

THE SICK MAN OF THE WORLD - USofA

The declining Ottoman Empire was labeled as 'the sick man of Europe', that the once-great power was crumbling.

By Paul S. Cutter

—Tsar Nicholas-I of Russia, 1853

Over the ages empires came and went, sometimes without a trace, other times it took decades and even centuries for a decrepit empire-builder to implode and disintegrate, or relapse to its original borders or portions there-off... The first largest empire in the world, the Persian Empire, lasted over two centuries, conquered by thereto insignificant Balkan nation-state, the Kingdom of Macedonia, let by its native son, Alexander the Great of the Argaed Dynasty (founded in 808 BC). With lightening speed the young warrior-king, with 30,000 infantry and 5,000 cavalry defeated the powerful Persian Achaemenid Empire (550-330 BC), which failed to defeat the miniscule invading military for of the Macedonian, in the final Battle of Gaugamela, October 1,331 BC, east of Mosul, modern day Iraq on the Tigris River, some 400 km (250 miles) northwest of Baghdad; announced his victory speech as the 'last battle in the history of civilization', even though we have fought 6,000 major battles ever since. Uncanny as it may sound, indeed, WesternCiv is still attempting to pacify the desert regions of ancient Persia, perhaps because Babylon of Old (Baghdad) and even the venerable Mesopotamian Valley holds historical magic for even the modern conquerors and empire-builders, out of step with high-tech modern times even though this Anglo-Saxon spear-head the high-tech WesternCiv drive, the present day United States of America and its Mother lode, United Kingdom; the barbarian lot still vying for planetary control, even though the wind is out of their imperial empire-building sail—the British since the fall of India (1949) and America just going through its doldrums of irreversible decline, having lost war after war since the end of World War-II à la the Ottoman Empire.

The Ottoman Empire (1299-1923), territorial remnants of it is modern day Turkey, was founded by the Turkish tribes under Osman Bey in north-western Anatolia, 1299. With the conquest of Constantinople by Mehmed-II in 1453, the Ottoman state was transformed into an empire to be reckoned with as much more advanced Western Europe would soon realize. The loss of Constantinople by WesternCiv was a pivotal event in the evolution of the barbarian Turkish statehood, since the victory of 1453 cemented its Eurasian presence, but never the nature, with the feudal, static and aggressive state religion ever more in power. Old Constantinople, the capital of the roman Empire-East, the Eastern Orthodox Byzantine Empire, remains one of the essential elements, with the tract of land along the Dardanelles bordering on Europe proper remaining pivotal for the acceptance of Muslim Turkey into the fold of modern Christian Western Europe. The barbarian Islamic empire reached its peak at 1590, covering parts of Asia, Europe and Africa. The reign of the long-lived Ottoman dynasty lasted for 623 years, from July 27, 1299 to November 1, 1923, when the monarchy in Turkey was abolished.

During the 16th and 17th centuries, in particular at the height of its power under the reign of Suleiman the Magnificent, the Ottoman Empire was one of the most powerful states in the world – a multinational, multilingual empire that stretched from the southern borders of the Holy Roman Empire on the outskirts of Vienna (which was besieged in 1529), Royal Hungary, modern Slovakia and the Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth in the north and on to Yemen and Eritrea in the south; from Algeria in the west to Azerbaijan in the east; controlling much of southeast Europe, Western Asia and North Africa.

At the beginning of the 17th century the empire contained 32 provinces and numerous vassal states, some of which were later absorbed into the empire, while others were granted various types of autonomy during the course of centuries. With Constantinople as its capital and vast control of lands around the Mediterranean basin, the empire was at the center of interactions between the Eastern and Western worlds for over six centuries.

After the international recognition of the new Turkish parliament headquartered in Ankara, by means of the Treaty of Lausanne signed on July 24, 1923, the Turkish parliament proclaimed on October 29, 1923 the establishment of the Republic of Turkey as the continuing state of the defunct Ottoman Empire, in line with the treaty. The Ottoman Caliphate was abolished on March 3,

1924; the Caliphate's authority and properties were transferred to the Grand National Assembly of Turkey.

Fig. 1. Caricature from *Punch Magazine*, dated November 28, 1896. It shows Sultan Abdul Hamid-II in front of a poster which announces the reorganization of the Ottoman Empire. The empire's value is estimated at 5 million pounds. Russia, France and England are listed as the directors of the reorganization. The Sultan says:

"BISMILLAH! [For God's sake!] Make me into a limited company? M'M - AH - S'pose [I suppose] they'll allow me to join the board after allotment." The caricature refers to the weakness of the Ottoman Empire at the time.

The phrase "sick man of Europe" is commonly attributed to Tsar Nicholas-I of Russia (1853), referring to the Ottoman Empire, because it was increasingly falling under the financial control of the European powers and had lost territory in a series of disastrous wars, akin to America, eg. losing the Korean War in 1895-98, i.e. North Korea went communist; the fateful war in Indochina, the loss of Vietnam to the Vietcong communists in 1975; losing the war in Iraq, First Gulf War, 1991, and about to lose the second war, 2003-2012, with the departure of American armed forces from Afghanistan in 2014; both countries now anti-American, still fighting against the 'illegal conquest' reverting to Islamic fundamentalism, whatever title is assigned to their political ideology, be it Islamic Republicanism of Iran, but the physiognomy and fate of the Middle East shall change drastically, no question about it for many of us close-in observers. The rephrasing of the title to **Sick Man of the World** was added by this writer, -PSC.



"TURKEY LIMITED"

SULTAN—"BISMILLAH! Make me into a limited company? M'M - AH - S'pose they'll allow me to join the board after allotment."

—Punch (London), Nov. 28, 1896

The rise of America on the world stage basically started in 1898 in the Spanish-American War in the Pacific Basin over the Philippines, which were wrestled away from Spain and Japan falling under the American protective umbrella, which reached out from the Caribbean through the Pacific maze of islands all the way to Guam, in the face-off with Russia and China... Already the French fortunes began to wane with the abandonment of the Panama Canal, picked up by the United State in 1904, finished within a decade's time (1914). The real test of rising American imperial prowess was tested in World War-I, when Pres. Woodrow Wilson was chosen to preside over the Versailles Conference of 1918, deciding the fortunes of that war, with America becoming world sociopolitical, economic, financial and military power of significance; promoting the first World Order, the League of Nations; then backing out in its support in the 1930's, for the next world war, which would give it the overwhelming override, at the Yalta, Teheran and Potsdam conferences. The fate of the world was sealed, run by the two-century old prairie nation-state, incompetent, horizontal, and overtly aggressive, intent on catching up with the history of the older empire builders!

Off course, Russia took the real brunt of Nazi Germany military power on the Eastern Front, with 14 German Armies fighting in the East, with only 3 field armies engaged on the Western Front, which basically started with ground forces on June 6, 1944, the landing of Allied forces on the beaches of Normandy; with the exception of the North African campaign, American Forces landing in North Africa (Libya, November 8, 1942), and in Anzio (Italy, January 22, 1944). The mechanized high-tech desert war was fought out in the shifting desert sands of North Africa, with UK's General Bernard Montgomery and Nazi General Erwin Romel, lost by the Germans in the famous battle of El Alamein, November 4, 1942.

Prof. Cutter is an American political scientist (ret.), senior expert in Strategic Studies, who writes profusely and critically of East-West pathos, Conflict & Resolution, hegemony, globalization, and civilization decline; he lives with his native Russian wife (artist) between Russia and Montenegro, Europe, while maintaining Stateside interests.



Fig. 2. Officer Corps, German Armies-Eastern Front, 1941-45.

In other words, the German armed forces lost that prong, which was to interface with Friedrich von Paulus' Forces coming through Stalingrad in the Caucasus, linking with Romel on the Caspian Sea, to resolve the urgent petroleum glut of German Armies-East, which would have been solved, as planned, with capturing the Iranian fossil fuel riches. However, the plans of mice and men often falter, when the bite is too big, i.e. even the high-tech Nazi Germany Command could not service a 4,000 km long

north-south front faced by the motivated Russian forces to contain the enemy rushing in from Western Europe. Obviously, Hitler had learned nothing from Napoleon, which should have taught the Western Goth not to touch the Untouchable Russian Urals in the south, or even less the Central European plateau in front of Moscow, the historical capital of Russia.

America, the economic powerhouse of the 20th century emerged stronger from the pit-falls of the Great Depression, energized by the military technological requirements met in World War-I, especially from WW-II with 16 million Americans in uniform. Raping the Third Reich's high-tech prowess, it emerged out of that world war and the ensuing Cold War conflict with America as the single most powerful nation on Earth in 1991. However, the post-World War-II period had been laced with sociopolitical and cultural decay, structural weaknesses and reliance on finance; after 9/11 sending the once vital nation and worldwide leadership into bankruptcy, because of internal contradictions and aggressive foreign policy, including the Hot War in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and still engaged in Afghanistan; with warfare as the only economic method of revenue, with no major war in prospect, which would raise that kind of funding as garnished during the 1941-45 all-out planetary conflict. The worldwide meridians had come of age, 30 countries having a higher standard of living than Stateside America, with security matters resolved by the World Organization (UN), or models of governance such as that of the European Union.

Remembering World-I and World War-II, the continent of Europe rent with seething hate between 'certain' nations, now boasting an amalgam of 27 nations in the EU, not only without borders between the warring major nations, but drafting into its fold the much smaller Western and Eastern European nations as members, already serving as a possible model for similar Asian, African and South American enclaves of nations, which in time the amalgam can form a real genuine world government at large, putting a final end to conflict, warfare and discontent within the commonwealth of nations:

As I have written in the past, if Pres. Obama decides to close the Guantanamo Prison, and officially cancels the WAR on TERROR; then there's a good chance that no other conflict is in the making, thereby abrogating the hereto position of Washington for conducting permanent warfare in order to change the world in our image! Then, it's about time for the Anglo-Saxon elite west of the La Manche Channel to join the World Commonwealth of Nations on an equal basis, abandoning their perennial practice of *conflict & resolution* conducted around the world, taxiing the rest of civil and civilized society at large with the American excesses of dominance, hegemony, globalization and dominance, thereby canceling the charge of *The Sick Man of the World!* We have a chance then to turn this century into that final Nirvana of mankind by becoming the space-faring society, populating the nearby Cosmos, which is our destiny!

Fig. 3. Russian communist flag unfurl-led over the Reichstag in Berlin, May 9, 1945.



The comparison between Turkey and the United States is obvious: overextension of resources – loss of men & materiel - have pauperized the federal treasury and the American population, with 62 million Americans with-out a roof over their heads, and 40 million unemployed. Listing only the 9 million unemployed at anyone time, which does not include those that have been on unemployment for 6 months, receiving unemployment checks, thereafter left to fend on their own; many living in bomb shelters, tents and under bridges of the metropolitan cities such as New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Omaha, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Mitt Romney, the GOP presidential candidate spoke of 23 million unemployed, but the tally by the close-in observers is now well over 40 million unemployed and destitute Americans. And, there's no end in sight, which came to a head in the 2008 financial meltdown caused by the Washington ruling elite and Wall Street financial nincompoops: with no light at the end of the tunnel, of course, further exacerbated by high-tech replacing the labor force, especially the un-skilled millions, and generally disaffected by the slowdown in the world-wide economic woes since the 2008 financial debacle. Albeit it is not an easy problem to resolve, with obvious disarmament emerging under its own steam, the *conflict & resolution* economies of the major powers no longer producing military equipment, thereby the military-industrial complex and its labor force facing the increasingly untenable situation evermore difficult to solve,

how, where and when to create new industries to hire the pauperized population.



Fig. 4. June 6, 1944, the Normandy Beach landing of Allied troops; the 11-month war against Nazi Germany, occupying all of Europe to the “XXX” perimeter of Moscow, signaled the real first heavy-handed involvement of American troops on the continent proper: During WW-II 16 million Americans served in the United States military, including the war on Japan, 190,000 were killed in action and 670,000 wounded. The brunt of the war against Nazi Germany was carried out by the Russians from June 22, 1941 - May 9, 1945, with over 10 million fighting men dying on the German front, and over 15 million civilian casualties.

Consequently, the United States and its Mother Lode – United Kingdom – must come of age sooner than later abrogating the hereto contradiction in terms: behaviorally harbor-

ing democracy at home (whatever the form & content), while conducting warfare abroad for profit and dominance, indeed, the policeman of the world, exploiting the weak and meek across the planetary meridians. Conducting joint military exercises for two months in South Korea, of course, provoked the nuclear verbal warfare from communist North Korea, hence the U.S. search for support from the once arch-enemy, Red China, to pacify Pyongyang. It would have behooved Washington more to police the home front (Boston), instead of those sensitive military maneuvers

Moreover, with the emerging new world order, the *Multipolar World*, a compendium of seven Regional Powers, including Russia, China, India, European Union, Japan, Brazil and the United States of America, there are no more super powers. In other words, as the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sergey Lavrov, recently said: “They can’t do anything without us,” meaning America, only confirms the “sick man of the world” lampoon so labeling diminished U.S. power.

Ich bin ein Berliner!

“All free men, wherever they may live, are citizens of Berlin, and therefore, as a free man, I take pride in the words, 'Ich bin ein Berliner' ”



Fig. 5. President John F. Kennedy's famous Speech of June 26, 1963, in which he said in German:

I'm a Berliner!

It was the *de facto* fall of the Berlin Wall, dividing East with West Germany, and unification of the country much later, taking it finally down in the East European revolution, November 1989, as communism was dismantled on the continent, including Russia on August 19, 1991. I was there to witness the bloodless revolt in Moscow, arriving with my future wife from Kamchatka two days later...

No one can deny the achievements of America in foreign aid and combat helping foreign nations to establish or regain democracy. But to administer it with force - air, naval and ground forces! In the postwar-II period, what bothers us more politicized populace is that official Washington went on to conduct 'illegitimate' warfare abroad "for profit," and dominance of worldwide meridians; hence, the "sick man of the world" charge so declared here in this modest critique, though I have been much more vociferous elsewhere, with a very good reason, when We Americans today can create on a whim - 3 million refugees in Iraq, kill 800,000 civilians in the second carnage, the 2003-2012 conflict. Back in the First Gulf War of 1991, over 400,000 children were lost to bombing raids and lack of baby food... I don't think one JFK would have conducted that War, maybe even not the Vietnam War, though I hate to admit it, he might've started it back in 1961 by sending in the Special Forces Adviser Corps to assist the South Vietnamese fighting the VC, etc.

But to flush all that effort, profile and image gained, the American investment in two World Wars, with the Cold War exercise from 1947-1991, and all those senseless conflicts in-between, including the bloody hot war battles in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and still the ongoing bloody mess in Afghanistan is beyond my comprehension at least, even though I'm not alone... Why use cheap tricks such as the Gulf of Tonkin incident to start the bloody war in Vietnam, which cost our country 65,000 fighting men and some 300,000 wounded? And, then, shamelessly lose that war - for a major power?! Why the Iraq *coup d' grace* over WMD, when Saddam Hussein didn't even have a slingshot? And, if we lost 3,000 lives in New York and Washington, why dismantle Afghanistan, when those people were Saudis - 16 out of 19 pilots in the **9/11 putsch** were Saudi kids? Afghanistan was less of host for Al Qaeda then we were for the Chechen avalanche of Stateside immigrants, receiving citizenships, stipends and jobs all over the country—that we don't even know now where some of them are before they hit us again? I know why - it was to show off those bad Russians to the world, who kick the Chechens in the guts for their ingrained aggression and Oriental mindset, wanting something which is not theirs - foreign land, and independence in a country which has hosted them ever since the 13th century Genghis Khan's conquests., and fought off their in-grained, aggressive behavior, under tsarism, Stalinism and democracy. How do you donate national land which has been your territory for millennia? We in America would never give them, eg. the state of Massachusetts to own and raise baby terrorists Asian style within our very own borders - right?!

Pres. Ronald Regan visiting the Brandenburg Gate on the border of East Germany, the Berlin Wall ran through its threshold, his message to the head of the Soviet Union: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!" June 12, 1987... The infamous wall went down in November 1989, the demarcation line itself dividing Eastern Germans from their Western brethren. Now, I have a similar message for President Barack Obama:

"Mr. Obama, cancel the War on Terror!" There will never be another Cold War to fatten the Federal Budgets, especially the DoD and its military-industrial complex financial glut, even if the American public could bear the cost?! "Remove the 865 military bases from abroad and most of the 4,000 corporations manufacturing their goods abroad!" The terrorists should furl-in their "Blowback" or revenge banners, so that civilization at large can enjoy peace and tranquility among nations. In other words, democracy abroad cannot be prosecuted by hook and crook—rather we sow the seed of freedom, and then let it germinate on foreign soil where it might...If somebody attacks from without we can strike back, instead of fighting terrorism within which is alien to our soil and mentality. Let's admit it—it was created by the ruling elite with its aggressive behavior abroad, reaping the fruit of terror we have sown to subjugate and exploit foreign nations and their god-given natural resources! Then *revenge* will cease to exist, as the late prof. Chalmers Johnson taught in his *Blowback* series of volumes (the 4th one, insisting to dismantle the foreign empire before it's too late)!

However, the decline and fall of the American empire is a foregone conclusion: The economic powerhouse of the 20th century emerged stronger than ever from the Great Depression. But the fortunes of World War-II and national commitment to wartime economy brought the country out of the slump, the conditions which cannot be recreated in the beginning of the 21st century of modern man. Moreover, since WW-II America has been faced with sociopolitical and cultural decay, structural weaknesses and reliance on shaky financial constructions sending the once vital nation and worldwide leadership into steep decline, because of its internal contradictions and aggressive foreign policy, with warfare as the only economic method of making profit!

On the domestic front, the assumption by many that the problems of fiscal cliffs, unemployment and robust foreign policy of warfare can be easily solved because the U.S. is still the biggest economy on the planet, liquidity of loans and treasury float conquerable, the still strong currency, and a proud nation on record of re-inventing itself once in every generation or so just cannot falter, etc., etc., etc.

But let me posit an alternative hypothesis. America in 2013 is Rome in 200 AD or Britain on the eve of the First World War: an empire at the zenith of its power but with cracks beginning to show the size of the Grand Canyon on a large military War Room map, with Los Vegas just on the other side of the ridge, a den of social inequity, gambling, and debauchery...

The experience of both Rome and Britain suggests that it is hard to stop the rot once it has set in, so here are a few warning signs of trouble ahead: military overstretch, a widening gulf between rich and poor, a hollowed-out economy, citizens using debt to live beyond their means, and once-effective policies no longer working. The high levels of violent crime, epidemic of obesity, addiction to pornography and excessive use of energy may be telling us something: the US is in an advanced state of cultural decadence.

Imagine, 865 foreign military bases deployed abroad and over 4,000 multinational corporations makes "the sick man of the world" impotent and unable to handle its financial and domestic social problems much less to run the world at large—its relatively progressive civil society is sick and tired of America meddling in foreign affairs, when it can't handle its own society, balance budgets and stave social unrest, confirmed by the inability to even promulgate reasonable domestic gun control policy, without affecting the constitutional articles of a "right to bear arms," much less to supervise the peace of the world.

To acculturate a race of people, especially a breed of Asian Oriental Barbarians, the Goths, it takes longer than 1500 years, from the time the same Barbarian lot destroyed Rome (AD476). It's been just 237 years since the formation of our Yankee nation-state at the Continental Congress in AD1775, but there's no peace or tranquility in the interstices of Manifest Destiny Doctrine of 1845; we Americans cannot rest nor the world at large secure peace with the Goth perpetrating perennial warfare from the slippery banks of the Hudson & Potomac and Thames rivers? Incredibly, the Swiss of the same barbarian breed did it successfully among four warring tribes with their mini nation-state four centuries ago, and even the robust Swedes up in Scandinavia stopped their warfare in the early 19th century, the neutrality a real benchmark in continental modern history, while the other nations remained at war until 1945. It was the progressive concept of the European Union amalgam to pacify, eg. the French and Germans, historically the arch-enemies, who were at each others throat in conflict and warfare until 1945, with the Union now boasting a membership of give or take 27 peaceful states, piecemeal drafting others as they qualify... Even the famous ancient nation states such as Egypt and Iraq (Babylonia), after five millennia of initial statehood, are besieged by foreign conquerors. Indeed, the WesternCiv progeny, still in diapers relatively speaking, recently literally steamrolled over the venerable Mesopotamian Valley in the 2nd Gulf War of 2003, to garnish free petroleum, not to establish democracy. And the same goes for Libya, the NATO overdrive had oil & blood spilled all over its democratic Initiative in bombing Col. Ghadaffi (literally to death) and prosecuting the no-flight zone over that beleaguered Islamic nation. Why didn't they save Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, the Emirates and other troubled spots around the world from despots, the feudal Islamic religion of the Jihad legacy, and other ills facing various races vying for democracy? The answer is very simple—it takes not much astuteness to

realize the truth: those nations had nothing to offer in return, but for Saudi Arabia and some Emirates, no raw materials or fossil fuels, but for unskilled labor, which is available galore around the planetary meridians. Unfortunately, as we head-on into the doldrums of the 21st century altruism is not one of our virtues!

Fig. 6. Sultan Abdul Hamid-II of Turkey (enlarged version), standing before a poster of the *Punch* magazine (London), November 28, 1896, displaying the “sick man of Europe” cliché by the powers that be on the continent, i.e. the major powers, what they thought of the decaying Ottoman Empire.

Fig. 7. As a “sick man of the world,” we are all trying to get something for nothing. We accept food stamps, out of time limit welfare, housing subsidies, and a plethora of like programs as our right, not at all the generosity of our fellow Americans, but as something we deserve by right of having parents that did not believe in abortion...

I suppose, Europe will now have to move to a free market economy or just break up and accept Third World status...



The bald eagle is in real trouble, already growing coarse, curly hair on his head for broken promises over the hurricane Sandy Storm just before the presidential election.

Obama did nothing about the (in)famous hurricane on the East Coast but the media gave him full marks while the Black Prez gave out medals to the weather man for Unconventional Warfare (HAARP – the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Programs), flashing just the right signals and sowing ‘certain’ chemicals in the ionosphere of the Eastern skies to create the hurricane, four days before the crucial election, to make sure the conservative Eastern metropolis’ voter never got to the polls...This, from a man who took the Nobel Prize just for being elected, and then broke all his campaign promises...

Moreover, he’s not very smart, despite the Harvard diploma; I guess Ms Alfaro was right... The end is near, because we’re just at the spot in geopolitics and survivability where Turkey was at the end of the 19th century; we’re still in charge we think of worldwide meridians, but the vital signs of the patient are worse by the day, i.e. America is infected with a terminal disease of decline, hence the *Sick Man of the World* charge!

Still alone, still at sea
Still there’s no one to care for me? - Lorenz Hart, 1929

The mortality scale is biting at our heels as we jump in the boat, row and pitch helplessly alone in the sinking Noah’s Arch, with nowhere to go, much less our Allies, who have been betrayed, because we lack in vision, wisdom and morality! –psc



"TURKEY LIMITED"
SULTAN—“BISMILLAH! Make me into a limited company? M’M - AH - S’pose they’ll allow me to join the board after allotment.”

—*Punch* (London), Nov. 28, 1896



Fig. 8. An array of German troops in typical filed fighting uniforms on the Russian Front, about 1943.



Fig. 9. General Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Allied Commander, addresses American paratroopers of the 101st Airborne Division on the evening of June 5th, prior to D-Day, June 6, 1944. The general is giving the Order of the Day: 'Full victory-nothing else' to American paratroopers in England, just before boarding their aircraft to participate in the first assault in the invasion of the continent of Europe. In fact, this was US Company E, 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment (Strike) of the 101st Airborne Division, photo taken at Greenham Common Airfield in England about 8:30 p.m. on June 5, 1944. The General was talking about fly fishing with his men as he always did before a stressful operation.

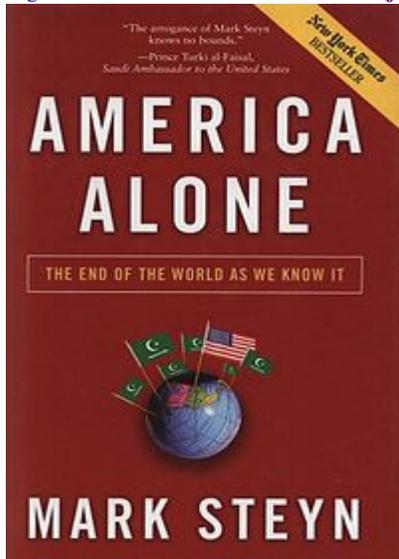
Some of these paratroopers died in the air drop of 10,000 men behind the enemy's lines of the Omaha Beach, which was a costly offensive for the American Forces to penetrate the stolid German Atlantic Wall of occupied France, pursuing the enemy formations all the way back to Berlin, marking the victory over Nazi Germany official on May 9, 1945. It was portrayed in the film *The Longest Day*, starring John Wayne, Henry Fonda, Richard Burton, Red Buttons, *et al.*

Back home Stateside, we never even heard of the May 9th victory over the Third Reich, celebrating only June 6, 1944, the D-Day landings on the beaches of Normandy; evidently, the officialdom fearing that the public would learn of the real victory over Germany by Russia, the country which took the real brunt of the 14 Nazi armies on its soil from 1941-45 versus only 3 German armies fighting the Allies on the Western front for only 11 months of the War. The exception, of course, was the North African campaign between Erwin Romel and George Patten mechanized units in North Africa, and Italy; the Anzio landing was ushered-in expediently when the USA leadership realized (during the three-month delay at Montecasino, how the Russians might take Berlin alone, of course, had it not been for George Patton's Corps.

Copyright©2013 by prof. Paul S. Cutter; all rights reserved, April 27th, Budva MNE. [re-edited May 1, 2013, -psc.]



Fig. 10. *America Alone: The End of the World as We Know It* (ISBN 0-89526-078-6) is a *New York Times* bestselling nonfiction book by Mark Steyn, published in 2006. It was recommended by George W. Bush to his staff.¹ Irwin Stelzer (March 12, 2007). "Reader of the Free World". *The Weekly Standard* magazine, Washington, DC USA.



Note: I'm not follower or a reader of The AMERICAN PHILOSOPHER.COM. I just thought the promoted volume might be worth reading, even though I have not read it *per se* nor am I in that mode, i.e. I'm much more critical, I would think, and a better analyst, but still the message is the same: We're in trouble, and very much Alone! Yet, Europe is not going to role over and die in the course of this 'troubled century'; to the contrary, it shall survive the Age tracing the first road to the stars, to a shiny Cosmic future of the Hominid! No "clash of civilizations," Saddam Hussein didn't even have a slingshot! I don't buy prof. Huntington's thesis! –psc.

The *America Alone* volume covers topics surrounding the global war on terror and centers on issues of demographics in Muslim and non-Muslim populations. Steyn argues, "much of what we loosely call the Western world (or my "WesternCiv") will not survive the twenty-first century, and much of it will effectively disappear within our lifetimes, including many if not most European

countries."² The declining populations in European countries coupled with both the increasingly high birth rates of Muslim countries and the increased Muslim immigration into European nations will, according to Steyn, lead to the end of modern European culture. The book's topics include:

- Chapter 1: The Coming of Age: Births vs. deaths
- Chapter 2: Going...Going...Gone: Demography vs. delusion
- Chapter 3: Men Are from Venus: Primary impulses vs. secondary impulses
- Chapter 4: Flying the Coop: Big Mo vs. Big Mac
- Chapter 5: The Anything They'll Believe In: Church vs. State
- Chapter 6: The Four Horsemen of the Eupocalypse: Eutopia vs. Eurabia
- Chapter 7: The State-of-the-Art Primitive: The known unknowns vs. the knowingly unknowing
- Chapter 8: The Unipole Apart: America vs. everyone else
- Chapter 9: The Importance of Being Exceptional: Citizens vs. dependents
- Chapter 10: The Falling Camel: Last legs

Steyn attributes the inevitable fall of the Western world to three factors: 1) Demographic decline, 2) The unsustainability of the advanced Western social-democratic state, and 3) Civilizational exhaustion. In terms of demographic decline, European nations have very low birth rates while Muslim nations have very high birth rates. This causes several problems for the European countries. First, the European countries will simply run out of Europeans to repopulate their countries, and second, a youthful population is more capable of inciting a revolution than an older population is capable of defending against one.

The Western social-democratic state exacerbates this problem. Responsibilities of normal adults have been slowly taken over by the state—care of the elderly, childcare, and most recently, health care and insurance. Steyn argues that these programs erode humanity's basic sense of self-reliance to a point at which a more resilient group of people—Muslims in this case—will take control. Steyn sums up the

problems of the previous two factors in a formula: "Age + Welfare = Disaster for you, Youth + Will = Disaster for whoever gets in your way." Beyond a demographic problem, Europe lacks the will to defend itself, leading to the third factor, civilizational exhaustion.

Nations become so focused on moral and cultural relativism—with "diversity" and "racism" as their new favorite words—that they are unable to see that their very existence is at stake. European nations have given up defending themselves and rely on America for their defense. Civilizational exhaustion goes beyond a lack of will to defend oneself and has manifested itself most visibly in its anti-Americanism. America has become the prime example of everything that is wrong with the world, and to each group looking to find fault, it is something different. To the Muslims, America symbolizes gay porn and immorality; to Europe, America is a radical Christian nation thinking only of Jesus and abortion.

America is viewed as a threat and an enemy, when it is in reality the most benign hegemon the world has ever seen. According to Steyn, America will be the last and only country—as all others will be taken over by Muslims—that will retain its sense of self-preservation, but this is not a given fact... America's enemies know that it ran from Vietnam and they hope that America will continue to flee when faced with a challenge.

Steyn's final argument is that an invasion from the Muslim world will not win in an outright attack, like flying planes into skyscrapers. In fact, an overt attack would be a bad strategy as it would invoke response from even the most flaccid nations. Europe will collapse from within: from wimpiness. If, rather than a physical attack, "you frame the issue in terms of multicultural 'sensitivity,' the wimp state will bend over backward to give you everything you want—including, eventually, the keys to those skyscrapers. Thus, during the Danish 'cartoon jihad' of 2006, Jack Straw, then British foreign secretary, hailed the 'sensitivity' of Fleet Street in not reprinting the offending representations of the Prophet,"³ who should have been kicked to Kingdom-Come (before the return to Medina in 622AD), but at the time the Arab Peninsula was bereft of knowledge, morality and responsible, decisive leadership!

Steyn begins with examples of doomsday scenarios that have allegedly not come to pass — he dismisses the danger of climate change, *The Population Bomb*, *The Limits to Growth*, nuclear winter, and points out Jimmy Carter's 1977 incorrect prediction that the world's oil would run out in the next decade. However, during this same time period, the population of the developed world declined from about 30% of world population to around 20%, while the population of Muslim nations increased from about 15% to 20%.⁴

Christopher Hitchens reviewed the book with praise, and describes it as "an admirably tough-minded book."⁵ Hitchens goes on in his review and states:

"Mark Steyn's book is essentially a challenge to the *bien-pensants* among us: an insistence that we recognize an extraordinary threat and thus the possible need for extraordinary responses. He need not pose as if he were the only one with the courage to think in this way.

- *The West's Last Chance: Will We Win the Clash of Civilizations?*
- *We Are Doomed: Reclaiming Conservative Pessimism*
- *The Death of the West*
- Eurabia
- Danish cartoon controversy, and
- Jack Straw."

Ft. Notes:

1. Irwin Stelzer (March 12, 2007). "Reader of the Free World". The Weekly Standard
2. Steyn, Mark. *America Alone: The End Of The World As We Know It*. Regnery Publishing, 2006, p. xiii.
3. Steyn, Mark. *America Alone: The End Of The World As We Know It*. Regnery Publishing, 2006, p. xxx.
4. Steyn, Mark. *America Alone: The End Of The World As We Know It*. Regnery Publishing, 2006, p. xiv.
5. Facing the Islamist Menace, Winter 2007.



www.profpaulcutter.com
sos_think_tank@t-com.me