



ON TARGET

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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance –

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: *"It is in times of crisis that those in authority often seek to obtain more powers for themselves, which at other times they know would be totally unacceptable. The current crisis, following the dreadful events in the USA on the 11th of September, is no exception.*

"Fortunately, there has been an outcry against some of the proposals, such as the imposition of identity cards and the handing over of even more powers to the European Union. It remains to be seen whether the British Government will back down in the face of the opposition to these and other proposals.

"The other encouraging signs are in the field of monetary reform, where the ferment of debate and revolt against the tyranny of debt finance is growing right across the political spectrum. What is needed is an effective break-through on the political front. Only time will tell as the pressure grows from ever more desperate people."

– New Times Dinner message from Donald Martin, UK League of Rights, October 4th, 2001

HOWARD GOES TO WAR by Jeremy Lee:

Australian troops are once again deployed overseas, this time in a venture even more tenuous than the Vietnam saga. No official war has been declared and, apart from the shadowy and demonized Osama bin Laden, no-one is quite sure who the enemy is. It has already become apparent that, with today's modern warfare technology, the deaths of civilians including large numbers of women and children will be heavy.

Superbly trained as they are, Australia's elite SAS soldiers will be entering a war environment more difficult and dangerous than any on earth. Afghanistan's terrain is formidable, an endless chain of rugged mountainous country riddled with caves and ambush vantage points. The winter is as cold as that of the Russian steppes which proved the nemesis for Hitler's panzer and infantry divisions. The oxygen-scarce heights at which the fighting will take place mitigates heavily in favour of those who have fought there for over 30 years and know the area like the back of their hands. The Soviet Union lost 15,000 soldiers in Afghanistan before retiring defeated, despite their superiority in weapon technology, mostly provided by America

There is no way to tell friend from foe — the case in all guerilla wars. There will be no point at which victory is assured.

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Civilian casualties will increasingly enrage neighboring Islamic countries, as is already happening in Pakistan; and any future terrorist strikes in western nations will serve to dishearten societies whose enthusiasm for war will wane as the body-bags are brought home.

While, obviously, every support should be given to Australians serving in action, together with their families, our politicians should be constantly reminded of the ill-considered ramifications of this war. For example, according to the 1998 census, we now have 200,000 Buddhists in Australia, 70,000 Hindus, and 200,000 Mahomedans. The figures are much higher now than then. Population-wise, we had 170,000 born in Vietnam, 205,000 born in China and Hong Kong, 111,000 born in the Philippines and 202,000 born in the former Yugoslav republics.

It would be interesting to know how many of these new Australians are serving in the armed forces. Or is this task left to the much-maligned Anglo-Saxons? Do we have multicultural defence forces? Somehow, we doubt it.

OF WARS AND RUMOURS: *The Sydney Daily Telegraph* (12/10/01) reported as follows:

"About 100 members of four international terrorist groups linked to Osama bin Laden have been identified living in Sydney raising funds for the holy war against the United States.

"A hunt by the Australian Federal Police, ASIO and other agencies, have found the men and women contributing to sham charities linked directly to terrorist work.

"A confidential report prepared for Commonwealth security agencies lists the individuals as having various degrees of affiliation with the Egyptian Al-Jihad al-Islami, the Algerian Groupe Islamique Armee and splinter factions of Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda group"

The days when Australia could present a united face against a common threat have long since gone.

FROM DAVID IRVING: The following comment from controversial historian David Irving appeared on the Internet AR Action Report Online on October 1st:

"The Washington Post has published the extraordinary fact that an Internet firm in the World Trade Center received two hours warning from Israel of the impending terrorist attack. It kept this privileged information to itself and its employees, evidently, passing it on to the FBI only belatedly, and not before first sending it to the Israeli authorities. One may suspect that The Mossad had an informant who briefed them in good time; and that The Mossad, if it believed the story, decided to let the Sturm losbrechen, such an atrocity being – as Benjamin Netanyahu incautiously blurted out to The New York Times, after the acts of mass murder took place – "very good" for Israel.

"Were this story not from The Washington Post, I would have placed the item in the bin where I have tossed all the rumours and scuttlebutt"

As if to re-enforce Netanyahu's gaffe, the following appeared in *The Age* (Victoria, 4/10/01) by Gay Alcorn, United States correspondent in Washington:

"The Bush administration yesterday tried to shrug off the significance of claims that, before September 11, it planned a major Middle East peace initiative that called specifically for a Palestinian state.

"This is from an administration that took a hands-off approach to the conflict since coming to office

in January and which scoffed at President Bill Clinton's struggle to forge a peace agreement between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

"Analysts said the initiative was a radical departure from the administration's initial reluctance to be closely involved. They also said that the leaking of the plans to the media was a response to the internet pressure from Arab states for America to involve itself once again with the conflict in exchange for support for the struggle against terrorists"

Cui Bono? What is one to say about the increasingly advantageous situation for Israel as a result of the tragedies in New York and Washington?

LABOR PARTY PLATFORM: We've just been flipping through the 1986 Australian Labor Party Platform and Rules. Page 147 and 148 contain the following:

MIDDLE EAST: Labor seeks a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East. The attainment of such peace remains an urgent necessity. Labor thus affirms UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 which seek such a peace; also UN Security Council Resolutions condemning acts contrary to such objectives, namely 388/73 (violation of Lebanese sovereignty); 508 and 509/82 (June 82 invasion of Lebanon); 501/82 (annexation of Golan Heights); 476/80 (annexation Arab section, Jerusalem); 465/80 (Israeli settlement in occupied territory).

We haven't noted aspiring Prime Minister Kim Beazley advocating any of these as part of a solution to the terrorism crisis. Perhaps he's forgotten?

JAPANESE DISASTER: Some 20 years ago I recall reading about the economic ethos that drove the Japanese economy. Workers sang hymns to the machines on which they were working. Any attempt to reduce working hours or production in times of recession was met by riots among workers at their factories, demanding to be allowed in to increase production.

Japanese efficiency became legendary. They became the biggest producer of cars in the world. The electronics industry became the model which others attempted to follow. The Japanese 'balance-of-payments' surplus was bigger than many national economies.

But the domestic economy, in keeping with other industrial nations, was debt-based. Public debt, and the cost of real estate, was astronomical.

The Australian Financial Review (12/10/01) gave the current picture of a crumbling colossus:

".... The banking system is riddled with 'bad' debts, estimated at between Y43 trillion and Y150 trillion (between \$750 billion and \$2.5 trillion). Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi insists magisterially but vaguely that he will solve the problem 'in two or three years'. However, his estimate of the sum involved, Y13 trillion, is well below the figure given by his own finance ministry (Y43.4 trillion) which in turn is far below independent estimates. Simply to write off the debts would constitute a 'shock therapy' that would deepen the recession and bring on a wave of bankruptcies and a tsunami of unemployment, adding between 500,000 and 1.5 million people – or in the view of some foreign experts maybe three or four million – to the three and a half million already unemployed. Japan's public debt, ranked No 1 in the OECD, soared in the 1990s from 58 per cent of GDP to 140 per cent in 2001, and is on track to reach 200 per cent in 2005. If the deficits of public corporations are included It now constitutes one fifth of global debt...."

To attempt to keep the masses consuming, Japan resorted to a 'public works' programme unprecedented in history:

" Japan's public works sector grew to be three times that of Britain, the US or Germany. It employs 7 million people, spending each year between Y40 trillion and Y50 trillion, about two or three times that of other industrial companies. Japan came to have more dams and more roads per unit of land than the continental US, half its coastline and most of its rivers lined with concrete, 90 per cent of coastal wetlands drained, its groundwater drastically depleted, its bio-diversity threatened. Such works soaked up unemployment, fattening farmers as well as bureaucrats, but slowly the collusive structures at the system's core corrupted both politics and society"

This is George Orwell stuff! Japan's crisis is philosophical. Production is not a religion; neither is employment. As Douglas pointed out, production is simply to meet consumption, and once that has been achieved the individual can be freed from productive labour to pursue a range of different activities – from fishing to music, from home-gardening to literature. Nobody yet knows what the full potential of the individual, freed from "wage-slavery" really is.

Japan has no shortage of production. Its productive machine is a marvel of technical ingenuity. But what it has done to the souls of its own people by turning production into a religion augurs catastrophe for the future.

And, as a market for the "productive-religion" disciples in Australia's system, the collapse of our "biggest customer" will deeply hurt Australia.

We should start treating the Australian people as customers, rather than "productive units". In the meanwhile, one wonders, does a fish swim near Japan's concrete coastline? Or a bird sing on the banks of its concrete rivers?

PALESTINIAN TERRORISTS COURTESY OF THE MOSSAD from David Irving's website: By means of a 'blowup' photo on his website from Reuters, 18/10/2001, David Irving exposes Israeli secret service operatives posing as Palestinian terrorists. The blow-up clearly shows the 'star of David' necklace worn by the masked gunman and his white skin is evidence he is not an Arab. Says David Irving:

"The Israeli secret service should teach its operatives to take off their jewellery first. Notice too the very white skin, and the designer-brand sunglasses worn to cover the blue eyes – and that he is carrying a brand new M-16, paid for by generous US taxpayers, as a US correspondent assures us. A real Palestinian terrorist carries an aged AK-47!"

Irving goes on to claim: "The evidence is hardening that the United Airlines flight 93 was shot down or met an end other than stated by the US Government in the skies above Pennsylvania on September 11, 2001.

Today *The New York Times* published the transcripts of all three other doomed planes, while they note that the transcript of the voice recordings relating to the United Airlines 757 which crashed at Shanksville has been withheld by the FBI."

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