

C-FAR NEWSLETTER

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Stockwell Day: Israel Firster!

"Former Candidate for **Prime Minister of Canada** Speaks of his Love for Israel," read the promotion for an Israeli open line radio show. "If **Stephen Harper** is voted into power in the upcoming elections, Canada will finally become a staunch ally of Israel. **Stockwell Day**, the first leader of the **Canadian Alliance** and now **Conservative Party MP**, explains his deep affection for the Jewish state and the direction his party will take should the Conservatives win the vote this coming January. Appearing on the **Tovia Singer** show on **Radio Israel** on December 1," the promotion gushed. Singer introduced, his guest: "Israel has no greater friend than **Stockwell Day**." Singer endorsed the Israeli First Tories under Harper: "Hopefully, **Stephen Harper** will be elected the next **Prime Minister of Canada**. Canada has a deplorable record on Israel," he complained. **Stockwell Day**, possibly a Conservative **Minister of Foreign Affairs** added: "Israel deserves the support of democratic nations around the world." Feeding his guest another lob ball of a question, Singer mused: "Israel has no greater friend in the world than yourself. And you're not Jewish." Voicing the teachings of the wretched sect of Evangelical Christianity called "dispensationalism" or **Christian Zionism**, Day said: "As a Christian, I understand Israel's aboriginal right. I know what Israel has been through and what the Jewish people have been through. We support Israel's right to exist." At the end of the show, Day concluded: "*Shalom* to you. I look forward to the day that I can once again return to Jerusalem." It was so sickening that even a teetotaller would be driven to a double martini. One wonders how Day would explain the Zionists' "aboriginal rights" to the Palestinians, Christian and Arab, who have been in the Holy Land for many centuries. It's hard to see how, having lined up resolutely with one side in the Middle East, Day could ever develop a Canada First foreign policy.

Secondary Inspections For All

On November 9, a suicide bomber detonated a device near an Iraqi police patrol on a roadside in Baquba, north of Baghdad. Five policemen were killed and a sixth officer and four civilians were seriously injured. Unusually, the bomber was not killed outright, but died after hours of agony. This was **Muriel Degauque**, 38-years-old and the first known European female *jihadi*. After what has been politely described as a "troubled" upbringing in a housing project in Charleroi (the bleak industrial city in southern Belgium that played unwitting host to the crimes of the child murderer **Marc Dutroux**) Muriel would marry a Turk. Her parents sensed their daughter was being brainwashed. "After the marriage fell apart, she lived with another man of north African origin, [an Algerian] who is alleged to have influenced her radical Islamist beliefs. Three years ago, she married **Hissam Goris** [seven years her junior] who took his new wife to Morocco, though they were careful to return home so they would not lose unemployment benefits. ... Muriel's parents spoke of the cultural gulf which strained relations on the rare occasions that their daughter was driven to their house by her husband in his **Mercedes**, which raised eyebrows in the quiet cul-de-sac where he was known to be unemployed. 'Muriel became more Muslim than a Muslim,' her mother told **Le Parisien** newspaper. 'When she first converted, she wore a simple veil. But with her last husband she wore a [pair of gloves, along with a head to toe] *chador*.' Eventually relations became impossible. 'When we saw them they imposed their own rules,' her mother told **La Derniere Heure** newspaper. 'We would be at home but my husband had to eat in the kitchen with Hissam while the women stayed in the sitting room. The last time we saw them, we

told them we had had enough of them trying to indoctrinate us.'" (**The Guardian**, December 2, 2005) "**Andrea Dorange**, who had known Muriel from the age of five, said: 'She was really weak and very easily influenced.' By the time she had left school at 16, Muriel was experimenting with drugs and often running away from home ... so popular with boys she wasn't even sure how many boyfriends she'd had." (**London Times**, December 4, 2005) In September, another female suicide bomber, dressed as a male, killed six and wounded 30 at Tar Afar, Iraq. During a four-month period in 2003, six out of seven Chechen suicide attacks were carried out by women. In January 2004, Palestinian mother of two **Reem Raiysh**, 22, became **Hamas's** first female suicide bomber, killing four Israelis at a checkpoint. Kurdistan separatists have used female suicide bombers; it was likely a woman who bombed the tourist bus in the resort of Kusadasi last July. The **Tamil Tigers** have long recruited women for suicide missions; a female delivered the bomb in the 1991 killing of former Indian prime minister **Rajiv Gandhi**.

Red, Green, Gold

Well, it's that time of year again, when annual displays of wooden acting and self-conscious choreography perpetrated by groups of five-year-olds wearing tea towels on their heads are calculated to damage someone's self esteem. Evangelical atheists take a forensic interest in groups tramping the streets, fearing that the old, familiar hymns might break out any moment. Card makers have eradicated the offending C-word from their "seasonal" output, while stores urge us to "celebrate the holiday your way!" -- presumably behind closed doors in hushed voices. The end of December is a deeply religious time that each observes in his own way, by going to the mall of his choice. "But I am sure that I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come round. .. as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely." **Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol** These gentle rituals represent one of our few remaining cultural rallying points. So, joyfully, a Merry Christmas and very happy New Year from us to you! -- **Paul Fromm**

Two Approaches To The Under Qualified

According to **World Bank** figures, between 1975 and 2000, South Korea enjoyed average annual **GDP** growth of 6.2% while Canada pattered along at 1.5%. During those crucial years, the South Korean government made massive investments in infrastructure, pouring billions into technological **R&D** while Canada set its sights a little lower -- cultivating what would emerge as a combination state religion and catering contract centred on immigration and multiculturalism. Today, when innovative companies want to test exciting new technologies, they rush to South Korea to see if their products will pass muster with the world's most sophisticated and demanding technology consumers. (For a glimpse of South Korea's time machine, consider that shoppers don't line up, as they leave the store with a cart full of groceries; radio frequency **ID** tags are scanned in bulk, the shopper keys in a **PIN** number and the bill sent to their cell phone account. Later, they may download and watch a film on that same cell phone.) Somewhat less **Jetsons** like, Canada has managed to achieve a permanent immigrant underclass. -- According to **StatsCan**, "60 per cent of immigrants do not have the ability to read and understand news stories, instruction manuals and brochures in either official language ... and, indeed, may be unable even to determine the correct amount of medicine to give a child. ... Fully 18% of recent immigrants who have a university education still fall

into the 'very poor skills' literacy category." (**National Post**, November 24, 2005) There's a lot media about the suffering this translates into in the job market, but it is not a suffering restricted to immigrants themselves: Economist **Herbert Grubel (Fraser Institute, Immigration and the Welfare State in Canada: Growing Conflicts, Constructive Solutions**, September 2005), says "transfers from other Canadians to the average immigrant ... were \$6,294 in 2000. [Extrapolating those -- probably modest -- figures to the cohort of immigrants who arrived in just the 13 years between 1990 and 2002, he found that in the year 2002] Multiplication of the number of immigrants (2.9-million) by \$6,294 results in the estimate that the total bill for the transfers was \$18.3-billion." Ottawa's solution is to bleed productive taxpayer in hopes of addressing the language, literacy and productivity chasm represented by newcomers permitted to enter despite abysmally bleak prospects -- something other receiving countries manage to sort out at the front end. It is almost, not quite, amusing to contrast forward-looking South Korea's approach to "low-grade Westerners" holding dodgy certification (deporting people who are, indeed, teaching English) with Canada's sheltered-workshop-to-the-world cash extravaganza for the "brain surgeon operating a cab" and his hundreds of thousands of fellow under achievers. When we know for a fact that thousands enter this country with forged primary documents, it may be a little naive to accept foreign educational credentials at face value, but we're doing just that: A few recent government announcements sound dismayingly uniform, but the money is going out by the shovel-full -- over \$120,000 to help integrate skilled immigrants and internationally trained Canadians into the workforce; over \$1.7 million to help integrate skilled immigrants and internationally trained Canadians into the pharmacy and physiotherapy workforce; \$315,836 to help integrate skilled immigrants and internationally trained Canadians into the workforce; \$1.3 million to help integrate skilled immigrants and internationally trained Canadians into the workforce; over \$4 million to help integrate immigrants and internationally trained Canadians into the workforce, and yet another \$125,165 to help integrate skilled immigrants and internationally trained Canadians into the workforce. "Nearly 50 English teachers from Canada have been detained, deported or investigated on allegations of visa fraud in South Korea. ... While as many as 10,000 foreigners legally teach the language at private English schools in Korea, the nation's media have been full of exposés about teachers with dubious credentials. Many of the foreign teachers, if not most, are Canadian. ... Canada's **Foreign Affairs Department** says there are limitations to what it can do. It has officially logged about 50 English-teacher cases in the past two weeks: 35 have been deported, five are awaiting deportation and the rest under investigation. 'It's clear that the South Koreans are enforcing their laws in a recent wave that began as little as two weeks ago,' the Foreign Affairs parliamentary secretary, **Dan McTeague**, said from Ottawa. ... One Canadian, who has taught legally in Korea for nine years and helps run an **Internet** message board for expatriates ... said that Koreans have an innate xenophobia that has hardened of late. 'There has been a definite change in the way we're being perceived in the last nine or 10 months,' he said. 'Before, it was, *Please speak me English*. Now, it's *Get out of my country, White devils*.' Visa frauds go on in just about every country, but Korea's clampdown has been lent a sense of urgency by highly publicized accounts of immorality by young foreigners. Reports of marijuana and cocaine busts have long tended to feature Westerners, including five Canadian teachers who were arrested two years ago. But more recent events have led to a furor. An unknown English teacher in Korea used the **Internet** to post what amounted to a how-to guide for seducing Korean women. Then, two English teachers from Cape Breton, N.S., made the headlines for breaking a local man's jaw in a bar brawl. They spent 40 days in jail and were ordered to pay \$30,000 (U.S.) in a

form of restitution known locally as 'blood money.' And lately, Korean TV has aired segments painting English teachers as inept, unqualified foreigners who frequently lie about their credentials. 'People basically think all foreign teachers are drunks and molesters who can't get a job back home,' said the teacher who helps run the **Internet** board for expats." (**Globe and Mail**, October 10, 2005) "**The Seoul Times** said that a local Yahoo-style portal named **Daum** has also set up a petition to rid South Korea of 'low-grade Westerners.'" (**Asian Pacific Post**, October 19, 2005)

Who's Scary?

After a dozen years of Liberal government you'd think the sponsorship scandal was a stand alone achievement. How unfair. The promise to repeal the **GST** was shelved almost before the ballots were counted, health screening for immigrants was promptly shifted from **Health Canada** to **Immigration Canada** (after which, less than 1% would be rejected on the basis of health considerations), the **Ecole Polytechnic** killings were parlayed into a billion-plus firearms boondoggle, and, while the tainted blood scandal cost some Canadians a lot more than money, most Liberal **MPs** would vote against compensation for victims. Billions more were "diverted" in the **EI** rip-off, another billion or so was lost or misplaced in the **HRDC** boondoggle, while the helicopter cancellation cost about half a billion. The cost of **Kyoto** is unknowable -- and speaking of unknowable -- much has been squandered on the totally pointless **Somalia**, **APEC**, **Air India** and **Arar** inquiries. If the armed forces have been effectively crippled, we've enjoyed the improving example of **Jesus** barred from the **SwissAir** memorial, **Shawingate** and the Governor-General's spending habits, the election gag law and a steady narrowing of traditional rights and freedoms, untendered and highly subsidized contracts for **Bombardier**, sweetheart deals for Martin family shipping interests, and assorted delights ranging from **Strippergate** to the now prime minister attending a terror fundraiser. The Liberal response to all such boo-boos: "You're a racist." So, what have they really achieved? Upward of two-and-a-half million immigrants have been ushered into Canada, with threats to increase these numbers by 40% -- and even these don't want to vote Liberal any more. Or so they say; we'll see on the day.

Rethinking Diversity

There are about half a million Jews in France and 6-million Muslims. But diversity may not be all it's cracked up to be: since 2001, French-Jewish immigration to Montreal has increased by more than 700%, with the number of arrivals doubling each year. Last year, **Jewish Immigration Aid Services (JIAS)** helped about 550 French Jews relocate to Montreal to join a local population of 85,000 -- a number that has been shrinking steadily. "In the 1960s, Winnipeg was home to 19,000 Jews. That number dwindled to around 14,000, where it hovered for decades. A few years ago, the **Jewish Federation** began to look beyond Canada's border. Since then, hundreds of new families [from Israel, Russia and South America] have settled in Winnipeg -- about a third of them Argentine. ... Planning director, **Fay Rosenberg-Cohen** says: 'The percentage of people in our community over 65 was much higher than the general community.' ... **Carina Melamedoff** is one of the people that's brought the Jewish community its new richness; after moving to Winnipeg last May from Buenos Aires, she now teaches Spanish at the **University of Winnipeg** and English to newcomers at the **Asper** campus. 'It's important for our children's future, to get an education, to find a job, to have a safer life,' she says. The Jewish Federation's recruitment drive has been so successful, it's considering going to other South American countries to put the word out about what Winnipeg has to offer. The federation hopes the city's Jewish population will increase to 18,000 by the end of the decade." (**CBC**, October 8, 2005)