



A WEEKLY COMMENTARY

ON TARGET



- NEWS HIGHLIGHTS
- BACKGROUND INFORMATION
- COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS

The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance -

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "Considered as a means of making people work (an aim which is common both to the Capitalist and Socialist Party politics) the existing financial system, as a system, is probably nearly perfect. Its banking system, methods of taxation and accountancy counter every development of applied science, organisation, and machinery, so that the individual, instead of obtaining the benefit of these advances in the form of a higher civilisation and greater leisure, is merely enabled to do more work. Every other factor in the situation is ultimately sacrificed to this end of providing him with work, and at this moment the world in general... is settling down to a policy of intensive production for export, which must quite inevitably result in a world cataclysm, urged thereto by what is known as the Unemployment Problem...*Considered as a mechanism for distributing goods*, however, the existing financial system is radically defective..."

– Clifford Hugh Douglas in *"Warning Democracy"*, 1931

QUALITIES THAT TRANSCEND by John Brett:

I feel it is always worthwhile to point out to our republican correspondents and friends, in times of national grief and tragedy, the occasions and qualities that transcend their system. Last week the Queen led her people's war veterans down the Mall in an open Land Rover, immediately after the London bombings. Later at the weekend she hosted a representation of those veterans to a luncheon at Buckingham Palace.

The Queen sat next to Sir Tasker Watkins, who won a Victoria Cross in Normandy. Sir Tasker, on behalf of the veterans, reminded the world that the Queen had been "one of us", serving in the ATS during WWII. This veteran who had put his life on the line for his country, concluded his address with these words: "Ma'am, keep well, stay with us much longer. You have our eternal and abiding love. God bless you".

Unlike our present Presidential friend, she did not start a war, but finding her nation at war she also served – lest we forget.

IN THIS ISSUE: • *Thought For The Week* • *Qualities That Transcend* • *London Bombings – 'We Are All...'* • *Black Is White And "Black" Is Very Angry* • *The Wages Of Asianisation* • *The Validity Of Local Government* • *Big Brother About Big Brother*

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Page 1 (109)

LONDON BOMBINGS – 'WE ARE ALL...' by Felicity Arbuthnot – Felicity is a freelance journalist stationed in London. July 11th, 2005.

'Guilty until proved innocent' is a new facet to British justice.

"The innocent always bear the scars, suffer the ultimate sacrifice, of mistaken political policies.

However, the sadness of the deaths and casualties of 7/7 have been compounded by the reckless language of lawyers who should know better. Prime Minister Blair and Foreign Secretary Jack Straw near instantly pointed the finger in intemperate language, at Islam. The pieces, the injured, the bodies and body parts were still being treated, accounted for and retrieved - there is no evidence as to who committed these acts (as at 11th July...ed). Today a white tent has been erected at the side of the Thames, in Embankment Gardens and designated a Memorial Garden. Flowers have been planted and white bouquets left by Ministers and Church dignitaries and a book of condolence opened. 'We are all Londoners today', we were told on the day of the tragedy.

To those to whom "in our name": A white tent is often erected at Muslim mournings, of course. So may we add also the humblest and most inadequate of apologies to those to whom in our name, the same unimaginable grief has been visited. There is a countless humanity who are not alone 'all Londoners today'. Today, we are also 'all' Iraqis, Afghans, Palestinians, the forgotten of the Balkans war.

We are also all from the seventeen other nations, forgotten victims of American aggression, since the 'liberation' of Europe in 1945 – China 1945-46, 1950-53; Korea 1950-53; Guatemala 1954, 1960, 1967-69; Indonesia 1958; Cuba 1959-61; Congo 1964; Peru 1965; Laos 1964-73; Vietnam 1961-73; Cambodia 1969-70; Lebanon 1983-84; Grenada 1983; Libya 1986; El Salvador 1980s; Nicaragua 1980s; Panama 1989; Sudan 1998.

Any human heart bleeds for any tragedy, anywhere. And that is the key. Humanity shares tragedy. John Donne, British thinker and poet, dead nearly four hundred years is as poignant, now as then. He truly speaks for our common humanity which transcends race, language, location, colour –

'No man is an island, entire unto itself, Every man is a piece of the globe –
A part of the main. Any man's death diminishes me, I am involved in Mankind,
And therefore, never send to know for whom the bell tolls, It tolls for thee.'

BLACK IS WHITE AND "BLACK" IS VERY ANGRY by James Reed:

Could it really be? At last I have found the ultimate reduction to absurdity of identity politics, 'We're Black and Proud, Say "Whites,"' *The Weekend Australian*, June 25th-26th, 2005. A group of people who claim they are Aborigines, the Lia Pootah (Little River) nation, are not recognized by the Tasmanian Office of Aboriginal Affairs as being Aborigines. Consequently they are missing out on all the fringe benefits including government benefits, land council elections and special sites. Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre's legal adviser Michael Mansell (remember him, the blue-eyed Tasmanian activist?) says that they are "fakes" who "don't have a single drop of Aboriginal blood in their veins." Long live DNA testing!

The Tasmanian State Government put through legislation, which has now been passed, tightening the definition of "Aboriginal". Under the new test, one must demonstrate:

- Aboriginal ancestry
- Identify as an Aborigine
- Have communal recognition from the Aboriginal community.

Those who identify as Lia Pootah say the test is much harder for them to satisfy than it is for

Aborigines known as "Palawa". They describe the Palawa "as those Aborigines whose forbears were taken to Bass Strait islands by missionary George A. Robinson in the 1830s, or by European sealers who kidnapped Aboriginal "wives". Whereas the Lia Pootah, they say, are descendants of those who remained on "mainland" Tasmania as maids and "wives" of Europeans, or in pockets of surviving tribal groups.

Legislation amounts to "genocide": A Lia Pootah spokeswoman, Kaye McPherson claims the new three-point test strips 14,000 people of their Aboriginality and the recent legislation amounts to genocide and have lodged documents with the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Ms. McPherson says her great-grandmother was an Aborigine and insists that such relatively distant family links are relevant in today's Tasmania. They hope that the UN will intervene in the same way that they did in forcing changes to Tasmania's anti-homosexual laws in the 1990s.

Editor's note: A number of years ago the Heritage Journal published an old photograph of a group of Tasmanian Aborigines who looked nothing like the mainland Aborigines. Neither did they look anything like the earlier aborigines known as the Negritos or "little people" who, so it appears, were nearly wiped out by succeeding waves of other 'aborigines'. One can't help but wonder – just which group, or groups, have been here for all these 'thousands of years'?

THE WAGES OF ASIANISATION by James Reed:

Daniel Sweeseang Kwok, Jenny Lai Chin Ong, her son Raymond Aik Tong Tan and Hosea Prayudi Saputra Yoe are being tried before judge Robert Keleman of the Downing District Court on sex slavery charges "Sex Slaves Forced to Work Off \$45,000 'Debts'", *The Australian*, July 1st, 2005. Eight women had been brought to Australia from South East Asia, some believing that they were to work as waitresses. These women were kept under lock and key in an apartment and had no choice about the sordid life of prostitution that they were forced into. They were forced to have sex with 900 "clients" to pay off a contracted debt of \$45,000. The women arrived in Australia on tourist visas but had their passports and other documents taken away by the Asian criminals. The criminals then made applications on their behalf for refugee status, reasoning that it would take years for a case to work its way through the refugee appeal system thus allowing the girls to work. This is the true face of "Asianisation," something the Founding Fathers of Australia in devising the White Australia Policy, hoped to avoid.

THE VALIDITY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT by Ian Wilson LL.B.:

In various seminars and Freedom Movement publications, you may have come across the following argument for the invalidity of local government.

Premise one: Australia became an independent Sovereign Member nation State of the League of Nations following the ratification by both the Senate and House of Representatives of the signing of the Treaty of Versailles, October 1st, 1919. Members of the League of Nations, and later the United Nations, agrees not to use, alter or tamper with the laws of another Member State:

Premise two: Therefore by assuming executive authority and assenting to any law, the Monarch of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland is breaching international law. Therefore any law assented to by, say, Queen Elizabeth II or her appointed Governor in Council cannot be legally valid. Therefore local government does not legally exist in Australia, e.g., the Local Government Act 1989 (Victoria) is not valid.

Such an argument, if sound, would demolish all post October 1st, 1919, Australian laws, not merely

local government acts. As most State courts, especially Supreme Courts were established by post 1 October 1919 statutes, all such common law decisions would be invalid too.

This type of argument is similar to a radical kind of argument put to the High Court by Aboriginal activists some years ago in *Coe*: the laws of Australia are in a sense "invalid" because Australia was not founded in accordance with international law.

However, international law is not a "supra-national" entity, but ultimately dependent on the agreements made by states as actors. "Tampering" with the laws of member States of the UN does not relate to issues of Royal Assent. If Royal Assent, however that was viewed was part of the pre-existing law of the signing Member Nations, then by definition it can't constitute tampering. In fact, there is a counter argument which mirrors the "anti- local government" argument which says that if the Royal Assent mechanism was changed by the Monarch, then "tampering" has occurred! Clearly the anti-local government argument is wrong.

Beware of bush lawyers. I have noticed a dangerous tendency in the Freedom Movement for bush lawyers to attempt to help people in need through supplying legal strategies which involve absurdly radical arguments.

Remember: courts are not places where philosopher-gods objectively decide issues. Courts are also political entities. Decisions are made often on "public policy considerations" and other pragmatic criteria. No court would ever take seriously any quasi-legal/philosophical argument which invalidated the existing totality of pre-existing law. Even *Mabo*, perhaps the High Court's most radical decision which revised the doctrine of *terra nullius* revised part of Australian property law. The idea that Australian sovereignty was in question was rejected by the Court as non-justiable, meaning beyond the power of a court to decide. The argument considered here would be rejected by High Court, without question.

(Please note: This article is also published in July, 2005, *The New Times Survey* to ensure wider circulation).

BIG BROTHER – ABOUT BIG BROTHER by James Reed:

Much has been made about the nudity and other forms of cultural degeneracy in the Channel 10 TV show "Big Brother". Three episodes of the programme are to be investigated by the Australian Broadcasting Authority. I saw some episodes of last year's show where a Black man with a red-haired girl friend won the show. If last year's show was about the joy on interracial sexuality this year's theme is even starker. The theme tends to be separation of the sexes and the celebration of lesbianism.

Is this show a threat to the young? I feared so, until I spoke to many young people watching the show. The results surprised me. Most of the young people in my sample thought that the boys were "wankers" and the girls "bitches". They watched the show to laugh at their most despised character. They were not troubled by the "sex". "What sex," I was told, "these people are just B-grade actors talking big... basically a bunch of losers".

I am feeling optimistic about the future. The libertarian ideology of the 1960s is dead. No amount of TV hype can resurrect it. The young are realists and at last we have the chance to reach a generation through the internet and on-line news.

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