming majority of Rhodesians: "It is now clear that in the coming months our determination and our experience will be put to the test... We shall need this moral courage in full measure, for in the coming months we will also be subjected to psychological warfare more intensive and more insidious than ever before. We shall be urged by some people to heed the lessons of Mozambique and Angola and to surrender now in order to avoid chaos and strife such as that which is presently occurring in Angola... You may well ask what we in Rhodesia can do in the face of the gloomy situation I have outlined. I believe that there is only one course open to us - to fight on; with courage, determination and faith in our own destiny; to demonstrate those qualities which enabled the free world to win against the heavy odds which confronted them in the last world war. The only alternative is to surrender to the forces of evil, which, I am sure, is as unthinkable to you as it is to me. I have no doubt which course Rhodesians will choose".

The very spirit of the magnificent Rhodesian stand may yet spark into life the dormant spirit of the Free World, bringing with it an awakening in time to avoid the darkness now threatening the whole of mankind.

SOME FRANK WORDS: We have now experienced yet another astronomical increase in our postal charges, this adding an additional \$5,000 a year to our postal bill. With the co-operation of our printer, who has kept printing costs to a minimum, we have until now survived and expanded. But now we are faced with a new situation. Readers can co-operate by paying their subscriptions IMMEDIATELY.

The 1976 Basic Fund is still lagging and the total of \$40,000 MUST be obtained. At the very least. The League is facing its greatest test and we dare not stumble at this moment in the nation's history. Please forward donations as soon as possible.

FORMER LIBERAL MINISTER QUESTIONS INTEGRITY OF TREASURY: "Federal Treasury officials had 'misbehaved' and 'misinformed' several governments, a former Social Services Minister, Mr. W. C. Wentworth, said today".

- "The Herald" (Melbourne) February 10th.

We agree with Mr. Wentworth that the economy could be improved by reducing taxation: this is one of the points of the Petersen Plan.

In calling for the control of the amount of money in circulation; he no doubt means, in some sort of

way, that we must not have "too much money chasing too few goods" - as this would be inflationary. We are still mystified as to the goods which are not available, if one has the money to buy them. The stores are literally bulging with goods for sale, and there are "post-Christmas", "closing down", "pre-winter", "never-to-be-repeated" sales everywhere.

The amount of money in circulation can certainly be reduced by using consumer credits: another point of the Petersen Plan. If the amount of money now necessary to finance the new national wage increases were applied to consumer credits, there would be a marked lowering in overall prices, inflation would be slowed right down, and even reversed, with the reduction in taxation referred to above. "No way", says the Treasury.

Mr. Wentworth did raise an interesting point. He said: "In proper terms there was no Government deficit because \$4,800 million in capital works were charged against the Budget.

"Australia was one of the few countries in the world that adopted this practice".

All this means really is that if other budgetary practices had been employed there would either have been a most drastic reduction in capital works, and hence severe unemployment, or the capital works would have been financed from taxation; the method used by most other Western countries. If so, then our taxation would have been considerably higher. It's the old story of the swings and the roundabouts! Whilst on the unpleasant subject of unemployment, we cannot see any alleviation of this in the immediate future; rather the reverse. The Melbourne Chamber of Commerce warned, as was reported in "The Age" (Melbourne) February 16th, that unemployment will **exceed** 400,000 by the end of April, this year.

Mr. Ian Spicer, the Secretary of the Victorian Employers' Federation, in the same report said that the new wage increases (6.4%) would add \$2,000 million to the national annual wage bill: the cost to employers would be much greater after payroll tax and workers' compensation increases were adjusted. All employers of labour, reading these lines, are fully aware of the implications of the thumping increases in workers' compensation premiums last year. All these massive increases are to be pushed forward into costs, then prices -- to be met with fresh wage demands. And so it goes on. Labour is now a luxury to the small to medium sized business. Proprietors will be looking at every way to cut staff: and certainly to avoid replacing those not absolutely essential.

We do not consider that an unemployment figure of even 7-8% by the end of this year in Australia is unrealistic. It is the implications which are **frightening**. Yes, the implications are revolutionary. The Communist-controlled unions will have the right causes for industrial warfare: short, sharp clashes as predicted by Laurie Carmichael, and confrontations with a non-Labor Government, catapulted into office by a "conspiracy", a "coup d'etat", brought about by a "wicked, deceitful" Governor-General, aided in his foul plottings by no less a person than the Chief Justice of the High Court. So "Shame, Fraser, Shame"; "restore democracy", all over again; but this time with some real revolutionary spice added. The time is approaching when Australians will see revolutionary blood in the streets.

BRIEF COMMENTS: Mr. H. W. Herbert, Queensland economist has been making some pithy observations of late. In his column in the "Sunday Mail" (Brisbane) February 1st, he says that Australia no longer needs overseas capital, and that "in a recession, a large Budget deficit is essential but, unlike overdrafts and business loans, it does not have to be repaid". Mr. Herbert argues that there is not, and

