



ON TARGET

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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance—

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THE SHAMING OF AUSTRALIA:

By Eric D. Butler.

In a letter dated April 14th., I asked Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Tony Street, to provide me with a list of the States being invited to the Melbourne Commonwealth Conference late in September, and to indicate those States which the Fraser Government considered as democratic. On May 20th, I received a letter from Mr. C.R.Ashwin, a First Assistance Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs, stating that Mr. Street had asked him to reply to my letter "dealing with the Government's policy on sporting contacts with South Africa." My letter did not seek any information concerning the Government's policy concerning sporting contacts with South Africa. I am familiar with the humbug, hypocrisy and double-talk used by Mr. Street and his Prime Minister in an endeavour to justify their vicious anti-South African campaign. What I wanted to know was what Commonwealth States were regarded as democratic. Mr. Street obviously does not want to answer that question, because to do so would be to admit that many of those being invited are dictators. By his refusal to admit this in writing, Mr. Street, echoing his Prime Minister's attitude, further confirms the fact that the government knows it is practising a type of diplomacy which should shame every decent Australian.

Prime Minister Fraser has demonstrated that he is a shallow, pig-headed man by his constant reference to his alleged success concerning Rhodesia. Every informed authority on Rhodesia, now so aptly described as Zimbabwe (Shona for a heap of ruins), knows that developments in what was once the most promising example of a successful multi-racial country on the African continent, are following the same disastrous pattern in every part of Africa from which there has been a premature withdrawal of the European colonial power. Forcing the British and other colonial powers out of Africa has been a long-term Communist objective. The Communists have over a long period of time built up a team of experts on African affairs, men who know far more about the realities of Africa than the Malcolm Frasers. The Communists know that the premature removal of European colonialism, and the mass exodus of Europeans, must result in the

chaos, bloodshed and general disaster which is now a feature of "liberated" Africa. Even Kenya, long hailed as an example of successful independence, is sliding down the general African slope towards growing famine and tribal friction. Nothing so graphically demonstrated the nature of African psychology than the standing ovations Idi Amin received at Organisation of African Unity (OAU) conferences when the former dictator of Uganda was striding the African stage. The same OAU is now demanding that New Zealand be isolated internationally if the South African rugby tour of New Zealand takes place.

A relatively short time ago it would have been thought impossible that Australia would be siding internationally with African tyrants against their fellow Anzacs across the Tasman. But Prime Minister Fraser, feverishly seeking to further the New International Economic Order strategy, is making it clear that he is prepared to sacrifice Australia's kith and kin, as he did in Rhodesia, to pursue his objectives. He has sought and gained the strong support of Fabian Socialist Pierre Elliott Trudeau in his pro-NIEO campaign. He is prepared to sacrifice the South Africans, even though the very African States he is attempting to court are, while publicly criticising South Africa, increasing their imports, much of these vital food supplies, from South Africa.

One of Malcolm Fraser's strongest allies in the betrayal of Rhodesia, was Nigeria. Mr. Audu, Nigerian Foreign Minister says concerning the anti-New Zealand campaign, "I suppose there is no harm in becoming a pariah State along with South Africa. New Zealand wouldn't be missed in the Commonwealth. How many are there? Two-and-a-half million people?" As an estimated two million Biafrans were killed, or died from the famine created by the tribal war in Nigeria, perhaps it is not surprising that Mr. Audu feels little concern about two million New Zealanders. But what about Australians? Are they prepared to back the Audus of Africa against their kith and kin in New Zealand? Australia failed the test when the Rhodesians were betrayed. It is unthinkable that they allow New Zealanders to be betrayed.

The coming Commonwealth Conference in Melbourne might decide once and for all how much value is a Commonwealth in which there are such sickening double standards. If Prime Minister Muldoon is forced to defend himself at the Melbourne Conference, it is to be hoped that he adheres to his suggestion that he could raise the question of the lack of human rights in some States criticising New Zealand. In an interview I did with Sir Roy Welensky, former Prime Minister of the Central African Federation (broken up by the treacherous British politicians), some years back, Sir Roy urged that the only value of a Commonwealth was that there be rules for the members. He suggested a two-tier membership, one for those accepting the Monarchical system of government, and one for those who rejected this. If Malcolm Fraser continues to support the Mugabes of Africa against New Zealanders, who are not only fellow Anzacs, but are loyal to the

Crown, he must be rejected in the strongest possible way by Australians.

Instancing the case of Irish independence leader Parnell, rejected by large numbers of Irish Catholics because of his mistress, Kitty O'Shea, Enoch Powell once suggested to me that some peripheral, unforeseen, issue often exploded into a major impact on events. How ironic is a game of football resulted in helping to clarify the future of the Commonwealth and much else! And forced Australians to have a look at themselves, their values and their loyalties.

BRIEF COMMENTS: A letter in "The Australian" urges Prime Minister Fraser and Opposition Leader Hayden to unite in opposing Sir Charles Court's suggestion of secession by West Australia, stating, "The sovereignty of the States must remain dependent at all times on the overall sovereignty of Australia." This is a dangerous falsification of the realities of the Federal system. The Federal Government was created BY THE STATES, TO SERVE THE STATES. There would be no talk of secession if the Federal Government was acting as a servant instead of being a master.

BASIC FUND SUCCESS: As the result of some magnificent last-minute contributions, and the provision of \$8000 in interest-free loans (these for expanding book imports) the League can announce that it has been able to carry through its planned programme for 1980-81. Telecom and postal break-downs were responsible for the delay in obtaining all figures from interstate. Since our last progress report, 36 supporters donated a further \$1791 which, together with the \$8000 available as interest-free loans, resulted in the League exceeding the "target" of \$55,000, the total being \$60,167. During the 1980-81 year the League found itself facing extra, unscheduled demands in order to support activities which the League felt were vital. The League contributed, directly and indirectly, \$10,000 towards the Christian Alternative Movement. We know of some supporters who, because of their support for the Christian Alternative Movement, felt that they could not make their normal financial contribution to the League's Basic Fund.

The sale and distribution of League literature reached another new record level, a continuation of the progressive expansion of recent years. All the evidence indicates that the demand for literature provided by the League will continue to expand, bringing an increasing number of new people in contact with the League. Past investment in League printing equipment continues to bear fruit, enabling the League to produce not only a growing volume of literature, but to ensure that it is produced at the lowest possible financial cost. The League is indebted to the team of volunteers who run printing presses at weekends, and to those in the team who provide the engineering expertise which enables machines to be

pulled down and repaired when inevitable problems occur.

Past investment in fast tape recording equipment is now producing a tremendous expansion in League influence, with a large variety of cassette tapes going out into the community in increasing numbers. League speakers now know that while perhaps, only 30 people are listening to them in a hall, their recorded address will be heard by thousands. It is planned to expand the tape cassette programme. League lecturers maintained the usual heavy programme of meetings, schools and Seminars. Rising costs, particularly transport costs, have been kept to an absolute minimum. Supporters who have filled petrol tanks and provided private accomodation, have also made an invaluable contribution. We appreciate the concern of several supporters who have been disturbed that National Director Eric Butler and his colleagues have taken to using bus transport for some interstate travel instead of the much quicker and more restful air travel. But with escalating air fares, League campaigners believe that they are morally obliged to use the lowest cost transport available in order to conserve funds donated by supporters.

In spite of rising costs, the League confidently anticipates that its expanding activities will ensure that the 1981-82 Basic Fund can be held at \$45,000. But a statement will be made in October when the Fund is opened. A few donations continue to trickle in, and these will be allocated to the 1981-82 Fund. Once again a large number of subscribers to League funds did not "get around" to subscribing to the Basic Fund, although many contributed to collections at meetings.

'SOMEWHERE SOUTH OF SUEZ'

Africa is now a kingpiece in the game and a great hand hovers over it: the hand which built Johannesburg on feet of gold . . . which reaches down for mining labour into the loneliest kraal, which spread the Communist area, by arms and not by conviction, from the centre of Europe to the Pacific, which set up the Political Zionists in Arabia.

The future, for Africa, will be absorbing to watch. In the final throws of the great twentieth-century game, it has been added to the stakes.

Douglas Reed.

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