



ON TARGET

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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance —

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "The night is far spent, the day is at hand; let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light." - Romans 13:12.

FORMER LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA ISSUES PRESS RELEASE ON WAR-CRIMES TRIALS:

Polyukovich...War Crimes Case...From Sir Walter Crocker (Nov. 10th):

"Sir Walter Crocker, when asked why he was taking a step so unusual for someone who has been Lieutenant Governor of South Australia for nine years, and before that Ambassador of Australia for nearly 20 years, as to participate in a public protest outside the Magistrate's Court dealing with Polyukhovich, made the following statement:

- 1) I am associating with the protestors though I have no connection with them. I admire their initiative and courage, but I belong to no party and am completely independent.
- 2) Nor am I condoning Nazi crimes - such have been my feelings about them that when World War 2 broke out I happened to be living in Europe, I volunteered at once for military service. I spent the next six years in the British Army.
- 3) Being 90-years-old I would prefer the peace of my garden and my books to public demonstrations in the street, but I feel that I must do all I can, slight as it may be, to draw the attention of my fellow citizens to certain facts about this case.
- 4) As a fourth generation South Australian, and with a life-long commitment to Australia's best interests, some of them neither fashionable nor popular, and with some professional knowledge of the circumstances of the case, I am much concerned about the way the trial has been brought about. Our Federal Government, in spite of including a number of men of undoubted integrity and ability, has agreed to the trial through giving into the pressures of a lobby which represents very few Australians and no Australian

interests, but which is buttressed with great wealth, with exceptional self-centred persistence, and with ruthless cleverness. A connected lobby has been operating with similar effects in England and France. Its propaganda, accepted by large segments of the mass media, has confused and misled Australians, even those normally well informed.

5) I would therefore emphasise some cardinal points:-

First, this and related trials are not driven by justice but by hatred and revenge.

Second, the events at issue took place half a century ago. The nature of evidence available is dubious. That is why the great majority of names on the lobby's original lists have, on legal advice, been dropped by the Government.

Third, the accused committed no crimes in Australia during their years here.

Fourth, the accused committed no crimes against Australians anywhere.

Fifth, the cost of the trials to Australian taxpayers has already run into millions of dollars.

Sixth, Australia had no reason whatever for getting mixed up with this costly folly, but every reason for keeping out of it. Government in Australia has enough problems on the plates of Canberra and all of the State capitals without taking on this gratuitous burden - Constitutional problems, the faltering economy, unemployment, the crime rate, corruption and incompetence at the highest levels.

Worse, the spirit of hatred and revenge unleashed by the trials can poison and destabilise nations as well as persons. Ulster, the Middle East, the fratricidal violence of Serbs and Croats are a reminder, the poison could foul our air for years."

THE DISCIPLINE OF REALITY: As we predicted, the collapse of Communism would not of itself witness the establishment of a safer and more stable world. While President George Bush has been busy attempting to project himself as a great international statesman, he has suddenly discovered that his domestic base is collapsing. Much to the disappointment of Prime Minister Hawke, who was hoping that the Bush visit, planned for early next month, would help to boost his flagging political fortunes, the American President has discovered that as a result of the deepening economic crisis, his own political future is at risk. If it had not been for the Gulf War, President Bush would have been destroyed politically by now, with an inevitable defeat at next year's presidential elections. Following the euphoria created by the Gulf War, Bush appeared to be a certainty to be re-elected. That certainly has now disappeared.

From Canada comes the news that the electors are deserting the two mainstream parties, the Progressive Conservatives, headed by Prime Minister Malrone, and the Liberals, and turning in desperation to the smaller parties. The much publicised Free Trade agreement with the

U.S.A., and the implementation of the consumer tax, have merely aggravated Canada's economic problems. The chaotic situation in New Zealand, which was to be the model example of how the Consumer Tax would work with benefit to all, is certainly going to be repeated in Australia if Dr. John Hewson and the Liberals come to office on a protest vote against the Hawke Government.

Mr. R.J. Ellicott, Attorney-General in the Fraser Government, has stated that while the Labor Party no longer deserves to be in office, the Liberal Party offers no hope. Ellicott says that "The major political parties and the institutions they run are becoming increasingly irrelevant and unresponsive to the needs of the country and the silent majority of Australians who have long supported them". But Ellicott then calls for the establishment of a new party. Such a new party would be no better than the present parties unless its individual members are effectively controlled by their electors. Any new political group genuinely concerned about Australia's future would have as its top priority support for an electoral mechanism similar to the Swiss system, making it possible for electors to veto unwanted legislation.

While the international planners strive to bring the former parts of the Soviet Empire, starting with the Eastern European nations, into an expanding European Economic Community, the E.E.C. itself is already running into major problems. The Yugoslav tragedy, itself a violent reaction against multicultural societies, has indirectly helped to open up cracks in the E.E.C. Growing fears about a dominant Germany in the E.E.C. have been heightened by the German initiative in attempting to have the E.E.C. intervene in Yugoslavia with a "peacekeeping" military force. Showing increasing reluctance about developments in the E.E.C., the British played a major role in rejecting the German proposal. German re-unification has intensified Germany's internal problems, with growing protests against non-German groups. The headlines scream about the threat of "Nazism re-emerging", while in France there is a growing revolt against non-French migrants. It is as certain as the sunrise that the more grandiose the type of planning being attempted, the greater the friction and disintegration. The current discussion about Australian Federalism is another manifestation of the disastrous results of centralism. But all the politicians, both State and Federal, attempt to dodge the central issue with cliches about "tax sharing". Those responsible for the creation of the Federation had some grasp of realities, the original concept being that a Federal Government should be established to service the separate sovereign States. So far from there being any suggestion that the States should be abolished, it was envisaged that further States be created as part of a programme of keeping power decentralised.

But, as feared by some of the Fathers of Federation, men like Alfred

Deakin, a failure to check the financial power of Canberra would result in the central government emasculating the States. The implementation of the Uniform Taxation system as a wartime measure, originally for a limited period only, set in motion policies of centralisation which have produced the present disastrous situation. Stability for Australia is impossible while centralist policies are pursued, by all governments at Canberra. Australia's most prestigious historian, Professor Geoffrey Blainey, has bluntly described Canberra as "parasitic". "It is engrossed in its own mood and atmosphere, its own priorities. It has a vested interest: a fat public service." Australia's future can only be assured by freeing itself of the destructive parasite.

All over the world the central issue in the human drama is emerging more clearly with every day that passes: centralisation versus decentralisation; cultural and radical diversity as opposed to uniformity. Australia is equipped to demonstrate to the rest of the world how to produce stability and harmony by pursuing policies reflecting Reality.

BRIEF COMMENTS: Mr. Robert Maxwell's sudden death will come as a great relief to some people. The former Czechoslovakian Jew was typical of his kind. His most blatant example of vulgarity was when he alarmed the Queen by putting his arm around her. His support for Socialism was a manifestation of his collectivist philosophy. He was a faithful servant of International Zionism and it is appropriate that he should be buried in Zionist Israel. The real Maxwell story remains to be told.

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Dr. Hewson announced last week a Coalition plan for spending \$5 million a year promoting foreign languages. This is yet another example of the superficial thinking of trendy Liberals attempting to emulate the Labor Party, and, of course, to obtain the migrant vote. Dr. Hewson said that Australia's future depended upon people learning foreign languages "to help boost exports". There is a place for Australians to learn foreign languages for a number of reasons. But to promote the study of foreign languages as part of a multicultural programme is something quite different. At a time when English has become the major international language, it would be more important to ensure that all Australians become literate in that language.

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