

# the BEACON



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*SEEK THE TRUTH AND SERVE HUMANITY*



## We Must Not Ignore the Warning Signs!

EDITORIAL

The *Four Corners* program shown on Monday 30 on the ABC, depicting the re-emergence of nazism in Germany, is a timely warning of surreptitious changes occurring around the world and, indeed, here in our own country.

That the far right is emerging in a range of countries is not coincidental, nor is the election of racist, right wing leaders (albeit some masquerading as 'centre') a coincidence either. So perhaps we should examine how this is occurring, as well as why, and the implications for us here in Australia.

Nazism was the German form of fascism that developed under Mussolini in Italy. Its growth fed, like many diseases, on the huge impoverishment of the German people after World War One. As the economic system in Germany faltered, the government printed more and more paper money, inflation became unfettered and the poverty of the German people grew apace. Unemployment and poverty were enormous. By the end of 1929, approximately 1.5 million Germans were without a job; within a year this figure had more than doubled; and by early 1933, a staggering 6 million (26 per cent) were out of work.

This unemployment had a withering impact on German society. There were few shortages of food but millions were without the means to obtain it. Germany's children suffered the worst: thousands died from malnutrition and hunger-related diseases. Millions of industrial labourers – the same men who in 1928 had been the highest paid blue-collar workers in Europe – spent a year or more in idleness.

But the Depression affected all classes in Germany, not just factory workers. Unemployment was also high among white-collar workers and the professions. A Chicago news correspondent in Berlin reported that '60 per cent of each new university graduating class was out of work'. Such poverty was a breeding

ground for fascism. As the people began to organise against the tyranny of poverty and fear, the bankers and industrialists looked for ways to control them and they found it in nazism/fascism, led by Adolph Hitler. The rest is history.

Today, we are again facing the tyranny of poverty and fear. Around the world, and resulting from ruthless economic policies, from imperialist wars to re-divide the world's wealth, the imposition of austerity on the people while obscene profits are being handed to a smaller and smaller group, we are witnessing the re-emergence of the extreme right wing, the nazi/fascist movement of the 21st century. Nazism/fascism, like tuberculosis, is a disease of poverty. It flourishes best where unemployment, lack of housing, poor education and promoted fear are rife.

Its growth is accelerated by diverting the people's attention away from the real culprits: the military/industrial complex, the multinationals and the capitalist class, and they achieve their ends by providing scapegoats. In Nazi Germany in the 1930s, it was the Jews, gypsies, communists and trade unionists. Today, it is Muslims, refugees and communists.

There are multiple examples around the world of these vicious policies again being imposed: the removal of elected leaders, the invasion of sovereign countries, imposed austerity, depressed wages, and the massive printing of paper money. The introduction of repressive legislation is justified by the argument that it is keeping us safe. There are huge increases in military spending at the same time as wages are suppressed and social welfare is attacked. We have a media that is privately owned while government media is under severe attack. There are illegal attacks on asylum seekers.

It has oft been said that if you don't learn the lessons of history, you will be bound to repeat them. There are warning signs that we must not ignore!

This article first appeared in John Menadue – *Pearls and Irritations*.



*The result of the recent snap election called by Shinzo Abe and Japan's steady military build-up are a portent of things to come. The Korean crisis, which owes at least as much to Washington's flexing of military muscle as to Pyongyang's misguided nuclear antics, holds the key to many of these ominous developments.*

Despite the numerous scandals that have engulfed Abe's government and his rapidly declining popularity, the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and its junior coalition partner managed to retain a two-thirds 'supermajority' in the lower house. This will almost certainly provide the Abe government with the platform it needs to press on with the erosion, if not outright abandonment, of Japan's 'peace' constitution.

US actions in the Korean peninsula, dutifully supported by Australian governments, have helped create the present dangerous impasse. Over the years successive US administrations have built a formidable presence in Northeast Asia designed largely to intimidate the North Korean regime, contain Chinese power and influence, and keep Japan securely tied to US strategic priorities.

So much commentary that passes for serious analysis either ignores or downplays the sheer scale and potency of US military power in the region, and its far-reaching impact on the North Korean psyche. Some 40,000 US military personnel are stationed across more than 100 bases in Japan, while the Seventh Fleet, the largest of the US navy's deployed sea forces, has its headquarters in Japan. It boasts some 50–70 ships and submarines, including 14 destroyers and cruisers at any given time, the aircraft supercarrier, *USS Donald Reagan*, 140 aircraft and approximately 20,000 sailors across the Indian Ocean and the Pacific. It is equipped with both long-range Tomahawk land attack and anti-aircraft missiles.

Similarly with South Korea. Since 2009 the US military alliance has been broadened from a purely bilateral to a regional and even global arrangement. The number of US troops deployed in the country has risen to 35,000, while increasingly advanced joint military exercises now include US B-52 and B-2 bombers. Despite China's furious objections, the United States last month went ahead with the installation of the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defence system, or THAAD, the net effect of which may be to fan the flames of regional militarisation.

Guam, often referred to as a 'permanent aircraft carrier' is the third crucial prong in the Pentagon's projection of military power in Asia Pacific. The Anderson air force base, which hosts B52 bombers and fighter jets, and the Naval Base Guam, which is the home port for nuclear submarines and special operations forces, play a key role in US-Japan and US-ROK joint military exercises over Japanese airspace and the Korean Peninsula. Indeed, Guam is the centrepiece of the rapidly expanding three-way coordination between the military establishments of the three countries.

Not surprisingly, the North Korean regime views Guam as the 'tip of the spear' of the US nuclear and conventional arsenal that can at any moment strike at the heart of North Korea's industrial and military infrastructure. Simply put, Guam is seen as posing a direct threat to the regime's survival. All of which helps to explain why North Korea has specifically threatened

Guam with 'enveloping fire'. For Pyongyang, Donald Trump's threat to launch 'fire and fury like the world has never seen' was but the rhetorical expression of a highly provocative US policy long in the making.

We may soon be nearing the denouement of this rather tragic tale. Most obviously we are in the grip of a highly volatile, potentially catastrophic standoff between the United States and North Korea. Yet, this is no new sudden crisis. Successive US administrations have issued mounting threats, conducted ever more muscular military exercises, intensified diplomatic and economic sanctions, applied increasing pressure on China, and are now experimenting with new forms of cyberwarfare. In so doing they have produced the very outcome they were intent on preventing: a nuclearised North Korea that sees the nuclear weapon as the only antidote to its increasing isolation and vulnerability.

But there is more to the damage done by US actions and those of its allies than Pyongyang's nuclear bomb. The Korean crisis is providing the hawks in Japan with their best opportunity yet to steer the country towards acceptance of greater military capabilities and deployments beyond its borders. It has greatly weakened the hand of moderate voices in South Korea wishing to explore dialogue and enhanced cooperation with the North. More generally, it has provided added ammunition to those in Asia Pacific, including Australia, that are committed to preserving US military dominance in the region and the military alliances that sustain it.

All of this is making it much harder for the region to adjust to the power shift that is the result of China's rise and America's corresponding decline. It is encouraging US allies, not least the Turnbull government, to believe that the solution to the Korean crisis ultimately lies in US military superiority, and in the short term in sustained pressure on China to punish North Korea for its indiscretions.



## WE MAY SOON BE NEARING THE DENOUEMENT OF THIS RATHER TRAGIC TALE.

What is perhaps most regrettable is that Australia and other US allies have to date failed to take at all seriously the Chinese proposal for a negotiated resolution of the conflict. The 'dual track' approach advocated by Beijing envisages North Korea stopping its missile and nuclear tests, and the United States, South Korea and Japan ending their joint military exercises in and around the Korean peninsula. That military de-escalation of the conflict would benefit China's strategic interests is no reason to ignore the proposal if it is also in line with regional and global security.

*Joseph A Camilleri is Emeritus Professor, La Trobe University, and Executive Director of Alexandria Agenda, a new venture in ethical consulting. Visit his personal website at [www.josephcamilleri.org](http://www.josephcamilleri.org).*

## A UNITARIAN DOXOLOGY

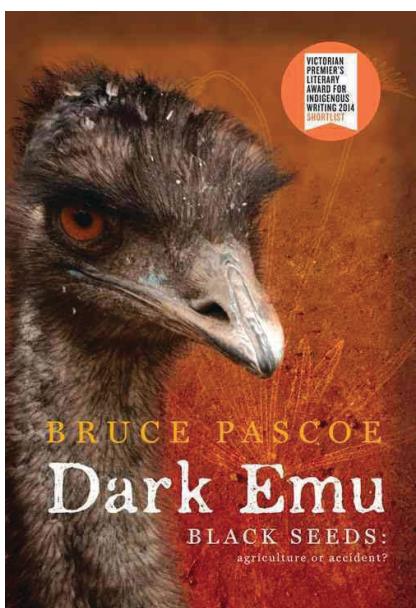
Our philosophy consists of those actions,  
purposes and experiences that are humanly significant.

Nothing human is alien to a Unitarian. It includes labour, art, science,  
philosophy, love, friendship – all that is in its degree expressive of  
intelligently satisfying human living.

We seek the fulfilment of life in the here and now –  
this is the explanation of our social passion.

We do not deny the possibility of realities as yet undiscovered, but rather  
we insist that the way to determine the existence and value of any and all  
realities is by means of intelligent inquiry and by the assessment of their  
relevance to human needs.

Our religious emotions are therefore expressed in a heightened sense of  
personal life and in a cooperative effort to promote social wellbeing.



A member of the Bunurong Wurundgeri people, Bruce Pascoe has written many books and this one is on a similar theme to *The Biggest Estate On Earth* by Bill Gammage, and he quotes references from Bill's book, along with many reports from the early invaders/explorers/settlers. He has made a similar case for us to learn more of how the people cultivated some grasses and harvested their grains and created storage for these to access out of season. They made flour and baked a bread 30,000 years ago. The storehouses were sometimes raided by some 'explorers', without a 'may we' or a 'thank you'.

There was even a reddish-coloured rice grown and eaten. We newcomers mostly refuse to believe anything unless it is written down. The people's oral accounts are not given the credibility they deserve so perhaps we will believe the written reports that Bill and Bruce quote.

There are many accounts of invaders/explorers coming across whole villages with stone walls and thatched roofs. The invasion of cattle and sheep obliterated much of the indigenous yams, grasses and grains within a few short years and their hooves stomped the ground firm.

*Dark Emu* is published as a paperback and at 175 pages would be most suitable to be included in the national school curriculum.

Both Bill Gammage's and Bruce's books refute the common belief that Aboriginal people were merely 'hunters and gatherers' living on the whims of nature. So many comments were made on the fineness of the fishing nets, the liveability of dwellings by 'explorers' and others but it suits we, the beneficiaries of the criminal acts, to say Aboriginal people were primitive and unskilled.

Bruce offers the view that if we farmed the grasses, grains and animals that were/are indigenous to this land, we wouldn't need the pesticides, fertilisers, etc., that we use now to create foods the original Europeans were used to. However, it is doubtful that the current population numbers could be sustained on these food sources, let alone what the business fraternity and governments want to cram into Australia.

*Dark Emu* is available in good book shops at \$35.

'Every ambitious would-be empire clarions it abroad that she is conquering the world to bring it peace, security and freedom, and is sacrificing her sons only for the most noble and humanitarian purposes. That is a lie, and it is an ancient lie, yet generations still rise and believe it!'

If America ever does seek Empire, and most nations do, then planned reforms in our domestic life will be abandoned, States Rights will be abolished – in order to impose a centralised government upon us for the purpose of internal repudiation of freedom, and adventures abroad.

The American Dream will then die – on battlefields all over the world – and a nation conceived in liberty will destroy liberty for Americans and impose tyranny on subject nations.'

*George S Boutwell (1818–1905) American statesman, Secretary of the Treasury under President Ulysses S Grant, Governor of Massachusetts, Senator and Representative from Massachusetts*

## Did You Know?



# PEACE ONE DAY

21 SEPTEMBER 2017

Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September. The General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples.

**The theme for 2017 is 'Together for peace: respect, safety and dignity for all'.**

The theme honours the spirit of TOGETHER, a global initiative that promotes respect, safety and dignity for everyone forced to flee their homes in search of a better life. TOGETHER unites the organisations of the United Nations system, the 193 member states of the United Nations, the private sector, civil society, academic institutions and individual citizens in a global partnership in support of diversity, non-discrimination and acceptance of refugees and migrants. It was initiated during the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants on 19 September 2016.

'In times of insecurity, communities that look different become convenient scapegoats,' said United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. 'We must resist cynical efforts to divide communities and portray neighbours as "the other". Discrimination diminishes us all. It prevents people – and societies – from achieving their full potential.' He added, 'Together, let us stand up against bigotry and for human rights. Together, let us build bridges. Together, let us transform fear into hope.'

This year, the International Day of Peace will focus on engaging and mobilising people throughout the world to show support for refugees and migrants. Its messages will be shared with communities hosting refugees and migrants as well as people concerned that refugees and migrants may bring physical and economic insecurity to their lives.

The day will highlight solidarity with refugees and migrants and showcase the shared benefits of migration to economies and nations, while also acknowledging legitimate concerns of host communities. Ultimately, it will be about bringing

people together and reminding them of their common humanity.

Young people will have a vital role to play. For example, they can volunteer to welcome and help refugees and migrants in their communities. They can also extend the hand of friendship to young refugees and migrants whom they might meet in their classrooms and neighbourhoods.

On 15 September 2017, from 9.00 am to 9.30 am, the Secretary-General will celebrate the day in the Peace Garden at United Nations Headquarters by ringing the Peace Bell and observing a minute of silence. United Nations Messengers of Peace will participate in the ceremony. The United Nations Education Outreach section will hold a global student videoconference on the same day, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, also at United Nations Headquarters.

## On Tuesday September 12

Joint US and South Korean live fire drills are held in Pohang, South Korea.

When the US first circulated a draft resolution, it called for a full ban on exports of oil to North Korea and an asset freeze on leader Kim Jong Un, the Workers' Party and the government of North Korea.

But, later, the US put forward another draft that removed the full oil embargo, asset freeze, travel ban for Kim and softened the language on foreign workers and other issues.

## Why North Korea Wants Nukes And Missiles

North Korea has long maintained it wants nuclear weapons and long-range missiles to deter the United States from attempting to overthrow the regime of Kim Jong Un.

Pyongyang looks at states such as Iraq – where Saddam Hussein was overthrown by the United States, and Libya – its late leader, Moammar Gadhafi, gave up his

nuclear ambitions for sanctions relief and aid, only to be toppled and killed after the United States intervened in his country's civil unrest – and believes that only being able to threaten the US mainland with a retaliatory nuclear strike can stop American military intervention.

Many experts say they believe North Korea would not use the weapons first. Kim values his regime's survival above all else and knows the use of a nuclear weapon would start a war he could not win, analysts say.

'These are by far the strongest measures ever imposed on North Korea,' Haley said. 'They give us a much better chance to halt the regime's ability to fuel and finance its nuclear and missile programs, but we all know these steps only work if all nations implement them completely and aggressively.'

Russia and China both have veto power as permanent members of the Security Council and had expressed skepticism over the initial sanctions proposal. But China said after Monday's vote it supported the resolution.

'China is consistently committed to the de-nuclearisation of the Korean peninsula, to the peace and stability of the peninsula and to the solution of the

issue through dialogue and consultation,' said Chinese Ambassador to the UN, Liu Jieyi, after the vote.

'The resolution adopted by the Security Council today reflects this principle of three commitments and demonstrates the unanimous position of the international community of opposing DPRK's development of its nuclear and ballistic missile capabilities.'

Ahead of the vote, North Korea warned the United States that it would pay a 'due price' if harsh sanctions were passed by the Security Council.

The sanctions were welcomed by Japan, with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe telling local media Tuesday they impose 'an unprecedented high level of pressure on North Korea.'

'It is up to the international community to see that these resolutions are implemented,' he warned. In the wake of the sanctions' passage, Peru's foreign ministry said it had ordered North Korea's ambassador to leave the country within five days, joining Mexico in ejecting Pyongyang's representatives in recent weeks.

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10 SEPTEMBER 2017, MELBOURNE

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Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN), representing over 60 peace, anti-war, community organisations and unions around Australia, held its 4th national conference in Melbourne on 9/10 September 2017.

This IPAN national conference is taking place on the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri people. We acknowledge this country was violently seized from the First People 230 years ago. We pay our respects to their long struggle for justice and self-determination. We affirm that true independence cannot be achieved without a just and sovereign treaty with the Indigenous people of this land.

We have a vision of an Australia that plays a positive and independent role in building peace in our region and beyond through peaceful resolution of international conflicts.

This national conference reaffirms that Australia urgently needs an independent and peaceful foreign policy that upholds Australia's independence and ends successive Australian governments' subservience to US or any other big powers' agendas. We seek an independent foreign policy that respects the sovereignty and self-determination of all countries.

We believe the integration of Australia's military facilities, defence forces and our foreign policies into



# WE BELIEVE AUSTRALIA CAN BE SELF-RELIANT IN ITS ABILITY TO SAFEGUARD OUR SECURITY AND SOVEREIGNTY.

US military agendas threaten our sovereignty and security and contributes to global wars.

We believe that the continuing operations of US military bases in Australia, the joint military exercises in North Queensland and the stationing of US marines in Darwin are a threat to the security, safety and sovereignty of the Australian people and integral to US global wars.

We believe Australia can be self-reliant in its ability to safeguard our security and sovereignty. The Australian people have the skills, knowledge and creativity to design and build our own self-defence industries and strategies, and do not need to depend on any big powers.

We uphold the Australian people's aspirations for global peace and security and call for an end to escalating militarisation of the world. We stand in solidarity with the people of Korea, the Philippines, Japan, Guam, and many other countries in Europe and Latin America campaigning against wars of aggression, foreign military bases and troops, and for peace, justice and sovereignty.

In moving towards an independent and peaceful Australian foreign policy:

- We call on the Australian government and the Opposition to end their unequivocal subservience to US military and foreign policies that have made Australia a virtual rubber stamp, helping to legitimise US foreign policies, military adventures and threats to peace. For example, Australia refusing to ratify the UN Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty; continued support for Israel's occupation of the West Bank and the blockade on Gaza; and voting with the US and UK against calls in the UN for decolonising Diego Garcia US military base

and allowing the indigenous people to return to their homeland.

- We call on the government to immediately end Australia's military engagements in US-led wars in the Middle East and Afghanistan.
- We call on the Australian government to immediately sign the UN Nuclear Weapons Bans Treaty.
- We call for removing US marines and warplanes from Darwin back to the US.
- We call for an immediate end to any contribution from the US military intelligence base Pine Gap near Alice Springs to the drone assassination program. Furthermore, we are deeply concerned that US military bases on our soil, including Pine Gap, integrate Australia into the US war machine and lock us into its wars against countries with who we're not at war, and jeopardise Australia pursuing friendly and peaceful relations with our neighbours and the international community. These bases deny Australia our sovereignty and our freedom to make foreign policy decisions independently of the US. We support the call made by the former Prime Minister, the late Malcolm Fraser, to phase out US military bases on Australian soil.
- We call on the government to re-direct public funds from supporting US wars and the military-industrial complex into public and community needs such as health, education, income security for all, affordable housing, creating sustainable and socially useful local industries and jobs; and addressing climate change.
- We call for the removal of Lockheed Martin and other military corporations from Australian universities and schools. We oppose the inroads made into the militarisation of education, manufacturing industries and the economy by military corporate conglomerates like Lockheed Martin, Raytheon and others.
- We call for the ending of military tensions in the South China Sea by the removal of the military presence of countries not directly involved in the disputed territories. Australia should not be used to provoke a conflict by sending our navy or airforce into the disputed areas.

This conference welcomes the trade unions' involvement in the broad people's movement for peace and independence. Australian unions have always been at the forefront of campaigns for peace and against wars of aggression.

We support the aspirations of the people of Korea to remove US troops, bases and the THAAD system from the peninsula. This would enable the people of Korea to work on a peaceful resolution in their own country.

This conference calls for building and mobilising a broad united people's movement against wars of aggression and nuclear weapons, for peace and an independent Australian foreign policy. 

# Targeting Terrorism?



One prime minister took a very firm stand against terrorism in this country, a form of terrorism that was apparently being protected by our own security agency, ASIO.

In a statement praising the contribution of immigrants to this country, he commented: 'It is therefore unfortunate that a minority of these migrants, enjoying the rights we offer for the free expression of views, have sought to aggravate old suspicions and hatreds by importing the methods of terrorism to this country. My government is determined to stamp out this terrorism' [Tony Wright SMH 9 June 2017].

The terrorists were Catholics, not Muslims, and their immediate target was the Prime Minister of Yugoslavia, Dzemal Bijedic.

These terrorists had carried out a series of some 12 bombings in the 1960s and early 1970s. They intended to assassinate Bijedic during his visit to Australia.

The recently well-publicised attempt at the defamation of Justice Lionel Murphy by our 'Australian' media, in which all of his iconoclastic activities, as well as some of his less savoury 'protecting mates' were exposed, there was little mention of his 'raid' on ASIO HQ in Melbourne.

In a letter written some 9 years ago to a newsletter, 'The Emperor's Clothes', Kerry Milte, from 1967 to 1970 Commander of the Central Crime Intelligence Bureau of the Commonwealth, now Australian, Federal Police, wrote of those events.

In 1973 he was security adviser to Senator Lionel Murphy, Attorney General under the newly elected ALP (Australian Labor Party) government [<http://emperors-clothes.com/milte.html>].

He explained: 'Prior to visiting Melbourne, Murphy went to the ASIO's Canberra Regional Office, where he asked for a particular file on Croatian activities and was misled by ASIO officers who told him it was in Melbourne. Contrary to later attacks on Murphy, in Melbourne he did not rummage through files himself. He asked for the file on the Croats, and he questioned ASIO officials about what they had done to protect Bijedic. It turned out that they had not even vetted the chefs and waiters at Parliament House, and this less than a week before the planned state dinner for Bijedic.'

Milte attributed the reluctance of the Liberal Party government to take a stand against the Ustasha terrorists, who were also undertaking occasional military training in the countryside, to the fact that the



**THE TERRORISTS  
WERE CATHOLICS,  
NOT MUSLIMS, AND  
THEIR IMMEDIATE  
TARGET WAS THE  
PRIME MINISTER  
OF YUGOSLAVIA,  
DZEMAL BIJEDIC.**

government needed support from an extreme right wing Catholic party – the so-called Democratic Labor Party (DLP).

'The Croats could muster sufficient votes to help secure a few key senate seats for the DLP upon whose numbers and preferences the Liberals depended for a majority.'

Nine years ago Milte warned of the danger of ignoring the old-style fascists. 'I am not denying the threat posed by Muslim fundamentalists; however, it is incumbent on governments not to lose track of the ideologies that caused the Holocaust and which still persist amongst groups within the extreme right.'

We are correct to be concerned about the appearance once more of the swastika on so many streets in the Europe diaspora and in Europe itself. These old vicious ideologies have not vanished. ↗

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An interesting, partly fictionalised account of the Bijedic assassination plot is in Tony Jones' recently published *The Twentieth Man* [Allen & Unwin 2017]. Several real people, including Milte, feature.

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Our church is a public and usable asset with portable seating and excellent conference, meeting and function facilities. We welcome its use by those who support our motto 'Seek the Truth and Serve Humanity'. Interested individuals or groups can contact the church office – we would be delighted to speak to you. A donation is payable.

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# from our readers

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## THANKS, DONNA

I appreciated two timely articles in this month's *Beacon*: Treaty Now, by Gaetano Greco and The Biggest Estate on Earth, by Mike McKeon, about the book of that name by Bill Gammage. I totally agree with his sentiment that 'it is a must read, should be serialised and broadcast by whatever means to every one of us who calls Australia home'. Both articles refer to the overdue respect and recognition of our Indigenous First Peoples in this country.

Regards

**P Baragwanath, Vic**

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## DEAR EDITOR

Please find enclosed my subscription for two years of the *Beacon* + \$10 donation.

Keep up the good work.

**T Wilson, Vic**

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## DEAR DONNA

It's been a while since I read the *Beacon* – the actual reasons are:

1. my poor eyesight (I'm in my 90th year)
2. a changed address from the original

My beliefs and political views still agree with the Unitarians, so I'm pleased that you contacted me!

What is to be done? I get my *Guardian* news from a computer screen, and this keeps me informed, plus some US and UK progressive sites.

I would love to read the *Beacon* on my computer screen, if that's possible. Otherwise, please don't think I have deserted you. It's not the case.

Times are tough, and principled good people are suffering. I will send some dollars if you furnish me with details.

Solidarity forever

**Alf Liebold, NSW**

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## DEAR DONNA

I have just transferred \$50 to cover:

1. My 2 x \$10 annual subscription for the 2 copies of the *Beacon* you send me every month. Please address them just to me in future, as I am divorced. I keep one and give the other away to friends.
2. A \$20 annual subscription for my friend. Anne Sutherland, Queensland 4226.
3. \$10 is just a donation towards your funds.

Thank you too for publishing my letter re: Cuba. So much negativity and misinformation is lashed out towards that tiny island, just because they want equality for all their citizens, not just for the rich. You never see photos of the new part of Havana. People who live in crumbling 'old Havana' just don't want to move.

Another reason for writing is to let you know how uplifted my friend and I felt after attending the Peace Day Celebration at St John's Cathedral, Brisbane. This year was their Sixth Annual Peace Day Celebration and this huge gothic cathedral was almost full of peace lovers. Among the guest speakers was Professor Henry Reynolds, the some say controversial professor of history who has written many books. I have been trying to find his speech online but can't find it. In the meantime, I have rung WILPFE who will send it to me so I can send it on to you.

The Brisbane representatives for the UN were there, as were other speakers who did a great job. The final speech was given by the Dean of St John's Rev. Peter Catt. My, did he talk about what the US and we are doing to North Korea. Instead of blowing the people to bits, why don't we play baseball with them? Their leader loves baseball and it's a very popular sport there instead of war. He talked of them being surrounded by bombs and nuclear weapons! Why aren't they allowed to defend themselves? I am hoping to send that to you as well. Maybe your search engine is better than mine as this laptop is pretty old.

**A Jurrjens, Qld**

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## DEAR EDITOR

Thank you.

My subscription \$50. I look forward to the *Beacon* every month.

**D Porter, NSW**

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## DEAR EDITOR

Apologies for being so late with my subscription but I have had many problems over the last 3 months and have been away from home.

Thank you so much for your very interesting and informative magazine.

Regards

**M Steilberg, NSW**

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## DEAR EDITOR

Apologies for the late payment – a few recent glitches – all OK now.

Cheque for \$50 – subs for 2017/10/18 and a donation.

Thank you for all that you do.

Regards

**J Mundie, NSW**

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## TO EVERYONE AT THE BEACON

Thank you for all your good work in producing the *Beacon*: the voice of reason in a political and economic trough of mayhem. How many copies of this terrific magazine find their way to North Korea, I wonder? Is Phillip Adams aware of the *Beacon*? His *Late Night Live* on ABC RN is such a great show.

All the best.

**P Haslem, Tasmania**

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## IN THIS ISSUE:

We must not ignore the warning signs!

For our misdeeds in Korea we shall pay dearly

Book review: The Dark Emu

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## Beacon Editorial Board

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