

Eye on the World

May 15–16, 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 May 15-16, 2010.

Compiled by Dave Havir

An article titled "Thai Troops Fire on Rioting Protesters" was posted at aol.com on May 14, 2010.

It said: "Thai troops exchanged fire with protesters using homemade rockets in clashes that have turned Bangkok's main commercial district into a war zone today, a day after an anti-government leader was shot in the head while being interviewed by a newspaper reporter."



An article by Pan Pylas titled "Euro Loses Bounce From \$1 Trillion Bailout" was posted at yahoo.com on May 13, 2010.

It said: "The euro soared after the EU announced a startling \$1 trillion financial rescue package earlier this week. But that respite has evaporated—a sign that worries remain about the heavy debts burdening European governments."



An article by Peter Wise titled "Portugal Unveils 'Crisis Tax' To Cut Deficit" was posted at ft.com (*Financial Times*) on May 13, 2010.

It said: "Portugal introduced tough new austerity measures including a 'crisis tax' on wages and big companies on Thursday as part of a plan to cut its budget deficit by more than half in under two years."

It also said: "Portugal has been seen as one the European Union members most vulnerable to an attack by the markets after Greece."



An article titled "President Nicolas Sarkozy 'Threatened to Pull France Out of Euro' " was posted at telegraph.co.uk on May 14, 2010.

It said: "President Nicolas Sarkozy slammed his fist on the table and threatened to pull France out of the euro at a meeting of European leaders deciding Greece's aid package last Friday."



An article by Edmund Conway titled "US Faces Same Problems As Greece, Says Bank of England" was posted at telegraph.co.uk on May 14, 2010.

It said: "Mervyn King, Governor of the Bank of England, fears that America shares many of the same fiscal problems currently haunting Europe. He also believes that European Union must become a federalised fiscal union (in other words with central power to tax and spend) if it is to survive."



An editorial titled "Health Care Cost Cynics Were Right" was posted at news-register.net (*The Intelligent Wheeling News-Register*) on May 13, 2010.

It said: "One of President Barack Obama's big health care takeover selling points was that the whole thing would cost less than \$1 trillion. Even that figure, incomprehensible to most Americans, was low—and there is no doubt Obama and his liberal cronies in Congress know it.

"Congressional budget analysts say the new health care law probably will cost at least \$115 billion more than had been claimed.

"The additional funding was not included in Congressional Budget Office estimates during the weeks before Congress enacted the health care measure. At the time, conservatives maintained the CBO cost estimate was wrong. Obama, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said, in essence, that the critics were lying."

This time the critics were telling the truth.



An article by Corbett B. Daly and Lynn Adler titled "Fannie Mae Seeks \$8.4 Billion From Govt After Loss" was posted at reuters.com on May 10, 2010.

It said: "Fannie Mae, the largest U.S. residential mortgage funds provider, on Monday asked the government for an additional \$8.4 billion after the company lost \$13.1 billion in the first quarter.

"Including the latest request, Fannie Mae will have received more than \$84.6 billion from the government, and the firm said it saw no end in sight to federal assistance.

"The announcement comes less than a week after the smaller mortgage finance company Freddie Mac, said it would need \$10.6 billion in government funds after losing \$8 billion in the first quarter."



An article by Glenn Somerville titled "U.S. Posts 19th Straight Monthly Budget Deficit" was posted at reuters.com on May 12, 2010.

It said: "The United States posted an \$82.69 billion deficit in April, nearly four times the \$20.91 billion shortfall registered in April 2009 and the largest on record for that month, the Treasury Department said on Wednesday.

"It was more than twice the \$40-billion deficit that Wall Street economists surveyed by Reuters had forecast."



An AP article by Amy Teibel titled "Israelis: No Halt to East Jerusalem Construction" was posted at google.com on May 13, 2010.

It said: "Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's hawkish coalition partners vowed Thursday to keep building Jewish homes and demolishing unauthorized Palestinian homes in contested east Jerusalem—despite indications the Israeli leader has put the brakes on both.

"The United States opposes both at this delicate time, when indirect talks between Israeli and Palestinians have just begun."



An article by Ian Black titled "Syria and Russia in Talks on Nuclear Power" was posted at guardian.co.uk on May 11, 2010.

It said: "Syria and Russia have discussed nuclear energy co-operation as Moscow seeks to boost its position in a region dominated by the US, Israel's principal ally."



An article titled "Russia Offers Syria Nuclear Power" was posted at UPI.com on May 12, 2010.

It said: "Russian President Dmitry Medvedev says Russia could build nuclear power reactors in Syria, which currently produces only two-thirds of its electricity needs."



An article titled "New Air Refueling System Gives Israel Capacity For Strike on Iran" was posted at worldtribune.com on May 11, 2010.

It said: "Israel has developed the advanced air refueling systems that could facilitate a strike on Iran.

"The officials also said the development overcame several years of refusals by Washington to supply the systems required for the 1,000 kilometer flight from Israel to Iran."



An article titled "Intel Paper Says Al Qaeda's Yemeni Affiliate More Determined Than Ever to Attack Inside U.S." was posted at newsweek.com on May 12, 2010.

It said: "Recent on-line postings by Al Qaeda's affiliate in Yemen and Saudi Arabia are 'actively promoting' attacks against targets inside the U.S."



An article by Stephen Dinan titled "Holder Balks at Blaming 'Radical Islam' for Terror Attempts" was posted at washingtontimes.com on May 14, 2010.

It said: "Despite crediting the Pakistani Taliban with fostering the recent failed car bombing in Times Square, Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. was reluctant Thursday to say radical Islam was part of the cause of that and other recent attacks."

Testifying to the House Judiciary Committee, Mr. Holder repeatedly balked at a half-dozen questions from Rep. Lamar Smith, about whether "radical Islam" was behind recent attacks in the U.S.



An article by Dana Blanton titled "Fox News Poll: Arizona Was Right to Take Action on Immigration" was posted at foxnews.com on May 7, 2010.

It said: "Most American voters think Arizona was right to pass its own immigration law, and think the Obama administration should wait and see how the new law works rather than try to stop it, according to a Fox News poll released Friday."



An article titled "Wide Support For Arizona Immigration Law: Poll" was posted at yahoo.com on May 12, 2010.

It said: "A majority of the public support Arizona's tough immigration law which has been criticized by President Barack Obama and outraged civil rights groups, according to an opinion poll published Wednesday."



An article titled "LA OKs Arizona Boycott Over Tough Immigrations Law" was posted at yahoo.com on May 12, 2010.

It said: "The City Council voted Wednesday to boycott Arizona businesses, making Los Angeles the largest city to take such an action to protest the state's tough new law targeting illegal immigration."

The article later stated: "Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer said the boycotts are unfortunate and misguided, primarily because the law mirrors a federal requirement that legal immigrants carry immigration papers."

According to the article Mr. Brewer stated: "It's already the law in the United States, and I have a responsibility to stand up and protect the people of Arizona and we will do that."



An article by Stephen Dinan titled "Holder Hasn't Read Arizona Law He Criticized" was posted at washingtontimes.com on May 13, 2010.

It said: "Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr., who has been critical of Arizona's new immigration law, said Thursday he hasn't yet read the law and is going by what he's read in newspapers or seen on television."

The article later said: "Rep. Ted Poe, who had questioned Mr. Holder about the law, wondered how he could have those opinions [about the law being unconstitutional] if he hadn't yet read the legislation."

The article later said: "The Arizona law's backers argue that it doesn't go beyond what federal law already allows, and they say press reports have distorted the legislation. They point to provisions in the law that specifically rule out racial profiling as proof that it can be implemented without conflicting with civil rights."