



A WEEKLY COMMENTARY

ON TARGET

PER



- NEWS HIGHLIGHTS
- BACKGROUND INFORMATION
- COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS

MAG

320.56

ON4

The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance -

Print Post Publication Number 381667 00258

Vol.46, No.15

April 23RD, 2010

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: There is a saying among the south sea islanders: Know the roots and you will know the tree. Know the tree and behold! It will answer to your cultivation.

History is the endless record of experiments; a series that cannot be broken and of which there is never complete specification nor adequate separation from a multiplicity of similar operations. The movement of events cannot be arrested for examination and analysis, history shows and must show approximation upon approximation. Within itself each event appears to be complete and completed, it cannot be undone; but, as a part of a series which is one whole, what is so indeterminate as an isolated event? It seems conclusive, yet it is always moving on to fresh conclusions.

It is in this difficult complexity that policy is crystallised and becomes history in which men of understanding as well as of action have erected signposts for the use of their successors. To illuminate one of these is to select that particular incident or aspect as being of a significance exceeding that of a thousand other happenings which might have been chosen. He who writes history, chooses history.

– Hewlett Edwards in "The Cultivation of History" www.alor.org/race-culture-nation

Indeed! Just as he who writes the news, chooses the news!

"... The ANZAC Day Commemoration Council is the body responsible for ANZAC Day ceremonies at the Shrine of Remembrance and has been in existence since 1926. The Council is comprised of representatives from the State Government, the City of Melbourne, the Returned & Services League of Australia, WWII Navy, WWII Army, WWII RAAF, Post 1945 Army, Navy and RAAF veterans, Legacy and the Shrine of Remembrance...."

Although the RSL State President chairs the ANZAC Day Commemoration Council, decisions in relation to ANZAC Day Commemoration activities in Melbourne are not RSL decisions. The media, however, has portrayed this specific decision as an RSL one and nearly all the public comment on the decision, both critical and supportive, has been directed at the RSL..."

– Major-General David McLachlan in a letter to the Philip Benwell, Chairman of the Australian Monarchist League, 16/4/2010.

THE ROYAL ANTHEM 'DROPPED' AT ANZAC DAY CEREMONY? by Betty Luks: Why am I not surprised to read on the ABC website that 'God Save the Queen' (is to be) dropped from (the) Anzac Day service in Melbourne? There are powerful forces who want to turn this nation into a republic with ties between us based on a modern concept of 'an impersonal state'. We all belong to some sort of 'international zoo'. The article reads:

In this issue: • *Thought For The Week* • *The Royal Anthem 'Dropped' At Anzac Day Ceremony* • *Fired Up About The Ethnic Mix/Mix-up* • *Rudd VS Williams: Who's The Best Comedian?* • *Anatomy Of Meloncholy For Student Doctors*

"ON TARGET"

April 23rd, 2010

Page 1 (57)

"The RSL says a decision to drop 'God Save the Queen' from Melbourne's Anzac Day dawn service was made after widespread consultation. (I wonder what this group considers 'widespread?') The decision has angered monarchist groups, who say it may offend veterans and their families. David Flint from "Australians for Constitutional Monarchy" says the decision is disrespectful to Australia's wartime past. 'They certainly haven't done the right thing,' he says. 'You don't just trample all over your traditions. You don't say, well, that's the past, and we're going to get rid of that, otherwise you start doing other things as well, which take away the whole point.'

But the RSL's Victorian president, Maj. Gen. David McLachlan, says the decision was made based on feedback from veterans and young people alike. He says after the dawn service every year, they ask a whole range of people what they think of the service. "The question often comes up why do you have 'God Save the Queen'? It's not relevant and nobody knows it. So we've taken that into consideration...the decision has the support of the Anzac Day commemoration council."

Maj. Gen. David McLachlan, Victorian RSL president (along with all your other cohorts on the Anzac Day 'commemoration council'), I for one disagree vehemently with your policy! You are, in effect, saying history, culture, tradition, count for nothing; there is only today and the republican future.

Next year at dawn this day, we will all meet again: I once read of the early days of this commemoration service and that was long before any Anzac Day 'commemoration council' took over. The story of its origins goes something like this: Martin Place, adjacent to the General Post Office (GPO), was the location in which the majority of Sydney's soldiers enlisted into the Australian Army for World War I. The Sydney GPO was also the main conduit of news information during World War I.

This (commemoration day) was initiated by returned soldiers after the First World War in the 1920s as a common form of remembrance. Initially dawn services were only attended by veterans who followed the ritual of 'standing to' before two minutes of silence was observed, broken by the sound of a lone piper playing the 'Last Post'. Later in the day, there were marches in all the major cities and many smaller towns for families and other well-wishers.

But one day at dawn on 25 April – the time of the original landing – a widow placed a wreath of flowers on a spot in Martin Place and stood in silence remembering her loved ones. A group of returned soldiers joined her in her silent tribute and agreed to gather together at the same time and same place the following year.

That spot (I believe) is now marked by the Sydney Cenotaph which is located in Martin Place and is one of the oldest World War I war monuments. On the southern side, facing the General Post Office it states "To Our Glorious Dead" and on the Northern side, facing Challis House, it states "Lest We Forget". The first official dawn service was held at the Sydney Cenotaph in 1927, which was also the first year that all states recognised a public holiday on the day.

The spirit of Anzac? As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:

- The spirit of ANZAC recognises the qualities of *courage, mateship and sacrifice* which were demonstrated at the Gallipoli landing.
- Today it is a day when Australians reflect on the many different meanings of war. Gatherings are held at war memorials across the country.

Do the two concepts, above, defining the meaning of Anzac provide clues as to why the changes envisaged by such groups as the Victorian RSL are now put into *policy*?

The Royal Anthem acknowledges first God, and then a prayer for the Grace and Salvation of God for our Queen, (God save our gracious Queen). I wonder what one of Australia's truly great heroes, Sir Edward 'Weary' Dunlop, WWII prisoner-of-war of the Japanese, would think? In his "War Diaries"

one can read of that 'spirit'. The introduction by the *British* Colonel Sir Laurens van der Post to Sir Edward's "War Diaries", published forty years after WWII, gets to the core of the spirit of the Anzacs.

Colonel van der Post refers to his brief experiences with the American and Australian soldiers of war, along with the British, in the early days of the Japanese internment and he described prison life as "the war within the War":

"For the first three months and under the inspired leadership of (then) Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Dunlop, an all out effort was made to not only invest the resources available to them for "the physical well being" of the men, and to unite them as of the British-Commonwealth, but a "vast educational system was set up" to cater for their mental and spiritual well being. To aid in their "physical survival and spiritual sanity", the officers set up schools, classes and lectures, even a microcosm of a Commonwealth Parliament in prison.

Col. Sir Laurens van der Post continued: "They felt that there should be some over-riding political institution to express this profound sense of identity and purpose which they recognised as the greatest gift from Britain's imperial past. This prison parliament was as great and therapeutic an attraction as the rest of the prison educational and cultural activities and it did a great deal to maintain the feeling of continuity with some worthwhile purpose pitched far beyond prison walls which the act of imprisonment daily tried to refute."

One of Van der Post's most moving recollections was of the insatiable need the men had for "myth, legend, story and art" which administered to their sanity and helped secure their "spiritual survival". The Australians, in particular, were interested in the stories of ancient Greece, the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*, and saw themselves as having something akin to those ancient Greek expeditionary forces fighting on that great plain of Troy for that ancient Greek Commonwealth.

They were, he said, "a contemporary version of the same immemorial and constantly recurring pattern and in the authentic line of succession of all men who had ever left their homes to fight for a cause greater than themselves." The *Odyssey* as expounded to them by a (former) Cambridge professor seemed to draw them even more than the *Iliad*. "Like Odysseus and his men, they knew they also had a long and perilous journey through time and circumstance before the lucky few among them would come home again to their own version of Penelope".

Let's look for that *spirit* of Anzac in our British past: The works of philologist Owen Barfield are a great treasure trove for finding that spirit. Even though I had read portions of the work of L.A. Waddell LL.D., C.B., C.I.E., an early 20th century Fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute and Linnean Society, Honorary Correspondent of Indian Archaeological Survey, Ex-Professor of Tibetan, London University, and discovered that he traced the origin of the modern word *British* back to the early Sumerians, I thought there needed to be more recent verification. It came when philologist Owen Barfield in 1953 published "History in English Words" and anthropologist John R. Baker in 1974 published his research in "Race".

The subconscious race memory of our people: Barfield wrote: "It has only just begun to dawn on us that in our own language alone, not to speak of its many companions, the past history of humanity is spread out in an imperishable map... language has preserved for us the inner, living history of man's soul. It reveals the evolution of consciousness..." To my mind, "the insatiable need the men (the Japanese prisoners-of-war under 'Weary' Dunlop's command) had for "myth, legend, story and art" which administered to their sanity and helped secure their "spiritual survival"... this profound sense of identity and purpose which they recognised as the greatest gift from *Britain's* imperial past..." was, and is, the subconscious 'race' memory of our people, the spirit of a people yearning for all that is good and decent and noble and right – unless it has been indoctrinated and/or educated out of them, as has happened to our younger generations.

The English words *British* and *brother* traced back through various stems and branches of the languages of the Indo-European peoples reveal a common root. You sir, would have us sever our personal bonds with our Queen, our history and our *British* brothers! Maj.Gen. McLachlan, what you and the Victorian RSL have done is an act of vandalism.

To Our Glorious Dead: The true spirit behind Anzac Day is much more than simply "a day when Australians reflect on the many different meanings of war"...where "gatherings are held at war memorials across the country." The true spirit of ANZAC seeks to recognise the qualities of *courage, mateship and sacrifice* and the importance of those qualities are embedded in the myths, legends, and history of the British peoples – and "of all men who ever left their homes to fight for a cause greater than themselves!" **Lest We Forget!**

FIRED UP ABOUT THE ETHNIC MIX/MIX-UP by James Reed: The Metropolitan Fire Brigade felt the urge to change the ethnic make-up of its workforce - obviously too white and Anglo-Saxon. The MFB asked for exemption from the Equal Opportunity Act to give preference to indigenous and under represented groups (= non-whites). But the United Firefighters Union opposed the move arguing that there would be negative consequences for certain people gaining access outside of the ordinary checks and balances. But given the intense criticism, the MFB shelved its attempt to bypass the equal opportunity laws and it withdrew its application from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

Of course a new application will be made because the "MFB, which has fewer women firefighters and people from non-English-speaking backgrounds than other emergency services, says it needs to change its overwhelmingly white male workforce to better reflect the community and extend the safety message to migrant communities."

Don't forget to send a letter to MFB and remind them that their job is to fight fires, not spread the fire of multi-cultural propaganda.

RUDD VS WILLIAMS: WHO'S THE BEST COMEDIAN? by James Reed: So called comedian Robin Williams (I don't regard him as "funny" – more a kind of manic outpouring of nonsense characterises his movies) took a swipe at Australians, calling us "English rednecks". Say Robin, it's a joke isn't it? I mean, we are being immigrated to death. Australia is almost free of Anglo-Saxon people, let alone rednecks. Prime Minister Rudd jumped up and had a go at Williams. When does a PM respond to a "comic" – surely only when the PM is a joke himself? Rudd is doing his best via immigration to turn Australia into a colony of China and took offence to Williams' jibe. Rudd upset the whole state of Alabama by implying that they were the real "rednecks". My guess is that there are no rednecks in Alabama either.

ANATOMY OF MELANCHOLY: FOR STUDENT DOCTORS by Brian Simpson: So – student doctors are spending just 56 hours on anatomy ("Student Doctors Skipping Anatomy", *The Australian*, 31/3/2010, p.1). What then do the little darlings do with their time? You guessed it – politically correct activities. A little story "New Doctors Feel 'ill prepared'", *The Australian*, 1/4/2010, p.3) tells us that the young doctors are lulling away their time with "creative writing" assignments and such creative writing assignments constitute one third of the graduating mark. Thus, the future may be a frightening one medically, with dangerously illiterate local students. Just as well our immigration program is bringing all of those wonderfully qualified foreign doctors to save us poor, sick Anglos!

"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 \$45.00 p.a.