

MALCOLM FLEES WHILE AUSTRALIA BURNS

Peter Adamis Abalinx 27 November 2015



It is alleged that the Roman Emperor Nero, fiddled while Rome burned, Interesting closer to home we see 'Emperor Turnbull leaving while Australia burns. Where is he going one may ask, other than to attend a climate meeting in far flung Paris and to mix it with the big boys. Surely some other minister better qualified could attend on Australia's behalf commensurate with Australia's status at Paris. But then again, damned if he does and damned if he doesnt go.

I guess the timing is the problem and one wonders whether he could have sent a contingent over to Paris and the Emperor following them in due course. Malcolm Turnbull had just returned to face a contingent of disquiet from back benchers and the opposition. Some would say that his soft stance towards the terrorist issue facing Australia was not up to the mark expected of an Australian leader and that his conciliatory language towards the Mufti on his lack of condemnation against the Paris attacks should have been stronger.

The Australian public judging by the organised demonstrations by ordinary Australians from all walks of life are displaying their anger at the alleged fear of Australia becoming 'infiltrated by Islam' and concerned about the future of their children and their children. Whatever the case may be, the Prime Minister needs to allay their fears without creating a negative and fertile ground for dissent amongst those of the Islamic faith.

On the political front and closer to home, the Mal Brough saga and his involvement in the Peter Slipper affair is destined to remain unresolved and Labor will certainly ensure that it continues to fester until the Australian Federal Police complete their investigation. Mal Brough according to media reports confessed on main news media his involvement and attempts to have him step down until the investigation is completed failed because of lack of numbers in parliament. This is very damaging to Malcolm Turnbull and it will become a problem in the future.

In South Australia the agricultural regions are still burning, lives have been lost and many are hospitalised. The Prime Minister feels that matters are in hand and that those responsible are qualified to handle the emergency facing South Australians, but to leave Australia while it burns, leaves a bitter and sour taste in people who have lost their homes and their way of life.

On the other end of the domestic scale, the domestic violence programme is good step in the right direction but no one has yet to raise the issue that the wrong message is being sent out. The notion that it is always the male that is at fault is not a good message to children as they develop and one wonders what long term impact it will have on society. Could education, training at the adolescent and formative years be better approached and that it is followed up at the adult level by attending compulsory anger management and/or training and development classes.

On the issue of not sending troops to Syria, it was a good call not to send ground troops, given the volatile situation. Although it is well known fact that a battle is not won until troops are on the ground and have taken possession of the ground; Australia going it alone without coalition support is indeed fraught in danger. The situation in Syria and the Middle East has many players whose agendas are not compatible with those of the West, other than to provide the current levels of support.

We must also remember that Australia does have a small contingent of Defence Force personnel stationed in the Middle East are not involved in the current conflict but are there as advisers. The hostile situation and animosity between Turkey and Russia is another factor that needs to be taken into consideration which has the potential to escalate and draw other nations in a war that will have nothing but devastating consequences.

There is sufficient anecdotal evidence to indicate that Turkey is supporting or as supported ISIS ground troops, there is sufficient anecdotal evidence to indicate that the USA has had a hand in supporting the rebels who have gone wild and left the coalition against Assad to join ISIS. It is in the interests of Turkey to have a weakened Syria on its borders in order that it can concentrate on managing the Kurds in due course. The Kurds on their part whilst battling the thrust of ISIS/ISIL are also building a home front on the borders of Turkey, Iraq and Syria.

Russia on the other hand does not hide the fact that it is seeking a warm sea port and thus enable it to extend its influence in the Mediterranean. An outlet for their Black sea fleet through the Dardanelles which is within the borders of Turkey would tip the balance of power in the region and thus threaten the West's reliance on Saudi and other Arab countries oil reserves. . It is also no secret that Russia has always wanted to dominate its neighbours, the Baltic nations including the Balkan countries. It may well still achieve its goals by strangling Europe of oil and gas supplies during severe winters

NATO is in the centre of the fracas and is required to support its NATO member Turkey against Russia, which really is a joke as NATO did nothing at all when Turkey illegally flew over Greek air space in excess of 2000 times. What does this mean other than to state the obvious that NATO is but a paper tiger. What is Australia to do in such a situation?

Should a battle ensue between Russia and turkey, NATO will become involved thus drawing the USA and its allies of which Australia is a party to, into a war of attrition of where there will be no winners. Will Malcolm Turnbull return back home or will he continue on his overseas trips strutting the world stage while Australia is need of leadership? As stated above, damned if he does and damned if he doesnt.

The honeymoon period in my book still has some way to go and Malcolm has yet to make his mark on the world stage and at home. There have been no serious changes to policies and or directions that would endanger his leadership style and until he is seriously challenged he will remain the darling of the media. The media to save their own skin for backing Turnbull for the leadership stakes will never forgive him if he fails to deliver upon his promises and as such Turnbull is wearing a heavy burden.

On the other hand the public must be fair to Malcolm Turnbull and give his due. After all the trials and tribulations that he has endured over the years as a youngster, and through his business connections; he has finally reached the pinnacle of success that he hungrily sought after for many years. Does this mean that he had a chip on his block, who knows, what is known is that he can if need be tough with opponents when he has might on his side and some say he may fold when faced with overwhelming opposition.

Given that he is now the 'Big Kahuna" after deposing his leader, means also having great responsibilities that need strong leadership. Does Malcolm Turnbull have the necessary leadership traits to steer this nation through the quagmire of hostile and at times envious diplomatic players whose interests are not compatible with our own way of life.

Those who monitor the political activity on the Hill in Canberra will be watching for any signs of weaknesses, indecision and that something that would whet their appetite. I say let bygones be bygones, move on, work together as a united team and put Australia first. To achieve that, Malcolm needs to court and/or woo the conservative right and those sections of the Australian community that feels affected by the current changes within Australia society. Changes that are currently making inroads into traditional Australian culture that are no compatible with Australian ideals.

As always, I apologise to the purists for the grammar and punctuation and remember, vigilance is the key to survival. Some may want to tell you that the future is unknown. But my message is simple: 'the future is in our hands, and our children will thank us for ensuring for that future'.



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