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## Strategic Map

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# Prince Philip's plan to carve up the nation of Australia

Prince Philip and his Australian collaborators plan to splinter the nation of Australia through a variety of land grabs carried out under "World Heritage," "conservation," or "Aboriginal land rights" cover. Already some 32% of the continent has been taken under these pretexts (not all of the land is shown on the map).

Working on the model of the new "self-governing" entity of Nunavut which was carved out of Canada, hordes of anthropologists and lawyers directed by the Prince Philip-founded Australian Conservation Foundation are working on the next phase of the plot: to turn over all "protected areas" to "Aboriginal self-government," through a system of "regional agreements" (the numbered areas on the map) and then to expand these regional agreements even beyond the current protected areas. After a few years of de facto sovereignty, the next phase would be bloody Chiapas-style secession from the Commonwealth, as predicted by the architect of the Mabo case, Prof. Henry Reynolds (see interview).

Note the strategic placement of the proposed package of "regional agreements," which includes the Kimberleys, Kakadu National Park, Arnhem Land, the Northern Peninsula Area of Cape York, and the Torres Strait Islands. Together with the "sea claims" now being filed (70% of the Northern Territory coast, for instance, is already controlled by Aborigines), and the proposed Aboriginal "co-management" of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, the whole northern and northeastern part of Australia is potentially sealed off. The crucial shipping lane between Indonesia and Papua New Guinea on the north and Australia on the south, through which several thousand ships pass per year, would be dominated by these new "self-governing" entities on the Australian side, and by the strategically placed "protected areas" of Irian Jaya and Papua New Guinea to the north, flanked in the west by an East Timor declaring its independence of Indonesia, a long-term project of British intelligence.

What Prince Philip et al. are recreating, in effect, is the notorious British strategy for Australia during World War II—the "Brisbane Line." The British argued that everything north of a line drawn across the continent southwesterly from Brisbane to Adelaide should be ceded to the Japanese, a proposition which would have made the continent as a whole indefensible, and which was defeated by the collaboration of

Gen. Douglas MacArthur with the Australian Labor government of Prime Minister John Curtin. Today, the territory is not necessarily being ceded to the Japanese, but to whomever Prince Philip and his crowd choose to install in the series of balkanized little Aboriginal "nations" well on the way to being created.

**1. The Kimberleys:** This area, together with the Torres Strait Islands, is described by those plotting regional agreements as the "most advanced" toward implementation. The head of the Kimberley Land Council, Peter Yu, inserted the concept of regional agreements into the 1993 Native Title Act.

The push for a regional agreement for the Kimberleys is the result of Nugget Coombs's 1985-91 "Kimberley Project" (see interview with Donna Craig), in which he sent in hordes of Australian National University-financed anthropologists and others to do a "social impact assessment" of proposed mining in the area. Coombs then brought in key figures involved in the creation of Nunavut to start to agitate among Aborigines for a regional agreement for the area.

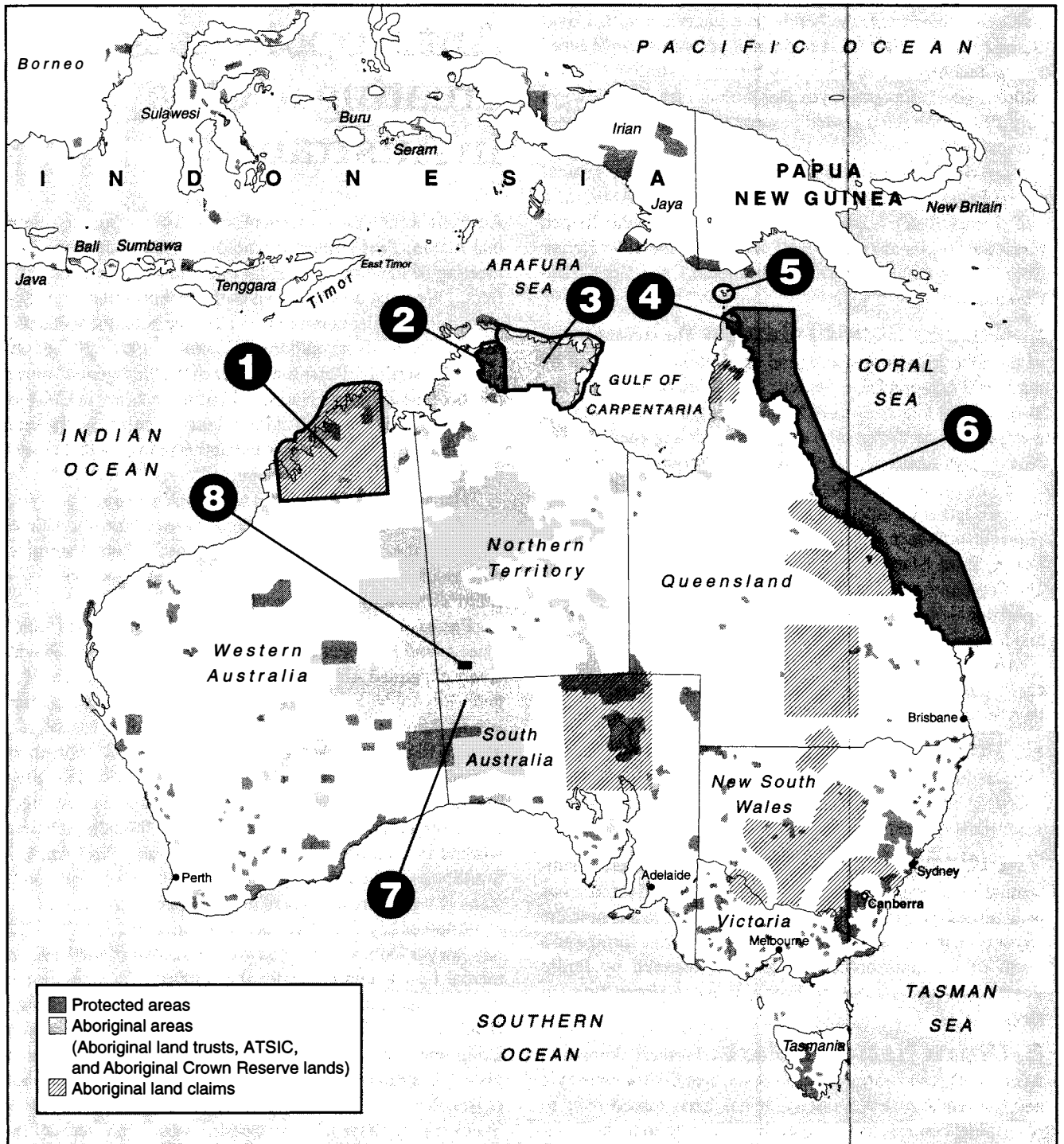
The plot to split the Kimberleys off from Australia is not new: The first justice minister under Lenin's Bolshevik government after 1917, Isaac Steinberg, with backing from circles in London, attempted to set up the Kimberleys as a "Jewish homeland."

**2. Kakadu National Park:** The plan of Coombs et al. is to establish an Aboriginal "co-management" regional agreement over the park, as a stepping stone to taking the land from the Commonwealth altogether.

**3. Arnhem Land:** Coombs did so much organizing among the Yirrkala people here, that they adopted him as an "elder." The British head of Australian National University's anthropology department, Dr. Nicolas Peterson, has just written an Aboriginal "sea claim" for the ocean off Arnhem Land in the Arafura Sea, which is designed to set a legal precedent.

**4. Northern Peninsula Area (NPA):** This 8,000-square-mile area on the tip of Cape York commands the crucial Torres Strait. It is also very close to Australia's space launch site near the top of the peninsula,

## Proposed 'regional agreements' in Australia



an important component of the nation's dwindling scientific and technological capability. Given the complex of parks in the area, one of which abuts the launch site, one could

expect to soon see a "land claim" filed for the launch site.

The regional agreement for the NPA was designed by longtime Australian Conservation Foundation Executive Di-

rector Philip Toyne, who continues to push it from his new post as deputy secretary of the federal Department of Environment, Sports, and Territories, whose Environmental Strategies Directorate he heads (see interview with David Bennett). Australia's "first regional agreements conference" was pulled together in Cairns by former Australian Conservation Foundation employee Ros Sultan (see interview) in July 1994, with the included purpose of pushing this project ahead.

Aboriginal anthropologist and former secretary general of the Federal Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders Marcia Langton, who helped insert the "regional agreements" clause into the 1993 Native Title Act, is an adviser to the Aboriginal Cape York Land Council.

**5. Torres Strait Islands:** The subject of one of the first great anthropological expeditions dispatched by the Royal Geographical Society from London in 1898, the Torres Strait Islanders have been the target of manipulation ever since. The 1992 Mabo decision, which opened most of Australia to Aboriginal land claims was organized by Prof. Henry Reynolds and Nugget Coombs, who together convinced a leftist Islander named Eddie Mabo to file the claim. Nunavut architect Peter Jull has been a key adviser to the Torres Strait Islanders for years and participated in the July 1994 ceremony which set up the Torres Strait Authority, a transitional body to "full autonomy" (see interviews with Jull and Mick Dodson).

Note the strategic significance of the islands as a maritime choke point for shipping between Southeast Asia and Australia's major east coast population centers.

**6. The Great Barrier Reef:** Plans are afoot to turn this massive portion of Australia's coastal waters over to Aboriginal "co-management," as an interim step to Aboriginal ownership.

**7. Pitjantjatjara Council lands:** A substantial percentage of the entire state of South Australia has been turned over to the Pitjantjatjara Council, and is now the target for a regional agreement. The council was formed as a result of an "anthropological project" directed by Philip Toyne, and carried out by Susan Woenne-Green (see interview).

**8. Uluru National Park:** Formerly known as Ayers Rock, this central Australian site is one of the country's best-known tourist attractions. It has been turned over to Aboriginal control, and is leased back long-term to the Commonwealth.

The chief architect of this project was former Australian Conservation Foundation boss Philip Toyne; the key anthropologist involved was Susan Woenne-Green. Uluru is the model for ultimately turning all of Australia's "protected areas" over to Aboriginal control.

## Anthropologists are creating a 'Chiapas' in Australia

Australia's chief theoretician of the idea of a separate Aboriginal nation, Prof. Henry Reynolds, told a September 1993 meeting of the elite Australian Institute of International Affairs, "We must conclude that both the Aboriginal and [Torres Strait] Islander communities have the potential to become nations or already are nations." Reynolds's strategy for carving up Australia follows the model of the "indigenist" movements of the Zapatista National Liberation Army in Chiapas, Mexico and Shining Path in Peru, both organized by the same combination of communists and anthropologists that created the Aboriginal movement in Australia.

The next phase of the plot to splinter Australia is to convert the 25% or more of the country now owned or claimed by Aborigines into "regional agreements," where Aborigines will assume control of major government functions, to be followed soon by "self-government."

Professor Reynolds, based at the University of North Queensland in Townsville, was the chief organizer for massively expanded Aboriginal land claims. His wife, Sen. Margaret Reynolds, is one of the Labor government's top activists in Aboriginal affairs. Professor Reynolds has been to Mexico to meet with government specialists on "indigenous matters," to discuss Chiapas. He has written widely about the desirability of eliminating nation-states and returning to the "more complex patterns of power" of feudalism. He has worked in London with British "ethnic specialist" Anthony Smith, one of the chief postwar Oxford-Cambridge theoreticians of how "ethnic revival" will replace nation-states.

Another key operative for "regional agreements" is Sydney lawyer Donna Craig, the vice-chairman of the Environmental Law Commission for the southern Pacific region of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the World Wildlife Fund's sister organization. Craig comments (see interview) on the role of anthropologists: "Australia has an extraordinary history with anthropologists. Many of my friends from Canada and the United States say they have never come across a nation where anthropologists have exerted so much power."

The British head of the Anthropology Department at the Australian National University, Nicolas Peterson, confirmed (see interview) his role and that of his anthropologist colleagues in all of the major land rights developments in the past three decades: "We have played a crucial role in all