



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.44, No.32

August 22nd, 2008

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Individualism: It is not necessary to invoke the authority of the Christian philosophy (although that is unequivocal on the point) to realise that the relationship of the individual to the group is not arguable. The group exists for the benefit of the individual, in the same sense that the field exists for the benefit of the flower, or the tree for the fruit. Groups of any kind, whether called nations, business systems, or any other associative label, inevitably decay and disappear if they fail to foster a sufficient number of excellent individuals, using those words in their precise significance. It is also true that excellence involves exercise – a man does not become a good cricketer by reading books on cricket.

But not everyone wants to play cricket, and not every cricketer wants to play seven days a week. If the M.C.C. becomes so all pervasive that in place of being a group for the encouragement and progress of cricketers who freely choose cricket as their game, it becomes an organisation directed to the abasement of non-cricketers, then it is a field which has not been farmed with proper understanding.

The individualism, which is justifiable and necessary, is not that which insists on making the rules of every game, and at the same time, devises methods of compulsion to provide players.

It is obvious that advantage is being taken of the orgy of waste through which we are passing to stampede us into mere units in an industrial-financial group. The case which the Society of Individualists has to make for itself is, I think, less concerned with the value of individualism than with the methods by which it proposes to restore to the individual the opportunity of becoming excellent by the exercise of his possibly unique talent rather than by the life-long performance of a mechanical task.

I have read many of the attractive writings of Sir Ernest Benn, who is prominent in the Individualist movement, and they never fail to amuse and delight me. But I notice that Sir Ernest is a stalwart supporter of the orthodox financial system. And there is no more future for the genuine individualist if the pre-war financial system is not radically modified in the interest of the individual than there is for the deluded victims of Karl Marx.

– C.H. Douglas, 14 September, 1943

ACTS OF WAR WARNINGS POSTED: Source: http://www.truthdig.com/report/item/20080729_acts_of_war/ Scott Ritter a former U.N. weapons inspector and Marine intelligence officer who has written extensively about Iran, has posted a warning that America's ruling elites intend to attack Iran. In fact, the Internet is humming with this type of warning. We do not want to be 'scare-mongers' but believe it important to publish the following portion of his article for our readers' information:

In this issue: • *Thought For The Week* • *Acts Of War Warnings Posted* • *White House Buried British Intelligence On Iraq's WMD* • *Chaos In Our Skies* • *The Brave New World Of Cut 'N' Paste* • *Garrett Puts Pipeline Approval On Hold*

"ON TARGET"

August 22nd, 2008

Page 1 (125)

"The war between the United States and Iran is on. American taxpayer dollars are being used, with the permission of Congress, to fund activities that result in Iranians being killed and wounded, and Iranian property destroyed. This wanton violation of a nation's sovereignty would not be tolerated if the tables were turned and Americans were being subjected to Iranian-funded covert actions that took the lives of Americans, on American soil, and destroyed American property and livelihood. Many Americans remain unaware of what is transpiring abroad in their name. Many of those who are cognizant of these activities are supportive of them, an outgrowth of misguided sentiment which holds Iran accountable for a list of grievances used by the U.S. government to justify the ongoing 'global war on terror'. Iran, we are told, is not just a nation pursuing nuclear weapons, but is the largest state sponsor of terror in the world today.

Much of the information behind this is being promulgated by Israel, which has a vested interest in seeing Iran neutralized as a potential threat. But Israel is joined by another source, even more puzzling in terms of its broad-based acceptance in the world of American journalism: the Mujahadeen-e Khalk, or MEK, an Iranian opposition group sworn to overthrow the theocracy in Tehran. The CIA today provides material support to the actions of the MEK inside Iran. The recent spate of explosions in Iran, including a particularly devastating "accident" involving a military convoy transporting ammunition in downtown Tehran, appears to be linked to an MEK operation; its agents working inside munitions manufacturing plants deliberately are committing acts of sabotage which lead to such explosions.

If CIA money and planning support are behind these actions, the agency's backing constitutes nothing less than an act of war on the part of the United States against Iran..."

WHITE HOUSE 'BURIED BRITISH INTELLIGENCE ON IRAQ'S WMD': Source: *The Times*, 6/8/08: Tony Blair and George Bush both saw intelligence contradicting the rationale for invading Iraq, a new book claims Tim Reid in Washington and Sam Coates in London. MI6 told Tony Blair before the invasion of Iraq that a high-placed Iraqi source said that Saddam Hussein had no weapons of mass destruction. The intelligence was passed to the U.S. but was buried by the White House, according to the new book.

The book claimed that the former Prime Minister sent a top British spy to the Middle East in 2003 – three months before the invasion – to dig up enough intelligence to avoid war but that President Bush and Dick Cheney, the Vice-President, dismissed any claims or possible evidence that would stop military action.

In "The Way of the World", the Pulitzer prize-winning author Ron Suskind also claimed that the White House ordered the CIA to forge a backdated, handwritten letter purportedly from the head of Iraqi Intelligence to Saddam. The letter, which came to light nine months after the invasion, was meant to demonstrate a link between the Baathist regime and al-Qaeda.

The forgery, adamantly denied by the White House, was passed to a British journalist in Baghdad and written about as if genuine by *The Sunday Telegraph* on December 14, 2003. The article received significant attention in the U.S. and provided the White House with a new rationale for the invasion, Suskind claimed. The White House called the allegation absurd.

Suskind said that at the beginning of 2003 MI6 sent one of its top agents, Michael Shipster, to the region. Mr. Shipster held secret meetings in Jordan with Tahir Jalil Habbush, the head of Iraqi Intelligence. The meetings were confirmed by Nigel Inkster, former assistant director of MI6.

Mr. Inkster also confirmed that Mr. Shipster was told by Mr. Habbush that there were no illicit weapons in Iraq. Mr. Inkster refused to comment last night.

Sir Richard Dearlove, the former head of British Intelligence, was also interviewed by Suskind. The author said that Sir Richard confirmed the Shipster meetings and report. He added that he asked why Mr. Blair had not acted on the intelligence.

Sir Richard was quoted as saying that the mission was an eleventh-hour "attempt to try, as it were, I'd say, to diffuse the whole situation". He added: "The problem was the Cheney crowd was in too much of a hurry, really. Bush never resisted them quite strongly enough."

Suskind wrote that Sir Richard flew to Washington in February 2003 to present the Habbush report to George Tenet, then the Director of the CIA. The report stated that according to Mr Habbush, Saddam had ended his nuclear programme in 1991 – the same year that he destroyed his chemical weapons programme – and ended his biological weapons programme in 1996. These assertions turned out to be true.

Mr. Tenet briefed Mr. Bush and Condoleezza Rice, at the time his National Security Adviser.

Suskind wrote: "The White House then buried the Habbush report. They instructed the British that they were no longer interested in keeping the channel open."

Rob Richer, a former CIA officer in the Near East division, told Suskind: "The Brits wanted to avoid war – which was what was driving them. Bush wanted to go to war in Iraq from the very first days he was in office."

Mr. Habbush was put on the White House's list of most-wanted Iraqis but according to Suskind he was paid by the CIA in October 2003 to write the forged letter to Saddam, dated July 1, 2001, saying that the putative September 11 ringleader Mohammed Atta had trained for his mission in Iraq. This was the letter publicised in *The Sunday Telegraph*.

Of the forgery allegation, Mr. Tenet said: "There was no such order from the White House to me or, to the best of my knowledge, was anyone from the CIA ever involved in any such effort." Of Mr. Habbush, Mr. Tenet said that the claims in the book were a complete fabrication. He said that Mr. Habbush had "failed to persuade" the British that he had "anything new to offer by way of intelligence". Ron Suskind was a reporter for *The Wall Street Journal* from 1993 to 2000.

MEET MATT: NEXT AUSTRALIAN PM OR U.S. PRESIDENT? by Brian Simpson: Now just suppose you are a member of the ruling elite and it's another day. What can you do today to push the boundaries of political correctness. Well, Matthew the chimpanzee, and his supporters are taking his case to the European Court of Human Rights. ("Is Matthew a person or just a chimp?", *The Advertiser*, 24/508, p.67)

They want Matthew to be declared a "person" so that he can have a guardian appointed. But once this threshold has been met, why stop there? Couldn't Matthew run in the Australian or American political jungle? How about Prime Minister Matthew or President Matthew? If Matthew turned out to be a gay chimp, that of course would be even better.

CHAOS IN OUR SKIES by James Reed: Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! No, it's a plane. In fact, it's two planes and they are about to collide. *The Australian*, 8 July, 2008, carried the headline of flight risk in Australia. "Foreign pilots flying blind" (Unsupervised airspace a 'disaster waiting to happen'), which said that because of a shortage of air traffic controllers, pilots of planes do not know whether or not they are flying through uncontrolled air space. Now it seems that a U.S. Learjet was only sixty seconds away from colliding with a Jetstar Airbus (*The Australian*, 18/7/08, p.3).

In comments on this before I speculated about the dangers of planes colliding and crashing down into our ethnically diverse suburbs. The international community may take time from sipping wine to politely say: "racists!" But worse, there is a possibility of pennies from heaven falling on to Parliament House, Canberra.

Perhaps next time Kevin Rudd looks skyward when speculating about theology with Pope Benedict, he may like to muse on the chaos in our skies.

THE BRAVE NEW WORLD OF CUT 'N' PASTE by James Reed: According to educationalist, Dr. Dale Spender (*The Australian*, 16/7/08, p.24), university students who appropriate from the internet and cut and paste to make up new works, (e.g., essays) are not engaging in plagiarism, but are merely expressing themselves. In a Generation-Y way, of course.

What universities call 'plagiarism' in this context, according to Dr. Spender "isn't plagiarism at all," it is in fact "a new and fast and obviously digital way of synthesising information."

How warm, cosy and comforting is techno-speak! Initially this ageing teacher was shocked at the post-modern deconstruction of the old idea of plagiarism. But after some thought, I got over the idea of a private property of ideas and the need for intellectual honesty. Let me see if I have got it right – if I cut 'n' pasted Dr. Spender's work to make my "own", that wouldn't be plagiarism (i.e., intellectual dishonesty) but my use of a "new and fast and obviously digital way of synthesising information."

GARRETT PUTS PIPELINE APPROVAL ON HOLD: Bravo to the actionists in the Anti Pipeline group "Plug The Pipe". They are exercising their God-given freedom and helping to retain the freedoms of their fellow Australians. Under our Commonwealth Constitution Act it is the people who have the power to instruct their political representatives what they want. These people are exercising that power by putting political pressure on their political representatives.

The following report was sent to us from www.sosnews.org

Commonwealth environmental approval of the Victorian Government's controversial North-South Pipeline will be held up for at least another two weeks. Environment Minister Peter Garrett has put the environmental approval process on hold while he considers new information about the impacts of climate change on the Murray Darling Basin.

Anti Pipeline group Plug The Pipe has used a provision in federal environmental law to request the Minister consider new evidence available which shows climate change will have a drastic negative effect on water runoff into the Murray Darling Basin.

The move may lead to the Victorian and Federal governments having to complete environmental studies on the Murray River and wetlands as far away as the Coorong in South Australia. This could delay the project for months.

Plug The Pipe spokesperson Jeff Spencer said "We know the public will find it hard to believe but both governments have been actively trying to avoid considering the impact the pipeline would have on the Murray River."

"The law requires that Peter Garrett consider the secondary environmental effects of any project before approving it. However, so far Brumby and Garrett have not commissioned even a few minutes of study of the effects on the Murray of withdrawing 75 billion litres of water from the river system." "It seems like a bad movie plot but it's a documentary not fiction," said Mr. Spencer. "The headlines have been screaming that the Murray Darling system is dying, the scientists have told us that we have moved into a dryer climate."

"Still the Rudd and Brumby governments have been quietly ignoring the potential for this project to make a dire situation worse even while pretending to implement a rescue plan for the Murray-Darling Basin. At last we have brought them to account. They are having to obey their own laws," concluded Mr. Spencer.

Contacts: Push For The Bush – Jeff Spencer, 0418 328 108; Bob Richardson, (03) 5796 2656, 0402 658 012

"ON TARGET" is printed and published by The Australian League of Rights, 145 Russell St., Melbourne.
Postal Address: GPO Box 1052, Melbourne, 3001. Telephone: (03) 9650 9749, Fax: (03) 9650 9368.
Subscription \$40.00 p.a.