

Eye on the World

Jan. 16-17, 2010

This collection of short news items is from the "Eye on the World" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's Web site, churchofgodbigandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of Jan. 16-17, 2010.

Compiled by Jeanine Case

Carribbean360.com posted an article on Jan. 11, 2010, titled "More Explosions at Soufriere Hill Volcano."

According to the article, on Friday afternoon scientists concluded there had been a probable dome collapse of Soufriere Hill Volcano, on the Caribbean island of Montserrat. The northern safe zone was affected by gas, ash and hot rock. Because of this, residents in the area had to evacuate immediately. It was probable that pyroclastic flows would continue.

The article also stated that light ash fell as a result of the Sunday-morning explosion. More ash fell in populated areas. Portions on the north side of the island have suffered significant ash fall since the volcano's activity resumed last October.

"A level-four alert, one down from the maximum five, remains in effect. That means there is controlled access in most areas, with only essential workers allowed in areas close to the volcano."



NationalGeographicNews.com ran an article titled "North Magnetic Pole Moving Due to Core Flux."

The article was written by Richard A. Lovett and was posted on Dec. 24, 2009.

The article claims that the magnetic north pole is moving about 40 miles a year. The article went on to say that scientists can't directly detect its magnetic field because the core is too deep. The field's movement can be inferred "by tracking how earth's magnetic field has been changing at the surface and in space."

The pole's actual magnetic north is near Canada's Ellesmere Island." It is not located in the same spot as the geographic North Pole.

The article said magnetic north pole was first located by scientists in 1831. It seemed to move little until 1904. It then started moving northeastward

steadily at the pace of nearly nine miles a year. It was noted that it sped up again in 1989. In 2007 it was discovered to be moving at a rate of around 34 to 37 miles per year headed in the direction of Siberia.

It was stated that it is hard to forecast where the pole will head next.



“Beijing Economic Policy Rocks the Global Boat” reads the title of a Spiegel Online article written by Wieland Wagner and posted on Jan. 12, 2010.

The reconnecting of Beijing’s currency to the dollar could eventually harm China and also cause an increase in global economic imbalances, reported Mr. Wagner.

The government decided in the summer of 2008 to, “once again peg the exchange rate of the yuan to the U.S. dollar.”

Beijing does this to make sure it can export its products at cheaper prices. The yuan has been falling along with the dollar. This has caused it to lose 17 percent of its value against the euro in 2009.

The Chinese government uses the artificially low exchange rate to protect many export companies against failure. This is the reason that in November China’s exports dropped by only 1.2 percent. China has replaced Germany and is the top export country in the world.

The West looks to China’s enormous growth to help rescue the rest of the world from crisis.

According to the article, China has actually expanded global imbalances with its aggressive exchange rate strategy: the same kind of imbalances that were partly responsible for the most recent financial crisis and, as a result, need to be corrected.

There may now be long-term trade issues for China with its neighbors because China has been selling to neighboring countries thanks to the decline of sales in the United States and Europe.

There could also be issues for China if America were to raise its interest rates.



The following article is from WorldNetDaily.com’s Web site.

The article “Exposed: Secret Talks to Carve Up Israel, Again” was posted by Aaron Klein on Jan. 12, 2010.

“JERUSALEM—Israel and the Palestinian Authority are negotiating indirectly via the U.S., Jordan and Egypt to outline a future Palestinian state that would encompass Jerusalem, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, Middle East security and diplomatic officials told WND.

"Popular perception has it that talks between Israel and the PA are stalled over a Palestinian demand that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu extend a 10-month West Bank settlement freeze to include Jewish communities in eastern Jerusalem.

"Just yesterday, Netanyahu's office released a statement declaring the prime minister would 'never' cede control of united Jerusalem nor retreat to the 1967 borders, referring to an evacuation of the West Bank and eastern Jerusalem. The statement came after Egypt's foreign minister said in Cairo last week Netanyahu was ready to discuss making 'Arab Jerusalem' the capital of a Palestinian state.

"According to Middle East security and diplomatic officials, however, Netanyahu's statement may be misleading unless he meant he would not retreat to the exact 1967 lines. Those officials, from Egypt Jordan, the PA and Israel, told WND in separate interviews over the course of the last few weeks that Israel is in advanced stages of outlining a future Palestinian state that would encompass most of the West Bank. Also, Jerusalem is being discussed between Israel and members of the Obama administration, the officials said."



"Paper ranks Savage among top conservatives" reads the headline of an article posted at WorldNetDaily.com on Jan. 13, 2010.

According to writer Michael Savage's reporting, American talk-show host Michael Savage was listed by *The Daily Telegraph* of London as one of its "100 most influential conservatives in the U.S. for a second straight year."

This year the paper ranked Mr. Savage at No. 47 out of 100. He is the third-rated host in America, with 10 million listeners. The article went on to state that Mr. Savage is heard on about 400 stations in the United States.