

Weekly Update by Mark Armstrong

- July 7, 2023

Greetings from Tyler,

Finding out anything about the news is, well, disgusting. The Church of England is trying to figure out **how to handle so-called gay marriage**. All kinds of contortions are necessary to accommodate weird holy men, some of whom are miffed, since the sacrilege is the law of the land in England. The sodomites think it's a real slap in the face. How dare the Church accommodate those who don't believe in their now mainstream unions? **Christianity ain't what it used to be**. But since when did the practitioners of sin get to establish church doctrine? The Priests in particular are deciding whether they can bless something scripture condemns. Many members are dead set against any official moves that "bless" something the Bible condemns. So they're splitting hairs.

We should note that there has been a "**steep decline**" recently in church attendance. Do tell. The guys in the pointy hats aren't authorized to perform any weddings, but they are encouraged to welcome homosexuals.

The situation in Russia is as convoluted as you can imagine. The media is reporting that Prigozhin, **chief of the Wagner group is still in Russia**. There has been all kinds of speculation that Putin will have him killed, but then what would become of Wagner's 25,000 trained soldiers? The Wall Street Journal reports that Prigozhin is popular in many regions of Russia, and Wagner is fighting for Russia in Ukraine. There's some concern that he may actually be more popular than Putin.

The Wagner group is involved in numerous skirmishes on Russia's behalf. It is a mercenary outfit, accused of atrocities, whose leaders wear Nazi tattoos and soldiers that leave that symbolism behind in conquered territories. The name Wagner is after the composer that Adolf Hitler loved. But Wikipedia quotes an expert at the end of their summation who says the outfit is not driven by ideology, but is a mercenary group "linked to the Russian security state." **Prigozhin used to have a good relationship with Putin**. Presumably things have gotten serious since the aborted coup.

Wagner recruits prisoners and puts them on the front lines. If you look them up, you'll see that they've been involved in conflict all over the world, and Russia is never at fault for what they do. Other than the fact that they are supplied and funded by Russia. Apparently they've only been operating since 2012 or so, but the operation has become a major component of Russian might. They've been decorated by Putin himself, and praised for heroics.

By now everyone has heard that coke (and I don't mean the drink) has been found in the White House. Probably some tourist or other, decided to hide something in the White House. It could have been anybody. Right!

You've seen the special prosecutor tapped to go get Trump? This guy doesn't exactly have an enviable record. We're being blinded by stories of corruption at the highest levels of the U. S., but the main story is the special prosecutor and the mishandled documents. Meanwhile there are believable reports that we've been sold out to the Chinese and who knows who else? The agencies responsible for this kind of stuff won't go near it, so here come the hearings. No doubt Congress will get to the bottom of it while the agencies run interference. We may be led by people who don't have the best interests of the country or its citizens at heart. But Trump! He may have mishandled documents!

The prosecutor has charged a Trump employee with a crime (moving boxes) and is apparently getting several people with access to the man on record. It's a nightmare scenario, according to the media. If they could only get someone to flip!

France is finally starting to get the chaos under control. What did they think was going to happen? The reports of buildings burnt, vehicles torched is off the chart. You don't make the foreigners mad, especially when they're already crazy. We may learn our own lesson, if we haven't already. This compassion business is out of hand! Let's just say, it's misplaced.

Mark