

Eye on the World

Feb. 27–28, 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 Feb. 27–28, 2010.

Compiled by Dave Havir

An AFP story headlined "Clinton Compares Iran Showdown to Cuban Missile Crisis" was posted at Breitbart.com on Feb. 25, 2010.

The reported stated: "U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on Thursday compared the showdown with Iran over its nuclear program to the Cuban missile crisis in 1962, which brought the world to the brink of nuclear war."



A story headlined "Poll Shows Concern About American Influence Waning as China's Grows" was posted at The Washington Post's Web site on Feb. 25, 2010.

According to John Pomfret and Jon Cohen:

"Facing high unemployment and a difficult economy, most Americans think the United States will have a smaller role in the world economy in the coming years, and many believe that while the 20th century may have been the 'American Century,' the 21st century will belong to China."



A Reuters story headlined "China Extends Position as World's Leading Food Producer" at the Business Day Web site was posted on Feb. 23, 2010. It stated:

"China extended its position as the world's leading food producer in 2008, when its agricultural production jumped 30 percent, measured by value, World Trade Organization data show."



A story at Times Online (*Times of London*) headlined "Muammar Gaddafi Calls for Jihad on Swiss After Ban on Building Minarets" was posted Feb. 26, 2010.

Roger Boyes reported: "The Libyan leader's call for a holy war, [Gaddafi] said, a response to a Swiss referendum in November to ban the construction of minarets on mosques."

In a televised speech at a rally, Gaddafi called any Muslim who works with Switzerland an "apostate."



A story at Reuters headlined "Congress Extends Patriot Act, No New Protections" was posted Feb. 25, 2010. Thomas Ferraro and Andy Sullivan reported:

"Legislation to extend expiring provisions of the antiterror U.S.A. Patriot Act won final congressional approval on Thursday, with Democrats unable to add additional civil-liberties protections."

The Patriot Act was quickly passed by Congress after the terrorist attacks in the United States on Sept. 11, 2001.



A story at Express.co.uk (*Daily and Sunday Express*) headlined "Weather: Hottest January Ever, Say Climate Experts" was posted Feb. 26, 2010. Donna Bowater reported:

"Climate scientists yesterday stunned Britons suffering the coldest winter for 30 years by claiming last month was the hottest January the world has ever seen."



A WorldNetDaily.com headlined "Radical Muslim Group Has Deep Ties to White House: 'One of the Chief Conduits' for Passing Saudi-Style Radical Islam into U.S" was posted Feb. 24, 2010.

Following is the article by Aaron Klein (with research by Brenda J. Elliott):

"JERUSALEM—A radical Muslim group that was an unindicted co-conspirator in a scheme to raise money for Hamas has an extensive relationship with the Obama administration, WND has learned.

"Last week, President Obama's top adviser on counter-terrorism, John Brennan, came under fire for controversial remarks he made in a speech to Muslim law students at New York University. The event was sponsored by the Islamic Society of North America, or ISNA.

"ISNA is known for its enforcement of Saudi-style Islam in mosques throughout the U.S. It was named by the Justice Department as an unindicted co-conspirator in its case against the Holy Land Foundation in Texas, which was found guilty in 2008 of raising money for the Hamas terrorist organization.

Last year, Holy Land founders were given life sentences for funneling \$12 million to Hamas.

"The Obama White House has deep ties to ISNA.

"The relationship began even before Obama took office. One week before last year's presidential inauguration, Sayyid Syeed, national director of the ISNA Office for Interfaith and Community Alliances, was part of a delegation that met with the directors of Obama's transition team. The delegation discussed a request for an executive order ending 'torture.'

"ISNA President Ingrid Mattson represented American Muslims at Obama's inauguration, where she offered a prayer during the televised event.

"Mattson also represented ISNA at Obama's Ramadan dinner at the White House.

"Last June, Obama's top aide, Valerie Jarrett, invited Mattson to work on the White House Council on Women and Girls, which Jarrett leads.

"In July, the Justice Department sponsored an information booth at an ISNA bazaar in Washington, D.C.

"Also that month, Jarrett addressed ISNA's 46th annual convention. According to the White House, Jarrett attended as part of Obama's outreach to Muslims.

"Discover the Networks notes ISNA, through its affiliate, the North American Islamic Trust—a Saudi government-backed organization—reportedly holds the mortgages on 50 to 80 percent of all mosques in the U.S. and Canada.

" 'Thus the organization can freely exercise ultimate authority over these houses of worship and their teachings,' states DTN.

"ISNA was founded in 1981 by the Saudi-funded Muslim Students' Association. The two groups are still partners. WND previously attended an MSA event at which violence against the U.S. was urged by speakers.

" 'We are not Americans,' shouted one speaker, Muhammad Faheed at Queensborough Community College in 2003. 'We are Muslims. [The U.S.] is going to deport and attack us! It is us versus them! Truth against falsehood! The colonizers and masters against the oppressed, and we will burn down the master's house!'

"ISNA was named in a May 1991 Muslim Brotherhood document—'An Explanatory Memorandum on the General Strategic Goal for the Group in North America'—as one of the Brotherhood's like-minded 'organizations of our friends' who shared the common goal of destroying America and turning it into a Muslim nation, according to Discover the Networks.

"Islam scholar Stephen Schwartz describes ISNA as 'one of the chief conduits through which the radical Saudi form of Islam passes into the United States.'

"According to terrorism expert Steven Emerson, ISNA 'is a radical group hiding under a false veneer of moderation' that publishes a bi-monthly magazine, Islamic Horizons, that 'often champions militant Islamist doctrine.' The group also 'convenes annual conferences where Islamist militants have been given a platform to incite violence and promote hatred,' states Emerson. Emerson cites an ISNA conference in which al-Qaida supporter and PLO official Yusuf Al Qaradhawi was invited to speak.

"Emerson further reports that in September 2002, a full year after 9/11, 'speakers at ISNA's annual conference still refused to acknowledge Bin Laden's role in the terrorist attacks.'

"Also, ISNA has held fund-raisers for terrorists, notes Discover the Networks. After Hamas leader Mousa Marzook was arrested and eventually deported in 1997, ISNA raised money for his defense. The group also has condemned the U.S. government's post-9/11 seizure of Hamas' and Palestinian Islamic Jihad's financial assets."