

**Chapter 1 : The Fall of the US Empire-And Then What? - World Beyond War . . .**

*The Fall of the US Empire - And Then What? Successors, Regionalization or Globalization? US Fascism or US Blossoming? This book explores the why, how, when and where of the present decline and fall of the US Empire, based on a theory of synergizing contradictions used in to predict the fall of the Soviet empire.*

There were two subtitles indicating answers: Successors, Regionalization or Globalization? What is the situation today, five years later? In empires the local elites line up to do the killing; yet the Western powers have mainly to do that themselves. China is very active economically abroad, some of it structural violence; however, the military component has not been used aggressively. African Unity suffered a major setback when Gaddafi was eliminated; but the Union is there even if under strong Anglo-American influence, e. They have tried that before; maybe dialogue would be better than bombing? Yes, indeed; if by fascism we mean use of massive violence for political goals. US fascism takes three forms: A deeply tragic development. Such an innovative country and nothing better to offer than macro bombing, meso droning and micro sniping. We sense the military-industrial complex at workâ€”the bomb industry upfrontâ€”but dubious intellectuals are also in it: Obama presses Russia to stop fomenting a virtual civil war in Ukraine, he is trying to collaborate with Moscow in a diplomatic campaign to force Iran to scale back its nuclear program. Even as he pressures Iran over its nuclear program, he finds himself on the same side as Tehran in combating a rising Sunni insurgency in Iraq. Even as he sends special forces to help squelch those insurgents, he is trying to help their putative allies against the government in Syria next door. The answer by a former security aide to Obama, Gary Samore, from an autistic bubble, is less brilliant: Foreign policy is always complicated. We always have a mix of complicated interests. There are other factors, but the common denominator is us, US. Change that policy and the world would be easier to cope with. But, the problem is whether Washington is too autistic to think thoughts beyond its bombing-droning-sniping obsession. The Guardian, 9 July Social science is being militarized to develop social tools to target peaceful activists and protest movements. Furthermore, of course 28 August, Internet , the shocking, not exactly surprising, news: And that is by the same military means that brought the two countries into being. The more militarized the more dehumanized and the more dehumanized the more lethal; fed psychologically by anti-Arab and anti-Black racism, and by exceptionalist claims from the ruling elites. Militarized class and race war is the worst approach possible. What the USA needs is imitative, solidarity, cooperation for a better USA; they will reap fear, apathy, withdrawal, revenge, spiraling violence. Already hurting the US image abroad and far from halting the decline and fall of the US Empire, it will speed up the decline and fall of the USA itself. Will they trigger a world war as a cover-up? Moreover, it comes on top of another sad phenomenon in the USA: The standard analysis is to psychiatrize the murderer, searching for a profile and its likes in society to prevent more shootings. Another approach would focus on the shootings as a collective, slow suicide of a US incapable of solving its countless problems, even addressing them, to the point that people simply give a damn, kill what they see as the problem including, often, themselves. General demoralization has such consequences, like the suicide epidemic at the end of the Austrian-Hungarian empire and beyond, lasting to our days. Pull yourself together, Stop It!

**Chapter 2 : TRANSCEND MEDIA SERVICE » The Fall of the US Empire-And Then What?**

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In what follows, the macro level conflict formation of US Empire will be reflected through my personal experience: Insights from this work, particularly my work on Project Camelot, prompted me to engage my peers in examining the impacts of US deep culture on the maintenance of its empire and, by extension, its significance and relevance for the frustrating developments of the unfolding election process. As it stands, the electoral process has presented the American people with Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump; two presidential candidates that hold the lowest favorability ratings in modern history. Political alternatives were easily subjugated before the official party nominations. The concession of the Democratic primary race by Bernie Sanders to Hilary Clinton on July 12th, two weeks before the Democratic Convention, depleted the broad-based movement that desired to address underlying structural faultlines in the United States. This concession was crucial, because from a geopolitical perspective, the Sanders campaign represented the choice towards more positive peace as set forth by Prof. The challenge for the next president will then be to solve these contradictions; or else!

Understanding Culture The political conflict at the heart of the US presidential election is a reflection of a deeper, a cultural conflict over both the identity of individual Americans and the identity of the United States and its role in the world at-large. Resolving this conflict over cultural identity is more difficult due to differing perspectives of what constitutes culture. The iceberg model of culture delineates three levels of culture- surface, shallow, and deep. However, the majority of culture lies in the unspoken rules and deep-seated rules below the visible surface culture. As cultural norms become deeper and more unconscious, the emotional attachment becomes greater and therefore more difficult to alter. The US presidential elections provide a perfect example of how deep culture limits legitimate dialogue over cultural elements that lead to conflicts. The entire spectacle of the election cycle includes celebrations, ritual, clothing, and art that are surface manifestation of this deep cultural understanding. Rather, they are based on a particular history, geography, and anthropology deeply rooted in Western civilization. This script is especially strong, as its roots can be traced back to ancient civilizations in Mesopotamia and East Asia. The historical context is important because small Christian tribes relied on the strength of a powerful God to survive and compete with other social groups. Christianity can be characterized as a singularist and universalist religion. Singularist in that it stipulates one God that rules the Universe, particularly in favor of a specific set of Chosen People. The concept of one God delineates a fundamental cultural distinction between Self and Other. This theological tenet further develops into six cultural concepts that are particularly violence-prone: Dualism is the understanding according to which the universe is fundamentally divided into two parts. Manichaeism, an attitudinal stance named after a theology developed by the Iranian prophet Mani, denotes this dualism as forces of Good and Evil eternally struggling for supremacy. These elements help operationalize CGT. With the theological backing of the all-powerful God, the United States has been chosen to enact the divine mandate on Earth. In other words, a linkage between moral behavior as defined in a religious context and foreign relations, relations to other peoples. Internal religious control becomes a social necessity. During the Presidential election, these glory and trauma points are referenced frequently. For instance, September 11, is a Trauma point that is often used to legitimize military expenditure and wars abroad. S handicaps through the restoration of self-referential Glory. Indeed, watching the presidential election unfold in the context of the U. He acknowledged a need for the creation of a more equitable society. On March 3rd at a Sanders rally at the Douglas County Fairgrounds, people lined up around the block and waited several hours to enter the arena. During his speech, he focused on challenging corporate control of US politics, strengthening minority groups in the political realm, and ending US military intervention abroad. In this manner, the rhetoric of Sanders portrayed a more inclusive US Self. Love your communicative neighbor, Dignify your daily dialogues, Prioritize Positivizers in your language use, and be a communicative Humanizer. At said rally, I witnessed a student from Haskell Indian Nations University introduce Sanders, who then dedicated a significant portion of

his speech toward highlighting indigenous rights, tribal sovereignty and the effects of wealth inequality on native populations. Lester Randall, Chairman of the Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas and my colleague through my position at Kansas University, sat on the stage during the rally as well. This positive approach outlined a vision for an inclusive and peaceful future. As the corporate candidate, Clinton was unable to counter the political and economic arguments of Sanders. Instead, she exploited the dualism of the two party system. Considering ideas outside of the prominent Liberal discourse, or entertaining the politics of Bernie Sanders, was rejected because such a split of the side of good would result in defeat in Armageddon read: In turn, she relied on tropes of American strength and the fear of the state losing legitimacy if Trump were to be elected. In a sense, deep culture is one of the primary reasons for the autism of the US Empire and its inability to understand the goals, needs, and interests of the world at large. The surface culture in the United States reflects the underlying cultural understanding of conflict. Adams outlines two symptoms- economic and political- of the culture of war and empire. Politically, there is political alienation because the people no longer believe that the government works with them. People in my generation have lived almost the entirety of their adult lives under the War on Terror – Sanders tapped into this latent desire to move towards more peaceful status quo. Millennials are still searching for political answers to student debt, and rather than providing an answer, the presidential elections have only cast more doubt. I heard many stories about how student debt was destroying the future of this generation. The campaign was an opportunity to develop a culture of peace that challenge the deep culture of empire and put people back at the forefront of politics. The three types of violence- direct, structural, and cultural- were experienced by campaign staffers to different degrees depending on their socio-economic status, race, gender, and age. For example, many white, lower-middle class staffers were interested in the structural violence of student debt and the underlying economic structures that increased suffering through lack of employment and low wages. Many staffers of color were concerned primarily with ending police brutality- both the dimensions of direct, individual violence of police murder and the structural components of the prison-industrial complex and The New Jim Crow. The campaign also made a distinction between direct and indirect violence that was important to hold individuals accountable for crisis and war without losing legitimacy through ad-hominem attacks. For example, the members of the military and specific politicians were subject to criticism, but the analysis of violence was abstracted to the systemic level as a way to impulse policy change. He was able to effectively link Clinton to those structures as a key player, but did not challenge her as an individual. In official events or the debates, Sanders was often asked if his criticism of systems and structures was directly addressing the actions of Clinton, and he consistently deflected such questions as ridiculous horse-race commentary perpetrated by the profit-driven media. Security is about diminishing threats. Or violence from structure is due to bad intentions and inherent Evil. A far-reaching vision of peace cannot be achieved without a foundational and equally far-reaching re-conceptualization of violence. Many Americans are deeply frightened at the potential outcome of the election in November. Much of this fear stems from evidence that Trump or Clinton, the candidates that were ultimately selected, will be able to address the underlying structural formations that have caused so much suffering inside and outside the US. My experience participating in the Sanders campaign and frequently discussing these issues explicitly showed me that people in the United States are keen to discover new ideas, not just reformist policy. Peace research can play a positive role in raising critical reflection about deeply held cultural elements by improving the understanding of violence and its causes, as well as the potential for positive peace in the form of an equitable and harmonious; empathy-literate society. Fortunately, culture is not static and can be changed. I am hopeful that as violence, in all its forms, continues to manifest with great frequency, Americans will consciously choose a culture of peace. Teachers College, Columbia University:

**Chapter 3 : American imperialism - Wikipedia**

*This book explores a global phenomenon now taking place for the eyes of the world: The Fall of the US Empire. Nothing extraordinary about that, all empires so far have had life cycles, and the US Empire is no exception.*

A black boy is washing windows, a Native American sits separate from the class, and a Chinese boy is outside the door. Uncle Sam to his new class in Civilization: But just take a look at the class ahead of you, and remember that, in a little while, you will feel as glad to be here as they are! It came to be realized with the Mexican-American War of 1846-1848, which resulted in the annexation of 1,366,822 square miles of Mexican territory, stretching up to the Pacific coast. Scholar Jay Sexton notes that the tactics used to implement the doctrine were "modeled after those employed by British imperialists" in their territorial competition with Spain and France. Their escalation under the federal republic allowed the US to dominate North America and carve out the 48 continental states. This is now understood to be an explicitly colonial process, as the Native American nations were usually recognized as sovereign entities prior to annexation. Their sovereignty was systematically undermined by US state policy usually involving unequal or broken treaties and white settler-colonialism. A variety of factors converged during the "New Imperialism" of the late 19th century, when the United States and the other great powers rapidly expanded their overseas territorial possessions. Some of these are explained, or used as examples for the various forms of New Imperialism. Scholars have documented the resemblance and collaboration between US and British military activities in the Pacific at this time. American intervention in both Latin America and Hawaii resulted in multiple industrial investments, including the popular industry of Dole bananas. If the United States was able to annex a territory, in turn they were granted access to the trade and capital of those territories. In 1890, Senator Albert Beveridge proclaimed that an expansion of markets was absolutely necessary, "American factories are making more than the American people can use; American soil is producing more than they can consume. Fate has written our policy for us; the trade of the world must and shall be ours. The Philippine Revolution had begun in August against Spain, and after the defeat of Spain in the Battle of Manila Bay, began again in earnest, culminating in the Philippine Declaration of Independence and the establishment of the First Philippine Republic. The Philippine-American War ensued, with extensive damage and death, ultimately resulting in the defeat of the Philippine Republic. San Juan, the American counterinsurgency resulted in genocide. The maximum geographical extension of American direct political and military control happened in the aftermath of World War II, in the period after the surrender and occupations of Germany and Austria in May and later Japan and Korea in September and before the independence of the Philippines in July. As Raymond Bonner and other historians note, Lansdale controlled the career of President Ramon Magsaysay, going so far as to physically beat him when the Philippine leader attempted to reject a speech the CIA had written for him. In addition, Philippine independence was qualified by legislation passed by the U. For example, the Bell Trade Act provided a mechanism whereby U. It further required U. Clayton described the law as "clearly inconsistent with the basic foreign economic policy of this country" and "clearly inconsistent with our promise to grant the Philippines genuine independence". American exceptionalism On the cover of Puck published on April 6, 1901, in the wake of gainful victory in the Spanish-American War, Columbia - the National personification of the U. American exceptionalism is the notion that the United States occupies a special niche among the nations of the world [65] in terms of its national credo, historical evolution, and political and religious institutions and origins. Philosopher Douglas Kellner traces the identification of American exceptionalism as a distinct phenomenon back to 19th century French observer Alexis de Tocqueville, who concluded by agreeing that the U. This promise was broken when the United States entered the war after the Zimmermann Telegram. This was "a war for empire" to control vast raw materials in Africa and other colonized areas according to the contemporary historian and civil rights leader W. In a memo to Secretary of State Bryan, the president described his aim as "an open door to the world". American rule in Haiti continued through 1934, but was initiated during World War I. The historian Mary Renda in her book, Taking Haiti, talks about the American invasion of Haiti to bring about political stability through U. The American government did not believe Haiti was ready

for self-government or democracy, according to Renda. In order to bring about political stability in Haiti, the United States secured control and integrated the country into the international capitalist economy, while preventing Haiti from practicing self-governance or democracy. While Haiti had been running their own government for many years before American intervention, the U. In order to convince the American public of the justice in intervening, the United States government used paternalist propaganda, depicting the Haitian political process as uncivilized. The Haitian government would come to agree to U. This direct supervision of the Haitian economy would reinforce U. Active distrust surfaced immediately, as even before the October Revolution , British officers had been involved in the Kornilov Affair which sought to crush the Russian anti-war movement and the independent soviets. British diplomat Bruce Lockhart cultivated a relationship with several Soviet officials, including Leon Trotsky , and the latter approved the initial Allied military mission to secure the Eastern Front , which was collapsing in the revolutionary upheaval. Ultimately, Soviet head of state V. This separate peace led to Allied disdain for the Soviets, since it left the Western Allies to fight Germany without a strong Eastern partner. Poole , sponsored an attempted coup in Moscow involving Bruce Lockhart and Sidney Reilly , which involved an attempted assassination of Lenin. The Bolsheviks proceeded to shut down the British and US embassies. Horrified by mass executions of White forces, land expropriations, and widespread repression, the Allied military expedition now assisted the anti-Bolshevik Whites in the Russian Civil War , with the British and French giving armed support to the brutal General Alexander Kolchak. Over 30, Western troops were deployed in Russia overall. I was a racketeer, a gangster for capitalism. I suspected I was just part of a racket at the time. Now I am sure of it I helped make Mexico, especially Tampico, safe for American oil interests in I helped in the raping of half a dozen Central American republics for the benefits of Wall Street Looking back on it, I feel that I could have given Al Capone a few hints. The best he could do was to operate his racket in three districts. I operated on three continents. The enemy aggressor is always pursuing a course of larceny, murder, rapine and barbarism. We are always moving forward with high mission, a destiny imposed by the Deity to regenerate our victims, while incidentally capturing their markets; to civilise savage and senile and paranoid peoples, while blundering accidentally into their oil wells. A " social-democratic " theory says that imperialistic U. The complex is said to benefit from war profiteering and the looting of natural resources , often at the expense of the public interest. Navy during the late 19th century, supported the notion of American imperialism in his book titled *The Influence of Sea Power upon History*. Mahan argued that modern industrial nations must secure foreign markets for the purpose of exchanging goods and, consequently, they must maintain a maritime force that is capable of protecting these trade routes. The argument asserts that capitalism in the Global North Europe, the U.

**Chapter 4 : Are we witnessing the Fall of the U.S Empire? - Galtung-Institut**

*Excerpt from The Fall of the US Empire - and Then What?, by Johan Galtung (TRANSCEND University Press, ). Reprinted with permission from the author. From Chapter 1: Peak Empire: The Magic is Gone.*

I was a little Norwegian boy, 11 years old, in , under German occupation. Hitler was victorious everywhere, almost all of Europe was occupied, the Soviet Union was invaded. The other Axis powers, Italy and Japan, were equally victorious. Enters the hero of this little story: Actually, that "union" was dissolved peacefully in , and maybe not so much because of the bicycle platoon as because of some built-in absurdities. But, drawing on his legitimacy, my father declared that "Hitler has no chance, he will lose--mind my words--around Easter, or Christmas". It did not look like that. So I went to him and asked my father, how can you say that? Hitler and his allies hold on to almost everything, including us, Norway! He looked at me with his "how much can a little boy understand" look, and said with a smile: I never forgot those words. How the Nazis Ruled Europe ; except, maybe, in numbers killed, the domain covered, and the depth of the scope, counting from the beginning in But the basic logic is the same. The war fed on itself. Stalingrad came, the Red Army started advancing instead of retreating. Things happened in the Libyan desert. When Normandy came my father was in a nazi concentration camp in Norway as hostage, and for his underground resistance work. He was let out the day President Roosevelt died, 12 April Spring was there, trees sprouting. And The Nazi Empire fell. The same now happens to another world problem. The problem has a name, The US Empire. Let me only add two key points: I love the US Republic where I have lived much of my life, as much as I hate the US Empire for its violence of all kinds in so many places around the world. The book is as pro-American as it is anti-US Empire. A world without the US Empire will also face evils; some old, some new. They have to be foreseen and addressed, but should not be used as an excuse to keep the US Empire continuing on its disastrous track. They call for a high level of empathy, nonviolence and creativity. Some are explored in this book. I predicted it in for the year , but shortened it by 5 years when George W. Bush--seen as an accelerator of the process--was selected president after a fraudulent election; repeated by other means four years later. That prediction now comes true, for our eyes, these first decades of the 21st century. The Future is dedicated to the - And Then What? Many will read it as And Now What, but the fall is not yet there. Nasty things may still happen. But the magic is gone, and the time to engage in post-empire construction is already there. The future part is divided into two parts, global and domestic, with the alternatives spelt out in the subtitles: Successors, Regionalization or Globalization? The Past is dedicated to past imperialism. For a peace researcher, imperialism--combining direct, structural and cultural violence--is a major concern. Then came "On the Decline and Fall of Empires: That was actually followed by "The Decline and Fall of Empires as De-Development", written in for the United Nations Research Institute on Social Development, to be published in A Theory of Development as the study focuses on economic power--hence the word "de-development"--beyond military and political defeat. We are now years later, and the theory can be judged by its fruits. Not a word has been changed. The present book is a generalization of the study to fully-fledged "tetrapus" imperialism, adding to the economic the military, political and cultural tentacles. University of California, , 22 pp. Thus, as this is written, the USA blocks ceasefire in Gaza for Israel to "win" the war in its twin regional empire. Great thanks to Michael Kuur-Sorensen for assistance. Six Contradictions In the comparative study of the decline of ten empires--and fall of nine, No. The syndrome idea came from an earlier study of the decline and fall of the Roman Empire, which had been the object of many single factor theories. That study is reproduced in Part Three of this book. The syndrome idea was then applied to the Soviet Empire in , focusing on six contradictions: In , I predicted that the Berlin Wall, the weakest point in the empire, would fall within 10 years, followed by the Soviet Empire. The theory was "synchronic, synergic maturation of contradictions, demoralizing Center and Periphery elites". Elites might control by force one or two contradictions, but be overwhelmed by more. The Berlin wall fell on time, 9 November After the wall came the Soviet fall, by the whimper of demoralized, corrupt, fat, alcoholized ego-maniac elites, feeding also on Radio Erevan jokes. Fit for the survival of self and family, but unfit for the survival of the Empire. The faith was gone. How does faith evaporate from so many

true believers in the Soviet model, all over the world? A mental process with seven phases could sometimes be identified in Euro-communists: But no paradise is forever. Human, all too human. Some elements in the minds of the true believers are untouchable, like the two structural elements, let alone the key cultural-ideological elements. But as data start piling up there is a tactical withdrawal that permits acknowledging that there are such rumors, that they are empirically true but due to circumstances, even due to a key human individual but still not systemic. Time has come to leave one empire to embrace the next as perfect. But there is also another way of telling this story, and, like the above story, with a direct carry-over to the US empire. The focus is then on world space, on the relation between the efforts at global governance in the 20th century--the League of Nations and the United Nations--and their member states. Of these six, Japan went to war against China in , Italy against Ethiopia in both of them bombing the civilian population, Italy also with gas--Germany against Czechoslovakia in , and the Soviet Union against Finland in . They all defined themselves as above the law, as exceptions, also to the Kellogg-Briand treaty of . They exited from the League, they were condemned; but the League, international law, and general human morality all proved too weak. The League died, partly for that reason as there are limits to the disconnect between rules and actual behavior, between authority and compliance. If one goes, so does the other. All four engaged in their key pursuit, building empires by the sword. And all four empires were dismantled, the first three by the bang of the sword, the fourth by the whimper of an implosion. Today no country has defied the authority of the successor, the UN, as much as the USA at the world level, and its clone, Israel, at the more regional level. The conclusion is clear:

Chapter 5 : The Fall of the US Empire and then what | Symon Sez

*The Fall of the US Empire-And Then What? by Johan Galtung, 1 Sep - TRANSCEND Media Service Is the title of a book published by TRANSCEND University Press in , now in second printing, and several translations including Chinese.*

Ready to fight back? Sign up for Take Action Now and get three actions in your inbox every week. You can read our Privacy Policy here. Thank you for signing up. For more from The Nation, check out our latest issue. Support Progressive Journalism The Nation is reader supported: Travel With The Nation Be the first to hear about Nation Travels destinations, and explore the world with kindred spirits. Sign up for our Wine Club today. Did you know you can support The Nation by drinking wine? This piece originally appeared at TomDispatch. A soft landing for America 40 years from now? The demise of the United States as the global superpower could come far more quickly than anyone imagines. If Washington is dreaming of or as the end of the American Century, a more realistic assessment of domestic and global trends suggests that in , just 15 years from now, it could all be over except for the shouting. Ad Policy Despite the aura of omnipotence most empires project, a look at their history should remind us that they are fragile organisms. So delicate is their ecology of power that, when things start to go truly bad, empires regularly unravel with unholy speed: However, instead of the bloodshed that marked the end of so many past empires, with cities burning and civilians slaughtered, this twenty-first century imperial collapse could come relatively quietly through the invisible tendrils of economic collapse or cyberwarfare. But have no doubt: As a half-dozen European nations have discovered, imperial decline tends to have a remarkably demoralizing impact on a society, regularly bringing at least a generation of economic privation. As the economy cools, political temperatures rise, often sparking serious domestic unrest. Available economic, educational, and military data indicate that, when it comes to US global power, negative trends will aggregate rapidly by and are likely to reach a critical mass no later than The American Century, proclaimed so triumphantly at the start of World War II, will be tattered and fading by , its eighth decade, and could be history by By , according to current plans, the Pentagon will throw a military Hail Mary pass for a dying empire. Ordinary Americans, watching their jobs head overseas, have a more realistic view than their cosseted leaders. The future scenarios include: While these are hardly the only possibilities when it comes to American decline or even collapse, they offer a window into an onrushing future. There is no reason to believe that this trend will reverse itself. Similarly, American leadership in technological innovation is on the wane. A harbinger of further decline: Add to this clear evidence that the US education system, that source of future scientists and innovators, has been falling behind its competitors. After leading the world for decades in to year-olds with university degrees, the country sank to 12th place in The World Economic Forum ranked the United States at a mediocre 52nd among nations in the quality of its university math and science instruction in Nearly half of all graduate students in the sciences in the US are now foreigners, most of whom will be heading home, not staying here as once would have happened. By , in other words, the United States is likely to face a critical shortage of talented scientists. Rogoff, a former chief economist at the International Monetary Fund. Suddenly, the cost of imports soars. Unable to pay for swelling deficits by selling now-devalued Treasury notes abroad, Washington is finally forced to slash its bloated military budget. Under pressure at home and abroad, Washington slowly pulls US forces back from hundreds of overseas bases to a continental perimeter. By now, however, it is far too late. Meanwhile, amid soaring prices, ever-rising unemployment, and a continuing decline in real wages, domestic divisions widen into violent clashes and divisive debates, often over remarkably irrelevant issues. Riding a political tide of disillusionment and despair, a far-right patriot captures the presidency with thundering rhetoric, demanding respect for American authority and threatening military retaliation or economic reprisal. The world pays next to no attention as the American Century ends in silence. Compounding the problem, the Chinese and Indians have suddenly become far heavier energy consumers. Other developed nations are meeting this threat aggressively by plunging into experimental programs to develop alternative energy sources. The United States has taken a different path, doing far too little to develop alternative sources while, in the last three decades,

doubling its dependence on foreign oil imports. Scenario The United States remains so dependent upon foreign oil that a few adverse developments in the global energy market in spark an oil shock. By comparison, it makes the oil shock when prices quadrupled in just months look like the proverbial molehill. That only hikes the cost of US oil imports further. At the same moment, while signing a new series of long-term delivery contracts with China, the Saudis stabilize their own foreign exchange reserves by switching to the Yuan. All the elements that long assured the United States limitless supplies of low-cost oil from that region—logistics, exchange rates, and naval power—evaporate. The oil shock that follows hits the country like a hurricane, sending prices to startling heights, making travel a staggeringly expensive proposition, putting real wages which had long been declining into freefall, and rendering non-competitive whatever American exports remained. With thermostats dropping, gas prices climbing through the roof, and dollars flowing overseas in return for costly oil, the American economy is paralyzed. With long-fraying alliances at an end and fiscal pressures mounting, US military forces finally begin a staged withdrawal from their overseas bases. Within a few years, the US is functionally bankrupt and the clock is ticking toward midnight on the American Century. Present Situation Counterintuitively, as their power wanes, empires often plunge into ill-advised military misadventures. These operations, irrational even from an imperial point of view, often yield hemorrhaging expenditures or humiliating defeats that only accelerate the loss of power. Embattled empires through the ages suffer an arrogance that drives them to plunge ever deeper into military misadventures until defeat becomes debacle. In 1571, a dying imperial Spain dispatched 20,000 soldiers to be massacred by Berber guerrillas in Morocco. In 1882, a fading British Empire destroyed its prestige by attacking Suez. And in 1901 and 1903, the US occupied Afghanistan and invaded Iraq. With the hubris that marks empires over the millennia, Washington has increased its troops in Afghanistan to 100,000, expanded the war into Pakistan, and extended its commitment to and beyond, courting disasters large and small in this guerilla-infested, nuclear-armed graveyard of empires. With the US military stretched thin from Somalia to the Philippines and tensions rising in Israel, Iran, and Korea, possible combinations for a disastrous military crisis abroad are multifold. Soon, mullahs are preaching jihad from mosques throughout the region, and Afghan Army units, long trained by American forces to turn the tide of the war, begin to desert en masse. Taliban fighters then launch a series of remarkably sophisticated strikes aimed at US garrisons across the country, sending American casualties soaring. In scenes reminiscent of Saigon in 1975, US helicopters rescue American soldiers and civilians from rooftops in Kabul and Kandahar. With gas prices soaring and refineries running dry, Washington makes its move, sending in Special Operations forces to seize oil ports in the Persian Gulf. This, in turn, sparks a rash of suicide attacks and the sabotage of pipelines and oil wells. With its growing resources, Beijing is claiming a vast maritime arc from Korea to Indonesia long dominated by the US Navy. To check China and extend its military position globally, Washington is intent on building a new digital network of air and space robotics, advanced cyberwarfare capabilities, and electronic surveillance. Military planners expect this integrated system to envelop the Earth in a cyber-grid capable of blinding entire armies on the battlefield or taking out a single terrorist in field or favela. By 2025, if all goes according to plan, the Pentagon will launch a three-tiered shield of space drones—reaching from stratosphere to exosphere, armed with agile missiles, linked by a resilient modular satellite system, and operated through total telescopic surveillance. Last April, the Pentagon made history. It extended drone operations into the exosphere by quietly launching the X-47B unmanned space shuttle into a low orbit 250 miles above the planet. The X-47B is the first in a new generation of unmanned vehicles that will mark the full weaponization of space, creating an arena for future warfare unlike anything that has gone before. Scenario The technology of space and cyberwarfare is so new and untested that even the most outlandish scenarios may soon be superseded by a reality still hard to conceive. While cyber-shoppers pound the portals of Best Buy for deep discounts on the latest home electronics from China, US Air Force technicians at the Space Surveillance Telescope SST on Maui choke on their coffee as their panoramic screens suddenly blip to black. The first overt strike is one nobody predicted. It suddenly fires all the rocket pods beneath its enormous 100-foot wingspan, sending dozens of lethal missiles plunging harmlessly into the Yellow Sea, effectively disarming this formidable weapon. Determined to fight fire with fire, the White House authorizes a retaliatory strike. In near panic, the Air Force launches its Falcon Hypersonic Cruise Vehicle into an arc 250 miles above the

Pacific Ocean and then, just 20 minutes later, sends the computer codes to fire missiles at seven Chinese satellites in nearby orbits. The launch codes are suddenly inoperative. Carrier fleets begin steaming in circles in the mid-Pacific. Fighter squadrons are grounded. Reaper drones fly aimlessly toward the horizon, crashing when their fuel is exhausted. Within hours, the military power that had dominated the globe for nearly a century has been defeated in World War III without a single human casualty. A New World Order? Even if future events prove duller than these four scenarios suggest, every significant trend points toward a far more striking decline in American global power by than anything Washington now seems to be envisioning. As allies worldwide begin to realign their policies to take cognizance of rising Asian powers, the cost of maintaining or more overseas military bases will simply become unsustainable, finally forcing a staged withdrawal on a still-unwilling Washington. With both the US and China in a race to weaponize space and cyberspace, tensions between the two powers are bound to rise, making military conflict by at least feasible, if hardly guaranteed. Complicating matters even more, the economic, military, and technological trends outlined above will not operate in tidy isolation. As happened to European empires after World War II, such negative forces will undoubtedly prove synergistic. They will combine in thoroughly unexpected ways, create crises for which Americans are remarkably unprepared, and threaten to spin the economy into a sudden downward spiral, consigning this country to a generation or more of economic misery. As US power recedes, the past offers a spectrum of possibilities for a future world order. At one end of this spectrum, the rise of a new global superpower, however unlikely, cannot be ruled out. Yet both China and Russia evince self-referential cultures, recondite non-roman scripts, regional defense strategies, and underdeveloped legal systems, denying them key instruments for global dominion. At the moment then, no single superpower seems to be on the horizon likely to succeed the US. In a dark, dystopian version of our global future, a coalition of transnational corporations, multilateral forces like NATO, and an international financial elite could conceivably forge a single, possibly unstable, supra-national nexus that would make it no longer meaningful to speak of national empires at all. While denationalized corporations and multinational elites would assumedly rule such a world from secure urban enclaves, the multitudes would be relegated to urban and rural wastelands. In *Planet of Slums*, Mike Davis offers at least a partial vision of such a world from the bottom up. In this neo-Westphalian world order, with its endless vistas of micro-violence and unchecked exploitation, each hegemon would dominate its immediate region—Brasilia in South America, Washington in North America, Pretoria in southern Africa, and so on.

**Chapter 6 : The Fall of the US Empire - And Then What? (TRANSCEND University Press)**

*THE FALL OF THE US EMPIRE - AND THEN WHAT? July 21, Series: THE FALL OF THE US EMPIRE - AND THEN WHAT? Johan Galtung and Dennis Kucinich discuss the proposal for a Department of Peace.*

Johan Galtung founder of the field of peace and conflict studies. He has spent the past half-century pursuing nonviolent conflict resolution in international relations. His latest book is called *The Fall of the US Empire*, in which he predicts the collapse of the American empire in ten years, by Transcript This is a rush transcript. Copy may not be in its final form. We turn to part two of my interview with Johan Galtung. Known as the founder of peace studies, he spent the past half-century pursuing nonviolent conflict resolution in international relations. Successors, Regionalization or Globalization? I spoke to him last week about his prediction of the collapse of the US Empire in ten years, he says, by In the second part of our interview, Galtung discusses his assessment of President Obama, the US corporate media and more. Some of them are traveling to Afghanistan. Some of them are doing it somewhere else in other ways. Those ways can become quite disagreeable, as you know. Point two, there is no capitulation in Islam to infidels. To fight against Christians and Jews “you take the mini-empire of Israel, the regional empire “ is not an invitation to a violent confrontation that will end with a capitulation. In other words, the time perspective of the Muslim community is unlimited. So you can say, of course, who has the longer time perspective will win. So, having said that, victory is out. Of course, the US will not be available for defeat, as, in a sense, it was in Vietnam in April So withdrawal is the likeliest thing, hoping desperately that the Afghan national army and the Afghan national police will take over the job, which they will, with my knowledge of the situation, not do. They will be aligning themselves with the next stage in Afghan history. But having mentioned this, there is of course a fourth possibility: United States participating in conflict resolution. So what we have been discussing here, Amy, in Washington in these sessions, have been the details of these five points and other points. And here I would like to enter with a basic point about mediation, we who mediate. OK, what we are trying to find out are the goals of the parties. What do they want? I mentioned the Taliban are dead against secularization. I find that legitimate. The US goal of a base, I find it illegitimate. The US goal of an oil pipeline and controlling it, I find it illegitimate, by means of war. But the US goal that no attack should come from Afghanistan, I find completely legitimate. I think it was essentially Saudi Arabian. And if you then add to this, from onwards, staging US wars in the region, be it against the Saddam Hussein invading Kuwait, or be it against the Saddam Hussein “ that was in , February “ the Saddam Hussein of , 20 March, by Iraqi reckoning, staging it from Saudi Arabia, from the sacred land of the chosen people. Now, the US should know something about sacred land and chosen people, the metaphor that I took from Judaism, because at the time in , at the time of the Mayflower, there was not much Zion on the eastern end of the Mediterranean. So, having said that, conflict resolution is the way. But that can only happen if you understand what the people want, legitimate goals in Afghanistan, and taking into consideration what, to my mind, is an absolutely legitimate goal from Washington “ no attack shall emerge from Afghanistan. Now, having said that, I am not sure that the US is going to do this. Well, military or political interventions since Thomas Jefferson “ we are now perhaps at “ this is not a US foreign policy talent, in spite of the fact that there are so many wonderful Americans in this fantastic country, where I have lived much of my life, that have a fabulous ability to handle conflicts well. So, having said that, we come to alternative five for the US: Neither victory nor defeat, nor withdrawal, nor conflict resolution “ becoming irrelevant. And that, of course, leads us to the question, who then is relevant? Countries in the region, Turkey. Now, they are not becoming a regional power. They are now very high up on world diplomacy. So there you have a quite interesting triad coming up. Add to that Russia and China, not India. You can look at this, and then you can draw the conclusion: They die with a whimper, and usually not with a bang, as T. He is known as the father of peace studies, a mediator around the world. Johan Galtung, I wanted to ask you about your assessment of President Obama, but first play a clip for you. He gave this speech a week before he received the Nobel Peace Prize in the city, in the capital you were born, in Oslo. Now, the people of Afghanistan have endured violence for decades. They have been confronted with occupation by the Soviet Union and then by foreign al-Qaeda

fighters who used Afghan land for their own purposes. So tonight, I want the Afghan people to understand: America seeks an end to this era of war and suffering. We have no interest in occupying your country. We will support efforts by the Afghan government to open the door to those Taliban who abandon violence and respect the human rights of their fellow citizens. And we will seek a partnership with Afghanistan grounded in mutual respect, to isolate those who destroy, to strengthen those who build, to hasten the day when our troops will leave, and to forge a lasting friendship in which America is your partner and never your patron. That was President Obama. Totally unrealistic and extremely badly informed, and that from such an intelligent, such a charming man with such a brilliant rhetoric. Look, to be realistic here, one has to understand that almost all Afghans, after having been invaded five times in recent history – three times by the English, once by the Soviets, Russians, and once by the Americans – are sick and tired, absolutely, of being invaded. The idea that the Taliban should lay down their arms before the Americans withdraw is outside reality. The idea of a partnership in a country fundamentally, and to some extent fundamentalist, Muslim, that you can have a partnership and you can come with technical assistance projects, development projects that have not been blessed by Allah, is a great misunderstanding. You will cater to a small group of Westernized people in Kabul and a couple of other places. Now, where is the Obama plan for canceling the Bagram base? Where is the plan for giving the pipeline back to the people it should belong to? And that is not Unocal. I hear nothing of the kind. Now, this is just a part of imperial politics. What I do hear, with sympathy, is the idea of parity. But, you see, parity, with so-and-so-many soldiers in one of the lands, with no soldiers from that land in your own land, is not parity. I find – when I talk with Afghans, I find three motives, and I mentioned them already: So we have so-and-so-many million Afghans, and you have three motivations. You have very many of them with plus-three. I think you have very few with zero motivation. Dear Obama, out of touch with reality. We have just – in Afghanistan, the war in Afghanistan has just entered its th month. Johan Galtung, how can it end now? I think it will end, by and large, the same way as Vietnam. That means United States becoming irrelevant. That means that others will, behind the scene, play important roles. There will be negotiations. We are probably coming into a period where Taliban, at some point, will meet Americans. They will not go to a place – the Taliban – where they can easily be captured. To find that place where they can meet will not be so easy. There will be something similar to the talks between North Vietnam and the Americans. That simply is superior. So, instead of playing it with a ladder up to a helicopter on top of the embassy, I would guess that the Obama double plan – on the one hand, 30, more in; on the other hand, withdrawal, an invitation for the Taliban to look at their watch and wait, of course – will play itself out in a way very similar to Vietnam. And in the meantime, others will be working. There were lots of non-governmental people working – Pugwash, for instance. I was a member of that one. I know a little bit about what happened. France played a certain role, no doubt about it. Russia played a role. China played a role. And what happened then, when the 30 April, , was all over, was that the two Vietnams came together like that, and the thing handled itself. Afghanistan will handle itself. United States will have to receive a relatively high number of people who, after this is over, will find themselves on the wrong side of the divide.

**Chapter 7 : The Fall of the US Empire - And Then What? by Johan Galtung**

*The American empire "and I'm going to the American empire and then what?" over the next 70, 80, 90 years has to fade as the dominant power in the world. It's either going to be a consciously.*

There were two subtitles indicating answers: Successors, Regionalization or Globalization? What is the situation today, five years later? In empires the local elites line up to do the killing; yet the Western powers have mainly to do that themselves. China is very active economically abroad, some of it structural violence; however, the military component has not been used aggressively. In short, no successors. African Unity suffered a major setback when Gaddafi was eliminated; but the Union is there even if under strong Anglo-American influence, e. They have tried that before; maybe dialogue would be better than bombing? Yes, indeed; if by fascism we mean use of massive violence for political goals. US fascism takes three forms: A deeply tragic development. Such an innovative country and nothing better to offer than macro bombing, meso droning and micro sniping. We sense the military-industrial complex at work "the bomb industry upfront" but dubious intellectuals are also in it: Obama presses Russia to stop fomenting a virtual civil war in Ukraine, he is trying to collaborate with Moscow in a diplomatic campaign to force Iran to scale back its nuclear program. Even as he pressures Iran over its nuclear program, he finds himself on the same side as Tehran in combating a rising Sunni insurgency in Iraq. Even as he sends special forces to help squelch those insurgents, he is trying to help their putative allies against the government in Syria next door. The answer by a former security aide to Obama, Gary Samore, from an autistic bubble, is less brilliant: Foreign policy is always complicated. We always have a mix of complicated interests. There are other factors, but the common denominator is us, US. Change that policy and the world would be easier to cope with. But, the problem is whether Washington is too autistic to think thoughts beyond its bombing-droning-sniping obsession. The Guardian, 9 July Social science is being militarized to develop social tools to target peaceful activists and protest movements. Furthermore, of course 28 August, Internet , the shocking, not exactly surprising, news: And that is by the same military means that brought the two countries into being. The more militarized the more dehumanized and the more dehumanized the more lethal; fed psychologically by anti-Arab and anti-Black racism, and by exceptionalist claims from the ruling elites. Militarized class and race war is the worst approach possible. What the USA needs is imitative, solidarity, cooperation for a better USA; they will reap fear, apathy, withdrawal, revenge, spiraling violence. Already hurting the US image abroad and far from halting the decline and fall of the US Empire, it will speed up the decline and fall of the USA itself. Will they trigger a world war as a cover-up? Moreover, it comes on top of another sad phenomenon in the USA: The standard analysis is to psychiatrize the murderer, searching for a profile and its likes in society to prevent more shootings. Another approach would focus on the shootings as a collective, slow suicide of a US incapable of solving its countless problems, even addressing them, to the point that people simply give a damn, kill what they see as the problem including, often, themselves. General demoralization has such consequences, like the suicide epidemic at the end of the Austrian-Hungarian empire and beyond, lasting to our days. Pull yourself together, Stop It!

**Chapter 8 : Decline of Empire: Parallels Between the U.S. and Rome, Part I - International Man**

*Johan Galtung and Dennis Kucinich discuss the proposal for a Department of Peace.*

There are some similarities between the U. But before continuing, please seat yourself comfortably. There are good reasons for looking to Rome rather than any other civilization when trying to see where the U. Everyone knows Rome declined, but few people understand why. And, I think, even fewer realize that the U. Rome reached its peak of military power around the year , when Trajan completed the conquest of Dacia the territory of modern Romania. In Europe controlled almost the whole worldâ€”politically, financially, and militarily. Like America, Rome was founded by refugeesâ€”from Troy, at least in myth. Like America, it was ruled by kings in its early history. Later, Romans became self-governing, with several Assemblies and a Senate. Later still, power devolved to the executive, which was likely not an accident. As it was in Rome, military prowess is at the center of the national identity of the U. When you adopt a model in earnest, you grow to resemble it. Declaration of Independence were written. There was no real science of archeology when Gibbon wrote; little had been done even to correlate the surviving ancient texts with what was on the surviving monumentsâ€”even the well-known monumentsâ€”and on the coins. Not to mention scientists digging around in the provinces for what was left of Roman villas, battle sites, and that sort of thing. So Gibbon, like most historians, was to a degree a collector of hearsay. And how could he know whom to believe among the ancient sources? Buckley, Gore Vidal, H. Mencken, Norman Mailer, and George Carlin all wrote about the same event, and you were left to figure out whose story was true. That would make it tough to tell what really happened just a few years agoâ€”forget about ancient history. There were many positive aspects to Romeâ€”as there are to most civilizations. But there was much else to Rome of which I disapprove, such as its anti-commercialism, its militarism and, post-Caesar, its centralized and increasingly totalitarian government. So why did Rome fall? In , a German named Demandt assembled reasons. I find some of them sillyâ€”like racial degeneration, homosexuality, and excessive freedom. Some are just common senseâ€”like bankruptcy, loss of moral fiber, and corruption. Christianity and barbarian invasions, respectively. I think Gibbon was essentially right about both. Because of the sensibilities of his era, however, he probed at early Christianity i. Hopefully neither my analysis of religion nor of barbarian invasions then and now will disturb too many readers. It looks a lot like the American experience over the last couple of hundred years. First conquest and expansion, then global dominance, and then slippage into decline. Jeff says most uber-successful companies have these 3 things in commonâ€” Click here to learn moreâ€” â€” Public revelation from Bill Bonner: For example, this team exposed the housing collapse well ahead of time. Today, Bill pulls back the curtain on a SIXTH major shock which also has select congressmen and billionaires preparing. Rome as anything resembling a free society fell in the s and then changed radically again, with Diocletian and the Dominate period more on this shortly. Maybe the end came in , when the Goths destroyed a Roman army at Adrianople and wholesale invasions began. Maybe we should call the end, when Alaricâ€”a Goth who was actually a Roman generalâ€”conducted the first sacking of Rome. Maybe we should use , when Constantinople and the Eastern Empire fell. Maybe the Empire is still alive today in the form of the Catholic Churchâ€”the Pope is the Pontifex Maximus wearing red slippers, as did Julius Caesar when he held that position. One certain reflection in the distant mirror is that beginning with the Principate period, Rome underwent an accelerating trend toward absolutism, centralization, totalitarianism, and bureaucracy. I think we can argue America entered its Principate with the accession of Roosevelt in ; since then, the president has reigned supreme over the Congress, as Augustus did over the Senate. Pretenses fell off increasingly over time in Rome, just as they have in the U. This happened with the ascension of Diocletian in and then, after another civil war, Constantine in . From that point forward, the emperor no longer even pretended to be the first among equals and was treated as an oriental potentate. The same trend is in motion in the U. Harry Truman was the last president who actually dared to go out and informally stroll about DC, like a common citizen, while in office. In any event, just as the Senate, the consuls, and the tribunes with their vetoes became impotent anachronisms, so have U. Early on, starting with the fourth emperor, Claudius, in 41 AD, the Praetorians who had been set up by Augustus

showed they could designate the emperor. And today in the U. My guess is that the booboisie the Romans called them the capite censi, or head count will demand a strong leader as the Greater Depression evolves, the dollar is destroyed, and a serious war gets underway. You have to remember that war has always been the health of the state. The Roman emperors were expected, not least by their soldiers, to always be engaged in war. We can humorously add the self-proclaimed war president Baby Bush. The public will want a general partly because the military is now by far the most trusted institution of U. His likely election will be a mistake for numerous reasons, not least that the military is really just a heavily armed variant of the postal service. After that, few were. Much like what happened in Rome, the U. And most people have no idea how to prepare. [Click here to watch this video now.](#)

Chapter 9 : The Decline and Fall of the American Empire | The Nation

*His latest book is called The Fall of the US Empire, in which he predicts the collapse of the American empire in ten years, by Transcript This is a rush transcript.*

Johan Galtung founder of the field of peace and conflict studies. He has spent the past half-century pursuing nonviolent conflict resolution in international relations. His latest book is called The Fall of the US Empire, in which he predicts the collapse of the American empire in ten years, by Transcript This is a rush transcript. Copy may not be in its final form. We turn right now, in the last few minutes, to a man who has spent the last half-century pursuing nonviolent conflict resolution. His name is Johan Galtung. Successors, Regionalization or Globalization? We welcome you to Democracy Now! As you survey they geopolitical landscape right now and the wars that the US is involved with, what are your thoughts? Well, thank you so much for inviting me. In , I predicted for the Soviet empire that it will crack at its weakest point, the wall of Berlin, within ten years, and it happened in November , and the Soviet empire followed. So my prediction is a similar one for the US empire. And that could lead to the blossoming of the US. Why do you say ten years, that the US empire collapses in a decade? Within ten years “ well, the prediction was made in year , and I actually said twenty-five years. But then Bush was elected president, and his narrow vision, his fundamentalism, made me cut it by five years, because I saw him as an accelerator, which he certainly did, launching three wars “ war on terrorism, war on Afghanistan and war on Iraq. In other words, we are now in war number five of major significance. That is typical for the decline of the empire that it goes like that. When you ask me why did I have that time horizon, well, I made a comparative study of quite a lot of declines of empires. And there are certain factors that are similar. They rise and decline more quickly now. Of course, the two Roman empires, the Western and the Eastern, lasted longer. The US started, I would say, in , walking into the shoes of the dying or dead Spanish empire. And we are now dealing with a phenomenon which is about , years old. And as I told you, I put the upper limit at What we see right now is an intensification spreading, special forces increasing, let us say, from thirty to forty-five countries. If you try to dominate the world economically, militarily, politically and culturally at the same time, and then having these four support each other, it cannot last for a long time. Now, in that period, there will be fascist reactions. But, you see, I am much more optimistic than that: I think that the US is in for a blossoming period. Look at what happened to England when it got rid of its empire from on. Russia got rid of its empire from They took some time. There was a bad Yeltsin period. Right now Russia is rising. You see the same in France. You see it in Italy. Johan Galtung is known as the father of peace studies. Please attribute legal copies of this work to democracynow. Some of the work s that this program incorporates, however, may be separately licensed. For further information or additional permissions, contact us.