

Greetings from Tyler,

The UN sponsored a Global Environment Forum in Incheon (South Korea) this week, with Secretary General Ban Ki-moon calling upon industrial nations to move more aggressively to combat climate change. "Climate change, as all previous speakers have already stated, is the fundamental threat to humankind." Pardon the interruption of the quote, but it would appear that nuclear weapons in the hands of radical terrorist sponsors might present a slightly more imminent threat. But let's continue with the Secretary General's statement.

"It (global warming) exacerbates all of the problems we face; poverty, disease, hunger and insecurity. It impedes progress toward the Millennium Development Goals. It deepens the food and energy crises... We have just four months. Four months to secure the future of our planet." (UN News Centre)

It seems that one could argue convincingly against every statement in the speech. After all, who is coming up with these arbitrary deadlines without logic? It is particularly difficult to understand how declaring vast energy resources off limits, while enshrining a complicated "carbon trading" system will secure us from inflated energy prices or make us "energy independent." But never mind. The U.S. is in no mood to argue with the UN, but rather intends to embrace UN policies and mandates according to official statements.

The Australian Senate just rejected proposed "cap and trade" legislation, but as Murray Allat writes in his update this week, plans to bring it back and try to push it through again within a matter of months. As you know, nearly identical legislation was already rushed through our U.S. House of Representatives, and awaits action by the Senate in the months ahead. It would enshrine government interference in every aspect of energy production and usage along with creating new bureaucracies and a tangle of red tape, and constitute yet more nails in the coffin of liberty.

As numerous reports confirm, Americans are finally beginning to realize that "saving the planet," saving the economy and other big government interventions might just destroy the American way of life.

It has become apparent that recognition of the obvious truth on any number of subjects to do with the massive changes being foisted upon our nation puts you on the wrong side of the mainstream media, and is perceived in the halls of power as "dangerous." Yes, the truth is dangerous!

While the UN was busy saving the planet, Iran was hosting a conference on how to hasten the reappearance of the Mahdi, the Islamic messiah. As readers are aware, Iran's president Ahmadinejad is a believer who claims that the world must be thrown into anarchy amid a world war scenario before the Mahdi reappears to rule the world according to Islamic law. This comes from a man who regularly calls for Israel's destruction and the defeat of the United States; who is at the helm of the world's largest

state sponsor of terrorism; a state that may command nuclear weapons in the near future. This very real scenario sounds almost as dangerous as global warming!

According to Debkafile, even Saudi Arabian leaders believe that U.S. sponsored “peace talks” between Israel and its neighbouring enemies should take a back seat to the immediate threat of Iran acquiring a nuclear bomb.

The Garner Ted Armstrong telecast this week brought in 497 requests with one hundred seventy two first time contacts. A new edition of 21st Century WATCH went to the printer this week, will go to the bindery Monday and should be in the mail mid-week. I can also report that response to our most recent letter is rolling in and appears to be as strong and encouraging as ever.

We travelled to Detroit for the scheduled meeting last Sabbath, and were pleased to have an absolutely packed house. Fifty four were reported in attendance, and thirteen were meeting with us for the first time. Mr. Gary Johnson organized the meeting and Dr. James Ricks was there as the anchor speaker. The crowd was most appreciative and all concerned judged the event a success.

Dr. Ricks underwent a successful hip procedure this week. I talked to him at length yesterday and can report that he is home, in very good spirits and confident that he’ll be good as new in the weeks ahead.

Now it’s time for all of us to pause from the pressures of the work week and enjoy a restful Sabbath.

Thank you all for your efforts in the field.

Mark Armstrong