



PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

SEPTEMBER 24 2011

GERMANY'S MERKEL PRESSES TURKEY PRESIDENT TO END RIFT WITH ISRAEL

September 20, 2011 Haaretz reports: "German Chancellor Angela Merkel voiced concern Tuesday to Turkish President Abdullah Gul about the recent flare-up in tension between Turkey and Israel, German government sources said.

Gul visited Merkel at her Berlin office, one of his calls during a four-day visit to Germany, where 3.5 million people of Turkish origin make up the most visible ethnic minority.

Berlin has been dismayed that Turkey and Israel, both of them nations where Germany has key interests, are at odds with one another over bloodshed during Israel's May 31, 2010 boarding of blockade-buster ships bound for the Gaza Strip.

The sources said Gul and Merkel set out their own views on the controversy over whether Turkey should be allowed to join the European Union. Gul had repeated Monday in his public appearances that Turkey continued to seek full membership..."

A LOW IN JOBS, MOBILITY, MARRIAGE FOR YOUNG ADULTS

September 22, 2011 The Associated Press reported: "Call it the recession's lost generation. In record-setting numbers, young adults struggling to find work are shunning long-distance moves to live with Mom and Dad, delaying marriage and buying fewer homes, often raising kids out of wedlock. They suffer from the highest unemployment since World War II and risk living in poverty more than others - nearly 1 in 5.

New 2010 census data released Thursday show the wrenching impact of a recession that officially ended in mid-2009. It highlights the missed opportunities and dim prospects for a generation of mostly 20-somethings and 30-somethings coming of age in a prolonged slump with high unemployment.

"We have a monster jobs problem, and young people are the biggest losers," said Andrew Sum, an economist and director of the Center for Labor Market Studies at Northeastern University. He noted that for recent college grads now getting by with waitressing, bartending and odd jobs, they will have to compete with new graduates for entry-level career positions when the job market eventually does improve..."

Richard Freeman, an economist at Harvard University, added: "These people will be scarred, and they will be called the 'lost generation' - in that their careers would not be the same way if we had avoided this economic disaster."

Beyond the economy's impact, the new figures also show a rebound in the foreign-born population to 40 million, or 12.9 percent, the highest share since 1920. The 1.4 million increase from 2009 was the biggest since the mid-decade housing boom and could fuel debate in this election season about U.S. immigration strategy.



Most immigrants continue to be low-skilled workers from Latin America, with growing numbers from Asia also arriving on the bet that U.S. jobs await. An estimated 11.2 million immigrants are here illegally.

Seniors 65 and older tended to return to or stay put in their jobs, accounting for the few U.S. employment gains in recent months. About 1 in 6 older Americans is now in the labor force - the highest level since the 1960s, before more generous Social Security and Medicare benefits made it more attractive to retire.

Nationwide, employment among young adults 16-29 stood at 55.3 percent, down from 67.3 percent in 2000 and the lowest since the end of World War II. Young males who lacked a college degree - typically black and Hispanic - were most likely to lose jobs due to reduced demand for blue-collar jobs in construction, manufacturing and transportation during the downturn. Among teens, employment was less than 30 percent..."

Without work, young adults aren't starting careers and lives in new cities, instead hanging out with their parents..."

AHMADINEJAD: PA WAS A COUNTRY BEFORE UN WAS FORMED

September 21, 2011 Israel National News reports: "Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad told ABC Tuesday that the Palestinian Authority was a country before the United Nations existed. He also rejected the PA's recognizing the 'Zionist regime.'

In an interview with George Stephanopoulos, Ahmadinejad declared, 'Palestine was a country; that is nothing new. Prior to the United Nations even being formed, Palestine was a country. We have always been on the side of the Palestinian nation. We have had relations with the Palestinian government. They have an embassy in Iran.'

Stephanopoulos did not question Ahmadinejad's statements but challenged him to agree with PA Chairman Mahmoud Abbas' position that recognizing the PA as a country involves recognizing Israel.

The idea clearly upset Ahmadinejad. 'Why? Why does it have to be like that? We do recognize Palestine - but we will not recognize the Zionist regime. Why do they set conditions when some nation wants to be independent in its own homeland - it has to recognize an occupying and illegal government? Is that fair?... It's the right of Palestine to recognize another nation or not. Not a condition of the independence of the

Palestinian nation. That's unfair. That's being imposed.

'I don't know if there is such a law that says if a nation wants to form a government it has to recognize another group. Is there such a law? Or is it a demand? If it's a demand by the US government, it has to allow the Palestinian government once it's formed to choose freely.'..."

GLOBAL MELTDOWN: INVESTORS ARE DUMPING NEARLY EVERYTHING

September 22, 2011 cncb.com reported: "With no solution in sight for Europe and new fears of a global recession, investors dumped stocks and commodities and ran to the safety of U.S. Treasuries. Treasury yields, as a result, slipped to historic lows with the 10-year yielding 1.75 percent and the 30-year at 2.86 percent.

The dollar was also a beneficiary of a massive fear trade that sent U.S. stocks sharply lower, on the heels of steep sell-offs in equities markets around the globe.

The worst performing stock market sectors mirrored the sell-off in global commodities markets, with materials down 4.6 percent and energy stocks down 4.1 percent. Copper, hit by concerns of a Chinese slowdown, tumbled 7 percent to a 1-year low. Gold, usually a safety play, was sold into the maelstrom as investors raised cash."...

"People are finding it really isn't gold. It isn't precious metals. It's not currencies. U.S. Treasuries are where people are flocking to at a time of extreme concern about risk, and we continue to see Treasuries continue to get bid up," said Zane Brown, fixed income strategist at Lord Abbett."..."



WARNINGS MOUNT ON EURO CRISIS, BRICS MULL MORE AID

September 22, 2011 Reuters reports: "World leaders and finance chiefs on Thursday pushed Europe to quell its debt crisis and big emerging economies said they might provide more money to help stop the chaos from spreading. As finance ministers and central bankers gathered for talks amid growing concern about sharply slowing growth and plunging stock markets, the leaders of seven big economies stressed the need to contain the euro zone crisis.

"Euro zone governments and institutions must act swiftly to resolve the euro crisis and all European economies must confront the debt overhang to prevent contagion to the wider global economy," the leaders of Australia, Canada, Indonesia, Britain, Mexico, South Africa and South Korea wrote in an open letter to France, chair of the Group of 20 leading economies.

Separately, officials from the so-called BRICS countries, including heavyweights China, Brazil and India, said they would consider giving more funds to the International Monetary Fund to boost global stability."...

Highlighting the growing role of the BRICS in the world, Zhou [*Zhou Xiaochuan is Bank of China Governor*] said major emerging markets should boost domestic demand to take up some of the slack caused by weakness in the United States and Europe."..."

TURKEY'S WAR AGAINST KURDS COULD WIDEN

September 21, 2011 The UPI reported: "Turkey is reported to be considering an intelligence alliance with Iran and Iraq to combat Kurdish separatists who have their main sanctuary in northern Iraq. Turkey may even mount a ground offensive in a bid to crush the separatist movement.

The Turkish air force has been bombing bases of the Kurdish Workers' Party, known as the PKK, for several weeks, killing around 200 people in scores of raids. But this hasn't stopped raids by the militants into southeastern Turkey, where nearly 50 soldiers have been killed.

Ankara's escalating assault on the outlawed PKK since June, when a de facto cease-fire expired, has coincided with an Iranian ground offensive against Iranian Kurds who are holed up in the Qandil Mountains of Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdistan region.

These moves by Turkey and Iran have once again thrust Iraq's Kurdish enclave into the maelstrom of ancient regional rivalries at a time when the Middle East is in turmoil.

The United States is a staunch supporter of Iraq's Kurds, who in 2003 helped topple Saddam Hussein's hated regime which had conducted a genocidal campaign against them. So the Americans could be dragged into this decades-old conflict.

As the Dec. 31 deadline for completion of the U.S. military withdrawal from Iraq looms closer, U.S. officials are reported to be considering a Turkish offer to redeploy unmanned aerial vehicles now in Iraq to Turkey to increase surveillance of PKK forces."...

The Turks have been heavily dependent on data about PKK movements gathered by the Predators. But employing U.S. drones for this purpose could create geopolitical complications.

Classified diplomatic cables released by WikiLeaks reveal that Turkey has repeatedly pressed Washington to escalate U.S. involvement against the PKK and to eliminate the organization before the U.S. withdrawal is completed, involving the Americans in yet another Middle Eastern conflict.

Also, a Turkish offensive would have "a strategic component in that it would allow Turkey to gradually build up its military presence in northern Iraq, which Iran -- as a long-term competitor for influence in Iraq -- views with serious concern," observed U.S. global security think-tank Stratfor."..."

*Compiled by L. Jim Tuck, Pastor
UCGIA Oakland, San Jose, Santa Rosa, and Stockton
ljt5053@sbcglobal.net*