

**Re: As frustrations over inaction mount, PM vows to turn screw on Iran**

**The Globe and Mail**

Feb.10, 2010

The Munich Pact, signed in 1938 by Germany, Great Britain, France and Italy, ceded the Sudetenland region of Czechoslovakia to Hitler in a hopeless effort to appease the Nazis. British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain announced he had secured “peace for our time”.

History has clearly demonstrated how futile and tragic such appeasement efforts are. Bullies, whether on the school yard or the international arena, recognize cowardice and weakness when they see it, and have no qualms about taking full advantage to achieve their ends.

Iran’s President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is the most dangerous bully on the international block in recent history. As the UN dithers and nations around the world attempt once again to stop a madman by playing nice, it is time for courageous leaders to realize the urgency of Iran’s threat to global stability.

Kudos to Prime Minister Harper for having the guts to challenge the bully in our midst. Like Winston Churchill during WWII, he is less concerned about personal popularity than he is with doing the right thing, and has consistently demonstrated his conviction and moral strength by speaking out against the evil nature of the Iranian regime, and the incalculable damage and suffering the world may face if he is not stopped.

It is my hope that the G8 leaders have learned their history lessons well.

Avi Benlolo

President & CEO

Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies