

## **WHAT IF SERIES - 2**

Abalinx 9 May 2016

What if the world as we know it disintegrated today as a result of a new theory that has emerged to suggest the 9 May 2016 transit of Mercury is linked to the biblical prophecy of destruction?

Mercury's rare passing in front of the Sun on Monday, May 9 occurs only around 13 times a century and last took place in 2006. Well, I am still here and although we still have three quarters of the day to go, it does not appear that the theory is a valid one. Is it back to the drawing board or back to basics which is an old military response?

Having said the above, I am concerned at the malicious and destructive nature of politics and its cannibalistic aftermath when things go wrong or misrepresented. Take for example the nefarious and misinformation article titled; "SHOULD ANDREWS THE CROOK BRANCH STACKER QUIT". The heading itself comes as a shock and it concerns me that the politics has fallen into such a decline. This article can be found by clicking on the above title and reading it in black and white and members can understand my revulsion at such tripe being written.

Then we have the article "Kevin Andrews under pressure to quit over branch stacking allegations". Another knife in the back to a long time serving member who according to his opponents and critics refuses to budge. But why should he move on when around the world other parliamentarians are still serving well into their late sixties and early seventies. I say let the people decide if they still want the member to retain the status quo and not some "Johnny come lately" like those who mentioned in the above articles.

As far as I am concerned it is like saying that Liberal members of Parliament have survived the political ravages of time by doing exactly what the Labor Party members do by manipulating the system in such a manner as to ensure their political longevity. I guess that the political sniping will only cease when the political hyenas and carrion birds of prey have had their fill of the kill?

The third and last misleading article is "VICTORIAN LIBERAL PARTY STAFFER RESIGNS OVER BRANCH STACKING ALLEGATIONS" which I found disconcerting as it was based on misleading information leaked to the press by those who should have known better. According to Liberal insiders, these leakers will rue the day over the alleged removal of the staffer who according to reports was following instructions.

These same leakers are concerned that the balance of power was disrupting their power base and placed them into a difficult corner where manoeuvring was difficult. As a result a political attack was necessary to alleviate the pressure until political influence and pressure was brought to bear on the assailants.

This was a classic case of shoot the messenger before the damage is done. One must admit and credit must go to the planners that the political attack was timed with perfection on the eve of an election being called.

It is no secret that members of parliament chew up and spew out the enthusiastic and eager young men and women who seek to have the name of a parliamentarian on their resume or CV. These same young men and women work many long hours into the night toiling away in the hope of some appointment that may or may not materialise at some time in the future. The members of parliament work on the assumption of perception of power and wield it effectively. Well let me expose this myth once and for all.

Those in political power are there only to serve the people and they are not as powerful as they would like to think. They too know that they are at the whim and mercy of a public that will turn on them should they cross the line of what is commonly known in Australia as the "Fair crack of the whip" and "Never kick a bloke when they are down". The Australian political landscape is littered with the bodies of those who climbed to the top and fell under the diseased platform of corruption, misuse of power, manipulation and a supporter base groaning under the weight of iniquities.

I have always stated, never underestimate the will of the people, to do so is the first mistake, and the second mistake is to think that because they are members of parliament that they believe they are above the law. I personally do not care how long someone has been in power or clinging to the vestiges of influence in order maintain the status quo. I am of the belief that as soon as someone is elected, the first thing they should do is identify a successor and mentor that potential successor using the drip method and preparing them for the future.

As for the young, enthusiastic and eager staffers who unerringly fall on their swords as a result of their political master's instructions and/or will, I am of the opinion that some form of corrective and redeeming rehabilitation structure should be put into place to facilitate a healthy return back to the political fold.

Far too many young staffers live and work under the concept of Damocles sword that even the slightest whisper, look or attitude can snap the tiny hair that holds Damocles sword in its place. It is wrong to ask a staffer to resign when clearly the staffer is following instructions, what happened to honesty, integrity, credibility in the eyes of the people the parliamentarians serve. Power corrupts those who are susceptible to it and power itself is such a seductive aphrodisiac that is difficult not to accept its advances.

The seat of Menzies in the Liberal heartland of right wing Christian conservatism has over the years been continuously fed by political patronage, appointments, in-kind support and well-meaning gestures that strengthen the long held conservative values. This is not a bad thing as people like to feel secure in the knowledge that their way of life is being defended.

I know for a fact that there are numerous Labor and Greens supporters whose political ideology is far different to that of Kevin Andrews but will continually support him on Election Day because of his Christian values. It's ironic, but religion does have a part to play in this game of influence, prestige and power that should not be underestimated. In fact Kevin Andrews is well known for surrounding himself with bright, knowledgeable and skilled individuals who have contributed to his political longevity.

Still, despite all of the above, all plots, planning and schemes either come to fruition, fall by the wayside or another course of action is considered in accordance with the old and tried military methodology of the "appreciation model". Should the member for Menzies decide to retire, there are others not so patiently waiting in the wings to step in and take the reins of power.

My stance on this is for Kevin Andrews to remain where he is as long as he is fit, well, contributing to the welfare of the people he represents and is wanted by the people. Any member who decides to challenge the sitting member would need to have impressive public and political credentials that Kevin Andrews would consider to be a worthy successor. Although at this stage there are no worthy successors in sight, it will be of little significance is the biblical prophecy eventuates and the earth is doomed.

As always, my apologies for the poor grammar, punctuation and savagery of the English language. I will end by saying that last night I was discussing my good health with an old retired military cobber, Brigadier "Warrie" George Mansford (bless his soul) who was surprised to hear me as he along with many other military cobbers did expect me to live through the cancer. All that I can say is that it is great to be alive.



Peter Adamis is a Journalist/Social Media Commentator and writer. He is a retired Australian military serviceman and an Industry organisational & Occupational (OHS) & Training Consultant whose interests are within the parameters of domestic and international political spectrum. He is an avid blogger and contributes to domestic and international community news media outlets as well as to local and Ethnic News. He holds a Bachelor of Adult Learning & Development (Monash), Grad Dip Occupational Health & Safety, (Monash), Dip. Training & Assessment, Dip Public Administration, and Dip Frontline Management. Website: <a href="mailto:abalinx.com">abalinx.com</a> Contact via Email: <a href="mailto:abalinx.com">abalinx.com</a> or via Mobile: 0409965538