



A WEEKLY COMMENTARY

ON TARGET

- NEWS HIGHLIGHTS
- BACKGROUND INFORMATION
- COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS



The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance –

Print Post Publication Number 381667 00258

Vol.42, No.38

September 29th, 2006

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "You have two alternatives; you can drift passively through concealed stages to an absolute dictatorship of finance as suggested in the New Deal where you have a cabinet, a dictatorship of three or four who will do exactly what the big financiers and manufacturers want them to do, and will subordinate the ends of the common man to the social interests of this or that industry.

This insistence upon production all over the world, as though the problem were one of production, is a matter that is hypnotising people into assuming that they must be regimented in industry... If you allow this thing to go passively you will be regimented through various stages until we arrive at an effective dictatorship in which nothing can be done, and we shall be hurried by the inevitable results into either another world war, which is looming up very fast at the present time, or one long series of revolts and ultimate chaos. That is one of the paths, which you can follow...

The other path is take a hand in your destiny and say, no, I can say quite fearlessly that the world is faced with a succession of dictatorships, and I am willing to take the risk of trying a real democracy as a very much preferable alternative. The game is in your hands, as they say at Monte Carlo. Make your play *faites vos jeux*. The game will not wait. It will take one direction or another at the very longest, within the next five years."

– Major C.H. Douglas, 1st February 1935

WHAT ABOUT THE FREEDOM OF JIHAD JACK THOMAS? by Ian Wilson LL.B: According to Greg Sheridan "Seeking a control order on someone who has trained with the deadliest of terrorists is not a breach of civil liberties – it is the merest common sense." (*The Australian*, 30/8/06, p.5) This issue raises a fundamental philosophical problem about how liberal democratic societies respond to the threat of terrorism. Jihad Jack Thomas was found by the Supreme Court of Victoria to have made an involuntary statement, so his conviction was overturned. This is a technicality but one essential to our system of justice which requires meticulous care on the part of the police.

Sheridan is right to be concerned that those like Jihad Jack are a threat to us and that such individuals should be watched.

Control orders though step over the line of civil liberties and erode the judicial checks and balances that have separated free societies from tyrannies. These orders are a cop-out for poor policing or under-

In this issue: • *Thought For The Week* • *What About The Freedom Of Jihad Jack Thomas?* • *The Heart Of Multiculturalism* • *The Hollow Political Mantra* • *The Perils Of Islamic Culture* • *On Being A Manne* • *Travelling By Donkeys* • *Europeans Refuse Landings For Israeli Arms Planes*

staffing of security monitors. Good police work should make terrorist cases stick and not require the patch-up job that control orders deliver.

Jurisprudentially, there is good reason to suppose that control orders would be held by the High Court as being unconstitutional, violating the Constitutional separation of powers. Even if this is not the case, if the presumption of innocence is removed from the law then we are on the road to abandoning the fundamental tenet of our legal system.

THE HEART OF MULTICULTURALISM by James Reed: For those inclined to philosophical ruminations about the point of Australia's post-WWII immigration policy, I offer as food for thought an interesting letter to the Editor (*Weekend Australian*, 2-3/9/06 p.16) by Mr. Con Vaitsas:

"Of course it would be good if Muslim migrants learned to speak English, just as it would be for the hundreds of thousands of migrants from the other diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds who speak very little English.

I have relatives who migrated to Australia from Greece decades ago and still possess a poor grasp of the English language. However, they have been able to contribute to Australia by either working successfully in their own businesses, or for an employer, without any government questioning their loyalty or their expertise in speaking the lingo.

As for 'fully integrating', which the Prime Minister equates with 'accepting Australian values', I do not know of one person from my own Greek background, including those of us who were born here, who has or is prepared to do this. There are many Aussie customs and/or values we do not like or want to accept." Con Vaitsas, Ashbury, N.S.W.

THE HOLLOW POLITICAL MANTRA: The current political mantra that Australia is a 'multi-ethnic', 'multi-cultural' and/or a 'multi-faith' society is in fact a political claim that Australia is no longer a society with *Christian* values. But this means more than the current mantra that we can't impose 'Australian' values or mores on newcomers to this country. In fact, it means that the metaphysical character of our society has, in effect been radically altered.

In a recent survey, a high percentage of Australians indicated they felt less secure in this globalised world than they once did. Of course they do, their nation doesn't any longer strongly reflect their culture, their history and their heritage, they are experiencing powerful feelings of alienation with the changes around them.

While Australians generally may not relate to the modern Christian churches (many leaders of which aren't sure themselves of their own foundations) they might be surprised to be told that their inherent values and beliefs stemmed from the Christian Faith.

Historically, the *metaphysical* basis of the English-speaking peoples, Trinitarian Christianity, was reflected *politically* in Trinitarian Constitutions and other civil institutions. The Christian concept of the importance of the Individual in relation to the Group was expressed politically and culturally; after all, the unique value and dignity of each human soul before God, in the last resort, is the only rational justification of the concept of personal freedom. The traditional family was seen as the basic unit of the Society.

Generally, these were the accepted beliefs the first settlers brought with them to this land and the founding fathers designed the systems and institutions upon them.

All societies have a metaphysical foundation or basis: As an example, that is why Sir David Kelly could insist in his classic work, "The Hungry Sheep": The practical consequences of the high Oriental religion of Brahmin or Buddhist with its profound pessimism and depersonalisation is immense. If life is radically bad and the one goal is escape from personality, there can be no point in seeking justice and social reform. The doctrine of Karma – reincarnation – explicitly means that your lot in life, your place in the community, is the penalty or reward for your actions in a previous existence.

Rewards or penalties are distributed through the process of reincarnation, therefore it is believed the Caste system represents the working of an inexorable law...

He observed the new Indian 'democracy' still has her millions of "untouchables"! Hence, the tendency in a nation like India with this type of metaphysical foundation is towards passive acceptance of social and political abuses and loss of personal freedom.

THE PERILS OF ISLAMIC CULTURE by Peter Ewer: Former treasury secretary John Stone recently spoke at a *Quadrant* dinner on the topic of the "perils of Islamic culture". (*The Australian*, 30/6/06, p.17). Stone said:

"So far as I can see, however, Muslims do not so much move out as move in.

In communities where large numbers of Muslims gather, non-Muslims are gradually driven out. It is then not long before there are established no-go areas where Muslim gangs flourish on the proceeds of drugs, extortion, armed robbery and so on.

In turn, as the host country's own laws are set aside in these no-go areas, there develop demands for the recognition of these areas as small states within the state, to be governed by sharia law, administered not by national courts but by sharia-type courts overseen by local imams.

In France, we have begun to see the ultimate expression of such developments. There, a public official is reported to have agreed to meet an imam outside the predominantly Muslim district of Roubaix which, according to the imam, was Islamic territory and closed to non-Muslims.

Similar demands can already be heard in Britain. To a more limited extent (so far) we have begun to hear them in Australia."

Writers in this journal have said much the same thing, before Stone.

ON BEING A MANNE by Peter Ewer: Andrew Bolt, a columnist for the *Herald Sun* in Melbourne, debated Professor Robert Manne on Radio 3AW, 27 June 2006 (*The Australian*, 29/6/06, p.11). Robert Manne has championed the idea of a "stolen generation" of Aboriginal children. Bolt challenged Manne to name 10 such children – I imagine that he wanted Manne to name individuals. If one is an expert then surely one should be able to name just 10 of these children stolen by 'racists'. Manne, according to Bolt could not do this.

The "stolen generation" incident was a weird debate: well intending missionaries and state officials sought to help mixed race children who may have been harmed, abandoned or killed by other Aborigines (who did not approve of mixed races). The Whites, not the Aborigines who abandoned the mixed-race children are the racists.

Never in this debate did the politically correct ever consider the moral position of those who threatened these children. You see, only Whites can be racist, or so the cultural Left assumes. It takes only a moment's clear logic to see that this debate was conceptually rotten to the core.

TRAVELLING BY DONKEYS by Brian Simpson: South Africa today has a murder rate just below Columbia and the highest reported number of rape cases in the world. Charles Nqakula, the Minister for Safety and Security has advised new police recruits, in response to public criticisms, that police officers were typically slow to reach crime scenes "If you don't have a car, ride a bicycle or a donkey." (*The Australian*, 31/8/06, p.9) This is sound advice for a country that is descending into darkness.

EUROPEANS REFUSE LANDINGS FOR ISRAELI ARMS PLANES – Source: European Jewish press: <http://www.ejpress.org/article/10657>

A number of European countries are refusing to allow Israeli planes carrying arms from America to stop over in their airports to refuel, an Israeli union head has claimed.

Itai Regev, head of the El Al Israel Airlines pilots union, said the decisions came from countries considered friendly to Israel, including Italy, Britain and Germany. The union chief wrote a letter of complaint to Israeli prime minister Ehud Olmert, as well as the finance, tourism and foreign ministries. Blaming "political reasons" for the decisions, Regev said: "As a result, cargo planes are taking off from the U.S. with much lighter weight, and are reaching Israel with significantly fewer munitions than needed."

Radio Free Europe reports: "Lebanon: Donors Meeting Expected To Net \$500 Million."

An international donors meeting for Lebanon in Stockholm today is expected to raise at least \$500 million to put the country on the path to recovery from war damage.

The \$500 million Lebanon hopes to raise from the representatives of more than 60 countries and organisations present in Stockholm will be little more than a beginning for the war-ravaged country. Lebanon's government says the damage done by the Israeli bombardment runs to billions of dollars. The full extent of the costs of reconstruction still remains unknown. Thus, the European Commission has earmarked 10 million euros (\$12.8 million) of its 42 million-euro pledge to go toward helping the Lebanese authorities to undertake a comprehensive damage-assessment study.

The government has said it estimates some 130,000 houses have been destroyed or damaged. Much of the country's infrastructure lies in ruins. The international aid agency Oxfam has said 85 percent of the country's farmers have lost some or all of their crops. The losses from investment flight and lost tourism revenues are more difficult to calculate...."

Comment: I am having great difficulty in coming to grips with the idea that Israel should be able to bomb Lebanon to smithereens one month and the next month 'International Donors' are called upon to build it up again.

For how many years, and how many billions of Deutsche Marks did Germans have to pay reparations to Israel for 'the Holocaust'? Assuming it has finished paying!

Pray tell me, why isn't America's military/industrial machine, along with Israel, being asked to 'foot the bill'? They are the ones who caused the damage and profited from the sale of bombs, etc!