
New Zealand

Queen backs New Yalta in Pacific

by Allen Douglas

At almost the same time as the U.S. State Department orchestrated the overthrow of Philippine President Marcos, the Queen of England was in New Zealand helping to hand the Pacific over to the Soviets. In her Feb. 26 address at the State Opening of Parliament in Wellington, speaking in her capacity as the Queen of New Zealand, Elizabeth Windsor endorsed the Nuclear Free Zone Bill introduced into the New Zealand Parliament last year. This bill denies U.S. nuclear-armed or powered warships the right to visit New Zealand's harbors. It is designed to formalize the February 1985 decree of New Zealand's Labor government, prohibiting such visits.

The Queen's Feb. 26 speech is one more move in the "New Yalta" redivision of global power, like the deal Churchill and Roosevelt made with Stalin after World War II—but today to abandon Western Europe, Africa, and the Pacific to Soviet domination. It is to be seen together with the upheaval in the Philippines and the potential for near-term loss of U.S. bases there; the massive Soviet naval buildup in the Pacific; and the declaration by the South Pacific Forum countries, of a "Nuclear Free Zone" over 30 million square miles of the Pacific.

Shortly before Elizabeth addressed the New Zealand Parliament, a delegation of the South Pacific Forum (SPF), the island nations in the South Pacific led by the socialist governments of Australia and New Zealand, trooped off to Moscow to get their marching orders. Led by David Saldier of Australia, the SPF delegation of Christopher Beeby of New Zealand, delegates from the Fiji Islands, Papua New Guinea, and the Solomon and Cook Islands, New Zealand's ambassador to the U.S.S.R. Allison Stokes, and the Australian chargé d'affaires in Moscow, Robert Tyson, met with a series of top Soviet officials in Moscow on Feb. 3-4.

The SPF group lauded the cosmetic arms-control proposals of Soviet party chief Gorbachov, including his "unilateral moratorium on any nuclear explosions." Then the Soviets and SPF issued a communiqué on their discussions: "... the Soviet side said that the establishment of a zone free from nuclear weapons in the South Pacific is an important contribution to fashioning a reliable security system in Asia and

the Pacific, narrows the geographical bounds of the spread of nuclear weapons and facilitates the fulfillment of the task of doing away with nuclear weapons on earth once and for all and preventing an arms race in outer space.

"The treaty on the nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific together with the protocols in it in their present form *basically correspond to the criteria suggested by the Soviet Union for nuclear-free zones.*" But the Soviet group, including not only Foreign Ministry officials, but *Defense Ministry officials,* "... pointed out the importance of *making certain* that the agreement creating the nuclear-free zone really ensures the making of the territories of the signatory states into a zone completely free from nuclear weapons. This presupposes, in particular, a ban on the transit through the nuclear free zone's territory of nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices, including visits at ports and air fields there by foreign warships and aircraft with nuclear weapons aboard. . . . The delegation from the South Pacific Forum expressed gratitude for the Soviet Union's support for the decisions taken by the SPF countries to declare the South Pacific a nuclear-free zone. . . ." (emphasis added)

Lange: 'No imbalance in the Pacific'

New Zealand's Prime Minister Lange observed, "There is no imbalance in the Pacific" and there is "no need" for New Zealand to have "strategic capabilities" in defense, such as the ANZUS Pact represents, since if New Zealand does not bother anyone, no one will bother New Zealand. Curiously, Mr. Lange, who, along with his fellow Socialist International asset, Australia's Prime Minister Bob Hawke, was outspoken in his calls for the ouster of Philippine President Marcos, has been quiet regarding the following series of events: 1) Soviet missiles splashing down into his "nuclear free zone" off New Zealand's Cook Islands, 2) the huge buildup of ostensibly "scientific" Russian vessels off Chatham Rise in New Zealand's waters, 3) the unidentified submarine sighted by the New Zealand Air Force north of the country last month, 4) the recent discovery of AK-47 rifles in the north island, associated with "Maori rights" native activists, a core of whom have visited Cuba in the recent past, and 5) the Soviet "cultural invasion" hitting New Zealand in the current period, including visits by the Soviet soccer team and circus, and the upcoming visit by the Russian Ballet, the same ballet company cited by intelligence sources as financing radical activists in New Zealand.

While overlooking these developments, Mr. Lange has actively participated in others: 1) He granted permission for the Soviet airline, Aeroflot, to fly in and out of the country the "fishing crews" which man the extensive Soviet trawler presence, 2) he authorized his finance minister, Roger Douglas, to sell transferable fishing licenses for waters immediately off New Zealand, licenses which *can be resold to the Soviets*, something Douglas lauds, since "it would promote competition," and 3) he has cut back and demoralized New

Zealand's armed forces, since there is "no threat" to New Zealand.

The virtual treason of Lange to his own country, as well as to the Western alliance, has produced alarm among many New Zealand citizens. In fall 1985, a distinguished group of former New Zealand defense chiefs issued an unusual, hard-hitting public paper on the crisis in ANZUS (the Australia-New Zealand-United States defense pact) produced by Lange's actions. Among other things, the paper stressed, "For more than 30 years the collective defense arrangement most directly relevant to New Zealand's security has been ANZUS and as is the case in any alliance, its credibility and effectiveness have depended on the partners exercising their forces together continually and cooperating in every practicable way in peacetime. In the worst case of a direct threat to our homeland—difficult as this may be to envisage at present—the expectation that we would have the support of a major power offers the most significant element in our defense posture. From the point of view of Australia and New Zealand there can be no effective collective defense arrangement for the South Pacific region without the participation of the United States. . . .

"If the ANZUS rift is not quickly repaired, its consequences may yet cut much deeper and extend well beyond defence considerations. Our wider relationships, not only

with the United States but with all our traditional friends within the Western alliance are likely to be threatened," the paper continued.

Other patriots, like the Federated Futures group of John Huston and his associates and the group of pro-ANZUS activists around journalist Ned Halliburton, are working to rally the majority of New Zealand's citizens not disposed to accept Lange's Russian-tinged variety of "independence."

Since the Queen was pelted with eggs in New Zealand, and "Maori rights" agitators showed her their bare bottoms in a "traditional form of Maori protest," the average New Zealand citizen felt a certain pity for her, as the butt of attacks by radicals. This compassion spilled over into the belief that Prime Minister Lange had "used" the Queen to give publicity to his nuclear-free schemes, since she, as the formal head of government in New Zealand, had no choice but to read the government's program to the Parliament, a program which of course contained the "Nuclear Free Zones Bill." The reality is much different.

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