

THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY

When once the multitude is led by one who knows how to use liberty as a lure, they blindly follow at the mere sound of that word.

—Bousset.

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R.A.A.F. PLANES AND MEN TO GO TO MALAYA

The Government will provide a transport squadron of Dakota aircraft and approximately 168 R.A.A.F. personnel to assist the British Government in Malaya.

Announcing this in the House of Representatives yesterday, the Prime Minister (Mr. Menzies) said the Australian Government had decided also to provide assistance in servicing certain Royal Air Force aircraft in Australia.

Mr. Menzies said the Dakotas would be used for supply dropping and general transport services and the R.A.A.F. personnel as crews and groundstaff.

The Government was in complete agreement with a decision of the Chifley Government in May, 1948, for strategic planning on an official level through the Australian defence machinery, in conjunction with representatives of Britain and New Zealand for the regional defence of the South West Pacific area, the boundaries of which included Malaya.

"The Government has recently had under consideration a request by the United Kingdom Government for assistance in Malaya in the form of provision of air craft and crews in servicing aircraft of the R.A.F. station in the Far East," he said.

"No request for other forms of military assistance has been made."

"Since September last the New Zealand Government has maintained a flight of Dakota aircraft at Singapore at the disposal of the Air Officer Commanding in Chief Far Eastern Command."

"As I said yesterday, events in the Malayan Peninsula are of vital concern to the security of this country. Malaya is a key point in the strategic region of which Australia is a main support area."

Mr. Menzies said that in making the decision, the Government emphasised that the planning was to proceed on the official level, and quite rightly stipulated that such planning did not involve any commitment in regard to Government policy, except where approval was specifically sought and obtained.

He said the winning of the "cold war" in Malaya was of vital importance to the security of Australia.

"This is not because we desire war. On the contrary, like every other democracy, we want peace. But peace cannot be secured by the avoidance of responsibilities

"ROADS TO PEACE"; ACHESON ON ATLANTIC TALKS

WASHINGTON, Wednesday.

Nothing was said at the meetings of the North Atlantic Foreign Ministers in London in May to indicate any immediate threat of war.

The United States Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson, said this to-day, reporting to Congress on the meetings.

He added: "It was our unanimous view that this is not the problem. The problem is to meet a threat which, in view of the known programme of the Kremlin, exists, unless we act to prepare our defences against aggression."

"I do not wish to emphasise the basic understanding on the objectives of the dangers and threats which confront us. These may not at first appear dramatic but this, in my opinion, is the most dramatic fact that can be reported."

"It was made unmistakably clear in all discussions that the common purpose in preparing common defences was a peaceful one," said Mr. Acheson.

"So long as any dictatorship builds powerful armed forces, then so long must the democracies give evidence of their determination to defend themselves by maintaining adequate forces and adequate preparedness."

Mr. Acheson said the five tasks allotted to the Foreign Ministers and their deputies were:

- Firstly.—Co-ordinate various planning activities related to defence.
- Secondly.—Recommend measures necessary to carry out those plans.
- Thirdly.—Consider common political problems related to objectives of the treaty.
- Fourthly.—Promote and co-ordinate public information on treaty questions.
- Fifthly.—Consider the development of political and economic

Philippines Minister Presents Credentials



The Minister for the Philippines, Dr. Roberto Regala, presenting his letters of credence to the Governor-General, His Excellency the Rt. Hon. W. J. McKell, at Government House yesterday. Behind the Governor-General are the Minister for External Territories, Mr. P. C. Spender, and the Minister for Supply, Mr. O. H. Beale.

LABOUR EXPECTS GOVT. TO YIELD ON ONUS OF PROOF

The Federal Labour Opposition will use its Senate majority to incorporate the right of trial by jury for persons or organisations declared under the Communist Party Dissolution Bill.

The Parliamentary Labour Party decided on this action unanimously at a meeting yesterday, following a recommendation on these lines from the Executive of the Party.

Labour members now believe that when the Government is faced with this new provision, together with the Labour "crusade" for reversal of the onus of proof clause, the only course left open will be to compromise to meet Labour objections to the Bill. They confidently expect this to happen, despite the statements to the contrary by the Prime Minister recently.

The immediate effect of this decision may be to stiffen the attitude of Labour members who have been wavering in their support of the Party's amendments.

A section of the Party believes the Government should be fought on the trial by jury and onus of proof issues to the extent of a double dissolution of Parliament.

The Bill as it now stands provides for the declared person to prove his innocence and for an appeal only to the Supreme Court or the High Court.

The Labour-controlled Senate will insert these amendments in the Bill which is now before that Chamber.

When the measure is returned to the House of Representatives the Opposition must then make its decision whether to fight to the ultimate end, or seek the appointment of party managers in the expectation that the Government might compromise on the amended Bill and thereby resolve the deadlock between the two Houses.

Those Labour members who favour risking an election fight on the subject of the liberty of the individual issue contend that the Labour Party is gaining more public support for its fight on the onus of proof principle.

The executive amendment was framed by the Deputy Leader of the Senate Opposition, Senator McKenna, and presented to the Party by him.

It was explained that the amendment would preserve for organisations or persons declared under the Bill the right of trial by jury if they wished to exercise it.

A similar provision was contained in the Crimes Act.

Senator McKenna is believed to have told caucus that the amendments on Sen. McKenna trial by jury and reversal of the onus of proof principle should be supported with utmost vigour by the party.

The General Secretary of the A.L.P., Mr. P. Kennelly, spoke with members of the Labour Executive before their meeting.

The Federal A.L.P. Executive recently decided that the Labour Party should persist with its amendments.

Hostel Guests Are Hostile

Residents at Kingston Guest House, one of the oldest boarding establishments in Canberra, contend that they are being neglected by the Department of Interior.

Mr. W. Lewis, secretary of the Kingston Guest House Welfare Association, said last night that residents of the establishment would support to the hilt the statements made by Dr. L. W. Nott in Parliament on Tuesday.

"Every word said by Dr. Nott about the conditions here is correct. If he did not mean this place in his remarks, then there must be other places as bad in Canberra. The conditions here are deplorable."

I am not referring to the food or the management. Both are good.

It is the blankets, sheets, coppers, baths, beds and equipment. They have not been replaced for 22 years, and are threadbare and worn out and in many cases useless," he said.

Mr. Lewis said that if the Government could afford to lose £1,000 a week on hostels, the least it could do would be to provide some equipment for the Kingston guest house.

An inspection of the guest house revealed rickety beds, threadbare blankets, threadbare sheets, battered furniture with handles missing from the drawers, burnt-out coppers, leaking taps, equipment in many instances worn out, and a quagmire surrounding the dining room and recreation hut.

There are 96 residents at the guest house. They pay £2/2/- to share a room, and £2/7/6 for a single room.

Officials of the Department of Interior have visited the guest house several times in the last 12 months, but there has been no noticeable improvement.

Six months ago measurements were taken to construct a short road near the dining rooms and kitchen, but nothing further has been done.

The manager of the guest house, Mr. D. Kennett, said that he used the guest house from the Department of Interior. The lease had three years to run.

"I understood that the Department would make renewals to equipment when it became worn out, but this has not been done. At my own expense I have placed modern utensils in the kitchen, and in some cases replaced worn-out blankets, but the expense would be too great for me to undertake all replacements," he said.

A tour of other hostels last night revealed that residents will not take too kindly to a suggestion by the Minister for Interior, Mr. McKenna, that increases may have to be made in the tariffs.

Girls at Mulwala Hostel and Gorman House said that they had not fully considered the statement by Mr. McKenna. "Some of us have less than £1 a week for pocket money and holidays at the end of the year after we have paid for our board and clothing," said a girl at Mulwala Hostel.

Of six girls interviewed at Gorman House, all said that they were surprised to learn that Mr. McKenna believed there was no justification for the concession of a reduction in the weekly charge for accommodation where guests were absent over holiday weekends.

"We do not know what we can do about it. Nothing I suppose, but it does not seem right," said one girl.

At Eastlake workmen's hostel, where there are more than 400 men, several residents said that they would wait and see to what

LINK WITH THE PHILIPPINES MINISTER HERE

The agreement between the Republic of the Philippines and Australia to establish diplomatic missions on a reciprocal basis was yet another step in the development of close and friendly relations between the two countries.

The Governor-General (Mr. McKell) said this yesterday in reply to the first Philippines Minister to Australia (Dr. Roberto Regala), who presented his letters of credence at Government House.

Mr. McKell said the Baguio conference now concluding and the Sydney conference of British Commonwealth countries pointed the way to practical economic and political collaboration in the area of South and South-East Asia, which was of prime importance to the world.

The Christian religion, the English language and a common interest in preserving the democratic way of life, formed links between Australia and the Philippines.

Dr. Regala said the growth of Political, economic and cultural interests between the two nations had been nourished by friendship and co-operation, forged during war and continued in time of peace.

It would be his constant endeavour to promote and strengthen the ties of friendship now existing between both countries.

Referring to the recent visit to the Philippines by the Minister for External Affairs (Mr. Spender) and to the two conferences, Dr. Regala added that they were eloquent proofs of the growing sentiment for unity in this part of the world.

The Minister and Mrs. Roberto Regala entertained Ministers and members of Parliament, members of the diplomatic corps and Canberra citizens at a cocktail party in the Hotel Canberra.

Dr. Burton Claims Misrepresentation

DARWIN, Wednesday. The secretary of the Department of External Affairs, Dr. Burton, to-night alleged that he had been misrepresented in the Australian Press.

Dr. Burton arrived in Darwin to-night by Qantas aircraft from Manila, where he had represented Australia at the Baguio conference of South-East Asian countries.

Dr. Burton refused to make a statement or to answer any questions.

He was shown a published A.A.P.-Reuter message which quoted him as saying that Australia in the past had paid too much attention to Europe and that the time has come when Australia and her Asian neighbours must get together to thrash out their common problems."

Dr. Burton's only comment when he saw the report, was, "I did not say that."

He then walked away from the reporters and entered a waiting car.

Australian Bid For Air Recognition

MONTREAL, Wednesday. Australia will make a strong bid for recognition as one of the world's leading air nations at the International Civil Aviation Conference which opened yesterday.

She now holds one of 21 council seats on the basis of providing navigational facilities for international flying.

Australia hopes to be re-elected in the voting later this week.

To support her claim to importance in international aviation the Australian delegation, headed by the Minister for Air, Mr. White, has come armed with films and printed matter about flying in the Commonwealth.

Forty nations are represented at the conference.

extent the tariff was raised before commenting.

The majority of residents in workmen's hostels, such as Eastlake, Riverside, Ainslie and Capital Hill receive a country allowance of 32/5/- a week. The average tariff is £2/5/- a week.

During the past six months the Canberra branch of the Liquor and Allied Trades Union has asked that an inquiry be held into the administration of hostels controlled by the Department of Works and Housing.

Union officials contended that the administration costs were so high that no hostel could pay its

SPEAKER SUMMONS MEMBER TO ROOM; PROTESTS IN HOUSE

There was a lively interlude in the House of Representatives yesterday after the Speaker (Mr. Cameron) had refused to give the call to Mr. Duthie (Wilmot) at question time.

He explained that Mr. Duthie had made an inaccurate statement in the House last week, and had not accepted an invitation to go to the Speaker's rooms to learn the correct facts.

The Labour Party protested strongly against the Speaker's action.

The Speaker told the House you have indicated that you will not give him the call until he visits your room and discusses certain things.

"Here is the place where decisions are made, where members speak and ask questions in the interests of their constituents," Mr. Rosevear said.

"It is a question of whether you have the right to disfranchise the electors of Wilmot by refusing to hear the member for Wilmot on an exercise of authority which has never been exercised in the history of this Parliament."

The Prime Minister, Mr. Menzies, said the House had accepted without objection a declaration by the Speaker when he assumed office that he would give priority in the call for questions to members who had not asked questions the previous day. Thus the House, by common consent, had agreed that the Speaker need not call members in their order of rising. If the Speaker had to call the first member rising on each occasion the call would go always to the young and active.

"The basis of the question is disagreement with the Speaker's ruling in refusing to call Mr. Duthie. (Uproar from Opposition members.)"

Mr. Menzies: What a lot of squealers you are.

Mr. Ward (East Sydney): Why don't you shut the Parliament up if you don't want Labour to be heard.

Mr. Menzies: I don't want to do that, but I can think of certain sections that could well be so treated.

Mr. Menzies: The Speaker has done nothing that has not been done in the House of Commons a hundred times.

Mr. Gullett (Henty) then moved the gag, which was carried by 64 votes to 42.

The motion of dissent was then defeated by 64 votes to 42.

MR. DUTHIE'S STATEMENT. Mr. Duthie said outside the House that he could not accept the Speaker's direction to attend his chambers.

"I am standing on a principle and my party is one hundred per cent behind me on the stand I have taken," he declared.

Mr. Duthie said he could not accept the Speaker's direction in the terms in which it was given in the House. On the adjournment of the House last Thursday he had raised this perfectly legitimate matter in a perfectly respectful manner. A member of Parliament should not be spoken to like a kindergarten child.

Mr. Duthie said if the Speaker thought he was going beyond his rights as a member, the normal practice would have been for the Speaker to ask for a withdrawal and to correct the statement there and then in the House.

The direction by the Speaker that he should attend his chambers had the effect of disfranchising him at question time and in debate. It meant he was without an official voice in the House—a penalty never inflicted on any member before.

When the House resumes to-day the Opposition will continue efforts to ensure that Mr. Duthie is heard.

A formal motion that he be heard may be moved.

"WORDS INSTEAD OF BULLETS"

WASHINGTON, Wed.—General George Marshall yesterday called on the United States to support the United Nations as a forum where words could be used instead of bullets. General Marshall, former Secretary of State and war-time Army Chief of Staff, spoke beside the tomb of the Unknown Soldier at a Memorial Day service. He said a victorious power in another war would lose it because the victors would stand amid their own ruins.

ACCURACY OF GUIDED MISSILES

JACKSONVILLE (Fla.), Wed.—United States missile experts expect soon to fire long range rockets with the same accuracy as a rifle marksman firing at a bullseye. This was stated to-day by Colonel H. Turner, deputy commander of the new long-range proving ground near Cocoa, Florida.

Mr. Rosevear (Dalry), seconding the motion, said that Mr. Cameron's action was dependent on whether he had the right to summon any member to his quarters.

Mr. Cameron: That is not in the motion.

Mr. Rosevear: The whole thing arises out of that, because

that at question time it had been the practice to call two members from each of the Government parties and then one from the Labour Party."

Dr. Evatt said that Mr. Duthie had submitted that the Speaker should treat all members of the Government parties as belonging to one group, which they claimed to be. Mr. Duthie had raised a perfectly legitimate point. Yet when he desired to ask a question of public importance the Speaker said he would refuse to hear him until he saw the Speaker and made some sort of explanation to the House.

That is outside the jurisdiction of the Speaker, unless he has some specific power," Dr. Evatt said. "It is a form of discipline calculated to interfere in the discharge of a member's duty."

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Sen. McKenna



Mr. Archie Cameron



Dr. Evatt