

 **TODAY'S "SHORT TOPIC"**
IRAN, APPEASEMENT,
NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN
- IT GETS CONFUSING!



By Stephen L. Bakke  April 7, 2015

Here's what provoked me:

Letter writers really piled on anyone who dared mention the "great appeasement" by Neville Chamberlin in 1938 following negotiations with Hitler in Munich. That "Peace for our Time" lasted less than a year and gave Hitler confidence, time, and a head of steam to proceed, successfully for a while, in conquering nations and murdering European Jews. While I'm not alleging that Iran would be as devastatingly unsuccessful as the 1938 effort, I do think the facts surrounding the "Munich" agreement deserve mention and consideration.

Here's my response:

Iran, Appeasement, Neville Chamberlain - It Gets Confusing!

Chillman and Theis strongly oppose those who, when evaluating Iran negotiations, hearken back to the "great appeasement" by Neville Chamberlin (Iran Nuclear Framework - 4-7-15). Chamberlin returned from Munich in 1938 with an agreement and immediately proclaimed "Peace for our time!" In exchange for "peace" Chamberlin gave up opposition to German control of ethnically German "Sudentenland."

These writers' arguments include:

- Any mention of the Munich Agreement, and "appeasement," in the context of Iran negotiations, amounts to foolishly seeing a "potential new Hitler" in any foreign adversary.
- The Munich Agreement had to do with avoiding war rather than controlling Iranian nuclear capability.
- Unlike the Iran pact, "Munich" had no provisions for inspections.

Some similarities with "Munich":

- Re: "Munich" being different because it was to avoid war, rather than nuclear proliferation, Israel would consider that a distinction without a difference.
- Re: inspection procedures, how successful have been previous attempts at inspections and sanctions?
- Without Senate ratification, any agreement is easily ignored in the future - i.e. in the long term, Iran needn't worry - just like Hitler was confident in "buying time."
- Many supporters of the Iran pact want "peace at all costs" just like many in Britain and France in 1938.
- Chamberlin sacrificed the people of Czechoslovakia (Sudetenland). Many feel we are sacrificing the security of Israel.
- In both cases, there is absolutely solid evidence that we are dealing with first-class **RASCALS!**

I think the implications of "Munich" are at least worth a mention!