Written by Stephen Bassett Monday, 29 May 2000 06:00 - Last Updated Thursday, 30 July 2009 22:20

Washington, DC — In 1945 as WWII ended and the Cold War began - world human population was 2.3 billion. It had taken several million years to achieve that level. The Cold War symbolically ended in 1989 — world population was 5.2 billion. Today it is 6.1 billion.

This grand conflict was certainly unlike any before it. It was not the longest war in history, but it was the most expensive. Its cost estimation is a complex work in progress. However, factoring in all related expenditures by the United States and its allies plus the Soviet Union, and including the costs of environmental cleanup and disarmament, you get a figure somewhere between \$15 and \$20 trillion in 2000 dollars. This is an amount greater than the cost of all the wars waged in all of history.

Thus, in a period in which the population of the planet added 3.8 billion, the first world nations committed \$15+ trillion in treasure to an ideological difference of opinion. None of this money was available to feed, clothe, heal or educate the additional arrivals.

During the nuclear age, tens of thousands have died as a result of an atomic explosion. Tens of millions of have died as a result of the gap between human need and the resources required to serve it. By starvation, environmental degradation, disease, territorial wars over resources, genocide, and countless other derivative causes, the Cold War generated a profound level of suffering and death – it just didn't get the credit.

While we were focusing our fear and apprehension on the next nuclear bomb which never detonated, the population bomb exploded and laid waste to millions of the weakest and poorest of the human family. That this aspect of the Cold War took place outside the U. S. borders only dampened the awareness of the American public to its reality and ensured it would not be a factor in the policies created to pursue the conflict.

Like the general interest in UFOs, population concern tends to move in and out of fashion. Talk show legend Johnny Carson single handedly created a significant upswing in the 70's due to his personal interest and repeated guest appearances on the Tonight Show by Paul Erhlich, one of the leading environmental and population theorists. More importantly, there are few areas of controversy which are as verboten for politicians to engage as the UFO/ET issue – one of them is population control/reduction.

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The U.S. Census Bureau predicts a world population of 9.1 billion by 2050 using very conservative growth projections. Beyond then, one would best not project, since the earth has hinted at methods by which further growth will not be permitted regardless of the degree of our need to breed. And these methods are of a type that only a Wes Craven could properly appreciate.

We grouse about the intrusive images of starving children that interrupt our channel surfing. If the trend toward 9.1 billion humans in 2050 proceeds, one should be prepared for all Sally Struthers, all the time. Unless there is a profound change in world view by the leaders and citizens of the advanced nations, the first half of the 21st Century will produce a level of suffering, death, and deprivation surpassing even the best our last century could generate.

Because the population problem and possible solutions are verboten as political discourse, those with legitimate concern usually proffer "environmental" front issues to indirectly address the question. As in the case of the extraterrestrial presence, there is always a price when the truths surrounding any controversy are kept out of the political arena.

The 50-year death march to 9.1 billion human beings packed into a world of diminishing resources begins next year.

Which brings us to Vice President Albert Arnold Gore, Jr. It is already well known that Patrick Buchanan has the finest 19th Century mind in America. He will not become the president. The question before us is, "which candidate has a 21st Century mind?" Who either has or can acquire a worldview commensurate with the new set of problems the human race is about to encounter? And make no mistake, one of those problems will be adjusting to the knowledge we are being engaged by extraterrestrial beings more advanced and with a complex agenda.

Actually, there is an easy answer – Heather Harder. But she will not become the president either. This leaves Gore and Ralph Nader. As it happens, Green Party aside, Nader is very much a 20th Century guy. However, he is progressive and resonates with the disenchanted left. So much so, he might well play the same role as Perot in 1992, only this time on the Democrat side, and elect George W. Bush president. In politics, like nowhere else, what goes around, comes around.

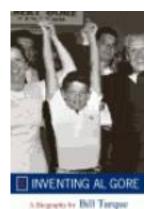
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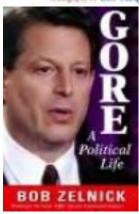
To assess Gore as a potential president, the following books are suggested: The World According to Al Gore

Joseph Kaufman,Inventing Al Gore

Bill Turque, andGore: A Political Life

- Bob Zelnick, in ascending order of critical intensity.





But do not even think of voting for this man unless you have read, Earth in the Balance, his environmental/theological/ political manifesto.

The Role of the President in the Politics of Disclosure - Part III - The Case for and against Gore

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