

THINGS IN MOTION...

All things are in motion and nothing is at rest ... you cannot go into the same (river) twice. —Heraclitus (540?-480?) B.C.

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IN THE YEAR 2525 ...

“Good morning, America! This is Pedro Juan Jacinto at WKMA, The Voice of Washington, bringing you greetings from the nation’s capital. Let’s go first to our colleague in Kabu, a suburb within the green zone just to the north of Bagdad: Ricardo Gonzalez, what’s the latest from Kabu?”

“Good morning, Pedro. Things are relatively quiet here at the moment—smoke from yesterday’s roadside bombings has hidden much of the area from view, although we still can hear explosions to the east. The commandant here has issued warnings for all the civilians left in this area to remain vigilant.”

“Ricardo, has there been any further word from the Iraqi president on when his forces will be able to take over from the American Army?”

“President Assad held a press conference last evening, Pedro, and assured the press corps that it is only a matter of time. He reported that the disputes between eight of the fourteen factions that are now conducting terrorist attacks against each other have agreed to meet next January as a first step toward resolving their differences. In a moment of apparent satisfaction, President Assad announced that Saudi Arabia has joined Syria and Lebanon in closing their borders to all male citizen travelers, citing the alarming population drop of their male citizens and the growing fear that not enough men will be left to maintain a national identity. The example of

Iran’s decline into a female dominated state has brought great pressure on middle eastern countries that have furnished manpower for the Iraqi war in recent decades.”

“We’re hearing rumors of another investigation in Congress, Ricardo—has there been any word in your location about troop withdrawals?”

“Nothing concrete. General LaVonne LaVoe issued a memo recently to the effect that Third Army personnel would be required to turn in their robes and revert to GI uniforms before the first of next month. Some Army patrol units are reportedly selling their camels to civil service employees.”

“Ricardo, you’ve been in Kabu for 38 years now. How would you describe the relationship between American troops and the civilian population of Iraq?”

“There was a definite change of attitude when it was announced that the 500,000th American GI had lost his life in Iraq. That fact alone seems to have convinced the Iraqis that America is dedicated to establishing democracy in Iraq. Just yesterday, Colonel Jalonquel Moki called upon his men to allow any Iraqi youngsters who showed up to play basketball.”

“Isn’t that a major change in policy, Ricardo?”

“It is, however I haven’t seen a youngster for almost six months. They seemed to disappear about the time suicide bombers disappeared.”

“Thanks as always, Ricardo, for your insightful report. Moving on to news at home, we have the latest gasoline prices for you. On the east coast, prices stabilized at \$28,987.9 per gallon while west coast prices were somewhat higher. In New Orleans, the mayor announced plans to re-establish Mardi Gras within 20 years, provided all cemeteries are restored by then. The 250,000 square foot Bush Memorial Library will open in November. Congress has scheduled debates on ending the draft within a period of ten years following peace in Iraq.”

“The CIA reports that it has now verified that no more Mexicans remain in Mexico. American President Juan Valdez has sworn to buy Mexico as a prison for the millions of US citizens now incarcerated in Puerto Rico. Since Cuba became the fifty-first state, there has been a migration of Florida's Cuban population to that former Communist state, leaving Florida with the highest average age of US citizens—at the last census, that average age was 98.4.”

“Ramon de la Villa resigned as President of the fortieth Council on New World Government on Friday last, citing irreconcilable differences between the government of Mongolia and Chad as the main cause. Before leaving Siberia, he appointed Jose Garcia Manuel de Luna as his successor for the forty-first attempt to establish a world government. The Russian Premier, El Gato de las Sierras, told reporters that he was confident of great progress at the next Council meeting. His view was further strengthened by a press release from the Canadian Premier, Raul Gonzalez, who reminded the press corps of how determined the entire Southern Hemisphere governments were to bring the new nation of Antarctica into its rightful place as a member of World Citizenry, and to do it before the threatened shift of the earth's poles.”

“The Space Coast has been a beehive of action for the last month, as plans for the launch of US Manned Space Exploration Vehicle LXIII are completed atop the Launch Pavilion on Iron Mountain. The City of Lake Wales, nearby, is planning a pre-launch concert at the old Bok Tower, which abuts the Launch Pavilion.”

“The President of The University of Central Florida, Julio Ramiriz, announced to the Class of '25 that the merger of UCF and The University of Florida in Gainesville will not be completed in time for their graduation exercises but would be finished before the next class is ready to graduate. He went on to explain that the encroachment of the Atlantic Ocean due to melting of the Greenland Ice Cap in 2015 had been worsened by the melting of the Polar Ice Cap just a few years ago. The resulting

flooding of the land between Orlando and New Smyrna Beach has driven most residents of the eastern half of Florida out of the state, so it will be up to the students themselves to move the campus of UCF to Gainesville.”

“American swimmer Pedro LaHoya was seen at a party in the home of British Prime Minister, Sir Renaldo de la Vegas on Saturday—the 21 Gold Medal winner was revealing plans to swim the English Channel in spite of its width of 40 miles, which could extend to 45 if ice continues to melt as predicted. The sports hero was suspected of smoking marijuana, but no such activity has been photographed since coffee was banned.”

“The United Nations has begun its project to re-plant the rain forests of Brazil and Central America, as well as on the new land recently risen in the Atlantic near Panama. Secretary-General Giraldo Maldonado told the Assembly on Wednesday that before ten generations have passed, the world will be enjoying new levels of oxygen in that area, and that there will be a resurgence of animal life as soon as the UN can find larger animal populations to draw upon.”



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--Hugh Singleton