



A WEEKLY COMMENTARY



ON TARGET

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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance -

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: *"In the middle order of mankind are generally to be found all the arts, wisdom and virtues of society. This order alone is known to be the true preserver of freedom, and may be called The People. Now it may happen that this middle order...may lose its influence in a state and its voice be in a manner drowned..."*

"In such a state, all that the middle order has left is to preserve the prerogative and privileges of the one principled governor with the most sacred circumspection. For he divides the power of the rich, and calls off the great men from falling with ten-fold weight on the middle order placed beneath them."

"I am then for, and would die for, monarchy, sacred monarchy; for if there be anything sacred amongst men it must be the anointed Sovereign of his people; and every diminution of his power, in war or in peace, is an infringement upon the real liberties of the subject."

"The Vicar of Wakefield" by Oliver Goldsmith, 1728-1774

GRUDGING ADMIRATION FOR MALAYSIA by Jeremy Lee:

The World Economic Forum meeting in Singapore in the second week of October was notable for two things: the growing friction between the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank; and the good results obtained in Malaysia as a result of Dr Mahathir's rejection of IMF restrictions.

The World Bank's senior vice-president, Joseph Stiglitz, hit the IMF hard. *The Australian* (20/10/99) reported as follows: *"The divide between the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund widened yesterday after ... Joseph Stiglitz urged East Asian leaders to shrug off 'the Washington consensus' and praised Malaysia for doing so...."*

"Mr. Stiglitz said the region had not been well served by outside advice it received during the crisis. The region's leaders had also not stood up strongly enough for their own interests."

"Many within the region know that the policies pursued entailed excessively contractionary macro-policy but their voices were not heard," he said

"He pointed to Malaysia's unorthodox recovery strategy in the 12 months since it ditched IMF advice, pegged the ringgit, imposed capital controls and went for growth."

"Malaysia 'deliberately tried to keep interest rates low. It imposed certain kinds of capital controls and yet its recovery is among the fastest of the countries in the region,' he said....."

"Mr. Stiglitz said Malaysia's capital controls, strongly criticised by the IMF and much of the rest of the

the America-led Western policy establishment, had clearly worked to stabilise speculative money flows – as Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said they would"

Dr. Mahathir himself did not let the opportunity to savage the IMF slip. *The Australian* (22/10/99) described his speech thus:

"It was sardonic, eloquent, triumphant and bitter all at once It was a silky savaging of the economic new world order and its cheerleaders in the Western media and academies and rollicking good fun if you didn't happen to be a paid-up member of the above"

Dr. Mahathir has something to crow about. The Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange is 145 points higher than a year ago. Foreign currency reserves are 60 per cent higher. Foreign investment is rolling in – not in the form of takeovers, but in new ventures or minority partnerships. Malaysia's foreign debt is about \$14 billion, compared to Australia's almost a **quarter-of-a-trillion dollars!**

It is a matter for reflection that, had Malaysia signed the Multilateral Agreement on Investments – as the Howard Government wanted to do until held up by a mass of protests – it would have been penalised by the WTO. Oh! For a Mahathir to replace Alexander Eiderdown and IMF sycophant Peter Costello in Australia!

ANWAR IBRAHIM TRIAL CONTINUES: The trial of Dr. Mahathir's former Deputy, Anwar Ibrahim, on charges of corruption and sodomy drags on in Kuala Lumpur. We are in no position to comment on the charges. But Anwar was definitely an IMF man, and stood in the way of Mahathir's pro-Malaysia policies.

An intriguing letter appeared in *The New Straits Times* (Kuala Lumpur, 3/11/99) about a body known as The Asia Pacific Policy Centre (APPC) under the patronage of Anwar Ibrahim:

"....The APPC was established in 1993 and seeks closer ties between business and political leaders in the United States and their counterparts in Asia and the Pacific.

"It aims to establish an engaged and creative US role in the region, encompassing commercial, economic, political and security issues

"Since its establishment the APPC has held four Pacific Dialogues from 1994-1998, all of which were held in Malaysia.

"A fifth was also to be held in Malaysia last December, but was called off following the sacking of former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

"The dialogues were the result of the importance and complexity of economic, regional security, political and cultural issues, which prompted debate regarding the role of the US in the region.

"The APPC was under the patronage of Anwar and its staff members are Douglas H. Paal (President), David G. Brown (Senior Associate), Seth R. Sulkin, (Adjunct Fellow), James C. Clad (Adjunct Fellow), and James Kuhn (Programme Director).

"Its trustees are Brent Scowcroft (Former National Security Adviser to President George Bush and retired Lt. Gen. Of the US airforce), Robert Orr (former US Ambassador to Singapore and former Governor of Indiana), Frank Carlucci (former Secretary of Defence and former National Security Adviser to President Ronald Reagan), Paal (former Senior Director for Asian Affairs, National Security Council); and David McCurdy (former chairman, Democratic Leadership Council and former member, US Congress)...."

"...His position as patron would have put Anwar un touch with a lot of big political names within the US and this would have come in very handy if Anwar ever needed support, be it moral or financial, from the US"

Which may explain why US Vice-President Al Gore, at the last APEC meeting in Kuala Lumpur at the time of the Commonwealth Games, called for a revolution in Malaysia and the installation of Ibrahim as Prime Minister.

Frank Carlucci is a member of David Rockefeller's Trilateral Commission. Several other staff members are also members of the Council on Foreign Relations.

(Jeremy Lee has just returned from a speaking engagement in Kuala Lumpur.)

CHEQUES AND PLASTIC: 3.2 million cheques worth more than \$12 billion are issued every 24 hours in Australia. The number of cheques has fallen by 17 per cent, according to the Australian Payments Clearing Council's annual report, just issued. The APCC's chief executive, Peter Smith, said that although there was no evidence, the decline was probably due to the increase in plastic cards and EFTPOS.

The decline was, however, countered by the situation at Bendigo Bank, whose customers increased the number of cheques by 25 per cent, while electronic transfers increased by 32 per cent.

If they're looking for an explanation for this trend, why not examine the continuing closure of bank branches? Bendigo's expansion into local community banking has at least preserved freedom of choice over methods of payment for its customers.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION DETENTION CENTRES FILLING UP: The composition of the 352 illegal immigrants detained in Australia's north-west at the beginning of the month was significant: 299 from Iraq, 46 from Afghanistan, four Iranians, two Algerians and one Palestinian. This was the biggest number ever detained, and illustrates the breadth and sophistication of the 'people-smuggling' racket.

With the Port Hedland Detention Centre full and overcrowded, a new detention centre is to be opened at the old Woomera rocket range. It's sheer madness. Any boats detected should immediately be towed back to their last port of departure, the illegals put ashore, and the boats then sunk. The bill should be deducted from the foreign aid Australia provides for Asian neighbours.

GERMAN JUDGE FINDS TOBEN 'GUILTY' by Betty Luks: Adelaide Institute director and Australian citizen, Dr. Frederick Toben went to trial in Mannheim, Germany this week on charges of "incitement, disparagement and insulting the memory of the dead" (*The Age*, 8/11/99). A conviction was recorded and he was given a 10-month sentence. The seven months already spent in the German prison is included in the 10-month sentence. He will be released earlier if he posts bail of 6000 marks (about \$A5000).

It is reported that Dr. Toben is 'unrepentant' and he would do the same thing again even after spending seven months in a German prison. *"Only now do I understand the true value of free speech – in the past having belonged to the talkers. But talk about free speech is cheap,"* says Dr. Toben.

What type of 'democracy' now reigns in Germany? Dr. Toben's lawyer faced problems in mounting a defense (at the trial) because he was unable to present information challenging the official history of the holocaust. Australian spokesman, acting director Mr. Geoff Muirden, explains the catch 22 situation: *"The law doesn't seem to allow for questioning the orthodox version of the holocaust. If Dr. Toben or Dr. Brock introduced factual information to say the orthodox version was wrong, that would have been illegal in itself."*

Those willing to contribute to the bail-money should contact Adelaide Institute, PO Box 3300, Norwood, SA, 5067

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DARKER BY DESIGN by Alfred King:

Excuse me, is anyone interested to know that we are being invaded? Does anyone think that we should be doing something about it? Certainly not 'our' government who, with the news this week that more than 700 people have been detected arriving illegally off the WA coast (this does not take into account the number of undetected illegals), are allowing the Federal Parliamentary Committee on Australia's refugees crisis to work through its full deliberations.

The Committee's chairwoman, Chris Gallus, reports that boats are arriving daily, but this will not hurry along the committee, whose recommendations should be ready by the first week in December. And maybe they won't.

When the report is made, should the Australian people believe that this whole process is going to safeguard our beloved country and way of life? It's well known that if there is no intention to do anything about an issue – you form a committee to investigate it! The only committee that achieves anything is a committee of three with two members not present. We need decision and action on this most important of issues.

Why is there no frank, free and open national debate with every politician and journalist feeling able to air his opinions without fear of the loss of his job (remember what happened to Howard). Multiculturalism is being imposed from above by lies, deception, intimidation and terror. The situation reminds this writer of a headline appearing in the UK *"The Daily Express"* four years ago: "Swamped by a Migrant Tide".

The size and frequency of the number of illegal immigrants proves there are no effective controls operating. Walk around any of our major cities – the way of life of China and Vietnam has been transplanted on to our own soil, in large areas, and increasingly so.

The multicultural policy, and its offshoot of mass illegal immigration, has had the backing of every Australian Government in recent times. Bob Hawke declared that his greatest achievement was the support of all sides of the House for a multicultural Australia.

Let us drop the façade that the Liberal Party is 'conservative' in any true meaning of the word. There are only various degrees of international socialism. The final goal has been decided upon, the only matter of variance is how quickly we get there.

The detention centres cannot cope with the huge numbers while thousands of our own people sleep rough on the streets. What will happen when these new centres cannot cope? Will Australia follow the Canadian example? Give up trying to process the illegal entrants, give them \$100.00 each and let them go free within 'their new homeland'?

Further reading: *"Camp of the Saints"* by Jean Raspail, \$25.00 posted; *"Alien Nation"* by Peter Brimelow \$35.00 posted; *"Here We Go Again"* by Doug Collins, \$25.00 posted.

WATER TAX TURNED OFF? by Betty Luks:

Just as I don't believe that we have seen the last of the republican push, neither do I believe Victorian Premier Steve Bracks' promise that the so-called water-catchment management tax is *"dead and buried forever"* (*The Australian*, 12/11/99). The 'water tax' is on the agenda of the 'one worlders'.

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