

Australia's Sovereignty Severely Compromised for US-Israeli Designs

As Australia's international standing has risen, the country's sovereignty is being dangerously subsumed by the United States, itself controlled by the disproportionately influential military-industrial complex and Zionist lobbies. It is being compromised by the political elite within the ruling Liberal Party and Labour Party caucus. Former PM Malcolm Fraser presciently warned that we "have effectively ceded to America the ability to decide when Australia goes to war".

External threats facing Australia include commercial takeover of critical resources. The second is inordinate influence by the US, our "friendly" ally under ANZUS. Evidence suggests some US covert involvement in removing former PMs Whitlam and Rudd. Near neighbours, Indonesia and Malaysia have no expansionist aims but Australia increased its 'defence' budget 32% since 2003 and is targeting 2% GDP. Fighting distant wars of questionable merit and overinflating domestic terrorism sucks funds from needy domestic programmes and puts Australia into debt paralleling the United States.

John Howard dramatically changed Australia's defence policy to project military power globally. The 9/11 attacks occurring while PM Howard visited President Bush cemented a tight alliance. Howard offered virtually a blank cheque to support future US military engagements. Significantly, many since Mearsheimer and Walt's exposure chronicled the excessive influence Israeli lobbies e.g. AIPAC, have over US foreign policies. Israeli not only protects itself but is creating a Greater Israel involving fragmentation of neighbouring Arab states - the Yinon Plan of the World Zionist Organization. Australia has become locked into engagements resulting from US-Zionist stratagems: the US domineering worldview is inculcated whenever American forces and agencies meet their counterparts in the Australian Defence Forces, ASIO and Federal Police.

Impacts on Australia's foreign policies result from the Murdoch media oligopoly, which champions Israel, and the Zionist-led Lowy Institute for International Policy, which has a snug relationship with the ADF, ASIO and AFP, all Institute members. Great concern is that Allan Gyngell, founding Executive-Director of the Lowy Institute, is now Director-General of Australia's Office of National Assessments. Gyngell leads a supposedly independent organisation providing key analyses on which Cabinet relies. Zionists can well influence key decisions. Abuse is of grave concern given faulty ONA reports claiming WMDs in Iraq, which incited Australia's participation in the infamous invasion. Former ONA officer, Andrew Wilke, resigned claiming pre-invasion pressures to exaggerate reports.

Former Foreign Minister, Bob Carr, explained that the pro-Israel lobby has a "very unhealthy level" of influence in dictating Australia's foreign policy through party donations and MP trips to Israel. The Australia/Israel and Jewish Affairs Council had a direct line into the PM's office and aggressively lobbied politicians. Politicians have been drawn deeply into Israel's global strategy: a visit to Israel is essential for any aspiring PM. Australia has developed arguably the harshest anti-terrorism legislation and supports illegal Israeli settlements. Israel defies UN resolutions and commits war crimes violating international law. Despite this, our government still strongly supports Israel. In the 2008-09 and 2014 Gaza wars, Israel killed 3,500 Palestinians, 75% civilians, while the few Israeli fatalities were overwhelmingly soldiers. Israel attacked densely-habited areas causing slaughter and damage to hospitals, schools and UN shelters. Ban Ki-moon and European nations condemned Israel's disproportionate response and civilian targeting.

Legitimate concerns questioning Australia's involvement in distant wars unrelated to Australia's security raise the spectre of 'blowback' in supporting American global hegemony and destruction of Muslim lands. Emergence of ISIS is directly linked to failed American strategies. The government's embrace of America's pro-Israel anti-Muslim agenda is against Australia's best interests towards peaceful neighbours, Indonesia and Malaysia.

Prior to expanding anti-terrorist laws deemed by many to be targeting the preponderantly peaceful Muslim community, massive AFP raids were conducted in NSW and Queensland. Their scale implied citizens were under imminent attack by *numerous* terrorists. Numbers arrested however, were low and prosecutions will likely be few. Bernard Keane commented, "Australians are less safe now than a few weeks ago because of decisions taken, primarily for political ends, by the Abbott government, namely to intervene in a conflict in Iraq and Syria that has nothing to do with Australia's national interests". Apart from the Martin Place shootings, there have been no fatalities in Australia by Muslim hands since 1915. PM Abbott over-emphasises terrorism while neglecting family violence that causes 60 deaths annually. Samuel Makinda warned that with the expanded anti-terror legislation, politicians have legislated away citizens' rights. Alerting that Australia is now a "police state", Gideon Polya, estimated there were "only 6 Australian deaths by terrorists (none Muslim) in the last 36 years. Yet the major Australian parties ... have committed \$125 billion in terms of long-term accrual cost to the Islamophobic War on Terror."

Australia's subservience to US-Israeli designs should change and we stop fighting their wars and exhausting Australia's finances. With an A\$40 billion budget shortfall, either the government will raise taxes, diminish services, or increase debt. In the absence of military threats at home, our concern is surely economic security. Australians should consider an alternative from heightened militarism in this Gallipoli centenary honouring our heroes who wished not to glorify war for imperialism's sake. Let us resist the insidious takeover of our independence to chart our own course and further peace and stability of Australia and harmonious relations amongst our own citizens. – *Dr Daud Batchelor, political analyst, whose grandfathers/father fought to protect Australia's security.*