



A WEEKLY COMMENTARY

ON TARGET

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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance -

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: *"Almost the highest attribute of man is 'judgment', the exercise of choice. Far more than learning, it moulds the character and shapes the abilities, and there is no more conclusive proof of the essentially Satanic origin and nature than its insidious and all pervasive attack on the powers of judgment and choice. We believe that it is far more this frustration of judgment than the positive hardship of the present tyranny, which is sapping the man-hood of the nation. Judgment is a faculty requiring constant exercise; and it is being killed by strangulation. 'Shopping' for the love of which women used to be gently derided, was an outlet for this vital instinct. Observe the queues of weary women waiting for what the shopkeeper deigns to give them. They are starved of 'choice'."*

– C.H. Douglas in *"The Development of World Dominion"*, October 18th, 1947

BUSHWHACKED by Jeremy Lee:

There's an old saying that a lie will encircle the world while truth is putting its shoes on. But slow though it appears, truth eventually catches up. It becomes very embarrassing for those who lied in the first place. As facts gradually emerge, the liars begin to forget the nature and sequence of their deceptions.

Hardly anyone now believes that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction, and that the justification for war was, therefore, false. Every inquiry resulting digs up more evidence of duplicity. So far, the only administration temporarily unscathed is that of John Howard. But events in Britain and the United States will not leave John Howard and Foreign Minister Alexander Downer alone. Downer is not really good at doublespeak, however hard he tries. His American counterpart, Secretary of State Colin Powell, has conceded that without weapons of mass destruction, the case for war could not be justified. Neither Downer nor Howard dare state the obvious. They just keep repeating their tattered mantras.

For the first time, George W. Bush's popularity rating has sunk below 50 percent. His journey between now and November's presidential election looks uncomfortable.

Somehow or other, he has got to hand power to an Iraqi government by the end of June. Somehow, he has got to persuade the United Nations to supervise a general election in Iraq. Somehow, he has got

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to "bring the boys (and gals) home" before his own poll; and must do it without the possibility of civil war in Iraq between Sunnis, Shiites and Kurds. Somehow, while all this is going on, he has got to maintain US control of the oil in the Persian Gulf.

Somehow he has got to survive an independent inquiry into pre-war intelligence on WMD, which is looking increasingly tattered.

And somehow he has got to fight off the opponents who will be identifying and attacking every weakness before the presidential election.

All this might be conceivable if the United States was in a strong economic position. The hip-pocket nerve is a big factor in all elections. But Bush is even more vulnerable here than in military matters. In the last year of the Clinton administration a surplus budget was brought before Congress and the American people. George Bush has managed to turn that into a \$521 billion budget deficit – over \$1,800 for every man, woman and child in the country.

But that's nothing compared to the latest overall US debt figures, which look like this:

Total National (or government) debt, including Federal, State, County and Local, now stands at \$20.6 **trillion** (83.7 per cent of which has been created since 1981).

When adding this total to the United States private debt, the overall total rises to \$39.4 **trillion**.

To put this into some sort of perspective, all public and private assets in the United States at the end of 2003 were valued at \$26.1 **trillion**. Thus the United States by the end of the year had a negative worth of about \$13 **trillion**.

The pain that these enormous debts will cause will increasingly be sheeted home to President Bush and his administration. Much of the increase has been spent on insane wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. If you look like a winner, you might get away with it. But George has lost that cock-sure swagger.

Howard will probably go to his election about the same time. So far he has basked in Bush's glory. Will there be any left when he goes to the polls?

SOCIAL CREDIT INTERNET DISCUSSION: "In South Africa, the unemployment rate runs at 40%, which is worse than what America experienced during the height of the Depression. I get depressed when 'experts' think only in terms of their own wealthy nations – the very nations that house the great financial interests that dictate political and economic policy, and hold the rest of the world (and the poor of their own countries) to ransom," deplored 'Jessop' of South Africa.

Unemployment - a result of the Age of Industrial and Technological Automation: "As to 40% unemployment," responded social creditor Wally Klinck of Canada, "this is not high enough for Social Credit – something approaching 100% would in a modern economy be nearing the optimal figure.

"As Douglas has said, economics is simply a functional activity of men and women in the world and the sooner it is dispensed with by more efficient means, so that humans can obtain increased leisure to get on with higher cultural and spiritual activities, the better. Obviously, only advancement can move society in this direction – and nations which adopted the Social Credit policies in order to make

it possible would be in a much better and more benign position, both by example and materially, to assist more backward nations to join the march of civilisation."

Technology and Work in the Global Economy: The scene, the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco late September 1995. Hosting the 500 leading politicians, businessmen and scientists from every continent gathered together 'to point the way to the new civilisation of the twenty-first century' is the former president of the communist Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev.

A discussion between David Packard, co-founder of the hi-tech giant Hewlett-Packard and John Gage, top manager at Sun Microsystems, is taking place, opening the round of debate on "technology and work in the global economy":

"How many employees do you really need John," asks David Packard.

"Six, maybe eight," Gage drily comes back. "We'd be really stuck without them. ..."

Professor Rustum Roy from Pennsylvania State University, tries to dig deeper: "And how many are currently working for Sun Systems?"

Gage: "Sixteen thousand. All but a minority are rationalisation reserves."

"Not a murmur passes through the room. The prospect of previously undreamt-of armies of the unemployed seems to go without saying for those present. None of the highly paid career managers from the company divisions of the future believes that there will be enough new, regularly paid jobs in any sector of the economy in the technologically demanding growth-markets of hitherto affluent countries."

The 'twenty-eighty' society: To sum up the future percentage of employed to unemployed as they see it-it is 20 to 80. Only 20% of the population will suffice to keep the world economy going. (Taken from "*The Global Trap*" by Martin & Schumann, available from all League Book Services.)

The real issue is not the numbers needed to keep economies going, the real issue is how will the production be distributed, to whom and by whom?

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Further reading: Introduction to Social Credit series, especially Parts 4 & 5.

HALLIBURTON PROFITS FROM WAR: How comforting it must be for the relatives of GIs, five hundred of whom were killed and ten thousand injured in Iraq, to read the following report in "*Private Eye*" magazine No.1097. (London). Quote, "Halliburton shares rose by 83% since September 2002, when the push for war began, in the previous five years shares fell by 77%."

Halliburton, run by Cheney before he ran for vice-president, has done so well from contracts to rebuild Iraq it faces a probe on its charges." End quote.

Dick Cheney, leading neo-con and Gulf War protagonist, still receives millions of dollars from multi-

national Haliburton which, along with its subsidiary Kellogg Brown & Root, was awarded multi-million dollar contracts in Iraq without having to tender.

Australian readers will no doubt be aware that both of these companies were involved in the construction of the Alice Springs to Darwin railway.

From Neil Baird's e-mail; Tuesday, January 28th, 2004.

WORKER 'SEX' BAN IN ISRAEL: Is this 'discrimination'? Or is this '*discrimination*' ??? In a 'snippet of news' tucked away in *The Australian*, December 26th, 2003, a police spokesman is quoted assaying: "An Israeli company has required thousands of Chinese workers to sign a contract promising not to have sex with Israelis or try to convert them." Accordingly, male workers cannot come into contact with Israeli women, not even prostitutes, become their lovers, or marry them. It is estimated 260,000 foreigners work in Israel, having replaced Palestinian labourers during the last three years of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict.

How would such draconian regulations go in this country? What would the Human Rights Anti-Discrimination Commissar have to say about such regulations being imposed on 'other races' coming to this land? One set of rules for the 'chosen ones' and another set for the rest of us!

260,000 jobs going to a bunch of foreigners? What of the Palestinians? This, in effect, means the loss of purchasing power equivalent to the wages of those 260,000 labourers. Under the present draconian regime, many Palestinian people must be living at a miserable subsistence level.

BEATTIE CLAIMS VICTORY IN QUEENSLAND: Queensland Premier Peter Beattie has declared victory in the state election after being returned with a reduced majority for a third term. At the same time, he also warned Prime Minister John Howard to take note ahead of the Federal election later this year. "I think there are issues for the Prime Minister out of this election," he said. "There needs to be significant reform of the health system, ensuring GPs are close to hospitals, that senior citizens are in nursing homes not hospitals, significant reforms in health so we put our patients in Australia first." Opposition leader Lawrence Springborg conceded defeat after the Coalition gained only five seats. Mr. Springborg thought the 6 per cent swing to the Coalition across the state was an achievement – I wonder what Sir Joh thought.

It looks as though the ALP has won 62 seats, while the Coalition have 20 between them, with the Nationals taking 15 and the Liberals five seats. After the last state election, the Beattie Government held 66 of Parliament's 89 seats.

Sitting members in the Burdekin, Lockyer, Burnett, Charters Towers and Surfers Paradise all appear to have been ousted, with the Opposition picking up the seats from the ALP and Independents. The swing against Labor is less the two per cent.

One Nation retained just one seat, Tableland, but incumbent Rosa Lee Long made history by becoming the first party member to ever be re-elected. The party came into the poll with just two sitting MPs and a handful of former party colleagues running as Independents.

Independents have taken five seats but neither the Greens nor the Democrats have gained a seat.

Federal member Bob Katter says the Independents have had some "very slashing victories" in seats in Queensland's sugar regions, where the industry is "going to vanish".

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