



ON TARGET

- NEWS HIGHLIGHTS
- BACKGROUND INFORMATION
- COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS

The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance —

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "Some people will see advantage in keeping the present system; others will see advantages in changing it. All I think is that in this debate, if it's allowed to take place in a right way, some people might actually find a lot of hidden advantages and hidden aspects of the existing system which are taken for granted."

- H.R.H. Prince Charles in Ray Martin T.V. interview

THE GLOBAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE U.S.A.-JAPANESE CONFLICT: Only nine weeks after the signing of what has been eulogised as an "historic" GATT agreement, one which was going to lead to a world of growing harmony as international trade flowed smoothly, there was a violent Japanese-U.S.A. trade explosion. President Clinton has bluntly talked of a "trade war" with some American commentators urging that the Clinton administration use "tough measures" to force the Japanese to take steps to correct what is described in terms of financial orthodoxy, as a "favourable balance of trade". Operating under the same debt-financial system as other countries, the Japanese must drive their economy in a feverish attempt to export what is massive surplus production. The Americans are striving to do exactly the same and believe they can ease their domestic problems if the Japanese would take more of their production and export less. But the Japanese are in the grip of their worst recession since the end of the Second World War and if they heed U.S. demands can only worsen the depression and produce greater social and political turbulence. It should be recalled that a similar trade conflict between the U.S.A. and Germany in 1987 was the prelude to the world stock market crash in October of that year. There is no evidence anywhere to suggest that the world is moving away from economic depression towards growing stability.

From the U.S.A., which recently was allegedly leading a world economic recovery, comes the news that the dreaded inflation was coming back (it had never really gone away) and that the Federal Reserve will have

to start increasing interest rates. Reporting from Hong Kong, for The Australian, David Lague writes, "The euphoria over China's surge towards becoming an economic super-power is evaporating as signals emerge that Beijing cannot bring its overheated economy under control." Inflation is running at over 20 percent in the bigger Chinese cities. There is growing regional resistance to the Central Government. Eventually a type of civil war appears inevitable.

The attempt to impose in Asia and the former Soviet Empire the type of finance-economic policies which have so badly damaged the Western nations, can only intensify growing international instability. The advice by Prince Charles was never more important: that a nation which wishes to survive into the future must go back to its roots. Australia must concentrate upon regaining its sovereignty, political, economic and financial, in order to survive in a world which is becoming increasingly destabilised.

DOES PREMIER JEFF KENNETT REMEMBER? Victorian Liberal Premier Jeff Kennett has recently been travelling abroad and calling on the International Bankers seeking their permission to pawn Victoria a little further. Press reports state that he has been assuring the International Banks and their representatives that his Government is "re-structuring" Victoria. Forced Municipal Council amalgamations, all in the name of greater "efficiency", are a major feature of the re-structuring programme. Back in 1986 it was the Cain Government which was attempting to impose the amalgamation policy with the enthusiastic support of all Marxists. There was strong Municipal resistance to the programme, resistance encouraged by the then leader of the Opposition, Mr. Jeff Kennett. Some of the most violent public meetings of opposition to the Cain Government's amalgamation programme was in the Bendigo region. It is therefore most appropriate that the views of Mr. Jeff Kennett, as outlined in a letter to the Bendigo Advertiser of September 12th, 1986, be known. The letter was headed, BATTLE NOT OVER, and read:

"I thank and congratulate those of your readers who actively worked against Mr. Cain's plans to force council amalgamations. But be warned. The Labor Party has not lost the war, but has merely withdrawn, to regroup and start the battle again. Next time the battle will be fought through the power of the purse. Mr. Cain and his 'ministers' will try to force council amalgamations by reducing or further 'tying' (the financial grants by the State Government to local government).

"Mr. Cain backed down from his frontal assault on councils and their committees because of public pressure and the promise by the Liberal

Party to use the safeguard it was given at the Nunawading by-election to curb Labor's excesses.

"The Liberal Party will continue to give rural Victoria tough leadership on all issues - now, and when we are returned to office. In the meantime I caution all municipalities not to be complacent. Labor and John Cain in particular are still out to force Council amalgamations.

"The Liberal Party, on your behalf, will continue to defend your right to live where you wish, and to be administered by the local government system of your choice. May I again take this opportunity to thank all those Victorians who gave their time to fight against 'stage one' of the Government's plans to bring about forced council amalgamations.

Jeff Kennett, State Opposition Leader"

Victorian League Actionists are urged to make the widest possible use of the above revealing letter.

Accompanied by Treasurer Stockdale, Premier Kennett has just returned to Victoria after yet another international tour during which the international bankers were called upon, assuring them that Victoria under the Kennett Government was a State which should be loaned still more debt. No doubt Kennett and Stockdale reported to their financial masters on how they are continuing to "re-structure" Victoria, including the Municipalities, in the name of efficiency. A hard-hit rural community still awaits the type of constructive leadership promised by Jeff Kennett when he led the Opposition. Rural schools have been closed along with rail services. Unemployment remains at a record high. Victorians continue to flee the State in their hundreds every week. History will record that the Kennett Government was an even greater disaster than the disastrous Labor Government it replaced.

DAVID IRVING IN PRISON: Earlier press reports that the British historian and author of the best-selling "Hitler's War", David Irving is in jail in Britain have been confirmed. While we are not yet in possession of all the facts surrounding Mr. Irving's circumstances, it appears that his imprisonment is a result of conflict with a German publisher. We understand that Mr. Irving had contracted to produce his two-volume work, "Churchill's War" (presumably in German) for Rohwahlt Verlag, and accepted a substantial advance payment to do so. After having failed to reach the publishing deadline for the second volume, his German publisher (which we understand had undergone a change in management) was granted an order by a German district court to recover most of the advance from Irving. In addition to this, his publishers applied to the British High Court for an order forcing Irving to disclose his assets, which was granted on December 20th, 1993. When Mr.

Irving failed to comply with the High Court order, the Court ruled that he was in contempt of court, and ordered his imprisonment for three months.

SILENCING DAVID IRVING: It is clear that the fortunes of David Irving have declined since he dared to publicly express doubts about the nature and extent of the Jewish holocaust during World War II. It also seems certain his imprisonment will jeopardise any chance there may have been of the Australian Government issuing a visa for Irving to undertake a speaking tour here. Although Irving won a Federal Court challenge to the Minister for Immigration's original decision to deny him an Australian visa, which obliged the (new) Minister to reconsider Irving's case, no decision has yet been announced about the visa, after five months. Although Irving was also awarded court costs, we understand that these have not yet been paid.

It is becoming increasingly evident that Irving has been singled out for a sophisticated international campaign to have him silenced. Those who have read his works must agree that Irving is a gifted writer, and an extremely resourceful researcher. Partly because of professional jealousy, and partly through fear for their own status, the "establishment" historians miss few opportunities to disparage Irving's work. He is not "politically correct", and his research is inconveniently at odds with some generally accepted myths concerning World War II.

It appears that the first objective in the campaign against Irving is to prevent him from travelling, and several governments have already capitulated to pressures to deny him visas. Perhaps the next step is to break Irving financially, which is often the result of long, expensive court actions. It is possible that Mr. Irving's most unwise refusal to comply with the High Court order to disclose his assets may have been motivated by an unwillingness to disclose his true financial position to those who wish to silence him.

CAN BASIC FUND TARGET BE REACHED? There was a slight slowing down in support for the Basic Fund last week, but it has moved forward by another \$2,220.00, taking the total to \$56,220.00. Once again we stress that we wish to complete the fund as quickly as possible. We remain confident that a last-minute surge of support will ensure that the League remains "on track". Small contributions are just as valuable as the larger ones. All contributions to Box 1052J, G.P.O., Melbourne, 3001. Unless requested, receipts not issued in order to save valuable funds.

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