

Weekly Update from Mark Armstrong - 6 March 2020

Greetings from Tyler,

There's way too much in play to try to address even a fraction of what's up in the Update. Let's just say that we'll have fewer obnoxious blow-hards in our living rooms since they've started dropping like flies. From that standpoint, it's been a pretty good week. Some guy's wife bowed out, the dude who loves his husband. It looks as though the elderly Bolshevik is headed for oblivion too, and none too soon. Maybe we won't have to listen to, "Medicaya fo aull!" too many more times. It's been pathetic. The Cherokee dominatrix (*courtesy Mark Steyn*) is gone after having damaged the Bolshevik and destroying miniature billionaire. May we be spared the extended-arm body-wave for the foreseeable future, savagely shaken hair and all.

I've got to share this with you in case you missed it. I heard it on the radio as I was driving this morning and don't think it happened at the Town Hall last night, but anyway. President Trump was talking about the fake Indian and said (*paraphrased as accurately as possible*), "She's not a nice person. She damaged Bernie so badly. He may never recover. She destroyed mini-Mike, it was really easy for her. Really easy. She's mean. The people don't want somebody mean, they want somebody nice... like me!" I nearly crashed the car I was laughing so hard. It's probably extra hilarious because you can only imagine the reaction of the humorless crowd at the network anchor desks. They're probably throwing private fits. Hope so anyway.

The coronavirus is still a stage 4 panic. You'd think we'd never seen this kind of thing before. It's nasty and it would be good if nobody we know ever gets it. But it's not the black plague after all, and the media's hopes of bringing Trump to his knees will likely not be realized, again. John Mitchell, our minister in Rocklin, CA told me there's been a death from it in his neighborhood. An elderly gentleman who'd been on a cruise ship, he did have underlying health problems. The Police have ordered neighbors to stay in their homes, and are standing by to chase them back in if they come outside. Apparently that's their biggest concern and first priority. But that's California for you. No offense. I loved it back in the day.

The Turks and the Greeks are at it again. And the reality of the situation blows politically correct sentiments away, "...it's easy to lapse into xenophobic language as they try to seal the border." The quote is from a *yahoo* story about Greek residents trying to stop Muslim refugees flooding out of Turkey and into Greece. It's only been a few years since millions of "refugees" changed the face of Europe forever. Now Greek civilians have joined the effort to monitor their border around the clock in the interests of trying to keep the situation from getting any worse. In the process, they've apparently spoken unflatteringly about the invaders, and as far as *yahoo* news is concerned, that equates to xenophobia.

How dare the Greeks try to defend their border against another onslaught? They must be "xenophobic!" (*We can only imagine what yahoo might write if they caught one of us using uncomplimentary language in regard to the invasion from the South*).

You would have to look back a thousand years and more to recognize the provocations and resulting clashes between Greeks and Turks. There have been four major wars between the two, dating back to the Ottoman Empire. The list of disputes and incidents since Greece won its independence in 1832 consumes many pages of explanation. The bottom line is that Greece is "Christian," Turkey is Islamic, and the border between the two represents a line of demarcation between the Islamic nations and Europe.

Both have been members of NATO since 1952. Turkey has free trade with the EU, but despite decades of negotiations has yet to become a full member. Muslims displaced by Middle Eastern wars and most recently by the Syrian civil war representing 3.6 million people, have flooded into Turkey. In 2015 during the flood of millions into Europe, the EU-Turkey Joint Actions Plan paid 3 billion *euros* to Turkey to keep the refugees and prevent them from coming to Europe.

These are the items as stated in the agreement:

—All new irregular migrants crossing from Turkey to the Greek islands as of 20 March 2016 will be returned to Turkey;

—For every Syrian being returned to Turkey from the Greek islands, another Syrian will be resettled to the EU;

—Turkey will take any necessary measures to prevent new sea or land routes for

irregular migration opening from Turkey to the EU;

—Once irregular crossings between Turkey and the EU are ending or have been substantially reduced, a Voluntary Humanitarian Admission Scheme will be activated;

—The EU will, in close cooperation with Turkey, further speed up the disbursement of the initially allocated €3 billion under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey. Once these resources are about to be used in full, the EU will mobilize additional funding for the Facility up to an additional €3 billion to the end of 2018;

—The EU and Turkey will work to improve humanitarian conditions inside Syria.

— *EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan*

But that was then, and this is now. Turkey's military intervention in the Syrian civil war in Kurdish controlled Northern Syria displacing another 100,000 civilians and was being characterized as an "invasion." President Erdogan of Turkey said the following, speaking at a party gathering, "Hey EU, wake up. I Say it again. If you try to frame our operation there (*in Syria*) as an invasion, our task is simple. We will open the doors and send 3.6 million migrants to you.

That's the leverage Erdogan has over the European Union. If Europe thinks it has it bad now, (*and it does*) just wait until he opens the floodgates.

Erdogan is involved in talks with Russia in order to try to prevent all-out war. Their armies have clashed, with Russia backing Syrian President Assad, and the result has been more displaced Syrians coming to Turkey. The "deal" listed above no longer holds sway as far as Erdogan is concerned. He doesn't approve of the Greek civilian actions to guard the border and accuses them of having killed or wounded well over 100, which the Greeks deny. Erdogan has reportedly sent units to the scene, and that might not go well. Meanwhile, we'll have a great Sabbath!

Mark

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