

October 8, 2009

INTERNATIONAL

MIDDLE EAST CHRISTIANS – I recently returned from a conference of social and economic conservative leaders that I found rather discouraging. I will be blunt: the economic conservatives just don't get it. At various panel discussions on the threat to America from Islamic Jihad, the economic conservatives didn't even show up. Christians being driven from their homes, murdered and enslaved in Islamic nations is of little concern to most economic conservatives. They view tax reduction as the number one political goal, and that is the only issue they want to see the Republican Party involved in.

On the positive side, during the conference I had the opportunity to talk one-on-one with various other leaders of organizations with Middle East ministries, including Dr. Carl Moeller the president of Open Doors. The Open Doors ministry primarily operates relief operations overseas, and sends one representative to Washington occasionally to advocate for persecuted Christians. This is the reverse of the Religious Freedom Coalition, which is primarily an advocacy organization on Capitol Hill, but which does specific relief work with ministries serving Iraqi Christians refugees and ministries in Samaria.

Dr. Moeller and I discussed the difficulties facing Iraqi Christians. His organization works with Iraqi Christian refugees who have fled to Syria. The Religious Freedom Coalition has been banned from Syria, but works with Iraqi Christian refugees in Amman, Jordan. Both of our organizations have the same problem, and that is the State Department's refusal to admit that Christians are persecuted anywhere in the world. This makes the work of organizations such as the Religious Freedom Coalition more difficult.

During this conference I also had the opportunity to talk with noted columnist Daniel Pipes who writes for the Jerusalem Post about the Arabization of Europe. Not widely known to many is the fact that there are "no go" areas for the police in cities in both the United Kingdom and France. In those areas Muslims police themselves, and sharia is enforced at the family level. In the UK, non-Muslim female police officers are forced to wear the hijab (head covering) when serving in certain areas. Pipes believes Europe will one day be faced with two possible choices; total Arabization with modified sharia law, or a revolt by Europeans who just finally get fed up. The problem there is the total unwillingness of Europeans to put down their beer mugs and wine glasses long enough to fight for anything.

The government of the United States under George W. Bush and now Barack Obama surrendered to the concept that Islam would inevitably extend its influence over Europe and the United States. Because of the huge debt the United States owes to wealthy Muslim nations and their royal families, our politicians are afraid to make any organized effort to protect Western culture. Indeed some history texts in our public schools now teach Mohammed's so called revelations from God as fact.

During the conference I made numerous good contacts with other leaders of social conservative organizations interested in assisting persecuted Christians. In the future we will be able to help each other. Some organizations can assist with our relief projects in the Middle East, and we can help those who do not have a presence for advocacy work on Capitol Hill.

AMMAN, JORDAN – On the first of October we transferred additional funds to our ministry partners in Jordan to continue medical and feeding programs for Iraqi Christians for the next several months. We are working on a Christmas program for families, something that will especially help the children, since Christmas is a special time for them. As soon as we have the program finalized, I will furnish details to you.

I am also hopeful that we will get an early start in planning for assistance to the Christian youth camp we are supporting in Jordan. Jordan is officially a Muslim nation, and King Abdullah is considered the “Defender of Islam.” The king does have a secular background and served in the British Army as an officer. Unlike in Saudi Arabia, Christians are allowed to own property and churches do operate openly; however, there is still a law forbidding Muslims to convert to Christianity. Because of the limited freedom Christians have in this Muslim nation a Christian youth camp can and does exist. This past summer the Religious Freedom Coalition sent \$5,000 to purchase water for the camp which is only open in summer months. Because of the desert nature of the camp’s location, no wells can be dug for water. I am hopeful that next year we can do even more to help Christian kids celebrate their faith together at summer camp.

IRANIAN ANTI-SEMITE WAS BORN A JEW - The news is astonishing. The mad Iranian leader who just days ago at the United Nations denounced the Holocaust as a fabrication, has been discovered to have been born a Jew. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's real family name is Sabourjian, a Jewish name meaning cloth weaver. His parents converted to Islam when he was four years old for "economic" reasons. If the mullahs run him out of Iran because of his Jewish blood, I wonder if he will plead for mercy from Israel and ask for asylum. I thought the anti-Israeli Jews who work in the Obama White House were unbelievable, but this revelation makes them pale by comparison.

Meanwhile anti-Semitism is growing worldwide and is not just aimed at Israel. Venezuelan strongman Hugo Chavez has been influenced by his good ally Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and it appears the leftist movement in Latin America is moving toward the persecution of Jews. David Romero Ellner, a leftist supporter of ousted leftist president Manuel Zelaya in Honduras said, *“Sometimes I ask myself if Hitler wasn't right when he wanted to finish with that race, through the famous holocaust, because if there are people that are harmful to this country, they are the Jews, the Israelites.”* Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and President Obama are supporting the return to power of Zelaya and his hateful anti-Semitic administration. He was removed legally by the Honduran Supreme Court after he tried to give himself a lifetime term as President, as did Chavez in Venezuela. Many Jews in Central America are now headed toward the United States and Israel because of the fear of persecution.

THE PRESIDENCY AND THE CONGRESS

OBAMA TO ISRAEL: "SHRINK AND DIE" - Obama wants Israel to shrink itself to a size smaller than the total area of Houston, Texas. He believes that the Muslims, who already control 99% of the Middle East plus parts of Asia and Europe, must be given the land that Jews fought and died for to make "peace."

Israel has been shrinking itself at the insistence of both Democrat and Republican presidents since Jimmy Carter. The result has been more terrorist attacks, not only on Israel but on the United States. Osama bin Laden, in his many statements has made it clear that the 9-11 Jihad attack on the USA was punishment for supporting the very existence of Israel, regardless of its size.

Obama's anti-Israel policy will not end Muslim terror; it will only embolden it. Barack Obama is pushing an agenda for Israel which will lead to a war of extermination against Jews and perhaps the use of nuclear weapons by Israel as a final defense against another Holocaust.

OBAMA SINGS "CHICAGO, CHICAGO" - Barack Obama running errands for the Daley political machine in Chicago is like Nero fiddling while Rome burned. Chicago has been run by the Daley family for nearly a century. The current Mayor Richard Daley told Barack Obama to take Air Force One and run over to Copenhagen and plead for Chicago to have a turn at hosting the Olympics. Obama's wife Michelle also made a plea to the Olympic Committee, but she didn't ride on Air Force One. Oprah Winfrey gave her a lift on her private jet which is actually more luxurious than Air Force One, although a little smaller.

While Obama was overseas pleading like a third world dictator for an Olympic game a decade in the future, the official unemployment rate in the United States hit 9.8% while the real rate hit at least 17%. In the end Obama lost the bid to Rio de Janeiro and headed home after only five hours with his tail between his legs. The total trip lasted only 20 hours and cost the taxpayers well over one million dollars.

72 HOUR RULE - Before taking office Barack Obama promised transparency and honesty in government. Apparently members of his Administration, along with Democrat leaders in Congress, didn't get the memo. House Members were given only 12 hours to review the 1,073-page long stimulus bill that cost taxpayers \$787 billion. Most people probably give more thought to buying a used car. The cap and trade bill, which would cost \$846 billion and weighs in at 1,428 pages, was available for only 16.5 hours before the vote in the House. To slow down this steamroller process, Congressman Greg Walden (R-OR) is pushing H. Res 179 that would require a full 72 hours after a bill has been finalized and made available to members, before it could be voted on. So far 182 members have signed a discharge petition to force radical left Speaker Nancy Pelosi to allow a vote on H. Res 179.

ACORN IS TAX EXEMPT - Congressman Todd Tiahrt (R-KS) has offered a resolution in the House stating that ACORN should be stripped of its tax exempt status because of its numerous violations of the law. In his H.Con.Res. 192, Tiahrt lists various election law fraud cases against ACORN as well as its acceptance of funds from Obama's political campaign as reasons for the far left organization to lose its exemption. Since 1994 ACORN has received \$53 million in government funding, most of it while Republicans controlled Congress. Now that the Democrats are in control, the Republicans have figured out that ACORN is a criminal enterprise. NEWS FLASH: ACORN has always been a criminal enterprise!

OBAMA CARE BILL - Most of my work on Capitol Hill involves issues of religious freedom. However, in order to advocate for those issues, I have to be present at wide ranging meetings that cover many other subjects; hence my ability to write about a wide range of issues. The health care issue comes up at virtually every briefing I attend with congressmen and Senators.

After listening to countless briefings and discussions, I have been able to reach a conclusion as to three major results that will ensue from the final health care bill. The final health care bill will: 1. Cut Medicare benefits 2. Raise taxes, 3. Be over 1,000 pages long. Regardless of promises from Barack Obama, it will pay for a full range of "reproductive health care procedures," which is liberal speak for abortions and sex-change operations.

THE COURTS AND THE CULTURE

SALAZAR VS. BUOMO – That is the title of the case that was heard before the Supreme Court this week concerning a war memorial in a Mojave Desert federal park. Secularists and atheists want the memorial to fallen American servicemen torn down because it is in the shape of a cross. So far the atheists and the secularists have prevailed in lower courts. The case is very significant in that virtually every federal cemetery in the nation, including Arlington National Cemetery, has crosses. Virtually every grave in Arlington either has a cross or Star of David. The Supreme Court itself has several reliefs on the building and in the Court itself depicting religious faith. Should the Court side with the secularists and atheists, every religious symbol in our nation on public land would be in danger of removal.

On Tuesday, October 6th I was one of the presenters at a press conference next to the Supreme Court. The purpose of the press conference was to remind the Court, the press and the nation of the Judeo-Christian foundations of our nation.

A COURT VICTORY – Two years ago I wrote *The Pledge: One Nation under God*, which defends the religious heritage of our nation, and also exposes the secularist attacks on that heritage. I detailed how atheist Michael Newdow had set out to remove the words “under God” from the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag and the reasons that the courts should not agree with him. Although Newdow still has hopes for a Pledge case in California to be upheld, a federal judge in New England has ruled against his assault on the religious heritage of our nation.

In tossing out Newdow’s latest lawsuit against “under God” in the Pledge, the court decision said that "The New Hampshire Pledge statute has a secular legislative purpose. It was enacted to enhance instruction in the nation's history, and foster a sense of patriotism. Its primary effect neither advances nor inhibits religion. It does not foster excessive government involvement with religion."

U.S. District Judge Steven McAuliffe concluded that, "The Constitution prohibits the government from establishing a religion, or coercing one to support or participate in religion, a religious exercise, or prayer. It does not mandate that government refrain from all civic, cultural, and historic references to a God." My book, *The Pledge: One Nation under God* is available at our Internet store at: www.pledgeundergodbook.com

FORMER MUSLIMS ASK FOR PROTECTION - The day before a Muslim "Our Day Has Come" rally on Capitol Hill, former Muslims pleaded with Congress for protection from sharia law. This Islamic law mandates death for adult "apostates." In Texas two teenage girls were murdered last year by their father for "straying" from Islam. Honor killings are also becoming popular with Muslims in the United States. A "moderate" Muslim TV cable channel operator in New York beheaded his wife this year when she asked for a divorce. Fear of Islam even affects conservative news outlets. While mainstream media reported favorably on the Muslim march on Capitol Hill, the plea for protection from former Muslims made no headlines.

William J. Murray, Chairman