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Radical change needed

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Committee to grill Fadden while interference continues

Former intel chief worried politics have side-swiped national security

By **MATTHEW LITTLE**
Epoch Times Staff

TORONTO—CSIS Director Richard Fadden will appear before a parliamentary committee over the controversy he sparked last week with revelations that some Canadian officials are under the influence of foreign regimes.

In the blow-out that has followed, disturbingly little has been said about the vital security issues Fadden raised, said David Harris, former chief of strategic planning for CSIS. He's uneasy that some of the outrage directed at Fadden over remarks he made in a CBC interview is masking the very real threat foreign influence poses to

Canada's national sovereignty. "In fact, I would go so far as to turn the tables and ask any of the high-profile Canadians—or any of the high-profile political operators who have been most violent and absolute in denying what Fadden has said—what the basis is for these denials and why they can be so certain," said Harris. With Fadden facing a grilling by

the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security on Monday, Harris isn't confident the matter will get treated with the seriousness it deserves. "This seems to have become so politicized," he said, adding he was astounded that politicians, with no evidence or specialized knowledge, could reject Fadden's warning offhand.

"Many qualified people before Mr. Fadden have pointed to precisely the tendencies of which he has warned." A variety of politicians at the federal and provincial levels have been particularly vocal in their displeasure with Fadden's comments, calling them everything from baseless to irresponsible. PLEASE SEE FADDEN ON P2

Illegal gold mining poisoning Nigerians

By **NICHOLAS MCLAUGHLIN**
Epoch Times Staff

Nigerians need education and help with a massive cleanup effort to cope with lead poisoning from illegal gold mining, say Doctors Without Borders (MSF). Lead poisoning in remote villages in northwest Nigeria has killed more than 160 people, the majority of them children aged 5 and under. "This is an unprecedented and tragic situation. In one village, 30 percent of the children under 5 have died in the past year," said Australian Lauren Cooney, the emergency coordinator for MSF in Nigeria. MSF, the international organization for medical humanitarian aid, is working in partnership with health authorities in Nigeria. They say the crisis is a result of illegal gold mining in which local villagers extract gold from mined ore containing lead. PLEASE SEE GOLD ON P5

VOTING FOR STABILITY



Kyrgyz soldiers vote in Osh on June 27, 2010. Kyrgyzstan's interim authorities insist the constitutional referendum is vital for easing tensions after deadly ethnic clashes but Russia fears it could spark new unrest. VICTOR DRACHEV/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Russia snubs democracy bid in Kyrgyzstan

By **ANDREY VOLKOV**
Epoch Times Staff

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said the new Kyrgyzstan constitution, endorsed in a referendum by the vast majority in Kyrgyzstan on Sunday, could create a "collapse of the state." The constitution paves the way for Kyrgyzstan to become the first Central Asian nation to implement true democratic rule

and will change the country to a democracy with a European-style parliamentary system. "I am not sure how a model of parliamentary republic will work in Kyrgyzstan," said Medvedev at the G20 meeting in Toronto on Sunday. "Eventually, won't it enable the political parties, which have extremist direction, to receive the power?" The United States welcomed the new constitution as an

opportunity to reconcile ethnic groups in Kyrgyzstan. State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley issued a statement praising the referendum and called on the provisional government to push the country toward "stability, security, democracy, and prosperity." Kyrgyzstan has been in a state of upheaval since April when former authoritarian president Kurmanbek Bakiyev was

deposed in a violent coup. Bakiyev fled to the neighbouring Republic of Belarus. The interim Kyrgyzstan government proposed the new constitution, and after Sunday's successful referendum will hold parliamentary elections in the fall. Interim president Roza Otunbaeva will continue to act as president as well as prime minister until the elections. PLEASE SEE RUSSIA ON P4

Censorship brings down Facebook in Middle East

Afghanistan, Turkey and Pakistan target social media in new censorship campaign

By **JOSHUA PHILIPP**
Epoch Times Staff

As Internet censorship continues in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Turkey, the Afghan Ministry of Communications mandated last Thursday that all of the country's Internet service providers (ISPs) filter websites which include alcohol, dating and social networking, gambling, and pornography. According to the Electronic Frontier Federation (EFF), there are "countrywide blockages of Facebook, Gmail, YouTube, and Twitter." The EFF adds that questions are being referred to the Ministry of Communications by the Afghan Wireless Communication Company, one of Afghanistan's two largest telecommunication companies.

The new round of censorship comes soon after similar actions in Pakistan and Turkey. Pakistan announced last week that it will block links to content on Yahoo, Google, MSN, YouTube, Bing, and Amazon, with plans to completely block 17 other sites deemed anti-Islamic, according to the EFF. In Turkey, YouTube is now completely blocked. "Thousands of other sites, including proxy servers that Turkish citizens were using to circumvent the bans," have been blocked, said the EFF, adding that Turkey has banned more websites than any other European country. Internet censorship is becoming a larger concern globally as countries continue to lock down the Web and block or filter content.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said in January that in 2009 "we've seen a spike in threats to the free flow of information. China, Tunisia, and Uzbekistan have stepped up their censorship of the Internet. In Vietnam, access to popular social networking sites has suddenly disappeared." PLEASE SEE FACEBOOK ON P4

Talks with the Taliban should start soon, says UK army chief

By **DAMIAN ROBIN**
Epoch Times Staff

LONDON—Talks with moderate Taliban in Afghanistan should begin "pretty soon," the head of the British army has said. Discussion between allied politicians, army chiefs, and the less extreme of the insurgents should begin "sooner than later" as part of the exit strategy for

international forces in Afghanistan, General Sir David Richards told BBC radio on Sunday. "If you look at any counterinsurgency campaign throughout history, there's always a point at which you start to negotiate with each other, probably through proxies in the first instance, and I don't know when that will happen," Richards said. "From my own—and this

is a purely private—view, I think there's no reason why we shouldn't be looking at that sort of thing pretty soon." This echoes the views of Prime Minister David Cameron, who has said he wants British troops to be out of the war-ravaged country within five years. Also on Sunday, CIA head Leon Panetta told the ABC's "This Week" that progress in

Afghanistan was harder than expected. "There are some serious problems here," he said. "We're dealing with a tribal society. We're dealing with a country that has problems with governance, problems with corruption, problems with narcotics trafficking, [and] problems with a Taliban insurgency." PLEASE SEE TALIBAN ON P5

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