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“France...A Friend At Last”

**by
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“I want to issue an appeal to our American friends, to tell them that they can count on our friendship, which has been forged in the tragedies of history which we have faced together” Important words from a friend of ours from across the Atlantic... his name, Nicolas Sarkozy... his position, newly elected President of France. How many years has it been that the head of state of one of our oldest and most loyal allies has been someone who truly deems America as a friend and partner in world affairs? Conservative Party President Sarkozy handily and surprisingly defeated Socialist Party candidate Ms. Segolene Royal, a radically left socialist who has said, “...she would not bow at the feet of President Bush,” and ridiculed our treatment of the Iraqi War and social programs for our citizens.

Ms. Royal wanted to continue the economic policies that have pushed France’s economy to the bottom of the barrel and its unemployment higher than any of their Euro compatriots. She also was very politically correct in her handling of the extreme Muslim problem which has come close to an all out inter-cultural war. There are so many Muslims now occupying France and ignoring French law in favor of their own religious beliefs many have said it’s as if the Islamic faction has conquered and occupied a part of France without having to fire a shot. (Reminiscent of Premier Philippe Petain’s surrender to Hitler in WWII mentioned in last week’s column.) Ms. Royal also stated in her campaign speeches that she would not support Israel in the Palestinian/Israeli conflict.

Bill Mahr, an American “comedian” who got himself in hot water by saying the Islamic terrorists who carried out 9/11 were not cowards, ridiculed our President and called him stupid for not encouraging congress to adopt a health plan like France’s and said that France was a country we should emulate, not make fun of. If he would read a newspaper now and then and talk with someone who knows more than he concerning foreign policy and economics he might stop making an ass of himself.

As stated above, France has one of if not the worse economies of any industrial nation in the world and the highest unemployment. As we’ve stated before in previous articles, France’s businesses are forbidden to fire anyone under the age of 26 and there is a mandatory 35 hour work week because of the “guaranteed right to work law” called the “law of first employment” they have on the books. Former President Jacques Chirac repealed a law that would have done away with the “untouchable” status of young workers, thereby guaranteeing that France would continue to stagnate in its economy.

France’s unemployment rate is upwards of 20% in 18 – 25 year old workers because businesses refuse to hire them due to the ridiculous guarantees younger workers receive. President-elect Sarkozy has promised a sweeping reform of all socialistic laws that prevent a surging economy. Mademoiselle Royal was fighting to prevent such reforms.

Some of President Sarkozy’s comments:

** "The best social model is one that creates jobs for everyone, and this is obviously not ours since our unemployment level is twice as high as that of our main partners."*

** "I admire the social mobility of American society. You can start with nothing and become a spectacular success. You can fail and get a second chance. Merit is rewarded."*

** "France is no longer the country that comes up with new ideas."*

And Sarkozy offers some hard truths to those Americans who mindlessly praise the imaginary social justice and "better" quality of life in a France they know only from privileged vacations that tend to avoid the Muslim slums and collapsed industrial areas:

** "The French have never spoken so much about justice while allowing so much injustice to prevail . . . The reality of our system is that it protects those who have something, and it is very tough on those who don't."*

** "France has been discouraging initiative and punishing success for the past 25 years, and the main consequence of preventing the most dynamic members of society from getting rich is to make everyone else poor." (Boy, doesn't this sound familiar to those of us in the good old USA?)*

** "It is hard to exaggerate the damage done to France by the 35-hour workweek. How can anyone think that you're going to create wealth and jobs by working less?"*

** "Thirteen percent of retired women live below the poverty line, and a further 25 percent are barely above it . . . The unemployment rate for unskilled workers is 15 percent . . . It is 22 percent for those under 25 and nearly 40 percent for low-skilled youth who live in [immigrant ghettos]."*

So why should a French election mean anything to us? So many of our left thinking politicians and celebrities here in the United States have been so concerned about what the world's countries and their leaders think about we "ugly-Americans" and can't figure out why our popularity has diminished greatly. They fail to realize it's because people just like them, socialistic minded, big government oriented, do-nothings whose plans for a socialistic world are endangered by the success of a wide open, free market society such as the United States to continue to flourish while others flounder.

Finally, we have a friend in a leadership position of one of the most socialistic countries in the world who has said he envies the robust economy of the United States and wishes to mend the split which occurred between our countries over 50 years ago. As France adopts some of our economic ideas allowing individualistic entrepreneurship to thrive and prosper, their economy will begin to flourish as well. When that occurs other countries will see we're not that bad after all and will want to return to our side as the true allies they once were.

Who knows, maybe we can get our own Democratic Party to begin its own shift to the right?

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