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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance –

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: *"Zionism is a hard-headed political creed which proposes to subject America's Jews to the sovereignty of Israel."*

– Dr. Alfred Lilienthal in *What Price Israel* (1953)

THE MIDDLE EAST TIME BOMB by Eric D. Butler:

Shortly after the Zionist State of Israel had been established at the expense of the dispossessed Palestine people, in 1948, one of America's most distinguished American Jewish scholars, Dr. Alfred Lilienthal, a graduate of Cornell University and Columbia Law School who had served with the U.S.A. State Department before and after a tour of Army Duty in the Middle East, wrote an article for the *Reader's Digest*, entitled "Israel's Flag Is Not Mine". Although publishing the article, The Editors of the *Reader's Digest* took the unprecedented step of dissociating themselves from the article, which brought a response from all over the world. Lilienthal said that the establishment of the State of Israel was going to result in disastrous consequences for Judaism as a religion and destabilise the whole of the Middle East. Lilienthal went on to write a series of critical works concerning Zionist Israel, concluding with his major work, *The Zionist Connection*. The periodic convulsions in the Middle East, including military conflicts, have confirmed Lilienthal's warnings that the establishment of the Zionist State of Israel had placed a time bomb in the Middle East which must result in periodic disasters. Current developments concerning Zionist Israel's provocative action in a major building programme in Jerusalem, with widespread international condemnation and violent Palestinian reactions, confirm that the time bomb is still ticking and threatening further explosions. Even the Howard Government, which generally shuns any suggestion of being critical of Israel, has felt that events have left it with little option but to join in the chorus of criticism of Israel at the United Nations.

The reaction of the Jewish press in Australia, which claims to reflect the view of the Jewish community, highlights the Lilienthal theme that irrespective of where they lived, Jewish people are subject to constant pressure to put loyalty to Zionist Israel ahead of loyalty to the countries in which they live. Australia's first Australian born Governor-General, Sir Isaac Isaacs, foresaw the problem of asking Jews to have a type of dual loyalty. He was a strong critic of Zionism and said his primary loyalty was to Australia. Sir Isaac was bitterly criticised by Zionists for refusing to support Zionism.

It was the famous British writer Douglas Reed who observed that because the great majority of people did not read the Zionist press, they had little or no understanding of Zionist power politics. The great majority of Australians would not be aware that, according to *The Australian Jewish News* of March 21st, "Jewish community leaders have reacted with concern and anger to Australia's warnings in the United Nations and elsewhere that Israel's decision to build 650 homes for Jews, at Har Homa, in South Jerusalem could lead to violence and jeopardise the peace process." The Jewish press reports that Jewish leaders are considering approaches to Prime Minister John Howard and Foreign Minister Alexander Downer to protest that Australia should have been more even handed on the issue. Although the U.N. resolution condemning Israel is not legally binding and will not result in any type of action against Israel, Zionist leaders are making it clear that any type of criticism of Israel is unacceptable. The Australian Government is unable to ignore the international implications of Australia being perceived to support a Zionist project which has already produced violent reactions from the Palestinians. There is also the question of a well known Australian businessman, Mr. Joe Gutnick, who helped finance Israeli's Prime Minister at the last Israel Elections and who is now financing the controversial Israeli buildings on the West Bank close to the area in which the Palestinians reside.

Terrorist acts of any kind are repugnant to all civilised people. But in attempting to understand the volatile Middle East situation, it is essential to understand the background of the Middle East situation; that Zionist Israel was born with savage acts of terrorism by the Zionists, first against the British when they were attempting to maintain law and order before the U.N. voted to establish the State of Israel, and then against the Palestinians. Desperate people resort often to desperate measures. Not without significance is the fact that it was the the United States alone which sided with Israel in the latest crisis. The United States has consistently used the power of the veto at the United Nations to prevent any real action against Israel. The reason for this is simple: As Lilienthal warned, American foreign policy has been dominated by the massive Zionist influence on American domestic and foreign policies.

Criticism of the Howard Government by Australian Zionists highlights once again the destructive influence of multiculturalism. Zionist leaders have been strong supporters of multiculturalism and critics of those who oppose present immigration policies. Their mastery of Talmudic dialectics is demonstrated by the ease with which they condemn those who suggest that Australia should follow the lead of Israel concerning immigration. Multiculturalism is not tolerated in Zionist Israel.

There is considerable conjecture as to why Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu is taking such provocative action concerning Jerusalem at the present time. Clearly he wishes to create a situation in which the Palestinians and their leaders will be blamed for any breakdown in what is still referred to as "the peace process". The reality is that no genuine peace is possible in the Middle East until the Palestinians are given genuine justice. This means that the West will have to grasp firmly the Zionist poisoned splinter which has been festering in the Middle East for over half a century. Those who genuinely wish to understand the realities of the Middle East would do well to study Dr. Lilienthal's *Zionist Connection*, \$28.00 posted.

WHY SENATOR O'CHEE BUCKS NATIONALS ON WIK by David Thompson:

The grip of Party politics is such that it is rare that a Member of Parliament dares to oppose Party policy. As such the influence of Parties on politics is a corrupting element that frustrates genuine representation. Why, then, is Queensland's Senator Bill O'Chee threatening to defy the National Party and the Coalition if the Commonwealth fails to legislate to extinguish native title on leasehold land?

O'Chee, not noted for defiance of National Party policy, has delivered an ultimatum on the High Court's Wik decision. But it is not clear whether Senator O'Chee's primary concern is for Queensland pastoralists and miners, or for the political future of Senator O'Chee. It is clear that Senator O'Chee is painfully aware that he must face his constituents at the next election, as his six-year term expires next year. It is also clear that the National Party is in serious electoral trouble. Last week's local government elections in Queensland showed a swing back toward the A.L.P. The National Party's betrayal of shooters with the firearms legislation has not been forgotten, and the growing influence of Campbell's *Australia First* is clearly being felt.

The Queensland State election must be held by next year, and the support for *Australia First* may be one of the major surprises. Now registered in Queensland as a political party, *Australia First* organisers are receiving growing support, and a steady increase in membership. The steady building of a branch structure at grassroots level has not gone unnoticed by the National Party, especially since many of the new branches are forming out of remnants of National Party branches. Some of the *Australia First* candidates could be expected to be former Nationals, and many of those manning polling booths for Campbell's *Australia First* could also be expected to be former National Party volunteers.

No wonder Senator O'Chee is worried. The results of the State elections might give Senator O'Chee an indication of the security of his political future. If the signals from the electorate are sufficiently strong for O'Chee to take the stand he has, Mr. Fischer and Mr. Howard may eventually get the message that the Aboriginal issue is one which is capable of changing voting patterns. The election of the Independent Member for Oxley, Pauline Hanson, originally endorsed by the Liberal Party, showed the strength of feeling about Aboriginal and other issues.

Senator O'Chee is to be congratulated for his willingness to defy Tim Fischer and the Party on native title. Perhaps he might consider whether there are other issues on which he could take as strong a political stand? If he sniffs the electoral breeze carefully enough, he will find that there are untapped wells of support for politicians who are prepared to face unfashionable issues and give expression to alternative views, even if they are not necessarily politically correct. If the interests of leaseholders and the interests of Senator O'Chee happen to coincide in this case, all the better.

THE P.N.G. "RIOTS": The gravity of the crisis in Papua New Guinea should not be underestimated, but the scenes of rioting in Port Moresby on television screens last week should not necessarily be taken to be an expression of disgust with Prime Minister Chan's handling of the Bougainville problem. Other press reports indicate that much of the looting was sheer opportunism, and could have been an expression of other resentments.

One newspaper report by a correspondent in Port Moresby opened by quoting a young man on his reasons for being in the streets. "Do you know what's happening?" he yelled. "**We are going to loot the Chinese stores.**" (*The Australian*, 20/3/97). To many of the rather youthful rioters, the Chinese business people appear to be extremely wealthy, and are beginning to dominate street-level retailing and commerce, as they have in other parts of the world.

A few weeks ago, the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dr. Mahathir, was involved in a bitter exchange with Singapore's Lee Kuan Yu about the assimilation of Chinese into other communities.

"We must accept the fact that the Chinese are not a group that could be assimilated easily," he said. "Once the Frenchmen or Germans move to the United States, they become Americans, they speak American English, accept American customs and norms, but not the Chinese. You can see Chinatowns all over the world, but not French or German towns."

The recent wave of reaction to ethnic minorities, especially the Chinese, in Asia highlights the Asian sensitivities concerning racial and cultural matters. Australians too often see Asians simply as "Asians", without differentiating between cultures and racial groups. The Asians themselves, however, are highly sensitive to this. In the first quarter of 1997, there have been riots in Indonesia in which Chinese ethnic minorities have been attacked, and property destroyed. Chinese businessmen in the Philippines have been kidnapped for ransom, and Dr. Mahathir's Malaysia has formal policies discriminate in favour of the native Malays against the more commercially successful Chinese.

The Chinese presence in other countries is also felt. Perhaps Communist China itself has contributed to the resentment against expatriate Chinese, by calling on them to assist China to become an international trading and political power. China has made it almost impossible to renounce Chinese citizenship, which does not assist Chinese to assimilate into other communities. Evidently the architects of Australian multiculturalism were unaware of such difficulties.

BRIEF COMMENTS:

With the elections scheduled for May 1st, all the major British political groups have obviously picked up the grassroots resentment to British interests being merged into "Europe". Every Party now attempts to campaign on resistance to some aspect of the European Union. Echoes of the drive towards the United States of Europe attempted by Napoleon and Hitler obviously unsettle the British. The most ridiculous bureaucratic overkill makes them very edgy, even on relatively insignificant matters. For example, the Council of Europe's Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals threatens some of Britain's most popular dog breeds. It seeks to regulate which breeds are acceptable, and dogs like the cocker spaniel (whose ears are "too long"), the dachshund (legs "too short"), the basset (legs "abnormally positioned") and the bulldog ("markedly folded skin" and "abnormally positioned teeth") would be threatened. But who said the Englishman's dogs were relatively unimportant?

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The Victorian council amalgamation programme has already started to show results, with recent reports indicating that the drive for "efficiency" has reduced the number of council inspectors. According to food bacteria testers, this undermines the food safety standards. After the amalgamation of Northcote and Preston Councils three years ago, the number of food inspectors was cut from nine to five, although they still have to check the same number of businesses. This is the district in which the Lago Smallgoods factory produces the meat products that appear to have been responsible for several deaths in Victoria recently.