



A WEEKLY COMMENTARY

ON TARGET

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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance –

Print Post Publication Number 381667 00258

Vol.30, No.24

July 1st, 1994

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "Men know in their hearts, though few of them admit, that the ordeal which began in 1914 is not over, but continues; it must continue until the ambition which has been pursued during these four decades succeeds or fails, until the Western nations are free agents or have been wholly enslaved, not through defeats in battle but by the alien conspirators at home to whom they have opened their gates."
– Douglas Reed in *Far and Wide*

THE REAL ALEXANDER DOWNER EMERGES by Eric D. Butler:

Even though modern party politicians have notoriously poor memories when it suits them, I am sure that the new leader of the Federal Liberal Party, Mr. Alexander Downer, will recall when he appeared with me at a South Australian State Seminar of the League of Rights, in Adelaide. The subject being discussed at the Seminar was the Federal Constitution. Mr. Downer was a junior Shadow Minister in the Coalition Opposition. No doubt Mr. Alexander Downer will recall how the news came through on the day of the Seminar that he had been removed from his position as a Shadow Minister. There was some conjecture at the time that Alexander Downer had been demoted because of his appearance on a League of Rights platform. Whatever the truth about the matter, the reality is that from that time onwards Alexander Downer displayed a distinct coolness towards all issues raised by the League of Rights.

Anyone who believes that Alexander Downer is his own man, and is going to provide a new independent type of leadership for the Liberal Party, is fooling himself, as witnessed by a revealing full page article on Alexander Downer in the June 24th issue of *The Australian Jewish News*, which quotes the Liberal leader in an exclusive interview with *Australian Jewish News* Canberra correspondent, Bernard Freedman. A subheading of the report reads that "Mr. Downer appears to be supportive on almost every issue of special interest to the Jewish community". Alexander Downer comes out in favour of the proposed anti-racial vilification legislation. He supports the concept of criminal sanctions, although protesting that he does believe in free speech. Alexander Downer finds the views of the Australian League of Rights on "anti-Semitism and attitudes on race abhorrent". Downer does not state what these views are. He says that he had some League of Rights groups in his electorate "at one stage". But since re-distribution he has not heard much from them. Asked about British historian David Irving, and did he think that he should be refused

entry into Australia, Alexander Downer is quoted as saying, "Yes, I do. People like that are only going to cause divisions and hatred in Australia. We can do without them. I mean, the propositions that he puts forward are deeply offensive." Alexander Downer does not specify what propositions David Irving is putting forward. I would be surprised if Alexander Downer has ever read anything written by Irving. One gets the impression that he is saying what he feels the Zionist-Jewish lobby wants to hear.

Alexander Downer has, according to one media report, stated that he is not concerned about the possibility of Australia becoming a "Eurasian" nation. In his interview with *The Jewish News* he stresses that he is all for multiculturalism, making the misleading comment that his late father, Sir Alexander Downer, was the Minister for Immigration in the Menzies Government. But the immigration policy of the Menzies Government was completely different from that which the multiculturalists are attempting to implement. Non-British migrants were encouraged to become part of mainstream Australia. British migration was strongly encouraged. It may interest Alexander Downer that my relations with him were friendly, that he read and appreciated my book, *The Red Pattern of World Conquest*, and that when visiting the United Kingdom to campaign against the proposed British entry into the European Economic Community, I found Sir Alexander Downer as Australian High Commissioner helpful.

Needless to say, Alexander Downer "professes a great admiration for Israel", and told Bernard Freedman that "Some of my best friends are Jewish". Just what are the real views of the new Federal leader I would not attempt to judge. But it is clear that as a "pragmatic" politician he is convinced that if he wishes to become Prime Minister, he must kowtow to the Zionist-Jewish lobby, which has emerged as one of the most influential groups in Australia. Predictions are always dangerous, but the election of a Downer Government, and its failure to solve the nation's basic problems, will help to trigger a fragmentation of the present party political structures.

BIDDING FOR THE FAMILY VOTE: New Federal Liberal leader Alexander Downer, the "pragmatic" politician, is making a bid for the family vote. He says he is "examining" ways to improve the family payment system. But much more than this is required. Mr. Tony Abbott, the new Liberal Member for Warringah, N.S.W., in his maiden speech in the Federal Parliament, was much more positive. He advocated a family wage, with the principle carer of children being paid a "substantial amount that acknowledges the real cost of raising children. He suggests \$100 a week for the first child, and \$30 a week for every further child. While agreeing with the principle of Mr. Abbott's suggestion, we believe that a family wage should be higher. The benefits of such a wage would be enormous, socially and economically. It would encourage large numbers of working mothers to leave the work force to concentrate full time on looking after their children, making way for large numbers of the present unemployed. One result would be a reduction in juvenile delinquency with a big saving to the community.

But instead of financing a "family wage" out of taxation, this hurting other sections of the community, it should be financed out of new financial credits, issued debt free. Such a policy would benefit the whole community, with greater social harmony.

LIVING WITH 'THE MARKET' by David Thompson:

The frustration of the Prime Minister and his Treasurer with the volatility of the "financial markets" and their inability to influence these markets to provide the financial conditions favourable to Australian interests is understandable. It almost seems a foregone conclusion that when Mr. Keating declared that interest rates would not rise several weeks ago, that they certainly would rise.

Since the "de-regulation" of the financial and banking system, governments have surrendered most of the regulatory controls of the past. Much has changed since Menzies and Fadden could determine the value of the currency, and directly influence interest rates in order to achieve political and economic initiatives. Once there was protracted debate concerning the value of the dollar, before an announcement was made that the Treasurer had revalued (or devalued) the currency by perhaps a fraction of a percentage point. Now, however, "the market" produces wild swings in currency values. It is not uncommon for the dollar to lose or gain one percent of its value overnight only for this to be reversed days later.

CELEBRATED 'BACK-FLIP': Those with longer political memories will recall that in 1982 the Shadow Treasurer, by the name of Keating, was adamant that the integrity of Australia's banking and financial industry should never be abandoned by surrendering national control of financial policy. Further, if elected, the A.L.P. would ensure that the "super-capitalists" in the shape of foreign banks, would never be permitted to lay waste the Australian economic landscape.

This, however, was before the 1983 election, at which Mr. Fraser's Coalition was defeated. The new Treasurer, Mr. Keating, soon embarked upon an international tour, to meet with Australia's financial creditors. As Michelle Grattan reported at the time, upon his return only a matter of weeks later, Mr. Keating (and A.L.P. policy) had undergone one of the greatest "back-flips" in political history. Mr. Keating became an ardent 'de-regulator', and the following year he formally gave up sovereign control of the Australian economy to "the markets".

It was not until several years later that Mr. Keating revealed the true purpose of his "back-flip". When addressing a Fabian Society meeting, he claimed that deregulation of the financial system has been essential in order to submit the Australian economy to the global market.

SUBSERVIENT GOVERNMENTS: The now familiar chaos with interest rates, fluctuating bond markets, currency speculation, exchange rate variations, foreign investment, etc., simply mark the fact that Australia has become fully integrated with "the global market" as Mr. Keating and his international financial creditors intended in 1983.

The few controls left to national treasurers consist of little more than an influence on interest rates, and the buying and selling of currency in an attempt to influence its value. Last week the United States Federal Reserve Bank acted in concert with other reserve banks in other countries to buy massive volumes of United States dollars in order to prop up the value of the currency. They failed, and the Federal Reserve now proposes to increase interest rates in order to make the dollar more attractive to speculators.

The seasoned columnist B.A. Santamaria, aware of this situation, has repeatedly warned of the domination of "markets" over governments. In his newspaper column last weekend, Santamaria summed it up with the comment: "The last word obviously lies not with the elected government, but with 'the markets'."

The truth is that the small group of investment banks, who lend to multinational corporations and governments alike, now have a great deal more control over financial and economic conditions than treasurers. Mr. Keating has brought his present frustrations upon himself, and in the process, has jeopardised the economic sovereignty of the nation. The only available alternative is to regulate some aspects of the financial system so that Australians control policy to their own advantage. Without such controls, it is impossible to provide an environment where, for example, families can plan to own their own property. If housing mortgage rates are determined from New York, or London, what is the point of Parliament meeting in Canberra? If interest rates for small business depend upon the activities of the bond market in Tokyo, or an army of avaricious currency speculators in darkened trading rooms around the world, no amount of political posturing by the likes of Keating (or Downer) has any relevance upon Australia's economic future.

ULTIMATE CULTURAL CRINGE: The celebrated reports of a conversation between Prime Minister Hawke and Mr. Keating, to be published in Mr. Hawke's forthcoming book, confirm the character of Mr. Keating. Most observers seem to believe Mr. Hawke's version of Mr. Keating's comments. His use of the crude and ugly phrase that Australia is the "arse end of the world" tell us nothing new about the man. But these comments further undermine the Prime Minister's pretence of "nationalism" in calling for a distinctly Australian Head of State and republican constitution. It simply confirms that Mr. Keating himself nurtures a yearning for European cultural pursuits, and that Australia is a temporary stage upon which to strut until he becomes bored with it all. It is sheer hypocrisy to accuse the monarchists of a form of cultural cringe in the desire to maintain a living, successful constitutional monarchy.

MULTICULTURAL PRESSURES: Attorney-General Lavarch has announced likely legislation to prohibit the genital mutilation of young girls in some Moslem traditions. This is now occurring in Australia with the influx of foreign cultures. The amazing richness of cultural diversity was once celebrated as the main benefit of multiculturalism, with taxpayers funds liberally squandered on all sorts of ethnic cultural projects. But cultural diversity also means dealing with practices that are unacceptable even in a secular society like Australia. Naturally, the feminists are horrified by the practice of genital mutilation, which occurs in places like Africa, the Persian Gulf, India, Indonesia and Malaysia, and demand that it be prevented. Will a continuing stream of legislation be required to regulate other by-products of multiculturalism? Perhaps polygamy (multiple wives) will need to be dealt with? Such matters simply increase the social friction of racial and cultural pressures.

"ON TARGET" is printed and published by The Australian League of Rights,
145 Russell Street, Melbourne. Telephone: (03) 650 9749, Fax: (03) 650 9368.

Subscription \$30 p.a.