

**GLOBAL REALITY: THE WEEK IN REVIEW**

*Destabilizing Threats, Stabilizing Policies, and Global Powers at a Glance*

**Threat Summary**

	<p><b>Environment.</b> Major black market in wood. Another Chernobyl looms in Artic. CO2 rising faster.</p> <p><b>Inter-State Conflict.</b> Lebanon at the heart of 3,000 years of Semitic tribal war. Golan offered to Syria.</p> <p><b>Proliferation.</b> Syrian charged with arms sales to Colombian rebels. Zimbabwe takes over uranium.</p>
	<p><b>Poverty.</b> Schools &amp; irrigation best counter-insurgency tools. Infrastructure not aid. G-8 worthless..</p> <p><b>Infectious Disease.</b> Resistant TB in 37 countries. False drugs and pharma crime blocking progress.</p> <p><b>Civil War.</b> Zimbabwe health, food sectors collapsed. Darfur facing anarchy. US-Russia on Kosovo.</p> <p><b>Genocide.</b> Darfur atrocities at new extremes. Rwanda abolishes death penalty to ease extraditions.</p> <p><b>Transnational Crime.</b> US detects more coca in Colombia, continues to ignore Afghan production.</p>
	<p><b>Other Atrocities.</b> Central African Republic torches homes of 20,000 in retaliation for one murder.</p> <p><b>Terrorism.</b> Radical Islam rising in Caribbean. FBI labels environmentalists America's top terrorists.</p>

**Policy Summary**

	<p><b>Diplomacy.</b> SecDef Gates considers Kyrgystan vital—US not permitted to attack Iran from there.</p> <p><b>Security.</b> DHS focusing on UAVs to protect airports. US continues to stress technology over goodness.</p> <p><b>Society.</b> UK police beefing up forces during full moons to cope with additional lunatics on the streets.</p>
	<p><b>Education.</b> Scores up since “No Child Left Behind” but one third drop out, others are GDP’ng early.</p> <p><b>Health.</b> .See links.</p> <p><b>Immigration.</b> US legislation collapses, double standards and mixed messages hold sway.</p> <p><b>Water.</b> See links.</p>
	<p><b>Agriculture.</b> See links.</p> <p><b>Economy.</b> See links.</p> <p><b>Energy.</b> Burundi burning waste instead of wood. 60% US wind power installed in last six years.</p> <p><b>Family.</b> See links.</p> <p><b>Justice.</b> Judges prevail, Colin Powell says Guantanamo should be closed. Scooter takes a hit for VP.</p>

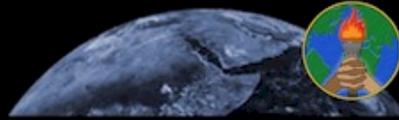
**Major Player Summary**

	<p><b>Iran.</b> Israel's <i>de facto</i> Ambassador, Joe Lieberman, talks up nuclear option against Iran.</p>
	<p><b>Venezuela.</b> Chavez continues to lead in Latin America. 2.5 tons of cocaine seized. Opposition grows.</p>
	<p><b>Brazil.</b> Crimes—bribing of police, military; smuggling; drug;, and illegal gambling test government.</p> <p><b>China.</b> Taipei losing allies, China gains across Africa and the Americas. Food security poor.</p> <p><b>India.</b> First dedicated military satellite. Israel military delegation seeks help against Muslim terrorists.</p> <p><b>Indonesia.</b> Australia's defence chief discounts East Timor massacre. Growing anti-Christian feelings.</p> <p><b>Russia.</b> Putin on a roll, with strong national energy base. Proposing alternative to WTO for 3<sup>rd</sup> world.</p> <p><b>Wild Cards.</b> US oblivious to Kurdish-Turkish confrontation. Brazil &amp; India a growing power pair.</p>

**World Crises - from monthly assessments by *International Crisis Group* - JUNE 2007**

↗	<b>Alert:</b> Pakistan
↓	<b>Deteriorated:</b> Ethiopia, Israel/Occupied Territories, Lebanon, Pakistan
↑	<b>Improved:</b> Northern Ireland (UK)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Unchanged:</b> Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Basque Country (Spain), Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chechnya (Russia), Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia/Eritrea, Fiji, Georgia, Guinea, Haiti, India (non-Kashmir), Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kashmir, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Macedonia, Mali, Mauritania, Moldova, Morocco, Myanmar/Burma, Nagorno-Karabakh (Azerbaijan), Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, North Caucasus (non-Chechnya), North Korea, Philippines, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Somaliland, Sudan, Sri Lanka, Syria, Taiwan Strait, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Western Sahara, Yemen, Zimbabwe</li> </ul>

↓ deteriorated	• steady	↑ improved	↗ ALERT
----------------	----------	------------	---------



**Threats**

see *daily items with links to full stories on the web at* [PDB-Threats](#)

**Poverty**

[news list](#)|[forecast](#)

- **G8** promises are often *worthless* -- *G8's failure to honour pledges a betrayal*. The **World Bank's** own web-site is now noting commentary on the G8's brazen *false promises* -- *Rich Countries Not Keeping Their Promises For Africa*.  
*Uganda, Zambia set out Africa's priorities to G8*; "Too much **aid** is not good for our economies" -- it is solid **INFRASTRUCTURE** that is needed. [Aid often destroys local industries.]  
 In **Zimbabwe**, "*crop failures* in southern provinces and rising poverty would see about 2.1 million people [a third of the population] facing *serious food shortages* by the third quarter of this year." [Most of the "*crop failures*" have been a result of government *land policy*.]  
 The *Shangri-La Dialogue* of senior Asian defense and security officials heard the proposition that "*Defence for development [aid and development] sets the framework for lasting solutions to insurgency, poverty and illiteracy*" -- *Development aid 'vital in fight against terror'*. [The southern **Philippines** used as the example may or may not be a shining case, but the realization is growing that *schools* and *irrigation* are cheaper than *Blackhawks*, and don't get as many Americans killed.]

**Infectious Disease**

[news list](#)|[forecast](#)

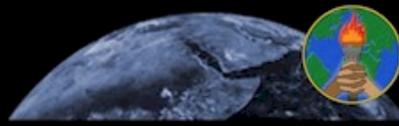
- ↓ **WHO** tries to keep *XDR-TB (extremely drug-resistant Tuberculosis)* in the news; XDR-TB is already in 37 countries this year -- with international air travel, "*TB anywhere is TB everywhere*".  
 In **Thailand**, the pattern of *dengue fever* this year was "*abnormal*"; it had spread to areas that had little record of dengue mosquitoes -- *New dengue cases 'linked to climate change'*.  
 Reticence in Africa towards *vaccination* programs may have more to do that *criminal misconduct* by **Pfizer** and others than the urban legend of *ignorant superstition* -- *Government blames polio vaccine boycott on Pfizer trials*.  
*"Last year, studies into the link between male circumcision and HIV infection in Africa were stopped because the evidence was so striking"* -- *Mass circumcision to fight AIDS*. President **Bush** announced a five-year, \$30B plan to fight **HIV/AIDS**. Days later, **G8** agreed to a \$60B fund to fight AIDS in **Africa**, another G8 promise that may or may not live beyond the photo opportunity.  
 A **Chinese soldier** has died from **H5N1**, going to confirm that the *young and healthy* are peculiarly vulnerable to H5N1. H5N1 has reappeared in **Malaysia** -- the new outbreak of H5N1 is isolated but is on the outskirts of the Malaysian capital.  
 The **Chinese** government says *organised gangs* are behind much of the scandalous and deadly *fake drug* market; "*the gangs involved organised criminals working across national boundaries and faking the drugs on an industrial scale*" -- *Chinese gangs 'behind fake drugs'*.

**Environment**

[news list](#)|[forecast](#)

- ↓ "The *timber business* is worth billions of dollars annually, and experts say few industries that size are as murky as the *black market* in wood"; **Indonesia** and **Brazil** are major sources, **China** is a major user -- *Chinese demand drives global deforestation crisis*.  
 Most recent studies indicate the rise in **CO<sub>2</sub> levels** "*is much faster than even the most fossil-fuel intensive scenario developed by the IPCC during the 1990s*" -- *Global Emission of CO<sub>2</sub> Rising Three Fold Than Anticipated*. With **US** blanket rejection of Prime Minister **Blair's** proposal at **G8** on **CO<sub>2</sub> emissions**, President **Bush** has denied

↓ deteriorated      • steady      ↑ improved      ✎ ALERT



Prime Minister Blair the only chance of a "legacy" that remained.

**Brazil** says the *West* must put its money where its mouth is to stop the poor *clearing forests* for subsistence; "only a tiny fraction of Europe's original forests remain, while Brazil has preserved more than 60%" -- *Brazil: Pay Poor to Preserve Forests*. But a healthy pedantry enters the new science of *carbon credits/deficits*; Brazil has the world's fourth-largest *CO<sub>2</sub> deficit*, due to the destruction of the *rain forest*, and the production of *methane* in the immense *marshy* regions of the Amazon -- *Brazil must improve G8 climate proposal - activists* and *Brazil/US Study Shows the Amazon Emits 1/4 of Planet's Methane*. [Methane is 20 times more harmful than *CO<sub>2</sub>* as a greenhouse gas.]

*U.S. Cuts Back Climate Checks From Space* -- "Unfortunately, the recent loss of climate sensors ... places the overall climate program in serious jeopardy" **NOAA** and **NASA** scientists told the **White House**.

*Worse than Chernobyl* -- "a decaying **Russian nuclear dump** inside the **Arctic Circle** is threatening to catch fire or explode, turning it into a "dirty bomb" that could impact the whole of northern Europe ..." Also: *Arctic Nuclear Dump Called Unstable* -- "We discover now that we are sitting on a powder keg, with a fuse that is burning, but we don't know how long that fuse is". [*Salt water* has corroded enormous storage tanks.]

**Inter-State Conflict**  
[news list|forecast](#)

- The recent **Lebanon debacle** may be because "the army has been doing police work for 40 years instead of training for war" -- *Some say Israeli army now police force*. [Or is it the "war" that's changed?] 3,000 years of *Semitic* tribal hatreds and mistrust continue to envelop ways out of the abyss -- *Israel offers the Golan Heights to Syria*. Useful **UPI** papers on how to convince natives that **America** is here to help -- *Afghan hearts & minds -- Part 1 [Analysis]* and *Afghan hearts & minds -- Part 2 [Analysis]*.

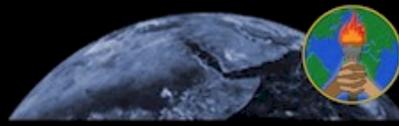
**Civil War**  
[news list|forecast](#)

- President **Bush** triumphant, cheerful, well-received, and in **Albania** confirms that it seems there will be nothing short of head-on collision with **Russia** and **Serbia** over **Kosovo** [a largely ethnic *Albanian* principality].  
 In **Somalia**, three **Mogadishu** private radio stations -- *Radio Shabelle*, *Radio Voice of Holy Quran* and *Horn Afrik Radio* -- were shut down in the interest of public order. [Days later they were allowed to reopen.]  
 In **Zimbabwe**, "it can no longer be said the *health service* is near collapse" -- it has fully disintegrated. Indicative of tough times, "President Robert **Mugabe's** ruling party has started scouting for *food donations* for its annual end-of-year *conference*". The *exodus* from Zimbabwe is an increasing embarrassment; police arrested almost 2,000 in raids on *border towns* -- "the operation has seen the arrest of 501 border jumpers, 188 touts, 605 prostitutes, 98 illegal vendors, 151 public drinkers and 393 illegal foreign currency dealers."  
 US authorities busted those plotting a *coup* against the **Lao** regime; "nine ethnic **Hmong** and one retired lieutenant colonel from the **California National Guard** planned to train a militia" -- *US agents thwart planned Laos coup plot*.  
*Chad rebuffs French idea for Darfur aid corridor* -- "**Chad** does not need this corridor because there is a perfect and full cooperation between the Chadian authorities and the **United Nations** organisations." *Darfur is now 'facing anarchy' as Janjaweed join rebels* -- "the result is a *complex mishmash* of conflicts with Arabs fighting Arabs, tribes dividing and villages taking on their neighbours".

**Genocide**

- **Rwanda** has abolished the *death penalty* to secure *extraditions* on genocide charges

↓ deteriorated	• steady	↑ improved	↗ ALERT
----------------	----------	------------	---------



news list|forecast

-- "many countries refuse to extradite criminal suspects to nations that practise capital punishment or torture."

The *eyes of the world* can now literally be trained on atrocities in an unprecedented way -- [Amnesty keeps an eye on Darfur with satellite images](#). [See the site for satellite images of *Darfur* villages before and after *raids*.]

**Other Atrocities**

news list|forecast

- Hearts-and-minds in action: in **Central African Republic** 20,000 were displaced when the *army* torched hundreds of houses as *collective punishment* after *rebels* killed a senior government *official*.

**Proliferation**

news list|forecast

- **Syrian faces charge of FARC arms sale** -- "the men had agreed to provide the weapons for the *FARC* 'to use to protect their cocaine-trafficking business and to attack *United States* interests in *Colombia*'".

"*Zimbabwe's* government is to take control of *strategic resource sectors* such as *uranium* under a new law due to take effect by year-end." -- [Zimbabwe to control strategic mining sectors](#).

**Terrorism**

news list|forecast

↓ In **Iraq**, a *bomb* attack on a group of *tribal chiefs* who oppose *al-Qaida* may indicate a significant change of fortune for the *Salafists* in Iraq and beyond -- [Bombing Shows Schism Among Iraq's Sunnis](#).

In the **UK**, *counter-terrorism* authorities will start a *register* of *terrorism-related persons*; "convicted terrorists and their supporters will be placed on a special register, like sex offenders, under new measures to be announced today" -- [Terrorists will be put on special register](#). Also in the UK, police are systematically tightening up controls on hazardous tankers; "we would be remiss not to do some preventative work on this" -- [Police move to foil 'tanker bombers'](#).

In **Spain**, the *Basque* separatist group (**ETA**) said it has called off a ceasefire and that *hostilities* will resume at midnight June 6." -- [ETA has 100 gunmen, 'excellent terrorist infrastructure'](#).

A remaining suspect in the alleged *JFK airport bombing* plot has surrendered -- [Suspect in JFK airport plot surrenders](#). Some analysts see very weak connections between JFK and existing *Black Muslim* groups [**Malcolm X**, not **bin Laden**] in the *Caribbean*; others see a sea of troubles and "a 'loose-knit' confederation of extremists have found it easy to move around the tourist-friendly islands" -- ['Alarming' rise of radical Islam in Caribbean](#). In a tale better than "24", one of the plotters, arrested in **Trinidad**, was said to be headed for **Venezuela** where an *Iranian visa* was waiting ... -- [Terror suspect arrest fuels tension with Caracas](#).

**DHS** has finally enlisted the advice of prominent **US Muslims** to advise on socio-cultural issues -- [Security agency enlisting Muslims to rebut radicals](#). [It is perhaps too late.]

[Oregon ecoterrorist sentenced to 7 years in prison for arson](#) -- "a top **FBI** official testified ... that violent environmental and animal rights groups are the nation's top domestic terror threat".

**Transnational Crime**

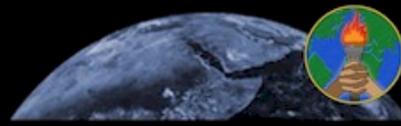
news list|forecast

↓ The *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)* classes the **US** as an '*ivory trade problem country*' -- [Illegal elephant ivory reaches the U.S.](#)

[U.S. detects more coca being grown in Colombia](#) -- "the area surveyed in 2006 was 19 percent larger than in 2005 and that almost all of the increase in *coca* cultivation was found in the *newly surveyed areas*."

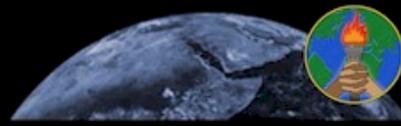
**Policy**

↓ deteriorated      • steady      ↑ improved      ↗ ALERT



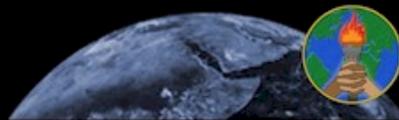
<p><b>Agriculture</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]</li> </ul>
<p><b>Diplomacy</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secretary <b>Gates</b> acknowledges the importance of <b>Kyrgyzstan</b> as a <b>US</b> toehold in <b>Central Asia</b> -- <i>US needs Kyrgyz base, says Gates</i>. [<u>Kyrgyzstan has already said all deals are off if the base is used to support any attack on Iran.</u>]</li> </ul>
<p><b>Economy</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]</li> </ul>
<p><b>Education</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A study by the nonpartisan <b>Center on Education Policy</b> shows an improvement in <i>basic skills scores</i> and a closing in the <i>ethnic gap</i>, but skeptics doubt that is due to <i>NCLB</i> or that improvements outweigh the problems caused by the new law -- <i>Scores Up Since 'No Child' Was Signed</i>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Energy</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>DoE</b> has awarded <b>\$8M</b> [petty cash] for "<i>fundamental research</i> into <i>biomass genomics</i> that will facilitate and accelerate the use of <i>woody plant tissue</i> for <i>bioenergy</i> and bi" -- <i>\$8.3 million awarded for biofuels research</i>.        Over <u>60%</u> of current <b>US wind</b> generation of over <u>7.3GW</u> has been installed in the last six years -- <i>America is full of wind</i>.        In <b>Burundi</b>, the better of some bad options takes some pressure off a <i>tree-denuded</i> land, <i>burning refuse</i> -- <i>Urban Waste Becomes Urban Fuel</i>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Family</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]</li> </ul>
<p><b>Health</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]</li> </ul>
<p><b>Immigration</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasingly it seems few will be happy with <i>proposed new immigration policies</i>, least of all the <b>Latin Americans</b> trapped by US double standards -- <i>President's Push on Immigration Tests G.O.P. Base</i>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Justice</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scooter takes a bullet for the team -- <i>Cheney aide Libby jailed in CIA leak case</i>.        With <i>Guantanamo judges</i> ruling that they do not have <i>jurisdiction</i>, what's next? -- <i>Guantanamo tribunal plan thrown into chaos</i>. Also: In what jurisdiction is the 'enemy combatant' an "<i>unlawful</i> enemy combatant"?-- <i>Two military judges dismiss war crimes charges</i>. <i>Colin Powell says Guantanamo should be closed</i> -- "<i>Guantanamo</i> has become a major, major problem ... in the way the world perceives America and if it were up to me I would close Guantanamo <u>not tomorrow but this afternoon</u> ...".</li> </ul>
<p><b>Security</b>  <a href="#">news list</a><a href="#">forecast</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognizing that <b>Congress</b> has some authority [and is not amused], Secretary <b>Gates</b> elects to avoid a showdown over reappointment of Gen <b>Pace</b> as <b>JCS</b> -- <i>Joint Chiefs chair to be replaced</i>.  <b>Toffler Associates</b> say the <i>threat to railroads</i> has been over-rated; "<i>more action is needed to make the system more secure, but the system already is more secure than many believe</i>" -- <i>Toffler Associates Releases New Assessment of Terrorist Threat to Railroads</i>.  <b>DHS</b> is canvassing development of <b>UAVs</b> ["drones"]that would <i>surveil</i> and <i>protect airports</i>.  <i>"Hackers are motivated by money and not fame anymore ..."</i> and techniques are constantly evolving -- <i>Report: New hacking technique shields attackers</i>.        A <i>Medal of Honor</i> veteran is being helpful, not dismissive, when he says "<i>if a vehicle has become the target of an IED, it means that security has been forsaken for expedience</i>." -- <i>To protect lives from IEDs, follow the rules</i>.</li> </ul>

↓ deteriorated	• steady	↑ improved	↗ ALERT
----------------	----------	------------	---------



<b>Society</b> <a href="#">news list forecast</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Extra British Police During Full Moons</a>, ABC News - USA, 20070605. [18414] Long known by hospital workers and police, the full moon does bring out the lunatics.</li> </ul>
<b>Water</b> <a href="#">news list forecast</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [nothing significant to summarize but see links to stories in this topical area]</li> </ul>
<b>Challengers</b>	<i>see daily items with links to full stories on the web at <a href="#">PDB-Challengers</a></i>
<b>Brazil</b> <a href="#">news list forecast</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brazilian authorities have busted several gangs involved in <i>suborning police</i> and <i>military, smuggling, drug trafficking</i> and <i>illegal gambling</i> – <i>Brazil's Operation Arrests 77 and Dismantles Police and Businessmen Gangs</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>China</b> <a href="#">news list forecast</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Costa Rica breaks with Taiwan, links up with China</i> -- until now, <b>Costa Rica</b> was one of the world's 25 smallest countries, including the <b>Vatican</b>, that recognized <b>Taipei</b> as the one true China.  President <b>Hu Jintao</b> has ordered Chinese authorities to clean up "<i>internet culture</i>" and has suspended approval of any new <i>internet cafés</i> -- <i>China won't license new Internet cafes</i>.  In the face of ridicule and horror throughout the world, China seeks to be seen cleaning up its act of <i>food safety</i> -- "<i>the government published a five-year plan late on Tuesday to increase inspections and tests on exported food.</i>"</li> </ul>
<b>India</b> <a href="#">news list forecast</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• India's first <i>dedicated military satellite</i> to be launched in <u>August 2007</u> will give the capability to monitor <i>missile launches</i> in the region.  "A top-level <b>Israeli</b> military delegation will be in India next week on a hush-hush visit to discuss <i>counter-terrorism</i> and <i>anti-infiltration</i> strategies in <b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>." -- <i>Fighting terror: Israeli army team to visit J&amp;K</i>. Probably not unrelated, India is for the first time explicitly on the hit-list: '<i>Al-Qaeda video</i>' <i>declares jihad against India, targets valley leaders</i> -- "<i>Al-Qaeda today declares 'jihad' against India and Jammu and Kashmir shall be the gateway for this jihad.</i>"  The <b>US</b> gets the Gang-of-Eight to increase pressure on India: "<i>We note the commitments India has made... We look forward to reinforcing our partnership with India</i>" -- <i>G-8 for civil nuclear partnership with India</i>. But India struggles with what it now sees as an assault on its <i>sovereignty</i>: "<i>India is demanding the right to be given prior approval for reprocessing the US-origin spent fuel to run its fast-breeder programme</i>" -- <i>India proposes dedicated facility for spent nuclear fuel</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>Indonesia</b> <a href="#">news list forecast</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Australia's Defence chief</b> shows remarkable solidarity with an Indonesian colleague, saying allegations against him for a <i>massacre</i> in <b>East Timor</b> are baseless - - <i>Jakarta Governor innocent of Balibo deaths, ADF chief says</i>.  Indonesian <i>troop</i> contribution to <b>UN missions</b> throughout the world in 2008 will rise to 2,000.  Members of the <i>Anti-Apostate Movement Alliance</i> [angered by often aggressive evangelism] have attacked a church in <b>West Java</b> -- <i>Muslim hardliners attacked a church in Indonesia</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>Iran</b> <a href="#">news list forecast</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Lieberman advocates military force against Iran</i> -- but Senator <b>Lieberman</b> is "not talking about a massive <i>ground invasion</i> of Iran" [presumably after looking at a contour map of Iran]. "<i>These are Shia terrorists which are trained, armed, funded and directed by Iran's Qods Force, and have connections to Muqtada al Sadr's Mahdi Army</i>" -- <i>Targeting The Iranian "Secret Cells"</i>. <b>Kuwait</b> and <b>Bahrain</b> put on record that they oppose any <i>strike</i> on Iran.  Iran ridicules the <b>Bush missile shield</b> in <b>Europe</b>; "<i>the range of Iranian missiles cannot reach Europe and it's surprising that they don't know such a thing</i>" -- <i>Iran</i></li> </ul>

↓ deteriorated	• steady	↑ improved	↗ ALERT
----------------	----------	------------	---------



*calls US missile interceptor plan a "joke".*

**Russia**  
[news list|forecast](#)

- "*Russia's missile center in the Urals is under investigation for alleged failure to declare sensitive technical documents sent to **Brazil** ...*"

Following another non-event **G8**, President **Putin's** suggestion of an "alternative" **WTO** for *developing countries* and a wider range of *world currencies* is certain, at minimum, to be a strong bargaining position.

At **G8** President **Putin** makes a modest proposal -- a better "*missile shield*" as a joint venture that would "protect" all of Europe-- *Putin Offers Azerbaijan Radar to U.S.*

New efficiencies such as *single-desk arms export* have succeeded so well that *foreign buyers* are receiving more new systems than the Russian *military* -- *Putin is trying to reform Russia's military-industrial complex [Analysis]*.

**Venezuela**  
[news list|forecast](#)

- Authorities seize 2.5 tons of *cocaine* bound for **Sierra Leone** was seized at **Margarita** Island airport.

President **Chavez** suggests a *defence alliance* built on the *Bolivarian Alternative for the Americas* trade group -- *Hugo Chavez calls for leftist nations' defense pact*.

A "*student movement*" centered on *Andres Bello Catholic University* protesting the closure of *RCTV* for *sedition* may [or may not] form the core of a serious *opposition* movement -- *Anti-Chavez Movement Grows In Venezuela*.

**Wild Cards**  
[news list|forecast](#)

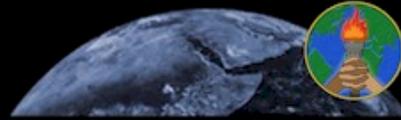
- A red flag to the **Turkish** bull, the *Kurdish flag* was hoisted over the *regional parliament* in north **Iraq** -- whatever the justice of the Kurdish cause, the **US** has failed for several years too long to appreciate the delicacy of the Kurdish issue; **US diplomatic perspective** is again cripplingly short. On the same day as reports of "*the largest military operation against Kurdish separatists in the south-east of the country in the past few years*", on 20070606, **AP** reported "several thousand" **Turkish** troops had crossed into northern **Iraq** -- *Turkish troops enter northern Iraq*. But, within hours, denials on all sides indicated the invasion that wasn't may have been a *feint*. In following days, Turkey continued building an "invasion" force (*tanks*) on the border and shelled Kurdish positions in Iraq; "*the Iraqi protest comes amid a major build-up of troops and tanks on the border with northern Iraq*" -- *Iraq condemns Turkish 'shelling'*.



President **Musharraf** attempts to dampen volatility in a new decree allowing government promulgate new regulations and to *seize* equipment and to seal premises of *media organizations* acting against the regulations -- *Musharraf Issues Decree Cracking Down on News Media*. But following local and foreign outcry, **Pakistan** *suspended* use of the powers.

*Central Asia* is in increasingly sharp focus as a key to the *New World Order* -- *Common Threats Of Central Asia*.

Two "great nations of the South", **Brazil** and **India**, who now aspire to *permanent seats* of the **UN Security Council**, control between them a formidable proportion of the world's human and natural resources -- *Brazil and India to Quadruple Bilateral Trade to US\$ 10 Billion by 2010*.



Influential voices in *Africa* are adamant that a *United State/s of Africa* is necessary and inevitable; "a united State of Africa would also help solve the countless wars that have plagued the African continent " -- *A United States of Africa is Non-Negotiable*.

20070611w [97]

.oOo.

**This is a free public service.**

**Subscribe with the active link at**

**[http://meta2.com/PDB/pdb\\_WeeklySummaryList.htm](http://meta2.com/PDB/pdb_WeeklySummaryList.htm)**