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THE TRUMPET WEEKLY

AUGUST 18, 2012

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'Egypt Is an Islamic State'

BY BRAD MACDONALD

GIVE EGYPTIAN President Mohammed Morsi credit. On Sunday, as the world watched the closing ceremony of the Olympics and debated the nomination of Paul Ryan as the Republican candidate for vice president, Morsi quietly orchestrated perhaps the most significant development in Egypt since the assassination of Anwar Sadat in October 1981.

He completed Egypt's transformation into an Islamist state.

First, Morsi announced that he'd "retired" a handful of key leaders within Egypt's military establishment. The men included the defense minister, the army chief of staff, and the commanders of the navy, air defense and air force. These men were holdovers from the administration of former President Hosni Mubarak, and key figures within Egypt's military establishment, the Supreme Council of Armed Force (SCAF). They were pro-Israel, pro-Western, and key intermediaries between Egypt and America.

More importantly, these men were political and ideological

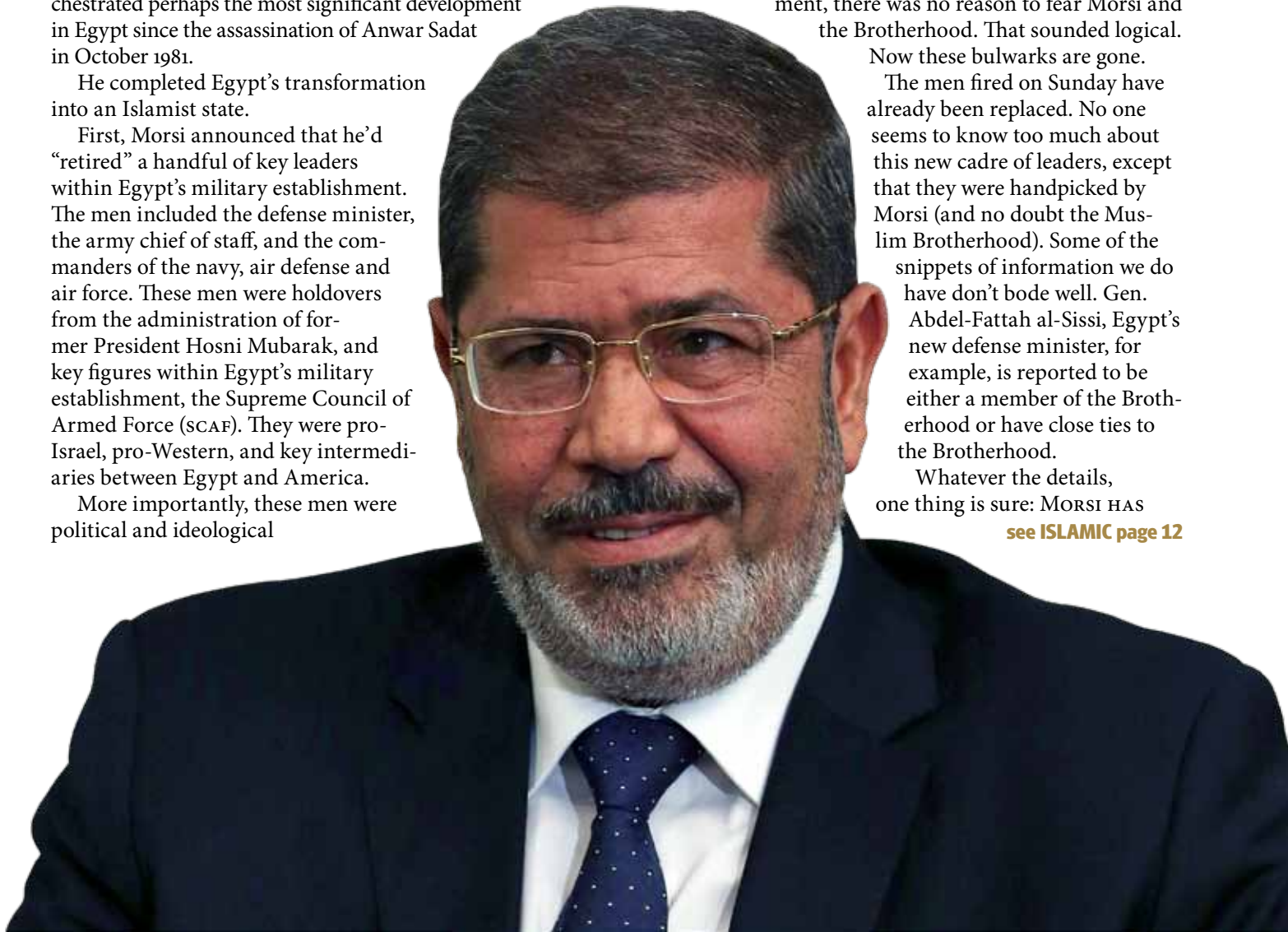
counterweights to Morsi and the Muslim Brotherhood. Ever since Hosni Mubarak's ouster in February 2011, we have been assured by Western experts that as long as the SCAF held key positions within Egypt's government, there was no reason to fear Morsi and the Brotherhood. That sounded logical.

Now these bulwarks are gone.

The men fired on Sunday have already been replaced. No one seems to know too much about this new cadre of leaders, except that they were handpicked by Morsi (and no doubt the Muslim Brotherhood). Some of the snippets of information we do have don't bode well. Gen. Abdel-Fattah al-Sissi, Egypt's new defense minister, for example, is reported to be either a member of the Brotherhood or have close ties to the Brotherhood.

Whatever the details, one thing is sure: MORSI HAS

see ISLAMIC page 12



About Those WMD in Syria

WHEN THE highly controversial Iraq War failed to uncover massive stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, the mainstream media went berserk.

Prior to that time, experts, security officials, United Nations inspectors and media elites were in unanimous agreement: Saddam had WMD, he had used them *several times*, and he had the *means* to continue building more. But none of this mattered after the Iraq War.

And yet, even as the Iraq Survey Group was putting the finishing touches on its politically motivated report in 2004, a massive chemical weapons attack was narrowly averted in Jordan. Despite the large-scale nature of the would-be attack, media coverage was scant.

Jordanian authorities said the weapons came from Syria. Few people, however, were curious about how Syria may have obtained those chemical weapons. At the time, my father asked, “Have some of Saddam Hussein’s weapons of mass destruction (WMD) been found in Jordan?”

As it happens, there were reports in 2003 of significant truck movement between Iraq and Syria just prior to the U.S. invasion. Additional evidence from seized Iraqi documents during the war indicates that Iraq



STEPHEN FLURRY

received assistance from Russia in transporting weapons and missile components across the border to Syria.

All of this evidence was later corroborated by one of Saddam’s former generals, Georges Sada, who said he was “absolutely certain” WMD were transferred to Syria just before the war started in 2003.

Today, with Syria engulfed in civil war and Bashar al-Assad’s regime teetering in the balance, there is an understandable degree of panic about what might happen to Syria’s chemical weapons in the event of a regime change.

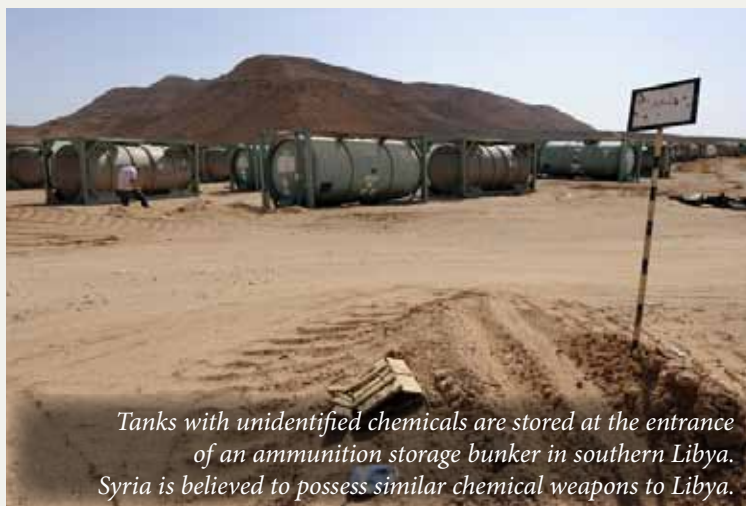
Hardly anyone, though, has bothered to ask about how Syria managed to *acquire* such a massive stockpile of WMD. Syria’s short-lived nuclear weapons program was obliterated by an Israeli airstrike in 2007. It hasn’t used WMD on its own people like Saddam did. It’s never had the reputation for being a large-scale *manufacturer* of WMD—certainly not like pre-2003 Iraq.

And yet last month, when Assad’s government acknowledged that it possessed a deadly arsenal of weapons of mass destruction, NO ONE DOUBTED THE CLAIM. There were

no intelligence reports theorizing that Syria *suspended* its WMD program years ago—or saying that the stockpiles simply do not exist.

No—everyone *knows* they exist. But no one asks how they got there in the first place, because raising that question would lift the veil covering the media’s shameful record of deception and lies.

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Tanks with unidentified chemicals are stored at the entrance of an ammunition storage bunker in southern Libya. Syria is believed to possess similar chemical weapons to Libya.

The Drums of August

David Rothkopf, FOREIGN POLICY |
August 15

IT IS easy to be skeptical when the alarms start going off about a pending Israeli attack on Iran. They seem to come with the seasons, a geopolitical biorhythm that reminds us never to be too comfortable with one of the world’s most volatile relationships. But it is worth remembering that the punch line of the story about the little boy who cried wolf is that ultimately, the wolf shows up. ...

It is often hard for Americans to grasp the idea of an existential threat to a nation. While one existed for Americans during the Cold War, since then the notion that any single actor with any single act could effectively obliterate Americans or their lifestyle is very hard for many people to get their brains around. But that is exactly the threat that Israelis face from even a “limited” Iranian nuclear attack. And though it is reasonable to debate whether the Iranians would actually use such a weapon against Israel given the likely consequences for them,

from the Israeli perspective, given Iranian threats and actions, the risks of guessing wrong about the intent of the leaders in Tehran are so high that inaction could easily be seen to be the imprudent path.

This summarizes the carefully worded case made last week in the *Wall Street Journal* by Israel’s ambassador to the United States, Michael Oren. His article was nothing less than a case for war, and, over lunch on Friday, August 10, he underscored to me how much thought and care *was* put into its drafting. (Oren is,

Who Lost Egypt?

Caroline Glick, JERUSALEM POST | August 16

THE RAPIDITY of Morsi's moves has surprised most observers. But more surprising than his moves is the U.S. response to his moves. Obama administration officials have behaved as though nothing has happened, or even as though Morsi's moves are positive developments.

For instance, in an interview with *The Wall Street Journal*, one administration official dismissed the significance of Morsi's purge of the military brass, saying, "What I think this is, frankly, is Morsi looking for a generational change in military leadership." The *Journal* reported that Egypt's new defense minister, Gen. Abdul-Fattah el-Sissi, is known as a Muslim Brotherhood sympathizer. But the Obama administration quickly dismissed the reports as mere rumors with no significance. ...

Morsi's Islamism, like Mao's Communism, is inherently hostile to the U.S. and its allies and interests in the Middle East. Consequently, Morsi's strategic repositioning of Egypt as an Islamist country means that Egypt—which has served as the anchor of the U.S. alliance system in the Arab world for 30 years—is setting aside its alliance with the U.S. and looking toward reassuming the role of regional bully.

Egypt is on the fast track to reinstating its war against Israel and threatening international shipping in the Suez Canal. And as an Islamist state, Egypt will certainly seek to export its Islamic revolution to other countries. No doubt fear of this prospect is what prompted Saudi Arabia to begin showering Egypt with billions of dollars in aid.

It should be recalled that the Saudis so feared the rise of a Muslim Brotherhood-ruled Egypt that in February 2011, when U.S. President Barack Obama was publicly ordering then-president Hosni Mubarak to abdicate power immediately, Saudi leaders were beseeching him to defy Obama. They promised Mubarak unlimited financial support for Egypt if he agreed to cling to power.

The U.S.'s astounding sanguinity in the face of Morsi's completion of the Islamization of Egypt is an illustration of everything that is wrong and dangerous about U.S. Middle East policy today.

Take U.S. policy toward Syria. Syria is in possession of one of the largest arsenals of chemical and biological weapons in the world. The barbarism with which the regime is murdering its opponents is a daily reminder—indeed a flashing neon warning sign—that Syria's nonconventional arsenal constitutes a clear and present danger to international security. And yet, the Obama administration insists on viewing Syrian President Bashar Assad's murderous behavior as if it were a garden variety human rights crisis.

During her visit with Turkey's Islamist Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu last Saturday, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton didn't even mention the issue of Syria's chemical and biological weapons. ...

Then, of course, there is Iran and its openly genocidal nuclear weapons program. This week *The New York Times* reported a new twist in the Obama administration's strategy for managing this threat. It is trying to convince the Persian Gulf states to accept advanced missile defense systems from the U.S.

This new policy makes clear that the Obama administration has no intention of preventing Iran from becoming a nuclear power. Its actions on the ground are aimed instead at accomplishing two goals: convincing Iran's Arab neighbors to accept Iran as a nuclear power and preventing Israel from acting militarily to prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear

power. The missile shields are aspects of a policy of containment, not prevention. And the U.S.'s attempts to sabotage Israel's ability to strike Iran's nuclear sites through leaks, political pressure and efforts to weaken the Netanyahu government make clear

that as far as the U.S. is concerned, Iran acquiring nuclear weapons is not the problem. ...

If regional events weren't moving so quickly, the question of who lost Egypt would probably have had its moment in the spotlight in Washington.

But as is clear from the U.S.'s denial of the significance of Morsi's rapid completion of Egypt's Islamic transformation; its blindness to the dangers of Syrian chemical and biological weapons; and its complacency toward Iran's nuclear weapons program, by the time the U.S. foreign policy establishment realizes it lost Egypt, the question it will be asking is not who lost Egypt. It will be asking who lost the Middle East.

"Manasseh, Ephraim; and Ephraim, Manasseh: and they together shall be against Judah. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still."

ISAIAH 9:21

for the record, my longtime very good friend.) The response to the article included the unlikely endorsement of its core points by Khalid Al Khalifa, the foreign minister of Bahrain, who tweeted it with the words "Time Is Short for Iran Diplomacy."

It also was seen as one of the most important of last week's signals that

Israel's discomfort with the Iran situation is growing greater, signals that included on-the-record statements by Deputy Foreign Minister Danny Ayalon and off-the-record statements to journalist Ari Shavit (widely assumed to have been from Defense Minister Ehud Barak) that both underscored and amplified Oren's case for

ramped-up pressure on Iran.

It is reasonable to ask what has triggered this recent ramping-up of concern. Oren asserts it is a combination of factors—none more important than the increasing sense that diplomacy is not working and the sanctions, while taking a clear toll on the Iranian economy, are not doing so either.

Iran's nuclear program, meanwhile, is accelerating, and its leaders continue to call for Israel's destruction.

Iran Holds Meeting on Conquest of Jerusalem

August 14

IRAN HELD a meeting titled "Resistance, Islamic Awakening and Liberation of Palestine" August 13, where it discussed "the intifada" and "liberating the Holy Quds"—the Arabic term for Jerusalem—Iranian news agencies reported.

The event came in the run-up to Iran's Qud's Day celebration, where anti-Semites around the world rally for the conquest of Jerusalem. The one-day meeting would "focus on ways to attain the ultimate goal of liberating the Holy Quds, which embodies the dignity of the world Muslims," the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported prior to the event.

The main speakers included Iran's top nuclear negotiator and Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council Saeed Jalili. Also among the speakers were Nasser Abu Sharif, the representative of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad Movement in Tehran, and Khaled Qadoumi, Hamas's representative in Tehran. Ismail Haniyeh, one of Hamas's main leaders, addressed the

conference via a video link. ...

These types of meetings are common in Iran, especially around Quds Day. But it is a reminder that even as the Middle East is in turmoil, with Syria, Egypt and other countries vying for Iran's attention, Jerusalem and Israel are still the central focus.

Morsi to Attend Summit in Tehran

EGYPT INDEPENDENT | August 16

PRESIDENT MOHAMED Morsi does plan on taking part in the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) conference slated for August 30 in Tehran, a presidential source told Al-Masry Al-Youm. ...

Hamid Baghaei, Iran's vice president, had earlier extended an official invitation from Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad for the summit, but Morsi did not immediately accept. Morsi encountered his Iranian counterpart on Monday for the first time since assuming his new role during an extraordinary Islamic summit held in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.

The NAM, a 118-state organization, was established in 1955 to emphasize non-alignment with the world's superpowers. Iran is poised to take over from Egypt as the head of the NAM for the next three years.

TV IN BRIEF

■ Egypt shifting away from Israel, toward Iran

Egypt's actions following an attack on an Egyptian Army base in the Sinai August 5 don't bode well for Egyptian-Israeli relations. Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood blamed the attack on Israel. The attack, it wrote on its website, "can be attributed to Mossad," Israel's counterterrorism and intelligence agency. At the same time, Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi is taking important steps toward Iran. Iranian Vice President Hamid Baghaei visited Egypt and met with President Morsi on August 8 in what the *Los Angeles Times* called "a diplomatic coup." The Muslim Brotherhood wrote that Israel's intelligence agency "has been seeking to abort the revolution since its inception and the proof of this is that it gave instructions to its Zionist citizens in Sinai to depart immediately a few days ago." That is, of course, untrue. Israeli intelligence got wind of the attack, raised the alert along its border, and warned its citizens to leave. They passed this warning on to the Egyptian military, who, apparently, ignored it. "In short, the new Egypt is so unwilling to cooperate with Israel that it wouldn't even act on Israeli intelligence about a threat to its own security," wrote Evelyn Gordon in *Commentary* (August 7).

EUROPE

Finland Prepares for Breakup of Eurozone

Ambrose Evans-Pritchard,
TELEGRAPH | August 16

FINLAND IS preparing for the breakup of the eurozone, the country's foreign minister warned today.

The Nordic state is battenning down the hatches for a full-blown currency crisis as tensions in the eurozone mount and has said it will not tolerate further bail-out creep or fiscal union by stealth. "We have to face openly the possibility

of a euro breakup," said Erkki Tuomioja, the country's veteran foreign minister and a member of the Social Democratic Party, one of six that make up the country's coalition government.

"It is not something that anybody—even the True Finns [euroskeptic party]—are advocating in Finland, let alone the government. But we have to be prepared," he told *The Daily Telegraph*.

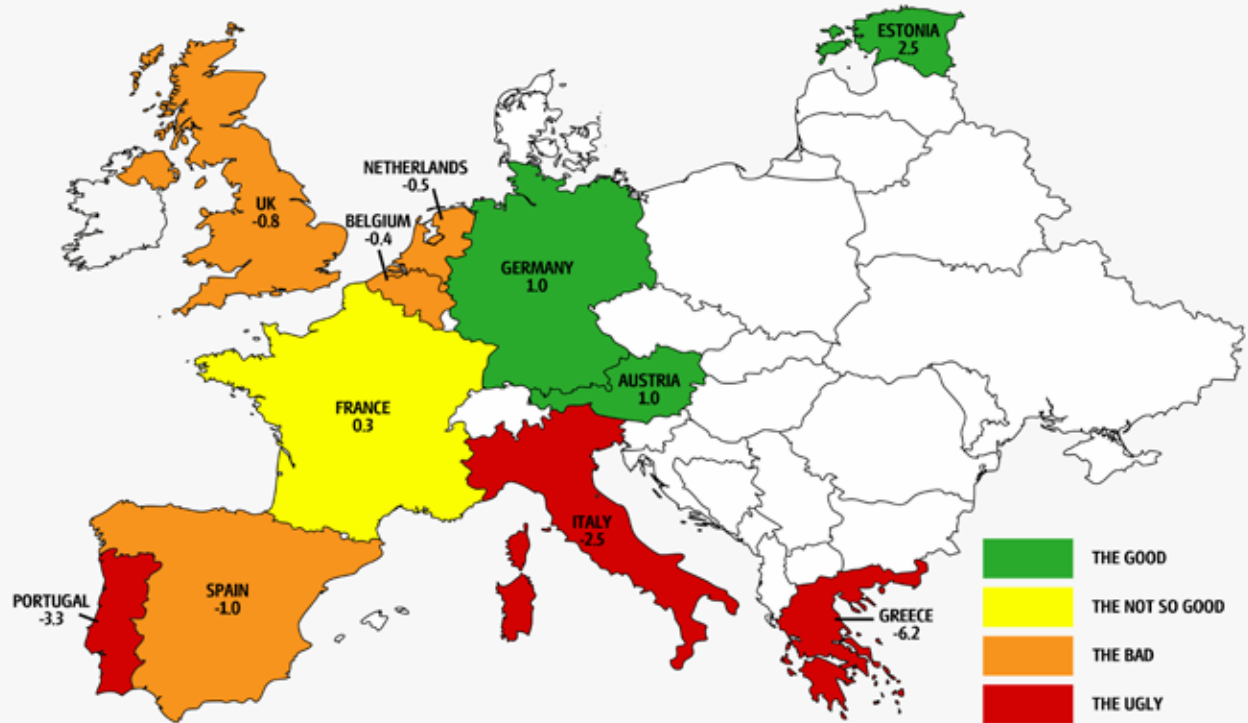
"Our officials, like everybody else and like every general staff, have some sort of operational plan for any eventuality."

Mr. Tuomioja's intervention is the bluntest warning to date by a senior eurozone minister. As he discussed the crisis, the minister had a copy of the *Economist* on his desk. It had a picture of Angela Merkel, the German Chancellor, reading a fictitious report entitled "How to break up the euro", with a caption: "Tempted, Angela?"

"This is what people are thinking about everywhere," said Mr. Tuomioja. "But there is a consensus that a eurozone breakup would cost more in the short-run or medium-run than managing the crisis."

EUROPE'S ECONOMIC DOWNTURN

GDP % CHANGE BETWEEN THE SECOND QUARTERS OF 2011 AND 2012



SOURCE: EUROSTAT 2012

“But let me add that the breakup of the euro does not mean the end of the European Union. It could make the EU function better,” he said, describing the dash for monetary union in the 1990s as a vaulting political leap in defiance of economic gravity. Finland has emerged as the toughest member of the eurozone’s creditor bloc as it tries to hold together a motley coalition. It has insisted on collateral from both Greece and Spain in exchange for rescue loans.

The coalition government is on thin ice as voters peel away to euroskeptic parties. The True Finns shattered the political order in last year’s election with 19 percent support. “Taxpayers here are extremely angry,” said Timo Soini, the True Finn leader.

“There are no rules on how to leave the euro but it is only a matter of time. Either the south or the north will break away because this currency straitjacket is causing misery for millions and destroying Europe’s future. It is a total catastrophe. We are going

to run out of money the way we are going. But nobody in Europe wants to be first to get out of the euro and take all the blame,” he said. ...

TW IN BRIEF

■ ‘Germany has reached the limit of its capacity’

The European Commission, together with the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund, are currently evaluating Greece’s compliance with the bailout conditions. But the more pertinent consideration is: Is Germany willing to give Greece more money? On August 12, Michael Fuchs, a senior leader in Chancellor Angela Merkel’s Christian Democratic Union, warned that Berlin is ready to veto further bailouts for Greece if it is found that Athens is failing to fulfill bailout conditions. In an interview with German newspaper *Handelsblatt*, Fuch stated, “The thing is for the [European] Union to realize that if the Greeks do not meet the stipulated

requirements, *then they get no more money*. I say for the record: Even if the glass is half full, this is not enough for a new aid package. *And Germany will not agree.*” Fuch then said Germany is prepared to veto another Greek bailout even without the support of other eurozone countries. Fuch’s remarks, which echo statements by other politicians, are merely the public expression of the private resentments of millions of Germans. It’s clear this crisis is far from over.

■ Race riots shake France

Around 150 youths shot at police and torched cars as they rioted in Amiens, France, August 13. The riots happened in a largely Muslim area of the city—suggesting that Muslim immigrants were behind the violence. The next day, around 100 youths confronted the French minister of the interior as he visited the area. Some of the young men pushed his bodyguards and jeered him. France suffered widespread violence in 2005, and authorities fear the

unrest in Amiens could spread. The riots highlight the problem Europe has with its immigrants. When times were good, problems were papered over. But as the economy worsens, grievances and differences are brought to the fore. Watch for Europe's rioting to get worse.

■ A new German constitution 'seems inevitable'

The euro crisis is forcing Germany to consider radical changes to its political system—and could even push Germany to introduce a new constitution.

Senior German politicians from all major parties, including Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble, head of the Christian Social Union Horst Seehofer and German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle have called for referenda on Germany's place in Europe. *Spiegel* points out that Germany will probably be forced, by the euro crisis, to write a new constitution, and have it voted on by the public. Many expect the German Constitutional Court to soon announce that Germany has gone as far toward a European superstate as

is allowed by the constitution. *Spiegel* writes that a referendum to endorse a new constitution "seems inevitable." A new constitution could also be a catalyst for great political change. It would throw the way Germany is run wide open to debate. Constitutions are finely balanced documents. Rewriting Germany's could have huge side effects. Watch this space closely. The Bible prophesies that Germany will soon undergo a radical political transformation. A new German constitution could help that happen.

ASIA

China Hording Gold

ZEROHEDGE | August 15

WHILE THE highly "sophisticated" traders that make up the gold market continue to buy or sell the precious metal based on whether the Fed will or will not do the NEW QE tomorrow ... China continues to do one thing. Buy. Because while earlier today we were wondering (rhetorically, of course) what China is doing with all that excess trade surplus if it is not recycling it back into treasuries, now we once again find out that instead of purchasing U.S. paper, Beijing continues to buy non-U.S. gold, in the form of 68 tons in imports from Hong Kong in the month of June.

The year-to-date total (six months) 383 tons. In other words, in half a year China, whose official total tally is still a massively underrepresented 1,054 tons, has imported more gold than the official gold reserves of Portugal, Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, the UK and so on, and whose YTD imports alone make it the 14th-largest holder of gold in the world. Realistically, by now China, which hasn't provided an honest gold reserve holdings update to the IMF in years, most certainly has more gold than the IMF, and its 2,814 tons, itself. Of course, the moment the PBOC does announce its official updated gold stash, a gold price in the mid-\$1,000 range will be a long-gone memory.

TW IN BRIEF

■ Philippines prepares for more rain

The Philippines is struggling to keep its head above floodwaters caused by monsoon rains. More than 90 people are dead as a result of the nonstop rains that drenched Manila starting on August 5, causing the worst flooding since 2009. By August 9, more than half of the city was submerged during the peak of flooding that caused schools and business offices to close for days. The garbage-loaded floodwaters clogged streets and waterways, virtually shutting down Manila. More than 2.4 million people in 144 municipalities have been affected by the weather, and more than 3,100 homes have been damaged. Communities hit hardest by the floods resemble a wasteland covered with mud and debris.

The weather disasters multiplying on the scene today are a tool that the Creator of the natural world has reserved for Himself, to use as He chooses, in order to speak with us!

■ Russia to acquire 1,600 military aircraft

The Russian military will acquire 1,000 helicopters and 600 planes by 2020, President Vladimir Putin said on Saturday. "We are talking primarily about providing our forces with state-of-the-art modern technology," Putin said. Since his first election in 2000, Putin has labored to restore pride in Russia's Cold War-era superpower military. The planned addition of 1,600 military aircraft is part of a \$720 billion program to bolster an armed force still somewhat weakened by spending reductions driven by the 1991 collapse of the Soviet Union. In addition to the new helicopters and planes, existing military aircraft will also be modernized and upgraded. The massive military spending increase was first announced in early 2011, and represents



A girl sits on her rooftop along a flooded street August 10 in Manila, Philippines.

a sharp increase in Russia's annual defense budget. Expect the Kremlin's drive to restore its former Soviet power to intensify in the years ahead.

■ Dispute with Japan brings China and Taiwan closer

More than 100 people gathered outside a Japanese government office in Taiwan on Wednesday to protest Tokyo's plans to nationalize a set of islands controlled by Japan but also claimed by Taiwan and China. The islands, called *Senkaku* in Japanese

and *Diaoyu* in Chinese, have long been a source of tension in the region. Wednesday's protest came as a group of activists from Hong Kong stopped in waters off Taiwan to stock up on supplies before sailing to the disputed islands to assert China's claim to them. A spokesman for the activists said they would try to land on the islands to claim sovereignty for China, but that Japanese government vessels would likely stop them. The protests were staged on the 67th anniversary of the Japanese

surrender to the Allied forces. China and Taiwan are moving closer to reunification, and this territorial dispute offers common ground to the two sides which could accelerate their reunification efforts. "How could anyone fail to see that Taiwan is destined to become a part of mainland China?" wrote *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry back in 1998. Since then, huge strides toward reunification have taken place, and this territorial dispute may become another step toward that end.

AFRICA/LATIN AMERICA

Outrage Over Farm Attack

SOWETAN | August 13

ANOTHER FARMER was shot dead, and his wife badly hurt from being stabbed, on their farm in the Eastern Cape over the weekend. "Owen Charles has served his Jansenville community in myriad ways as a liberal activist over the last two decades," Athol Trollip, M.P. and DA shadow minister of Rural Development and Land Reform, said in a statement.

"His wife Jenny is in hospital in critical condition with multiple stab wounds. This senseless loss of life is a tragedy not only in itself, but also for the knock-on effects that such a murder has on rural communities across the country. It is not a once-off murder, but the latest in a persistently escalating string of farm attacks."

The attackers took their vehicle, as well as other possessions. Trollip said the failure of government to prevent farm murders is one of collective governance.

"There is clearly a lack of political will to protect farmers and farm-workers, even though farm-workers are the ones whose families are most in jeopardy as a result of these attacks. This lack of political will translates into a lack of any robust plan for rural safety.

"Meanwhile, ministers have spent a collective R530.6 million of

taxpayers' money on VIP protection services to ensure their own personal safety over 2010/11. ..."

South Africa Police Kill 34 Miners

ASSOCIATED PRESS | August 17

FRANTIC WIVES searched for missing loved ones, President Jacob Zuma rushed home from a regional summit and some miners vowed a fight to the death Friday as police finally announced the toll from the previous day's shooting by officers of striking platinum miners: 34 dead and 78 wounded.

Police Chief Mangwashi Victoria Phiyega said that Thursday was a dark day for South Africa and no time for pointing fingers, as people compared the shootings to apartheid-era state violence and political parties and labor unions demanded an investigation. Phiyega took over in June after two police commissioners were indicted for corruption and other charges. She already had her work cut out trying to reform a corrupt and scandal-ridden force.

Thursday's shootings are seen as a microcosm of the myriad problems facing South Africa 18 years after white ... rule ended, including growing inequality between a white minority joined by a small black elite while most blacks endure high unemployment and inadequate housing, health

care and education.

Zuma's ... party's powerful youth wing argues that nationalization is the only way to redress the evils of the apartheid past. Zuma's office confirmed that he had left a regional summit in Mozambique and was on his way to the mine, 70 kilometers (40 miles) northwest of Johannesburg.

The shootings "awaken us to the reality of the time bomb that has stopped ticking—it has exploded," The *Sowetan* newspaper said in a front-page editorial Friday. "Africans are pitted against each other They are fighting for a bigger slice of the mineral wealth of the country." ...

At least 10 other people were killed during the week-old strike, including two police officers battered to death by strikers and two mine security guards burned alive when strikers set their vehicle ablaze.

Makhosi Mbongane, a 32-year-old winch operator, said mine managers should have come to the striking workers rather than send police. Strikers were demanding monthly salary raises from \$625 to \$1,563. Mbongane vowed that he was not going back to work and would not allow anyone else to do so either.

"They can beat us, kill us and kick and trample on us with their feet, do whatever they want to do, we aren't going to go back to work," he told The Associated Press. "If they employ other people they won't be able to work either, we will stay here and kill them." ...

7 Reasons This Election Doesn't Matter

MITT ROMNEY, on Saturday, officially chose Wisconsin congressman Paul Ryan to be his running mate. Some analysts called it a “bold move” that energized conservatives.

How important is this decision to America's future? Many people believe the November election is a choice between fiscal sustainability and economic collapse. But regardless of what Democrats or Republicans say, let's look at some realities about America's economy that the next president, whoever he may be, is going to have to face.

Challenge 1: Can you conceptualize \$1 trillion? One million seconds is 12 days. One billion seconds is almost 32 years. One trillion seconds is about 31,688 years! (hat tip Mike Shedlock). Think about how much a trillion is, and realize that America is going further into debt by more than \$1 trillion per year.

Challenge 2: America's massive debt. As huge as America's deficit is, the bigger threat may be America's practically unfathomable debt. America's official federal debt is almost \$16 trillion—but that is only the tip of the iceberg. America has promised its citizens tens of trillions more in Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid benefits. Total it all up and Prof. Laurence Kotlikoff puts America's total liabilities at a mind-boggling \$222 trillion. *Go back and reconceptualize a trillion.*

Challenge 3: America's uncontrollable welfare dependency. The U.S. federal government now runs 79 welfare programs. About one in three Americans get some sort of government handout. Politicians can cut spending—but not without massively damaging the economy.



ROBERT MORLEY

Challenge 4: America's banking system is shot. On August 11, Reuters revealed that U.S. regulators had told U.S. banks to make plans for preventing collapse. Five years following the 2008 Wall Street meltdown, the banking system is still no more secure. Banks cannot expect government bailouts this time, authorities told the banks.

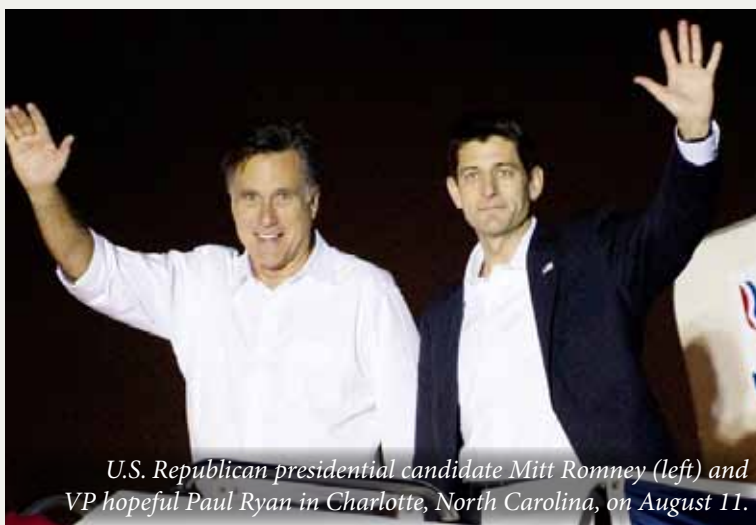
Challenge 5: The jobs are gone for good. America is experiencing the worst-ever post-recession job recovery. At the current pace of job growth, America is still around two and a half to three years away from just getting the jobs back that we lost in the 2007 recession. And as President Obama's green energy/solar power initiative proved, attracting manufacturing to America is virtually impossible, even with massive government subsidies.

Challenge 6: America's education system is failing. For the first time in history, American students owe more in student loans than the country owes in credit card debt. Yet what do students get for that? Increasingly, it is a lifetime of indentured servitude at a job that barely pays the interest on their loans—and a dumbed down degree that is of little value.

Challenge 7: The economic cost of America's moral slide. Fifty years ago, the majority of Americans went to bed with their doors unlocked. They left their keys in the car in case someone needed to borrow it. They never thought twice about letting their children walk to school. We don't live in that America anymore. There is a huge economic cost to America's moral slide.

America is past the point of no return. The economic system cannot be sustained. Tough times are coming on America, but once through, the country will be able to start anew.

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U.S. Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney (left) and VP hopeful Paul Ryan in Charlotte, North Carolina, on August 11.

Climate Skepticism in Corn Belt

FINANCIAL TIMES | August 15

EXTREME WEATHER has visited Kevin Mainord's farm business twice in the past two years. In 2011, a wall of water deluged his corn and soybean

fields after U.S. authorities blasted a levee to relieve flooding on the Mississippi River. This year brought drought and weeks of devastating heat.

Scientists have long warned of more frequent floods and droughts as the world's climate changes. But for Mr. Mainord and many like him, global warming is bogus. “It's more God and

nature's dictates, rather than a man-made event,” the Missouri farmer said this week as he harvested a corn crop one quarter of its normal size. ...

Drought has gripped the broadest area of the U.S. corn belt since previous severe dry spells in the 1980s and the 1930s, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said on

Great Commodities War to End All Wars

Paul B. Farrell, **MARKET WATCH** | August 7

YES, WORLD WAR III: The Great Commodities War to End All Wars. We've heard that before. Remember World War I, known as The War to End All Wars, 37 million casualties. World War II was bigger, 60 million. Will World War III finally end all wars? Or end the world, civilization, planet?

And it's already started folks, ending the Great American Dream. Fasten your seatbelts, soon we'll all be shocked out of denial. Some unpredictable black swan. A global wake-up call will trigger the Pentagon's prediction in *Fortune* a decade ago at the launch of the Iraq War: "By 2020 ... an ancient pattern of desperate, all-out wars over food, water, and energy supplies is emerging ... warfare defining human life."

And that's also the clear message in *The Race for What's Left: The Global Scramble for the World's Last Resources*, the latest book by noted international security expert Michael Klare. Earlier, about the same time as the Pentagon's prediction, Klare published his classic, *Resource Wars: The New Landscape of Global Conflict*, a look ahead to a world that he now hopes will not "end in war, widespread starvation, or a massive environmental catastrophe."

Although they are "the probable results of persisting in the race for what's left." Unfortunately, hope can't trump reality in today's race for what little is left. We need men who pull no punches in describing what's dead ahead, whether labeling it "Resource Wars" or "World War III, The Great Commodities War That Can End Everything." Klare does just that with this warning:

"It is true that eliminating our dependence on fossil fuels and other finite materials cannot be accomplished overnight—our current reliance on them is just too great," warns Klare, well aware that the forces of capitalism are trapped in denial, cannot see the dangers dead ahead, focusing only on getting richer no matter the consequences to the planet. "But no matter how much corporate or government officials wish to deny it, there is not nearly enough non-renewable resources on this planet to perpetually satisfy the growing needs of a ballooning world population." ...

If there is a race, it's a downhill race to World War III The world's great powers are accelerating war preparations—yes, they are in the early logistical build-up stage, amassing the resources and arms to send troops into battle. And they're doing it in a world lost in denial, sinking deeper into a collective conscience that pretends our problems will be solved by the magic of free-market capitalism, unwilling to admit it ... no longer exists

Yes, the planet is at a historic turning point. You must plan for black swans, Earth-shaking wake-up calls—a perfect storm of global wars, mass starvation, pandemics, environmental catastrophes.

The critical mass is building. We're just not listening

With all of the planet's easily accessible resource deposits rapidly approaching exhaustion, the desperate hunt for supplies has become a frenzy of extreme exploration, as governments and corporations rush to stake their claims in areas previously considered too dangerous or remote. ...

Wednesday. ...

"The Midwest has really seen a remarkable change over recent decades in the dosing of precipitation. The overall trend is up, but the character is that more and more of that precipitation is delivered in large doses," Mr. Arndt said.

'This Is Going to Be a Lot Worse Than 2008'

Terry Weiss, **MONEY MORNING** | August 17

NOTED EXPERT Peter Schiff says the U.S. economy is on the verge of an economic collapse worse than 2008 and is warning investors to take immediate steps to protect themselves.

In a gripping interview ... Schiff warns that while any moves the Fed makes could "artificially" bolster the

economy—and bring investors false hope that things are turning around—the truth is that the government will only be delaying the "Day of Reckoning."

"If the Fed ultimately comes through with QE3 ... it won't strengthen the economy, but it will weaken the dollar," Schiff said, noting that Bernanke's policies will eventually lead to a Greek-style debilitating sovereign debt crisis where the dollar plunges and consumer prices and interest rates spike.

"We have a much bigger collapse coming, not just the markets, but of the economy. It's like what you're seeing in Europe right now only worse," Schiff said.

Schiff goes on to say that things will get truly ugly when we hit our fiscal cliff and have to slash government spending across the board. "People on entitlements like Social Security and Medicare ... they're not going to get the benefits they've been promised.

Government workers are going to have to take pay cuts ... banks are going to fail ... people are going to lose money, not just investors but depositors. The housing market is going to fall again."

And Schiff isn't the only expert warning about the U.S. economy's dire predicament. ...

'Drag Queen' Barbie!

DAILY MAIL | August 16

BARBIE HAS served as a female role model for years, donning everything from a nurse's uniform to an Olympic athlete's tracksuit and presidential power suit. Now, however, the famous plastic doll is aiming to inspire male fans through the first "drag queen" Barbie.

Although the term drag queen is not officially used to describe the new The

Government Offers Free Sterilizations to 15-Year-Old Girls

REMEMBER WHEN Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi pitched the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act—aka Obamacare—by saying, “We have to pass the bill so that you can find out what is in it”? Well, it passed, and now we’re finding out.

Hold on to your seat.

Can you stomach free sterilizations for 15-year-old girls?

The Affordable Care Act listed several services that American health insurance plans must “provide coverage for and shall not impose any cost-sharing requirements for.” Among them were unspecified “additional preventive care and screenings” for women. Just what that care would include was yet to be determined.

In July 2011, the Committee on Preventive Services for Women of the Institute of Medicine advised that this federal mandate include “the full range of Food and Drug Administration-approved contraceptive methods, sterilization procedures, and patient education and counseling for women with reproductive capacity.” Its report defined “women with reproductive capacity” as including those “from the time of menarche to menopause.”

Menarche typically begins with girls around age 12. Now eligible for free provision of the “full range” of federally approved contraception—including sterilization.

We are talking about the government mandating that insurance companies pay all costs of *teenage girls and*



JOEL HILLIKER

even younger to receive tubal ligation surgery or surgical implants, rendering them incapable of ever bearing children.

The Department of Health and Human Services adopted the committee’s recommendation a month later, with one slight change: adding the word “all” before the phrase “women with reproductive capacity.” Presumably, they wanted to close a potential loophole in case anyone tried to make any exceptions. Like for young teen girls.

Sterilization is effectively permanent. It is at least 98 percent effective. A woman who wants to reverse the procedure must undergo a more extensive surgery, and the success rate is low.

What was the federal government thinking when it forced insurance companies to pay for these surgeries—without even putting an age limit on them?

The law says these girls are under the age of consent to even *have sex*. Yet somehow they are mature enough to decide, by themselves, that they will never want children?

Unconcerned about public opinion or backlash, the federal government is undermining parental authority and manipulating impressionable young people. They are

forcing insurance companies to support something that these companies may well consider morally abhorrent. They are compelling all insurance holders to pay for these procedures in the form of higher premiums.

All this in order to force their extreme views while euphemistically calling it “preventive care for women.”

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President Obama celebrates the signing into law of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act health insurance reform bill in Washington on March 23, 2010.

Blonds Blond Diamond Barbie Doll, the plastic figurine was created in part by New York-based fashion designer Phillipe Blond, who is a cross-dresser himself. Mattel, the company that manufactures Barbie, commissioned the work to Phillipe and David Blond of the label The Blonds, who have expressed their adoration for the doll ever since their label was born in 2007.

Cathy Cline, vice president of marketing for Mattel’s girls’ brands, told the *New York Times*: “One of the great things about Barbie is that she continues to push the envelope. Barbie doesn’t worry about what other people think.” Phillipe himself expressed the

same sentiment. “Fashion is a form of self-expression and we believe that everyone should feel glamorous every day,” he said.

The doll, who really should have been modeled with the male Ken doll, features a side-swept hair style and an extremely short bejeweled mini corset dress that is laced up at the back.

She pairs the look with flashy accessories, also a chunky silver cuff, a sparkling cocktail ring and silver metallic pumps that feature a lipstick pink sole. A full-length faux fox fur coat completes the dramatic look. Barbie has also been given eyelash extensions, a must for any drag queen.

TW IN BRIEF

■ Teen gangs on the prowl

An alarming trend in teenage crime is hitting headlines. The last week in July, a drunken group of girls stabbed a 63-year-old man on a subway in Manhattan, the *New York Post* reported. The eight girls (six of them ages 15 to 19), with beers in hand, were creating a loud booze-party atmosphere on a train carrying passengers to work at 6:15 a.m. The older man asked them to stop making noise. A witness told police that all he said was, “Relax. Calm down.” Instead of calming down, one of the girls took a knife and stabbed him in the shoulder. The man

Out of the Abundance of the Heart ...

ONCE, OUR educational system was underpinned by the study of language and the reading of great books espousing great ideas. The learning of a broad, colorful and precise vocabulary seemed automatic. The results were reflected in our ability to communicate clearly in speech and writing. Conversation was stimulating.

Have you noticed that really good communicators—the most effective conversationalists and orators within society—seldom if ever stoop to using base language?

As Jesus Christ declared, “Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks” (Matthew 12:34). Thus a tongue that mouths base or bad language simply reveals a mind that is not in true synchronization with that of Christ (Philippians 2:5).

The Apostle Paul gave us a wonderful admonition on how to engender clean, uplifting speech: “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things” (Philippians 4:8).



RON FRASER

Reading wide, developing a good understanding of language, is a great source of continuing education. This aspect of education is sadly lacking in many national curricula today. The result is a massive loss in ability to communicate clearly and effectively in our native tongue.

It is clearly demonstrated that children to whom parents read regularly during infancy, and who are encouraged to read widely throughout their years of schooling, are far better conversationalists, readers and writers by the time they reach adulthood.

When electronic gadgetry does our thinking for us, we either greatly limit or lose a powerful component of our human mind—the power to *IMAGINE!*

When we add to this a dumbed-down form of “communication” in abbreviated forms via texting, the capacity to effectively communicate with each other in a truly mature and civilized way is reduced. That is a great sign of a society in decay.

One of the greatest of tools that we can possess in our armory to fight against the dumbing down of Anglo-Saxon society is the ability to ensure that each and every word that leaves our lips becomes as “apples of gold in pictures of silver” (Proverbs 25:11).

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had to be taken to hospital for treatment. All the girls were arrested except the 15-year-old. The suspects were charged with gang assault, disorderly conduct, rioting, criminal possession of a weapon, menacing and felony assault. The same week, the *Chicago Tribune* reported that an 87-year-old World War II veteran was attacked, beaten and robbed by three young men—two of them teenagers, 15 and 17—after walking home from a corner store. Before running off with the old soldier’s wallet, the attackers smashed his glasses, knocked out his hearing aid and broke his dentures. Two delivery men witnessed the incident and helped track down the attackers for police. The three young men were charged with robbery of a senior citizen and reckless conduct. The victim sustained cuts and bruises to his face. Isaiah 3:12 is a great summation of today’s news headlines concerning young people. The majority of children do not respect their parents or those in authority. They harass and rob us. And ever greater numbers behave like wild animals and even want to murder us.

■ Mexico slaughters 8 million H7N3 influenza-infected chickens

Mexico is embroiled in an effort to contain an outbreak of a strain of bird flu in the west of the country. Agriculture Ministry officials announced on Tuesday of last week that they had vaccinated 66 million chickens and killed 8 million infected chickens in the egg-producing Los Altos region. Mexico plans a two-phase vaccination program that would vaccinate 80 million more chickens in the first phase. The second phase would be conducted after an evaluation of the first. The outbreak of the H7N3 bird flu strain was first detected in Los Altos on June 20. At the beginning of July, Mexico declared an animal health emergency. Subsequently, prices of eggs and chickens

increased sharply. The Mexican poultry industry has already lost \$50 million since June. According to the United Nations, the H7N3 virus rarely infects humans and is not known to be easily transmittable between humans. However, viruses are prone to mutations, and other strains like H5N1 and H1N1 have already been fatal to humans. An avian flu pandemic is potentially disastrous to birds, humans, societies and economies.



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ISLAMIC from page 1

RADICALLY LIMITED THE INFLUENCE OF HIS OPPONENTS!

So much for Egypt's "democratic" revolution.

Morsi's second decision was as dramatic and far-reaching as the first. On Sunday, he also nullified the constitutional declaration made by the military shortly before he took power that gave the SCAF additional powers and severely limited presidential authority. Morsi then replaced that constitutional declaration with a declaration of his own, one that equips Egypt's president with wide-ranging legislative and executive powers, *as well as a leading role in drafting the new constitution.*

Egypt now belongs to Morsi and the Brotherhood.

You watch. The task of writing Egypt's new constitution will now undoubtedly be led by an individual faithful to Mohammed Morsi, the Muslim Brotherhood and radical Islamist ideology.

"This is a coup," lamented Middle East expert Barry Rubin. "Morsi is bound by no constitution. He can do as he pleases unless someone is going to stop him. And the only candidate—the military—is fading fast, far faster than even we pessimists would have predicted."

On Sunday, *Jerusalem Post* columnist Caroline Glick wrote that "today Morsi completed the Egyptian revolution. Egypt is now an Islamic state. Its leaders drink from the same well as al Qaeda, Hamas and all the rest. Egypt, with its U.S. armed military, has reemerged after 30 years as the greatest military threat that Israel has ever faced."

Remarkably, both these radical developments aren't even the most significant news to come out of Egypt this week.

Perhaps the most important development came Tuesday, when Mohamed Gadallah, Morsi's chief legal adviser told an Egyptian newspaper—*no doubt at the president's behest*—that Morsi is currently "studying" the possibility of revising the 1978 Egypt-Israel peace treaty. (Yes, this contradicts Morsi's many promises that he would respect all international treaties signed by Egypt.)

One can't emphasize the significance of this development enough.

More than anything else, Israel's survival as a sovereign country depends on Egypt's willingness to uphold the 1978 Camp David Accords. As Stratfor CEO George Friedman once observed, "The only thing that could threaten the survival of Israel, apart from a nuclear barrage, *would be a shift in position of neighboring states.* [And] the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT NEIGHBOR ISRAEL HAS IS EGYPT" (June 19, 2007, emphasis added).

Now Egypt is seriously considering gutting the Camp David Accords.

This is the context in which we need to watch events in the Sinai Peninsula. Under the Camp David Accords, Israel agreed to withdraw troops and citizens from the Sinai in return for peaceful relations with Egypt and the promise that Cairo would guarantee safe access to the Red Sea and *restrict the number of Egyptian troops present in the region.*



BRAD MACDONALD

It appears Morsi wants to renege on these promises. According to Gadallah, the changes Morsi is considering will allow Egypt to "implement its full sovereignty over the Sinai Peninsula."

This could be huge. The call for complete sovereignty over a demilitarized region like the Sinai should set off some disturbing alarm bells. On March 7, 1936, Adolf Hitler delivered a speech in the Reichstag in which he announced that "Germany no longer feels bound by the Locarno Treaty." Established in 1925, Locarno delineated postwar territorial boundaries in Europe. After he renounced Locarno, Hitler dispatched troops to retake the Rhineland. He then took Austria, then the Sudetenland, then Poland.

We all know what happened next.

Watch Morsi closely. And don't be surprised if *very soon* he publicly calls for the revision of the Camp David Accords. Right now he's laying the groundwork. The Muslim Brotherhood is openly hostile toward Egypt's peace treaty with Israel and no doubt has a strategy for destroying it. Moreover, as radical Islam's presence increases in Egypt, and especially in the Sinai, it's possible Morsi and the Brotherhood might exploit it as a ruse to militarize and establish full sovereignty over the Sinai.

This wouldn't be too difficult. First, all Cairo would have to do—and in fact already has done—is loosen security in the Sinai and allow it to become an Islamist terrorist hotbed. Such a terrorist encampment would undoubtedly get Israel's attention, and likely cause it to demand that Cairo take a tougher approach with terrorists. Next, as part of a seemingly altruistic effort to assuage Israel's concerns over the presence of Islamist terrorists in the Sinai, Egypt could ask Israel to renegotiate the Camp David Accords to allow the Egyptian Army to assume a greater presence in the Sinai. Finally, under the political cover provided by the now-revised, internationally accepted Camp David Accords, Cairo could set up its military on a large scale in the Sinai.

Voilà, the Sinai would belong to Egypt!

The presence of Egypt's military in the Sinai would effectively give Morsi and the Brotherhood control over Israel's entire southern flank. And not just Egypt. Morsi has *already* reached out to Iran. This relationship will continue to develop, especially as Morsi and the Brotherhood continue to gain unilateral control over Egypt. As the Iran-Egypt axis continues to develop, and Bible prophecy says it will, then Tehran will also benefit if Egypt takes hold of the Sinai Peninsula.

Continue to watch Egypt closely. It appears Mohammed Morsi is becoming increasingly willing to shed his moderate cloak and reveal himself for what he really is. That is, a devoted Muslim Brotherhood member and an anti-democratic, anti-Israel, anti-Western, radical Islamist determined to preside over an Islamist renaissance in Egypt, the establishment of Egypt as an Islamist state—and ultimately the conquering of Jerusalem!

These are deeply alarming developments for Israel, for the West, for the international community—and for *you*.

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