



A WEEKLY COMMENTARY

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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance –

Print Post Publication Number 381667 00258

Vol.35, No.38

October 1st, 1999

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "When asked to describe her political philosophy – *'I have a very strong sense of ethics and appropriate professional conduct. People and their communities come first. Economics should serve society not society serving economics.'*"

Susan Davies, Independent MLA, Gippsland West – *Herald Sun*, 23/9/99

THE ESSENCE OF EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP by Eric D. Butler:

The change of the leadership of the League of Rights is an opportune time to consider the meaning of leadership. Betty Luks has demonstrated a firm understanding of what it means, having worked for a number of years under the leadership of the late Frank Bawden, one of the founding members of the League.

She has demonstrated she understands just what Social Credit really means. As State Director of the South Australian League of Rights since Frank Bawden's death, she has filled that position with dedication and commitment, demonstrating her ability to ensure that people with very different backgrounds can work harmoniously together. Like many women she displays a woman's commonsense insight.

In my opinion she is one of the best natural teachers produced by the League. The fact that Betty has emerged as the first woman National Director of the League is most significant and I would encourage every League supporter to get behind her and give her your full support.

The supporters of the Australian League of Rights have a part to play in the unfolding human drama and as demonstrated by the Victorian election results we must always stand ready to take advantage of the unrehearsed events. Faith without action is death.

VICTORIAN ELECTIONS MIRACLE: The main good news of the Victorian elections is the vote of the people for three Independents, ensuring the balance of power will be in their hands in the next Victorian Parliament.

ROOSTER TO FEATHER-DUSTER by Jeremy Lee:

Acres of print have been written about the humiliating back-lash against what the media endlessly called the most popular Premier in Australia. There's not much point in repetition. We all now know that the majority of pollsters and pundits got it wrong – as usual.

There are a few consequences worth noting. The Labor Party now holds more seats in rural Victoria than the Liberals and Nationals put together. This confirms that the major revolt against economic rationalism, compulsory competition, and the general globalist programme is in rural Australia. Labor has picked this up well in Queensland, where a much more unassuming Premier in Peter Beattie is making mileage in assuaging the enormous damage wrought by the Nationals.

This does not mean that the Federal Labor Party is seen in the same light. Kim Beazley's slavish adherence to the internationalist agenda places him almost as far from his State counterparts as the gap between Federal and State National Parties.

There was a strong and healthy vote for Independents. Susan Davies in Gippsland West and Russell Savage in Mildura are home and hosed. At the time of writing the Independent candidate for the seat of Gippsland East, Mr Craig Ingram, appears as the likely winner.

The swing against the Liberals was 2.6 per cent, and 1.9 per cent against the Nationals. With the crisis in rural Victoria, the Nationals should have made hay. But they have submitted to self-bondage, and have paid the price.

The pervasive theme from the media and most pollsters that the Kennett Government was certain of a landslide victory shows how out of touch with Australia in general they are.

LOOMING DEFENCE CONSIDERATIONS: Paul Kelly, in *The Australian* (22/9/99), commented: *"....The gradual rundown in Australia's defence capability is now exposed as a national scandal. Howard pledged 4,500 troops to East Timor. But Australia can't sustain this number beyond 12 months despite what the Government insists. Don't forget that in the 1960s, conscription was needed to sustain a 7,000-8,000 force in South Vietnam. The number of combat troops Australia can sustain in the field indefinitely is not much above 2,000"*

This was confirmed by retired Brigadier Brian Cooper in a letter to *The Australian Financial Review* (20/9/99):

"....Paul Dibb in his 'Review of Australia's Defence Capabilities' recommended an annual defence vote of 3 per cent of GDP. It was reduced to 2.3 per cent the following year.

"In 1997, the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade, in its review of funding of the ADF, recommended a 'real growth (in the defence vote) of between 1.5 and 2.5 per cent annually for the next five years'. It remained at 1.9 per cent.

"Earlier this year there were suggestions in the media that the reason for no increase in the defence vote was that the government was teaching Defence to better manage its finances.

"Now the Australian Army is going to war with not enough of what it needs to do the job. The logic of all this escapes me."

With our defence position in mind, we should consider veteran Tim Dodd's views on the position in Jakarta (*Financial Review*, 20/9/99). After pointing out that Indonesia's financial institutions are a shambles, he added this possibility as a worst-case scenario:

"The wave of nationalism generated by the loss of East Timor intensifies as politicians from all sides, including the army chief General Wiranto, use it to galvanise support in the November election for the new president. Indonesia's new leaders refuse to come to an accommodation with the IMF and the World Bank to open the flow of financial aid which, at the moment, is suspended because of concern over corruption and misappropriation.

"As a result, no lenders will help Indonesia repair its banking system or roll over its foreign debt. The economy will plunge steeply back into crisis, this time without international assistance. If the military is not already the real power in the newly-elected government it soon will take a key role to 'save the nation'"

In such a scenario, with even more disruption and starvation than in the recent riots, where will the inevitable flood of refugees – probably coerced by the Indonesian military – head for?

ILLEGAL BOAT PEOPLE IN NORTH AMERICA: An American reader sent us an article on a massive illegal immigrant situation from *The Los Angeles Times*, 11/9/99.

Describing the latest rust-bucket with 190 hidden Chinese trying to land in Gold River, Canada, the article continued:

"This was the second time in six weeks that smuggled immigrants from China trudged across the pier at Gold River, 150 miles northwest of Vancouver, and it was among four major incidents of people-smuggling uncovered on the west coast of Canada this summer.

" Canada absorbs 225,000 legal immigrants a year, more in proportion to its population than any other Western country. But the recent string of smuggling ships – combined with a rising chorus that the government should not have let the immigrants in – is testing Canada's reputation as welcome mat to the world Many of this summer's illegal immigrants planned to use the Canadian coast as the first step in a long underground journey to the US, authorities said. Immigrants aboard the four boats paid about \$35,000 each to be transported secretly across the Pacific Ocean and then onward through Canada via safe-houses This is a well-organised criminal network running from Vancouver Island all the way to New York City Last year, 12,884 of the 23,838 asylum seekers in Canada, or 54 per cent, were granted asylum, compared with about 20,000 of the 57,786 U.S. applicants, or 35 per cent, according to Canadian and US sources"

NUCLEAR WASTE DUMP EDGING INTO AUSTRALIA: Despite the fact that both Federal and West Australian Governments officially claim they don't want a nuclear waste dump in Australia, the multinational company PANGAEA RESOURCES is proceeding as though the dump is a *fait-accomplis*. The road to the proposed site has already been started. Four former consultants to the Court Government are on the PANGAEA payroll.

A recent bill put forward by the Greens to prohibit nuclear waste dumps in Australia was amended to allow the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency power to licence nuclear facilities in Australia.

It seems clear the overwhelming public feeling is opposed to such a dump. But these particular multinationals, with a \$30 million budget for PR publicity, have few doubts about the success of their intentions.

'PEACE' UNITED NATIONS' STYLE - THE 'PEACE' OF THE GRAVE by Tom Fielder:

Where have the Australian journalists been for the last twenty to thirty years? Are they so ignorant or perhaps so consumed with hypocrisy that they have not noticed that East Timor is merely the most recent of a long list of countries destroyed by the actions, or in this case, the apparent inaction of the United Nations? Nor is it the first time Clinton has stood by and refused to commit Combat Troops and thus possibly have prevented the slaughter of thousands of innocent people. Populations the length and breadth of Africa have been decimated with exactly the same treatment.

Are the journalists so 'ham strung' by their powerful media bosses that they cannot see the danger to Taiwan? Another independent nation threatened by the actions of the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organisation (formerly GATT), both part of the United Nations and the evolving 'World Government' (read dictatorship).

In an editorial (13/9/99) *The Australian* newspaper wrote, "*The nature of China's political system, and its prickly nationalism are sources of great uncertainty. Much of the hour-long talks between presidents Jiang and Clinton were occupied by the question of Taiwan. China is ever ready to detect threats to its sovereignty. It is still freshly sensitive to last July's remark by the Taiwanese President, Lee Teng-hui, who referred to Beijing-Taipei affairs as 'special State-to-State relations'. To Beijing, that reference suggested an unacceptable assertion on independence from 'the one true China'. Mr. Jiang insists China will not renounce the use of force over Taiwan while Mr. Clinton reaffirms his nation's one-China policy...*" (emphasis added).

Will those journalists who contributed nothing but a feeding frenzy of words while thousands died in East Timor, wait until the bombs are falling on Taiwan before they speak out?

Further information: Audio tape "*The Case Against the UN*" by Ed Griffin, \$7.00 posted - MEA Tapes, Box 184, The Basin, Vic., 3154.

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"ON TARGET" is printed and published by The Australian League of Rights, 145 Russell St., Melbourne.
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Subscription \$40.00 p.a.