

623 White Box 47
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Seattle, Wn.

Dec. 21, 1943.

Captain John M. Hall,
Ins. Department.
Wn., D. C.

Dear Captain Hall: Thanks for your kind letter of the 15th inst. Your hopeful thinking takes me back to the same kind of thinking we now know was going on amongst us, ^{just} before Pearl Harbor.

There's no doubt in anyone's mind about the Japs in Italy. They couldn't do more for their so called Emperor (Descendant of the Sun God and all the rest of the bull) than to make a great showing in Italy, so as get you thinking and keep you thinking as you now are. I'm sorry you let them get into that advantageous position. Boy, are they going to use that after the war to soften us toward their Country (and don't doubt for a minute to Japan) and the Japs in this Country and our possessions in the Pacific - and I was taught to keep my mind open, too! It's just like the Jap vegetable boy we had for twenty six years (he'd been back to Japan at least once) and the Japs that took care of our lawn; they all tipped their hats and bowed to us - before Pearl Harbor, but immediately afterwards they were surly, unobliging and even Cooney (this Cooney was particularly noticeable among the younger Japs on the street). All of which is possibly only natural to anyone who has been brought up with the superiority of race complex. This complex, as I understand the matter, is instilled into them by the ruling military caste to keep themselves in power and so they may conquer others more efficiently. Your Commandant in Chief, after a recent meeting abroad, has the solution gone 'em way down. Better send them ^{here} to our possessions in Pacific or some or buy 'em a big island in the Philippines at least for their own safety.

A Merry Christmas to you and your boss, John McCloy. Please ask him when he's going to let me do some of that special service work.

Yours sincerely,
Dwight D. Eisenhower

21 Dec 43

ASW 342.18 J. A. COMMENTS
CLARK, DEWITT

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—MAIN 0300

Future American-Jap Wars Foreseen by Veteran Writer

(The trend of political thought in the democracies of Australia and New Zealand, whose internal problems are similar to our own, is discussed by George Weller, Chicago Daily News Foreign Service, in this, the first of two articles.)

By **GEORGE WELLER**
Chicago Daily News Foreign Service

CANBERRA, Australia.—The zigzag course of Australia's foreign policy of expediency has tacked once again and the new tack is sharply in England's direction.

Some 18 months have passed since Prime Minister John Curtin's famous "Australia looks to America" pronouncement heralded a long period of help, which is still continuing unflinchingly.

But whatever were Curtin's appeals to America, after Singapore fell, they never compromised his political bargaining powers as a member of the British Commonwealth, even when Australia directly was facing invasion.

Evatt Gets Spitfires

Since the visit to Britain, of H. V. Evatt, minister of external affairs, the possibility of a change in course has become clear. Evatt brought back not only Spitfires—The first British fighter planes seen here since that single gunless Hurricane which toured Australia before Pearl Harbor—But also the assurance that England was aware of Australia's expansionist plans for the postwar Pacific.

Once before, at a similar point in the First World War, an Australian emissary went to London when Germany was beginning to totter. That was in June, 1918. Australia's prime minister then was volatile, mettlesome William Hughes, later to be Woodrow Wilson's deadly rival at Versailles.

Six months before the armistice, Uncle Billy Hughes brought back assurance to Australia that when peace was made, Australia would get as prizes the gold-rich former German New Guinea and the Northern Solomons. When these aims were revealed at Versailles, Wilson whittled them down slightly into Class C mandates, which amounted to total control.

England's aid worked for Australia's expansion.

Now as it appears that peace talks in the preliminary stage may be undertaken, the demand has arisen that Curtin go to Britain. While still fully dependent on American air forces and the outlying defenses of the American battle fleet in the Solomons and the Bismarck Sea, Australia is preparing itself politically to act, as always, within the framework of the British Commonwealth of Nations when its future is decided.

Honeymoon Not Over

Only a rank pessimist would suggest, because of this new trend toward Britain, that the Australian honeymoon with the United States is at a close. Australia still recognizes its dependence on that giant subsidy of American planes and battleships which comes outside the scope of lend-lease. Battles seem to be the urban control Australia actually flies as a result of the present conflict.

American shipyards and plane factories that keeps out the Oriental and protects the Anglo-Saxon living standard on the world's least-peopled continent.

A recent visit by a British military mission, headed by Maj. Gen. J. S. Lethbridge, was held everywhere to indicate that the Empire now was preparing to give aid to its formerly endangered member. Curtin's successful electoral campaign was marked with frequent allusions of loyalty to imperial membership. It was greeted warmly by Australia, which generally feels that while America's hand is welcome in military matters, England's elder palm is surer when political events portend.

Gloucester Cheered

As though to make unmistakable Australia's fresh course, its Labor Party, though of socialist origin, has taken with zest to the appointment of the Duke of Gloucester as governor-general, although a provision in its constitution says that an Australian-born governor-general alone can receive the party's sanction. This mild reservation was buried under cheers that met an appointment as proximate as possible to the throne.

It is significant that Curtin himself, whose opposition to what he terms "exploiters of capitalism" remains unchanged, took the initiative to have the highest possible member of the royal family named to the post. Efforts by Eddie Ward, Australia's John L. Lewis, to remind Curtin of the Labor Party's Australian plank disintegrated.

If Australia's old, cantankerous anti-royalism still exists it is buried deep. When the throne is mentioned, Australians become good Britons and even nationalist barriers fall at the sight of the crown.

But smoothly though the change is made, the Pacific's whole pattern is changing around Australia. Every month that American warships and aircraft fight in its defense demonstrates its vulnerability in this first of what may be a series of several Japanese-American wars.

Canberra Can't Do It All

Though the announcement by Congressman Warren Magnuson, of the House naval-affairs committee, that America would require the use of bases like Fremantle on the Indian Ocean to continue naval policies already laid down, falls on thick silence in Australia; there is some latent recognition that everything cannot be run from Canberra.

The blue, wingless torso of Kingsford-Smith's Southern Cross lies in the rear of a Canberra hangar as though to prove that with American transports shuttling like flying trolley cars across the ocean, which that pioneer air navigator spanned, a new day is here.

Another problem that remains not fully resolved is how Australia, with its unexpanding population and completely motionless immigration question, can implement that vigorous expansionism with victory which earned it valuable territories as a reward in the First World War and may, if Curtin's and Evatt's new warmth toward London continues, gain it new ones in the present conflict.

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Venezuela is constructing an air base at San Antonio de Tachira, on the frontier about 120 miles from San Cristobal, and is to increase air travel to

Over Navy Reps... killed more soldiers

15 December 1943

342.18 J.A. Comments

CLARK, DEWITT

Dear Mr. Clark:

Your letter to Mr. McCloy of December 9 has been received in Mr. McCloy's temporary absence.

I understand that loudspeaker broadcasts in the Japanese language to Japanese troops have already met with some measure of success.

I note your apprehension concerning the use of Japanese-Americans in the Army. In this connection you will perhaps be interested to know that there are over 200 Japanese-Americans in the Army at the present time. The 100th Battalion, composed of Japanese-Americans from Hawaii, has distinguished itself in the fighting in Italy. Thirty-four have been killed in action and an additional 130 or more wounded. The record of other Japanese-American elements in the Army has been superior.

It is certainly true that there are many difficult problems in connection with our Japanese population. I do believe, however, that some measure of confidence and respect should be reposed in those American Japanese who have unhesitatingly assumed their share of the common burden in winning the war.

Sincerely,

(SIGNED) JOHN M. HALL

JOHN M. HALL
Captain, F.A.
Assistant ExecutiveMr. DeWitt Clark
623 Henry Building
Seattle, Washington

OASW:JMH:MGB

x-Clark
x-Hall

15 Dec 43

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December 9, 1943



Hon. John J. McCloy
Assistant Secretary of War
Washington, D. C.

Dear McCloy:

Perhaps you've thought about it: to use some of the Japs in our army to talk to the enemy Japs via loud speaker or other methods about it being safe to surrender and why.

There seems to be quite a difference of opinion why more do not surrender.

Sorry to see any of them in our forces. I've dealt with them many years. They will hold that service over us in re to those in this country after the war. I would not trust any of them.

Yours sincerely,

De Witt Clark

*And I'd have one of our own men close that
could understand Japanese! D.P.*