



# ON TARGET

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*The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance —*

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**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** "Christ said: 'The truth shall make ye free'. This does not mean doctrinal truth; it means the living truth that is the doctrine... Man's worth is his worth in the sight of God, not in the examination hall or the industrial complex; his Christian destiny, his inner and own dignity as an individual, not as a unit of the workforce. Let him bestow his dignity on the work he chooses to do, not suffer degradation in 'organisation' for full employment."

- Dr. Bryan Monahan

**THE HOPE OF THE WORLD:** The distinguished Christian writer, G.K. Chesterton, a master of the use of the paradox in order to illuminate a truth, observed that the plight of the world (which has further deteriorated since Chesterton wrote) was the hope of the world. As C.H. Douglas said, the rules of the Universe transcend human thinking and attempts to operate human affairs in defiance of those rules can only result in disaster. Chesterton said that the man who jumps over a cliff not only violates an absolute known as the law of gravity, he demonstrates the truth of that law. Man's salvation depends upon his acceptance of absolutes and a persistent attempt to pursue policies which are in accordance with those absolutes. If there were no absolutes to which man can turn, nothing then can be done about the plight of the world. But there are absolutes and they offer real hope if man will reject evil (a violation of truth) and by acts of atonement (at-one-with) make genuine harmony possible.

If the formal definition of madness is accepted, being a divorcement from reality, then world politics are today a manifestation of madness. At the bottom the world is the result of a conflict between

### A HAPPY AND HOLY CHRISTMAS

In this, our last issue for 1993, we extend to our readers and their families Christmas Greetings.

We look forward to a New Year of great challenges.

two philosophies, the dominant one being that the problems of the world can only be resolved by progressive centralisation. But the reality is that there is mounting friction, both inside and between nations, as attempts are made to try to solve problems by making them bigger. The guns were still smoking at the end of the First World War when C.H. Dogulas, the author of Social Credit, predicted that unless there was a correction of a basic flaw in the finance-economic system, and a continued determination to try to make that system work by exporting surpluses which could not be consumed domestically, the inevitable result was mounting international friction ending in war and revolution. Events have tragically confirmed what Douglas warned about. And there is worse to come unless madness is rejected in favour of sanity.

The attempt to create common markets is a major manifestation of madness, that, for example, if a number of nations have internal finance-economic problems, the problems can be overcome by amalgamating these nations into one trading bloc. But at the very moment the promoters of the European Economic Community are claiming progress, the new Greek Government has bitterly accused the Germans of trying to dominate Western Europe, the French politicians have been forced to heed the violent protests of the French farmers, while the much-publicised GATT agreement has created more problems than it has solved. The British politicians are afraid to permit the British people to have a vote on whether they want to continue with membership of a European Community inside which there is growing conflict.

The Canadians were told by the former Canadian Conservative Government that their future depended upon accepting entry into a North American Free Trade Market. At the recent Canadian General Elections the Conservatives were annihilated, while the French-Canadians of the Quebec Province voted for a party pledged to take the Province out of the Canadian Confederation. A similar voting pattern emerged at the recent Italian Municipal Elections, with the Northern League recording a massive vote in favour of Italy being broken up into separate regions. Italy is one of the founding members of the Common Market!

By the use of naked bribery and threats, the Clinton administration managed to get a Congressional vote of approval for the North American Free Trade Agreement, which allegedly will solve America's mounting internal problems. As American industries move south to take advantage of the cheaper Mexican labour, America's internal social problems get worse. But as in the Mad Hatter's tea party in Alice in Wonderland, the call by the worshippers of bigness is to enlarge the NAFTA further by including the South American countries. While yet another talk-fest has taken place in Seattle to lay the foundations for yet another proposed Common Market, the Asian-Pacific Economic Community. But, at the very moment that Paul Keating was waxing

eloquent about this new vision of more centralisation, the Japanese economy continued to experience growing problems, while observers of Asian realities predict growing conflict, ending in military conflict, between the growing industrialised Asian nations.

While the friction between the Keating Government and the Malaysian Government has been widely publicised, little reference has been made to the fact that Australia is going to be involved in more controversy with its Asian neighbours as a result of the decision to sell weapons to Sri Lanka, another nation being torn apart by multi-cultural conflict. The Government of Sri Lanka requires the Australian weapons to pursue the bitter civil war with the Tamils, who have received sympathetic support from India. But the exporting of weapons is justified on the grounds that this helps the Australian economy! At the very moment that Foreign Minister Gareth Evans is heading a campaign to halt the indiscriminate use of land mines in Asia, his Government is approving of the sale of hand grenades to one side in an Asian civil war. Fragmenting grenades are not known for being discriminating.

As Australians contemplate the mad state of the world, it would be appropriate to recall the incident recorded in the new Testament of the stampede of the Gadarene swine over a cliff, and to repeat the story of how, after a heavy lunch, a Presbyterian minister walking on the moors was astonished to come upon a small pig which, when asked what he was about, said he had been one of the stampede. The little pig recalled how as the herd thundered towards the cliff, he came to the conclusion there was not much future in the policy and decided that the only thing to do was to pull out. "I was loudly abused by my fellows," he said, "being charged with being too negative. I was even called a fascist pig. True, I haven't done much since, except wander the moors. But at least I am still alive. And might do something in the future."

Australians might heed that advice and step aside from the mass madness currently driving mankind to greater destruction. By putting their own house in order, they can offer some light and hope to the rest of the world.

**MABO REALITIES CLARIFIED:** As the Native Title Bill is jammed inexorably through the Parliament, a number of issues are further clarified:

- 1) The real problems (and they are significant) of disadvantaged Aborigines will not be addressed by the Act. Since he has

entered the Parliament, one of the few issues upon which Mr. Ian McLachlan has taken a firm stand, has been the Mabo issue. In an article in The Advertiser (10/11/93) he wrote: "It's heart-breaking and shame-making that between us all, regrettably, we have failed to address these problems (health, housing, employment, etc.) effectively. Worse still, we have achieved this frightful result despite providing \$1.3 billion of Federal Government programmes for Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders in 1992-3... I don't believe that the Mabo decision is the solution to these problems..."

- 2) There is little or no 'bi-partisan' support for Keating's Native Title Bill. In the weekend press, 16 managing directors of the top mining companies of the Australian Mining Industry Council spelt out their objections to this "extraordinarily complex and unworkable" bill. They warn that changing land management laws will not improve Aboriginal health, housing, employment, etc. While the NFF has pledged the support of farmers, they have done so against rural sentiment.
- 3) The High Court decision on the Murray Islands in the Torres Strait has been completely mis-applied to mainland conditions. Eddie Mabo's daughter, Jessie Mabo-Smith, claims that her father would be disgusted at the land claims springing up on the strength of his case. "My brother Eddie once said that dad would be turning over in his grave at all this ... Dad went to the High Court in Canberra and tried to fight for his land - his own piece of land on Murray Island for his own family..." Perhaps even Mabo's own family are beginning to realise that he and his case have been manipulated by forces he did not fully understand (The Daily Mercury, Mackay, 17/11/93).
- 4) Far from furthering the reconciliation process, this is further jeopardised by the Mabo hype. Keating is desperate to have his bill passed before Christmas, knowing that the backlash is steadily growing. This is inevitable, when 1.6% of the population (Aborigines) have property rights over about 14% of the nation, with another 12% under claim. The backlash is not lessened by the fact that not a single Aborigine can claim that any of this land is his own private property. Some Torres Strait Islanders can make this claim, but like the late Eddie Mabo and his daughter Jessie, they mainly live on the mainland, in places like Townsville.

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