

23 April 2010

Greetings from Tyler,

[Israel celebrated the 62nd anniversary](#) as an independent modern nation this week. It was marked by the traditional remembrance of holocaust and national birth pangs along with their victories in wars and those lost in the nation's preservation. But as reported in the New York Times, there is a [dark foreboding hanging in the air](#). Coincidental with what is believed to be a final push for nuclear weapons in Iran, Israelis are grappling with the reality that their ally and benefactor, the United States, has turned its back on their plight. Israel apparently doesn't dare take action against Iran's nuclear installations without risking the wrath of the Obama administration. But already, relations have become downright acrimonious between the U.S. administration and Israel.

It comes at a time when Iran is seen to be instigating a [provocation between Syria and Israel](#). Consignments of Iranian supplied missiles are reportedly being shipped to Hezbollah at Iran's behest. Several reports indicate that, since it appears that Iran will succeed in acquiring nukes, [Saudi Arabia has begun to participate in the regional nuclear arms](#) race. It's no wonder that the Israeli's are feeling mighty insecure.

And how secure will the United States be once Iran has nuclear weapons at its disposal. Analysts predicted this week that the [Iranians will have missiles capable of reaching the U.S. by 2015](#). But the dangers are even more immediate than that. Debkafile quoted an official in a publication out of [Tehran warning that nuclear explosions will hit American cities](#) if its nuclear facilities are attacked. We can only hope that's merely more of the bogus blather we've come to expect from that crowd.

The more we see about the Greek financial crisis, with a reckoning only temporarily delayed for perhaps a year or so with the [EU bailout led by Germany](#), the more apparent it is that the entire European economy is hanging in the balance. That is the sentiment expressed in the latest edition of the Economist, a publication with no conservative axe to grind.

Here in the U.S., we continue to see a level of government spending that is simply incomprehensible. [Money borrowed from foreigners](#), largely China, that won't actually be earned by taxpayers until sometime in the distant future is being spent today in pursuit of all manner of programs, agencies and salaries in ways that are intended to produce "social justice." The whole world economy is being stretched to the point that future crises seem inevitable to most observers.

Domestically in the U.S., it's difficult to address all that is underway. According to some who are in the know about the latest push for total government takeover of every aspect of American life, the next "reform" billed as a way to keep major institutions from bilking unsuspecting investors, will actually give the feds unfettered access to all financial transactions for purposes of "analysis." We'll probably just have to wait for them to ram it through before we actually know what else has befallen the confused and

distracted American public. And then will come amnesty for illegals, and cap and trade. What will be left of freedom or prosperity?

We're looking forward to another visit from Mr. Mike Garrett for the main message tomorrow here at HQ. Arraigned on fairly short notice, my Mom and I plan to travel to meet with Mr. John Mitchell and the Sacramento group next weekend. As for upcoming events, we'll hope to see many of you for the Pentecost weekend at Land Between the Lakes near Paducah, K.Y. May 22nd and 23rd.

Hope you'll all have a good Sabbath day, and we'll be in touch.

Mark Armstrong