"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing . . ."
— EDMUND BURKE.

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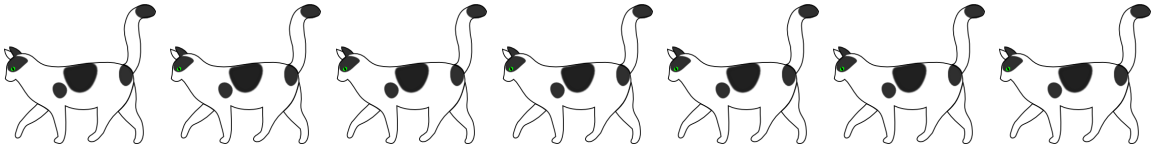
Contents

HYPOCRITES SHINE ON PARIS CATWALK

By Pepe Escobar

15 January 2015

The Paris unity march attended by over 40 world leaders has revealed the Western "double standard" approach concerning the freedom of speech and the battle against terrorism.



What an unrivalled parade of political hypocrisy. The sight of General Hollande, Conqueror of Mali; David of Arabia Cameron; Angela "Let Eastern Ukrainians die" Merkel; Ahmed "Assad must go" Davutoglu; even King Sarko the First, Liberator of Libya; not to mention Bibi "Final Solution" Netanyahu – all marching for "freedom", "free speech" and "civilization" against barbarism in the streets of Paris would make every stalwart of Western intellectual tradition, from Diogenes to Voltaire and from Nietzsche to Karl Kraus, cringe in disgust.

Seen from Asia, this political hijacking seemed even more grotesque. And no wonder a mixage went viral across Southwest Asia – home of Arab social networks; the "march for unity" in Paris coupled with Hitler and the Nazis strutting their stuff with the Eiffel Tower in the background. Here's the whole "freedom of expression" debate in a nutshell. Would that ever be allowed in the front page of a Western newspaper, satirical or otherwise?

One of the greatest tricks the ruling elites of Western civilization managed to pull off has been the myth of "free speech" – on a par with the myth of a "free" market.

"Free", yes, but to the extent the Masters of the Universe allow it. Any speech that blasts Atlanticist rackets – geopolitical or economic; exposes double or triple standards; and details really serious stuff – from financial crimes to war crimes and, crucially, Western-sponsored terrorism – is ruthlessly silenced.

So to vilify Islam as a whole, as well as 1.6 billion Muslims en masse, is acceptable, or at least tolerated. But to denounce Zionism is "anti-Semitism". "Freedom of the press"? Iran's Press TV is banned all across Atlanticist domains. RT is routinely derided as the mouthpiece of an "evil" dictatorship. Will these "leaders" parade in Donbas or Damascus defending "freedom of speech"? Forget it.

"Our" NATO-living bastards

Arguably the icing on the lethal cake was the "support" to France offered by the House of Saud, which has just conducted the first round (50 out of 1,000 lashes) of public flogging of jailed blogger Raif Badawi. His crime: running a liberal website in favour of that oh so precious "freedom of speech", but in Saudi Arabia.

Oh – the enlightened hordes cry in unison - but they are a "conservative kingdom"! They are certainly one of the West's key strategic allies – as much for all that oil as for being a fabulous market for our weaponizing tools. They are "our" bastards. So yes, they can get away with anything.... ■

Source: http://sputniknews.com/columnists/20150112/1016795879.html

A 'VERY POLITICALLY CORRECT' REPORT

FRANCE WINS BATTLE TO 'BAN' ANTI-SEMITIC COMEDIAN

UK Telegraph - Hannah Flint

French comic who is considered anti-Semitic was banned from performing just hours after a court in Nantes said he could go ahead with his show.

A top court in France has upheld the ban on a performance by the controversial comic Dieudonne M'bala M'bala, a move the government has hailed as a "victory" over anti-Semitism. The decision comes less than two hours before the comedian was due to give the opening performance of his national tour in the western city of Nantes, despite his lawyers claiming a breach of his freedom of expression.

The ban had been lifted only yesterday by local judge Jean-Francois Molla who said that a perceived risk to public order could not be used to "justify as radical measure as banning the show". However, France's highest administrative court, the Council of State, ruled that the show should be allowed to go ahead.

Interior Minister Manuel Valls, who has led the campaign to ban the comedian's performances, said: "We cannot tolerate hatred of others, racism, anti-Semitism or holocaust denial. That is not France. This is a victory for the Republic."

The decision marks a landmark break with legal precedent in France, where previous attempts to ban Dieudonne from performing foundered against constitutional provisions on free speech. ■

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/france/10562264/France-wins-battle-to-ban-anti-Semitic-comedian.html

Two Events of Great Historical Significance

Taken from "Censored History" by Eric D. Butler

Eric Butler, a very keen student of history wrote: "Any realistic examination of the long-term motives of those responsible for financing the Soviet Union, thus enabling Soviet strategists to maintain an international programme of revolution and subversion, backed by an expanding military and naval power, must start with the First World War.

Two events of the greatest significance took place during this war:

- the establishment of the Bolshevik regime in Russia and

the British Government's agreement to the Political Zionist policy of establishing a 'National Home' for Jews in Palestine. Both events were closely linked.

They were two major preliminary events in a course of events which have brought man-kind to the present world crisis. They were a dramatic demonstration of the power of credit creation exercised by international banking groups operating across national borders even during times of world wars.

During World War I the international banking organisation of Kuhn, Loeb and Company, and a number of associates, based upon Wall Street, New York, were pro-German, anti-Russian and anti-British right up until the Czarist Government was overthrown in Russia and the British Government signed what was known as the Balfour Agreement, promising the Zionists a 'National Home' in Palestine…

While millions of troops were locked in battle in Western Europe during the First World War, the international financiers were operating on both sides of the fighting lines. Max Warburg, for example, was playing a vital role in Germany while brothers Felix and Paul were doing likewise in the U.S.A. A very cosy type of family arrangement!…

The desperate British later did make a bargain, a major part of which was outlined in a letter dated November 2, 1917, from Lord Balfour, the British Foreign Secretary, to Lord Rothschild, informing him that the British Cabinet was in favour of 'the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people'. Lord Rothschild was requested to bring the British Cabinet's decision to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Some of those members of the British Government which agreed to the 'Balfour Declaration', including Winston Churchill, subsequently recorded quite frankly that the promise was made to the Political Zionists in order that they would use their enormous international influence on the side of the Western Allies at a time when their military situation was so desperate that failing assistance from the United States, there was no real alternative to making some type of peace agreement with Germany.

Probably bearing in mind that the promise to the Political Zionists conflicted with an earlier promise made to Arab leaders, who were promised Arab independence if they would join against their colonial masters, the Turks, one of Germany's main allies, the British Cabinet did declare in the Balfour agreement that the establishment of a National Home for the Jews must not "prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine…"

When Great Britain was given the Mandate over Palestine at the end of the First World War, the population was 95% Moslem and Christian Arabs, and only 5% Jews, many of these coming in from Russia under various Zionist colonising schemes. The Palestinians could trace their history back over two thousand years. They had a far greater rightful claim to Palestine than have, for example, the Europeans to the United States. But the imposition of the Political Zionist programme upon Great Britain set in motion a chain of explosive events leading to the expulsion of the Palestinians from their country, a frightful Palestinian refugee problem, the cynical exploitation of that problem by the Soviet Union, and a Middle East crisis which has resulted in periodic major military explosions between the Arab nations and the Zionist State of Israel…" (emphasis added..ed) ■

Read Eric's full account here…http://alor.org/Library/Butler%20ED%20-%20Censored%20History.htm

WHOSE BEST INTERESTS ARE AUSTRALIAN POLITICIANS REALLY SERVING?

This is an edited extract from an essay, the author of which has not yet been ascertained. Sender Denis McCormack, http://reduceimmigration.wordpress.com/

In the wake of the Gillard coup against Kevin Rudd a number of explanations were offered up as to why the Australian Labor Party had suddenly turned on and dumped the man who had finally led the ALP to victory after twelve years in opposition. The excuses put forward for this stab in the back included:

- Rudd's apparent autocratic attitude that made him somewhat of a control freak
- the adverse reaction from the public and businesses to a proposed Emission Trading Scheme
- the Rudd government's talk of a mining tax

While these assertions may be true it is a little hard to believe that they could be the main reasons for Rudd's disposal. After all, his replacement, Julia Gillard, could be accused of pretty much the same things. So what really was the reason for Rudd's demise?

The answer to this question goes to the very heart of how democracy has been subverted in many (most?) Western nations by special interest lobby groups that, behind the scenes, wield unbelievable power and influence. Not only are these special interest groups self-serving, in some cases their priorities have more to do with foreign interests than Australian domestic ones. So what happened to Rudd? What action of his precipitated his sudden, merciless downfall?

The downfall of Kevin Rudd

Kevin Rudd's pro-Israel stance was well known and accepted as genuine. Former chairman of the World Jewish Congress Isi Leibler described Rudd as:

"a Christian Zionist – he understands and has some sympathy for us".[1]

A little-noticed casualty of the leadership coup which saw Julia Gillard installed as Prime Minister was the modest progress made by Kevin Rudd to fashion a "principled" position on the Israel-Palestine conflict. Under Rudd, Australia was making a series of steps away from its reflex pro-Israel position under John Howard - and away from the Washington line.

On taking office in 2007, Labor had the political savvy to make controversial decisions quickly, while its reputation was still unsullied and before resolve could crumble under Canberra's lobbying system. And at the UN, it seized an early opportunity to signal that foreign policy was under new management, supporting a resolution calling on Israel to stop establishing settlements in the Palestinian territories and a resolution calling for the Geneva Conventions to apply there.

These basic tenets of international law and humanitarian law are accepted, notionally, by the entire international community, but a vote is held annually at the General Assembly, if only to isolate and attempt to embarrass those countries sufficiently brazen to make what is, in effect, a public declaration that Israel should be exempt.

In 2003, Australia joined the "hard core" of those voting against this declaration - Israel itself, the United States and four Pacific micro-states whose votes have essentially been bought (the US Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau and Micronesia).

Under Rudd, Australian officials told the UN in 2008 that the Government had changed its position because it supported a two-state resolution of the conflict to deliver a secure Israel living beside a viable Palestinian state and because Australia believed both sides should abide by their obligations under the "Road Map for Peace". Australia said it was concerned that continued settlement-building activity would undermine confidence in the negotiations.

Ominously - in light of the sequence of events that was to follow - the president of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, Robert Goot, was quoted in the Fairfax media as being "concerned" over the switch. "We are concerned that the vote has changed, we do not understand the basis for the change", he said.

Those concerns, we may assume, would only have intensified with the publication of the 2009 Goldstone Report, [2] with its detailed evidence that both Israel and Hamas broke international humanitarian law during "Operation Cast Lead", Israel's 2008 attack on Gaza.

Initially, Australia voted against referring the report to the UN Security Council. Foreign Minister Stephen Smith complained about Goldstone's "unbalanced focus on Israel [and] insufficient attention to Hamas' actions prior to the conflict, especially rocket attacks".

This was a "holding position": a line hastily lashed together on the assumption - justified, as it turned out - that Canberra would not have to undergo any serious media scrutiny on the issue. Events took a novel twist when a second resolution, amended to demand that Israel and the Palestinians follow up Goldstone's evidence to investigate possible war crimes in the attack, was tabled at the General Assembly. Now Australia switched its vote, from a "no" to an "abstain".

All of this came on the heels of the "fake passports affair", when a Hamas military commander, Mahmoud al-Mabouh, was killed in a Dubai hotel room apparently by a team of Mossad agents who used counterfeit travel documents including three forged Australian passports. "Australia would not regard that as the act of a friend", Smith said. Later, Canberra expelled an Israeli diplomat [an acknowledged Mossad chief] in retaliation. This was the harder of the two "lines" adopted by the countries concerned. In France and Germany, for instance - countries whose passports were also faked for the exercise - all that happened was that the local Israeli ambassadors were called in by the respective foreign ministries for a dressing-down.

Taken individually, the Rudd government's reactions to these various issues involving Israel could be considered rather small and inconsequential, but taken together as a package deal, they were considered an unacceptable move away from Australia's more traditional stance of blind, uncritical support for Israel.

We are fortunate, in Australia, that the foreign affairs journalist for *The Australian*, pro-Israel Greg Sheridan, [3] finds it hard to keep secrets. Just before the Gillard coup (29/5/2010), Sheridan wrote:

"The Earth moved between Israel and Australia this week, with Kevin Rudd's government expelling an Israeli diplomat over the Dubai passports affair, and it may be that the Earth moved in Australian politics as well". He added: "This badly misjudged action [expulsion of the Mossad chief] will have a political cost."[4]

Just after the coup (1/7/2010), Sheridan wrote that the expulsion of the Mossad chief "may be the single foreign policy issue that did Rudd the most harm in domestic political terms". Apparently, Sheridan reckoned some "Aussies" were seriously upset with the

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expulsion of Israel's Mossad chief. Enough to defenestrate Rudd? Did these so-called Australians decide: "You expel our Mossad chief, we expel you"?

And so forces both within the ALP government and outside began to act.

Australia's pro-Israel lobby had begun to mobilise. Peter Hartcher, the *Sydney Morning Herald's* well-connected political editor, recounted how the Jewish community was now declaring itself "too busy" to join in fundraising for Labor's re-election campaign, whereas, in the heady days of 2007 "a single lunch in Sydney raised $100,000. A Toorak tennis court party, attended by Rudd and Julia Gillard, raised more".

The Israel Lobby arranged a meeting with Rudd on the 3rd of June 2010. The meeting over dinner was held at the Lodge, was intended to smooth relations with Jewish leaders, was brokered by ALP members Michael Danby, Mark Dreyfus (another Jewish Zionist ALP MP), and leading parliamentary supporter of Israel and luminary of the NSW Labor Right, Mark Arbib. Jewish community leaders present at this meeting included Mark Leibler (Australia Israel & Jewish Affairs Council Chairman), Robert Goot (Executive Council Australian Jewry president), and Philip Chester (Zionist Federation of Australia president). Also present at the Rudd-Israel Lobby meeting Albert Dadon.(6) Dadon is close to Danby, but likes to be a "behind-the-scenes man."

The Lobby left the meeting, without resolving their 'difference of opinion' with Rudd about Australia's expulsion of the resident Mossad chief. [6] Rudd was still not taking advice from Danby, nor from one of his "most trusted kitchen cabinet advisers on Israel", Dadon; nor, indeed, from the rest of the Israel Lobby. Rudd anticipated his own demise, saying: "What am I, chopped liver?" after meeting these Lobbyists. [6] Let's look at these three men, Danby, Dreyfus and Arbib, and their relation to Rudd.

Michael Danby

A member of Rudd's government and Labour Party, the proud Zionist, Michael Danby, in the wake of the Mossad scandal preferred to defend Israel interests over Australian interests, saying:

"The expulsion [of the Israeli spy] was the wrong policy response. Even if there was some obscure previous incident, Berlin and Paris are as sophisticated as the mandarins of Canberra and their reaction (no expulsion) demonstrates why we did not have to ape the British Foreign Office. Stephen Smith should have made a recommendation to the NSC having the more worldly overview, that this harsh proscription would feed the international campaign of delegitimation of Israel." [7]

Pro-Israel journalist, Greg Sheridan, states that Danby 'is in no sense a marginal figure in Labor. He is a former secretary of Labour's national security committee, a former Labour whip, and the chairman of the parliamentary foreign affairs sub-committee, that is the most senior parliamentarian, outside the ministry, on foreign affairs.' [8]

Danby continued: "This folly, this over-reaction, has unwittingly encouraged bigots elsewhere, who have their secret passions sanctioned. I have suggested a series of steps to the Prime Minister to overcome this successful attempt to blot Labor's copybook just weeks before an election."

It wasn't as if Kevin Rudd was ever anti-Israel. On the contrary Rudd had been most effusive in his love and support of the Zionist state. Rudd has described himself as "passionately pro-Israel" and as having support for Israel "in his DNA". In moving an unprecedented parliamentary resolution congratulating Israel on 60 years of statehood, he described it as a "robust democracy" and a "custodian of freedom" in a region "abounding in autocracies and theocracies".

So, needless to say, the Rudd government's reaction to recent actions by Israel would have been seen by the Jewish community as something of a betrayal.

Meanwhile someone else in the Labor government was toeing the more traditional, expected line regarding Israel. At the time of "Cast Lead", Australia's response was given, not by Rudd himself - who was taking a short break between Christmas and New Year - but by Gillard, standing in for him. She characterised the onslaught as no more than Israel exercising its "right to defend itself."

Weeks later, she became the first world leader since the attack to make an official visit to Israel, at the head of a bipartisan political and business deputation (accompanied by former Treasurer Peter Costello for the Opposition) - to fulsome thanks from her hosts for having been "almost alone in sticking by us". A study of the transcripts of her speeches and press conferences reveals that the word "Gaza" never once passed her lips.

In June 2009 Julia Gillard led a delegation to Israel organised by Albert Dadon's pro-Israel lobby group, the Australia Israel Cultural Exchange. [9] Included in the 40-strong delegation were Liberal MPs Peter Costello, Christopher Pyne, George Brandis, Guy Barnett, Labor MP Mark Dreyfus, QC, Jewish scientists, academics, businessmen and women, plus conservative News Limited columnists Greg Sheridan, Andrew Bolt and Alan Howe.

Albert Dadon, was an early supporter of Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, first bringing him on a trip to Israel in 2002. In 2005 Mr Dadon accompanied Mr Rudd and his now chief of staff Alastair Jordan to Israel. [10]

At the time of the Gillard-led delegation to Israel the former premier of Western Australia, Peter Dowding, penned an article titled: " What is Gillard's Israel visit all about?". Dowding wrote: "No one should be surprised at the news that the Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard is hot footing it to Israel with some of the local press with a long track record for supporting the Israeli view of the Middle East." [11] Dowding revealed that US President Obama's 2009 speech in Egypt and his insistence on some basic compliance by Israel with UN declarations had wrong-footed Australia and angered the strong Israel lobby within the ALP.

He wrote: "Members like Michael Danby and others have made it their business to ensure that Australia's foreign policy mirrored the worst of the shallowness of the Bush era which simply writes off those who believe in meeting Palestinian aspirations to live in some semblance of a homeland with some semblance of dignity, as ranting supporters of terrorism. ... So what's the journey to Israel about? Assuring Israel that while we love the US we don't agree with Obama and if we do get a seat on the Security Council we will look after Israeli interests?"

Albert Dadon

Five months after the Gillard-led delegation to Israel, organised by Albert Dadon, [12] Gillard's longtime hairdresser partner Tim Mathieson was given a prime property consultant's job with the Ubertas Group property development company, of which Dadon is Executive Chairman. [13] Ubertas made its mark on Melbourne's St Kilda Road office boulevard with an $86m twin-tower apartment that backs on to the inner city's Fawkner Park. Flush with the success of that 505 St Kilda Road project, the group started work in mid 2010 on an even larger project at 568 St Kilda Road designed to have more than 313 apartments and cost more than $160m.

Before he began promoting Julia Gillard, Israel Lobbyist Albert

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Dadon was "one of Kevin Rudd's most trusted kitchen cabinet advisers on Israel". Pre-PM Rudd was cultivated by Dadon, who had organised two trips to Israel for him. Dadon also established the **Australia-Israel Cultural Exchange**.

Through his marriage into the billionaire Besen family (Highpoint Property Group, Suzanne and Sportsgirl shopping chains), Dadon is related to Morry Schwartz who published Rudd's 'Faith in Politics' essay in his magazine *The Monthly*, in 2006, giving him a public profile from which to become PM. In Rudd's essay, our ex-PM praised his Christian hero, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who was an outspoken defender of "the marginalised, the vulnerable and the oppressed" during the Third Reich. Sounds like good human rights stuff.

But as PM, Rudd showed indifference to the "marginalised, vulnerable and the oppressed" Palestinians during Operation Cast Lead. Rather than endorsing the UN Human Rights Council Report on the atrocities of Operation Cast Lead (The Goldstone Report) along with the vast majority of the UN General Assembly in November 2009, he voted against it, deferring to the pro-Israeli rich on whom he depended for friends and funds. To quote his own essay, Rudd seemed to prefer "the hypocrisy of the religious and political elites of his time."

Yet when Mossad assassinated the Palestinian in Dubai, and it was revealed that the assassins stole the identities of four Australian citizens and forged four Australian passports, it appears that Prime Minister Rudd stopped listening to his "trusted kitchen cabinet advisers on Israel". He declared that: "any state that chooses to do this in relation to Australian passports, frankly, is treating the Australian people, the Australian government and the Australian nation with contempt". [14]

Subsequently, Australia expelled the Mossad chief in Canberra, much as senior Mossad agents were expelled in the UK and Ireland. As stated above, a week after the announcement of the Mossad chief expulsion, Greg Sheridan reported, "The Earth moved between Israel and Australia this week ... and it may be that the Earth moved in Australian politics as well." This was said three weeks before the coup!

More Faceless Men in the Coup

One week later, Bill Shorten asked Julia Gillard to challenge Rudd, but she declined. [15] Two weeks later (on 24/6/2010), coup plotters Michael Danby, Bill Shorten, David Feeney, Joe Ludwig, Kim Carr, Don Farrell and Paul Howes [16] were able to persuade Gillard to challenge and reassure her that she had the numbers. What characterises these coup plotters? Danby is intimately associated with the Israel Lobby. Four of the other coup-plotters were united in their deference to the Israel lobby. Shorten, Ludwig and Howes had free "Rambam fellowship" trips to Israel in 2003, 2007 and 2009 respectively. Shorten was patronised by Zionist billionaire, Richard Pratt (owned Visy), which included being flown in Pratt's private jet to the Beaconsfield mine disaster in 2006 to launch his parliamentary career. [17] Ludwig was an advocate in Parliament for the continued collective punishment of 1.5 million people in Gaza, and against a motion by Senator Kerry Nettle. [18] Howes was leader of a counter-campaign against the union endorsement of Boycott Apartheid Israel movement. [19] He also is singled out in Antony Lowenstein's My Israel Question (2009) as expressing sentiments 'straight out of the Zionist lobby playbook when he rejected the union movement's report on the appalling conditions in Gaza (*Hansard* 12/5/2010) after it was attacked. [20]

Comments from Australian Officials

After the coup, two former Australian ambassadors to Israel, Ross Burns and Peter Rodgers, complained of "a much more determined pro-Israel position and I think Gillard is a part of that."[21] The Israel Lobby had sent a signal. Governments, who waver on their commitment to Israel, do so at their peril.

Soon after, Opposition Leader, Tony Abbott, used "the first major speech of the election campaign to pledge fidelity to..." Australia? Uhh.. No, to Israel! [22] Abbott promised that "we would never over-react to any international incidents" by Israel. He seemed to know where the money and power is. The word 'over-react' is the same talking point used by Danby two months previously.

When the theft of Australian identities by Israel first became apparent in February the *National Times* quoted an "Australian official" who was too scared to have his name published, presciently observing that "It wouldn't matter whether it was John Howard or Kevin Rudd or Tony Abbott in the prime minister's chair, they [the Israelis]... know they've got us by the balls," partly because of the strength of the Israel lobby." [23]

Australia's Israel Lobby

In Australia the Australia/Israel and Jewish Affairs Council (AIJAC) is the best-funded and most active of the Jewish lobby groups. Formed in 1997, its aim, as set out in Jews and Australian Politics, is "to confront the enemies of plurality and democracy and defend the interests of the state of Israel". It is privately funded, mostly by business interests. Another body, the Anti-Defamation Commission (ADC) specialises in monitoring the media and lodging complaints. Its activities include publishing and distributing material, providing speakers for television, radio, universities and colleges, contacting Australian journalists with information and comments, and bringing in Israeli and other speakers to meet and socialise with selected decision-makers.

A newer group is the Australia Israel Cultural Exchange (AICE) launched in 2002 by Foreign Minister Alexander Downer and then -Israeli Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Both AIJAC and AICE frequently arrange and fund trips to Israel for politicians, senior journalists, trade union leaders and other decision-makers; including the June 2009 40-member delegation of MPs and others, led by then Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard, to the Inaugural Australia-Israel Leadership Forum in Jerusalem.

Other beneficiaries of these funded study tours have included Paul Sheehan, Greg Sheridan, Janet Albrechtsen, Andrew Bolt, Alan Howe and Kevin Rudd. Few other countries are so generous to our opinion-makers.

Albert Dadon Again

The Australian Israel Cultural Exchange was founded and chaired in 2001 by Albert Dadon. Dadon is a Moroccan Jew born in France in 1957 now living in Melbourne. He is prominent in promoting cultural and business links between Australia and Israel. Dadon undertakes a range of activities covering international affairs, Zionism, political activism and cultural activities within Australia and overseas exchange programs.

From 1991 to 1993 Dadon was Chairman of the French Chamber of Commerce in Australia (Victorian Chapter). Established "Le Concours des Vins du Victoria" which is one of the most sought after wine competitions in Australia. It has continued to be a success since he initiated this in 1991. During his time as Chairman, he worked towards bringing closer the French and Australian business communities, enhance business opportunities between the two countries in a period somewhat difficult diplomatically between Australia and France.

From 1994 to 1996, he was Director of the Australia French

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Foundation, an appointment made by Senator Gareth Evans, the then Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia. This Foundation was initiated by the then Prime Minister, Bob Hawke as a gift to France for the Bicentennial of the French Revolution. In 2001 Dadon was Chairman of the United Israel Appeal in Victoria.

The Australian Israel Cultural Exchange was launched through a Joint Declaration between the Australian and Israeli Governments.

A Joint Declaration announcing and supporting the establishment of AICE by Alexander Downer MP, Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Binyamin Netanyahu MK, Israeli Minister for Foreign Affairs, took place simultaneously in Parliament House, Canberra and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Jerusalem. It was the first time that such a Joint Declaration has been made between the two countries. Dadon also publishes a quarterly magazine for AICE titled *Rhapsody.*

In June 2011 Dadon, the founder of the Australia Israel Leadership Forum, met Israeli PM Binyamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem to hand over a policy paper outlining three key recommendations to strengthen further the bilateral relationship between Australia and Israel. The policy paper called for a joint research and development fund to leverage the technical achievements of both countries.

"The Prime Minister read the proposal with interest and was most interested by the solutions proposed by the Forum," said Dadon, who attended the meeting with the PM along with Ronit Tirosh MK, a member of the AILF.

The meeting with Mr Netanyahu came one month after Dadon handed the policy paper over to Prime Minister Julia Gillard at a function at Parliament House in Canberra, which was also attended by the Opposition leader, Tony Abbott, as well as a host of other MPs and Senators.

As we saw above, from his own comments, Tony Abbot's first loyalty is to Israel rather than the Australian people. It's just too bad that what is good for Israel is not good for Australia. How so? Well, take the issue of Multiculturalism for example. The prominent Jewish leader, Isi Liebler, formerly head of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, has always been a staunch defender of Australian multiculturalism. During the Pauline Hanson debate, in 1993, he warned that multiculturalism was under threat by extremists. "There is a need to sit together and establish a way in which Australians can recapture that spirit of multiculturalism which I think we are all proud being part and parcel of, and which is really under threat," Mr. Leibler said. [24]

Yet he has also said the policy has no place in Israel. The founder of Jetset Travel moved to Israel in 1999 as chairman of the World Jewish Congress. He subsequently published an essay arguing that Zionism, or Jewish nationalism, was under threat in Israel by "post-Zionists". He told the *Jerusalem Post*: "A post-Zionist is someone who actually looks positively towards the end of the Jewish people in ethnocentric terms, as a national group, and no longer sees the Jewish people as one united people." Mr. Leibler said post-Zionists were pushing a universalist agenda in schools aimed at eliminating Jewish nationalism and creating a multicultural state.

The danger posed to Australia by the powerful Israel Lobby is epitomised by the two-faced Isi Liebler, with his lobbying for multiculturalism in Australia but his hatred for it in Israel.

NOTES:

1. It should be noted that in December 2008 Rudd's precursor as Prime Minister, John Howard, received an Honorary Doctorate from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem for his "remarkable understanding of, and exceptional support for, the State of Israel and his deep friendship with the Australian Jewish community".
2. Also known as the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict
3. Winner of the 2007 Jerusalem Prize, awarded by the State Zionist Council of NSW. See: http://www.swcs.com.au/gsheridan.htm
4. http://wwwtheaustralian.com.au/opinion/expelling-israeli-diplomat-was-a-confected-self-serving-exercise/story-e6frg6zo-12258727255 10
5. 'Rudd reaches out to leaders' by Naomi Levin, Australian Jewish News, 10/6/2010
6. Peter Hartcher, "What am I, chopped liver? How Rudd dived into schmooze mode," Sydney Morning Herald, 22/6/2010
7. http://wwwtheaustralian.com.au/opinion/expel]ing-israeli-diplomat-was-a-confected-self-serving-exercise/sto1y-e6frg6zo-1225872725510
8. http://www.theaustralian.com.au/opinion/badly-misjudged-action-will-have-a-political-cost/story-e6frg6zo-1225870774061
9. As Israeli Foreign Minister in 2002, Benjamin Netanyahu helped to launch the Australia Israel Cultural Exchange with Australian foreign minister Alexander Downer.
10. http://www.theage.com.an/national/gillard-to-lead-delegation-to-israel-20090525-bkwz.html
11. http://www.crikey.corn.au/2009/06/09/what-is-gillards-israel-visit-all-about/
12. Pronounced "Al-BEAR Da-DON". Dadon was also Chairman of the Melbourne Jazz Festival from 2003-2005, and Director from 2006. The Festival is funded by the Victorian Government through Victoria Major Event Company and Arts Victoria.
13. http://newsstore.smh.com.au/apps/viewDocument.ac;jsessionid=D62AF9DE288CC02A86F78BA41Al9655E?sy=afr&pb=all__ffx&dt=selectRange&dr=1month&so=rele"ce&sf=text&sf=headline&rc= l0&rm=200&sp=brs&cls= l79&clsPage=l&docID=AGE l00629RH3 0H3965EG
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16. http://www.theage.com.au/national/gillard-becomes-australias-first-female-pm-after-rudd-goes-down-without-fight-20100623-z02g.html
17. ABC's Sunday Profile, 14/5/2006, 'Bill Shorten: The voice of the Beaconsfield mine rescue,' interview with Julia Baird.
18. Hansard, page 350, l4/2/2008. See also jiw.blogspot
19. http://antonyloewenstein.com/2009/05/13/when-unions-back-oppressi0n/
20. See also: http://www.vexnews.com/2010/06/square-off-prodigal-son-returns-to-lash-those-who-hate-israell
21. http://newsstore.smh.com.au/apps/viewDocument.ac;jsessionid=D62AF9DE288CC02A86F78BA41A19655E?sy=afr&pb=a1l_ffx&dt=selectRange&dr=lmonth&so=relevance&sf=text&sf=headlinc&rc=l0&m1=200&sp=brs&c1s=179&clsPage=l&docID=AGEl00629RH30H3965EG
22. http://m.smh.com.au/federal-election/loyal-to-israel-despite-killings-20100719-l0hud.html
23. Peter Hartcher, "Betrayed PM should not be taken for granted by Israel", Sydney Morning Herald, 26/2/10
24. Melbourne Herald Sun, September 27 2000 ■

A Design to Harness the Anzac Legend to the Zionist Chariot

Kelvin Crombie in his book "Gallipoli – The Road to Jerusalem" would have his readers believe:

"Australia has a Covenant with Christ and a special relationship with the State of Israel in virtue of the blood shed by the men of the Australian Imperial Forces in the Dardanelles in 1915 and at Beersheba in Palestine in 1917."

The claim is represented as an historical argument.
How can we tell if it is or not? asks David Faber in *Online* Opinion, 8 January 2015. ■

Whiggery and Anzac

By David Faber
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"Can an illogical interpretation be good history? Arguments must do more than trifle with the past to be valid historical arguments, just as an archaeologist must do more than blindly dig. They must pass the test of logical evaluation of evidence before any political implications can be considered legitimate."

This is an issue which arises regarding Mr Kelvin Crombie's Gallipoli -The Road to Jerusalem, published by his Heritage Resources foundation (Perth 2014). The book itself and its accompanying promotional material maintain that Australia has a Covenant with Christ and a special relationship with the State of Israel in virtue of the blood shed by the men of the Australian Imperial Forces in the Dardanelles in 1915 and at Beersheba in Palestine in 1917. The claim is represented as an historical argument. How can we tell if it is or not?

Since the dawn of historical writing some arguments have been known to be formally wrong. Among these fallacies is one known to the Romans. So we still know it in Latin as `post hoc ergo propter hoc'. In English this means `after the event therefore because of the event'. This cannot be right, because some apparent consequences are only coincidences. The problem is all in the `therefore', in the consequence drawn.

This post hoc causal fallacy as it has been called is a fallacy twice over, both on its own account and because it is as the Romans again knew a 'non sequitur'; it 'does not follow' from its premises.

In the English speaking historical tradition the causal fallacy is associated with the historians of the proto-liberal progressive Whig aristocratic party, who were inclined to imply that with them British if not universal history had come to a final rest with oligarchical Whig constitutional arrangements.

In 1931 the conservative Christian historian Herbert Butterfield pointed out that the Whig interpretation history embodied the causal fallacy and was anachronistic. He argued that any aspiring historian might fall into it regardless of politics.

Crombie essentially promotes religious preconceptions designed to politically harness the Anzac legend, so potent in Australia, to the Zionist chariot. But then comes his post hoc ergo propter hoc fallacy. In keeping with a Christian big picture view of history, he presumes that the taking of Jerusalem in 1917 was the 'natural' consequence of the landing in the Dardanelles. He misquotes Churchill to imply that the provincial capital of Jerusalem, the centre of Crombie's religious world view, was the heart of the Ottoman empire at which the Gallipoli landing was aimed. In fact the heart of that empire was Istanbul, and the strategic objective of the Allies was to knock Turkey out of the war and consolidate a subsidiary Eastern Front against the European Central Powers. He goes on to claim that because the Australian Light Horse was redeployed eastwards rather than to the Western Front with the bulk of the Anzacs, that his point is somehow proven.

The Light Horse did indeed form part of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force which passed onto the offensive under the cavalry General Allenby. Allenby was under instruction from the Prime Minister Lloyd George to take Jerusalem as a morale boosting Xmas present for the British people, downcast by the hard grind of the Western Front in 1917, the low point of the Great War. In so doing the premier brought into greater play the Eastern Front at the expense of exclusive emphasis on the main strategic Western Front. But not even Lloyd George, for all that he was an 'Easterner', doubted that the Great War would be won in the West. The most Lloyd George hoped for was to knock Turkey out of the War by taking Jerusalem where the Dardanelles expedition had failed. Allenby carried out his instructions by opening the road to Jerusalem with a feint at Gaza and an assault upon the other end of the Ottoman line in Palestine at Beersheba, spectacularly completed by the famous charge of the 4th Australian Light Horse.

Crombie allows his religious politics to drive him into belittling Arab involvement in the Battle of Beersheba. He thus ignores Allenby's own post-war appreciation of it and contemporary military assessment that the Arab Revolt centred in the holy Hejaz had drawn 20,000 Ottoman troops away from Allenby's eastern flank. Indeed the account of the Battle of Beersheba given by Crombie fails to emphasise Arab involvement in the battle.

Yet he acknowledges that a force of Hejazi Arab cameleers under a Lt. Col. Newcombe guarded the Beersheba- Hebron road to the north-east of the British flanking manoeuvre against the Arab settlement with its strategic water supply. Arabs made an important contribution to the British attack on Beersheba. Even more important in view of the bonds of war forged between erstwhile enemies, attested to after the war by no less a foe of the Anzacs than Ataturk, is the fact that the Ottoman defenders of Beersheba were largely Arab. The town was defended by the Ottoman III Army Corp, consisting of the 67th and 81st Regiments of the 27th Division. Most of these men were Arab.

Anachronism though has political uses, and it is these that Crombie's fallacious and sub-historical arguments serve. Accordingly the foreword to this book is written by a former Governor General who likes to confound religious considerations, politics and military history. While Crombie's historiography is substandard, the production values of his books argue to no lack of funds. And the author is well connected. A previous version of Crombie's Christian Zionist argument has been delivered gratis to every vice-regal and parliamentary representative in the country in a cultural propaganda effort to win hearts and minds. Light Horse re-

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

enactors have been trotted out to fly the Israeli flag to effect a godly union between Australia's popular military traditions and the latter day policies of the State of Israel.

But arguments must do more than trifle with the past to be valid historical arguments, just as an archaeologist must do more than blindly dig. They must pass the test of logical evaluation of evidence before any political implications can be considered legitimate. ■

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