


Prophetic Observer

Go, set a watchman,
let him declare what
he seeth. —Isa. 21:6



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Keeping Time On God's Prophetic Clock

L-156

Why the U.S. Is In Big Trouble

Carol Rushton

And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

—Zechariah 12:9

For most of the last 63 years, presidents of the United States of America and their administrations have strongly supported the modern State of Israel. President Harry Truman decided the United States would be the first nation to recognize Israel in 1948 when many in the U.S. thought it would be politically risky to do so. Americans were amazed by Israel's military in defeating attacks by multi-Arab alliances, not once but several times in 1948, 1967, and 1973. The United States continued to generally support Israel in other conflicts with its hostile Arab neighbors for the next 20 years.

The peace treaties American presidents pressured Israel to sign with Egypt, Jordan, and the PLO and Yasser Arafat never brought the hoped-for peace Israelis and Americans desired. While Israelis flocked to see the pyramids in Egypt and Petra in Jordan, Arabs in those countries refused to set foot in Israel. Israelis describe the peace with Egypt as a "cold peace": not war but not peace, either. Yasser Arafat responded to the PLO-Israel treaties with repeated terrorist attacks, killing hundreds of Israeli Jews.

Despite the failure of these treaties, polls in Israel repeatedly showed that Israelis viewed American presidents Bill Clinton and George Bush, two presidents who believed strongly in the Arab-Israeli peace process, as being strongly pro-Israel. When President Bill Clinton visited Israel in 1995, thousands of Israelis lined the main street into Jerusalem to catch a glimpse of Clinton's motorcade. It wasn't unusual to see Israeli cars flying American flags on July 4th.

Something dramatically changed in the United States' relations with Israel after the election of Barack Obama in 2008. By August 2009, only seven months after his inauguration, polls revealed that only 4 percent of Israeli Jews believed President Obama was pro-Israel.

How has the United States gone from being at least a nominally pro-Israel nation to being strongly anti-Israel? Can the United States ever return to being a pro-Israel nation? Or is it too late?

OMINOUS SIGNS

The truth is, for the last 40 years, U.S. presidents have been slowly moving our country toward a pro-Arab, anti-Israel position. However, President Obama's anti-Israel, pro-Arab policies were so blatant, they caught most Americans completely by surprise.

During the 2008 presidential campaign, reports leaked out that members of Barack Obama's campaign team were meeting with Syrian and Hamas officials, as well as his ties with anti-Israel professors Edward Sa'id and Rashid Khalidi. These reports foretold what Barack Obama's foreign policy concerning the Middle East would be if he became president. Unfortunately, most of the people who voted for President Obama ignored these signs.

These are just some of the actions President Obama has taken to implement his pro-Arab, anti-Israel policy positions:

SAUDI ARABIA: One of Barack Obama's first acts as president was to freeze agreements to sell US military equipment, including jet fighters to Israel. However, President Obama agreed to sell \$60 billion in military equipment to Saudi Arabia. DefenseNews.com reported the deal included:

- 84 F-15 fighter jets
- Upgrading 70 other Saudi F-15s
- 70 Apache attack helicopters
- 72 Black Hawk helicopters
- 36 light attack-reconnaissance helicopters
- 12 light training helicopters
- Thousands of bombs, missiles, guns, missile launchers, radars
- Miscellaneous weapons and supplies

SYRIA: President George Bush recalled our ambassador to Syria in 2005 to protest Syria's involvement in the assassination of Lebanon's former Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri by a car bomb in Beirut. The President reversed this decision during a congressional recess in December 2010 because he knew Congress would not approve the appointment of any ambassador to Syria. The President's criticism of Syria's killing hundreds of protesters in cold blood and arresting many more has been muted. He has rejected

calls by members of Congress to recall our ambassador.

IRAN: Iran's President Ahmadinejad won re-election in 2009. However, many Iranians felt the election results were fraudulent. Thousands took to the streets in protest. Thugs sent by the Iranian government killed and arrested protesters, including Christian protester Neda Soltan. Her picture went viral on the Internet.

During this period, President Obama's criticism of Ahmadinejad or the Iranian government was muted, and he also refused to support the protesters. After Neda Soltan's murder, the President finally expressed shock and outrage. But he has not done anything since to support the opposition movement in Iran, nor has he tried to do anything to stop Iran's nuclear weapons program.

EGYPT: When protests first erupted in Egypt in 2011, the President was not clear on whether he continued to support President Hosni Mubarak. Even though journalists in Egypt started reporting that the Muslim Brotherhood was becoming involved in the protests, the President eventually threw our ally Mubarak under the bus and called upon him to resign. Hosni Mubarak was a dictator but he suppressed the Muslim Brotherhood, a brutal terrorist group who attacked and murdered tourists and Egyptians, allowed ships to pass peacefully through the Suez Canal, kept a peaceful border with Israel, and monitored the border with the Gaza Strip.

Now Mubarak is facing show trials and possible execution. In February, the military council running Egypt's government allowed Iranian warships to pass through the Suez Canal, the first time since 1979, on their way to Syria. The Muslim Brotherhood won elections in March for changes to the country's constitution that favored them. Muslim Brotherhood members have called for the repeal of the peace treaty with Israel.

Not only is the Muslim Brotherhood fielding candidates for Egypt's parliamentary elections, a senior member of the Muslim Brotherhood is running for president after the terrorist organization denied interest in the position. Abdel Futuh's claim to run as an independent and the Muslim Brotherhood's promise not to support him fools no one. The Jerusalem Post May 12, 2011 online article reports that Abdel Futuh already ties Amr Moussa, head of the Arab League, with 20 percent voter support. Muhammed El Baradei, former head of the IAEA, garners only 12 percent of voter support in Egypt.

Egypt is expected to hold elections for president and parliament in October or November 2011. If elected, does anyone think that Futuh will keep the Suez Canal open to U.S. and Israeli ships, fight terrorists, protect Christians in Egypt from Muslim attacks, and allow Egyptian citizens more freedom and liberty than under Mubarak? This is like allowing a fox to guard the chicken coup.

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S ANTI-ISRAEL POLICY

The following are just some of the statements and policies of President Obama and his administration concerning Israel in the past year:

- In May 2010, various websites carried a video of John Brennan, the President's national security adviser and deputy national security adviser for counterterrorism, praising Muslims and Islam and calling Jerusalem by its Arabic name of Al Quds: "In Saudi Arabia, I saw how our Saudi partners

fulfilled their duty as custodians of the two holy mosques at Mecca and Medina. I marveled at the majesty of the Hajj and the devotion of those who fulfilled their duty as Muslims by making that pilgrimage. And, in all my travels the city I have come to love most is al-Quds, Jerusalem. . ."

- In April 2011, President Obama used the Jewish holiday of Passover to push his endorsement of the radical Islamic takeover of Middle Eastern Arab countries. "The story of Passover – which recalls the passage of the children of Israel from bondage and repression to freedom and liberty – inspires hope that those oppressed and enslaved can become free. This year, that ancient instruction is reflected in the daily headlines as we see modern stories of social transformation and liberation unfolding in the Middle East and North Africa." In April 2011, the head of the PLO stated that President Obama had promised him he would support the establishment of a PLO terror state. Mahmoud Abbas was visiting Tunisia when he said, "We are counting on the words of U.S. President Barack Obama who said his vision is to see a Palestinian state this coming September according to a deadline set by the Quartet."
- In April 2011, the Israeli website Ynet News revealed the White House had leaked President Obama's acceptance of a PLO state.
- According to a news article by Israel National News, the U.S. State Department is encouraging American businesses to invest in "transitional democracies" in the Middle East. Hillary Clinton pushed the Partners for a New Beginning organization at the U.S.-Islamic World Forum in April 2011. Muktar Kent, a Muslim American, is now CEO of Coca-Cola. He is involved in the Partners for a New Beginning. In another April 2011 news article on the Business Intelligence Middle East website, Coca-Cola is working with U.S. officials "to stabilize the Middle East and Egypt" and encouraging "more American companies to do the same." Former U.S. Secretary of State Madeline Albright and Walter Isaacson were also appointed by Hillary Clinton to Partners for a New Beginning. Kent, Albright, and Isaacson are all listed on the Council on Foreign Relations website as members.
- The U.S. is teaming with France, the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the African Development Bank and the Islamic Development Bank for a bailout of Egypt and Tunisia. Of course, the April 15, 2011 article from Business Intelligence Middle East is more diplomatic. The U.S., France, and banks are going "to develop a joint action plan for aligning their investments toward a new vision to support the aspirations of citizens for inclusive and sustained growth." France's foreign minister said, "We will doubtlessly tackle the situation of the countries of the southern Mediterranean, and in particular Egypt and Tunisia."
- In one of the most shocking developments, the websites of The Jerusalem Post in Israel and The Tehran Times in Iran

both reported in April that Turkey was considering allowing Taliban terrorists from Afghanistan to open an official office in Istanbul, as well as in Turkmenistan and the United Arab Emirates. The Tehran Times reported that the U.S. and NATO were pressuring Turkey.

- Even after journalists in the Middle East were reporting that the protests against oppressive dictatorships in Arab countries such as Egypt, Libya, Yemen, and Bahrain were being taken over or driven by terrorists such as the Muslim Brotherhood and Al Qaeda, President Obama praised these protests and the protesters.
- After the brutal massacre of the Fogel family in the Jewish settlement of Itamar by Arab terrorists in March 2011, Israel responded by approving the building of housing units in Jewish neighborhoods in Jerusalem and in Jewish settlements in Judea and Samaria. President Obama made sure the White House released a statement criticizing this decision. The Jerusalem Post website reported on April 5, 2011, "The United States is deeply concerned by continuing Israeli actions with respect to settlement construction. Not only are continued Israeli settlements illegitimate, Israel's actions run counter to efforts to resume direct negotiations." Although the White House and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton issued statements condemning the Fogel family massacre, President Obama never did.
- CNS News reported on April 29, 2011 that President Obama had confirmed U.S. citizenship upon three people convicted of terrorism by the Department of Justice.
- On May 17, 2011, Ynet News reported President Obama supports forcing Israel to return to the borders of 1967. President Obama takes this stance in spite of the continuing rocket attacks from Hamas in the Gaza Strip almost every day into southern Israel, the threats of war from Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Muslim Brotherhood's takeover of Egypt and threatening war with Israel, and the Hamas-PLO reconciliation deal in which Hamas still refuses to accept Israel's right to exist.
- President Obama adopted the Responsibility to Protect Doctrine to justify military intervention in Libya. R2P has been pushed by one of the president's advisors, Samantha Power, the wife of Cass Sunstein, the president's regulatory czar, and a staunch pro-Arab supporter. She has advocated the U.S. imposing a military presence in Israel. Many pro-Israel supporters are fearful the president will use R2P to use U.S. or NATO troops to "protect the poor Palestinians against Israeli aggression," possibly even attacking Israeli troops.
- Despite evidence that terrorists were involved with the Libyan rebels, President Obama gave them \$25 million of your taxpayer money.
- In 2009, President Obama gave the PLO and Hamas \$900

million of your taxpayer money.

- In 2010, President Obama gave the PLO and Hamas \$400 million of your taxpayer money.
- On May 16, 2011, The Washington Post revealed that President Obama was accelerating direct talks with Taliban terrorists in Afghanistan.
- On May 19, 2011, President Obama announced he had cancelled Egypt's debt and was giving Egypt, Tunisia, and Jordan billions in aid packages with your taxpayer dollars and 50,000 tons of wheat. The President also demanded Israel withdraw to 1967 borders, which are really the 1948-1949 borders.

WHY THE U.S. CAN'T BRING PEACE TO THE MIDDLE EAST

For years, Arab nations have promoted "a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace in the Middle East." Sounds great doesn't it? After all, who could possibly be against a just, comprehensive and lasting peace for everyone in the Middle East?

We must realize what peace in the Middle East means to Arabs as opposed to Westerners. "Peace in the Middle East" to those of us in the West means the absence of war and terrorism between Israel and her Arab neighbors. It also means that Israel has economic and diplomatic ties with those same Arab neighbors. This is not what peace in the Middle East means to Arabs. When Arabs speak about a wonderful "just, comprehensive, and lasting peace in the Middle East," they mean a Middle East without Israel and without Jews. The exact phrase, "just and lasting peace in the Middle East" was inserted by the Arab nations into U.N. Resolution 242 in November 1967 after the June 1967 Six-Day War. Israel took only 6 days to defeat the combined militaries of Egypt, Syria, and Jordan, supported by the Soviet Union, and took the Sinai Peninsula, the Golan Heights, and East Jerusalem from the Arabs to boot. Arabs were up in arms. They could not allow this great Israeli victory to stand.

The United Nations was only too happy to help. U.N. Resolution 242 not only called for Israel to withdraw from all the land Israel took from the Arabs in the Six-Day War, it also vilified any nation for taking land from another country in any war. How convenient. The peace treaties United States' presidents have forced upon Israel with Arab nations have resulted in Israel giving up land for a peace that has never come. Israel returned the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt through the 1978 Camp David Accords. The Oslo Accords in 1993 forced Israel to give parts of Judea and Samaria to the PLO. The peace treaty with Jordan in 1994 called on Israel to give parts of the Arava Valley west of the Dead Sea to Jordan. Israel forced Jews to leave their homes in Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip and turned them over to Hamas. In every peace treaty or agreement with Arabs, Israel has been forced to give up land for peace. What has happened as a result?

EGYPT: When I was in Israel in the 1990s, The Jerusalem Post newspaper carried articles and cartoons from Egypt demonizing Israel. I remember one article quoting an Egyptian military official, "Israel is very bad. She does not want peace." This was after

13 years of “peace” with Israel. Planes full of Israelis took off from Tel Aviv almost every day for Cairo. Only Jews visiting or doing business in Egypt were on the planes returning to Israel. From time to time, Egypt would accuse Israeli businessmen and businesswomen of being Israeli spies. Not surprisingly, Egypt is now in grave danger of being taken over by Muslim Brotherhood terrorists who want to impose Sharia Law on the country and overturn the peace treaty with Israel.

PLO & THE WEST BANK: After being kicked out of Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon for his terrorist activities, Yassir Arafat signed the Oslo Accords, brokered by the United States and Norway, with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in 1993. Arafat’s history of broken peace treaties with the Lebanese government somehow escaped U.S. President Bill Clinton and other peaceniks. It seems the PLO’s name change to the innocuous “Palestinian Authority” was enough to convince them of Arafat’s change of heart. However, terrorist attacks in Israel by Arabs increased dramatically after the Oslo Accords, which gave Arafat and the PLO sections of Judea and Samaria. Bus bombings in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem became common events. Oslo II and III followed but PLO-supported terrorist attacks in Israel did not stop. Hundreds of Israeli Jews and even Americans have been murdered in Israel and in Jewish settlements in Samaria, Judea, and the Gaza Strip because of the Oslo Peace Accords.

JORDAN: Jordan and Israel had unofficial contacts for years before they signed an official peace treaty in 1994. However, Jordan has been very critical of Israel since that time for not giving in to the PLO’s demands to be given the entire land of Judea and Samaria.

GAZA STRIP: Israel acquired the Gaza Strip during the 1967 Six-Day War and established 21 Jewish settlements in Gaza but turned it over to the PLO in phases under the 1993 Oslo Accords. Israel completed the turnover of the Gaza Strip to the PLO in 2005, uprooting Jews from their homes in a controversial military action by the Israeli government and the IDF. Elections held in January 2006 in the Gaza Strip were won by Hamas which took over from the PLO. Before the Israeli withdrawal, Arabs had promised to carry on the farms established by the Jews in their settlements. After the withdrawal, the farms were destroyed and replaced with Hamas training camps. Now Hamas bombards southern Israel with missiles and rockets from the Gaza Strip almost every day. Arabs under Hamas also suffer; Hamas launches rockets from homes and hospitals, making civilians and children military targets, and robs banks, stealing the hard-earned income of private citizens. Al Qaeda and Iran are also reportedly operating in the Gaza Strip.

Essam El-Erian, a senior member of the Muslim Brotherhood, gave an interview to *The Washington Post* published on May 13, 2011 from the Muslim Brotherhood’s new \$11 million headquarters in Egypt. El-Erian confirmed the Arab view of peace in the Middle East. “We are not threatening Israel. Israel is hurting itself by its policies. . . My dream is that we are not going to destroy Israel. If it doesn’t revise its policy against Arabs and Jews, it can destroy

itself. My dream is to live together as we did before the state of Israel. We lived in peace. We were never in conflict.”

THE END OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA?

In his excellent new book, *In the Garden of Beasts*, Erik Larson recounts the ominous signs which occurred in Nazi Germany during 1933-1934. The seemingly random attacks against Jews during this period raised alarm bells among some American diplomats but were ignored and excused by others. Enough people closed their minds to the truth that was happening right before their very eyes that allowed the deaths of at least 6 million Jews to happen in Europe. The events now occurring in the Middle East foreshadow a second holocaust of the Jewish people, one that our president and his advisors seem all too happy to overlook.

It is clear that the United States government has made a fundamental change from supporting Israel’s right to exist to supporting the Arab agenda of a Middle East without Israel. This is horrifying for all of us who support Israel and a catastrophe for the United States. The moral and spiritual decline of the United States has alarmed many Americans as our debt has skyrocketed and our prestige around the world has plummeted. The only reason that God has not leveled decisive judgment against the United States is because our nation has supported Israel until now.

There are some reasons to hope that all is not lost for the U.S. In recent polls, 61% to 63% of Americans still support Israel, defying our president and his administration. A popular American conservative radio talk show host recently announced his intention to go to Israel and hold a pro-Israel rally in Jerusalem. These are encouraging signs.

But it is not enough to forestall God’s judgment against our country. God was very clear in Genesis 12 that no nation would survive if it did not support Israel and the Jewish people. We must make a decisive, serious, and 180-degree change next year. If we do not elect strong pro-Israel candidates for president and vice-president, as well as for other offices around our country, God’s judgment will surely fall on our country, and the United States may cease to exist.

The Founding Fathers of our republic believed without doubt that God rules in the affairs of men and nations. Every Christian citizen must pray that our national leaders will amend past policies and support the Biblical position of an undivided Israel with an undivided capitol of Jerusalem.

(Carol, Pastor Hutchings’ daughter, is the webmaster here at SWRC. She was also a staff member of the *Jerusalem Post* for several years.)

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