

# Eye on the World

## *July 3-4, 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 July 3-4, 2010.

### **Compiled by Dave Havir**

An article titled "Toronto Police Arrest Nearly 500 in G20 Protests" was posted at france24.com on June 27, 2010.

It said: "Police in the Canadian city of Toronto have arrested 480 people over the weekend after police cars were set ablaze and shop windows were smashed during protests against a G20 summit."

Other news outlets placed the number of arrests above 500. One news outlet mentioned that "the goal of the militant protesters was to draw police away from the security perimeter of the summit so that fellow protesters could attempt to disrupt the meeting."



An article titled "Recovery Means No 'Undue' Edge for Nations: Obama" was posted at msm.com on June 27, 2010.

According to the article, Barack Obama told journalists at the end of G20 talks in Canada: "A strong and durable recovery also requires countries not having an undue advantage."



An article titled "Vengeful New Militant Group Emerges in Pakistan" was posted at foxnews.com on July 1, 2010.

It said: "Pakistani authorities now believe a dangerous new militant group, out to avenge a deadly army assault on a mosque in Islamabad three years ago, has carried out several major bombings in the capital previously blamed on the Taliban."



An article titled "Dozens Killed in Explosions at Shrine in Lahore, Pakistan" was posted at cnn.com on July 2, 2010.

It said: "Three explosions erupted Thursday in Lahore in and around one of Pakistan's holiest shrines, killing 41 people and wounding 175, an official told CNN."



An Associated Press article by Babar Dogar titled "Pakistanis Blame U.S. After Shrine Attack Kills 42" was posted at [washingtontimes.com](http://washingtontimes.com) on July 2, 2010.

It said: "Pakistanis lashed out Friday at the U.S., blaming its alliance with their government and its presence in Afghanistan for spurring two suicide bombers to kill 42 people at the country's most important Sufi shrine."



An Associated Press article titled "Arsenic In Drinking Water of Millions in Bangladesh, Called Worst Mass Poisoning in History" was posted at [foxnews.com](http://foxnews.com) on June 27, 2010.

It said: "New research has linked to one in five deaths among those exposed in Bangladesh—an impoverished country where up to half of its 150 million people have guzzled tainted groundwater."

The article quoted Richard Wilson, president of the nonprofit Arsenic Foundation and a physics professor emeritus at Harvard University as saying: "The magnitude of the arsenic problem is 50 times worse than Chernobyl. But it doesn't have 50 times the attention paid to it."



An article titled "Somaliland Votes to Bolster Separatist Aspirations" was posted at [france24.com](http://france24.com) on June 27, 2010.

It said: "Voters in Somaliland, a breakaway territory in northern Somalia, defied warnings from the Islamist Al Shabaab group by casting ballots in a presidential poll they hope will bolster their aspirations for a separate, internationally recognised state."

It later said: "The northern territory has been more stable than Somalia since it broke away in 1991 but a message warning voters to stay home by the leader of the Al-Qaeda-inspired Shebab movement drew draconian security measures."

It later said: "Somaliland, which is more tribally homogenous than the rest of Somalia, has been striving for international recognition for almost two decades and many voters saw the election as a fresh opportunity to demonstrate their aspiring state's democratic credentials."



An article titled "N Korea Seeks \$75 Trillion in Compensation" was posted at [abc.net](http://abc.net) on June 25, 2010.

It said: "The official North Korean news agency, KCNA, says the cost of the damage done by the US since the peninsula was divided in 1945 is estimated at US\$64.96 trillion."



An article titled "Mexican Gubernatorial Candidate Killed in Possible Drug Gang Assassination" was posted at foxnews.com on June 28, 2010.

It said: "Rodolfo Torre, a gubernatorial candidate for the former Institutional Revolutionary Party for Mexico's border state of Tamaulipas, was murdered early Monday."

It later said: "Analysts said suspicion immediately fell on Mexico's warring drug gangs, who are fighting for control of lucrative smuggling routes to send drugs to the U.S. market. Tamaulipas is just across the border from Texas."



An article by Maayana Miskin titled "Landau: Israel Prepared to Use Force to Protect Gas Find" was posted at israelnationalnews.com on June 24, 2010.

It said: "Israel is prepared to use force if necessary to protect a gas field off the coast of Haifa, Minister of National Infrastructure Uzi Landau told *Bloomberg News* on Wednesday [June 23]."



An article by Adrian Blomfield in Jerusalem titled "US-Israeli Relations Suffer 'Tectonic Rift' " was posted at telegraph.co.uk on June 27, 2010.

It said: "Michael Oren, Israel's ambassador to Washington, told foreign ministry colleagues at a private briefing in Jerusalem that they were facing a long and potentially irrevocable estrangement."

The article quoted Mr. Oren as saying: "There is no crisis in Israel-US relations because in a crisis there are ups and downs. [Instead] relations are in a state of tectonic rift in which continents are drifting apart."



An article by Hillel Fendel titled "Europe: Worst for Jews Since End of WW2" was posted at israelnationalnews.com on June 30, 2010.

The article quoted European Jewish Congress President Moshe Kantor saying: "Jews are afraid to walk the streets in Europe with Jewish symbols. Synagogues, Jewish schools and kindergartens require barbed-wire fences and security, and Jewish men, women and children are beaten up in broad daylight."



An article titled "Turkey and Israel Hold First Talks Since Flotilla Raid" was posted at bbc.com on July 1, 2010.

It said: "Israeli Trade Minister Benjamin Ben-Eliezer held secret talks with Turkey's Foreign Minister, Ahmet Davutoglu, reportedly in Brussels on Wednesday."

It later said: "The country [Turkey], which had been Israel's most important Muslim ally, has demanded an apology and compensation for the victims' families."

"Israel has refused, saying its commandos acted in self-defence after being attacked by a group of passengers on the ship, which was part of a flotilla trying to break its blockade of the Gaza Strip."



An article by Roe Nahmias titled " Hamas Says Asked by US to Keep Silent on Talks " was posted at ynet.com on June 25, 2010.

It said: "A senior Hamas figure said Friday [June 25] that official and unofficial sources have asked the Islamist group to refrain from making any statements regarding contacts with Washington, this following reports that a senior American official is due to arrive in an Arab country in the coming days to relay a telegram from the Obama Administration."



An article by Alister Bull titled "Obama, Saudi King Discuss 2-State Mideast Solution" was posted at reuters.com on June 29, 2010.

It said: "President Barack Obama and Saudi Arabian King Abdullah on Tuesday stressed the importance of a two-state solution to Middle East peace that secured a Palestinian homeland alongside a strong Israel."



An article by Benjamin Joffe-Walt titled "Is Israel Arming in Saudi Arabia?" was posted at jpost.com on June 27, 2010.

It said: "Israel Air Force aircraft dropped off large quantities of military gear at a Saudi Arabian military base a week ago, in preparation for a potential attack on Iran, a number of Iranian and Israeli new outlets have reported."

It later said: "The claim follows a report two weeks ago in the *London Times Magazine* that Saudi Arabia had given Israel permission to fly through a narrow corridor of airspace in northern Saudi Arabia so as to shorten the flight time required for Israeli jets to reach Iran. The *Times* said that Saudi Arabia had adjusted its missile defense systems to ensure that Israeli jets are not shot down while passing through Saudi airspace on the way to an attack on Iran's nuclear facilities."



An article by Charles Levinson titled "Iran Arms Syria With Radar" was posted at wsj.com (*The Wall Street Journal*) on June 30, 2010.

It said: "Iran has sent Syria a sophisticated radar system that could threaten Israel's ability to launch a surprise attack against Iran's nuclear facilities, say Israeli and U.S. officials, extending an alliance aimed at undermining Israel's military dominance in the region."



An article by Gabriel Schoenfold titled "The Gathering Storm" was posted at [weeklystandard.com](http://weeklystandard.com) on July 1, 2010.

It said: "The Obama administration's policy of engagement with Syria has yielded yet more rewards."

This article quoted two paragraphs from the *Wall Street Journal* article (mentioned above).

It later said: "How much more evidence is required before a policy can be called failed or worse than failed—counterproductive?"

"Israel is facing grave dangers from the enormous arsenal of short-range rockets Hezbollah has amassed in Lebanon, which has grown, as the *Journal* also reports, to more than 40,000 from 12,000 in 2006. These rockets may, within a year or two, enjoy the protection of Iran's nuclear umbrella, which will in turn be safeguarded by the Syrian radar.

"Among other things, the transfer of the radar almost certainly violates a UN Security Council resolution barring Iranian arms transfers abroad. Once upon a time we could count on thunderclaps in the UN on behalf of Israel by American ambassadors, including Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Jeane Kirkpatrick, and John Bolton. But now, Susan Rice, Barack Obama's envoy to the UN, has been all but invisible.

"Benjamin Netanyahu is coming to Washington next week to meet with Barack Obama. There would not be a better moment for him to try to wake up the world—or at least American public opinion—to the gathering storm."



Information titled "School Teacher Wrote a Letter to President Obama Criticizing His Actions On a 2009 Overseas Trip—Fiction" is posted at [truthof-fiction.com](http://truthof-fiction.com).

It said: "Summary of the eRumor: [There is a] forwarded email containing a letter to President Obama claiming to be from a school teacher named Ms. Kathleen Lyday. The letter is critical of the things that the President said and did while on an overseas trip during March and April 2009.

"The Truth: This Letter began appearing in email in baskets, commentaries and Internet blogs shortly after President Obama's 2009 trip to Europe.

"Ms. Kathleen Lyday is a real person, works for Grandview Elementary School in Hillsboro, MO, but told TruthofFiction.com that she did not author this letter."



An article titled "National Debt Soars to Highest Level Since WWII" was posted at [usatoday.com](http://usatoday.com) on June 30, 2010.

It said: "The federal debt will represent 62 percent of the nation's economy by the end of this year, the highest percentage since just after World War II, according to a long-term budget outlook released today by the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office."



An article by Grant Gross titled "Obama 'Internet Kill Switch' Plan Approved by US Senate Panel" was posted at [techworld.com](http://techworld.com) on June 25, 2010.

It said: "A US Senate committee has approved a wide-ranging cybersecurity bill that some critics have suggested would give the US president the authority to shut down parts of the Internet during a cyberattack."



A letter by Arizona senator Jon Kyl to Milwaukee councilwoman Peggy West was posted on a message board at [aol.com](http://aol.com). Here is a copy of the letter.

June 25, 2010

The Honorable Peggy West  
Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
Milwaukee County Courthouse  
901 North 9th Street, RM 201  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Dear Supervisor West:

I understand that, when speaking about Arizona's new immigration law at a Supervisors' meeting recently, you said: "If this was Texas, which is a state that is directly on the border with Mexico, and they were calling for a measure like this saying that they had a major issue with undocumented people flooding the borders, I would have to look twice at this. But this is a state that is a ways removed from the border."

You will be interested to learn that Arizona does indeed share a border with Mexico. I have enclosed a map for your convenience.

I hope you will take the time to actually read the Arizona law before formulating an opinion about it and become familiar with our country's geography and the challenges that our border states face.

Sincerely,  
Jon Kyl  
United States Senator



An article titled "ACLU Issues Arizona Travel Warnings, Draws Accusations of 'Disinformation' " was posted at foxnews.com on July 1, 2010.

It said: "The nation's top civil liberties group is opening its own front in the battle over Arizona's controversial immigration law, warning travelers that visiting the state could lead to racial profiling."

Gov. Jan Brewer issued a statement saying that the ACLU's alert actions proved how "hopelessly out of touch they are with the vast majority of Arizonans, as well as most Americans."

The article quoted Brewer spokesman Paul Senseman as saying: "The legislation includes very specific language that makes it abundantly clear that racial profiling is and will continue to be illegal in Arizona. Instead of spreading fear, hate and disinformation about the legislation, it would be helpful for the ACLU to instead join Governor Brewer's demand that the federal government stop discussing and begin implementing an honest plan to secure our nation's border."



An Associated Press article by Darlene Superville titled "Obama Says Politics to Blame for Immigration Delay" was posted at google.com on July 1, 2010.

It said: "Hoping to breathe new life into the stalled immigration effort, President Barack Obama on Thursday blamed the delay on recalcitrant Republicans whom he said had given in to the 'pressures of partisanship and election-year politics.' "

The article later quoted Alfonso Aguilar, executive director of the Latino Partnership for Conservative Principles as saying: "President Obama is operating under the false assumption that Latinos are natural-born Democrats who will rally behind his policies in lockstep. Latinos must not let themselves be deceived by the soaring rhetoric that has replaced meaningful action on immigration."



An article by Dick Morris and Eileen McGann titled "Obama Courts Latinos by Suing Arizona" was posted at dickmorris.com on June 25, 2010. Following is the article:

Why is President Obama suing to invalidate the Arizona law on illegal immigration? Why is he incurring the enmity of even his own Democratic Congressmen from the Phoenix and Tucson areas by trying to kill a law that two thirds of Arizona and a similar proportion of America as a whole supports?

The answer: It is a desperate, last ditch attempt to rebuild his sagging popularity with America's Hispanic voters.

Furious at Obama for failing to keep his election-year promise to promote comprehensive immigration reform when he had a super-majority at his dis-

posals, they are deserting the president and his party in droves. Unemployment, a sagging economy and their sharp disagreement with Obama over social issues don't help the president's cause any.

So Obama has seized on the Arizona immigration law as a symbolic target, hoping to accomplish in a lawsuit the political task of rebuilding his base.

Remember that in 2008 Obama won precisely the same share of the white vote that Kerry won in 2004. There was a shift among whites as the Obama won more young whites and lost more older ones, but the white-vote ratios as a whole remained constant. His entire margin of victory was based on two factors:

- a) The African-American vote rose from 11 percent of the total in 2004 to 14 percent in 2008 and virtually all voted for Obama; and
- b) Latinos, who had backed Kerry by only 10 points, supported Obama by 50 points.

For Obama to have a shot at keeping Democrats in control of Congress, he must replicate the enthusiasm of 2008 among minorities. But his Hispanic flank is definitely weakened. Hence the lawsuit to shore it up.

The answer on immigration reform is to adopt a three-part program to dry up the jobs that attract illegal migrants in the first place. When there are no jobs, they will not come and those who are here will go back home without deportations or roundups.

We need to:

1. Strengthen penalties and enforcement of laws barring people and companies from hiring illegal immigrants. Those who do so should face prison time.
2. We need a foolproof national bio-metric ID card so employers can tell who is legal and who is not.
3. We should implement a broad guest-worker program to bring upscale and manual workers into the US to fill our labor force needs. They must get at least the minimum wage and have health benefits. But, when the job is over, they must go home.

Democrats won't embrace this program because the unions won't let them and because they want illegals to stay here and become Democratic voters. Republican agri-businesses won't go for it because they want to exploit illegal workers with low pay and bad work conditions.

But this is the solution. Trying to seal the border is good rhetoric but is a hopeless task. Drying up the jobs that bring illegal immigrants here is something we can and must do.