

タイトル	Whither Japan Should the United States Collapse?
著者	O'Brien, Patrick
引用	北海学園大学人文論集, 44: 97-153
発行日	2009-11-30

# WHITHER JAPAN SHOULD THE UNITED STATES COLLAPSE?

Patrick O'Brien

*"The Japan-U.S. alliance remains important, but as a member of Asia, I would like to develop policies that focus more on Asia."*

— Newly elected Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama<sup>1</sup>

*"All the idols of capitalism over the past three decades have crashed; We are living the end of an entire epoch..."*

— Professor James Petras<sup>2</sup>

*"The U.S. has every characteristic of a failed state."*

— former Treasury official Paul Craig Roberts<sup>3</sup>

*"America was once their country. They sense they are losing it. And they are right."*

— Journalist Patrick Buchanan<sup>4</sup>

## ABSTRACT

The United States faces serious economic, military, social, and political problems. Alone or in combination, these problems call into question the ability of the United States to continue as leader of the world. As junior partner to the United States since the end of the Pacific War, Japan may now have the opportunity — and burden — of

forging a more independent path.

## Introduction

From September 24-25, 2009, the G20 Summit took place in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, following hard on the heels of Japan's August 30th General Election for the House of Representatives. With the victory of the opposition Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ), headed by Yukio Hatoyama, over the long-ruling Liberal Democratic Party, a chance for change in Japanese domestic and international policy presented itself. The G20 meeting provided the opportunity to show that an adjustment in Japan-U.S. relations was in the works, judging from pronouncements from Prime Minister Hatoyama and other high government officials.

As *The New York Times* reported, Japanese leaders have indicated their intention of paying more attention to other parts of Asia than they have in recent decades. "Their economies enmeshed as never before, leaders from China, Japan and South Korea said over the weekend that they would explore the idea of a free-trade pact, inching toward deeper regional integration." Hatoyama was quoted as saying after a meeting with Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao and President Lee Myung-bak of South Korea, "Until now, we have tended to be too reliant on the United States." He also said that "The Japan-U.S. alliance remains important, but as a member of Asia, I would like to develop policies that focus more on Asia."<sup>5</sup> *The China Daily* reported similar sentiments from the Japanese side. For example, Hatoyama indicated that he wished to build a foreign policy "that will put Tokyo on a more equal footing with Washington, while keeping the US as the 'cornerstone' of Japan's diplomacy. He is also seeking closer ties with Japan's Asian neighbors, particularly China."<sup>6</sup>

Toyoo Gyohten, a former vice finance minister for international affairs, is slated to become special adviser on currency policy to the Finance Ministry. He echoed Hatoyama's words about the need for greater independence for Japan. This may mean the creation of a unified Asian currency, worrisome news to a United States whose own currency is weakening. "Asia," Mr. Gyohten noted, "has developed as the world's manufacturing factory, but in terms of investment and trade, the region is still dependent on the U.S. dollar and the euro."<sup>7</sup> Just over one month later, this newly found assertiveness spilled over into talks on repositioning an American base in Okinawa.<sup>8</sup> Linda Sieg reported that the DPJ has promised to adopt a diplomatic stance "less subservient to its close security ally, a dramatic shift from the long-dominant LDP," prompting some observers to fear for "the over-all future of the five-decade-old U.S.-Japan alliance as both face the challenge of China's rising economic and military might."<sup>9</sup> In a rare response, the U.S. National Security Council held a special meeting on October 30th to discuss what policy to pursue with the new Japanese government. "The move apparently reflects the United States' growing distrust of the administration led by Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama."<sup>10</sup> Clearly, there is a sense of shifting power relations in this region of Asia.<sup>11</sup>

What makes the issue so acute is the fact that the United States has for the last few years shown serious signs of stress in the military, social and political arenas. More pointedly, the economic crisis which began in 2008 continues to threaten the overall health of America. Should a major segment of the United States fail, it could bring on a more general collapse of the nation, meaning that Japan will de facto gain greater independence, though under conditions of great world instability. This essay will assess current conditions in the U.S.,

paying particularly close attention to a wide range of opinions and voices from various sources throughout the nation. In short, does America now face “imperial overstretch,” the crisis described by Yale University historian Paul Kennedy in his book *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers: Economic Change and Military Conflict from 1500 to 2000*?<sup>12</sup>

### On the Possibility of American Collapse

*“The world’s most powerful investment bank is a great vampire squid wrapped around the face of humanity, relentlessly jamming its blood funnel into anything that smells like money.”*

— Rolling Stone journalist Matt Taibbi<sup>13</sup>

*“Capital is dead labor, which, vampire-like, lives only by sucking living labor, and lives the more, the more labor it sucks.”*

— Karl Marx<sup>14</sup>

The genre of “coming economic crash” books is apparently a popular one, for they have been appearing regularly for decades. Since the Nixon era, for instance, we have seen Robert L. Preston’s *How To Prepare For The Coming Crash* (1972); *Crisis Investing Opportunities and Profits in the Coming Great Depression*, by Douglas R. Casey (1980); Joseph E. Granville’s, *The Warning: The Coming Great Crash in the Stock Market* (1985); and *The Great Reckoning: Protecting Yourself in the Coming Depression* by James Dale Davidson (1994). The fall of the Soviet Union in 1989 allowed America and the West in general to wallow in a spirit of self-congratulation that they had won the Cold War, largely because, it was thought, the liberal economic regime of

modern capitalism proved superior to state communism.<sup>15</sup> Japan, which appeared to be overtaking the United States as the world's leading economy, then suffered a burst of its "bubble," and entered into what became known as "Japan's lost decade."<sup>16</sup> When the "Asian Crisis" hit in 1997, commentators declared that America, flush with profits from the booming information technology revolution, had backed the right horse and chosen the proper path to prosperity.

In the event, this turned out to be a bubble of America's own, since dubbed the "dot-com bubble," spanning the years of roughly 1998-2001 (the NASDAQ peaked at 5132.52 on March 10, 2000). From there, however, a new bubble was inflated using the housing market to pump up assets, against which homeowners could then secure credit for use in the vibrant consumer economy post 9/11. The year 2008 saw a crash of this market, however, throwing the American — and world — economy into a crisis. Accounts of these events have been numerous.<sup>17</sup> At the same time as these acute economic challenges have surfaced, America has faced more long-term challenges, including protracted wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, signs of cultural decay, and political problems running the gamut from questions of political legitimacy (concerns over President Obama's birth status, for instance) to talk of secession for various parts of the country. Taken as a whole, this becomes the question, Might America Collapse?

The basic thesis for a coming fall of the American Empire is outlined in the late 1980s by Paul Kennedy, who in his book *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers: Economic Change and Military Conflict from 1500 to 2000* describes the process as "imperial overstretch."<sup>18</sup> Kennedy stresses in the Introduction that his account of how "the various Great Powers have risen and fallen" must assess states' power relative to other powers. Further, he draws an unbreakable link with

respect to “the *interaction* between economics and strategy” [all emphases in Kennedy quotes in original]. “The ‘military conflict’ referred to in the book’s subtitle is therefore always examined in the context of ‘economic change.’” Given the repeated economic blows America has received since the 1960s, there may be a direct link then to its military (mis) fortunes as well. While the collapse of a Great Power generally comes after a military reversal, Kennedy emphasizes something more fundamental: the power status of a state “has also been the consequence of the more or less efficient utilization of the state’s productive economic resources in wartime, and, further in the background, of the way in which that state’s economy had been rising or falling, *relative* to the other leading nations, in the decades preceding the actual conflict.”<sup>19</sup> What then of the American economy?

### The American Economy

Many experts have pointed to the trend over the last four decades of offshoring American manufacturing to other countries, particularly to Asia and Mexico. This became prominent — and worrisome — in the 1980s as Japan in particular challenged American manufacturing and financial might, as exemplified by Harvard professor Ezra Vogel’s phrase “Japan As Number One.”<sup>20</sup> The fact that America nonetheless stayed wedded to its faith in free and open markets in the belief that the Western version of capitalism was superior engendered a backlash by a group of scholars and journalists who insisted not only that Japan was playing by fundamentally different economic and political rules, but that in many cases it had evolved a more successful version of capitalism. This group, never embraced by the American Establishment, became known as “Revisionists” because they sought to revise received

wisdom on Japan (exemplified, for example, by the soothing stories of Harvard professor and former Ambassador to Japan Edwin O. Reischauer).<sup>21</sup>

Leading this group was University of California scholar Chalmers Johnson, whose seminal book *MITI and the Japanese Miracle* informed the analysis of all Revisionists who followed.<sup>22</sup> Surprisingly, it was liberal journalist James Fallows, a former speechwriter for President Jimmy Carter, who made the clarion call to the American reading public in his articles in *The Atlantic Monthly*, beginning in September of 1986. This article, “The Japanese are Different From You and Me,” argued that the Japanese were not becoming more like Americans, either in culture or in economic practices. Former trade negotiator Clyde Prestowitz expanded this line of thought in his 1988 book *Trading Places: How We Allowed Japan to Take the Lead*, followed a year later by Dutch journalist Karel van Wolferen’s *The Enigma of Japanese Power*.<sup>23</sup> (Popular novelist Michael Crichton used such sources to write his 1992 bestseller, *Rising Sun*, later made into a movie starring Sean Connery and Wesley Snipes.<sup>24</sup>)

While the American economy apparently recovered during the prosperous Clinton years of the 1990s, Japan, it was argued, went into a decade-long slump, allowing classical Western economists to affirm that they had been right all along. As the “information technology” industry boomed, however, hard manufacturing jobs were leaving American shores by the millions.<sup>25</sup> In the eight years of the George Bush presidency this trend accelerated, leading to growing alarm from a large group of informed observers. For instance, Paul Craig Roberts, a former Assistant Secretary of the Treasury and editor at *The Wall Street Journal*, defined this “New Economy” as “essentially financial fraud and offshoring of US jobs.”<sup>26</sup> Roberts has been highly critical of



this hollowing out of the American economy. As he wrote for the Internet site VDARE:

Corporations offshored or outsourced abroad their manufacturing output, thus divorcing American incomes from the production of the goods that they consume. The next step in the process took advantage of the high speed Internet to move professional service jobs, such as engineering, abroad. The third step was to replace the remains of the domestic work force with foreigners brought in at one-third the salary on H-1B, L-1, and other work visas....

The headline unemployment rate of 9.8% is a bare bones measure that greatly understates unemployment. Government reporting agencies know this and report another unemployment number, known as U-6. This measure of US unemployment stands at 17% in September 2009.<sup>27</sup>

Roberts also notes more recently how talk of a recovering housing market is misplaced. Rather than recovering, the market is flooded with unsold homes. In addition, funds created by the Federal Reserve still fail to prompt bank lending. Any talk of recovery, he believes, is deliberately deceptive.<sup>28</sup>

Presidential candidate Ron Paul agrees:

A false recovery is under way. I am reminded of the outlook in 1930, when the experts were certain that the worst of the Depression was over and that recovery was just around the corner. The economy and stock market seemed to be recovering, and there was optimism that the recession, like many of those before it, would be over in a year or less. Instead, the interventionist policies of Hoover and Roosevelt caused the Depression to worsen, and the

Dow Jones industrial average did not recover to 1929 levels until 1954. I fear that our stimulus and bailout programs have already done too much to prevent the economy from recovering in a natural manner and will result in yet another asset bubble.<sup>29</sup>

Former federal government analyst Richard C. Cook, in a review of Thomas Greco's book *The End of Money and the Future of Civilization*, writes that "It's too late for anyone to pretend that the U.S. government, whether under President Barack Obama or anyone else, can divert our nation from long-term economic decline. The U.S. is increasingly in a state of political, economic, and moral paralysis, caught as it were between the 'rock' of protracted recession and the 'hard place' of terminal government debt." The current buoyancy of the stock market, he argues, is a mirage or "temporary reprieve" because "nothing can bring back the consumer purchasing power that was lost when the banks stopped pumping money into the economy through out-of-control mortgage lending. We simply no longer have the job base for people to earn the income they need to live." Blaming international banking cartels such as those of the Rockefellers and Morgans, Cook claims that the underlying cause of the current crisis is the debt-based system in use today. Lending "on a previously unheard of scale" created a bubble whose burst was heard around the world in the fall of 2008. This bubble, he argues, was not only in housing but also equities, commodities, and derivatives. In prose common to Internet content, Cook writes that

Now, in 2009, the bankers, mainly those in the U.S., have so shattered the world economy by debt mounted on debt that there may be no reprieve except the creation of a slave society based on

rule by the rich over the masses of whatever peons should happen to survive the downturn and its tragic effects on employment, health, the food and water supply, and even our ability to cope with climate change.

The political establishment, expressing itself in pronouncements by organizations like the Council on Foreign Relations, see a future, not of economic democracy or increased financial pluralism, but consolidation of world currencies into a small number overseen at the top by the world's financial oligarchy. Citing the writings of Benn Steil, the CFR's Director of International Economics, Greco writes: "The ostensible plan is to reduce global exchange media to three — one each for Europe, the Americas, and Asia. One might reasonably suppose that at a later stage, those three would be combined into one currency also under the control of the global banking elite." Greco concludes: "The New World Order is upon us."<sup>30</sup>

Another analyst notes that "The financial tsunami unleashed by Wall Street's esurient alchemy of spinning toxic home mortgages into triple-A bonds, a process known as securitization, has set off its second round of financial tremors. After leaving mortgage investors, bank shareholders, and pension fiduciaries awash in losses and a large chunk of Wall Street feeding at the public trough," she continues, "the full threat of this vast securitization machine and its unseen masters who push the levers behind a tightly drawn curtain is playing out in courtrooms across America." In sum, "Today's Wall Street, it turns out, is just another straw man for a rigged wealth transfer system."<sup>31</sup>

Paul Craig Roberts reports how Goldman Sachs has made so much money during this year of economic crisis that employee bonuses will average \$800,000 per person, "with the highest paid as much as \$16 million," prompting Roberts to call them "banksters." Meanwhile,

long-term unemployment “has become a serious problem across the country,” thanks to the offshoring of jobs and importation of lower paid foreigners on work visas. “The offshoring of jobs, the bailout of rich bankers and war deficits are destroying the value of the U.S. dollar,” Roberts writes. “Once the dollar loses its reserve currency status, the U.S. will be unable to pay for its imports or finance its government budget deficits.”<sup>32</sup>

One of the most florid descriptions of the unfolding crisis comes from James Petras, a retired professor who has become unusually productive in his retirement:

All the idols of capitalism over the past three decades have crashed. The assumptions and presumptions, paradigms and prognosis of indefinite progress under liberal free market capitalism have been tested and have failed. We are living the end of an entire epoch: experts everywhere witness the collapse of the US and world financial system, the absence of credit for trade and the lack of financing for investment. A world depression, in which upward of a quarter of the world’s labor force will be unemployed, is looming. The biggest decline in trade in recent world history — down 40% year to year — defines the future. The imminent bankruptcies of the biggest manufacturing companies in the capitalist world haunt Western political leaders. The “market” as a mechanism for allocating resources and the government of the US as the “leader” of the global economy have been discredited....

Fear, anxiety and uncertainty stalk the offices of state, financial directorships, management suites of the factories, and the streets. We enter a time of upheaval, when the foundations of the world political and economic order are deeply fractured, to the point that no one can imagine any restoration of the political-economic order of the recent past. The future promises economic chaos, political

upheavals and mass impoverishment. Once again, the specter of socialism hovers over the ruins of the former giants of finance.... [leaving] only a prolongation of the pillage of the public treasury and postponement of the death agony of capitalism as we have known it.<sup>33</sup>

Petras is a retired Bartle Professor of sociology at Binghamton University. A well-known Marxist (he won a Life Time Career Award of the American Sociology Association, Marxist Section), he is the author of the 2006 book *The Power of Israel in the United States*, followed by *Rulers and Ruled in the US Empire: Bankers, Zionists and Militants; Zionism, Militarism, and the Decline of U.S. Power*; and *Global Depression and Regional Wars*.<sup>34</sup>

While Petras's prose may indeed be florid, that does not necessarily make it misguided. After all, it is now common to encounter front-page headlines such as "U.S. deficit hits all-time high" based on a figure such as \$1.42 trillion.<sup>35</sup> The risk here, of course, is to the value of the world's reserve currency, the U.S. dollar. As one Russian expert has predicted, the United States is headed for collapse, and along with it, the dollar: "Mass immigration, economic decline, and moral degradation will trigger a civil war next fall and the collapse of the dollar."<sup>36</sup> British journalist Robert Fisk also reported in October 2009 that powerful countries were planning to abandon the U.S. dollar in one important respect. "In a graphic illustration of the new world order, Arab states have launched secret moves with China, Russia and France to stop using the US currency for oil trading." With Japan and Iran — and possibly Brazil and India — joining, this could spell the end of the postwar Bretton Woods agreements, which gave Washington control over a hegemonic currency.<sup>37</sup>

For some years now Paul Craig Roberts has been warning about

this danger. In 2007, in an article titled “Ex-Wall Street Journal Editor: Dollar Collapse Will Cripple European Economy — Former Assistant Secretary of the Treasury says world economy could return to barter system,” Roberts warned that “the collapsing dollar will eventually cripple the European economy and may even return the world economy to a barter system as financial chaos ensues.” Trade and budget deficits, plus two ongoing wars, only add to the problems of the current recession, he argued. “At some point the foreigners will stop financing our budget and trade deficits — then we’re going to have a massive crisis the likes of which we’ve not experienced.... [I]f you’re totally dependent on imports of manufactured goods and you can’t pay for them, what do you do?” Further printing of money will only exacerbate the problem, driving the value of the dollar lower.<sup>38</sup> What then is the connection between this economic crisis and American military commitments and actions throughout the world?

## The American Military

Certainly, Paul Kennedy’s *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers: Economic Change and Military Conflict from 1500 to 2000* remains relevant in the discussion about American prospects in the military sphere. Recall from above that while the collapse of a Great Power generally comes after a military reversal, the power status of a state “has also been the consequence of the more or less efficient utilization of the state’s productive economic resources in wartime, and, further in the background, of the way in which that state’s economy had been rising or falling, *relative* to the other leading nations, in the decades preceding the actual conflict.” Does America fare well in this equation? In his section “The United States: The Problem of Number One in

Relative Decline,” Kennedy wrote that as America headed toward the twenty-first century, its challenges were daunting, especially in the economic sphere, but “the nation’s resources remain considerable, *if* they can be properly organized, and *if* there is a judicious recognition of both the limitations and the opportunities of American power.”<sup>39</sup> Since writing that in 1987, America has prosecuted two wars in Iraq and one in Afghanistan, two out of three of which have gone badly. In the economic sphere, as noted, the Clinton years provided a relative respite, but since 9/11 and the Bush Administration, there have been setbacks. According to Kennedy, this bodes ill for any Great Power: “Indeed, the outcome of all of the major, lengthy wars among the Great Powers which have been surveyed here repeatedly points to the crucial influences of productive economic forces — both during the struggle itself, and during those periods *between* wars when differentiated growth rates cause the various Power to become relatively stronger or weaker.”

An additional key point made by Kennedy is that “important transformations in the balances *are* occurring, and will continue, probably at a faster pace than before.” He saw power ebbing away from America, Europe and Russia, and moving in the direction of Japan and China. The cause: economics. “To be a Great Power — by definition, a state capable of holding its own against any other nation — demands a flourishing economic base.” The above survey on the state of the U.S. economy would suggest that eventually this economic malaise will seep over into military decline. While cautioning against neglect of military defenses, Kennedy’s opposing caution appears relevant for America today: “if they spend too much on armaments — or, more usually, upon maintaining at growing cost the military obligations they had assumed in a previous period — they are likely to overstrain themselves, like an old man attempting to work beyond his natural

strength.”

This strand of economic/military analysis has remained in the fore since Kennedy’s book was published. For instance, in 2003 former trade negotiator Clyde Prestowitz came out with *Rogue Nation: American Unilateralism and the Failure of Good Intentions*.<sup>40</sup> In this book he argues that America’s initial postwar posture of favoring the rule of international law and strong global institutions such as NATO and the United Nations has devolved into one of more selfish and arrogant unilateral actions based on narrow military or economic matters.

The most profound account of this change in course, however, is provided by another of the Japan Revisionists, retired U.C. professor Chalmers Johnson, whose “Blowback Trilogy” sets the standard for describing and decrying the growth of American Empire. The titles of the three books speak for themselves: *Blowback: The Costs and Consequences of American Empire* (2000); *The Sorrows of Empire: Militarism, Secrecy, and the End of the Republic*, (2004); and *Nemesis: The Last Days of the American Republic* (2007).<sup>41</sup> In one of the many editorials Johnson published as summaries of these books, he wrote that “The United States remains, for the moment, the most powerful nation in history, but it faces a violent contradiction between its long republican tradition and its more recent imperial ambitions. The fate of previous democratic empires suggests that such a conflict is unsustainable and will be resolved in one of two ways. Rome attempted to keep its empire and lost its democracy. Britain chose to remain democratic and in the process let go its empire. Intentionally or not, the people of the United States already are well embarked upon the course of non-democratic empire.”

Johnson cites four familiar perils: military Keynesianism, the unitary Presidency, failed checks on executive ambition, and bank-



ruptcy and collapse. The first is in line with Kennedy's arguments on the expense of maintaining armaments and honoring global commitments, while the second and third rebuke the Bush administration for its concentration of power in the executive branch — and the other two branches for their failure to respond properly. Finally, bankruptcy and collapse speak most directly to the questions considered in this essay, Will the United States soon face “financial or even political collapse at home and a significantly diminished ability to project force abroad?” Johnson's conclusion: America's course “will be a brief one, which most likely will end in economic and political collapse.”<sup>42</sup>

James Petras also reaches similar conclusions. Writing on his website, he argues that “The deep and ongoing crises of leading capitalist countries, especially the United States, has provoked a debate over the causes, consequences and appropriate policies to remedy it.” Trade deficits, he sees, “increased in direct proportion to the growing political and economic power of the financial sector. In large part, this was due to the transfer of capital from manufacturing to financial services, leading to the decline of the manufacturing sector's investments in innovations and competitive management strategies.” He cites the familiar strategy of offshoring manufacturing in pursuit of higher profits, then importing those foreign products into the U.S. for consumption, leading to great trade imbalances and global disequilibrium. Given that military driven empires “alienate trading partners, have high costs and low returns, isolate economic investors and traders from productive partnerships and are destructive of domestic and overseas civilian productive facilities,” America has created an unenviable situation for itself. Again, the downside is well-known: collapse of the dollar, more costly financial bubbles, the discrediting of Wall Street and free marketers, and finally, military failure.<sup>43</sup>

Paul Craig Roberts, in “Does US-Israeli Missile Defense War Game Signals Israeli Attack on Iran?” shows how the military failures in Iraq and Afghanistan could be compounded by an attack on Iran, which he sees as likely. Pointing to a recent decision by the U.S. government to engage in high-altitude missile defense war games, he concludes that it can only mean a need for such defense of Israel is coming, i.e., the U.S. and Israel will provoke Iran into firing such missiles at Israel. “This decision by the United States government is irresponsible in the extreme. It enables Israel to spread aggression in the Middle East. By signaling an attack, it would encourage a less cautious country than Iran to strike first before the Israeli missile defense system is operative,” he continued. “The joint US-Israeli war games involving 2000 troops from the US European Command, the Israeli Army, and 17 US Navy ships is further indication to the world that no matter what crimes the Israelis commit, the US will protect Israel from being held accountable.”<sup>44</sup> As bad as America’s military situation may appear to be, particularly when viewed in the long run according to Kennedy’s economic considerations as delineated in his “imperial overstretch” thesis, a more homegrown problem may turn out to be American culture itself.

## American Cultural

Roger Kimball, managing editor of the *New Criterion* and an art critic for the London *Spectator*, is among the premier chroniclers of the decline of America’s (so-called) culture. In books such as *Tenured Radicals*; *The Long March: How the Cultural Revolution of the 1960s Changed America*; and *Experiments Against Reality: The Fate of Culture in the Postmodern Age*, he has trenchantly critiqued the radical

assault on traditional values and mores in America, particularly assaults that gain ascendancy in the 1960s.<sup>45</sup> Kimball pinpoints Norman Mailer's 1957 essay "The White Negro" as a harbinger of the battering white Christian culture was to take. Calling Mailer's essay "a glorification of the hipster and his ethic of promiscuous sex, drug-taking, and criminal violence," Kimball labeled it "a panoply of 'existentialist' rant." In sum, the essay was representative of much that has gone askew with American culture:

"The White Negro" adumbrates practically everything that went wrong with American society under the assault of left-wing radicalism in the 1960s, from the addiction to violence, drugs, pop music, and sexual polymorphism, to the moral idiocy, jejune anti-Americanism, and mindless glorification of narcissistic irresponsibility and extreme states of experience. It was, as David Horowitz notes in his autobiography *Radical Son*, "the seminal manifest of New Left nihilism.... In New Left thinking, criminals were only 'primitive rebels.'" Although many critics took issue with Mailer's exoneration of violence, the real message of the essay — if it feels good, do it! — was just then beginning to sweep the country with irresistible force. "The White Negro"... represented an important opening salvo in the war on convention, restraint, and traditional morality.<sup>46</sup>

Patrick Buchanan has been in the fore in criticizing the decline. "As Rome passed away, so, the West is passing away, from the same causes and in much the same way. What the Danube and Rhine were to Rome, the Rio Grande and Mediterranean are to America and Europe, the frontiers of a civilization no longer defended. The children born in 2006 will witness in their lifetimes the death of the West."<sup>47</sup> Attributing much of this decline to self-destruction, Buchanan offers a

depressing list of markers of cultural decline in America. The very triviality of the examples speaks to the low denominator now common to American culture. For example, while seventy-four percent of Americans can name the Three Stooges and sixty percent Bart as Homer's son on *The Simpsons*, only forty-two percent know the three branches of the American government, and less than one in five know one of Greek poet Homer's epic poems.

William Lind has outlined the shape and history of the process responsible for the changes in American society over the last half century, finding that cultural Marxism is to blame:

Sometime during the last half-century, someone stole our culture. Just 50 years ago, in the 1950s, America was a great place. It was safe. It was decent. Children got good educations in the public schools. Even blue-collar fathers brought home middle-class incomes, so moms could stay home with the kids. Television shows reflected sound, traditional values. Where did it all go? How did that America become the sleazy, decadent place we live in today — so different that those who grew up prior to the '60s feel like it's a foreign country? Did it just "happen"?

It didn't just "happen." In fact, a deliberate agenda was followed to steal our culture and leave a new and very different one in its place. The story of how and why is one of the most important parts of our nation's history — *and it is a story almost no one knows*. The people behind it wanted it that way.

What happened, in short, is that America's traditional culture, which had grown up over generations from our Western, Judeo-Christian roots, was swept aside by an ideology. We know that ideology best as "political correctness" or "multi-culturalism." It really is cultural Marxism, Marxism translated from economic into cultural terms in an effort that goes back not to the 1960s, but

to World War I. Incredible as it may seem, just as the old economic Marxism of the Soviet Union has faded away, a new cultural Marxism has become the ruling ideology of America's elites. The No.1 goal of that cultural Marxism, since its creation, has been the destruction of Western culture and the Christian religion.

Lind argues that this ideology originated in Europe and found its way to the United States when conditions became too precarious in Europe:

The Frankfurt School was well on the way to creating political correctness. Then suddenly, fate intervened. In 1933, Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party came to power in Germany, where the Frankfurt School was located. Since the Frankfurt School was Marxist, and the Nazis hated Marxism, and since almost all its members were Jewish, it decided to leave Germany. In 1934, the Frankfurt School, including its leading members from Germany, was re-established in New York City with help from Columbia University. Soon, its focus shifted from destroying traditional Western culture in Germany to doing so in the United States. It would prove all too successful.<sup>48</sup>

Of course claims of cultural decline are legion, such as in the late University of Chicago professor's 1987 bestseller *The Closing of the American Mind*, in which he decried the decay of the humanities, the decline of the family, and students' indifference to received traditions and their seeming tolerance for even the absurd.<sup>49</sup> While such jeremiads exist, others argue that in fact the decline in culture and heat of the culture wars is exaggerated, as Alan Wolfe did in *One Nation, After All: What Middle-Class Americans Really Think About God, Country, Family, Racism, Welfare, Immigration, Homosexuality, Work, The Right, The Left and Each Other*.<sup>50</sup> Still, it is more common to encounter books with titles such as Neil Postman's *Amusing Ourselves to Death*:

*Public Discourse in the Age of Show Business*, or Morris Berman's *The Twilight of American Culture*, where he argues that American culture is in crisis because "like ancient Rome [American culture] is drifting into an increasingly dysfunctional situation," one where "millions of high school graduates can barely read or write" and "common words are misspelled on public signs." Another is *Fat, Dumb, and Ugly: The Decline of the Average American* by Peter Strupp and Alan Dingman, (which calls to mind a film version of such a culture, Mike Judge's 2006 underground classic, *Idiocracy*, a comedic dystopian view of America in five hundred years where the average IQ has dropped precipitously. Judge was also the creator of the animated show *Beavis and Butthead*, two none-too-intelligent American teenagers in the 1990s.)<sup>51</sup>

In fact, the decline of culture seems so obvious and prevalent that some might agree with one American pastor who lamented about the state of American culture, gasping, "If God spares the United States, He will have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah."<sup>52</sup> If the culture has suffered, what then of the political prospects for the nation, especially now that an African American has become the first non-white in American history to serve as president.

### Political Prospects for America

Political upheaval is no stranger to America, born as it was of revolution and torn asunder by the trauma and shock of a civil war. The Great Depression saw the emergence of "The New Deal" and a more powerful central government, bitterly opposed by conservative forces, and after the Second World War, President Harry Truman was widely castigated for the "loss" of China and setbacks in the war in Korea. The second half of the 1960s saw broad disenchantment with

the state of politics in America, culminating in the resignation of President Richard Nixon as a result of the Watergate Scandal. The intervening thirty years have seen political strife, often as part of the so-called “culture wars” being waged in America by the forces of conservatism (Republican, broadly) and liberalism (Democrat, broadly). Though thoroughly unpopular, two-term president George W. Bush managed to avoid any scandal or controversy that tore too strongly at the fabric of America life. With the Nov. 2008 election of Barack Obama, however, a qualitative change in the dissatisfaction of millions of Americans has become apparent. The “Tea Party protests” of 2009 are representative of this dissatisfaction, much of it coming from the American center of white middle-class voters and taxpayers. Protesting the stimulus package and its associated increase in national debt, but especially the proposed “Obamacare” healthcare reforms, protesters likened these to creeping socialism. Washington, D.C. was caught off guard when an estimated one million protesters arrived to vent their anger at these government actions.<sup>53</sup>

Patrick Buchanan has captured this sense of middle-class alienation in his columns. For example, in “Middle Americans Alienated & Radicalized,” he outlines how ordinary Americans have so come to fear the loss of constitutionally guaranteed rights that they have formed a group known as “Oath Keepers.” “Formed in March, they are ex-military and police who repledge themselves to defend the Constitution, even if it means disobeying orders. If the U.S. government ordered law enforcement agencies to violate Second Amendment rights by disarming the people, Oath Keepers will not obey,” Buchanan writes. Stewart Rhodes, an ex-Army paratrooper and Yale-trained lawyer, hints at violence: “We say if the American people decide it’s time for a revolution, we’ll fight with you.” Buchanan describes how the political and

media establishment fail to comprehend the sources of such fear and anger, having “lost touch with the nation and [become] wedded to a vision of America divorced from reality.” While progressives were willing to justify violence against the government during the civil rights and Vietnam War upheavals of the 1960s, blaming “root causes” for such rebellion, now “they cannot comprehend what would motivate Middle America to distrust its government, for it surely does.” One media expert noted that “Whites are not only more anxious, but also more alienated. Big majorities of whites say the past year’s turmoil has diminished their confidence in government, corporations and the financial industry... Asked which institution they trust most to make economic decisions in their interest, a plurality of whites older than 30 pick ‘none’ — a grim statement.”

Buchanan traces how the alienation and radicalization of white America “began long before Obama arrived.” “In their lifetimes, they have seen their Christian faith purged from schools their taxes paid for, and mocked in movies and on TV. They have seen their factories shuttered in the thousands and their jobs outsourced in the millions to Mexico and China. They have seen trillions of tax dollars go for Great Society programs, but have seen no Great Society, only rising crime, illegitimacy, drug use and dropout rates.” Seething from benefits given to illegal immigrants yet withheld from tax-paying Americans, and suffering the effects of affirmative action (paid for predominantly by white middle-class taxpayers), these Americans watch stunned as Washington funnels tens of billions — if not trillions — of dollars to Wall Street. Meanwhile, the border goes unprotected, and two distant wars drag on. In conclusion, Buchanan writes grimly of these middle American radicals, “America was once their country. They sense they are losing it. And they are right.”<sup>54</sup>



If in fact majority Americans are being replaced, then who are the new Americans? And does it matter if they are not from the traditional countries in Europe where most Americans prior to 1965 could trace their roots? For a growing number of Americans, what appears to be a flawed immigration policy has also inflamed tensions.

### Intelligence and Race

Many white racialsists argue that only whites could have created the prosperous nation that America became, partially due to biological factors linked to European genes. With so many non-white immigrants coming to America since the Immigration Act of 1965, America as a whole will suffer, these racialsists argue, because of the lower IQ of most of these non-white groups. For example, Steve Sailer, VDARE columnist and long-time movie reviewer for *The American Conservative*, has done quantitative studies on the average intelligence of both American-born Mexicans and immigrants from Mexico, and has found that their IQ falls between that of whites and blacks. More troubling, their high school graduation rates are more similar to African Americans and show no signs over improvement over many generations in America.<sup>55</sup>

In 1994, scientist Charles Murray set off a firestorm when his book *The Bell Curve: Intelligence and Class Structure in American Life*, written with the late Harvard professor Richard Herrnstein, appeared. The book argued that race and intelligence were correlated, and that the average IQ of a race played a statistically important role in the life chances — on average — of its members.<sup>56</sup> In the ensuing years, the forces of political correctness have prevailed in banishing this view from public discourse, but in private the majority of serious scientists

have increasingly backed the arguments of *The Bell Curve*.<sup>57</sup>

Ever since Harvard scientist E.O. Wilson wrote his path-breaking book *Sociobiology: The New Synthesis*, other researchers have sought further support for the theories about the critical role of genes in human behavior and, by extension, the construction of human societies. Due to politically and ideologically motivated resistance, researchers in the field worked out of the public view. In part to work around this resistance, a new name was given to the field, which became evolutionary psychology. The argument is that humans have fundamental traits based in biology, and these are in turn linked to genes. Thus, “the more we discover how firmly ingrained our abilities, attitudes, and behaviors tend to be, the less plausible leftist social-intervention programs become.” Intelligence is the thorniest issue when it comes to differing racial traits. But with standard IQ tests, “we can measure and rank people on a continuum, allowing us to make reasonable predictions about their success in life. Granted, a good IQ score is not the whole story of a person’s life — not even close — but it is the entrance requirement for most high-paying jobs, as well as a predictor of marital stability, law-abidingness, civic behavior, and many other positive life outcomes.” In short, “biology severely limits the aspirations of social engineers.”<sup>58</sup>

One researcher who has written extensively on the connection between race and IQ, and the failure of remedial efforts to raise IQ, is Professor Richard Lynn, a Cambridge University Ph. D. in psychology.<sup>59</sup> The titles of some of his books reflect the thrust of his arguments on the importance of IQ for success at the national level: *IQ and the Wealth of Nations* (2002), *IQ and Global Inequality* (2006), *Race Differences in Intelligence: An Evolutionary Analysis* (2006), and, most pointedly, *The Global Bell Curve: Race, IQ, and Inequality Worldwide*

(2008). As Lynn concludes in this latest book, “throughout the world there are racial hierarchies, and it is the races with the highest IQs that have the highest educational attainment, earnings, and socioeconomic status, the best health, and greatest longevity, together with the lowest rates of crime, infant mortality, and fertility” (p.189).

This is one of the basic concerns of white racialists in America and Europe; not only that they are being displaced by non-whites, but also that the average IQ of the bulk of new immigrants is lower than that of whites. Jared Taylor, for instance, compares the situations in America and Japan, where rates of immigration are negligible:

I have just returned from several weeks in Japan, and am again struck by the forceful example that country offers of the advantages of homogeneity. As the years go by, Japan’s steady record of successes stands in ever-greater contrast to America’s failures, and to its inability to think seriously about the kind of country it is becoming. Japan is not without problems, of course, and some are disconcerting by our standards. But the Japanese have a much better chance than we do of surviving into the next century as a coherent, prosperous nation with a culture and civilization it can unmistakably call its own.<sup>60</sup>

Voices such as his have become more common and strident in recent years, with some even suggesting a dissolution of the American union.

### Secession in America?

Pat Buchanan has been aware of this threat for a long time and has written a searing book on the subject, *The Death of the West: How Dying Populations and Immigrant Invasions Imperil Our Country and Civilization*.<sup>61</sup> More recently, where he muses upon the myriad stresses

in American politics, he considers the question “Is America Coming Apart?”:

We seem not only to disagree with each other more than ever, but to have come almost to detest one another. Politically, culturally, racially, we seem ever ready to go for each others' throats.... In what sense are we one nation and one people anymore? For what is a nation if not a people of a common ancestry, faith, culture and language, who worship the same God, revere the same heroes, cherish the same history, celebrate the same holidays, and share the same music, poetry, art and literature?

Buchanan then asks, “If a married couple disagreed as broadly and deeply as Americans do on such basic issues, they would have divorced and gone their separate ways long ago.”<sup>62</sup> Secession? Is the break away of one or more sectors of America even a remote possibility?

Respected military strategist William S. Lind thinks such a split has a future in America, as the first sentence of his article on the topic shows: “Secession is in the air.” One point he makes is that “If America breaks up it is likely to do so along non-geographic lines. Fourth Generation theory suggests that the new primary identities for which people are likely to vote, work and fight will not be geographical. Rather,” he expounds, “they will be cultural, religious, racial or ethnic, ideological, etc. Following the sorts of massacres, ethnic cleansings, pogroms and genocides such Fourth Generation civil wars usually involve, new geographically defined states may emerge. But their borders will derive from cultural divides more than geographic ones.”<sup>63</sup> Even *The Wall Street Journal* considers the risk of breakup more than a fantasy. In a story late last year, they reported that a Russian professor “predicts the United States will fall apart in July 2010. For

most of that time, he admits, few took his argument — that an economic and moral collapse will trigger a civil war and the eventual breakup of the U.S. — very seriously.” Now, however, more people are listening. “Prof. Panarin,” the *Journal* reports, “is not a fringe figure. A former KGB analyst, he is dean of the Russian Foreign Ministry’s academy for future diplomats. He is invited to Kremlin receptions, lectures students, publishes books, and appears in the media as an expert on U.S.-Russian relations.” For Panarin, the reasons for collapse are the familiar ones: “mass immigration, economic decline, and moral degradation will trigger a civil war next fall and the collapse of the dollar.”<sup>64</sup>

Much of the discussion about political dissolution and secession is carried on by members of the extreme right, a group well documented in recent years by scholar George Michael.<sup>65</sup> The conservative academic journal *The Occidental Quarterly* (print and online) has also weighed in on the issue of secession. For example, a year ago Kevin MacDonald explicitly stated his case in the editorial “Secession and implicit whiteness,” writing, “Secession is certainly an option that has occurred to whites intent on preserving the traditional people and culture of the US.” A chief reason that secession is an option is the widespread sense that the American system is beyond repair, at least with respect to the interests of whites. As the MacDonald editorial noted, “44% agreed that ‘the United States’ system is broken and cannot be fixed by traditional two-party politics and elections.” Further, in a 2006 poll released by CNN, 71% of Americans agreed that “our system of government is broken and cannot be fixed.”<sup>66</sup>

Not surprisingly, those on the right who feel alienated and even dispossessed from current America take the issue of secession seriously. Scholar Michael O’Meara, for instance, wrote that “white national-

ists at present have no hope of actually mobilizing the white populace in opposition to the existing anti-white regime. Rather, their immediate goal is to prepare the way for the development of a revolutionary nationalist vanguard to lead the struggle for white liberation. They aspire thus not to recapture the rotting corpse of the US government, but to free themselves from it — in order to be themselves, in their own land, in their own way.”<sup>67</sup> Note O’Meara’s take on how the system broke:

When the post-1945 National Security State, armed with its newly acquired “mandate of heaven,” endeavored to turn Roosevelt’s liberal-managerial state system into a world empire, premised on the belief that it was based on an idea, not a people, it launched what amounted to an assault on America’s historic identity — an assault whose overarching aim has been to undermine the population’s racial consciousness and promote ethnocidal practices facilitating its “demographic” reconstitution. The state’s “anti-racism” came thus to serve as an instrument of its social engineers, who sought to turn whites into herds of “tamed sheep [who] care not in which flock [they] are driven.”

O’Meara offers a growing framework for addressing this problem:

Secessionists surrender nothing but the slow death of their people. For among other things, secession is about survival — and the prospect of being able to fight another day. To do that, one must live. But where, how? For all practical purposes whites have lost the United States. Though still a near majority, we are surrounded by armed forces seeking our destruction; we are running out of ammunition, and the ground troops are being ordered in to clean up the remaining pockets of resistance. It looks as if we’re doomed.

Secession is a way of avoiding the deadly pincers closing in on white life. In the last sixty years, absolutely NOTHING — not one little thing — has been accomplished to interrupt the programmed destruction of European America.... But even if [reform is] feasible, what self-respecting white man would want to take back the United States, this monstrous, bureaucratic Leviathan whose Jewish, race-mixing, homophile, feminist, fraudulent, anti-Christian, and degenerate practices stand as an affront to everything his ancestors stood for.

For O'Meara, the failure to act will be fatal, as his historical perspective shows:

At the beginning of twentieth century, peoples of European descent ruled the world. They made up a third of its population, occupied half its landmass, controlled Africa, India, Southeast Asia, and parts of coastal China; their industry and technology, along with their philosophy, science, and art, had no rival; the world was theirs and theirs alone.

A century later, all was changed: Peoples of European descent had fallen to less than 9 percent of the world's population; their lands were everywhere inundated by non-Whites; their industry and technology outsourced to potential enemies; their state, social system, and media taken over by parasitic aliens; and, in the deepest demographic sense, they faced the not-too-distant prospect of biological extinction.<sup>68</sup>

Several White Nationalist thinkers, such as the late National Alliance leader William Pierce, have turned to fiction to reach an audience not likely to sit through measured rational arguments calling for rebellion against the forces that allegedly oppress them. William Lind too turned to the novel. Called *Victoria*, it incorporated Lind's

ideas about Fourth Generation warfare, positing a second American Civil War. It never found a publisher, however, which Lind blamed on Political Correctness. Be that as it may, “the idea of an American break-up,” he writes, “is no longer off the charts.” While Lind feels secession will come about along non-geographical fault lines, most other secessionists feel it will be based on contiguous territory. One of the leading writers in this camp is eccentric Harold Covington. The editor of *The Occidental Quarterly*, Greg Johnson, Ph. D., recently wrote a review of Covington’s secessionist novels, the so-called *Northwest Quartet*. Like O’Meara, he sees working within the current American system as a dead end:

Fortunately, we know that the US system is moving full steam toward catastrophes on a number of different tracks. The political system is captive to minority and foreign interests and cannot pursue the common good. Our Israel-first foreign adventurism and profligate welfare spending are economically unsustainable. Multiculturalism and non-white immigration are leading to the ever-intensified degradation and dispossession of whites, which can only lead to increased ethnic conflict. Affirmative action and corruption have filled the government with incompetent employees who are parasites at best and actively throttle productivity and sow social chaos at worst. Education and popular culture continue their descent. The system is dependent on ever-increasing technological sophistication to exploit diminishing natural resources, yet the demographic trends are profoundly dysgenic. Morons are reproducing faster than geniuses, and the political system enfranchises and caters to the morons, with their high time preferences and ignorance of the causes of order and wealth. Furthermore, as Sam Dickson has pointed out, the system apparently has no brakes. For example, even before Social Security was enacted, it was known to be unsustainable, but nothing has



been done to solve the problem, only to postpone the final crash by a few election cycles. Of course the system might be able to survive one crisis at a time. But eventually several crises will converge, and the United States will not be able to survive intact.<sup>69</sup>

Covington's prose is indeed colorful. For instance, he describes an attack on Federal troops this way: "The other major tickle out on Highway 169 was a simple Baghdad banger in a recycle bin beside the road. Humvee blown off the asphalt just out of Maplewood Heights. Three dead Fatties [Federal troops]. Pyrotechnics courtesy of Doctor Doom, some good old bathtub gelnite just like Mom used to make." Or this rebel's dialogue: "We may have to do another off-Broadway production, sir, as in offing somebody on Broadway." Or this contrast between the America of old and now. Rebels are fighting so that a girl "can grow up in the world of Jane Austen again, instead of *A Clockwork Orange*." Like other racist White Nationalist fiction writers, Covington believes that the target of the current liberal regime is white males. "In the America of the early twenty-first century, it didn't pay for a white man to look too sharp. White males weren't supposed to hold their heads up, especially in the Northwest, where some alert FBI agent or Fattie might wonder just what the hell a white boy was looking so chipper about."<sup>70</sup>

Buchanan, Lind, and novelist Covington are not alone in their belief in a possible collapse of the American system. Psychologist Kevin MacDonald, for one, writes, "In the multicultural America of the near future, gulags and anti-White totalitarian controls are at least as likely as [a] multicultural utopia.... And if they can't be ruled out, there is a compelling moral case to be made that Whites should not enter willingly into such a world. If there is one thing we should have learned by thinking about the history of the 20th century, it's that we

should not believe in utopias.”<sup>71</sup> Attorney and white advocate Sam Dickson mirrored these sentiments when he spoke at last year’s American Renaissance conference, saying, “We need to understand that as far as the establishment that misrules our people all over the world is concerned, the only acceptable position on the future of the white race is genocide.”<sup>72</sup> Finally, consider the words of Andrew Hamilton: “Whether white survival ultimately takes the form of secession, reconquest, or even some newly-evolved type of genetically-based, non-territorial “peoplehood”... is less important, perhaps, than the realization of the obsessive hatred of the System for the white race. Whites can actively or passively accept it — and die — or they can fight it. The essential thing is to recognize with absolute clarity the uncompromising, nonnegotiable, genocidal character of the alien, anti-white System, and to oppose it with every fiber of one’s being on moral grounds.”<sup>73</sup>

As to what could serve as a catalyst for the breakup of America, a galvanizing event that would set spark to fuel, there are various views. For example, an anti-Semitic commentator on O’Meara’s essay wrote:

What may be a true catalyst for Whites to find their opening to rebel — without fear of looking back and seeing no one behind them — is a full economic collapse, as simplistic as that may appear. Once some pot-bellied, PC-brainwashed, NFL-following White fool is scrambling to find a quart of milk for his children while seeing Uncle Sam take care of non-Whites to ensure their breeding, along with comfortable, arrogant Jews who will not be able to abstain from rubbing it in, all bets are off. I have been surprised over the last 18 months as to how many “regular people” — Whites whom I would not have thought aware of the level of

Jewish responsibility for our current situation — remark privately on things that show they do have a grasp of what's up, and who's the major force behind it. People need a situation as catalyst, they need to feel a good number of people are in it with them, and they need leaders. Right now, it is tough for Whites to speak up, as "The Machine" goes in high gear against them. There goes your job. There go your friends. They might agree, but they have to feed their kids.<sup>74</sup>

The time may indeed be near for that breakup. As Buchanan concludes in the column above, "'E pluribus unum' — out of many, one — was the national motto the men of '76 settled upon. One sees the pluribus. But where is the unum? One sees the diversity. But where is the unity?" When he asks, "Is America, too, breaking up?" many Americans, such as those just mentioned, answer "Yes."<sup>75</sup>

In this age of the Internet, one can readily find even shriller accounts of why America needs to divide into separate factions. For instance, this white advocate ties in loss of manufacturing jobs to the alleged desire of American elites to deprive whites of high-paying jobs. He notes how Boeing has decided to build its second 787 production line in South Carolina rather than the Seattle region. One reason, he believes, is that "The union (IAM) has struck at every financially critical juncture to gain the most power over Boeing: Recent strikes have crippled the company and almost ruined it. The 787 'Dreamliner' is two years behind schedule because of frivolous strikes by the IAM and allied unions." He continues:

Local political leaders see Boeing only as a source of tax revenue. Local taxes are very high, among the highest for a metropolitan area in the United States (but we do have 50,000 Somalis on welfare

and they are VERY demanding). Schools do not produce math, science, or engineering excellence. Every resource is allocated to minorities and no minority in Washington state can match the test scores or graduation rate of the European-Americans, who are the lowest priority and face daily humiliation in schools because of the color of their skin. The most under-represented group in the University of Washington is European-American men — historically the source of the engineering talent that built Boeing. Now they are just part of the 35,000 European-American students barred from that University by the color of their skin. (I suspect a young European-American man who wants to study engineering, once rejected by local universities pursuing their Affirmative Action agenda here, go elsewhere and never come home.)<sup>76</sup>

Even the mainstream media occasionally points to this kind of racially-tinged distress, as the *Los Angeles Times* did in referring to popular anger at the actions and treatment of Goldman Sachs. *The Times* put it in the perspective of the lynching of Leo Frank in Georgia in 1915 for what residents of that state mistakenly believed was his guilt in the death of a young female laborer named Mary Phagan. As with the Frank case in 1915, the *Times* sees mob violence stemming from the anger of white people against the people who run the country. While arguing that anti-Semitism played a role in the Frank lynching, it was also about “the conflicting perceptions of the nation’s haves and have-nots, the chasm between the people who appear to run things and those who feel they lack a say. While it’s doubtful that a mob could break into a state prison in 2009 and lynch an inmate, it’s not difficult to imagine a scenario in which something almost as bad transpired. In an era of escalating home foreclosures and rocketing unemployment, endless bank bailouts and hefty bonuses to Goldman Sachs traders, the Frank saga says as much about current events as it does about his-

tory.”<sup>77</sup>

Popular blogger James Howard Kunstler has been making similar references for over a year. In a column filled with his typical rhetorical flourishes he writes:

All these tensions beat a path into the holiday season when emotions run high, when blessings are counted and sorrows taste most bitter. So the big question now floating above the sheer data of Goldman Sachs profit announcement is: what kind of year-end bonuses will they dare to pay their executives and minions, and how will the “people” react? It seems to me that conditions are ripening for a bloodbath. The kind of heinous acts that we have feared emanating from foreign “evildoers” since the awful stunt of 9/11/01 are now most likely to come from among our own “people” — a few pounds of Semtex in the lobby of Goldman Sachs’s New York headquarters... a few men with market-grade small arms converted to full-automatic outside on the Wall Street sidewalk one evening at holiday time when the suits are leaving work for the day.... It won’t take much.<sup>78</sup>

Scholars have sought to trace the sources of this anger and dissatisfaction, as California State University professor Kevin MacDonald has done. During the interwar years in Europe, he notes, a group of Marxist scholars attempted to understand why the masses failed to unite against their capitalist oppressors. This group, the Frankfurt School, concluded that it was because of a kind of soft “cultural” control exercised by the traditional European Christian elites. Having gained power in America over the next few decades, however, MacDonald argues that now the oppression comes from those like members of the Frankfurt school and is directed at common Americans:

Just as the Frankfurt School theorized, the West has come under the control of soft authoritarianism. But now the shoe is on the other foot: Power resides in the soft totalitarianism of the multi-cultural, multi-racial, anti-White left.

These Jewish intellectual movements decried the passivity, escapism, and conformity of American culture. Those of us who are White advocates are horrified that the vast majority of White people passively accept media messages filled with distorted images of Whites and their history. We are appalled that so many Whites are far more interested in escapist entertainment, ranging from sporting events to sci-fi thrillers, than they care about the future of their people. And we are dismayed by the conformity of the great mass of Whites who are terrified of being called a racist or in any way violating the current taboos of political correctness. We deplore the pathetic conformists striving to uphold the rules of a society deeply hostile to their own long term interests.

Rather than see a culture controlled by the “late capitalist media,” White advocates see the culture of the West as controlled by a hostile media that advocates multiculturalism, the displacement of Whites, and the culture of Western suicide.<sup>79</sup>

Again, this kind of argument is more than just in the air. A former high-level government official like Paul Craig Roberts makes similar arguments. For example, he believes that the inevitable resistance of middle-class Americans will force an increasingly armed government to clamp down. “Thanks to the federal government, our local police forces are now militarized and imbued with hostile attitudes toward the public. SWAT teams have proliferated, and even small towns now have police forces with the firepower of US Special Forces,” he writes. He also recounts how a SWAT team mistakenly broke into the house of a town’s mayor, and not even he and his family were safe (two pet

dogs were killed in the invasion). Roberts argues that “In any failed state, the greatest threat to the population comes from the government and the police. That is certainly the situation today in the USA. Americans have no greater enemy than their own government. Washington is controlled by interest groups that enrich themselves at the expense of the American people.”<sup>80</sup>

Internet commentator Richard Cook agrees, as he approvingly points to the predictions made by the author of a book under review: “Greco is implying that the power of the elite is not only dated but illusory. Thus the way to proceed is not just to oppose them. If they are opposed, they’ll do what they always do, which is to roll out the SWAT teams, the military in the streets, the tear gas, the sound cannon, the concentration camps, the Patriot Acts, the torture chambers, because that is all they know, and it’s what they do best.”<sup>81</sup> Recall also that in the above Glenn Beck interview with former presidential candidate Ron Paul, Paul said, “When you have a dollar crisis, the whole thing quits functioning. The checks bounce and literally the federal government’s checks bounce if you have — if inflation goes up.... I think we’re going to have a de facto 10th Amendment, secession. People are just going to ignore the federal government because they won’t — and there’s, you know, a total loss of credibility.” In that case, Paul said, “I think that there will be violence. I hope we don’t have to go through, you know, a very violent period of time, but that’s what happens too often when the government runs out of money and runs out of wealth, the people argue over, you know, a shrinking pie and, of course, the people who have to produce are sick and tired of producing.”

When a former U.S. Treasury official and two presidential candidates (Buchanan and Paul) speak candidly about the possibility of

political dissolution of the United States, it may suggest the existence of a real threat. At the same time, however, one can find similarly pessimistic accounts of Japan's (or China's or Russia's, etc.) prospects. Is it possible that America is *relatively* no worse off than Japan?

### Might Japan Collapse?

Even at the height of Japan's "bubble" in the late 1980s, there were voices saying it was all a mirage, or that Japan would soon fade back into being a second-rate power. Such was the insistent argument of *Economist* editor Bill Emmott, for one. His book *The Sun Also Sets* appeared to be vindicated in the 1990s as Japan experienced a string of economic setbacks and domestic emergencies. Well over a decade later, there is some evidence to support the argument that Japan indeed has deep and protracted problems. For example, in recent weeks it has been front-page news that Japan's premier international carrier, Japan Airlines, is facing serious financial difficulty. Though as early as May of 2009 losses were projected to be ¥63 billion, they are likely to balloon to ¥500 billion for the year. JAL has asked its main banks for debt forgiveness, and there was even talk of financial rescue from U.S. carriers American or Delta.<sup>82</sup>

*Barron's Magazine* recently carried a story titled "Is the sun really setting on Japan?" and pondered whether in the distant future Chinese and American tourists would be making fly-overs of a Japan boasting only "the dilapidated remains of what was once the world's second-largest economy. By then, all that survives will be blighted megalopolises like Tokyo, populated mostly by the elderly, and decaying, weed-choked highways, bridges and bullet-train right-of-ways, spectral reminders of a once-vibrant society that lost its way." The



article quotes one William Overholt of Harvard's Kennedy School who predicts that a Japanese debt default is likely. In his view, Japan's debt is "destined to keep rising because of unfunded pension liabilities of the aging population and contingent liabilities that the central government bears as a result of functionally insolvent local government." Additionally, he cautions, "Japan is rapidly approaching a crossover point in which expectations will suddenly change and existing trends prove unsustainable. The JGB market may turn out to be the biggest bubble in world economic history."

Some experts quoted fault Japan's industrial policy, which, though successful in many areas in the past, is now "at the heart of Japan's malaise [because] the government has morphed from promoting winners to protecting losers." The article then quantifies the demographic challenges faced by Japan:

The old saw about demographics being destiny certainly applies to Japan, which is graying at an alarming rate because of longtime low fertility rates; its post-World War II baby boom petered out almost a decade before America's ended in the mid-1960s.

The latest United Nations median forecast estimates Japan's population will fall from a current 127 million to just 101.6 million by 2050, while the U.S. count will rise from 317 million to 404 million. Even worse, Tokyo itself predicts, the number of Japanese of prime working age (15 to 64), which totaled 83 million in 2007, is likely to tumble to 49 million in 2050, while the over-65 cohort jumps from 27.5 million to nearly 38 million. That would mean more than 77 elderly dependents for every 100 workers by 2050, compared with just 33 per 100 now.<sup>83</sup>

This leads to a belief that rather than strengthening against the U.S. dollar, the yen will actually fall precipitously in coming decades

because, quoting the *Telegraph's* Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, "Japan is about to go bankrupt." Japan, he argues, "is on the cusp of a fiscal crisis that will change perceptions of Asia dramatically. The IMF says gross public debt will reach 218pc of GDP this year. This is compounding very fast. It will be 246pc in 2014." In addition, the new Hatoyama government has an ambitious budget-spending policy, planning to issue ¥50 trillion or \$550 billion in fresh bonds. (In contrast, he notes that "America's spectacular gains in productivity — growing at a trend rate of 2.25pc to 2.5pc — is laying the foundation for a much stronger US recovery in the long-term than most people seem to realize. Compare that with 0pc to 1pc for the eurozone. In Italy it is negative.") Evan's-Pritchard too sees demographics as destiny, citing the usual numbers:

The UN expects America to add roughly 100 [million] people by 2050, keeping its age balance in relatively good shape through a mix of immigration and a healthy fertility rate — now 2.12 live births per woman, still above replacement level. This compares to: Taiwan (1.13), Korea (1.2), Japan (1.22), Ukraine (1.25), Poland (1.27), Spain (1.3), Italy (1.3), Russia (1.4), Germany (1.41), China (1.77), Britain (1.96), and France (1.98). Some of this data may be slightly out of date, but the picture remains valid.

While it is true that pessimists about Japan's prospects may turn out to be right, the fact remains that the future is hard to predict. In addition, there is evidence that even the terms of debate regarding Japan's situation have been so deliberately manipulated that even many Western experts have been deceived. This line of argument is taken by Ivan Hall, Harvard Ph. D. in Japanese history and former cultural diplomat at the American Embassy in Tokyo, where he put in eight years representing the U.S. government's Japan-U.S. Friendship Com-

mission. He has also spent nine years as a professor at the leading Japanese universities of Tsukuba, Keio, and Gakushuin.

In his book, *Bamboozled! How America Loses the Intellectual Game with Japan and Its Implications for Our Future in Asia*, he argues that current conventional wisdom on Japan's economy is wrong, largely due to self-imposed ignorance on the part of Western observers.<sup>84</sup> A seemingly unstoppable Japanese economy was brought back to earth, it was believed, by the bursting of its bubble from roughly 1991-1993. From there on out, as I wrote in this journal six years ago, growth came to a halt, real estate depreciated, and banks found themselves with massive loans that could not be serviced.<sup>85</sup> This economic malaise was exacerbated by two events that rocked Japan in early 1995. First, a powerful earthquake struck the Kobe region early on the morning of January 17th, killing over 4,500 people and injuring nearly 15,000. Just two months later, the Aum Shinrikyo religious group released deadly sarin gas in an attack on the Tokyo subway, killing twelve and injuring 5,500. To the Japanese and to the world, it appeared that Japan's laboriously constructed social and economic system had developed fatal cracks. Coupled to this was the frenetic growth of the American economy, an unexpected phenomenon that seemed to cast doubt on the utility of Japan's version of capitalism. Finally, 1997 saw the meltdown of certain Asian economies, which became the "Asian Crisis" of that year. Japan also suffered further stock market setbacks. The 1990s, it was said, was a "lost decade."

Hall disagrees, as he shows in his explication of the 1997 Asian Crisis:

After the broader financial crisis broke out in Southeast Asia in the summer of 1997, too many American commentators were making

the fatuous claim that the “Asian,” meaning Japanese, economic model was now discredited. The family cronyism, consumer orientation, unbridled speculation, and dependence on foreign capital that drove the debacle in Thailand and Indonesia could not have been further from the tightly run financial self-reliance, alert government guidance, market protectionism, and postponed consumer gratification of the old Northeast Asian model that had propelled Japan, Korea, and Taiwan toward economic stardom.<sup>86</sup>

Western critics, Hall notes, believe that Japan’s crisis “will finally catalyze genuine enactment of the drastic regulatory, administrative, and political reforms promised but stalled ever since 1993. These, together with the combined pressures of a rapidly aging population and the need to outsource Japanese manufacturing abroad, will combine to erode established patterns of seniority-based lifetime employment, intercorporate *keiretsu* (affiliated group) solidarity, employee loyalty and deference, pursuit of market share over profitability, and the bureaucracy’s leverage over the Japanese economy and parliamentary system.” Hall concludes this overview of the conventional wisdom on Japan by noting succinctly, “So go our illusions.”<sup>87</sup> The proper way to view this, Hall believes, is the following:

From 1999 to 2001 it was clear to anyone with their feet on the ground in Tokyo that Japan was swinging to the right, digging in its heels against American economic prescriptions, and developing its own visions for post-Cold War Asia — that is to say, moving further and further away from, not toward, the United States in all but the narrow area of military cooperation. Yet all these trends remain counterintuitive to America’s financial, governmental, and media elites back home, who continued to view Japan from the stratosphere of our reigning economic triumphalism. Wall Street,

the Washington Beltway, and our national punditocracy showed no letup in their orthodox doctrine that Japan is slowly but surely falling into line as a U.S.-style free trader and liberal democracy eager to play the American proconsul in Asia.<sup>88</sup>

Is Hall closer to the truth on Japan? Or will Japan and its aging population slow down and fade from the limelight? Ultimately, only time will tell. In any case, as one observer writes, “In its long history, Japan has weathered typhoons, civil strife and wars. How it handles the demographic and debt tsunami bearing down in it will provide one of the 21st century’s most fascinating — and important — dramas.”<sup>89</sup>

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, it appears probable that a shift in Great Power relations is imminent, based on the range of problems America faces discussed above. That America will escape negative consequences from its economic, cultural, political and military challenges is unlikely. What then of Japan’s options? Former Cornell University professor Takashi Shiraishi delineates the current situation in Japan as well as the likely choices nations in East Asia will be forced to make. Noting that the regional security system involving the U.S. “hub and spoke” approach of bilateral agreements with individual East Asian nations has remained relatively unchanged since the mid-1970s, Shiraishi contrasts that with the fast evolving economic situation. Since the Plaza Accords of 1985 and the end of the Cold War in 1989, “enormous foreign direct investments has promoted de facto economic integration as Japanese and other East Asian multinational firms established their business operations across the borders and expanded and deepened their regional transnational business networks.” This “East Asia”

network spans the region from Japan and South Korea to coastal China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Southeast Asia.

The tension, as Shiraishi sees it, comes with this *de facto* economic integration colliding with the U.S. hub and spoke security arrangement. Economic integration is growing while the United States is no longer the driving economic force it once was. Further, the Chinese and Vietnamese communist party systems are not part of the overall security system. "The resulting tension between the two systems will not vanish any time soon. In fact, the tension may increase as China's presence is felt in East Asian political and economic relations." Thus Japan is faced with difficult options. First, given the undeniable relative loss of American economic power, Japan must prepare for a possible rearrangement of the security system. If, as statements by Hatoyama and his cabinet suggest, the future of the Japan-U.S. alliance were to come under question, the situation for Japan "would become unstable." The worst case, according to Shiraishi, would be for the United States to exit East Asia and establish its forward defense line to Guam-Hawaii. In such a case, Japan and other regional powers would be forced to allocate "far greater resources for its defense than it does now." In essence, an East Asian arms race would ensue.<sup>90</sup>

Again, only time will tell how events play out in the future. As evidenced by the commentary in this essay, however, there exists at least the possibility that some sort of major breakdown will occur in the United States, one severe enough to rein in its current imperialist ambitions. As this essay heads for the printers, the newspapers bring yet more news of festering banking problems in America. After struggling to remain out of bankruptcy, giant CIT Group has filed for protection on Sunday, November 1st. This bankruptcy follows those of Lehman Brothers, Washington Mutual, WorldCom and General

Motors.<sup>91</sup> Should this be the spark that ignites a larger crisis, or should any of the other threats described above be of a magnitude large enough to affect the current security arrangements with Japan, Japan will be forced to make some hard decisions.

In closing, it may be fitting in this age of dying mainstream news media to quote from the popular Internet writer, James Howard Kunstler. His prose, though overheated, is worth a serious reading, for if he is only half right, a shake-up in the world order is not inconceivable:

I've been making [the case about Goldman Sachs abuses] in this column for two years now, so it is interesting to see the mainstream media awaken to a story-line that an ambitious nine-year-old could have pulled off the Web over recent months. I also continue to assert that a flurry of bonuses paid out this holiday season by Goldman Sachs and its other amigos at the top of the banking food chain will be greeted by violence — which will be the natural outcome of a society whose government fails to even give the appearance of protecting its citizens from organized crime. How did a sock puppet get appointed head of the US Department of Justice, folks will wonder.

How bad is the situation 'out there' really? In my view, things are veering toward such extreme desperation that the US government might fall under the sway, by extra-electoral means, of an ambitious military officer, or a group of such, sometime in the near future. I'm not promoting a coup d'état, you understand, but I am raising it as a realistic possibility as elected officials prove utterly unwilling to cope with a mounting crisis of capital and resources. The 'corn-pone Hitler' scenario is still another possibility — Glen Beck and Sarah Palin vying for the hearts and minds of the morons who want 'to keep gubmint out of Medicare!' — but I suspect that there is a growing cadre of concerned officers around the Pentagon

who will not brook that fucking nonsense for a Crystal City minute and, what's more, would be very impatient to begin correcting the many fiascos currently blowing the nation apart from within. Remember, today's US military elite is battle-hardened after eight years of war in Asia. No doubt they love their country, as Julius Caesar and Napoleon Bonaparte loved theirs. It may pain them to stand by and watch it dissolve like a castle made of sugar in a winter gale.

I raise this possibility because no one else has, and I think we ought to be aware that all kinds of strange outcomes are possible in a society under severe stress. History is a harsh mistress. For all his 'star quality' and likable personality, President Obama is increasingly perceived as impotent where the real ongoing disasters of public life are concerned, and he has made the tragic choice to appear to be hostage to the bankers who are systematically draining the life-blood from the middle class. Whatever we are seeing on the S & P ticker these days does not register the agony of ordinary people losing everything they worked for and even believed in. In a leadership vacuum, centers don't hold, things come apart, and rough beasts slouch toward Wall Street.<sup>92</sup>

## Notes

1. [http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/12/business/global/12trade.html?\\_r=1&scp=4&sq=katsuya%20okada&st=cse](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/12/business/global/12trade.html?_r=1&scp=4&sq=katsuya%20okada&st=cse).
2. James Petras, *Global Depression and Regional Wars* (Atlanta: Clarity Press, 2009), 16, and <http://lahaine.org/petras/articulo.php?p=1775&more=1&c=1>.
3. "US Joins Ranks Of Failed States," October 20, 2009, [http://vdare.com/roberts/091020\\_failed\\_states.htm](http://vdare.com/roberts/091020_failed_states.htm).
4. Patrick Buchanan, "Middle Americans Alienated & Radicalized," October 19, 2009, [http://vdare.com/buchanan/091019\\_alienated.htm](http://vdare.com/buchanan/091019_alienated.htm).
5. "Asia's Biggest Economies Promise Greater Cooperation," *The New*



- York Times*, October 11, 2009, [http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/12/business/global/12trade.html?\\_r=1&scp=4&sq=katsuya%20okada&st=cse](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/12/business/global/12trade.html?_r=1&scp=4&sq=katsuya%20okada&st=cse).
6. [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2009-09/16/content\\_8700192.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2009-09/16/content_8700192.htm).
  7. <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nb20090926a3.html>.
  8. *The New York Times* reported that “Japan plays host to about 47,000 U.S. military personnel, a large proportion of them on Okinawa, and those living near bases often complain of noise, pollution, crime and accidents. Tokyo and Washington had agreed to reduce the burden on Okinawa by moving a U.S. Marine air base to a less crowded area and shifting up to 8,000 Marines to Guam, but Hatoyama has said he wants the base moved off the island and would review the plan.” <http://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2009/10/13/us/politics/politics-us-japan-usa.html?scp=1&sq=katsuya%20okada%20independent&st=cse>.
  9. Linda Sieg, “Futenma coming to define thorn in the side of U.S.-Japan relations,” *The Japan Times*, October 29, 2009, p.3.
  10. Satoshi Ogawa, “Concern mounting in Washington over Obama’s Japan visit,” *The Daily Yomiuri*, Nov. 2, 2009, p.1.
  11. For a current assessment of these related topics, see Takashi Shiraishi, “Japan-U.S. ties crucial for E. Asia,” *The Daily Yomiuri*, Nov. 1, 2009, p. 4. Here Shiraishi, a former professor at Cornell University and now president of the Institute of Developing Economies of the Japan External Trade Organization, dissects the competing power claims of players in East Asia. First, he dismisses Hatoyama’s recent statements on creating an East Asian community by pointing to the “poverty of language” associated with discussing diplomatic matters. Countries are not individuals, but language forces the use of such mental constructs.
  12. Paul Kennedy, *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers: Economic Change and Military Conflict from 1500 to 2000* (New York: Random House, 1987), 515.
  13. Matt Taibbi, “The Great American Bubble Machine,” *Rolling Stone*, [http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/story/28816321/inside\\_the\\_great\\_american\\_bubble\\_machine](http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/story/28816321/inside_the_great_american_bubble_machine).
  14. *Capital: A Critique of Political Economy, Vol.I. The Process of Capi-*

*talist Production*, III. X. 7.

15. Francis Fukuyama's *The End of History and the Last Man* (New York: Free Press, 1992) is the prime example of this line of thinking.
16. Writers bearish on Japan include Bill Emmott, author of *The Sun Also Sets: The Limits to Japan's Economic Power* (New York: Crown, 1989). His predictions appeared superficially to be borne out and serve as what became the conventional wisdom on Japan's economy in the 1990s.
17. See, for example, Matt Taibbi, "The Great American Bubble Machine"; James Petras, *Global Depression and Regional Wars*; and Eamonn Fingleton, "The Complaisant Watchdog: The Press and the Madoff Scandal. The *Wall Street Journal* and the *New York Times* slept while Bernie Madoff swindled," <http://www.unsustainable.org/index.asp?type=article&contentID=45>.
18. Kennedy, 515.
19. Kennedy, xv.
20. Ezra F. Vogel, *Japan As Number One: Lessons for America* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1979).
21. Reischauer has an extensive oeuvre of books on Japan. *Japan: The Story of a Nation* (New York: Knopf, 1991) is representative.
22. Chalmers Johnson, *MITI and the Japanese Miracle* (Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA, 1982).
23. Clyde Prestowitz, *Trading Places: How We Allowed Japan to Take the Lead* (Basic Books, New York, 1988); and Karel van Wolferen, *The Enigma of Japanese Power* (Macmillan Limited, London, 1989). I examined the works of the Revisionists in my 1993 Cornell University master's thesis "Understanding Japan's Frictions with the World, Including Cultural and Psychological Factors." Prestowitz has a new book on economic issues due next year: *The Great Betrayal: Learning to Speak Euro and Yuan in the Coming Post-Dollar World* (New York: Free Press, 2010). Recommend further reading includes Eamonn Fingleton, *Blind-side: Why Japan is Still on Track to Overtake the U.S. by the Year 2000* (New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1995; Tokyo: Kodansha International LTD., 1997); and two books by Harvard Ph. D. Ivan P. Hall: *Cartels of the Mind* (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1998) and *Bamboozled!*

- How America Loses the Intellectual Game with Japan and Its Implications for Our Future in Asia* (New York: M. E. Sharpe, Inc., 2002).
24. Michael Crichton, *Rising Sun* (New York: Knopf, 1992).
25. See in particular two books by Eamonn Fingleton: *In Praise of Hard Industries: Why Manufacturing, Not the Information Economy, Is the key to Future Prosperity* (New York: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1999) and *In the Jaws of the Dragon: America's Fate in the Coming Era of Chinese Dominance* (New York: Thomas Dunne Books, 2008).
26. Paul Craig Roberts, "Are You Ready for the Next Crisis?" October 25, 2009, [http://vdare.com/roberts/091025\\_next\\_crisis.htm](http://vdare.com/roberts/091025_next_crisis.htm).
27. [http://www.vdare.com/roberts/091005\\_marx\\_and\\_lenin.htm](http://www.vdare.com/roberts/091005_marx_and_lenin.htm).
28. "US Joins Ranks Of Failed States," October 20, 2009, [http://vdare.com/roberts/091020\\_failed\\_states.htm](http://vdare.com/roberts/091020_failed_states.htm). Here he notes "The regulatory agencies have been corrupted by private interests. Frontline reports that Alan Greenspan, Robert Rubin, and Larry Summers blocked Brooksley Born, the head of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission from regulating derivatives. President Obama rewarded Larry Summers for his idiocy by appointing him Director of the National Economic Council. What this means is that profits for Wall Street will continue to be leeches from the diminishing blood supply of the American economy."
29. Ron Paul, "Be Prepared for the Worst," *Forbes Magazine*, November 16, 2009, <http://www.forbes.com/forbes/2009/1116/opinions-great-depression-economy-on-my-mind.html>.
30. <http://www.richardccook.com/2009/10/12/thomas-grecos-the-end-of-money-and-the-future-of-civilization-a-review-by-richard-c-cook/>.
31. Pam Martens, "The Next Financial Crisis Hits Wall Street, as Judges Start Nixing Foreclosures," October 21, 2009, <http://www.counterpunch.org/martens10212009.html>.
32. Paul Craig Roberts, "The Rich Have Stolen the Economy," October 15, 2009, [http://vdare.com/roberts/091015\\_economy.htm](http://vdare.com/roberts/091015_economy.htm).
33. Petras, *Global Depression*, 16-17.
34. James Petras, *The Power of Israel in the United States* (Atlanta: Clarity Press, 2006); *Rulers and Ruled in the US Empire: Bankers, Zionists and Militants* (Atlanta: Clarity Press, 2007); and *Zionism, Milita-*

- alism, and the Decline of U.S. Power* (Atlanta: Clarity Press, 2008).
35. *The Daily Yomiuri*, October 18, 2009, p.1.
36. <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123051100709638419.html>.
37. Robert Fisk, "The demise of the dollar," *The Independent*, October 6, 2009, <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/news/the-demise-of-the-dollar-1798175.html>.
38. Paul Joseph Watson, "Ex-Wall Street Journal Editor: Dollar Collapse Will Cripple European Economy — Former Assistant Secretary of the Treasury says world economy could return to barter system," *Prison Planet*, November 9, 2007, [http://www.propagandamatrix.com/articles/november2007/091107\\_european\\_economy.htm](http://www.propagandamatrix.com/articles/november2007/091107_european_economy.htm).
39. Kennedy, 535.
40. Clyde Prestowitz, *Rogue Nation: American Unilateralism and the Failure of Good Intentions* (New York: Basic Books, 2003).
41. Chalmers Johnson, *Blowback: The Costs and Consequences of American Empire* (New York: Metropolitan Books, 2000); *The Sorrows of Empire: Militarism, Secrecy, and the End of the Republic* (New York: Metropolitan Books, 2004); and *Nemesis: The Last Days of the American Republic* (New York: Metropolitan Books, 2007).
42. Chalmers Johnson, "Republic or Empire: A National Intelligence Estimate on the United States," *Harper's Magazine*, January 2007, <http://www.harpers.org/archive/2007/01/0081346>.
43. James Petras, "'Global Imbalances' versus Internal Inequalities (Understanding the World Economy)," October 13, 2009, <http://petras.lahaine.org/articulo.php?p=1790&more=1&c=1>.
44. [http://www.vdare.com/roberts/091027\\_iran.htm](http://www.vdare.com/roberts/091027_iran.htm). See also Jeff Poor, "Scary times ahead? Perhaps, if you take credence in what Rep. Ron Paul, R-Texas, says." When Paul was asked, "What happens when Israel strikes Iran or Iran has the earth rays and we know that they now have a nuclear weapon, what happens to our financial system at that point?" Paul answered that China "would become the world's financial heavy-weight and they were already making preparations to be the world's top dog." "I think the Chinese take over," Paul said. "If there's a real panic and oil shoots up to a couple of hundred bucks, the Chinese will dump

their dollars. Chinese are maneuvering for this. The more we threaten Iran, the stronger the Chinese influence gets because they're using the dollars that they have earned from us and saved, they have a trillion, and they are starting to buy up assets in Iran and build plants and get involved in their energy. So the whole thing is backfiring on us. We're getting ready to put tougher sanctions on the Iranians and that will make things that much worse. It won't help the dissidents in Iran. It's going to cost us a lot of money, and there will be a bombing and that will be a big, big event. I think it will crash the dollar is what I think it would do." <http://www.lewrockwell.com/paul/paul588.html>.

45. Roger Kimball, *Tenured Radicals* (New York: Harper & Row, 1990); *The Long March: How the Cultural Revolution of the 1960s Changed America* (San Francisco: Encounter Books, 2000); and *Experiments Against Reality: The Fate of Culture in the Postmodern Age* (Chicago: Ivan R. Dee, 2000).
46. Kimball, *The Long March*, 79–80.
47. Patrick Buchanan, *State of Emergency, The Third World Invasion and Conquest of America* (New York: Thomas Dunne Books, 2006), opening paragraph.
48. William Lind, "Who Stole Our Culture?" in Ted Baehr and Pat Boone, *The Culture-Wise Family: Upholding Christian Values in a Mass Media World* (Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 2007). A fuller account of the efforts of the Frankfurt School can be found in Kevin MacDonald, *The Culture of Critique: An Evolutionary Analysis of Jewish Involvement in Twentieth-Century Intellectual and Political Movements* (Westport, CT: Praeger, 1998).
49. Allan David Bloom, *The Closing of the American Mind* (New York: Simon Schuster Trade, 1987).
50. Alan Wolfe, *One Nation, After All* (New York: Viking, 1998).
51. Neil Postman, *Amusing Ourselves to Death: Public Discourse in the Age of Show Business* (New York: Viking Adult, 1985); Peter Strupp and Alan Dingman, *Fat, Dumb, and Ugly: The Decline of the Average American* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2004); and Morris Berman, *The Twilight of American Culture* (New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 2001).

52. Chuck Baldwin, "U.S. To Break Up Soon?" September 30, 2009, [http://christianexodus.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=148:us-to-break-up-soon-&catid=1](http://christianexodus.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=148:us-to-break-up-soon-&catid=1).
53. David Gardner, "A million march to US Capitol to protest against 'Obama the socialist'," *The Daily Mail*, September 14th September 2009.
54. Patrick Buchanan, "Middle Americans Alienated & Radicalized," October 19, 2009, [http://vdare.com/buchanan/091019\\_alienated.htm](http://vdare.com/buchanan/091019_alienated.htm).
55. Steve Sailer, "The Real Dropout Rate," [http://vdare.com/sailer/080101\\_dropout.htm](http://vdare.com/sailer/080101_dropout.htm).
56. Richard Herrnstein and Charles Murray, *The Bell Curve: Intelligence and Class Structure in American Life* (New York: The Free Press, 1994).
57. Some of the books which support the existence of human racial differences are Nicholas Wade, *Before the Dawn: Recovering the Lost History of Our Ancestors* (New York: Penguin Press, 2006); J. Philippe Rushton, *Race, Evolution, and Behavior: A Life-History Perspective* (New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers, 1995); and Michael Levin, *Why Race Matters: Race Differences and What They Mean* (Westport, CT: Praeger, 1997).
58. James Goldman, "Nisbett's new book," *The American Conservative*, September 2009.
59. Richard Lynn, *The Global Bell Curve: Race, IQ, and Inequality Worldwide* (Augusta, Georgia: Washington Summit Publishers, 2008); *Race Differences in Intelligence: An Evolutionary Analysis* (Augusta, Georgia: Washington Summit Publishers, 2006); and Tatu Vanhanen, *IQ and Global Inequality* (Augusta, GA: Washington Summit Publishers, 2006); and Tatu Vanhanen, *IQ and the Wealth of Nations* (Westport, CT: Praeger, 2002); *The Science of Human Diversity* (Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 2001); *Eugenics: A Reassessment* (Westport, CT: Praeger, 2001); *Dysgenics: Genetic Deterioration in Modern Populations* (Westport, CT: Praeger, 1996).
60. Jared Taylor, "In Praise of Homogeneity: The Japanese know how to run a country," *American Renaissance*, August 2007 <http://www.amren.com/ar/2007/08/index.html>. It should be noted that many of the authors listed here on race and IQ have found that East Asian IQ is higher than

that of whites. For instance, in *Race Differences in Intelligence*, Lynn concludes that “The median IQ of the studies is 105 and should be taken as the best estimate of the IQs of indigenous East Asians” (p.130). Rushton reaches a similar conclusion, including for those Asians raised outside Asia, though he notes the wide variation between verbal and visuospatial IQs (p.134). Levin is in the same camp (p.67), as are Herrnstein and Murray. These findings would tend to discredit the argument that Western IQ tests are biased in favor of whites.

61. Patrick J. Buchanan, *The Death of the West: How Dying Populations and Immigrant Invasions Imperil Our Country and Civilization* (New York: Thomas Dunne Books, 2001).
62. Patrick J. Buchanan, “Is America Coming Apart?” September 11, 2009, <http://buchanan.org/blog/is-america-coming-apart-2159>.
63. William Lind, “On War #307: Calling President Davis,” <http://www.d-n-i.net/dni/2009/06/17/on-war-307-calling-president-davis/>.
64. <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123051100709638419.html>.
65. George Michael, *The Enemy of My Enemy: The Alarming Convergence of Militant Islam And the Extreme Right* (University Press of Kansas, 2006); *Willis Carto and the American Far Right* (Gainesville, Fla.: University Press of Florida, 2008); and *Theology of Hate: A History of the World Church of the Creator* (Gainesville, Fla.: University Press of Florida, 2009). See also Robert S. Griffin, *The Fame of a Dead Man's Deeds: An Up-Close Portrait of White Nationalist William Pierce* (1st Books Library, 2001); Samuel Huntington, *Who Are We: The Challenges to America's National Identity* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2004); Leonard Zeskind, *Blood and Politics: The History of the White Nationalist Movement from the Margins to the Mainstream* (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2009); and Carol Swain, *The New White Nationalism in America: Its Challenge to Integration* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004).
66. <http://www.theoccidentalobserver.net/articles/MacDonald-Secession.html>.
67. <http://www.toqonline.com/2009/08/toward-the-white-republic/#comments>
68. Michael O'Meara, “Foundations of the Twenty-First Century,” *The*

- Occidental Quarterly online*, <http://www.toqonline.com/2009/10/foundations-of-the-twenty-first-century/#at>.
69. Greg Johnson, "Birth of a Nation," <http://www.toqonline.com/2009/09/the-birth-of-a-nation/>.
70. Harold A. Covington, *A Mighty Fortress* (New York: iUniverse, Inc., 2005).
71. "The Morality of Majority Rights and Interests," *The Occidental Observer*, September 6, 2009 <http://www.theoccidentalobserver.net/articles/MacDonald-Kennedy.html>.
72. Sam G. Dickson, "A Modest Proposal," from an address to the 2008 American Renaissance Conference, in Herndon, Virginia, on February 24, 2008, <http://www.toqonline.com/2009/09/a-modest-proposal/>.
73. Comment to *The Occidental Quarterly online*, <http://www.toqonline.com/2009/08/toward-the-white-republic/#comment-1091>.
74. <http://www.toqonline.com/2009/08/toward-the-white-republic/#comment-1157>.
75. Patrick J. Buchanan, "Is America Coming Apart?" September 11, 2009, <http://buchanan.org/blog/is-america-coming-apart-2159>. See also Thomas W. Chittum, *Civil War II: The Coming Breakup of America* (CreateSpace, 2009).
76. James Joseph Sanchez, "The Southeast Imperative?" <http://www.toqonline.com/2009/10/the-southeast-imperative/>.
77. Steve Oney, "The Leo Frank case isn't dead: The class warfare behind the story of his 1915 lynching keeps it tragically relevant," *The Los Angeles Times*, October 30, 2009, <http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/commentary/la-oe-oney30-2009oct30,0,684232.story>.
78. James Howard Kunstler, "Marching Toward Zombieland," October 19, 2009, <http://kunstler.com/blog/2009/10/marching-toward-zombieland.html>.
79. Kevin Macdonald, "Review of Thomas Wheatland's *The Frankfurt School in Exile*, Part II: The Critique of Mass Culture," October 28, 2009, <http://www.theoccidentalobserver.net/articles/MacDonald-WheatlandII.html>.
80. "US Joins Ranks Of Failed States," October 20, 2009, <http://vdare.com/>



- roberts/091020\_failed\_states.htm.
81. <http://www.richardccook.com/2009/10/12/thomas-grecos-the-end-of-money-and-the-future-of-civilization-a-review-by-richard-c-cook/>.
82. "JAL's losses to hit ¥500 billion in fiscal 2009," *The Daily Yomiuri*, October 23, 2009, p. 1.; and Terry Maxon, "Japan Airlines puts finance talks with American Airlines, Delta on hold," *The Dallas Morning News*, October 6, 2009, ([http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/bus/industries/airlines/stories/DN-JAL\\_06bus.ART.State.Edition1.3f6960c.html](http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/bus/industries/airlines/stories/DN-JAL_06bus.ART.State.Edition1.3f6960c.html)).
83. Jonathan R. Laing, "Is the sun really setting on Japan?," September 28, 2009, <http://www.people.hbs.edu/ahagiu/Is%20the%20sun%20setting%20on%20Japan%20Barrons%2009282009.pdf>.
84. Hall, *Bamboozled!* For another book with a similar take, see Eamonn Fingleton, *Blindside: Why Japan is Still on Track to Overtake the U.S. by the Year 2000*.
85. Patrick O'Brien, "Bamboozled! Blindsided!: Rare Western Skepticism Toward Japan's Recession," Hokkai Gakuen University, *Jinbun Ronshu*, No.23-24 (March 2003).
86. Hall, *Bamboozled*, 9.
87. Hall, *Bamboozled*, 11-17.
88. Hall, *Bamboozled*, xv-xvi.
89. Laing, "Is the sun really setting on Japan?"
90. Shiraishi, "Japan-U.S. ties crucial for E. Asia." Interestingly, Shiraishi takes the common Western globalist point of view in recommending Japan's actions. While the European Union and North America move toward integrated blocs, Japan should move forward with plans for an East Asian community. Ironically, this would introduce some of the very socially destabilizing (and possibly IQ-related) forces now plaguing the United States. Since integration with China and other Asian nations would "facilitate flows of people, goods, money and information," Japan would face some of the stresses of a multicultural society that the Anglosphere and some European nations have seen. To date, Japan has seemed reluctant to take such irreversible risks.
91. "U.S. lender CIT seeks bankruptcy protection," *The Daily Yomiuri*,

Nov. 3, 2009, p.1.

92. James Howard Kunstler, "Thinking the Unthinkable," November 2, 2009 <http://kunstler.com/blog/2009/11/thinking-the-unthinkable.html> # more.