

March 11, 2009

## INTERNATIONAL

### RFC MOVES TO ASSIST AZERBAIJAN CHURCH -

This week we had special guests from Azerbaijan and Sweden. The Religious Freedom Coalition hosted, on Capitol Hill, Pastor Rasim Khalilov whose evangelical church in Baku is the largest Christian congregation in Muslim dominated Azerbaijan. The 1,500 member congregation had their building seized last year by a state owned oil company. Senator Sam Brownback agreed to send a letter to the Azerbaijan president seeking an explanation of the seizure.



Pastor Rasim Khalilov, William Murray and Christian Åkerhielm

Pastor Khalilov was accompanied by Christian Åkerhielm, Missions Director of Word of Life in Sweden. Word of Life, which planted the church in Azerbaijan many years ago, is the largest evangelical church in Sweden. Word of Life maintains the largest Christian school in Sweden. While many in the United States view Sweden as atheistic and socialistic, Sweden has a large evangelical community which is planting churches throughout Europe and particularly in the former Soviet republics, such as Azerbaijan.



Christian Åkerhielm, Pastor Khalilov and Senator Sam Brownback

In 1992 an oil company, Azer Enterprises, sold the land on which the church now sits. In 2003 the church purchased the land from the company that owned it at the time. In 2007 Azer Enterprises showed back up and demanded the return of the land, even though they had no documentation to show that they had any further legal claim to it. Despite the fact that only the church held a deed to the land, a court gave the oil company a part of their land – the part right under the sanctuary. The official name of the church in Baku is the Cathedral of Praise. Please pray for the full restitution of the church building to the congregation of the Cathedral of Praise, and for their protection from further seizures.

**GEERT WILDERS IS A TRUE HERO** - The last week in February, I met with Geert Wilders, a Member of the Dutch Parliament who is threatened with jail time for telling the truth about Islam and the Koran in his short film entitled FITNA. For five years this brave man has been forced to sleep in safe-houses and sometimes jail cells, because he is virtually the only politician in Europe who will speak openly and truthfully about the dangers of Islam to the West.

Wilders was invited to the United States by Senator Kyl (R-AZ) after the United Kingdom refused to allow him entry, even though he had an invitation from one of its Members to speak in the House of Lords. Most of the British leaders have become such cowards that they fear the words of free men such as Geert Wilders. The U.K. government, led by Prime Minister Gordon Brown and his predecessors, has allowed racist and anti-Semitic speech by Muslim imams for decades. Weekly sermons rant against democracy as an apostate religion that must be destroyed. Imam Abu Hanza called for murder of Jews and the destruction of the West at the Finsbury Park Mosque until he was arrested for soliciting murder.

The U.K. government seems to have no problem with statements that are anti-Christian or anti-Semitic, or those that call for an end to women's rights, or for the outright destruction of democracy in Europe. But, in the United Kingdom no one dares to criticize Islam or anyone connected with it, because of the cowardly nature of the British government.

With the death of freedom of speech at its birthplace in England, can we expect freedom of speech and of the press to continue in America? Sadly the continuation of freedom of speech and press in this nation is not very likely. Rather it is nearly certain that we will follow the cowardly path of the British and ban anything that may insult groups that may be violent. Once freedom of speech can be restrained by punishment for one reason, it can be restrained for any reason. As an author I rather expect to be arrested and jailed for the words I put down on paper within the next decade, if not here, then somewhere in the West.



**Geert Wilders and William Murray  
at the Press Club on Capitol Hill**

Geert Wilders may well be the only hope for Europe, and we can only pray that the political party he heads will gain strength not only in the Netherlands but in the European Parliament as well.

**JORDAN WANTS TO PUNISH WILDERS** - Not only is Geert Wilders under indictment for "hate speech" in the Netherlands, the Kingdom of Jordan wants him to be extradited to that nation to stand trial for "blasphemy." The punishment, of course, is death. The United States considers the Kingdom of Jordan to be a "moderate" Islamic state. Imams in other Islamic nations have issued Fatwas calling for the murder of Geert Wilders. The government of the Netherlands cowers in fear of their Muslim population, as do other Western nations.

**THE UN HATES FREEDOM** - Let's get real here ... most of the member states of the United Nations are not real democracies. The Islamic nations allow the abuse of women and have virtually no free speech. Durban II is an upcoming United Nations conference to be held on "anti-racism." It appears the conference will find that Israel is racist, while Saudi Arabia is just all wonderful. They will probably also declare that insulting Islam is "defamation of religion" and punishable. Why do we continue to be a part of the United Nations madness?

## **THE PRESIDENCY**

**THE ABORTION PRESIDENT** - President Obama has nominated Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius as his choice to lead the Health and Human Resources Department. While she does have experience in the health management field, she is also a radical pro-abortionist who once threw a party in the Governor's Mansion for the staff of an abortion clinic owned by the notorious George Tiller.

**FORCE DOCTORS TO DO ABORTIONS** - President Barack Obama will revoke a Bush administration rule that shielded health care workers who refuse to participate in abortions because of their pro-life beliefs. The rule, issued by Bush administration health chief Michael Leavitt, prohibited groups that take U.S. money from firing, denying professional certification to or otherwise discriminating against, medical providers who refuse to perform or assist in abortions, or give referral information. At first glance the revocation of this rule seems like a reversal of policy; however, the Bush rule only took effect a few hours before Barack Obama was sworn into office. Why did Bush wait eight years to implement this rule? Had he issued the rule the first year of his Administration, it would have been very difficult for Obama to rescind it.

**SENATOR COBURN TO OBAMA: "JAIL ME"** - Senator Coburn (R-OK) is a medical doctor, an OB/GYN, who has delivered thousands of babies. He is pro-life and will not perform abortions. Under the new rules, President Obama would force doctors such as Coburn to perform abortions. He says we will not and would go to jail first.



**William J. Murray and Senator Coburn confer in front of Capitol Building**

**THE OBAMA BEAR MARKET?** - The stock market has lost 20% of its value since Inauguration Day. The market had been headed south for a month, but President Obama promised the American people that his policies would change the direction of America and stabilize the economy. He has indeed changed the direction of the Ship of State, which now appears headed toward an iceberg. His Stimulus and spending packages create temporary government jobs, but there is nothing to assist small businesses which provides 70% of America's jobs.

**THIS IS A STIMULUS?** - Under the \$787 billion Stimulus Bill, you can write off the state sales tax on a new car if you buy it this year. Here is how it works: if the state tax on the car is say, \$750, you can deduct it from your adjusted gross income. If you are in the 25% tax bracket, you would then pay \$187.50 less in income tax. WOW ... just spend \$25,000 on a new car and the government pays \$187.50 of the cost! Of the entire Stimulus package there is actually only about \$60 billion to be spent this year, and only a small part of that is for roads and other infrastructure projects.

**MORE MONEY TO OTHER NATIONS** - The Stimulus may be bad, but the actual budget President Obama introduced a week after it was passed, is even worse. As tough as things are in the United States, most people would think that President Obama's new budget should focus on America. Well, it doesn't. The State Department budget, including USAID funds and other overseas aid programs, was increased by 40.9% to \$51.7 billion. Most of this money will be handed over to other nations.

The Health and Human Services budget that includes Medicaid for the poor was actually reduced by President Obama by 1.7%. The Justice Department, which includes the FBI, will receive 6.3% less at a time it must investigate massive financial fraud. However, the Commerce Department Budget will increase by 48.4% as a result of refocusing the department on "climate change." I don't normally get into the science of this, but I would like to point out that the Earth's temperature has declined every year for the past ten consecutive years.

## **THE CONGRESS**

**FAIRNESS DOCTRINE** - President Obama claimed he was against the return of censorship in the form of the "Fairness Doctrine." That did not stop a Democrat, Senator Dick Durban, from trying to add language to the DC Voting Rights Act which would allow the FCC to once again censor radio. However, Senator DeMint (R-SC) introduced a competing amendment that would bar the FCC from censorship, titled the Broadcaster Freedom Act. The DeMint bill passed 87 to 11. Unfortunately, Senator Durban's amendment allowing the FCC to impose censorship rules passed as well. It is now unclear what will happen in the House.

Senator DeMint of South Carolina is fast becoming the number one champion of social conservatives in the House. He has entered several amendments we support to key spending bills. Our longtime champion in the Senate, Sam Brownback of Kansas, will be leaving at the end of his term. It is good to know that we can count on Jim DeMint to step in for him.

**ATTEMPT TO STOP FUNDING FORCED ABORTION** - The huge omnibus spending bill (H.R. 1105) moving through the Congress contains a loophole to allow funding for the United Nations Population Fund. Money in this fund would be used for coercive family planning, including involuntary sterilization. An amendment offered by Senator Wicker (R-MS) to the bill would have stopped taxpayer funds from being used for forced abortions and forced sterilization. Watch Senator Wicker's appeal in the Senate for passage on Youtube. Senator Wicker's amendment was defeated, which indicates the sad moral state of our society.

**BID TO STOP CLONING** - Current law does not prohibit human cloning. Congressmen Bart Stupak and Zach Wamp re-introduced the Human Cloning Prohibition Act, which would make it unlawful to perform human cloning for any purpose or to ship or receive the products of human cloning for any purpose. While it is a great bill, the Democrat controlled committees in the House will never allow a vote on it.

**CONGRESSMEN MOVE TO PROTECT PRO-LIFE RIDERS** - Representatives Jim Jordan (R-OH) and Heath Shuler (D-NC) have obtained 180 signatures from members of the House, asking the Appropriations Committee to preserve the pro-life provisions traditionally included in the annual appropriations bills. These are contained in various appropriations bills and must be retained every year to remain in place. The provisions deal with issues such as funding for abortion, conscience protection for health care providers and embryo research. Removing any of these provisions would represent an erosion of current pro-life law.

**HILLARY CLINTON AND THE CONGRESS** - Members of Congress were appalled when Secretary of State Hillary Clinton made it clear to the Chinese and others that the Obama Administration would look away from human rights abuses in order to borrow money to fund US deficit spending.

Congressman Chris Smith said, "In a shocking display of pandering, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton made it clear in Beijing, that the Obama Administration has chosen to peddle U.S. debt to the largest dictatorship in the world and is willing to ignore the torture, forced abortion, forced labor, religious persecution, human sex trafficking, gendercide, and genocide." Secretary Clinton replied that concern for the protection of human rights of the Chinese people can't 'interfere' with the economic crisis, climate change, and security - as if human rights were somehow disconnected and irrelevant to those issues.

Congressman Wolf of Virginia, who is an outspoken supporter of religious freedom, also wrote Secretary Clinton a blistering letter.

Why would Hillary Clinton in her very first week move to assure dictators in China and Saudi Arabia that we will not ask them to provide freedom to their people? The answer is found in the Bible, which says, "*The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender*". Prov. 22:7. America is the borrower. China and Saudi Arabia are the lenders.

William J. Murray, Chairman