

Israel News Desk

with David Hoyle

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For many years Israel lived in a region where evil men in charge of surrounding countries were at least predictable. That has all changed. Israel likes stability & predictability & abhors chaos. That is why the Arab Spring, so called, is a problem for them. Nations are turning on themselves overnight & could unleash chemical & biological weapons & there is little predictability in the region. Indeed in the last 24 hours news has come that chemical weapons have been used against President Assad in Syria & the Syrian army have seized a chemical weapon production site from the rebels. The danger from that standpoint is that no one knows what forces might be unleashed. President Assad & his father were unquestionably evil men but were predictable. The same could be said of Hosni Mubarak, the former Egyptian President but Israel knew what he was & was not capable of. Predictability & stability have been lost & Israel's relative silence should not be misconstrued as lack of interest, rather they are keeping their counsel as anything they say on the matter could be used by one side or another against their opposition.

There are domestic events in Egypt over which Israel has no say, so why speak out, as in any event they are hoping the peace treaty with Egypt will be honoured.

Syria is an unfolding situation, bordering on stalemate but again Israel is concerned that its Golan border will not be breached.

Similar arguments could be levelled in relation to Libya where, evil though he may have been, President Gaddafi kept the peace.

In short Assad, Mubarak & Gaddafi were evil but certainly to be preferred to what is now in existence, which can be summed up in one word----- chaos!

Muslim Brotherhood The Brotherhood is behind most of the problems in the Middle East & has been for some time. It is strongly supported by Mr Obama who has a convert to Islam in his inner counsel & supporters of the Brotherhood. He still supports them in Egypt, is calling for Morsi's release & doing his best not to have the uprising in Egypt described as a "*coup*" as this under American law would mean he had to cease aid to the country.

Max Singer at the Begin-Sadat Centre for Strategic Studies & co-founder of the Hudson Institute says "*the Brotherhood rejects democracy, doesn't believe in free speech or freedom to organise, both Israel & Egypt are better off with the army in charge of Egypt.*" He added "*Obama has taken the side of the Brotherhood – he is making a big mistake!*" News coming out of Egypt today indicates that the Egyptian army are fighting & killing Al Quaida fighters there & with Israel's knowledge clearing out anti-Israel factions from the border area.

Syria As worse chaos develops both America & Europe & not least the UK are considering helping the rebels with both arms and advice, but exactly who will they arm? There are thousands of Jihadists & Al Quaida fighters there Mr Hague, as always, is backing the wrong side. In any event there is some evidence that we are covertly operating there "*illicitly*".

Holland The ruling party rejected a recommendation by the country's Foreign Policy Advisory Council to negotiate with Hamas & freeze ties with Israel over settlements. Holland was & still is one of Israel's closest allies in Western Europe. The ruling centre right party described the recommendations as "*an astonishing combination of wishful thinking & biased & unrealistic.*" Wim Kortenoeven a Middle East specialist at The Hague said the report was "*the malicious product of political activism whose only object appears to be Israel bashing*"

Israeli-Palestinian Peace Treaty Americas John Kerry says he failed to make a breakthrough on his latest Middle East peace mission. He said it needs a little more work!

Turkey The Turkish deputy premier has blamed anti government protests on the "*Jewish Diaspora*"! Israel is blamed for everything!

Germany A sick cartoon depicted Israel as a wild hungry, ill beast devouring military weapons from Germany. The Simon Wiesenthal centre said *"it was grotesquely beyond the pale of legitimate criticism"*.

Greece A right wing Greek politician has been appointed Health Minister. He owns a publishing house who sold the notorious book *"The Jews, The Whole Truth."* The author of the book describes himself as a *"Nazi, Fascist, Racist, Anti-Democratic, Anti-Semite."* In the past the politician Adonis Georgiadis said *"all banks belong to the Jews & the Jews would determine the fate of Greece's foreign debt."*

Iran Former President Ahmadinejad has said that his major achievement was denial of the holocaust. He said *"it's a taboo subject that no one in the West allowed to be heard."* He called for the Arab world to work together to punish Israel for its treatment of the Palestinians. News breaking as I write is that the regime is constructing tunnels north of the capital believed to be for nuclear – related uranium enrichment. I have just heard that Mr Obama has sent his most senior foreign affairs advisor to Israel to talk to Mr Netanyahu as Mr Netanyahu is being advised that if an attack on Iran is postponed much longer it will be too late – they will have a nuclear bomb.

Golan Heights The IDF is to establish a new division on the Heights because of growing concern about the threat of instability & Hezbollah action there.

Saudi Arabia Is targeting Israel & Iran with powerful ballistic missiles. Janes Intelligence Review has released images of undisclosed surface to surface missiles deep in the Saudi desert. Launch pads have been identified at a base built in the past 5 years & the missiles there are capable of travelling 2500 miles. Officials at the Saudi Embassy declined to comment on this news.

Egypt Information has come in the last 5 minutes that Egypt is seeking Israel's permission for a full scale Sinai offensive. The 1979 Israel-Egypt peace agreement stipulates that Israel must agree to major troop movements in Sinai. Egypt has now closed the Refah border crossing & wants to move thousands of troops into Sinai this week for a major offensive. An Israeli military official said *"we will not tie Egypt's hands – securing Sinai is a top priority & terrorism is rampant there."*

Lebanon Britain is to give £50 million to help Lebanon cope with the 3000 a day refugees arriving there.

Drought Israel has recently overcome a 7 year drought; the country's reservoirs are finally stable after years of severe depletion. However the Water Authority warns of a drought in 2015 that will make the previous dry spell seem like a picnic by comparison. This predicted drought they say will last 20 years. Fortunately God will decide not the Water Authority.

Locusts Newly hatched locusts are the offspring of the swarms who entered Israel in March. Although they were sprayed with pesticide it apparently was not effective. The new locusts are not yet able to fly but crop damage could be caused imminently.

Avigdor Lieberman Israel's firebrand called for Israeli troops to reoccupy Gaza after yet more rockets fell on Southern Israel. Israel hit rocket sites in Gaza after 6 rocket attacks in the Western Negev. Mr Lieberman who is head of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs & Defence Committee said *" Hamas have no intention of reconciling to a Jewish presence in Israel."* He went on to say that *"if the present situation persists Hamas would amass a fleet of aircraft & missiles that would threaten populous coastal towns like Tel Aviv or Netanya"*.

Patrick Mercer has apologised for calling an Israeli a b.....dy Jew. He made other offensive statements too crude to mention here but whilst he has apologised under pressure it does raise the question of what is really in his heart! Meanwhile no apology has come from the Lib Dem MP David Ward & the leadership seem disinterested in punishing his Anti-Semitism. Probably because the Lib Dems are riddled with the same views.

Taken all round:-

Anti-Semitism is alive and well.

God is working out His purposes in an increasing way.

The rapture seems eminently imminent.

We need to be certain we are saved & if so seek to be winning others before it is too late.

There are still just a few places on our tour of Israel in October. Ring David on (01423) 881803 for a brochure.