



LEGACY INSTITUTE

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IN THIS LETTER:

WHAT'S COMING IN 2012

KAREN REFUGEES; ORGANIC VEGETABLES and WATER TANKS

NEW LEGACY BLOG

Dear Friends and Fellow Laborers,

This year will prove to be a decisive one for the direction of America. The land of my birth is now the biggest debtor nation on the planet. What once was the greatest economy and the most powerful nation is now headed toward being a second rate nation manipulated and controlled by others. The end is clear.

The U.S. national debt is now over 15 trillion dollars. Interest alone on that debt is over 414 billion dollars and counting. Can it be paid off? That will happen only if the United States is willing to bite the bullet and stop the spending.

Who are the foreign countries that own most of the U.S. debt? Here are the latest figures I have found as of December 2010—the top 10 starting with the lowest (all figures in Billions of U.S. Dollars):

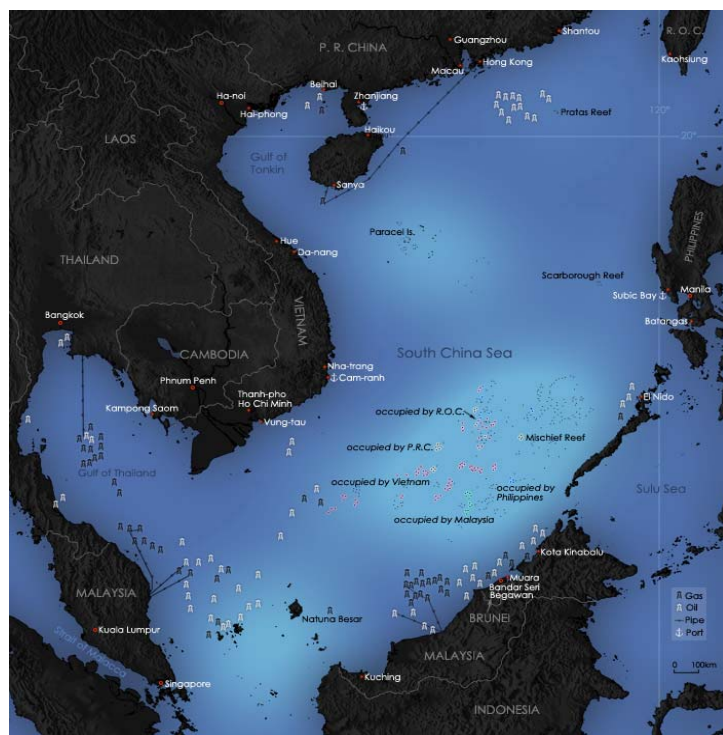
Switzerland	107
Hong Kong	134.2
Russia	151
Taiwan	155.1
Caribbean Banks	168.6
Brazil	186.1
Oil Exporters	211.9
UK	272.1
Japan	882.3
China	1160.1

Of course these debts have increased dramatically in 2011 because of the accumulating interest. Does anyone really think this money will ever be paid back? I doubt it very much! Will these astronomical debts be used as leverage to get the U.S. to do what the creditor nations want? Of course!

How many of these 10 nations are really friends? It is possible that three or maybe four could be named as friends. The number keeps dwindling as the world's political winds continue to shift. The U.S. owes more to China than any other country. Is China a friend? No. Presently China is flexing its political and economic muscles all over the world. The trade deficit between the U.S. and China over the past 2 years is shocking. Here are the figures for 2010 and 2011 (figures in millions of U.S. Dollars¹):

¹ Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

<u>U.S. TRADE WITH CHINA</u>	<u>EXPORTS TO CHINA</u>	<u>IMPORTS FROM CHINA</u>	<u>TRADE DEFICIT</u>
TOTAL 2011	84,235.4	329,685.1	-245,449.8
TOTAL 2010	91,880.6	364,943.9	-273,063.2



South China Sea. Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons²

China is now also flexing its military muscles as well. China has been increasingly building up the People's Liberation Army, including sea forces. Recently, China announced that its territorial waters extend far out into what the U.S. and other countries consider international waters of the South China Sea. China now claims almost all of the South China Sea, all the way to Malaysia, Indonesia and, the Philippines. It is important to note that this includes all the waters around Taiwan. Making the South China Sea its own backyard lake will surely lead to military confrontation.

As the Pentagon plans for U.S. forces to exit Iraq and Afghanistan, it is keeping one eye trained on the rising threat in the East. For two decades China has been adding large numbers of warships, submarines, fighter jets and — more significantly — developing offensive missiles capable of knocking out U.S. stealth aircraft and the biggest U.S. naval ships including aircraft carriers.³

As the U.S. weakens, China grows ever stronger.

China is presently sea testing its first aircraft carrier, a refitted Russian ship purchased from Ukraine. For those of you not familiar with warships, an aircraft carrier is an offensive platform —NOT a defensive one. Jets flying off of a Chinese aircraft carrier could carry nuclear tipped cruise missiles.

China's refitted aircraft carrier "Varyag" in Istanbul Harbor⁴

² http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/c/cf/South_China_Sea.jpg

³ USA Today, http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/2011-07-27-china-strengthens-military_n.htm

⁴ Photo. Courtesy Wikimedia Commons. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:USNWC_Varyag02.jpg

More Chinese aircraft carriers, both conventional and nuclear, are on the drawing boards. A nuclear fueled aircraft carrier means it can cruise to any place on the planet without stopping to refuel. China is looking far beyond the South China Sea. Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Vietnam, and other countries that border the South China Sea are very nervous and are expressing their concerns to U.S. diplomats. Of course, China is saying that the refitted aircraft carrier will only be used for “training and research.”

China now claims that it has developed and flown a new stealth fighter that can be launched off an aircraft carrier. Supposedly built with the help of Russian technology, this is a scary prospect – if the reports of the super secret J-20 are true.

The days of American hegemony over most of the world will soon be over.



Artist's rendering of a Chinese J-20 stealth fighter.⁵

The days of trusting superior weaponry and the almighty U.S. dollar are fading fast. It is a “Brave New World” we are entering in 2012.

It is really up to God. How long does He want things to continue on? Jesus said that life would continue on as if nothing is wrong just like the days before the Great Flood.

For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe (Noah) entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Matthew 24:38-39⁶

He also said that the World will believe they have peace and safety, and be totally unaware that the End is upon them.

For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. 1Thessalonians 5:2-3

My generation of Americans should not be lulled to sleep thinking things will continue on as it has always been. The World War II generation is almost gone, and with it, memories of world conflagration that led to the United States ending up sitting on top of the pile. As the United States weakens and loses its power, others rise up to fill the vacuum left behind.

⁵ Courtesy: Wikimedia Commons. http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/fe/J20_impaside_art.JPG

⁶ KJV (unless otherwise noted.)

The more we depart from God, the more He removes His blessings—and His protection.

*You are my King, O God; command deliverance for Jacob.
Through You we will push our enemies;
through Your name we will trample those who rise up against us,
For I will not trust in my bow, neither shall my sword save me.
But you have saved us from our enemies
and have put them to shame, those who hated us
In God we boast all the day long and praise Your name forever. Selah.*

*Now You have cast us off, and have shamed us, and You do not go forth with our armies.
You make us turn back from the adversary and those who hate us plunder for themselves
You have given us like sheep for meat and have scattered us among the heathen.*

Psalms 44:4-11⁷

As long as Jacob worships and trusts in the God of Abraham and the God of David, He will fight our battles and deliver us from our enemies. But, if we trust in our own wealth and force of arms, and not in our God, we will become as sheep for the slaughter.

We should remember all of the help that God has given us in the face of our enemies, but we do not. We forget time and time again, and we will pay a terrible price.

Turn to God and keep your eye on world news. Things are changing so rapidly that I cannot keep up. I keep thinking about how much work there is still to do and so little time to do it. I see even harder times ahead. Much of the job of preaching the Gospel to the world is fueled by the faithful who live in America. Here in Thailand, we depend almost entirely upon the faithful donations of God's people living in the U.S. Others in Australia, Canada and others of Jacob contribute what they can. But the lion's share of the donations that keep the Work in S.E. Asia going comes from the U.S. Recently the U.S. Dollar gained a little strength. Even a little helps us stretch things further.

We continue our translations of Gospel material into the Burmese language. We are presently working on a new booklet about the Sabbath. Adja Shan, who will be graduating in March, is doing a good job as our new translator. She is a member of the Kachin tribe in Burma and also speaks Kachin as well as Burmese and English. She has also been taking classes in the Thai language. Jack Aungmin, a Karen COG member living in the U.S., checks our Burmese translations. He is happy with her level of ability in the Burmese language.

⁷ Fred R. Coulter, *The Holy Bible In Its Original Order*, (York Publishing Company, 2007)



Newly built water tanks. Photo by Austin Mangels



New Legacy Farm plot. Photo by Austin Mangels

We also are working feverishly to increase our level of production in organic vegetables. We recently visited one of the King's projects in Chiang Mai and they are very happy to supply us with many varieties of vegetable sets and fruit trees. We just completed building water tanks to supply water for a new garden plot on about half an acre we were able to acquire. My goal is to achieve 100% self sufficiency in vegetable production by the end of 2012. This is ambitious because we currently grow only 30% of the vegetables we consume at the school. Everything takes time.

In a little over three weeks Gloria and I will drive to Mae Surin Refugee Camp and bring 3 teens and 2 smaller children down to Chiang Mai, as God wills. All five are the children of Naw Mya, a Karen COG member now living here in Chiang Mai. With Hillary Clinton's visit to Myanmar (Burma), and the friendly overtures that followed, the political winds are changing. The new winds now blowing may not be in the favor of Karen refugees staying in border camps in Thailand. The UN has already cut their rations and the rumor is that those who have been in the camps for a long time will be sent to a third country while the refugees who are relatively recent arrivals will be sent back across the border. As I said, it is a rumor, but we will hear no formal announcement of such a move until it is too late to do anything.

My first duty is to protect and feed God's people. This we will do to the best of our abilities. Please pray for God's intervention that we get them all down safely.



L. to R. Back Row: **HtooMyaShwee (19)**, Nathan Albright (Legacy Teacher), Atiwat (Legacy Employee).
 Second Row: **SunNayHtoo (16)**, **NayBluHtoo (12)**, friend SawHtooWey, **SunNaySay (16)**, and
 friend SunNayPaw. Front Row: **EhKaNayHtoo (7)**. NawMya's five children are highlighted in Red.

NEW LEGACY INSTITUTE BLOG: I asked my son Bronson, who takes care of our computers and internet projects, to set up a new Legacy Institute Blog so that I can get timely news and commentary out without having to wait for the monthly *Legacy Letter* or a *Children of the Covenant* video presentation. The Blog is now set up and can be viewed at: <http://www.legacyinstituteorg.blogspot.com>.

Keep praying that God, in His Grace and Mercy, continue to provide the means to get the Gospel out to those He wants to reach before America collapses under the increasing weight of moral corruption.

Until next letter,

As ever, serving the Lord Jesus, King of Jerusalem,

T. Leon Sexton

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