Written by Chris Perver
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King Abdullah II of Jordan reiterated his belief today, that unless peace is achieved quickly in the Middle East, that the region could slide into a decade of war. His comments come shortly after the visit of Javier Solana's visit to the kingdom. The king warned that the Israeli-Palestinian issue lies at the centre of the conflict in the Middle East, and that it must be solved this year or "new disasters" might occur.

Quote: *""Everyone, particularly Israel, must realise that if we do not reach a solution to the Palestinian issue this year then we will all pay the price," King Abdullah told London-based Asharq al-Awsat newspaper, calling for the creation of a Palestinian state alongside Israel. "Without this, the region will move toward new disasters similar to what happened in Lebanon," he told the daily.*

Meanwhile, President Abbas of the Palestinian Authority is planning to visit Spain this Friday, to meet with the Prime Minister Zapatero and Foreign Minister Miguel Moratinos. The two men have been instrumental in the creation of the Alliance of Civilizations and the Declaration of Alicante
- the EU's new peace plan for the Middle East. The Palestinian Authority accepted
the Spanish peace plan shortly after it was revealed by Moratinos.

Quote: *"In Ramallah, aides to Abbas confirmed that the president would stop in Spain after attending the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. Abbas will meet with Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Moratinos and dine with Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, Spain's Foreign Ministry said.*

In other news, it appears the $100 million in tax revenues, so generously given by Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert to Palestinian President Abbas will be distributed to the needy .
Apparently US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice had pressured
Olmert into handing over the money as some sort of good will gesture. President Abbas then made a surprise visit to Damascus to visit Hamas leader Khaled Mashaal, and the rest is history. And there is no doubt about it, Hamas is needy. They need bullets to kill more Jews, they need RPG launchers to attack the IDF and they need to buy off Palestinians to consolidate their power.

Quote: *"At the time Olmert quietened his critics, assuring them that Abbas would oversee the distribution of these funds, and that Hamas - which has been boycotted*

internationally until it recognizes Israel - would not be able to touch the money. Now, however, PA Minister of Planning Samir Abu Aisha (Hamas) has stated that his organization will be fully involved in handing out the cash. Doing so makes a mockery of Olmert's assurances and will help bolster Hamas popularity in its ongoing conflict with the Fatah faction of the PLO. Some of the dollars are expected to fund ongoing terrorist activities against Israel.

I think the US and UK need to take note, "Do not feed the animals".

Source Reuters , International Herald Tribune , Jerusalem Newswire