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The Objectives of Total War

BY C. H. DOUGLAS

This article was originally published in July, 1946, by SOVEREIGNTY, an English quarterly review devoted to National Britain which, like many independent publications in that period, could not survive the various crises in economics, paper, electric power, etc. The article has previously been reprinted in these pages but it is repeated, more particularly, for newer readers.

If the general public is not imbued with full consciousness that war is the ultimate problem of civilisation, the responsibility for such lack as there may be does not rest with the organised publicity which provides our syndicated information. We are told of the horrors of the atomic bomb, of which a demonstration was conveniently available at the final episode of Japanese industrialisation; and concurrently, without discussion, and with every evidence of long preparation, world organisations have come into being and are functioning with the ostensible, and obviously laudable aim of dealing with war by making war so one-sided that it becomes a police, rather than a military, problem.

It would be wickedly perverse to underestimate the arguments which can be adduced in support of this attitude. Perhaps the fairest material prospect ever opened to human vision, the Promised Land of Plenty and Leisure, appeared, towards the close of the nineteenth century, to be at hand. The Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria marked the perihelion of a British Empire superficially invincible, widely, if not universally, respected and far more united than any organisation of comparable size, either before or since the disintegration of mediaeval Europe; and a Continent of Europe which, if it betrayed disquieting signs to the trained observer, yet remained the unquestioned and unquestionable centre of civilisation and culture. Fifty years later, Europe lies in ruins; its grace and culture rent and torn, the helpless prey of conflicting ideologies and half-crazed fanatics; it and the British Empire, attacked from every quarter and disrupted by internal intrigues, would appear to be mere children of the storm of war, whose only hope of survival is a refuge under the shadow of a World Government which will prevent its repetition. It may be so; but it would be unwise to resign our fate into alien keeping unless we are sure that we know all the facts and that we understand the nature of our policy. And the first fact on which we need clarity is as to the nature and object of war itself, so that we may know what it is we are trying to avoid. A man who regards spots on the skin as the essential evil of smallpox, and keeps out of the sun to avoid freckles in consequence, may easily defeat his own ends.

The material ruin which is the accompaniment of modern war, as well as its heavy casualties in human life and happiness, may easily mislead us into supposing that mere destruction is the primary objective of war. No professional staff officer would agree; he would probably quote the well known words of Clausewitz, which are as true today as

when they were first written: "War is the pursuit of policy, by other means." That is to say, war is a culmination, or an expedient, amongst other expedients.

The primary object of war is fear, and one of the most noticeable features of contemporary propaganda is the inculcation of the fear of what will happen to us if we do not resign our affairs into other hands. It has always been axiomatic that courage—resistance to fear—is a cardinal military virtue; and we may observe that world-government propaganda is directly aimed at the neutralisation of such courage as remains to us.

Now the essence of fear is the aberration of judgment, and it is desirable to consider this condition in connection with the revealing statement which appeared in the organ of P.E.P. (Political and Economic Planning) of which Mr. Moses Israel Sieff (most probably only the spokesman of much more important people) was at that time the Chairman—a curious organisation which appears to have been in almost unchallenged control of British internal policy since 1931, closely interlocked with the New Fabian Society as well as other national and international forces. Mr. Sieff's organ remarked: "We have proceeded from the assumption that only in war, or under threat of war, will a British Government embark on large scale Planning." It is a fair deduction from these words that the interests of P.E.P. were vitally bound up with the promotion of war as an agency of compulsion and that "Planning" requires an aberration of judgment to be accepted.

We have just seen that the primary object of war is the aberration of judgment, and it is only a short stage from this to the elimination of judgment. This is inherent. It cannot have escaped the notice that unity of military (in the widest sense) command was a feature, and quite a rational feature of the war which was resumed in 1939. If you have only one desire or objective, judgment of objectives is over for you. Your whole life becomes a mere question of administration and it can be expressed graphically by a triangle with the apex uppermost. At this apex the Commander-in-Chief is told against whom he is to exert pressure. Everyone below the apex relinquishes personal sovereignty over his objective in favour of "discipline".

We know that it is impossible to have war without two opposing sides; and we can say therefore that war is a condition of affairs in which both sides are under the strongest

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FROM WEEK TO WEEK

The attendance of representatives of numerous foreign Governments at the funeral of the assassinated gaol-bird and mobster the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King is an ominous indication of the *modus operandi* of the impending attempt at the final take-over of America by the International Communist Conspiracy. It has been said of King that riots followed in his wake as night follows day.

In a speech to a crowd of 35,000 in Chicago on July 10, 1966, King said: "We are tired of being seared in the flames of withering injustice . . . We are tired of being lynched physically in Mississippi, and we are tired of being lynched spiritually and economically in the North . . . There is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take a tranquillizing drug of gradualism . . . Now is the time to have a confrontation in the city of Chicago between the forces resisting change and the forces demanding change . . . We will no longer sit idly by in agonising deprivation and wait on others to provide our freedom. We will be badly mistaken if we think freedom is some lavish dish that the federal government and the white man will pass out on a silver platter . . . Freedom is never voluntarily granted by the oppressor. It must be demanded by the oppressed. The battle (is) in our hands . . . This day we must decide to fill up the jails of Chicago, if necessary, in order to end slums." Two days later the Watts rampage broke out.

If a couple, one married and the other not, engage in sexual intimacy, the act is called adultery; and if detection is followed by a petition for divorce, the married partner is referred to as the Respondent, and the other as the Co-respondent. It has not been proved that King was a Communist, but it has been proved that he has continuously engaged in acts of political intimacy with known Communists, such as Gus Hall, Secretary of the CPUSA, while James Dombrowski, the Executive Director of the Southern Conference Educational Fund, which sponsored King, is an identified Communist. So the political word for King is "Co-communist". Communists are 'married' to the Cause; King had 'affairs' with it.

The true facts about King have long since been ascertained and published, and must be known to the intelligence agencies of the so-called anti-communist governments represented at his funeral. But the suppression by the mass-media of these facts, and the elevation of King to the stature of a hero, is evidence almost conclusive in itself of the operation of an International Conspiracy engaged in imposing Communism *from the top*.

And yet, the riots triggered off by King's exhortations, destructive as they are, are not yet the real Revolution. They are preparation. They compound the problems they are supposed to resolve. The real explosion will occur when, either by a severe contraction of credit*, or a wild inflation of currency, a universal economic crisis is brought about. For the heart and brain of the Conspiracy is the International Financial Power, the real but largely unrecognised World Government, whose power is threatened by the overwhelming productivity of modern industry. The ration card, in one form or another, is the ultimate instrument of government; and it is to maintain the power to impose the conditions of access to the necessities of life that the Terror is being prepared.

The massive evidence of the organisation underlying and strategy pursued in the civil disorders in the U.S.A. is surveyed and liberally illustrated in *Communist Revolution in the Streets* by Gary Allen†. Mr. Allen "donned beatnik clothes and grew a beard to see Communist-controlled agitation from the inside". Thus his book is based on first-hand observation; but as well it contains much material based on research into the main groups organised to exploit different sets of grievances and discontents. Autonomous in appearance, the groups are integrated and co-ordinated by the Communist Party which, as well as exploiting grievances, works assiduously to create and compound them. The Communist Party works on the principle that a very small number of trained Communists, disciplined and dedicated, and working to a strategy laid down from above, can control large organisations.

Every effort is made by the mass media to represent poverty and discrimination as the exclusive cause of rioting. In fact, in general the American negro is very well off; where poverty exists, it is in the main due to a disinclination to take advantage of the opportunities the American economy offers for betterment. This latter situation is aggravated by the War on Poverty whose funds, as revealed in numerous articles in the magazines *Human Events* and *American Opinion*, are actively used not only to encourage idleness but to promote discontent and disorder.

While nothing can be done outside the U.S.A. about the situation disclosed and analysed by Mr. Allen, his book nevertheless has a highly important relevance throughout the 'free' world, all of which is scheduled for Communist take-over, as revealing the technique by which revolution is

*Since this note was written, the Federal Reserve Board has increased its interest rate to the highest since a similar increase touched off the Great Depression. The vitally important point to realise is that the economic system as we know it has reached the limits of its viability, and that its controllers undoubtedly know how to rectify it. The conclusion is inescapable that it is the consequences of breakdown which is the objective of the Conspirators.

†WESTERN ISLANDS, Belmont, Massachusetts, 02178. Available from K.R.P. Publications Ltd., 245 Cann Hall Rd., London E.11. Price 45/- posted.

being fomented even in prosperous communities. A knowledge of this technique makes plain the enormous misrepresentations carried by the mass-media.

Mr. Allen concludes: "The Communists believe—and with good reason—that they are on the very threshold of their ultimate conquest—the United States. Why should they quit now when they can literally taste victory? They have been striving for this moment for more than fifty years. Would it make sense to 'mellow' and quit now? . . ."

"One Communist, who happens to be a Negro, expresses it this way, 'We call the whites "cream puffs". We feel that when the television stops, when the telephone no longer rings, their world will almost come to an end . . . they'll sit and wait for television to come back on'. Then it will all be over."

There can be little doubt left that Co-communist Harold Wilson's cabal constitutes a white minority inverted-racist* dictatorship. The *Sunday Telegraph*, March 31, 1968, quotes a detective as saying "In all my experience I have never known a Prime Minister need such protection". The newspaper reports that his mere appearance is enough to provoke fury. "Fears for Mr. Wilson's personal safety whenever he now leaves London have produced the strictest security precautions taken to guard a Prime Minister in recent years." It is not reported whether instructions have been issued—yet—for the dismantling of lamp posts.

In the light of the existing international situation, the cabal has probably irretrievably damaged Britain's economy—by, so to say, drilling holes in the petrol tank and oil sump, while calling for more acceleration. In these circumstances it is perhaps conceivable that Mr. Wilson will after all consent to a general election in due course, so as to set the Tories up for the Communists to knock down. On the other hand, Marxist theory demands that it should be the Social Democrats who should finally demonstrate that 'capitalism' cannot govern.

However that may be, under cover of enforcing racial integration (none so British as the West Indians), the cabal is to set up 'Special' Courts which look like being the fore-runners of Peoples' Courts. The end is not yet.

Having demonstrated that over half a million U.S. military personnel, equipped with the most modern arms and support, and backed by the most intensive bombing in history, cannot prevent the North Vietnamese virtually over-running South Vietnam and wrecking the pacification programme, the U.S. Secretary of Defence has announced that it is now U.S. policy to hand over the major conduct of war to the South Vietnamese. Of course, as well as trading with the USSR and its East European satellites, who together supply 80% of North Vietnam's supplies, the U.S. has built bases and harbour facilities which will come in very useful to the Communists when the South Vietnamese civilian government collapses, which has clearly been the objective of the Co-communists in Washington since before they connived in the murder of the Diems. Some sections of South Vietnamese cities, especially Saigon and Hue have

*"Mummy what is a snob?"

"A snob, darling, is a person who avoids associating with people he considers socially inferior."

"Well, what is an inverted snob?"

"That is a person who conspicuously mixes with people he considers socially inferior so as to prove he is not a snob."

been reduced to rubble, and there are hundreds of thousands of refugees, thanks to *American* bombing. So the U.S. Administration will be able quite truthfully to say: "Look, with all we have done, the South has collapsed, and how can we now prevent the dominoes falling?"

Perhaps, in due course, Australia will have its port facilities bombed out of existence to prevent Communist landings. After all, Australia is paying an insurance premium of a few hundred dead to ensure American 'protection'.

The Slant

Canon Smith of Durham, whose portrait hangs in the Castle Hall, visited the Pope some years ago and suggested the union of the churches. The Pope, with infinite courtesy, turned to the canon and asked, "And who will supply the doctrine? Mrs. Smith?" The same question, "*Who is supplying the thought?*" arises more acutely today, for both *The Times* and *The Guardian* gave prominence early in February to the long report of an inter-denominational American committee which accused American soldiers in Vietnam of violating the rules of war. This can hardly be calculated at such a time to encourage the hard-pressed American soldiers who are witnessing every conceivable barbarity on their enemy's part. For the clergy "Protestant, Jewish and Catholic", according to Alistair Cooke in *The Guardian* (March 5, 1968) allege that a legal case ("and it is, we believe, a devastating one") could be made against actions in Vietnam.

The source of the Rev. P. Oestreicher's inspiration raises few doubts, but one could feel surprised when he quoted the present Pope as deploring a system that exalted as a right "private ownership of the means of production" and as declaring "private property does not constitute for anyone an absolute and unconditional right" (*The Times*, Sept. 2, 1967). For private property is one safeguard against centralized tyranny. And when *The Times* ran a recent series of cures for Britain, it chose Bishop Stockwood as its first contributor who declared, "I am a socialist".

I do not ascribe such an outlook to Lord Fisher, although I do not believe he had too much sympathy for the views C. H. Douglas expressed when he talked to the sixth form boys at Repton. Yet the former Archbishop of Canterbury strongly resents Mr. Robin Day's treatment of Mr. Healey on *Panorama* on the ground that a Cabinet has a corporate loyalty like a football team (*The Times*, Feb. 2, 1968). While offending players are sent off the ground, Cabinet ministers who have broken pledges are now absolved by this corporate doctrine, it seems, which suggests that Mr. Callaghan's change of position was ridiculous. The Archbishop commends Mr. Healey's demand for "the guts to take the harsh and painful decisions which are now necessary", and himself calls for a "cheerful spirit which will serve to recreate the national mood and solve the national problems".

Apart from a reference by *The Tablet* (Feb. 3, 1968) to awareness of "responsibility to the less developed countries", *The Church Times* (Jan. 26, 1968) gives a less sanguine account of what has happened, saying that the Government's decision "must mark the end of an era for the Commonwealth, if not the actual end of the Commonwealth altogether . . . The Commonwealth, like the Empire, may soon belong to history". Leaving, one adds, Civil War in Nigeria and racialism in Kenya.

I cannot personally draw much comfort from the announcement that twenty members of the Young Communist League are to join in the Edinburgh "British Conference of Christian Youth" which the British Council of Churches is organising in August. For it implies that Christians have not sufficient resources without learning from the ancient Marx. As Peter Simple remarked the other day, Gerald Brooke has already been in prison for two and a half years.

Meanwhile Dr. Eugene Blake, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, has issued an open invitation to the communists to walk into what remains of a "free" world. For, addressing about a thousand people in Bangkok at the East Asian Christian Conference, he said "I do not believe that anti-communism is a good ideology for any nation or people", adding that all people should refuse to take up arms (*Catholic Herald*, Feb. 9, 1968).

This example of anti-anti-communism begs the question of what a good ideology might be and evidently holds that communism is quite different from what Pastor Wurmbrand or millions of victims experienced: the satanic technique of anaesthetising the spirit and of sterilizing the intellect, to which young Mr. Litvinov and various writers objected. However, Dr. Blake and the W.C.C. have shown their hand, and no wonder he hopes to extend the East Asian Conference's programme to include North Vietnam and China, where he will doubtless be welcomed as a witness to the crumbling resolution of the West—a West that apparently sponsors anything.

The Objectives of Total War (continued from page 1)
possible pressure to subordinate, or discipline each and every individual to an objective which is not even understood, but is accepted from above.

The side which "wins" is the side which remains "disciplined", *i.e.*, *functionalised* for the longest time.

But when hostilities cease we invariably find that "functionalism" persists. The victorious armies are not demobilised; food restrictions, building restrictions, travel restrictions, are only relaxed, if at all, with obvious reluctance. Both sides may, on balance, be heavy losers in modern war; but there is always one winner, "functionalisation". War then is not necessarily between nations; it may be between Government and People.

Now, although the normal man refuses "Planning" or functionalisation "except in war, or under threat of war", there are powerful interests with functional objectives which are determined to extend functionalisation to every field of activity. Vertical trusts are one form of such interests and the raw material of them is "employment" or "Labour", and there is, although most Labour politicians may not understand it, the closest connection between "Labour-Socialism" vertical trusts or monopolies, and war. August Bebel in 1892 assured Bismarck that "the Imperial Chancellor may rest assured that German Social Democracy (Socialism) is a sort of preparatory school for militarism". The reverse is equally true. Bismarck accepted the argument in full, never in any way interfered with the Socialists (who were busily engaged, *inter alia*, in debauching British trades unionism) and himself remarked: "We march separately, but we fight together."

Without presuming to define the whole nature of that mysterious creature, man, it is nevertheless possible to say fairly accurately that he "possesses" a number, perhaps an

infinite number of functions. Provided that fear can be brought to bear, he can generally be persuaded to surrender any one, and eventually, practically all, of these functions to external control, so that "he", the independent will, the possessor of initiative, is eliminated. The individual has then lost his sovereignty, and cannot prevent the handing over of his "national" sovereignty any more than he can prevent his material property in land or otherwise being alienated by a Socialist Government. If we imagine the apex of the military hierarchy which is organised to control the fighting function of man to be represented by a dot and a similar dot to represent the apex of an organisation to control each of the functions of the individual—the Ministry of Food, Housing, Transport, Supply, etc.—and place them side by side in a horizontal line, and then draw from each of these dots a line to the individual whose functions are thus taken from his own control, the diagram thus produced is again a triangle, but this time its apex is downward. Perhaps it may be advisable at this point to observe that there is nothing necessarily mystical about this diagram. It is one quite familiar to "Scientific Management" experts, and is used in factory organisation. The link which converts the dots into a line is Finance. If on the top of this inverted triangle we superimpose the diagram of the military organisation (which in "peace-time" is represented by the N.K.V.D. or Gestapo) which supplies the fear-motive, we have the Red Star of Russia, the Seal of Solomon, the works diagram of the World Socialist Empire. Fear, the objective of war, is to be permanently with us in "peace".

Fanciful, you think? Not very fanciful, if you will observe events and disabuse yourself of the idea that history is just disconnected episodes, rather than, as it is, long-term policy crystallised. Theoretical? Yes. But unfortunately the world is in the grasp of theorists to whom misery and death of millions is a grain of dust beside the working out of their designs.

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