

Greetings from Tyler,

Sick of hearing about Iran, their insufferable boasts and the prospect of another round of Mideast war? Aren't we all! Unfortunately, we simply don't have the option of hiding our eyes and ears. Why the American Secretary of Defense would be releasing statements about what Israel may or may not do in the next few weeks or months is anybody's guess. But this is reported to be his "greatest concern," that Israel may unleash an attack against Iran's nuclear installations in "April, May or June." Anything beyond that might put the mission outside Israel's logistical reach; so deep underground that only the U.S. would have the military capability to prevent the completion of a nuclear device.

Iran's response to the imposition of new sanctions is to prepare for war against Israel and the West. The supreme ayatollah just gave a speech warning of a "great event" where Allah will deliver on promises to defeat the Zionists and the Great Satan. The warning has reignited all the discussion of Iran's ballistic missile capabilities able to reach all over the Middle East and up into Europe, and the terrifying scenario where an unguided missile carrying a nuclear warhead could be detonated over the United States knocking out all things electronic. The current U.S. administration opposes any action by the Israelis and still apparently believes the threat can be contained diplomatically.

Amid all the talk of economic crisis threatening Europe comes another disturbing development out of Eastern Europe. Nations like Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and the Czech Republic have never recovered from the destitution of communism, even twenty years after the fall of the Soviet Union. Membership in the European Union has also left their aspirations for prosperity unfulfilled, and now this from Spiegel Online under the headline Eastern Europe Swings Right. It illustrates, case by case, how, "A dangerous storm is brewing in the shadow of the euro crisis..." "Many people there are exhausted, and euro-skepticism, and aversion towards the once deified West are on the rise." The article demonstrates how, "The EU has long since lost its role as a force for order in Eastern Europe. From the Baltic States to Bulgaria, hardly an Eastern European country truly stands behind EU projects."

The proposes that economic hopelessness is breeding "nationalism" that has already taken hold in Hungary and may spread. It quotes Bulgarian political

scientist Ivan Krastev who warns, “Right now Hungary's neighbors are looking at Budapest with reservation. But what happens when a government has nothing left to offer but such a nationalistic model” If even four or five countries in Eastern Europe do the same thing...then the EU has a real problem.” Sentiment has already turned against Jews and other foreign minorities in Hungary. (An article in the new TCW illustrates coincidentally how virulent antisemitism currently is in Spain.)

By all accounts, the EU already has a real problem. And, as recent history has shown, nationalism has a way of getting completely out of control should it ever return to Germany.

We would be remiss to ignore the latest blather on man-made “global warming.” Eastern Europe is literally freezing and in some cases starving under record snowfall and bitter cold. All time record low temperatures in Alaska breached – 80 and broke thermometers. And now there's an admission from the infamous (“hide the decline”) East Anglia Climatic Research Unit that earth's temperatures have actually been cooling over the past fifteen years and may eventually result in a mini ice age!

After all the crippling regulations and vast sums spent on so-called “green energy,” you don't suppose that we could return to policies that make economic sense and actually produce power? Likely not. Global warming and “green energy” have virtually become religious sacraments in the mainstream and it's doubtful that any amount of evidence to the contrary will have any effect. Don't expect these belated revelations to ever become common knowledge.

A new 20th Century WATCH is in layout now and beginning to take shape. It'll stand your hair up, it does mine. Mr. Jim Josephsen and his wife Barb should be arriving here in Tyler very shortly, and we're privileged to have him as guest speaker here at HQ tomorrow. You'll all be equally privileged when the DVD of tomorrow's service arrives in the next week or so. We hope you'll all have an inspiring Sabbath and a great weekend.

Until next time,

Mark Armstrong