

Mubarak

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repression of demonstrators who that have been carrying out protests against his government over the last five days.”

”Nicolas Sarkozy, Angela Merkel and David Cameron asked the president ‘to initiate a process of change’ in response to the ‘legitimate demands’ of his people and ‘to avoid, at all costs, the use of violence against civilians,’ in a joint declaration published on Saturday.”

”Iran also called on Egyptian authorities to heed the demands being made on the streets.”

”King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia said that the protests represent ‘an attack against the

security and stability’ of Egypt and were being carried out by ‘infiltrators’ in the name of ‘freedom of speech.’

”The king called Mubarak by telephone to express his solidarity, reported the official Saudi press agency SPA.”

January 31:

”(EFE) Netanyahu fears that the chaos in Egypt could favor Islam’s access to power.

”Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said today that he fears that the situation in Egypt could favor Islam’s access to power, a concern he said he shares with leaders who have spoken to him over the past few days.”

”the prime minister refused to discuss news reports by local media outlets that state that Israel has authorized Egypt to deploy troops in the Sinai Peninsula for the first time in three de-

acades, considered a violation of the 1979 peace treaty between the two nations.

”In response to criticism against Western powers such as the United States and Germany that have maintained close ties with totalitarian Arab regimes, the German Foreign minister said, ‘We have not abandoned Egypt.’”

”The peace process between Israelis and Palestinians has been at a standstill since last September, mainly because of Israel’s refusal to stop building Jewish settlements in occupied Palestinian territories.”

”Jerusalem, (EFE).? Israel favors the continuation in power of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. The Israeli head of State, Simon Peres, supported Mubarak today by stating that ‘a fanatic religious oligarchy is not better than a lack of democ-

cracy.’”

”The declarations made by the head of State are consistent with reports by local media outlets that state that Israel is pressuring its Western partners to tone down their criticisms of Mubarak’s regime, which the Egyptian people and the opposition are trying to overthrow.

”Anonymous official sources quoted by the Haaretz newspaper said that on Saturday the Israeli Foreign Ministry sent a communiqué to its embassies

in the United States, Canada, China, Russia and several European countries to request that ambassadors emphasize to local authorities the importance of stability in Egypt for Israel.”

”Israeli analysts said that the fall of Mubarak could endanger the Camp David Agreements that Egypt signed with

Israel in 1978 and the subsequent signing of the 1979 bilateral peace treaty, especially if it brings about the ascent to power of the Islamic Muslim Brothers, which have widespread popular support.”

”Israel views Mubarak as a guarantor of peace along its southern border, as well as a key supporter in maintaining the blockade against the Gaza Strip and isolating the Palestinian Islamic movement Hamas.”

”One of Israel’s greatest fears is that the Egyptian riots, which follow in the wake of uprisings in Tunisia, will also reach Jordan, weakening the regime of King Abdullah II, whose country along with Egypt is the only Arab country that acknowledges Israel.”

”The recent appointment of General Omar Suleiman as Egypt’s vice president and,

therefore, possible presidential successor, has been welcomed in Israel, which has closely cooperated in Defense matters with the general.”

”However, the Egyptian protests show that the continuity of the regime is not necessarily guaranteed nor that Israel will continue to have Cairo as its main ally in the region.”

As you can see, for the first time the world is simultaneously facing three problems:

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The earth could become “unrecognizable” by 2050, if a growing global population with higher income keeps consuming more resources, researchers warned.

Earth could be “unrecognizable” by 2050, experts warn

BEIJING, — The earth could become “unrecognizable” by 2050, if a growing global population with higher income keeps consuming more resources, researchers warned.

“By 2050 we will not have a planet left that is recognizable” if the global population continues to increase, said Jason Clay of the World Wildlife Fund Sunday at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement

of Science.

The United Nations has projected that the global population will reach seven billion this year, and climb to nine billion by 2050.

Meanwhile, as income is expected to rise over the next 40 years — tripling globally and quintupling in developing nations, people tend to consume more meat, eggs or dairy products, which would cost more grains to produce, adding more strain to global food supplies.

Population experts called for more funding for family planning programs to help control the growth in the number of humans, especially in developing nations.

“We want to minimize population growth, and the only viable way to do that is through more effective family planning,” said John Casterline, director of the Initiative in Population Research at Ohio State University. (Xinhua)

Bahrain releases 308 prisoners under protesters’ pressure

MANAMA, — The Bahraini government on Wednesday announced the release of 308 prisoners following the orders by the leadership.

Among those released are 23 terrorist suspects, who were charged to be a part of a cell aimed to jeopardize state security. The Information Affairs

Authority said the decision to release the men was by a decision by King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

The government has been under intense pressure after Shiite protesters camped at the Pearl Square on Feb. 15 and increasing criticism from international human rights groups for detaining political prisoners.

Nabeel Rajab from the defunct Bahrain Center for Human Rights told Xinhua that most of the men released were those facing drug charges and other criminal offense. “We still need to ensure that no one is detained for expressing their opinions,” he said.

Saeed Aqeel Mosawi, one of the released prisoners, who was

Volcano eruption in C. Philippines prompts evacuation of 2,000 people

MANILA, — At least 2,000 people have been evacuated to safer grounds following Monday’s explosion on Mt. Bulusan in the central Philippine province of Sorsogon.

Maj. Harold Cabunoc, spokesman of the Army’s 9th Infantry Division, said military trucks started evacuating the residents living at the foot of the volcano soon after they received a report of the explosion.

Cabunoc said the soldiers have brought 400 families to evacuation centers in Sorsogon. A total of 300 families were brought to the Gallano High School in Irosin town while the other 100 families were taken to the Cogon Elementary School in Juban town.

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHILVOCS) reported Mt. Bulusan exploded 9:15 a.m., local time. Ash from the steam-triggered explosion hit as high as two kilometers, according to

PHIVOLCS director Renato Solidum said.

PHIVOLCS hoisted an alert level 1 on Mt. Bulusan and advised people not to enter inside



Residents of Irosin township, Sorsogon province, about 600 kilometers (373 miles) southeast of Manila, Philippines, watch Mt. Bulusan volcano as it spews ash into the sky Monday, Feb. 21, 2011 in another phreatic explosion. Volcanologists warned there might be steam-driven phreatic explosions in the next days but alert level stays at No.1, the lowest in the four-level warning system.



Newly released prisoners join the anti-government protest at the Pearl Square in Manama, Bahrain, Feb. 23, 2011. The Bahraini government on Wednesday announced the release of 308 prisoners following the orders by the leadership. Among those released are 23 terrorist suspects, who were charged to be a part of a cell aimed to jeopardize state security. The Information Affairs Authority said the decision to release the men was made by King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

part of the 23 terror network, met with protesters at the Square and said he was happy to be with his supporters.

Following a detailed intelligence gathering operation by Bahrain’s National Security Agency the 23 accused were ar-

rested from Aug. 13 onwards under Bahrain’s “Protecting the Community from Terrorism Act 2006.”

Prosecutors named the Bahrain-based leaders of the network as- Abduljalil Al Singace, Mohamed Habeeb Al

Saffaf, Abdulhadi Al Mokhaidar along with London-based Bahraini nationals Saeed Al Shehabi and Husain Mushaima.

Bahrain, a close U.S. ally is home to its Navy’s Fifth Fleet. (Xinhua)