

**A NEW STRATEGIC REALITY – PART I**

**Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the LORD shall have them in derision.”** (Psalm 2:1-4)

Former long-time German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer summed up the situation nicely. “The Middle East is drifting toward a new great confrontation in 2008”. According to Fischer: In the choice between letting Tehran get *The Bomb*, - and suffering with the consequences that would follow an Israeli air-strike against the Iranian nuclear facilities; - Israel would rather err on the side of caution, - and action.<sup>1</sup> And that my friend, is a very dangerous thing, no matter how it’s played. Feeding the sense of urgency is the Israeli military’s updated estimate of Iran’s progress on the nuclear front. They now believe, that left unstopped, Iran will be producing its own nuclear weapon by the middle of next year. Jerusalem is beginning to prepare for the post-Bush era, by gearing up for unilateral military action against Iran. One official opined that “we may decide it is the only option we have”.<sup>2</sup> Iran, for its part, is adding to the suspicions by “stonewalling” and “withholding information” from the UN nuclear agency<sup>3</sup>, the IAEA, and continuing to threaten Israel’s existence; with Iranian Foreign Minister Mottaki recently calling on Muslims to “erase” the Jewish state.<sup>4</sup> In some ways, all of geopolitics can be funneled down to the Middle East; - the entire Middle East situation, - to control of Israel and Jerusalem; - and the fate of the Jewish state, - to the looming conflict between Iran and Israel and the question of when and whether the openly-declared annihilationists in Tehran will acquire the ability to produce their own atomic weaponry. All that is happening can in some way be viewed in that light. Will Israel act? When will they do so? Will they have the cooperation of the US or will the Americans do it for them? These are the questions that will no doubt define our future.

**THE LAY OF THE LAND**

But as alluded to above: The question of a nuclear Iran does not exist in a vacuum. Instead it is intimately tied in to the religious struggle between Christians & Jews, the inter-religious conflicts within Islam itself between Shiite & Sunni, Radical-Islamist & secular Muslims, - and most definitely revolves around the world-wide pre-occupation with acquiring control of the globe’s diminishing oil resources.

We’ll start with the obvious. Driven by the growing economies of China, India and other parts of the Asia, the global demand for oil has gone way up. OPEC forecasts that the average demand for petroleum this year will be about 87 million barrels per day. Supply will peak out at around 85.7 million barrels. That means a shortfall of 1.3 million barrels each day.<sup>5</sup> And anyone that understands even the most basic principles of economics knows that that can only mean higher prices – until those new prices force the demand down and bring equilibrium to the market. Armed with those facts, analyst T Boone Pickler saw oil moving to about \$150 per barrel.<sup>6</sup> Other experts, like Goldman-Sachs see the market driving toward the \$200 mark within 2 years.<sup>7</sup> That would mean we’d be paying \$6 + for gasoline at the pumps. Add to that the effect of some global warming legislation that is quietly making its way through Congress that could set up trade regulations that would hike gasoline anywhere from \$1.50 to \$5.00 per gallon and we could see gas go as high as \$10.<sup>8</sup>

OK, so that’s the effect of demand pressure: - But what about supply? Well, that’s been working against us too. It seems we may just have reached something called peak oil. That’s a theory developed in the 1950’s by Marion K Hubbert, while working for Shell, that the ability to produce crude oil will soon enter a period of “terminal decline”; - You know, - time to fold your cards and get out. Now in fairness, it must be stated that many governments and oil company experts reject the theory on the grounds that it ignores future technological breakthroughs and the market-influencing effects of higher prices on demand. None the less, there exists some fairly significant evidence that we may have already entered the era of peak oil.

Russian petroleum production may already be in decline. It dropped by one-half percent in April. Five years ago it was growing at a 12% annual rate. Russian oil execs are admitting that their capabilities may have already peaked out. Mexico's Cantrell oil field is losing about ¼ of its production each year. According to Matthew Simons, who studied world oil supplies for both the CIA and privately, the Saudis oil capacity may also be diminishing. They recently declined to increase their production capacity. Financial Times reports that the same trend is observable in oil fields in China and Kuwait. The Independent says that oil production is also in decline in Canada, the US, Indonesia, Norway and Britain and even Iran. Fields in the North Sea and Alaska are "about to peak".<sup>9</sup> The growth in oil production has been at best stagnant over the last 3 years.<sup>10</sup>

All of that has had quite the affect on prices. They've gone up 10-fold in just a decade. According to one UN agency, - (and we all know that they're neutral), - just the Iraq war has driven up the price of oil by over \$75 per barrel. Prices set records for 13 days straight and are up 600% since just 2002.<sup>11</sup> Now some of the rise in oil prices here in the US is our own fault. Glenn Beck compiled a list of some of the actions we've taken that have resulted in virtual energy-suicide. Over the last several decades Congress, and often the sitting President has been afraid to upset the whining wacko-environmental lobby and therefore has adopted policies that have stifled not just oil drilling, but also other forms of available energy. They refused to authorize drilling in the over 19 million acres tundra that is ANWR, - (even after there have been no ill effects from other oil drilling ventures in Alaska). In fact they've chosen to designate a polar bear habitat, on the exact same site as the oil fields. Environmental lawsuits have been prepared against the oil companies and OPEC. We've chosen not to drill off California; - not to drill in the Gulf of Mexico; - not to drill off Florida, - (even though the Chinese are doing so). Shale oil and coal-to-oil technologies have been ignored or rejected. A new oil refinery has not been granted license in 30 years and our refineries have been cut in half since 1982.<sup>12</sup> No nuclear power plant has been built in the US since 1979.<sup>13</sup> To a large extent, we've made our own bed.

The fact is, that whether because of peak oil, or a disruption of supply to the US market, - the effects of a domestic oil shortage would be extreme indeed. As James Howard Kunstler said it in the Washington Post, "It's not about running out of oil. It's about the instabilities that will shake the complex systems of daily life". A major disruption of supply or rise in the prices would have basically the same affect. It would impact food production, personal travel, business travel therefore commerce and trade. It would alter how "we occupy the land", capital expenditures, - and even filter its way down to health care and education. This could alter the American way of life. Kunstler points to "cascading effects" on "food distribution, manufacturing and the tourist industry".<sup>14</sup> This could put an end to the always expanding horizon of the American Dream. [Or perhaps, to the crowd that has already bought into the notion of human complicity in an ever warming planet, - New Age, neo-liberal, stealthily-socialist, eco-fascists; - it already has ended.]

Let's complicate the matter a little more. In the past we've traced the collusion of the international banker types in steps leading toward ever-greater global integration involving the formation of regional groupings, (EU, North American Union, African Union, Mediterranean Union, South America, etc), through such vehicles as the CFR, the Bilderbergers, Masons etc. Their agenda, though not broadcast, is readily available to any that would look. They seek a One World Government and have been often quoted lobbying for just that as well as explaining the means by which they hope to accomplish their goal. One of those means they've talked about is the creation of a crisis, - probably economic in nature, - that would impel the governments to organize on a regional or world-wide basis; - Examples: Moves toward a merger between the US, Canada & Mexico, or any sort of unified currency.

Is it coincidence then that the American dollar, - the linchpin of world commerce since the end of WWII, - is now in mere freefall, - at just the time when the European Union's euro is available to take its place? Remember, their stated goal: A Global Government that will control the economic, political and even religious spheres. Now the dollar has declined 50% against the euro since 2002. It is plummeting against the standard of value, - gold. The dollar, - for decades propped precariously and only against oil, - is now being abandoned by countries around the world. Just like Holland and Britain before it: America has built its prosperity on "invested securities", - the willingness of foreigners to finance the purchases and lifestyle of the American public. It is becoming less and less necessary for them to do so. In just the last 3-decades, manufacturing shrank from about ¼ to just 12% of the US economy. At the same time, financial services went from 12% to 21%.<sup>15</sup> Since 1965 we were the world's largest creditor. Now we are the globe's biggest

debtor nation<sup>16</sup> and we may not be able to long support our lifestyle, dependent as we are on the “kindness of strangers” to buy up dollars at any price just to buy oil. Already, Russia, China and countries in the Middle East are voting with their money, getting out of dollars and into something called “sovereign wealth funds”. One economist described the support of US debt as an “aid program to the United States”, and the national central banks around the world want out. So the dollar as a percentage of foreign currency reserve has slipped from 73% to 64% while the euro has gone from 18% to 25%. Countries like the Chinese though are likely to be careful about pulling all their eggs out of their basket of American T-Bills. That support helps finance the average US citizens’ purchase of Chinese manufactured goods.<sup>17</sup>

So, moving us toward the coming new era, we see the forces of internationalism, promoting their agenda. In May of this year, a gathering of South American countries announced that they intend to form an EU-like Union of South American Nations (UNASUR). It will soon feature “a common central bank and a common currency”.<sup>18</sup> Meanwhile in the oil-rich Persian Gulf region, the US government has given their Arab ‘allies’ the “green light to change their dollar-pegged foreign exchange policies”. This could lead to more countries abandoning the dollar. The Gulf Cooperation Council has its own single currency plans for 2010.<sup>19</sup> So that’s the background behind the emerging new strategic order in the Middle East. Next time we’ll look at just how the Iranian / Israeli struggle is playing out and the short term dangers that loom for both those nations as well as the US.

## **THE EVOLUTION MYTH – PART IX**

**[A series by guest contributor Pastor Lynn Zankl]**

Hi Folks, Pastor Lynn once again. Today’s episode will deal with the origin of invertebrates. Invertebrates are certainly the most common and the most abundant animals on the earth, but how they got here and how they got to be so diverse is the question. In evolutionary thought and theory, it is commonly believed that the single celled organisms suddenly formed colonies. These colonies gave those organisms some sort of advantage, and so, because of these colonies, natural selection gave a way to more colonies. As time went on and on these colonial organisms started to develop specialized cells and then...formed into a ball that had an indentation that could, of all things, ingest, so now it had a whole new food source. Now, once you have a new food source you also obtain more advancement, which resulted in thousands of different invertebrate life forms that have collected in the proverbial pool of life. There remains one problem to this story----There is no fossil record of this process----This whole hypothesis is based upon historical science, upon passed DNA sequence comparisons, and upon a presumed common ancestor. The evolutionary sequences of events, the changes within the organisms, are not known, nor can they be known. The lack of testability and repeatability shows us that this is historical science at best. In order for the single celled organisms, or the colonial organisms, to become truly multi-cellular, an amazing change must happen and happen rapidly, in order for it to survive natural selection. Single celled organisms cannot produce more than one type of cell. In order for it to become a multi-celled organism, new information must be available to tell the cell to develop it new ways, and to perform with new functions. We must understand that that cannot happen through a series of random (by chance) mutations, even if it could, the enormous amount of changes, the enormous amount of added information that must come simultaneously should eliminate it from consideration.<sup>20</sup>

Our education system is full of the same kind of wisdom, our text books tell us things like, Evolutionary relationships of animal phyla are based on DNA and molecular evidence due to the lack of fossil evidence of ancestral species,<sup>21</sup> and (I like this one) Flight evolved at least four different times, beginning with arthropods 100 million years before pterosaurs.<sup>22</sup> Wow, it evolved and un-evolved, evolved and un-evolved, was nature confused, or did it think the timing was off....several times? Back to our study.

Consider this, in this kind of transformation, one cell, from the colony must “know” how to do all of the jobs that the other cells were doing, and gain that information from them. Then that cell must direct the different cell types, and orchestrate when the genes are turned on and off within each cell. This activity is not something required from a single celled organism, and the lack of any evidence for this type of evolution makes it highly unlikely. Consider that 95% of all fossils are of invertebrates and yet the evolutionary hypotheses are still not clear. Why? Because there is a time known as the Cambrian Explosion, when there was a sudden appearance of fully formed invertebrate body types.

There is absolutely no evidence in the fossil record of the necessary changes over time, which are needed to observe the evolutionary processes during that period<sup>[i]</sup>.

Evolutionary scientists teach us the “facts” about how certain complex changes have occurred, even though the evidence of such changes are not evident. We are expected to accept without question, the truth of their teaching, as they give us such statements as, we “know” cells must have formed in the ancient oceans, because, we have cells today. The development of soft-tissue features such as nervous systems and body cavities is rarely observed in fossil specimens. Further statements as, “the development of bilateral symmetry was an important evolutionary adaptation that allowed animals to respond to their environment and compete better for resources”. This is a very logical and scientific sounding statement, yet it is not based on any observable evidence. The statement is not true in itself, but is a corollary to the evolutionary story. Evolutionists call these “milestones” or “key adaptations”, because they must have happened in order for a new organism to have appeared.

To my way of thinking, it is just so much easier to believe that an all knowing God, who created the science, created the universe, and all that it contains.<sup>23</sup> You may consider that a simplistic way of thinking and that’s ok, but wow, what peace of mind I have. Until the next time.

## **RUSHING TOWARD GOMMORAH**

As we all know by now, the California Supreme Court has legalized marriage between homosexual couples. Barring a stay, California will join Massachusetts in that dubious distinction on June 17<sup>th</sup>.<sup>24</sup> It is the natural corollary and compliment to the law passed and signed last year, SB777, - that allows students to ‘choose their own gender’, and requires teachers to present the homosexual / lesbian lifestyles in a positive light.<sup>25</sup> Now add New York, whose Governor Patterson issued a ruling that would recognize the gay marriages performed in other states.<sup>26</sup> And of course adding a stamp of religious approval are elements of the Episcopal Church. This time its All Saints parish in Pasadena that has announced plans to bless same-sex weddings. US Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, Katherine Jefferts-Schori has long been on record supporting the “full inclusion” of practicing homosexuals despite the dictates of Scripture and the worldwide Anglican Communion to which the Episcopal Church USA belongs.<sup>27</sup> **“In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”** (Judges 17:6)

## **RUMOUR OF WAR**

[A press-time update] DEBKA is reporting that President Bush is ready to give the go-ahead to a limited air and missile assault of Iranian Republican Guards Quds Force installations in Iran. It is from these locations that Tehran has been training insurgents for operations in Iraq, Afghanistan , Lebanon & Palestine and funneling weapons and ammo to be used against Americans and Israelis. The Pentagon believes that the Iranian response will likewise be limited in scope, because the American assault is not intended to go after Iranian nuclear installations. According to DEBKA, with Tehran anticipating such an attack, key headquarters and training facilities have already been emptied of all sentries. The Israeli intelligence source also believes that the Iranian response is likely to be “much broader than envisioned in Washington” and could bring about a more general Middle East War with Iran reacting “in ways and on a scale unanticipated in Washington”.<sup>28</sup>

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