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Sent: 17 October 2006 13:45
Subject: CAABU British Broadsheet Summary - 17-10-06

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The veil debate continues and the link is made with the present BA controversy and the continuing row over faith schools having to admit members of other religions (The Financial Times, The Guardian, The Independent). There are also reports of 'rising Muslim anger' (The Daily Telegraph) Michael White (The Guardian) points out that not all of the Muslim MPs have spoken out against the Yorkshire school teachers argument.

'The Daily Telegraph' reports that Blair is seeking support for Iraq in the aftermath of the Richard Dannatt controversy, whilst 'The Guardian' accounts that the courts are recognising that the war in Iraq was illegal and are being lenient when prosecuting protestors. Meanwhile, 'The Financial Times' hints to a change in US policy in Iraq hinting at withdrawal of troops.

Labour has been blamed for 'fuelling radical religious groups' (The Independent) in the same week that Ruth Kelly famously made her speech on trying to counter terrorism by keeping a watchful eye on students and those in areas deemed to be likely breeding grounds for extremism.

'The Daily Telegraph' reiterates sentiments that the situation with the Israeli president could cause a constitutional crisis and the president himself is reported to be 'lying low' (The Guardian, The Independent).

The Daily Telegraph
 UK News

Blair seeks support for campaign in Iraq
 George Jones

"Tony Blair will today appeal for public backing for the continued deployment of British troops in Iraq despite a warning from the head of the Army, Gen Sir Richard Dannatt, that their presence was making the situation worse.

Downing Street said the Prime Minister would use his monthly press conference to remind the public why British troops were in both Iraq and Afghanistan."

<<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml;jsessionid=TOAELEBCQKGTGNQFIQMFSFFOAVCBQ0IV0?xml=/news/2006/10/17/ntroops17.xml>>

Two terror suspects are now on the run
 John Steele

"Two alleged terrorists were on the run last night leaving in tatters the Government's control order system, designed to keep terror suspects who cannot be brought to trial under supervision.

The revelations that both had absconded became public despite desperate Home Office attempts to keep the cases secret."

<<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml;jsessionid=TOAELEBCQKTGNQFIQMFSFFOAVCBQ0IV0?xml=/news/2006/10/17/nterror17.xml>>

Kelly tries to pacify growing Muslim anger

Philip Johnston

"Ruth Kelly, the Communities Secretary, yesterday tried to draw a line under days of rising religious tensions after Government ministers were accused of "demonising" Muslims."

<<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2006/10/17/nfaith17.xml>>

Search for the radical campus groups that operate under a veil of secrecy

Philip Johnston

"The headline accompanying The Guardian's front-page story yesterday looked like something from East Germany at the time of the Stasi: 'Universities urged to spy on Muslims'. The Department for Education was said to have prepared advice for colleges on how to look out for Islamic activity on campuses, in particular attempts by fundamentalist organisations to pick up new members."

<<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2006/10/17/nfaith17.xml>>

World

Israel facing crisis as president is accused of rapes

Tim Butcher

"With the President of Israel facing up to 16 years in jail for rape, Israel was yesterday transfixed by the sleazy details of the most serious constitutional crisis in the 58-year history of the Jewish state."

<<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml;jsessionid=TOAELEBCQKTGNQFIQMFSFFOAVCBQ0IV0?xml=/news/2006/10/17/wisrael17.xml>>

Fanatics lay claim to separate Sunni state

Oliver Poole

"An alliance of Sunni insurgent groups claimed yesterday to be establishing a separate Sunni state in the west of Iraq in the latest demonstration of the growing fragmentation of the country."

<<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml;jsessionid=TOAELEBCQKTGNQFIQMFSFFOAVCBQ0IV0?xml=/news/2006/10/17/wiraq17.xml>>

Comment and Leaders

Our failure to confront radical Islam is there for all to see

Denis MacShane

"At long last, the debate on Islamism as politics, not Islam as religion, is out in the open. Two weeks ago, Jack Straw might have felt he was taking a risk when publishing his now notorious article on the Muslim veil."

<<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/opinion/index.jhtml;jsessionid=HKZOT0EJIDA0HQFIQMFCFGGAVCBQYIV0>>

Letters

Outspoken generals

Christian symbols should not be banned when those of other religions are tolerated

<<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/opinion/main.jhtml?menuId=1588&menuItem=-1&view=DISPLAYCONTENT&grid=P8&targetRule=0#head3>>

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The Financial Times

UK

Kelly seeks to engage Muslims in terror fight

Jimmy Burns

"Local government officials and senior police officers from areas seen as hotbeds of Islamic extremism were yesterday called to a summit in London aimed at defusing an increasingly bitter row over the integration of Muslims with British society."

<<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/773c1ff4-5d7b-11db-9d15-0000779e2340.html>>

World

US Iraq panel seeks policy change

Doyle McManus

"WASHINGTON - A commission backed by President Bush that is exploring U.S. options in Iraq intends to propose significant changes in the administration's strategy by early next year, members say. Two options under consideration would represent reversals of U.S. policy: withdrawing American troops in phases, and bringing neighboring Iran and Syria into a joint effort to stop the fighting."

<<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/41078c32-5daa-11db-82d4-0000779e2340.html>>

Israel's president lies low after police recommend rape charges

Harvey Morris

"Moshe Katsav, the Israeli president, absented himself from the opening of parliament yesterday after police investigators recommended that he should be indicted on rape, sexual assault and other charges."

<<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/312ba510-5d7c-11db-9d15-0000779e2340.html>>

Comment and Analysis

A troubling Middle East era dawns

Richard Harass

"It is just more than two centuries since Napoleon's arrival in Egypt heralded the advent of a modern Middle East; but now - some 80 years after the demise of the Ottoman Empire, 50 years after the end of colonialism and less than 20 years after the end of the cold war - the American era in the region has ended."

<<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/cf5c43d0-5d3a-11db-9d15-0000779e2340.html>>

Ask the expert: America's Middle East policy

"Richard Haass, president of the Council on Foreign Relations and former Bush administration official, argues in the Financial Times that the American era of unprecedented influence and freedom to act in the Middle East has ended.

The Middle East will remain a troubled region for decades to come", argues Mr Haass, "the challenge will be to contain the effects and to hasten the arrival of something better."

<<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/d26ef12a-5d36-11db-9d15-0000779e2340.html>>

Religion at work

"At the centre of the recent debate over religious customs in the workplace lies a lesson: with increased diversity comes a need for greater tolerance. That applies in society at large. It applies also in business."

<<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/03b6748e-5d7c-11db-9d15-0000779e2340.html>>

Letters

A duty to ensure our army can serve our country to best effect

<<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/3af85322-5d7c-11db-9d15-0000779e2340.html>>

Contradiction does not mean disloyalty

<<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/29fc2a30-5d7c-11db-9d15-0000779e2340.html>>

Modern generals are likely to be sophisticated and circumspect

<<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/3a2de66a-5d7b-11db-9d15-0000779e2340.html>>

Columnists

Generals must avoid political battles

Philip Stephens

"Stray into a minefield and you are likely to be blown up. General Sir Richard Dannatt, the army's chief of general staff, professed himself surprised at the uproar caused by his attack on the government's strategy in Iraq. He had obviously forgotten his basic training."

<<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/7ff340c8-5d7b-11db-9d15-0000779e2340.html>>

*** The rest of the article is for FT subscribers only***

The Guardian

UK News

Catholics and Jews attack controls on faith school intake as veils row goes on

Stephen Bates and Tania Branigan

"The Catholic church signalled its outright opposition last night to government proposals requiring new faith schools to admit as many as a quarter of their pupils from families of other faiths or no religions. The Board of Deputies of British Jews also expressed concern, saying the amendment to the education bill would be "nonsensical" if it prevented Jewish children from going to Jewish schools."

<<http://www.guardian.co.uk/religion/Story/0.,1924061,00.html>>

Dismay over debates which creates divisions

Michael White

"Not all the four British Muslims who sit as MPs or Westminster's five Muslim peers have spoken out publicly about the veil controversy which Jack Straw triggered in the Lancashire Telegraph two weeks ago. Best not to pour more fuel on the fire, some think. They do not work as a group, but most are puzzled and dispirited by the row."

<<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/story/0.,1924081,00.html>>

University anger over plan for academics to spy on students

Matthew Taylor, Vikram Dodd and Will Woodward

"University bosses and lecturers reacted with anger and alarm last night over government plans to encourage academics to spy on their students."

They said the measures, outlined in a leaked document obtained by the Guardian, were misplaced and likely to be counterproductive in the drive to root out extremist activity on university campuses."

<<http://education.guardian.co.uk/higher/news/story/0,,1924113,00.html>>

World

Gulf war hostages demand truth over secret mission

Hugh Muir

"Airline passengers and crew seized as "human shields" by Saddam Hussein during the first Gulf war yesterday demanded a public inquiry following claims that they were used by the government as cover to smuggle special forces into Kuwait."

<<http://www.guardian.co.uk/Iraq/Story/0,,1924132,00.html>>

Israeli president lies low after rape claim

Rory McCarthy

"The Israeli president, Moshe Katsav, yesterday cancelled an appearance at the opening session of parliament as he faced mounting pressure over a police recommendation that he be charged with rape."

<<http://www.guardian.co.uk/international/story/0,,1923868,00.html>>

Saddam calls on people to unite and oust invaders

Michael Howard

"Saddam Hussein, who is on trial for mass murder and genocide, has issued an extraordinary message from his prison cell, urging warring Iraqis to set aside their differences, drive the multinational forces from Iraq, and then forgive those 'who shed the blood of your sons and brothers'."

<<http://www.guardian.co.uk/international/story/0,,1923881,00.html>>

Comment

The worst in Iraq is yet to come

Simon Tisdall

"In its external aspects, Iraq remains a live, occasionally explosive issue in the US and Britain, as last week's row over General Sir Richard Dannatt's thoughts on a British withdrawal showed. But the deepening chaos inside the country attracts less and less attention. Like sailors long missing at sea, the fate of ordinary Iraqis three years after the country was driven on to the rocks grows increasingly remote from those who precipitated the disaster."

<<http://www.guardian.co.uk/Columnists/Column/0,,1923927,00.html>>

The courts are starting to accept that the war against Iraq is a crime

George Monbiot

"In the early hours, two days before the attack on Iraq began, two men in their 30s, Phil Pritchard and Toby Olditch, cut through the fence surrounding the air base at Fairford in Gloucestershire and made their way towards the B52 bombers which were stationed there. The planes belonged to the US air force. The trespassers were caught by guards and found to be carrying tools and paint."

<<http://www.guardian.co.uk/comment/story/0,,1923914,00.html>>

Incitement to violence

Daud Abdullah

"Where is this political opportunism taking us? Into the dark tunnel of

national strife. The corrosive effect of the political and media onslaught against British Muslims is having its impact on all sections of society. What is claimed to be an assertion of free speech and democratic rights is rapidly becoming the demonisation of a community. Once they are dehumanised, who cares for their democratic, civil or human rights?"

<<http://www.guardian.co.uk/comment/story/0,,1923923,00.html>>

Only a fully secular state can protect women's rights

Polly Toynbee

"This has been a real test of Labour politicians. It is the first time in years that there has been a hard choice about women's rights - and many failed miserably. Here is a conflict between two principles - respect for a religious minority and respect for women's equality."

<<http://www.guardian.co.uk/comment/story/0,,1923925,00.html>>

Speak freely but carefully

"Sticks and stones do break bones but words can hurt too. Just a week after Jack Straw's remarks about the niqab, a clamour now arises from politicians joining the debate with their own concerns about Islam. Where Mr Straw was precise and careful with his language, the risk is that anxiety is being aired without clarity either as to the problems or the solutions."

<<http://politics.guardian.co.uk/comment/story/0,,1923992,00.html>>

Letters

Iraq's impact on human rights

<<http://www.guardian.co.uk/letters/story/0,,1923875,00.html>>

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The Independent

UK page

Labour accused of aiding extremists by its focus on Muslim issues

Nigel Morris and Ben Russell

"Ministers were accused of playing into the hands of the far right and of Islamic extremists as a Labour backlash grew against the Government's continuing focus on Muslim issues."

<<http://news.independent.co.uk/uk/politics/article1879413.ece>>

Reid admits Iraq war fuelled radicalism

Colin Brown

"John Reid, the Home Secretary, conceded last night for the first time that the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have played a part radicalizing young Muslims."

<<http://news.independent.co.uk/uk/politics/article1879418.ece>>

A lesson in tolerance from head of multilingual school

Cahal Milmo

"When the bell signals the end of the day at Featherstone primary in Southall, west London, pupils from 37 countries with 30 mother tongues leave for home under the watchful eye of the 63-year-old head teacher who has run the school for 23 years."

<<http://education.independent.co.uk/news/article1879414.ece>>

Parents offer little support for teacher who wore veil

Ian Herbert

"Her fight for the right to wear the veil in class may have divided politicians but there was little support for the teaching assistant Aishah Azmi yesterday among parents at her school in Dewsbury, West Yorkshire."

<http://news.independent.co.uk/uk/this_britain/article1879417.ece>

World

Israel's President retreats in face of sex offence claims

Donald Macintyre

"Israel's President Moshe Katsav cancelled his scheduled appearance at the opening of the Knesset yesterday in the wake of a police report recommending his indictment for rape and other sexual offences, along with a string of other charges."

<http://news.independent.co.uk/world/middle_east/article1879412.ece>

Comment section

Why should we have separate faith schools at all?

Mary Dejevsky

"A hallmark of life in Britain is supposed to be a willingness to deal with the world as it is, rather than as we would like it to be. This is sometimes called pragmatism, sometimes common sense; at other times, it is muddling through. In practice, it means that we prefer getting on with the job to impaling ourselves on moral dogmatism (the US) or Cartesian analysis (our friends on the other side of the Channel)."

<http://comment.independent.co.uk/columnists_a_l/mary_dejevsky/article1879375.ece>

Do not expect lecturers to snitch on their students

Philip Hensher

"I really don't know what sort of country we're living in any more. The Department for Education has drawn up a series of proposals which will shortly be sent to all universities. They relate to new obligations or requirements on universities and individual lecturers towards Muslim students. The document urges universities to pass on information about Muslim students and students of "Asian appearance" if there is any suggestion that they may be involved with terrorism."

<http://comment.independent.co.uk/columnists_a_l/philip_hensher/article1879376.ece>

Letters

Is it the general who should be sacked?

<<http://comment.independent.co.uk/letters/article1879381.ece>>

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The Times

Comment/ cartoon/ Leaders/ Obituaries and Letters

A proper British veil-wearer

David Aaronovitch

"The best approach to religious differences is to read, discuss and understand, not confront and ban. DO YOU, DEMANDED the war-time leader of his large audience in February 1943, want a Total War? Absolutely, they yelled back, and the more total the better. If you listen to tapes

it was one of the most splendid moments in the history of the sectarian impulse. Let's give it to 'em!"

<<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,6-2406827.html>>

A safe haven for all our crackpot beliefs

Martin Samuel

"FIRST DAY at big school and the teacher was going through the register before assembly. When he got to my name, he hesitated slightly. "Samuel? Oh, he won't be here." I raised my hand. "Yes, I am," I said. "I'm not Jewish." What a mug. I was free. I was off the hook. I was a non-person."

<<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,21131-2406815.html>>

Letters

Symbols of a religious and cultural heritage

<<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,59-2406522,00.html>>

Chris Doyle

Director

CAABU (Council for Arab-British Understanding)

"Islamic Science and the Making of the European Renaissance" A lecture by Professor George Saliba - 19 October - for details:

http://www.caabu.org/index.asp?homepage=events&article=events&detail=george_saliba

Why not sponsor me this Sunday to help Palestinian and Lebanese children?

<http://www.justgiving.com/chrisdoyle>

see the CAABU section on the current Israel-Lebanon conflict

http://www.caabu.org/index.asp?homepage=key_issues&article=israel_lebanon

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http://www.caabu.org/index.asp?homepage=membership&article=member_applications

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