

## PART IV: EPILOGUE



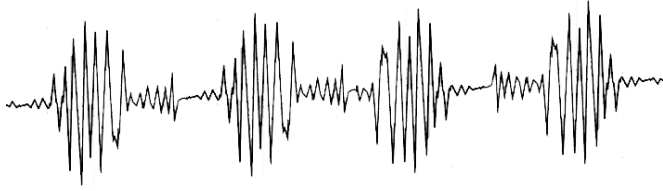
“The lesson we should learn from all this, and the frightening things which we did learn in the course of the war, was . . . how easy it is to kill people when you turn your mind to it. When you turn the resources of modern science to the problem of killing people, you realize how vulnerable they really are.”

—*I. I. Rabi*

“Men never do evil so completely and cheerfully as when they do it from religious conviction.”

—*Blaise Pascal (1623–62)*





## THE LOOMING THREAT OF RADICAL ISLAM AND A NUCLEAR IRAN

**EVERY SOCIETY FOR WHICH RECORDS EXIST** created a religion based upon a higher being—i.e., an inherent universal belief in gods or a God. In essence, all of mankind has sung the same melody. The problem is that each group composed its own set of lyrics, and ever since, they have been killing one another over even minuscule differences in their lyrics.

The Middle East gave birth to three of the world's predominant religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, the Muslim religion. The Old Testament of the Bible and the Koran bear numerous similarities—clearly they have shared roots—and Christianity was initially a branch of Judaism. These three religions are first cousins, but throughout the millennia, religious persecution has prevailed and countless wars have been fought and atrocities committed, both *between* and *within* these religions. Religious faith may be ubiquitous, but religious tolerance is exceptionally rare.

Until recently, man lacked the technology to eradicate all human life, but with the advent of the nuclear age, that barrier has been breached and *will be acted upon* by religious zealots unless proactively prevented.

The current Iranian government is devoting its resources to becoming a major nuclear power, and its motivation for doing so is religious. It has a light-water ( $H_2O$ ) modulated nuclear power plant in operation and is constructing a heavy-water (deuterium oxide) modulated reactor

that can fission unenriched uranium ore and will be completed in 2010. Deuterium is a strictly controlled substance, which raises the question of who sold it to Iran.

Iran possesses uranium mines, presently has over 8,300 cascading centrifuges concentrating the ore, has current plans for an additional 45,000, and is threatening to add 450,000 more at ten locations. It has initialed a deal with China for 20 more light-water nuclear power plants and, as of this writing, possesses in excess of 4,000 pounds of low-enriched uranium (LEU) with which to fuel them.

And from where has the money for all this come? It has come from the sale of oil to other nations at sky-high prices. If this sounds familiar, recall that following World War I France was the single largest trading partner of Germany as it rearmed in preparation for World War II.

Iran is the fourth-largest oil producer and could meet its power needs with hydrocarbon-fueled steam turbines at a fraction of the cost of nuclear. Furthermore, its current refining capacity does not meet even its domestic needs; additional gasoline and other refined products must be imported. If Iran's intentions were peaceful, it would have expanded its refining capacity instead of building nuclear power plants.

Why is Iran so single-mindedly obsessed with nuclear power? Because plutonium 239, the preferred material for making nuclear weapons, is a by-product from the operation of nuclear power reactors. That the possession of a massive nuclear arsenal is Iran's objective is clearly borne out by the revelation that they were already working on developing triggering devices for the detonation of atomic bombs in 2007.

On September 6, 2007, Israeli bombers destroyed a Syrian nuclear facility that was being constructed with technology purchased from agents of A. Q. Khan, the Pakistani nuclear physicist, and with assistance from North Korean technicians. Twelve other Middle Eastern nations, including Saudi Arabia, have also expressed nuclear ambitions.

An article from the July 8, 2008, issue of *Investor's Business Daily* brought to light an interesting side note. Five hundred and fifty metric tons of uranium oxide (yellowcake) was purchased by a Canadian company and shipped from Iraq to Canada, where it will be concentrated as nuclear reactor fuel. Saddam Hussein *did possess* sufficient yellowcake, once concentrated, to produce 150 A-bombs. U.S. troops

discovered the yellowcake during the 2003 invasion; however, some of it predated the 1991 war. Fortunately, the Israelis had destroyed Saddam's nuclear facilities as fast as he could construct them. Unfortunately, to do the same in Iran would prove far more difficult because some of its facilities are deep underground.

Yellowcake is only 0.72% U-235, which is fissile, the balance being the more stable isotope, U-238. For use in H<sub>2</sub>O modulated power reactors, the uranium is enriched to between 3% and 5% U-235 and is referred to as LEU. Weapons-grade, highly enriched uranium (HEU) is enriched to between 90% and 95% U-235. However, achieving the LEU level represents 70% of the effort required to produce HEU.

China and Russia are aiding Iran in its nuclear quest, but why? Rome, Spain, and Great Britain each held the position of the world's greatest power prior to the ascendancy of the United States. China would like to be next to hold that title—and soon.

Although Vladimir Putin was not a member of the United Russia Party, which controls 70% of the seats in Russia's Parliament, he was unanimously elected its chairman. His first act as prime minister (a self-appointed position) was to install a cabinet of his choice—not the new president's. The major bureaucratic positions are held by Putin's colleagues from his days as KGB chief. He is selling Russia's S-300 antiaircraft missile system to Iran for protection of its burgeoning nuclear facilities.

There is no question as to who continues to wield the real power in Russia. But for Putin to retain his position as the self-anointed new tsar/Stalin, he must return Russia to superpower status. Anything that Iran and/or North Korea do to diminish the United States will elevate the relative positions of China and Russia.

But would Iran actually do something so heinous as to massacre millions of innocents? Oh, yes! Iran's President Ahmadinejad has repeatedly stated that Israel, the "Little Satan," must be wiped off the map and a Palestinian state created in its place. He has proclaimed the USA to be the "Great Satan."

Shiites referred to as "Twelvers" believe it to be their sacred duty to prepare the world for the reemergence of the 12th Imam, the Mahdi.

Ahmadinejad is an avowed Twelver, as is 90% of Iran's population and 65% of Iraq's. Twelvers believe Imams to be infallible.

Purportedly the last direct descendant of Mohammed, the 12th Imam was born in 868 or 869 A.D. and went into occultation (hidden by God) either at about age five or in his early 70s, according to conflicting histories. They believe that he will reemerge—accompanied by Jesus Christ to validate the Imam's authority—and will save us all, but *only after* the world has descended into **total chaos**. Apparently, the approximately one hundred million deaths, total, during World War I and World War II were insufficient. Once under the Mahdi's rule, the survivors will all become *perfect* and will live *selflessly* in a radical Islamic paradise under Sharia law for seven years. This utopian fantasy will then culminate in the end of days.

While he was the mayor of Tehran, Ahmadinejad ordered the construction of a wide boulevard in preparation for the Mahdi's return, and as president he allocated \$20 million for the building of a blue-tiled mosque in Jamkaran for the Mahdi's use. In 2005 he stated, "Our revolution's main mission is to pave the way for the reappearance of the 12th Imam, the Mahdi." Ahmadinejad proclaims that he and his cabinet have a signed contract with the Mahdi, who he is certain will reemerge in "the next several years."

On September 17, 2005, Ahmadinejad told the United Nations General Assembly, "The discourse of the Iranian nation is focused on respect for the rights of human beings and a quest for tranquility, peace, justice (per radical Islamic law), and development for all through *monotheism*" (that means *only one religion—his*). He closed with, "O mighty Lord, I pray to you to hasten the emergence of your last repository, the promised one, that perfect and pure human being, the one that will fill this world with justice and peace."

Upon his return, the Mahdi *will not* rule directly, but through a deputy who *may* precede him. Does the Ayatollah Ali Khamenei or President Ahmadinejad believe himself to be the deputy whom all of humanity will blindly obey? If so, this view is frighteningly megalomaniacal—some might say psychotic.

On June 12, 2009, President Ahmadinejad purportedly won reelection. Had he lost, as many believe he did in a strongly protested election, the impact would have been minimal. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei *picked* the four candidates and is the real power; he sets the agenda in Iran.

In fairness, it should be remembered that the Christians are awaiting the return of Jesus Christ, and the Jews are still waiting for their promised Messiah. This is yet another parallel among these three religions. Fortunately, however, Christianity and Judaism do not demand the mass murder of nonbelievers as a prerequisite.

We are rightly appalled by our adversaries' barbaric behavior such as death by stoning or beheading. But due to the time that has elapsed, we tend to ignore the fact that the history of our forebears isn't all that different. Up through the 17th century, the Catholic Church burned more than 100,000 humans (mostly women) at the stake to free their souls from demonic possession. And who were the possessed? Anyone who challenged the church's authority and women who displayed an independent will. On the western side of the Atlantic, during the Salem Witch Trials of 1692–93, 200 people were accused of practicing witchcraft, 20 of whom were found guilty and executed.

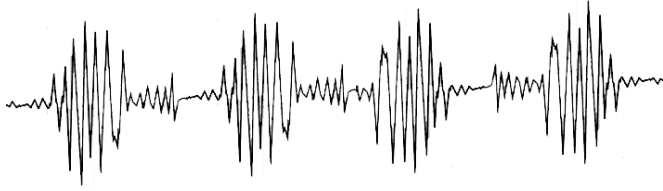
Tragically, religious fanaticism has been the progenitor of numerous unspeakable atrocities extending as far back as history can trace. Let us hope that someday religious tolerance will finally reign. But during the interim, we must remain ever vigilant and accept the facts that anything we can figure out, our adversaries can also figure out—they are not stupid people—and that the Luddite approach has never worked.

On June 6, 2009, President Obama made a conciliatory speech in Cairo, Egypt, to the leaders of the Muslim nations. The stated objective was to defuse tensions and garner friends. He achieved the opposite with the statement, "No single nation should pick and choose which nations hold nuclear weapons." In terms of a go-ahead for the pursuit of nuclear arms by the Middle Eastern nations, the light cannot get any greener than that. Equally obvious are the intended targets. He also stated, "And any nation, including Iran, should have the right to access nuclear power if it complies with its responsibilities under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty."

Really! This last statement is dubious, considering that Iran denied the United Nations' International Atomic Energy Agency inspectors access to its heavy-water reactor site for more than 10 months. Heavy-water reactors can be configured to maximize either power output or the generation of plutonium.

When U-235 splits (fissions), subatomic particles are released. Some particles are absorbed by the U-238 present and convert it into plutonium 239. India and Pakistan's atomic bombs were made with plutonium 239 reclaimed from the spent uranium fuel rods of their nuclear reactors. Recall that Iran rejected an earlier deal whereby Russia would have supplied fuel rods for a nuclear power plant but would have taken the spent fuel rods for reclamation. At present, 31 nations possess at least one ton of plutonium 239. Currently, there is sufficient fissile material—HEU and plutonium 239—scattered about the globe to assemble an additional 550,000 nuclear weapons.

Is President Obama abandoning our long-standing goal of nuclear nonproliferation, while both promising to reduce our nuclear arsenal and refusing to refurbish our current inventory of nuclear weapons? If so, the United States is in a most vulnerable position.



## THAT FATEFUL DAY

**IT'S EARLY NOVEMBER**, about 5:30 p.m. and getting dark. Many cars already have their headlights on. As forecast, the warm, powerful Santana winds have arrived and are blowing trash, sand, and even a few tumbleweeds all over the freeway. There are still a few small vacant plots and strips of barren land in downtown Los Angeles—but tumbleweeds in the heart of a major metropolis evokes the aura of viewing ancient abandoned ruins. Abandoned? I'm crawling at about 5 mph in the fast lane. But just ahead is the overpass that is my escape portal. Once past it, the speed will pick up.

**WHAM!** I feel a powerful jolt and the pavement ahead undulates visibly! Oh my God, it's an earthquake! All traffic stops abruptly, but a few shocked motorists freeze and rear-end the vehicles they are following. An instant later all of the surrounding lights go out; the power grid has short-circuited.

I'm listening to KNX, a powerful AM station, to get the day's news plus stock market and traffic reports. My radio goes silent momentarily, but then is back—their emergency generator has kicked in. When we're frightened, the voice of another human is comforting; it makes us feel less alone. Oh, no! A second sharp jolt . . . then a third . . . more jolts. My heart is racing. What's happening? At least I had the presence of mind to put the car in park and shut off the engine.

Ahead I can see one of those jacked-up monster trucks. The driver is frantically attempting to ram his way back off the overpass. He pulls

forward, puts it in reverse, and slams into the vehicles behind him, pushing them farther back each time. Just as he charges backward for the fourth time, the overpass collapses and all of the vehicles momentarily seem suspended in air like Wile E. Coyote. The rear of the monster truck flips upward upon impacting the airborne cars behind it. The truck and the two cars it had hit flip end-over-end like high-board divers as they plunge. I guess the driver of the truck wasn't crazy after all.

At that instant, there is a flash of light to my right. My head snaps in that direction, and in shocked disbelief I see flames and steam shooting high into the air from fissures in the ground! Could this be the Armageddon fundamentalists have been predicting? Maybe so; the earthquake has lasted for nearly a minute. With each new jolt, vehicles dance about and some slam together; not all, obviously, had been placed in park.

Panicked people are out of their cars and fleeing. Some have been severely injured by ricocheting vehicles—have they jumped from the frying pan into the fire? Those who are conscious are screaming and pleading for help. But I can't help them; none of us can. If we get out of our cars now, we may also become casualties.

Fortunately, several news helicopters are airborne. KNX switches between the helicopter reporters . . . San Pedro and Long Beach are ablaze. The Vincent Thomas Bridge has collapsed, sinking a mammoth container ship that was transiting beneath it. The channel is completely blocked. The Gerald Desmond Bridge, east of the Vincent Thomas, has also gone into the water, taking several cars and semi-trucks with it. That channel is also blocked . . . Beverly Hills is ablaze. Flames are shooting from countless fissures, and there is an unconfirmed report of a flaming fissure having opened within the eight-level Beverly Center . . . an unstoppable conflagration is under way, but emergency vehicles cannot respond because of the stalled traffic and rubble; they would be overwhelmed to the point of near uselessness anyway . . . boosted by the heat from innumerable fires, the Santana winds are predicted to quickly reach hurricane force . . . Huntington Beach, Ventura, and Santa Barbara are now engulfed in flames.

Oh, no! . . . A tsunami estimated at from 20 to 35 feet at various locations is striking along Southern California's coastline . . . an announcer

breaks in and reads an emergency bulletin in a barely controlled voice: ham radio operators have just reported that massive earthquakes have also struck San Francisco and the Silicon Valley. Both levels of the Bay Bridge have collapsed, plunging hundreds of cars into the water, and two spans of the Golden Gate Bridge have also fallen, dumping cars and pedestrians into the bay . . . numerous skyscrapers in both San Francisco and Los Angeles are shedding their glass outer skins and will surely collapse soon . . . fire is already sweeping through both cities; the death toll and injuries will be astronomical . . . numerous earthen-dam water reservoirs have cracked and are leaking; however, the rubble in the streets prevents evacuation of the areas below the dams. People are frantically attempting to flee on foot to higher ground. . . .

A bulletin is broadcast: Seismologists in Menlo Park and at Caltech report that both the northern and the southern section of the San Andreas Fault have simultaneously ruptured, as have the Hayward Fault in the Bay Area and the Puente Hills Fault in Southern California. But these aren't normal seismic events; they are serial earthquakes that are spreading in both directions from each initial epicenter—each fault is experiencing a series of epicenters rupturing sequentially—sort of like ripping canvas. This is a phenomenon that has never previously been observed.

Later the helicopter reporting is again interrupted by a report that a huge tsunami is striking all along the coastline of the Gulf of Mexico. A wall of water is obliterating the gulf coasts of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas.

Shortly thereafter, a tragic event of international consequence is announced. Following a powerful seismic shock, the western slope of the Cumbre Vieja volcano on the coast of La Palma in the Canary Islands has collapsed into the sea. This event has long been feared and will result in a tsunami about 150 feet high sweeping the entire eastern seaboard in six to eight hours. The thought crosses my mind that this event will probably result in more deaths than the calamities we in California are experiencing will produce—but that event will occur 3,000 miles away and my concerns are local and immediate.

Oh, God—my wife and children! Are they injured and in need of my help? If this is judgment day, please let me be with them. But it would be

insane to get out of the car now. Smoke is billowing and getting thicker. When a wind shift occasionally permits, I crack the windows to bring in fresh air and then shut them again. It will soon be dark. My only hope of survival is to stay where I am, calm down, and try to slow my metabolism to conserve oxygen. Oh, yeah; just calm down—I'm in a state of near panic!

My wife keeps our cars stocked with a 20-ounce bottle of water in each door compartment. Thank you, darling. With four bottles of water, I can survive for a couple days; that is, if I'm not asphyxiated or roasted. My running gear is in the trunk. When the smoke clears, I'll put on my running shoes and attempt to pick my way through the debris to our home, which is 20 miles away in Palos Verdes. If my family isn't there, I'll head for our sailboat in San Pedro, which is another 15 miles. Our emergency plan is to rendezvous at the boat if we can't make it home.

The outside temperature has risen to over 100°F; I restart the engine, let it idle, turn on the air-conditioning, and hit recirculation. Fortunately, the gas tank is almost full. If I run the air-conditioning intermittently, it might keep conditions tolerable for a couple of days. Besides, I'll need to bring in oxygen from outside. If I'm still alive when the temperature again drops below 100°F, I'll emerge from my steel cocoon and start the journey in search of my family. I open my cell phone, but it shows no signal. Well, I had to try—I'm grasping at straws.

A truth I've been trying to avoid emerges. What will I find *if I do* reach our home? I attempt to bargain with God: "If you must take one of us, please take me. However, if you won't spare my family, please make it swift. Don't burn them alive or leave them to die slow, tortured deaths in the rubble, and also—please—*please—take me too.*"

By comparison, 9-11-01 was a softball game played on some vacant lot and this is the World Series—literally! Am I a spectator to the end of mankind? Another thought flashes to mind. Could the Christian fundamentalists have been right after all? We've been hit simultaneously by three apocalyptic acts of God—earthquakes of unprecedented duration, widespread conflagrations ignited by flames shooting from the ground, and tsunamis striking the West Coast, the Gulf Coast, and soon the East Coast. Is this the prophesied Sodom and Gomorrah redux to rid the

world of us sinners? But we've been taught that we're God's children. Does God really wish to obliterate the human race?

NO, NO, NO! Stop and think. Sometimes the crucial event is the one that *didn't* occur. Amid the daily reports of ever more suicide bombings in the Middle East, there have been no reports of Islamic religious or political leaders martyring themselves to collect the purported rewards.

Since the leaders are in no great rush to meet Allah, once Iran has amassed a nuclear arsenal, is there a way in which it can initially use those weapons without effecting its own annihilation by our hydrogen-bomb-armed ICBMs?

Unfortunately, there is! Should the catastrophes described occur, they will all be man-made events, **not** the vengeful acts of an enraged God. In reality, we will again be under attack by cunning religious extremists who believe our destruction to be Allah's command. As was demonstrated on 9-11-01, this adversary is intelligent, innovative, patient, and disciplined. That attack took more than two years to plan and execute, and it was carried out flawlessly.

Strategically, it is essential that the Islamic fanatics plunge the USA into chaos and confusion before using their nuclear weapons openly against Israel and other targets—including our major cities.

Act of God #1: The answer is to not use their nuclear weapons as bombs, but as energy sources to trigger the release of *orders of magnitude greater* natural forces that have been quietly accumulating for centuries on California's various earthquake faults. Unfortunately, the potential destruction from triggered earthquakes has increased significantly since the events of 1961.

The 1961 plot involved only right-strike faults such as the San Andreas, Garlock, and Hayward. Subsequently, several blind-thrust earthquake faults have been discovered. Thrust faults differ from right-strike faults in that they result from compression of the Earth's crust. The Los Angeles basin, for instance, is very slowly getting smaller. These faults fracture at an approximately 45-degree angle, which causes one side of the fault to be uplifted and the other to be suppressed. The tops

of these faults are miles beneath the surface; thus, there are no surface ruptures to reveal past quakes. Consequently, they remained undiscovered and have been labeled blind-faults.

One such fault, the Puente Hills Thrust Fault, was not discovered until 1999. It is 25 miles long and runs from northern Orange County to downtown Los Angeles. In Montebello, less than 10 miles southeast of Los Angeles's skyscrapers, it comes within two miles of the surface, thus making it accessible for flooding and the insertion of nuclear weapons.

In 2003, a study team led by Professor James Dolan of the University of Southern California established that over the past 11,000 years this fault has produced four earthquakes whose magnitude ranged from 7.2 to 7.5. Although it is just one of a few dozen major faults in and around the Los Angeles metropolitan area, Professor Dolan observed, "This fault is in one of the worst places you could think of to put a fault of this size and geometry." He also stated, "We are currently in a seismic lull that has lasted since before the first Europeans arrived here more than 200 years ago, and it can't last forever."

The segments of the San Andreas Fault that lie north and south of the Carrizo Plain have typically experienced a major seismic event about every 100 to 150 years. The Carrizo Plain runs nearly arrow straight and tends to creep, which yields numerous small quakes. It may not, however, be capable of accumulating the requisite stress for a big one.

Fort Tejon, which is just below the Carrizo Plain, experienced a magnitude 7.8 earthquake on January 9, 1857—which was 152 years ago. Coming farther south, the last major earthquake on the San Andreas occurred near the Salton Sea in 1680—329 years ago. In the fall of 2009, a series of seismic tremors, sometimes referred to as microearthquakes, were experienced in both the Fort Tejon and Salton Sea areas—possible precursors of larger events.

On August 3, 2009, four quakes occurred in the Gulf of California (the body of water that separates the Baja peninsula from the west coast of the Mexican mainland). The largest of the quakes was a magnitude 6.5. Two days later, a magnitude 5.5 struck in the same area, which is believed to be the southern extension of the San Andreas Fault. This raises the question of whether those quakes were possibly precursors of a big one.

The most recent really large earthquakes on the northern section of the San Andreas were the famed magnitude 7.8 to 8.0 San Francisco quake of April 18, 1906, and the magnitude 7.1 Loma Prieta quake of October 17, 1989; both epicenters were about 60 miles southeast of San Francisco. The energy release of the former was as much as 30× that of the latter. We are long overdue for major seismic events, and neither of these two prior events was actually in the immediate area of San Francisco.

The Pacific Tectonic Plate has continued its relentless counterclockwise rotation, and enormous strain has built up in numerous earthquake faults, including the Hayward and the San Andreas north of San Francisco. A swarm of small temblors continues to be experienced north of San Francisco in the geothermal area referred to as the Geysers. The Rogers Creek Fault, which connects with the Hayward Fault to the south, runs through this area.

An additional point of consideration is the fact that small earthquakes have been accidentally created in numerous locations through the injection of fluids into wells. These include the injection of water into geothermal sites to increase steam production, the injection of waste fluids down wells as a means of disposal, and the high-pressure injection of fluid into rock formations containing natural gas to fracture the rock and thus release the natural gas. All of these events have involved a truly minuscule fraction of the energy input that the nuclear-powered steam explosions described in the chapter opening would yield.

On November 13, 2008, the U.S. Geological Survey held the widely publicized precautionary *ShakeOut Scenario* earthquake drill in Southern California. Their concern is that the southern section of the San Andreas Fault is overdue for a major earthquake by a factor of more than two. Mere nudges could break free both the northern and southern sections of the San Andreas Fault, plus the Puente Hills, Hayward, and Rogers Creek faults. The long dormant Garlock Fault has been the site of prior major earthquakes and might also be aroused.

But how can the nudges be created? The first step toward Armageddon will be the drilling of wells probably three to five miles deep, fitted with pipe that has an inside diameter of about eight inches at six or more key

locations on the referenced faults. The wells will then be surreptitiously flooded with water for perhaps a year or more. The “nudges” will be delivered by detonating in each well a pair of small tactical A-bombs, equivalent to our now-retired 40-kiloton-yield W-33. The bombs will be separated vertically by about 400 yards. The thermal energy released by each pair will equal that of 176 million pounds of TNT. Following the simultaneous detonation of each pair, the upper and lower blast fronts will collide and merge, thus creating powerful jets of vaporized rock and ultra-high-pressure, superheated steam expanding horizontally into the fault in opposite directions.

Water that is within line of sight will probably absorb less than 0.1% of the energy released, but the rest of the energy will not be wasted. It will ablate rock to vapor. This ultra-high-pressure, super heated rock vapor will both store the remaining thermal energy and transport it as the blast fronts expand outward. As additional water is encountered, it will be flash-evaporated, and pumice will progressively precipitate out as the vapor undergoes phase change.

As these extremely high-pressure, moving wave fronts encounter lock-ups, they will momentarily *reduce* the force pressing the opposing faces of the fault together. It will not be necessary to actually separate the opposing faces. The reduction in pressure will be sufficient to trigger failure of the lock-ups. This is analogous to the loss of traction experienced when an automobile traveling on dry pavement hits a patch of glare ice.

Frictional heat generated by the opposing faces grinding past each other will introduce considerable additional thermal energy. The energy stored for decades and centuries from the slow deformation of rock will first be converted to kinetic energy and then to thermal energy. The energy thus added will further prolong the event. The resultant multi-epicenter *series of earthquakes* will prove several times more destructive not because of magnitude but because of the prolonged duration.

Act of God #2: Abandoned shallow oil fields underlie Los Angeles, Beverly Hills, numerous other communities, and the Port of Los Angeles—which accounts for 40% of the West Coast’s maritime commerce. Over the past 130 years, the L.A. basin has become the most densely drilled oil

field in the world, with 30,000 wells, 3,400 of which were still in operation as of 2008. Beverly Hills sits atop a 1,200-acre oil field that currently hosts 97 producing wells and numerous abandoned ones. The Beverly Center, home to 160 retailers, dog legs around a drill site. The early wells were the shallowest.

The original pipe is still in place at each of these abandoned shallow wells, as is approximately 50% of the oil. Under the guise of performing Microbial Enhanced Oil Recovery operations to rejuvenate these older fields, large quantities of residual oil can be weaponized through the introduction of sufficient oxygen deep underground to achieve stoichiometry (the amount of oxygen needed for complete combustion of the hydrocarbons present). This could be achieved through the repeated application of the following two procedures (and possibly others).

The most widely used explosive in commercial blasting (as for mining and quarrying) is a slurry composed of ammonium nitrate ( $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$ ) and fuel oil, which has been given the name ANFO. Ammonium nitrate (AN) is a readily available, inexpensive fertilizer; over 20 million tons are sold annually. It melts at 337.3°F and both boils and *decomposes* at 410°F. The oxygen released upon decomposition explosively combusts the oil. ANFO is stable at ambient temperatures and requires a powerful shock to trigger decomposition of the AN and thus initiate the explosion. Decomposition and combustion are both exothermic reactions—they give off heat. The mixture ratio is one gallon of fuel oil per 100 pounds of AN. ANFO was the primary explosive Timothy McVeigh used to destroy the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995. But how can AN be mixed with crude oil that is still deep underground?

Step #1. The solubility of AN in water rises rapidly with temperature, from less than 10 pounds per gallon at near freezing (32°F) to more than 85 pounds per gallon at near boiling (212°F). High-pressure, superheated steam at about 300°F will dissolve considerably more AN while remaining below its melting point. The addition of substantial excess AN in the form of prills or granules will produce a steam-based slurry that can deliver several hundred pounds of AN per gallon of water utilized.

The heat transferred from the steam will greatly reduce the viscosity of the crude oil. That, combined with the high pressure, will enhance both migration away from the injection point and mixing.

Step #2. To achieve further oxygenation, massive quantities of liquid oxygen (LOX) will be pumped into each well at high pressure for extended periods. The LOX will quickly vaporize to an immense quantity of gaseous oxygen, which will migrate extensively through the oil and be absorbed by both it and the residual water from condensation of the steam. The trucks delivering the LOX will falsely identify their cargo as CO<sub>2</sub>, a substance sometimes used in well rejuvenation to increase down-hole pressure.

The solubility of gases in liquids is directly proportional to pressure and inversely proportional to temperature. The cooled crude oil will absorb considerable oxygen, which will be retained as a super saturated solution after the temperature and pressure have returned to normal. The periodic application of high differential pressure will further perpetuate the migration of the ammonium nitrate away from the injection point, thus putting it in proximity with more crude oil. This cycle may be repeated numerous times to maximize oxygenation.

Since the dispersion of both ammonium nitrate and gaseous oxygen within the crude oil will not be homogenous, it will be essential that the quantity of oxygen present in the vicinity surrounding the injection point be several times stoichiometric.

A small, low-yield A-bomb will be the requisite initiation device. It will provide the powerful shock needed to decompose (detonate) the widely dispersed AN, thus releasing its oxygen. The thermal energy released by the bomb will vaporize a large quantity of rock to plasma which, as it expands, will in turn flash-revaporize both the residual water and the oil, thus increasing the flammability of the later. The excess freed oxygen will be driven outward by the pressure of the advancing blast front and forcibly mixed with oil vapor, which will also react with the oxygen it had absorbed. The resultant blast front will be a combination of vaporized rock, ultra-high-pressure steam, and the combustion products from the rapidly propagating hydrocarbon and oxygen explosion.

Powerful flame propagation must be achieved to produce both the desired seismic shock and the significant upwelling. This would be marginal, if not impossible, at ambient temperature because of the heat sink provided by the rock in which the oil is dispersed. Combustion from a simple spark or flame ignition source at the bottom of the well probably would not propagate; thus the need for a nuclear initiator.

As the hot gases generated by the expanding explosions vent through numerous newly opened fissures, substantial quantities of oil will be sucked along toward the surface. This will initiate the second phase. The combination of pressure reduction, heating, and agitation will cause the oxygen dissolved in the oil to come out of solution, thus creating foam. The combustion of this foam near the surface will yield a blowtorch effect matching the long-promised divine destruction of us sinners by fire and brimstone.

Furthermore, the ominous roar emanating from subterranean depths will be interpreted by the highly religious as the muffled screams of millions of damned souls burning in hell—proof positive that this *is* God's revenge.

Act of God #3: The detonation of oxygenated shallow oil fields offshore California and in the Gulf of Mexico will yield an outwardly radiating upwelling of the seafloor. The resultant progressive upward and outward displacement of water will generate powerful tsunamis.

To maximize carnage, these three acts of God will be executed simultaneously, either during peak traffic at the onset of a major Santana wind event or at peak storm surge during a hurricane in the Gulf of Mexico.

The powerful seismic waves generated by each of the events will interact. When out of phase, the shock waves will nullify, but when in phase, they will *amplify*. Consequently, when executed in unison, these events will yield far greater devastation than could be produced by the separate execution of each.

Gas mains will shatter over a very wide area, adding fuel to the fires, and broken sewage and water mains will eliminate both potable water and water for firefighting. Electric power distribution and phone service

will be totally disrupted. It will be a scene from Dante's *Inferno* as flames shoot from newly opened fissures in the ground, buildings crumble, and freeway overpasses collapse. Exacerbating the carnage, rubble and trapped vehicles will bring traffic to a hopeless standstill.

Then, as the fourth horseman of the Apocalypse, hurricane-force winds created by heat from the fires, even if the Santanas are not present, will sweep hellacious firestorms through the residential communities, as was the case at Dresden and Tokyo during WWII. That which wasn't obliterated will probably be incinerated. The devastation will be near total and, as was the case at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, many survivors will surely wish they hadn't.

Simultaneously, a similar scenario will be executed in the San Francisco Bay and Silicon Valley areas. Wells will be drilled on the San Andreas Fault both north of San Francisco and south of the Silicon Valley. A third well will be drilled at the juncture of the Hayward and Calaveras faults with the Rogers Creek Fault, the objectives being to bring down the Golden Gate and Bay bridges. This would block all shipping in or out of the bay; and result in near-total destruction of San Francisco and its environs; plus achieve the demolition of the Silicone Valley's high-tech facilities—all in one broad stroke.

Unfortunately, the plan for dealing with major emergencies in California is based upon rapid assistance from minimally impacted surrounding communities. In the scenarios presented, such assistance will be virtually nonexistent, and the few emergency medical services that might survive will be overwhelmed to the point of near uselessness.

Within two months, as some roads are cleared and some utility services are beginning to be restored, Mother Nature will again show no mercy as life once more descends into an Armageddon-like nightmare. Powerful winter storms will sweep in from the Pacific Northwest, bringing torrential rains. As homes are swept from denuded hillsides by mud avalanches, and the foothills and canyons become impassable quagmires.

Act of God #4: The scientific community has long been concerned that during an eruption of the Cumbre Vieja volcano on the island of

La Palma in the Canary Islands, the unstable western flank will separate and plunge into the ocean as a giant slab of rock. A computer model compiled in collaboration with Steven Ward of the University of California–Santa Cruz, predicts that a 20-cubic kilometer-slab of rock could plunge into water four miles deep. The resultant mega tsunami would be higher than 150 feet when it hit the eastern seaboard of the United States five to seven hours later. Tragically, this is not a question of if, but when.

Is there a way by which such an event could be triggered? Unfortunately, there may be.

La Palma was formed by volcanic action, which emits large quantities of gas that in turn results in numerous large caverns forming in the lava. Over time some of the caverns become flooded. The massive steam explosions from the simultaneous detonation of nuclear weapons in several flooded caverns (preferably at sea level or below) might trigger the separation of the western slope.

The terror and panic that would result from the simultaneous execution of these four man-made acts of God would be without parallel.

As was the case following 9-11-01, fundamentalist Christians will loudly proclaim these to have been the vengeful actions of an infuriated God. The flames and steam shooting from the ground simultaneous with earthquakes and tsunamis will be their proof positive. That it was an act of war can never be proven to those *who choose to believe otherwise*. The following is a portion of the exchange between Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson during the televised broadcast of the *700 Club* on 9-12-01 (the day after the attack):

Falwell: *What we saw on Tuesday [September 11], as terrible as it is, could be miniscule if, in fact—if, in fact—God continues to lift the curtain and allow the enemies of America to give us probably what we deserve.*

Robertson: *Jerry, that's my feeling. I think we've just seen the antechamber to terror. We haven't even begun to see what they can do to the major population.*

Falwell: *The ACLU's got to take a lot of blame for this.*

Robertson: *Well, yes.*

Falwell: *And, I know that I'll hear from them for this. But, throwing God out successfully with the help of the federal court system, throwing God out of the public square, out of the schools. The abortionists have got to bear some burden for this because God will not be mocked. And when we destroy 40 million little innocent babies, we make God mad. I really believe that the pagans, and the abortionists, and the feminists, and the gays and the lesbians who are actively trying to make that an alternative lifestyle, the ACLU, People for the American Way—all of them who have tried to secularize America—I point the finger in their face and say, You helped this happen.*

Robertson: *Well, I totally concur . . . .*

Regrettably, such proclamations by fundamentalist Christians reduce the perpetrators of these tragic events—past and future—to the status of mindless marionettes, mere foils wielded by the hand of an infuriated God/Allah. The statements “to give us probably what we deserve” and “we’ve just seen the antechamber to terror” imply that the Almighty has punished us for disobeying his commandments, as interpreted by Messrs. Falwell, Robertson, et al., and that he *will* continue to punish us! Unwittingly, they are constructing alibis in advance for the Islamic extremists by insisting that the Almighty is the responsible party and that we have brought this upon ourselves. Our adversaries are surely aware of the contents of this broadcast and similar proclamations and may convince themselves that they can get away with such an attack. Human beings have an amazing ability to believe what they want to believe, and *what they believe is the controlling factor*.

A human flaw contributing to this hazard is that, as rational beings, we anticipate rational thought and behavior on the part of others. But was it rational of Tojo, Japan’s war minister and prime minister, to believe that there would be no reprisal to the December 7, 1941, raid? That the

remaining U.S. Pacific Fleet would meekly stay in its home waters, thus granting Japan a free hand in the Pacific?

Was it rational for Hitler to declare war on the USA on December 11, 1941? Hitler had requested that his ally Japan attack Russia to create a second front coincidental with Barbarossa, Germany's June 22, 1941, invasion of Russia. Japan did not comply and maintained diplomatic relations with Russia throughout the war. Japan had its own plan; the Pearl Harbor attack came as a total surprise to Hitler.

Hitler had been upstaged, something that his ego could not tolerate, so he declared war on the United States and then dismissed us as an adversary, stating that "the Americans have no stomach for war." Considering that we were already at war with Japan, Congress would *never* have approved our entry into "Europe's war." But once Hitler brought us into the war, the defeat of Germany was given the highest priority. He single-handedly unleashed the full might of the world's most powerful industrialized nation upon Germany and its allies.

So, is it really different this time? No. We can never rely upon rationality on the part of adversaries to protect us.

Tragically, we also possess an Achilles heel arising from a near universal flaw in the American psyche: Having lived in relative safety—our wars have been fought elsewhere—we refuse to take threats seriously until *after* they have occurred. Consequently, we remain at great risk of being blindsided yet again.

Seven years prior to September 11, 2001, Tom Clancy published a book entitled *Debt of Honor* in which a jumbo jet was used as a flying bomb. Because of the target, it should have gotten our government's attention, but it didn't. September 11th occurred because no one was paying attention even though the warning signs were abundant.

Pearl Harbor was an egregious example of ignored warnings. President Roosevelt stopped our sale of oil, scrap metal, and iron ore to Japan; this accounted for 80% of their supply. Prince Konoga wanted to make concessions to the USA. On October 17, 1941, the prince was replaced as prime minister with none other than Tojo, the war minister. The military was then in complete control of the government, Emperor Hirohito was under palace arrest, and we knew it. All that then stood in the way

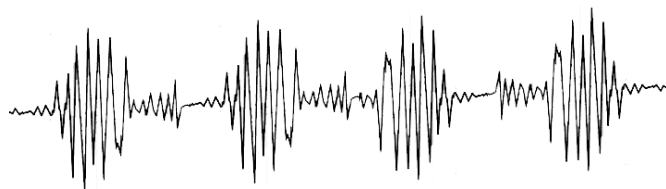
of Japan completing its conquest of Southeast Asia, and thus gaining its wealth of desperately needed mineral resources, was the U.S. Pacific Fleet. But Japan might lose in a head-to-head battle; its only feasible possibility of success was a surprise attack while the U.S. Pacific Fleet was at anchor. And that could occur only at its home port—Pearl Harbor.

Furthermore, for the prior 14 years, the final exam at the Japanese Military Aeronautical Academy had been to plan an aerial attack on the U.S. Naval Base at Pearl Harbor! Every army and navy pilot during that period planned such an attack, but when it occurred it was a total surprise to us! Why? Because our top brass had simply dismissed Japan, out of hand, as a possible adversary. There were numerous other warning signs; they, too, were not shared with the commanding officers stationed in Hawaii. Pearl Harbor was not even put on alert.

So far I have run into a similar “not invented here” response from members of the geological community. Are we again tragically ignoring threats simply because they have yet to occur?

In 1949, George Orwell’s book *1984* swept the world. (It is still in print.) In it he predicted artificial earthquakes and tidal waves as weapons of war. Eight years later, although Orwell and the public didn’t know it, the introduction of the eight-inch diameter W-33 atomic bomb transformed his prophesy from fanciful speculation to tragic reality. Today, atomic devices of even smaller diameter exist.

Please understand that I am *not* asking that my hypotheses be accepted as fact. What I am seeking is the independent, unbiased analysis and computer simulation of these threats. The Lawrence Livermore, Los Alamos, and/or Sandia National laboratories, with assistance from the U.S. Geological Survey, are the organizations best staffed and equipped to perform these tasks. Pressure from an enlightened public *may*, unfortunately, be required to move the necessary analysis and simulations forward. If these threats are validated, inexpensive protective measures must be adopted. Meanwhile, **we remain a nation of sitting ducks.**



FROM GILT-EDGED TO GELDED  
Emasculated by Massive Debt Accumulation and the  
Abandonment of Energy Independence

THE CRUCIAL FACTOR IN WORLD WARS I AND II was the capability of the USA to create, field, and support a highly mechanized superior military presence. This required money and petroleum. Fortunately, prior to those wars, the USA was both a *creditor* nation and a major *exporter* of petroleum. Japan was purchasing 80% of its oil from the USA. However, full-blown conventional warfare is extraordinarily energy intensive. Consequently, in spite of our significant prewar petroleum excess, World War II necessitated the domestic rationing of gasoline.

Starting from a position of great strength, we have relentlessly over spent our way to the depths of being the world's most abysmal *debtor* nation, with a national debt of \$11.7 trillion as of August 20, 2009—and growing rapidly. Additionally, we have needlessly abandoned our energy independence and become a major *importer* of petroleum due to our misguided curtailment of domestic production and refining, together with the halt we have effectively placed on nuclear power generation. The resultant importation is contributing to our national debt to the tune of about \$700 billion per year, and this figure will become *much greater* if the proposed cap-and-trade legislation is enacted.

Tragically, we no longer possess the petroleum resources to conduct a major conventional war. Furthermore, the petroleum we are receiving

from Venezuela and the Middle East can be terminated without warning, thus precipitously diminishing our capabilities.

On top of all this, a significant portion of the narcotics flooding the USA are controlled by Nicaraguan cartels and enter via Mexico. Both nations, however, are major sources of our imported oil. Consequently, our actions to stem drug flow are impeded. Furthermore, Mexico's oil production is declining rapidly.

To believe that we will be spared further war is unrealistic. For the past ninety years, the USA has been the global guardian of freedom; however, the religious conflict in the Middle East has been going on for 1,700 years, and the fervor for apocalyptic war is again on the upswing—but this time it could become nuclear.

Although the Sunnis and Shiites are both Muslims, they are murderously intolerant of one another. Many of the rich and powerful of our purported ally, Saudi Arabia, are devotees to Wahhabism—a sect of Islam that is intolerant of even the Sunnis and Shiites. The Saudis, however, are major funders of the terrorist organizations of those two sects.

That the Arabs and Iranians can be sweet-talked into abandoning their nuclear programs and accepting the sovereignty of Israel is delusional regardless of what is promised by whom. This is a reality which we must accept.

In the highly probable event of a major conventional war in the near future, the fuel consumption of our military could increase by a factor of ten or greater as our transport ships, navy, aircraft, and mechanized equipment transitioned from reserve to active status. This would quickly burn through our Strategic Petroleum Reserve, leaving us with only two options:

1. Capitulate, or
2. Resort to our nuclear arsenal to achieve a quick victory.

Do we really want either of these options as our nation's legacy?

In dire situations, most people will accept reality, but our memories are short. All too soon, truths learned the hard way are displaced by utopian wishes and pipe-dream promises that cannot possibly be kept. Tragically, each generation insists upon relearning this lesson. The most dangerous phrase is, "It's different this time."

Following World War I, we and the other democracies put our faith in the League of Nations and disarmed while the totalitarian states armed. The consequence was the far more devastating World War II. We are again unwisely treading that path and have abandoned a promised Eastern European ballistic missile shield.

We are presently repudiating a key tenet of democracy: It is our military strength and the will to use it that has kept us free. Weakening oneself, so as to not be perceived as a threat by potential enemies has never brought safety to any person or nation.

The struggle between democratic self-rule and totalitarianism is far from over; the majority of countries in the United Nations are totalitarian and their count is growing. The Middle Eastern nations, other than Israel, are a mix of oligarchic kingdoms, totalitarian theocracies, and one-party dictatorships.

Regime changes that free the populace of these nations to govern themselves may be the only way to avoid a nuclear conflict in the Middle East. Fortunately, there is a way that this can be achieved **without firing a single shot**. Many of these totalitarian regimes are funded primarily with petrodollars and narco-dollars—and we are major purchasers of both. Who is funding global terrorism? Surprise—*we are!*

We have driven oil prices sky-high and increased our debt by purchasing foreign oil. Hugo Chávez has used his petrodollars to destabilize Nicaragua, Bolivia, and Ecuador, and he has attempted to do the same in Honduras—an action that the U.S. government diplomatically supported! In the Middle East our petrodollars have been funneled to Al-Qaeda, the Taliban, Hamas, and Hezbollah in the guise of donations from wealthy individuals—many of whom are Saudis. Donations have also come from U.S.-based Islamic charities.

Although Iran is on the cusp of making the military quantum leap to becoming a nuclear power, it has seriously overextended itself financially and is vulnerable. Its currency, the rial, is projected to lose 15% of its value this year. The affluent of Iran are moving their funds out of the country and into other currencies.

The 2.4 million barrels of oil Iran exports each day is the source of the foreign exchange that has funded its nuclear ambitions. To sustain its weapons program, it needs oil to be at \$70 or higher per barrel. Iran is

teetering on the edge of anarchy; if the USA announced a reversal of policy and backed it up with positive steps toward implementation, the price of crude oil would be halved. This would tip Iran over the edge, resulting in a regime change and the end of their nuclear weapons program.

This is not idle conjecture. Each time steps were taken to develop the tar sands and oil-bearing shale of Canada and the USA, OPEC dropped prices to levels below those at which these sources would be economically viable. There is no reason to believe that this would not again be the response to preparatory steps for our developing substantial new petroleum production.

In light of this, **our highest national priority should be the restoration of energy independence.** Only a minuscule fraction of this can be achieved with windmills, solar panels, and expensive biofuels that greatly increase food costs and don't reduce total pollution anyway. Perhaps someday there will be a breakthrough in pollution-free energy—other than nuclear, which our government is currently rejecting. That goal, however, may remain just over the horizon for decades—if not centuries.

The key to our security is to develop significant *excess* petroleum capacity that can be selectively sold to true democracies at substantially lower prices than those set by OPEC. Since the OPEC nations cannot eat their oil, they will have no choice but to reduce prices. We can ratchet down prices until many of the totalitarian states collapse because petroleum *is the major component of their economies*—but not of ours.

Fortunately, we possess sufficient untapped reserves of oil, natural gas, uranium ore, and coal to make our nation energy independent for centuries without increasing our own pollution levels—but we are ignoring them.

Per international treaty, the North Cuban Basin between Key West and Cuba should have been split down the middle. But in 1977 President Carter granted the entire field to Cuba, which has leased drilling rights to China, India, and Russia. Oil that is rightfully ours will go to them. Let's not repeat that mistake.

Recently, a field containing at least 83 billion barrels of oil and 1.6 trillion cubic feet of natural gas was discovered in the Chukchi Sea between Alaska and Russia. If we don't develop it, the Russians will. This field

and the presently off-limits fields in the Arctic wilderness, the lower forty-eight states, and off our coasts is the key to our near-term energy independence. Nuclear power generation should also be expanded as quickly as is feasible.

Energy independence and the sale of refined petroleum products would greatly enrich the U.S. Treasury, lower our production costs (thus stimulating domestic and import sales) and profoundly benefit our citizens through lower fuel, food, and product prices. Halving their petrodollars would cause Iran's ruling theocracy, and the dictatorships of Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, Russia, and others, to wither and collapse, thus giving democracy a chance to emerge and spread.

The ongoing protests in Iran—which the USA failed to support—made it clear that its populace is ready for democracy and wants an end to dictatorial subjugation. In our hemisphere, the struggle of the Honduran populace and its Supreme Court against a totalitarian power grab is sending the same message—which our government is also ignoring. Cheap oil is the quickest, least costly, surest, and *only nonviolent* way to effect the desired regime changes.

But would the proposed course of action be environmentally unsound? **NO!** We would simply be switching the energy source from them to us—and trillions of dollars from their pockets to ours.

The unspoken counterargument of the environmentalists is that increased availability would lead to greater consumption. Consequently, the current government policy is to curtail energy production. Their goal with cap-and-trade is to increase tax revenues while forcing the phase-out of coal (which accounts for 53% of our electric power generation). They are already strangling oil production and refining through ever more stringent environmental rules.

Also, after a decade-long battle, Congress has killed the funding needed to open the nuclear waste storage facility at Yucca Mountain in Nevada. Theoretically, the crushing increase in fuel prices will force us to diminish energy consumption and thus save the planet—which for the past decade appears to actually have been cooling.

What these policies *will* achieve is to make us ever more *dependent* on foreign oil and force us into bankruptcy. Don't be bamboozled. As H. L. Mencken observed, "The urge to save humanity is always a false

front for the urge to rule it.” What is being foisted upon us as essential environmental salvation is actually *national suicide*. Everyone line up; the cyanide-laced Kool-Aid is on Uncle Sam!

Unfortunately, oil fields cannot be brought into production overnight, nor will pipelines and refineries magically spring into being upon command. Energy self-sufficiency may take a decade to achieve; however, the current environmental rules are rapidly taking us further from that goal. So which will it be? Do we undertake a crash program of oil field and natural gas development and pipeline, refinery, and nuclear power plant construction? Or do we accept the real and growing risk of a war within a decade in which either our adversary uses nuclear weapons or we are forced to because that was our sole remaining option?

We all agree that the environment should be protected, and we have taken giant steps in that direction over the past half century, but presently we have mistakenly adopted the beautician’s approach and are focusing upon minor blemishes. What is desperately needed is the trauma surgeon’s approach. Trauma surgeons are not distracted by minor contusions, instead they focus on arterial bleeding because that is what *will* kill the patient.

The world is currently suffering severe arterial bleeding in China and India and, to a lesser extent, in Mexico. All three countries have thick smog layers over their industrialized areas. China burns 2,500 tons (5 million pounds) of coal and 210,000 gallons of crude oil *per minute* and its consumption is increasing at an 11% per annum rate. It is now the world’s greatest polluter and has plans for an additional 2,200 coal-fired power plants by year 2030.

Additionally, China suffers numerous coal mine fires, but unlike the USA, they simply abandon the mines and leave the fires to burn themselves out. Regardless of how draconian the rules we impose domestically are, the environment of the West Coast is going to worsen due to the pollution—not CO<sub>2</sub>—that is *already blowing in from across the Pacific*. But with regard to CO<sub>2</sub>, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson has acknowledged that “unilateral limits on carbon dioxide emissions will not impact CO<sub>2</sub> levels unless China and India adopt similar standards.”

What is not mentioned in our blind drive to drastically reduce CO<sub>2</sub> levels is that it is essential to life. We humans and all other animals consume oxygen. But where does the oxygen come from? It comes from vegetation and ocean-borne plant life that absorbs CO<sub>2</sub> and emits oxygen. No CO<sub>2</sub> means no oxygen, which would result in no human or animal life.

China and India are no longer poor nations, yet they are exempted from the restraints imposed by the Kyoto Protocol. The time has come for the world to demand that China and India moderate their polluting and, if need be, to back those demands with import tariffs that would go into a trust fund from which they would be reimbursed for provable and reasonable environmental cleanup expenditures. If they balk, raise the tariffs. They are more dependent on our markets than we are on their products.

Oh, if only we could do that—but we can't! Why can't we? Because China is our largest creditor; it presently holds approximately \$1.5 trillion of our bonds, and we are going to need a market to absorb trillions more to cover the huge deficits that we are piling on. Contrary to our being in the position to pressure them, they have expressed deep concern over our ballooning deficits, which may exceed \$2 trillion in fiscal year 2010.

Should we continue on our current path, inflation will severely devalue the dollar, in which case China would be foolish not to dump its holdings of our debt. That could cause the dollar to collapse and trigger a run on our treasury. As we have witnessed, several institutions were not too large to fail—and neither are the dollar and the U.S. Treasury.

## THE ROAD TO REDEMPTION

Fortunately, there is a way out, and merely initiating it will have a profound impact. We must reverse course and return the USA to being an energy-independent creditor nation and a strong enough petroleum exporter to set oil prices. Until we do, we will not be in a position to put meaningful pressure on the current great polluters. This will drive the environmentalists absolutely ballistic, but *it will lead to lower total global pollution*. As

Winston Churchill observed, “No folly is more costly than the folly of intolerant idealism.”

**WAKE UP!** History has shown repeatedly that victory is achieved by striking an enemy at its point of greatest vulnerability. Unless we become energy independent and force oil prices down by again becoming a major exporter of petroleum and petroleum products, we may once more be faced with a nuclear war in the near future. Our present policies are placing us in harm’s way.

If I may beg your indulgence for a symbolic digression: My father taught law at the University of Alabama during the Depression. Our home was in a lovely area called the Highlands; however, there was a swampy area behind it. One morning when my brother John was six, our mother stepped into the backyard and found a neighbor boy of similar age jumping around in our sandbox and jabbing the sand with a stick.

“What are you doing, Tommy?” Mom asked.

“Me and John are killing rats,” he replied.

“Well, where is John?”

“Over at the garbage can where the rats are,” Tommy responded.

Sure enough, around the corner of the house Mom found John in deep concentration, a brick in his left hand and his tongue sticking out of the right side of his mouth as he dispatched rats.

The tale is humorous, but we are doing the same as Tommy with regard to the global environment—and that is not humorous. We do not live in a sealed, isolated environment that is under our exclusive control. To improve our environment, we must stop our futile jawboning about CO<sub>2</sub> and exert real pressure on the current sources of unchecked pollution.

China has imposed no social or environmental barriers upon its thriving industries—the polar opposite of our current policies—and is aggressively purchasing foreign oil and coal companies to meet its ever-growing energy needs. Self-sacrifice such as we are imposing is commended as humanitarian, but it is power that is respected.

To survive against unencumbered competitors, our major companies have been forced to move much of their production to low-labor-rate countries. Seventy percent of the workforce of IBM, that quintessential

American success story, is now overseas. We must level the playing field, and that can be achieved *only* from a position of strength.

To bolster our rapidly slipping leadership position in the world, we must reverse course, **stop apologizing**, and make ourselves the **BIG DOG** once more. We must aggressively use our strength to level the playing field, reduce total pollution, not CO<sub>2</sub>, and proactively foster the global growth of democracy—which currently is waning.