

4 June 2010

Greetings from Tyler,

Last week's update references credible sources showing a recent [buildup of missiles and rockets in Syria](#), Lebanon and Gaza, largely supplied and funded by Iran. By now everyone has undoubtedly been made aware of the [flotilla incident in the Mediterranean](#), resulting in the deaths of nine so-called peace activists. Israel is now under a [withering barrage of condemnation](#) coming from nearly every quarter of the globe.

Israel offered to allow the flotilla access to its ports, where cargo could be inspected and transported into Gaza. Those offers were refused. The cargo was described as "humanitarian aid," but must not have been all that critical seeing as how Hamas has refused to have it delivered. The intention of the exercise is obviously to break the blockade of Gaza. Although most of the world's media has played this story against Israel and its blockade, many may not be aware that Egypt has also blockaded Gaza's southern border in order to prevent the smuggling of weaponry to Hamas.

But the goal of the "peace activists" (*self-proclaimed "martyrs" willing to die in the cause of Israel's destruction by their own admission*) is not humanitarian. It is obviously a public relations stunt designed to ignite hatred for Israel, as if there's not enough of that in the world already.

It turns out that the "[Free Gaza](#)" movement is promoted by a who's who of the radical left, including [Bill Ayers](#) and [Bernadine Dohrn](#) (*of Weather Underground fame*), the founder of [Code Pink](#), and is promoted by critics of American capitalism and foreign policy. That information was published this week in [an op-ed in the San Francisco Examiner](#).

As Prime Minister Netanyahu stated in remarks this week, [this was not the Love Boat, this was the hate boat](#). By now, hopefully you've read the accounts and seen [the videos](#) of lightly armed Israeli commandos boarding the ships to inspect the cargo and coming under immediate attack from knife, pipe and chain-wielding "peace activists." The flotilla was launched from [Turkey, which is now threatening to sever all relations with Israel](#) unless an apology is forthcoming. Turkey's involvement threatens to open a big can of worms. Now there is the prospect of military conflict between Turkey and Israel. Colonel Ralph Peters suggested this week that a movement in [Turkey wants to resurrect the Ottoman Empire](#) and gather the world's Muslims under its influence. Provoking a clash with Israel might be intended to work toward that end.

[Another "peace activist" ship is approaching Israel's waters](#), this time from Ireland with assurances that all passengers are non-violent. Turkey has hinted that it may escort this ship with naval warships and maybe fighter jets. It is starting to appear as though Turkey may be working to initiate a military clash with Israel, which just might set off fireworks from Syria, Lebanon and Gaza. The news may be carrying details of another incident by the time you read this, as it is expected to arrive off Israel tomorrow. Israel has guaranteed the ship safe passage and not board if it proceeds to the Israeli port of Ashdod, or proceeds to an Egyptian port south of Gaza. But Israel has no intention of allowing it to proceed to Gaza.

Isn't it interesting that many of the same enemies of American traditionalism and free market capitalism are also the enemies of Israel? The examples above are about as clear an illustration as you could imagine. This is the same crowd that is working overtime to redistribute wealth in

America, indoctrinate school children with socialist values and rewrite our history to make the U.S. into a villain in nearly every instance.

The GTA program this week brought 362 requests, with one hundred seventy nine first time contacts for material on the subject of mainstream religion's belief in going to heaven.

I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize the recent 60th Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Marshall of Melbourne Australia. They've been members of the Church of God since 1965 and staunch supporters for as long as anybody can remember. They have our respect and congratulations.

We hope the Marshalls and all of you have a good Sabbath.

Mark Armstrong