DANIEL 11, -- EVENTS OF THE END TIMES

INTRODUCTION

This eleventh chapter of Daniel is the most chronologically complete presentation of events concerning the 'nations' presented in the entire Bible. This presentation of events is simple yet complete; is presented in a correct chronological sequence; and is accurate in fulfillment. Daniel briefly accounts for the 2,500 year span of world empires, (from 550 BC to the 1900's), and then delves into the detailed events of this twentieth century -- the 'end times.'

THE FIRST EMPIRE -- Babylonian/Chaldean

Daniel 5:30 "That very night Belshaz'zar the Chalde'an king was slain. ³¹ And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old."

Daniel 9:1 "In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasu-e'rus, by birth a Mede who became king over the realm of the Chaldeans..."

Daniel 11:1 "And as for me, in the first year of Darius the Mede, I stood up to confirm and strengthen him."

Daniel 6:28 "So this Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian."

In this first verse of the eleventh chapter, we find this Darius of whom history sheds virtually no light on. Of course, it has already been pointed out that Darius is cited as a Babylonian/Chaldean king in Dan. 5:31 and 9:1. In Dan. 11:1 Daniel ministers to his king of whom events will soon overwhelm. And then in Dan. 6:28 we see Daniel's political role extended across two empires, serving from King Nebuchadnezzar to King Darius, and then transitioning into the new Medo/Persian governance under King Cyrus the Great.

It is during this pre-transition period that Daniel writes concerning future world events. He writes both to the end time governments and to "confirm and strengthen" this King Darius, to demonstrate that GOD indeed has a plan for the future in spite of impending assimilation by the expanding Medo/Persian empire.

THREE WORLD EMPIRES -- Medo/Persian, Grecian, & Roman

Daniel 11:2 "And now I will show you the truth. Behold, three more kings shall arise in <u>Persia;</u> and a fourth shall be far richer than all of them; and when he has become strong through his riches, he shall stir up all against the kingdom of Greece."

The "three more" added to the Babylonian/Chaldean Empire of Darius the Mede (head of Gold), includes the Medo/Persian (breast & arms of Silver: +1), Grecian (belly & thighs of Bronze: +2), and Roman (legs of Iron: +3) Empires. These three did not arise out of the nation of "Persia," (with the exception of the Medo/Persian Empire), but they did either conquer, occupy, or exert significant geo-political influence in this Near East corner of the world. The "fourth" (feet of Iron & Clay: +4) is different in two aspects. The first is that there is a period of time alloted for maturation, "and when he has become strong," and secondly, this "fourth" does not have the prerequisite of arising out of "Persia."

SPAN OF "GROWING STRONG" -- (640 - 1900)

Daniel 11:2 "And now I will show you the truth. Behold, three more kings shall arise in Persia; and <u>a fourth shall be far richer than all of them; and when he has become strong through his riches</u>, he shall stir up all against the kingdom of Greece."

After the fall of the Roman Empire, many empires have arose, including the Byzantine (474 - 1453); Germanic (526); Carolingian (768); Frankish (1180); Mongol - including Batu's Empire, Empire of the Great Khan, Ilkhan Empire, and Empire of Jagatai, (1240); Ottoman (1300 - 1919); Spanish (1494 - 1600's); Portuguese (1500's - 1600's); the British Empire (1700's onward); the United States (1776 onward); and many others. In this second verse, Daniel provides only a cursory insight ("and when he has become strong through his riches") to the maturation of today's world powers.

It took an extended period of time ("and when he has become strong") leading toward the early to mid 1900's for the establishment of some of these governments (i.e., U.S.S.R., Japan, India, Red China, Brazil, etc.) to be manifested. But still future circumstances would clarify the specific rank and international roles for each one of these powers.

EVENTS OF THE 1900's

WORLD WAR I -- (1914 - 1919)

Daniel 11:2 "And now I will show you the truth. Behold, three more kings shall arise in <u>Persia</u>; and a fourth shall be far richer than all of them; and when he has become strong through his riches, he shall stir up all against the kingdom of Greece."

"...[H]e shall stir up all against the kingdom of Greece" is a most interesting passage. When Daniel provided this prophecy, he cited two empires, Persia and Greece, which at first glance appears to represent the Medo/Persian Empire under Cyrus the Great, and the Grecian Empire under Alexander the Great. But as delineated above, the "Persia" citation applies to the succession of world empires in that geographical region of the world. Now secondly, the "Greece" depiction is resolved by examining the typecast established in Daniel 2:39.

Daniel 2:39 describes the Grecian Empire as a kingdom "which shall rule over all the earth." This is most important, because the inference of verse 2 as amplified, would read: "and when he has become strong through his riches, he shall stir up all against all the earth." This fulfillment occurred approximately 1,450 years after the dissolution of the Roman Empire, and was manifested in the 1914 event known as 'The Great War,' or 'World War I.'

In 1914, the world was politically and militarily divided between the 'Central Powers' as led by the Austro-Germans, and the 'Big Five' as led by the Franco-Russians. The participation and alignment of the world's nations and year they joined the conflict is depicted as follows:

WWI ALLIANCE OF NATIONS ¹				
CENTRAL POWERS BIG FIVE				

¹ Kennedy, p. 257

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1914 1914 1914	Germany Austria-Hungary Turkey	1914 1914 1914	France Russia Belgium
1915	Bulgaria	1914	United Kingdom
	-	1914	Japan
		1915	Italy
		1917	United States

When World War I ended in June of 1919, the European nations were left in debt and in need of conversion from a war economy. The United States was left in a preeminent position, but contrary to expectations retreated into diplomatic isolationism, and declined participation in the League of Nations. This abrupt abdication left a Euro-centered world as led by the United Kingdom and France.²

WORLD WAR II -- (1939 to 1945)

DANIEL 11:3 "Then a mighty king shall arise, who shall rule with great dominion and do according to his will. ⁴ And when he has arisen, his kingdom shall be broken and divided toward the four winds of heaven, but not to his posterity, nor according to the dominion with which he ruled; for his kingdom shall be plucked up and go to others besides these."

In 1928, Adolf Hitler's National Socialist party captured a paltry 6% of the popular vote, but increased his popular support to approximately 22% by 1930.³ In 1932, after several Centralists attempts failed to form a coalition government with which the populous could rally around (including the Left Wing-Communists; Central - German Nationals; and Right Wing - National Socialists), the senior German politicians agreed that Hitler should be allowed to try to form a coalition government. Thus on January 28, 1932, Hitler became a marginally effective Chancellor, with Hermann Goring as his Prussian Minister of the Interior. He had obtained a popular support of 33%, but was under a short leash by the political centralists.⁴

Within one month, Communist extremists set fire to the governmental "Reichstag" building in an apparent protest against the political shift to the right.* In response, Hitler established a limited Marshal Law "restricting personal liberty, the freedom of the press, and the rights of assembly." Within eleven short months, Hitler was able to secure operational control of the government to begin his twelve year, four month dictatorship of Germany, (December 1932 to April 1945).6

* Note: Some historians have speculated that this event was actually contrived by the Nazi's in order to blame the communists and thus have the excuse to subdue their opposition.

² *IBID*, p. 277

³ Basil Collier, <u>The Second World War: a Military History</u>, William Morrow & Co., NY, 1967, pp. 16-18

⁴ *IBID*, pp. 21-23

⁵ *IBID*, p. 24

⁶ *IBID*, pp. 24-25

But these early stirrings were not only found in Germany. Between the years of 1935 and 1937, Italy's Benito Mussolini conquered Abyssinia,⁷ and in 1939, Austrian agents of Hitler's National Socialist party murdered the Austrian Chancellor. Interestingly, the potential for gain from this latter intrigue was thwarted by Hitler's future ally, Mussolini.⁸

From September 1938 to March 1939, Hitler achieved the bloodless conquest of Czechoslovakia, Bohemia, and Moravia. Five months later, on August 23, on what would be the eve of World War II, Hitler signed a non-aggression pact with the Soviets. One week later, on September 1, 1939, 9 Hitler's army invaded Poland.

By the end of World War II, (V.E. - May 9, 1945), Germany had conquered north, west, east, and south, and had also lost the same "four winds of heaven," and more. Germany itself was torn asunder: "for his kingdom shall be plucked up and go to others besides these." According to the terms of the Yalta Accord, the Soviets assumed control of Germany's eastern half (41,825 square miles), and the Allies controlled the western half (96,011 square miles). Additionally, the city of Berlin, located in the heart of East Germany, was divided into four segments. The Soviets controlled the full eastern half; and the French, United States, and British each controlled their respective northwest, west-central, and southwest sectors.¹⁰

KING OF THE SOUTH & KING OF THE NORTH -- A Discourse

DANIEL 11:5 "Then the king of the <u>south</u> shall be strong, but one of his princes shall be stronger than he and his dominion."

This is the first of many citations referring to the "king of the south," as opposed to Daniel's later citations of a "king of the north." In interpreting the significance of these two kings, I again present the weight of comprehending Daniel's target audience. Some might argue that "south" and "north" is with respect to Israel, but there is nothing which makes it necessary to restrict the interpretation to that scenario. In fact the context of Daniel's prophecies to the nations virtually demands a secular "nation" interpretation. Thus it is clearly arguable that one is simply further south, and the other is simply further north with respect to each other.

Given this context, these two nations prove to be the same two premier powerhouses that just came out of World War II -- the U.K./United States and the Soviet Union. We will find that these two nations also provide the central focus for the bulk of Daniel's eleventh chapter, where the sequence of events arrive at the great apocalyptic climax.

KING OF THE SOUTH -- The Fulfillment

DANIEL 11:5 "Then the king of the south shall be strong, but one of his princes shall be stronger than he and his dominion."

In the historical setting for this verse, the great powers out of the second World War were the United States, the Soviet Union, and to a lesser extent, the United Kingdom and France. The United States was both a military and economic giant; the Soviet Union was a military giant, but an economic middle-weight; the United Kingdom was a military heavy-weight and economic middle-weight, and had to resort to 'down-sizing' its foreign interests due to the expense of the war; and France, a military and economic light-weight, had the daunting prospect of rebuilding its economic

⁷ Kennedy, p. 292

⁸ Collier, p. 33

⁹ *IBID*, pp. 50-54

¹⁰ Touhy, p. B5

infrastructure, but was politically encouraged by being given both the northwest Berlin sector and Permanent Membership seat in the U.N. Security Council.¹¹

In the fulfillment of this verse, clearly the prince which became stronger and had a greater dominion than the "king," is the United States of America, (Ref. Dan. 7:4). It can be speculated that the others (the U.S. was only "one of his princes") would certainly include Australia and Canada, and possibly some additional colonies at this post World War II period of time (i.e., India, South Africa, Hong Kong, etc.), but there is no doubt that the premier mantle of majesty now rested upon the arisen United States of America.

UNITED NATIONS or NATO ALLIANCE (1945 / 1949)

DANIEL 11:6 "<u>After some years they shall make an alliance</u>, and the daughter of the king of the south shall come to the king of the north to make peace; but she shall not retain the strength of her arm, and he and his offspring shall not endure, but she shall be given up, and her attendants, her child, and he who got possession of ^y her."

y Or supported

Daniel correctly depicted the United Kingdom and United States king/prince relationship and the post World War II power hierarchy in verse 5, and now describes an "alliance." At first glance this alliance spoken of could be one of two organizations. The first being the United Nations, established in 1945, and the second would be the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) formed in 1949. But because this alliance appears to be part of the interactions between the subsequently identified "king of the south" and ~strong prince, it would appear that the interpretation applies to NATO. However, to provide an historical panorama, both evolutions are presented for the benefit of the reader:

United Nations Perspective -- (1945)

Historically, there is a clear parallel between the political climates of the post WWI and post WWII eras. In WWI, the Versailles Treaty was signed on Jan. 10, 1920, and part of its provisions was the creation of the League Of Nations. This organization first met on Jan. 16, and was to provide for the caretakership of several territorial regions as well as provide a forum with which the international community could come together to resolve world issues.

Likewise, the United Nations Organization was provided for by the January 1945, Yalta Accord. With V.J. (Victory Japan) on August 14, 1945, the U.N. charter was put into effect on Oct. 24, 1945. Its purpose was similar to the League Of Nations, however the United Nations Organization had "teeth." Although, the first contention dealt with the Soviets in Iran, interestingly, the second dealt with Palestine.

On Nov. 29, 1947¹² the General Assembly, on a vote of 33 to 13 (with 10 abstentions), approved the Palestine partition plan which created the Jewish State of Israel. With positive signals from U.S. President Truman, on May 14, 1948, (midnight Tel Aviv time, six p.m. Washington time), the Jewish Provisional State Council declared the establishment of a Jewish state. Within six minutes, the U.S. recognized this new nation, and the U.S.S.R.'s recognition followed shortly. 14

¹¹ Kennedy, pp. 362-366

¹² Waldo Chamberlin, Thomas Hovet Jr., & Erica Hovet, "A Chronology and Fact Book of The United Nations 1941 - 1969," Oceana Publications, Dobbs Ferry, NY, 1970, p. 17

¹³ Stanley Meisler, "United Nations: the first fifty years," Atlantic Monthly Press, NY, 1995, p. 42

¹⁴ *IBID*, p. 47

Collin Sadler

This new U.N. will prove to mature into an organization which will provide the multi-national platform from which the Anti-Christ will attempt to control the world. This is the "first beast" (Ref. Rev. 13:2-10) which the world shall worship.

NATO Alliance Fulfillment -- (1949)

In October of 1947, the U.S.S.R. formed an economic and military alliance of the seven Eastern Bloc nations, called Cominform. In response, on May of 1949, twelve Western Bloc nations formed an alliance which was called the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The original membership included the Netherlands, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, the United Kingdom, Italy, Iceland, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, and the United States of America. This most powerful military alliance was predicated upon the vested interests of the United Kingdom (the king of the south) and the U.S. (the strong prince).

As postulated, these Cominform and NATO alliances appear to better fit the political disharmony after the attempts to make peace and the subsequent enveloping cold war of the 1950's to mid-1980's.

COLD WAR -- (1947 - 1989)

DANIEL 11:6 "After some years they shall make an alliance, and the daughter of the king of the south shall come to the king of the north to make peace; but she shall not retain the strength of her arm, and he and his offspring shall not endure, but she shall be given up, and her attendants, her child, and he who got possession of y her."

y Or supported

Three historical East/West circumstances presented themselves at the end of World War II. The first was the combined military push against Germany. On March 28, 1945, Eisenhower issued a "baffling" message which directed the Western allied forces to refocus their efforts away from Berlin and toward southern Germany. He also ordered the immediate ("either voluntarily or on request" concession of conquered German territory in accordance to the prearranged borders per the Yalta agreement. The implication of these decisions was to reign in the projection of allied forces in deference to the Soviet army, ¹⁶ -- "shall come to the king of the north to make peace".

Secondly, as already mentioned, the Yalta Accord dictated an international forum which could address world problems, called the United Nations.

The third set of circumstance came in the form of post WWII alliances, pacts, and maneuverings which whirled through the departments of State of the world's nations. One in particular, the Marshall Plan of 1945, designed "to place Europe on its feet economically, was deliberately presented as an offering to *all* European nations, whether Communist or not." The effect of this offer of assistance was perceived both as a helping hand, and as a suspicious expansionist move into the internal affairs of any participating nation. The result was that the Soviets walked out on the Paris talks. The Soviets then coerced Poland and Czechoslovakia into not applying for assistance.

¹⁵ Kennedy, p. 471

¹⁶ *IBID*, pp. 467-472

¹⁷ *IBID*, p. 376

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It's this last set of circumstances which Daniel is depicting in this description of the "daughter of the king of the south" and the subsequent dissolution of the attempts to make peace. This is the political climate known as the Cold War.

Initially this Cold War included suspicions from both sides resulting in Cominform and NATO, but hit full stride by 1950 when the Soviets contrived a massive North Korean attack on South Korea. Events during the Cold War nearly brought the two powers to nuclear war, and was finally acknowledged as over in 1989, with the fall of the Berlin Wall.

KOREAN CONFLICT -- (1950 - 1953)

DANIEL 11:7 "In those times a branch z from her roots shall arise in his place; he shall come against the army and enter the fortress of the king of the north, and he shall deal with them and shall prevail."

This prophecy pertains to the events of the Korean Conflict. Interestingly, in the prior verse, the post World War II political climate is depicted as attempts at cooperation and reconciliation between the victorious democratic and communistic co-combatants. This "daughter of the king of the south" was fulfilled in the acquiescence of territory in accordance with the prearranged division of Germany according to the Yalta Accord, and also the allowed subjugation of eastern Europe including: Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Romania, Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, and parts of Finland.

In light of this 'recent' history, it was a reasonable conclusion that if the great United States of America would allow an unrestrained Soviet Union to hegemonize these European countries, there should be no call for alarm if the Soviets chose to also absorb South Korea.

In a January 12, 1950 speech to the National Press Club, given the prevalent Cold War hostilities and potential attack by North Korea, Dean Acheson assigned specific responsibility for the security of South Korea to the United Nations. Please be aware that any one of the five Permanent Members of the Security Council can veto a U.N. Resolution, and this is exactly what Russia had schemed.

It was only because of the intense hostilities at the conference table, that the Soviets in their anger, got up and walked out, leaving not so much as a janitor to sustain their carefully crafted plan. Thus without the Russians present, the remaining four Permanent Members passed the critical resolution, and Daniel's prophecy correctly accounts for that event we recognize as the Korean Conflict.

In June 1950, at the urgings of Moscow, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea - D.P.R.K. (North Korea) launched an unprovoked attack across the 38th parallel into South Korea. The South Korean defenders were quickly pushed back to the extreme southern city of Pusan. The U.N. resolution was passed, and U.S. support was provided after a quick revision of U.S. foreign policy to address a 'domino theory.'

When the combined U.S./United Nations forces cut the North Koreans off at Inchon, the Peoples Republic of China began mobilizing its troops in Manchuria. As the North Korean army was pushed north of the Yalu river border into China, the Chinese 'volunteers' joined the fray. U.N. forces were 'spanked' by the Chinese regular army (Oct./Nov. 1950¹⁹), being pushed back to the original 38th parallel border. This overly aggressive 'Western' projection got too close to their border proximity.

¹⁸ Mosely, p 110

¹⁹ Kennedy, p. 383

Although a peace agreement still has never been signed, overt hostilities subsided in June 1953, after a frustrated President Truman quietly threatened China with direct nuclear confrontation.

Interpretative Perspective

Careful reading yields Daniel's inerrant accuracy, and also yields one more facet for interpretative understanding. In the kings of the "south"/"north" presentations, thus far we understood that the king of the "south" initially represented the U.K. and the strong "prince" represented the U.S., with the U.S. subsequently inheriting the mantle of the "king of the south" in the post WWII setting (Ref. verse 5). Similarly, the "king of the north" represents the U.S.S.R., however, Daniel's depictions are not always entirely succinct.

In this 7th verse, the U.S. led U.N. coalition is described as entering "the fortress of the king of the north." Therefore it becomes transparent that Daniel applies the term "north" equally to the U.S.S.R. and also this Soviet sponsored state, because historically, this U.S. led coalition entered communist North Korea. Conversely, we will discover later in the 11:29 interpretation, that in a reference to the king of the north, "he," Soviet backed Libyan terrorists, comes "into the south," U.S. allied democratic Western Europe, specifically targeting U.S. servicemen in a West Berlin nightclub. So clearly, Daniel demonstrates continuity and consistency in his specific and generic references to both the "north" and "south" applications of association.

THE UNITED NATIONS

DANIEL 11:8 "He shall also carry off to Egypt their gods with their molten images and with their precious vessels of silver and of gold; and for some years he shall refrain from attacking the king of the north."

The citation of Egypt could suppose a literal interpretation, however, it defies the "king of the south" convention. Specifically, there are ten instances of "south" (and eight instances of "north"), but why would Daniel insert "Egypt" in this single instance? Clearly he is treating it as a third party, for good reason. -- It is a third party.

Additionally, The citation of gods, molten images, silver, and gold could suppose a literal interpretation, however, Daniel had used an initial Persia and pseudo Greece analogy, and had just used the analogy of "daughter" and "branch from her toots" in successive verses. Thus, this author would argue that precedent and scriptural context demonstrates a continued figurative interpretation. As such, the gods, and gold and silver vessels represent concepts that have world shaking significance

Egypt, Greece, Silver, & Gold

This figurative "*Egypt*" appears to be in contrast to the previously cited "*Greece*," found in Daniel 11:2, which as argued represents the cross-section of the earth's kingdoms, (Ref. Dan. 2:39). Thus it is proposed that "*Egypt*" represents a citation with somewhat less significance.

To continue the comparison, when the world was drawn into World War I, ("against the kingdom of Greece"), there was little flexibility in the decisions to war. However, inside the confines of the United Nations Security Council, it takes only one of the five permanent member nations to veto a proposed resolution. It is argued that this figurative "Egypt" is that less constrictive connotation while still operating in a world arena.

If simple Egyptian world history from 500 BC onwards were the example, we would find a nation that would always be a significant nation but never pre-eminent. As such, it is presented that Daniel applies uses "Egypt" as a stereotype for nations which are significant, but not pre-eminent.

Now in this 1950's history, we're presented with a 'new world order' scenario in which the U.N. security council in conjunction with the world's significant nations, make decisions by consensus for the furtherance of mutual global aspirations rather than by parent nation, regional, or alliance prioritizations. These participating nations adhere to the unanimous agreements and dictates of this quasi-governing body. The fulfillment of this acceptance ("carry off to Egypt their gods") and adherence to the conceptual dictates ("precious vessels of silver and of gold") of this U.N. geopolitical tool, came at the advent of the Korean Conflict, and is represented by the following participation:



KOREAN CONFLICT TROOP STRENGTHS²⁰

Peak strength for the UNC was **932,964** on July 27, 1953 -- the day the Armistice Agreement was signed:

Republic of Korea	590,911
United States	302,483
United Kingdom	14,198
Canada	6,146
Turkey	5,453
Australia	2,282
Philippines	1,486
New Zealand	1,385
Ethiopia	1,271
Greece	1,263
Thailand	1,204
France	1,119
Columbia	1,068
Belgium	900
South Africa	826
The Netherlands	819
Luxembourg	44

932,964

U.N. Policy Of Containment

In fulfillment, this new era in political diplomacy cut its first teeth at the onset of the Korean Conflict. Amazingly, the United Nations involvement was only made possible by the incomprehensible actions

²⁰ http://www.korea.army.mil/unc/unc.htm

of the Soviet Union. In a bizarre demonstration of defiance, the entire Soviet Union United Nations delegation walked out of a Security Council meeting leaving no one behind to veto the impending proposal to defend South Korea from the North Korean aggressors.

With the 'unanimous' United Nations mandate and international military commitments, the allied forces pushed the North Koreans northward into China. Then, to General MacArthur's surprising dismay, Chinese 'volunteers' battled the U.S. Marines into retreat back to the 38th parallel. Confident that the authorized U.N. mandate limited the scope of the intervention to the Korean peninsula, China's jet fighters and bomber aircraft attacked the allied U.N. troops from Chinese airbases with impunity. Even under these provocative circumstances, President Truman adhered to the U.N. decision not to attack any Chinese territory, but the Supreme Allied Commander, General MacArthur, voiced his adamant policy disagreement both to President Truman and to the world press. As a result, he was dismissed both as Supreme Allied Commander in Asia, and as the Commanding General in the United States armed forces.

This new practice of peacekeeping by restricting the conflict from escalating under a 'policy of containment,' became the accepted practice of world powers in such conflicts as Korea, Hungary, Vietnam, Czechoslovakia, Angola, Nicaragua, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Iraq, Bosnia, and undoubtedly, many other crises.

And finally, the United States did refrain from attacking the "king of the north" (quite actually the "sons" of the king of the north) from June 1953, until the August 1964 U.S. congressional authorization for U.S. military forces to engage the invading North Vietnamese Army in South Vietnam.

CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS -- (1962)

DANIEL 11:9 "Then the latter shall come into the realm of the king of the south but shall return into his own land."

In 1957, Jupiter nuclear missiles, having a range of 1,500 miles, were stationed in Turkey under the control of the U.S. Air Force.²¹ Early on in Kennedy's term of office, (taking office in January 1961), Kennedy questioned the military value of the missiles, and the Atomic Energy Commission's (AEC) Joint Congressional Committee observed that the weapons were "unreliable, inaccurate, obsolete, and too easily sabotaged."²² But no orders were given regarding the disposition of the stationed missiles.

As early as spring of 1962, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, John A. McCone, speculated that the Soviet Union might deploy nuclear missiles in Cuba. He reasoned that a Eastern Europe satellite nation deployment could result in a potentially disastrous Moscow retargeting. However, in Cuba, the 1,000 mile range pre-empted this prospect.²³

Accordingly, from July 28th through August 24th, 1962, while approximately 22 Soviet ships commenced unloading surface-to-air missiles, equipment, and personnel, McCone once again speculated that the net goal of introducing surface-to-air missiles was to protect a prime target.²⁴ Four weeks later, on September 21st, the first reports of nuclear missiles trickled in. On October 15th, U-2

²¹ Brugioni, Eyeball to Eyeball, Random House, NY, 1991, p. 467

²² Elie Abel, The Missile Crisis, J.B. Lippincott Co., NY, 1966, p. 190

²³ *IBID*, p. 18

²⁴ *IBID*, p. 17-18

over-flights revealed "missile erectors, launchers and transporters" -- compelling evidence in light of similar equipment and layout found only in Soviet nuclear missile sites.²⁵

On Tuesday, October 16th, the President was briefed, and called his senior staff. The wheels were set in motion for a naval blockade, full military alert, and tense negotiations. Ten days later, a Soviet Embassy 'counselor,' who was suspected as the KGB chief of intelligence operations for the U.S., outlined an initial proposed resolution to the confrontation:

- 1. The missile sites would be dismantled and shipped back to the Soviet Union under United Nations supervision.
- 2. Fidel Castro would pledge himself to accept no offensive weapons in the future.
- 3. The United States would pledge itself not to invade Cuba.²⁶

Follow-on communications with Krushchev revealed the motivation for this encroachment solely as a response to the April 17, 1961, Bay of Pigs landing, -- but the next day he upped the ante to include the removal of the Turkish missiles.²⁷

It wasn't until Sunday, October 28th, that the Soviet Union accepted a U.S. counter offer, resulting in the defusement of the situation. By the first week of December, the Soviets removed the forty-two medium and intermediate-range missiles and some aging Ilyushin bombers (much to the gall of both Castro and the Chinese),²⁸ and the United States subsequently removed the missiles based in Turkey.

Interestingly enough, President Kennedy had issued formal orders for the removal of the Jupiter missiles in August of 1962, two months <u>before</u> the events which brought the two leaders to the brink of nuclear conflict.

In another interesting note, Kennedy learned a potentially valuable lesson about the optimistic projections provided by the CIA in the Bay of Pigs affair, dampening any enthusiasm about the CIA's plans for Vietnam. In fact, on October 2, 1963, seven weeks before his November 22, assassination, President Kennedy's Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Maxwell Taylor, issued a memo for the withdrawal of 1,000 troops to commence within two months, and the balance of the troops to be withdrawn within the following 12 months.²⁹ However, President Kennedy's assassination left the prospects for policy reversal open, as evidenced by President Johnson's subsequent massive involvement in South Vietnam.

VIETNAM WAR -- (1965 - 1975)

DANIEL 11:10 "<u>His sons shall wage war and assemble a multitude of great forces, which shall come on and overflow and pass through, and again shall carry the war as far as his fortress.</u> 11 Then the king of the south, moved with anger, shall come out and fight with the king of the north; and he shall raise a great multitude, but it shall be given into his hand. ¹² And when the multitude is taken, his heart shall be exalted, and he shall cast down tens of thousands, but he

²⁵ *IBID*, p. 29

²⁶ *IBID*, p. 176

²⁷ *IBID*, p. 180, 186

²⁸ *IBID*, p. 211-213

²⁹ Ian Brodie, ""Kennedy Ordered Troops Out Of Vietnam," The Times Newspapers Limited, - online, Dec. 23, 1997

shall not prevail. ¹³ For the king of the north shall again raise a multitude greater than the former; and after some years he shall come on with a great army and abundant supplies."

History & Background -- (1900 - 1964)

The first five words of verse 10 describe the first stage of the Vietnam war. Historically, Vietnam had been under French colonialism since the early 1900's, and encountered guerrilla warfare in the late 1940's from the socialist leader, Ho Chi Minh. The decisive May 1954, battle for the far northwest Vietnamese city of Dien-Bien Phu resulted in the military defeat of the French, (11,000 troops surrendered). Unwilling to concede the entire nation to the Ho Chi Minh led communists, the United Nations negotiated the division of Vietnam along the 17th parallel. Ho Chi Minh became president of North Vietnam, and continued to cultivate relations with both the U.S.S.R. and Red China. The capitalists maintained control over the south, with a succession of presidents.

However, with Soviet and Chinese training and weapons, Ho Chi Minh continued the guerrilla warfare south of the 17th parallel with the goal of re-uniting Vietnam. With the French having withdrawn, the United States stepped in to prop up the unstable government, and expanded its role in an effort to counteract the expanding communist guerrilla warfare. Between the years of 1954 to 1964, the U.S. increased its technical and military advisors to a total of 15,000.

It's these expanding guerilla warfare actions ("assemble a multitude of great forces") that Daniel presents as the beginning of the U.S. involvement in Vietnam. However, the most puzzling cause of direct U.S. entry into the war, was the "Phantom Battle"³⁰ of the Tonkin Gulf.

Battle of Tonkin Gulf -- (1964)

In the Thursday night darkness of July 30, 1964, four (American sponsored) mercenary manned South Vietnamese patrol boats attacked North Vietnamese Tonkin Gulf military installations while the U.S. destroyer *Maddox* patrolled nearby. On Saturday night, with the North Vietnamese presuming the U.S. Navy responsible for the attack, hundreds of N.V. junks massed to intercept the *Maddox's* course. The *Maddox* avoided the confrontation. On Sunday afternoon, three PT boats, each carrying two torpedoes and 12.7mm machine guns, commenced an attack on the *Maddox*. Four F-8E fighters from the *U.S. Ticonderoga* joined the fray, and after 37 minutes, one PT boat was dead in the water and the remaining two fled the battle. The *Maddox* had one bullet hole in its armor. President Johnson exhibited unusual restraint, and discounted calls for reprisals.

On Tuesday, August 4, at 7:30 p.m., as the destroyers *Maddox* and *Turner Joy* patrolled in column, the radar man picked up three high speed surface contacts, presumed to be PT boats. Turning tail, both ships fled the area at full speed, while the crews were called to general quarters, and air support requested. At 9:40 p.m., the *Turner Joy* started firing her 5" guns on the target 7,000 yards to the starboard. A torpedo wake was reported by three crewmen, but under evasive maneuvers (for launched torpedoes), continued torpedo attacks were reported. F-8E and A-4 pilots patrolling overhead "were bewildered by the frenzied voices heard on their radios ... [seeing] nether torpedo boats nor their wakes." After two hours of gun fire, depth charges, evasive actions, and attempting to ram their ghost attackers, the action ceased. The *Maddox* sonarman reported a physically impossible 26 torpedoes, -- while the *Turner Joy* sonarman reported none.

^{30 &}quot;The 'Phantom Battle' That Led To War, Can It Happen Again," <u>U.S. News & World Report</u>, July 23, 1984, pp. 56 - 67

^{31 &}quot;The 'Phantom Battle' That Led To War, Can It Happen Again," p. 62

Captain John J. Herrick, commander of the Seventh Fleet's Destroyer Division 192, was in command of the *Maddox*. After the 'engagement' Herrick conducted rudder maneuvers and concluded: "(m)ost of the *Maddox's*, if not all of the *Maddox's* reports were probably false."32

Entry Into War -- (1964)

Upon receipt of initial reports, the previously restrained President Johnson was outraged. He immediately exercised his tremendous legislative experience to generate an unprecedented commitment of congressional powers to the President, "to take all necessary measures to repel any armed attack ... to take all necessary steps, including the use of armed force, to assist any member or protocol state of the Southeast Asia Collective Defense Treaty requesting assistance in defense of its freedom."³³ The vote taken on August 7, 1964, was 416 to 0 in the House, and 88 to 2 in the Senate.

In 1995, when Robert McNamara visited North Vietnam, he asked his hosts their perspective of whether there ever was a Tonkin Gulf attack by N.V. forces, to which they replied to the negative. This was only one of many prophetic events which should have never occurred, but resulted in changing the course of world events.

The Victory At Hand -- (1964 - 1968)

DANIEL 11:10 "His sons shall wage war and assemble a multitude of great forces, which shall come on and overflow and pass through, and again shall carry the war as far as his fortress. 11 Then the king of the south, moved with anger, shall come out and fight with the king of the north; and he shall raise a great multitude, but it shall be given into his hand. 12 And when the multitude is taken, his heart shall be exalted, and he shall cast down tens of thousands, but he shall not prevail. 13 For the king of the north shall again raise a multitude greater than the former; and after some years he shall come on with a great army and abundant supplies."

In the 1961 Dominican Republic Pleiku incident, then Vice President Johnson revealed a disposition to oversimplify the nature of the Communist challenge and to rely on a disproportionate amount of force. This again fell true in the Vietnam initial intervention phase. On June 29, 1965, when President Johnson authorized American troops to fight in battles, the successes of major battles increased dramatically and generals and politicians alike proclaimed that victory was at hand.

From March of 1965 to March of 1968, American planes expended more bombs on South as well as North Vietnam, than had fallen on all W.W.II European and Pacific targets. The U.S. military's ability to extend muscle and troops demonstrated impressive power with high kill ratios.

But as already mentioned, President Kennedy, having been misled by the CIA in the Bay of Pigs, would not have believed the CIA's optimistic gains forecast through a massive armed intervention. Of course, President Kennedy had been assassinated on November 22, 1961. Lyndon B. Johnson was now President. Clearly, the "he (that) shall raise a great multitude" is North Vietnam, and the initial victories "shall be given into (the) hand" of the United States/South Vietnam.

Operation Phoenix, My Lai

DANIEL 11:10 "His sons shall wage war and assemble a multitude of great forces, which shall come on and overflow and pass through, and again shall carry the war as far as his fortress. 11

³² *IBID* p. 63

³³ *IBID* p. 66

Then the king of the south, moved with anger, shall come out and fight with the king of the north; and he shall raise a great multitude, but it shall be given into his hand. ¹² And when the multitude is taken, his heart shall be exalted, and he shall cast down tens of thousands, but he shall not prevail. ¹³ For the king of the north shall again raise a multitude greater than the former; and after some years he shall come on with a great army and abundant supplies."

In South Vietnam, the conflict was not only limited to battle fields and jungle paths, but in villages and the rice paddies. At the height of the war, hundreds if not thousands of innocent civilians were killed per month by U.S. bombers. But if this wasn't enough, in the pursuit to purge South Vietnam of communist infiltration, the CIA initiated "Operation Phoenix."

This program was comprised of Army Green Beret, Navy SEALS, and South Vietnamese Rangers working in conjunction with informants. According to former CIA Director, William Colby's numbers, they covertly, without trial, 'neutralized' a total of 20,000 civilians who were suspected of being members of the Communist underground -- some by arrest, many by death. ³⁴ Some critics and historians have estimated that the Phoenix Program killed upwards of 20,000 and imprisoned some 70,00 people. An analyst wrote in the January 1975 issue of <u>Foreign Affairs:</u> "Although the Phoenix program did undoubtedly kill or incarcerate many innocent civilians, it did also eliminate many members of the Communist infrastructure." ³⁵

Similarly, on March 16, 1968, in the village My Lai 4, in the Quang Kgai province, a company of American soldiers rounded up the inhabitants, the majority of which were elderly, women, children, and infants. A total of 347 civilians were herded into a bulldozed ditch where they were shot to death.³⁶

Tet Offensive -- (1968)

DANIEL 11:10 "His sons shall wage war and assemble a multitude of great forces, which shall come on and overflow and pass through, and again shall carry the war as far as his fortress. 11 Then the king of the south, moved with anger, shall come out and fight with the king of the north; and he shall raise a great multitude, but it shall be given into his hand. 12 And when the multitude is taken, his heart shall be exalted, and he shall cast down tens of thousands, but he shall not prevail. 13 For the king of the north shall again raise a multitude greater than the former; and after some years he shall come on with a great army and abundant supplies."

Verse 13 describes the massive January 31, 1968 Tet offensive which was the most substantially manned, supplied, and supported North Vietnamese offensive in the history of the war. This was a coordinate attack on more than 100 villages and cities, including Saigon, with the battle for Hue lasting for more than three weeks. Interestingly, Daniel doesn't note the 'winner' possibly because the battle victory in terms of body count went to the U.S. with 1,113 Americans and at least 3,470 South Vietnamese killed, versus about 30,000 North Vietnamese killed; but the political victory went to the North Vietnamese. Before the battle even began, the North Vietnamese "knew the attack was going to have a psychological effect on the Americans. [They] were told that America was growing tired of the war."³⁷

³⁴ William Colby, Lost Victory, Contemporary Books, NY, 1989, p. 333

³⁵ Maynard Parker, "Vietnam: The War That Won't End," Foreign Affairs, NY, January 1975, p. 352

³⁶ Douglas Welsh, The History of the Vietnam War, Galahad Books, NY, 1981, p. 127

³⁷ Ian Steward, "Tet Offensive Still Fresh In Memories," A.P., <u>Albuquerque Journal</u>, Jan. 30, 1998, p. A12

Vietnam War Protesters -- (1964 - 1972)

DANIEL 11:14 "In those times many shall rise against the king of the south; and the men of violence among your own people shall lift themselves up in order to fulfill the vision; but they shall fail."

As early as May 1964 the slogan 'We Won't Go' was widely publicized. By mid-1965, 380 prosecutions were begun against men refusing to be inducted; by mid-1968 that figure was up to 3,035. By the end of 1969, there were 33,960 delinquents nationwide.³⁸ These Vietnam war protesters opposed this nation's military policies and exhibited open rebellion against the rule of society, (i.e., calling police officers pigs, avid participation in the illegal drug culture, and the outward demonstration of rebellion - long hair, anti-establishment clothing, etc.). Although they successfully focused world attention on this unpopular war, they were unsuccessful in fermenting the hoped for popular uprising against 'the establishment.'

One interesting note to this era in American history are the two 'peace' symbols. The firs,t having the circular periphery, represents the earth and the inside lines represent the cross with the arms broken down. The second is the two finger "V" sign which is a hand count binary expression, which is the number "6", -- understood to be the number of "man".

The Fall Of South Vietnam -- (1975)

DANIEL 11:15 "Then the king of the north shall come and throw up siege works, and take a well-fortified city. And the forces of the south shall not stand, or even his picked troops for there shall be no strength to stand. ¹⁶ But he who comes against him shall do according to his own will, and none shall stand before him; and he shall stand in the glorious land, and all of it shall be in his power."

During the Vietnam war, three countries were under communist-led insurgence: Laos, Cambodia, and South Vietnam. In April of 1974, North Vietnam stepped up their offensives. The South Vietnamese Ranger bases of Ton Le Chan and Duc Hue; three government outposts in the Central Highlands; and Base 711, south of Pleiku city, all fell under siege and were overrun.³⁹ In the mid-March 1975 Cambodian communist offensive, "rebel troops -- armed and trained by North Vietnam -- surrounded Pnompenh and other major cities, (and) blockaded the Mekong River, the capital's major supply line."⁴⁰

In late-March, a thirteen month siege on the city Tong Le Chan, which was a strong point Ranger base 55 miles northwest of Saigon, ended. Thousands of Communist soldiers, supported by tanks, overran the 259 defenders after a four hour mortar and artillery barrage.

The taking of a "well fortified city" would appear to refer to the city of Da Nang. This was that nation's second-largest city and the sole remaining government stronghold in northern South Vietnam.⁴¹ President Nguyen Van Thieu's promise to stand and hold this city proved empty. The city, swamped with panicky refugees and undisciplined soldiers, fell without a fight.⁴²

³⁸ Howard Zinn, A Peoples History Of The United States, Harper Row Publishers, NY, 1980, p 476

³⁹ Facts On File - World News Digest," Vol. 44, No. 2267, NY, April 27, 1984, p. 297-298

⁴⁰ "Cambodia: Time Running Out," <u>U.S. News & World Report</u>, March 24, 1975, p. 13

⁴¹ "Fortress Saigon -- Bracing For A Last-Ditch Stand," <u>U.S. News & World Report</u>, April 7, 1975, p. 18

⁴² "In The End, Not Even Saigon Will Hold --," U.S. News & World Report, April 14, 1975, p. 30

"At the port of Vungtau, near Saigon, soldiers who had escaped from the north wandered aimlessly along the waterfront. Army officers made little or no effort to regroup the stragglers into organized units. Officials seemed to feel that some of the stragglers might be Communist infiltrators. More disturbing is evidence that many units are leaderless mobs. Members of the First Division were seen throwing rifles and boots away on the beach at Hue, like troops never intending to fight again. Some elements of Marines ran amok, killing and robbing defenseless civilians."⁴³

The passage speaking of standing in the "glorious land" or "goodly land" certainly can be applied to South Vietnam. The fertile rice land around Saigon, the \$780 million of U.S. supplied weapons and materials, and the \$4 billion spent on airfields, naval facilities, and depots,⁴⁴ all provide a treasure-trove worthy of the term "goodly" or "glorious."

The North Vietnamese Purge -- (1975)

DANIEL 11:17 "He shall set his face to come with the strength of his whole kingdom, and he shall bring terms of peace and perform them. He shall give him the daughter of women to destroy the kingdom; but it shall not stand or be to his advantage."

After the North Vietnamese gained power, all conventional market place and 'normal' living practices were reconstructed in the name of 'communist re-education.' This included capital punishment, harsh forced labor, and minimal subsistence conditions as dictated under the communist run 'communal farms.'

As used in 11:6, the "daughter of the king of the south" was a politically generated and driven machination. This "daughter of women" appears to be of the same genre.

In late July of 1975, (3 months after the fall of South Vietnam), resistance was reported as follows:

"Washington is hearing that anti-Communist guerrilla operations are being stepped up in Vietnam. Latest reports tell of hit-and-run attacks on Red Forces in two coastal areas -- one in Phuoc Tuy Province, the other near Vunt Tau, a resort city. Former South Vietnamese paratroopers are credited with the raids." 45

When Ho Chi Minh used guerrilla tactics, his tactics and perseverance were both effective and ultimately successful. It should come as no surprise that the CIA should attempt to use these same tactics to harass and possibly overthrow this newly organizing communistic government. Unfortunately, the CIA methods were contrived, using mercenaries rather than popular uprisings with nationalistic idealisms and aspirations. Daniel called this attempt "to destroy the kingdom" the strategy of using "the daughter of women."

The End Of The North Vietnamese Aggression -- (1975)

DANIEL 11:18 <u>"Afterward he shall turn his face to the coastlands, and shall take many of them;</u> but a commander shall put an end to his insolence; indeed he shall turn his insolence back upon him. ¹⁹ Then he shall turn his face back toward the fortresses of his own land; but he shall stumble and fall, and shall not be found."

⁴³ *IBID* p. 30

⁴⁴ Facts On File - World News Digest, Volume 35, No. 1797, NY, April 19, 1975, p. 247

⁴⁵ "Washington Whispers," U.S. News & World Report, August 4, 1975, p. 8

Both landlocked Laos and coastal Cambodia fell to Communist North Vietnam, with Thailand, under the influx of refugees, reduced to defending its own border. South Vietnam had 600 miles of coastline, and Cambodia had 150 miles. This gave North Vietnam ocean frontage from the South China Sea to the Gulf of Siam.

The Freighter, Mayaguez -- (1975)

DANIEL 11:18 "Afterward he shall turn his face to the coastlands, and shall take many of them; but a commander shall put an end to his insolence; indeed he shall turn his insolence back upon him. 19 Then he shall turn his face back toward the fortresses of his own land; but he shall stumble and fall, and shall not be found."

The description of a commander who puts an end to the "insolence," bespeaks of an act of open sea piracy which occurred on May 12, 1975. In international waters, 60 miles from the Cambodian coast and eight miles from the rocky upcroppings called the Wai Islands, a Cambodian gunboat fired on and boarded the U.S. flagged Sea-Land freighter *Mayaguez*. When initial U.S. diplomatic efforts were unfruitful, President Ford alerted and dispatched the western Pacific Air Force, Naval, and Marine forces.

On May 14th, in a display of assertiveness, U.S. carrier based aircraft sank three Cambodian gunboats and bombed the Cambodian Ream airbase - cratering the runway, and destroying 17 planes and one hanger. Also, 200 marines were landed on Tang Island, while a second contingency of Marines boarded the *Mayaguez* searching vainly for the 39 crewmen. It was on Tang Island that Cambodian small arms resistance accounted for the downing of five of the eleven U.S. helicopters deployed. One third of the 200 marines were either killed or wounded. In addition to the battle field losses, 23 Americans died enroute to the hostilities.

A total of 41 Americans died in the attempted rescue of the 39 *Mayaguez* crewmen. Ironically, 14 hours before the U.S. attack began, successful Chinese diplomatic negotiations yielded a soon expected release of the crewmen. The crew's release occurred while operations were yet ongoing.⁴⁶

The orders to proceed, and even continue, were to prove "the test of American determination in Southeast Asia that, they asserted, the U.S. had been seeking since the collapse of allied governments in South Vietnam and Cambodia."⁴⁷

After this military confrontation, the Vietnamese and Cambodian governments ceased overt aggression, limited to border skirmishes and 'mop-up' ventures.

PRESIDENT NIXON'S RESIGNATION, PRESIDENT FORD'S APPOINTMENT

DANIEL 11:20 "Then shall arise in his place one who shall send an exactor of tribute through the glory of the kingdom; but within a few days he shall be broken, neither in anger nor in battle. ²¹ In his place shall arise a contemptible person to whom royal majesty has not been given; he shall come in without warning and obtain the kingdom by flatteries."

These two verses refer to the Executive Branch of the United States government. The term "exactor of tribute" is indicative of the President's submission of the National Budget to Congress (outlining proposed spending programs and tax outlays). In fulfillment, President Richard Milhouse Nixon entered his second term of office on January 1973, by a phenomenal 60% popular vote, carrying every state except Massachusetts; but he was destined to be "broken neither in anger," (impeachment or

⁴⁶ Facts On File - World News Digest, Volume 35, No. 1801, NY, May 17, 1975, p. 329

⁴⁷ Howard Zinn, pp. 539-540

assassination), "nor in battle," (battlefield loss or military coup). This living expulsion proved to be unique in American history.

- On June 17, five months before the November, 1972, Presidential election, five men were arrested for breaking into the Democratic National Committee offices in the Washington D.C., Watergate Hotel. In the days surrounding Nixon's second inauguration, of the now seven defendants, two had pled guilty (Jan. 11 & 15) and two had been found guilty (Jan. 30).
 - Within three months, on April 30, Attorney General Richard Kleindienst and top aids John W. Dean, John D. Ehrlichman, and H.R. Halderman resigned amid charges of obstruction of justice. Within a little more than one year, on May 9, 1974, the House Judiciary Committee commenced impeachment hearings.⁴⁸
- On October 10, 1973, less than nine months into his second Vice Presidential term, Spiro T. Agnew resigned from office, pleading no-contest to tax evasion charges. (Note: This was not a 'first,' as John C. Calhoun resigned from the office of the Vice Presidency on December 28, 1832, during the Andrew Jackson administration.)
- In October, 1973, President Nixon nominated Congressional House Minority Leader, Gerald Ford, to the vacated Vice Presidency. On December 6, 1973, in accordance with the 25th Amendment, Ford was confirmed to that Vice Presidential office by "*flatteries*" in a majority vote of both houses of Congress. This was the 1st of 4 executive branch 'firsts.' -- (The 25th amendment wasn't ratified until 1967, thus there was no successor to John C. Calhoun's Vice Presidential office.)
- After 600 days into his second term, on August 8, 1974, Richard M. Nixon resigned from the office of the Presidency. In a subsequent televised interview with Richard Nixon's daughter, Julie Eisenhower, she conveyed that her mother, Pat Nixon, felt that this extraordinary turn of events was brought about by either the CIA, an internal conspiracy, or by demonic forces. Indeed, this was a spiritually controlled event, but one that was controlled by God. This United States historical first (2nd of 4) was accompanied by yet two additional Executive Branch firsts.
- As the new unelected Vice President, Gerald Ford was positioned to precisely fulfill this prophecy ("and obtain the kingdom") by assuming the vacated Presidency on August 9, 1974 having never been elected to any executive branch office. This was the 3rd of 4 'firsts.'
- And finally, this unelected President Gerald Ford nominated former New York Governor, Nelson Rockefeller, to the newly vacant Vice Presidency. Again, in accordance with the 25th Amendment, Nelson Rockefeller was confirmed by both houses of Congress and on December 19, 1974, was appointed to the Vice Presidency. This became the 4th of 4 'firsts.'

Gerald Ford's persona filled the editorial cartoons, Chevy Chase "<u>Saturday Night Live</u>" skits, and Johnny Carson monologues, as a clumsy, bumbling, "*contemptible person*." His golf outings were most entertaining, as he successfully parlayed the game of golf into a 'contact-sport' through errant golf ball flights into the galleries.

As history matches scripture, it is also worthy to note the second of two Kennedy assassinations which pre-empted Robert F. Kennedy's democratic presidential bid. In 1968, approaching the end of President Johnson's term of office and getting a late start, the meteoric Robert Kennedy was destined

⁴⁸ The World Almanac and Book of Facts 1996, Funk & Wagnalls Corp., Mahwah, NJ, 1995, p. 506

for the Oval Office when he secured the majority of votes in the June 1968, California democratic primary. His assassination left the election to a trounced Eugene McCarthy, and victorious Richard Nixon. Had this second of two Kennedy assassinations been thwarted, Richard Nixon probably would never have been elected, and the prophesied Presidential resignation most likely could never have occurred.

SALT I AND SALT II

DANIEL 11:22 "Armies shall be utterly swept away before him and broken, and the prince of the covenant also."

In 1969, during President Nixon's first term of office, the United States and Soviet Union worked toward the limitation of strategic nuclear weapons in a effort called the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT, eventually known as SALT I). This document was signed and ratified in 1971 and enacted in 1972. This was the culmination of progressively diminished U.S. nuclear superiority rations from 8:1 in 1962; to 4:1 in 1967; and 1:1 in 1972. This SALT I agreement gave the U.S. a strategic 'throw weight' <u>disadvantage</u> of between 1:4 to 1:6.⁴⁹

The SALT II negotiations began in the fall of 1972, at the end of Nixon's first term. They continued through the November 1974 Ford-Brezhnev Agreement at Vladivostok, and concluded during Jimmy Carter's Presidency in late 1978. This SALT II agreement fell short of the original criteria in many ways:

- 1. The goal of unlimited duration was rejected.
- 2. Parity was 576 MIRV'd (Multiple Independently Targeted Re-entry Vehicle) ICBM's (Intercontinental Ballistic Missile), but the U.S. could only field 550, without being production capable prior to the expiration of the treaty.
- 3. The Soviets were allowed up to ten warheads on select missiles, while the U.S. was allowed only three.
- 4. The agreement left no provision for verification of nuclear weapon production, storage, or deployments.
- 5. The U.S. agreed that the "Backfire" bomber would not be counted against the SNLV's (Strategic Nuclear Launch Vehicle) unless equipped for a range greater than 600 kilometers (with no provision for verification).⁵⁰

This negotiated treaty was particularly offensive to the Western Europeans, as they were already at a 1:3, 1:5, and 1:10 conventional force disadvantage (as measured in various tactical weapon categories). SALT II was ready for congressional consideration in January of 1979, and although never ratified, that current and all successive administrations since, have adhered to the terms of this fatally flawed document.

This was political climate which Daniel referred, in the sweeping away and breaking of armies.

Secondly, the breaking of the "prince of the covenant" was also to have occurred during this period of time. This event appears to be indicative of a turning from God by the Executive Branch of then President Gerald Ford. History offers no specific event as such, however during his term of office, President Ford's wife, Betty Ford, espoused her shockingly liberal views on abortion, premarital sex,

⁴⁹ "Meaning Of Arms-Control Pact," U.S. News & World Report, June 5, 1972, p. 21

⁵⁰ Jozef Goldblat, <u>Agreements for Arms Control: A Critical Survey</u>, Taylor & Francis Ltd, 1982, p. 283

and use of marijuana as socially acceptable in light of today's new morality. This proved a marked departure from historical adherence to Judeo/Christian values.

HELSINKI ACCORD & RUSSIA IN AFRICA, (1975-79)

DANIEL 11:23 "And from the time that an alliance is made with him he shall act deceitfully; and he shall become strong with a small people. ²⁴ Without warning he shall come into the richest parts of the province; and he shall do what neither his fathers nor his fathers' fathers have done, scattering among them plunder, spoil, and goods. He shall devise plans against strongholds, but only for a time.

^e Or Among the richest men

The "alliance" spoken of is the Helsinki Final Act which was started in July 1973, and completed in August ,1975. Its main purpose was to formulate international agreement on "subjects relating to security in Europe; cooperation in the fields of economics, science, technology and environment; (and) cooperation in humanitarian and other fields."⁵¹ In compliance with the accord, the Europeans vacated their colonies throughout the world, but most noticeably in Africa. As a signatory member, the Soviet leadership immediately ignored and continued to violate the human rights and fundamental freedom provisions with regard to their own citizens. But beyond their own internal defiance of this agreement, they saw an unparalleled and unprecedented opportunity in the new political vacuum of Africa ("what neither his fathers nor his fathers' fathers have done").

The "small peoples" depict these third world nations as itemized with the respective troop deployments:

AFRICAN OPPORTUNISM

THE INCOME OF THE INCOME.					
NATION	TROOPS ⁵²	NATURAL RESOURCES ⁵³			
Angola	35,000 ⁵⁴	Diamonds, Coffee, Petroleum			
Congo Brazzaville	Staging Area	Petroleum			
Tanzania	500				
Equatorial Guinea	500	Bauxite			
Guinea	60	Bauxite			
Libya		Natural Gas, Petroleum			
Somalia	3,00055	Strategic location			
Guinea-Bissau	20	Bauxite			
Sierra Leone	20	Coffee			
Zambia		Cobalt, Copper			

⁵¹ Henry Degenhardt, Treaties and Alliances of the World, Gale, Detroit, MI, 1981, pp. 221-233

^{52 &}quot;Cuban Troops: Cat's-Paws For Soviet Intrigues," <u>U.S. News & World Report</u>, Dec. 8, 1975, p. 27

⁵³ "Kissinger in Africa: A Bid to Stave Off Race War," <u>U.S. News & World Report</u>, May 3, 1976, pp. 28-29

⁵⁴ "Angolan Rebels Get Some African Support," Knight-Ridder, <u>Albuquerque Journal</u>, Feb. 1, 1986, p. A10

^{55 &}quot;That Russian Base In Somalia: What Our Man Found At The Scene," <u>U.S. News & World Report</u>, July 21, 1975, p. 31-32

The Soviets used Cuban mercenaries, political assassinations, and all manners of intrigues and subterfuge to effect gain, both in the 'occupied' countries, and also against their neighboring countries. In Angola, the Soviets supported that Marxist government (1974 to 1986) with billions of dollars in military hardware including MIG fighters, attack helicopters, and military vehicles, in addition to 1,500 Soviet military advisors and 35,000 Cuban troops. The primary resisting "stronghold" was the resource rich nation of South Africa, (diamonds, chromium, gold, platinum, uranium, and copper). Tactics against this resistor included inflaming tribal sentiments, cross-border attacks from Mozambique and Nambiia, and military machinations which forced South Africa to periodically deploy troops in cross border pre-emptive strikes and even the temporary stationing of forces within Namibia.

When Henry Kissinger pled the case for pro-Western rebel aid necessary to fend off the Cuban mercenaries, it fell on deaf ears. The American Congress had been traumatized by the experience in Vietnam, and was in no mood for more of the same. Interestingly, China provided significant support in African resistance against this Soviet hegemony.

U.S.S.R. IN NICARAGUA, (1978-90)

DANIEL 11:25 "And he shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the south with a great army; and the king of the south shall wage war with an exceedingly great and mighty army; but he shall not stand, for plots shall be devised against him. ²⁶ Even those who eat his rich food shall be his undoing; his army shall be swept away, and many shall fall down slain."

As dictator of Nicaragua, Anastasio Somoza had the most powerful army in Central America with which to fend off any aggressor, plus the backing and support of the U.S. government, (although this alliance was predicated upon global strategic interests). Likewise, the Soviets perceived an opportunity to exploit class dissatisfactions in Nicaragua to its own strategic interests.

In 1978 a commander in Somoza's own military ranks, Eden Pastora, (also known as Commander Zero), led 24 rebels in a successful storming of Nicaragua's National Palace in Managua and took the Congressional members hostage. By 1979 Somoza was deposed, but within four years Eden Pastora had grown disenchanted with the Soviet sponsored revolution. In a surprise about-face he joined the U.S. sponsored guerilla resistance against this Sandinista Regime.⁵⁶

This was a 'behind-the-scenes' war, fought by both superpowers. The Soviets supplied approximately seventy MI-8, MI-24,⁵⁷ and MI-17 troop and assault helicopters,⁵⁸ and approximately \$500 million per year from 1980 to 1989.⁵⁹ The United States provided sophisticated SA-7 Red Eye surface-to-air missiles and \$100's of millions of C.I.A. supplied equipment and funds,⁶⁰ \$10's of millions of Congressional approved non-lethal aid, and a nearly \$30 million windfall in Irangate funds as managed by National Security Council staff member, Lt. Col. Oliver North.

⁵⁶ "Ex-Nicaraguan Guerrilla Leader Goes Fishin'," Associated Press, Albuquerque Journal, April 15, 1987, p. B10

⁵⁷ "Soviets Pour Arms Into Nicaragua," Los Angeles Times, <u>Albuquerque Journal</u>, Oct. 28, 1986, p. A3

⁵⁸ "Managua Reportedly Will Get Helicopters," Los Angeles Times, <u>Albuquerque Journal</u>, April 14, 1987, p. A12

⁵⁹ Don Oberdorfer, "Sources Say Soviets To Halt Nicaraguan Arms Aid," Washington Post, <u>Albuquerque Journal</u>, May 16, 1989, p. A1

^{60 &}quot;Managua Reportedly Will Get Helicopters," p. A12

This contention continued until the corrupt and nepotistic government of President Daniel Ortega Saavadra was replaced on February 25, 1990 by a government marginally acceptable to the U.S. -- a democratically elected Sra Violeta Chamorro. ⁶¹ (Ref. Dan 11:28)

GRENADA INVASION AND..., (1979-1984)

DANIEL 11:27 "And as for the two kings, their minds shall be bent on mischief; they shall speak lies at the same table, but to no avail; for the end is yet to be at the time appointed."

During this period of history, several events transpired which could be interpreted as applicable to this verse, including:

U.S. 444 Day Iranian Hostage Crisis

When the Iranians stormed the U.S. Embassy on November 4, 1979, they not only took 52 American diplomats hostage, but the few attacks against the Soviet Embassy ceased. The hostages were released within minutes of the January 20, 1981 inauguration of the more assertive, newly elected Ronald Wilson Reagan.⁶²

KAL 007 Downing

On September 2, 1983, Korean Airlines flight KAL 007 was intentionally shot down by the Soviet Air Force after it intruded into Soviet airspace. President Reagan bombasted Soviet ill intent and irresponsibility, while Yuri Andropov's government offered conflicting excuses for the deaths of the 269 passengers.⁶³

Grenada

The term "mischief" is most obvious in the events surrounding the tiny Caribbean island of Grenada.

In the fall of 1983, U.S. military analysts informed President Reagan that Cuba and the Soviet Union had supplied civilian and military personnel for the construction of an airstrip of sufficient size to handle military transport aircraft. On October 19, 1983, a hard-line Marxist junta seized power of the small island.⁶⁴ Six days later, on Oct. 25, President Reagan ordered an invasion under the justification of protecting the more than 500 American students attending the island based medical school. With a landing force of 1,300 U.S. troops, 12 Cubans were killed and the remaining 24 Cubans and 30 Soviets were captured. The American students were evacuated, and the island's dictator deposed.⁶⁵

1984 Olympics

And finally, in 1984, the Soviets declined to participate in the Summer Olympics in Los Angeles. This appears to have been done in direct retribution for the U.S. boycott of the 1980 Olympics in Moscow, which was precipitated by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTION TALKS (START) -- (1985 - 1987)

DANIEL 11:27 "And as for the two kings, their minds shall be bent on mischief; they shall speak lies at the same table, but to no avail; for the end is yet to be at the time appointed."

⁶¹ Jack Anderson, and Dale Van Atta, "Greed of Sandinista Gand of Three Rivals That of Somoza," Syndicated Columinsts, Washington, <u>Albuquerque Jorunal</u>, Sept. 20, 1985, p. A5

⁶² The New York Times - Page One, p. 292

⁶³ *IBID*, p. 304

⁶⁴ "White House Pushes Funds For Contras," A.P., Albuquerque Journal, Feb. 23, 1986, p. A5

⁶⁵ The New York Times - Page One, p. 306

The "lies at the same table" calls attention to the 1985-86 Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START); bantering on nuclear testing moratoriums; troop reduction talks; the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI - also known as "Star Wars"); various arms control summits (Geneva - Nov. 1985, Reykjavid - Oct. 1986⁶⁶, Geneva - April 1987, and Washington - Dec. 1987⁶⁷); President Reagan's "Zero-Option" proposal; U.S. accusations of Soviet SALT non-compliance; U.S. threats to disregard SALT II compliance; and nuclear weapon numerical increases despite a signed intermediate-range nuclear-forces (INF) treaty. This was a period of time where President Ronald Reagan and President Mikhail Gorbachev each attempted to craftily exploit the military chess board to maximize political advantage.

U.S.S.R. AFRICAN WITHDRAWAL -- (1986)

DANIEL 11:28 "And he shall return to his land with great substance, but his heart shall be set against the holy covenant. And he shall work his will, and return to his own land."

This 28th verse tells of a "*return*" that appears to be in reference to the Soviet Union's withdrawal from the African continent. However, history demonstrates at least three potential fulfillments:

- 1.) In Africa, (Ref. Daniel 11:23-24), Soviet and Cuban troops were deployed in ten different countries with political involvement in several others. Billions of dollars of military equipment was employed to effect economic and political gain in the continent of Africa over the tumultuous years of 1974 to 1986.
- 2.) In Nicaragua, (Ref. Daniel 11:25-26), May of 1988, the Soviet/U.S. arms and war materials were winding down. In the end, the two superpowers ceased their interference, and that nation melded into relative obscurity without significant riches or rewards for either side. The net result was that the region was left without the radical Marxist ideology, and Soviet hegemony was rebuffed.
- 3.) In Afghanistan, the Soviets spent more than seven years (1979 to 1987) deploying up to 115,000 troops in a futile attempt to prop up a puppet Marxist government. Like the African venturism, the Soviet forces were countered by not only the mujahedeen rebels with support from the C.I.A., but also by the support of the unexpected bedfellow Red China. The U.S.S.R. suffered 10,000 killed and 20,000 wounded in this Soviet "Vietnam." ⁶⁸

Of these two events, the African interpretation would fulfill the caveat of returning with "great substance" as dictated by natural resources, some of which are found in abundance only in Africa:

AFRICAN NATURAL RESOURCES69

% of the World's			% of the World's	
Resource	Reserves / Production	Resource	Reserves / Production	
Diamonds	Nearly all	Uranium	33%	
Chromium	Nearly all	Bauxite	25%	
Cobalt	90%	Coffee	25%	

Barry Schweid, "Time Begins To Grow Short for Reagan To Leave Mark in Foreign Policy Area," A.P., <u>Albuquerque Jorunal</u>, Jan. 1, 1987, p. D5

^{67 &}quot;Shultz, Soviet See Progress In Arms Talks," A.P., Moscow, Albuquerque Journal, Feb. 22, 1988, p. A1

^{68 &}quot;End to Afghan War?," Editorial, Albuquerque Journal, Feb. 11, 1988, p. A4

⁶⁹ "Kissinger In Africa - A Bid To Stave Off Race War," p. 28

Cocoa	65%	Copper	20%	
Gold	50%	Natural Gas	12%	
Platinum	40%	Petroleum	8%	

DANIEL 11:28 "And he shall return to his land with great substance, but his heart shall be set against the holy covenant. And he shall work his will, and return to his own land."

The reference of the Soviets being "set against the holy covenant" is less certain, as Warsaw Pact nations have historically based their Marxist philosophy in atheism. But in this verse, Daniel sets the gears turning toward a certain anti-Semitic 'bent.' In accordance with this initial inkling, several events eventually transpired which could have been inferred:

- In December of 1985, the U.S. Secretary of State, George Schultz, broke new ground by linking the Romanian government's human rights abuses, "especially affecting [the] practice of religion" with the U.S. Most Favored Nation trade status.
- On Sept. 6, 1986, two terrorists under the leadership of Palestinian terrorist Abu Nidal, (who was directly sponsored by Libya), conducted an attack on the main synagogue in Istanbul Turkey. Of the 26 worshipers, they killed 21, wounded 4, and left 1 teenage boy unscathed.* (Ref. Dan. 8:13 & 11:29)
- In early October of 1986 the Israelis conducted a raid on the Tunis, Libya PLO headquarters in which 60 people were killed. In response, PLO Chairman, Yassir Arafat, orchestrated the infiltration of an Italian cruise ship, the *Achille Lauro*, with the intent of shooting up an Israeli harbor during a scheduled port call. However, after the ship's crew discovered the cache of weapons, the terrorists panicked and took the ship captive prematurely. As a demonstration of their intent, one of the passengers, an elderly wheelchair dependent American, was shot in cold blood and his lifeless body and wheelchair were thrown over the ship's rail.⁷¹
- It was on October 13, 1986 that Mikhail Gorgachev was quoted as saying "I'd hate to be a Jew living in Soviet Russia today."*
 - * As accounted in the Dan. 8 "Transgression That Makes Desolate- Neve Shalom" presentation.

But it is important to understand that although these events were proximate to this era in history, Daniel might have been careful to say that "his heart shall be set against" rather than assign any actual fulfillment. This is important, because although Dan. 11:28 may have set the foundation for this 'bent,' verse 31 may describe the actual event.

THE U.S. IN CENTRAL AMERICA, (1978-1990)

DANIEL 11:28 "And he shall return to his land with great substance, but his heart shall be set against the holy covenant. And he shall work his will, and return to his own land."

Nicaragua

As interpreted in the Daniel 11:25-26 Nicaraguan sequence of events, the Soviet/Cuban sponsored rebels overthrew the Somoza Dictatorship and established a Marxist Sandinista government. The

^{70 &}quot;Shultz Links Romanian Religious Rights to Trade Policy," Reuter, Albuquerque Journal, Dec. 16, 1985, p. A9

⁷¹ The New York Times - Page One, p. 315

U.S. reacted quickly to this potential communistic entrenchment in Central America with a reciprocal guerrilla war.

This nation's twelve long years of internal struggle and international complicity ceased on February 25, 1990, when the corrupt and nepotistic Marxist government of President Daniel Ortega Saavadra⁷² was replaced by a government acceptable to the U.S., -- a democratically elected Sra Violeta Chamorro.⁷³ (Ref. Dan 11:28)

However, this was not the only "work his will, and return to his own land" during this period of Central American regional involvement.

Panama

On April 19,1978, under the presidency of Jimmy Carter, the U.S. agreed to turn over the Panama Canal to the nation of Panama, effective on Dec. 31, 1999. But ten years later, on Dec. 20, 1989, the U.S. found cause to militarily invade Panama with the intent of arresting Panamanian military strong man Manuel Antonio Noriega on drug trafficking charges. After hiding out for ten days, Noriega surrendered to U.S. Federal law enforcement officers, and flown to Miami, Florida for prosecution.⁷⁴

Although this action was taken with the approval of Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle, the response by his army was somewhat less enthusiastic: "We have been conversing with (Delvalle) constantly, and he knows that our position has been that there is too much American interference in this Panamanian affair. We are not here denying or refusing this post because it's not our place, because we have a commander -- commander Noriega.""75

LIBYAN INCIDENT -- (1986)

DANIEL 11:29 "<u>At the time appointed he shall return and come into the south; but it shall not be this time as it was before</u>. ³⁰ For ships of Kittim shall come against him, and he shall be afraid and withdraw, and shall turn back and be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and give heed to those who forsake the holy covenant."

Historical Perspective

In establishing key players and key events, one must appreciate sponsorship roles. In the case of Libyan dictator Col. Muammar Khaddafi, the Soviets played a free-wheeling and successful military role in Libya which started in the late 1960's, and is presented in this April 1986 snap-shot-in-time:

LIBYAN/SOVIET SHARED RESOURCES AND MATERIALS

- 1. 35,000 75,000 Soviet and East European civilian workers
- 2. 4,000 6,000 military advisors
- 3. \$4 6 billion in arms sales advances, by the Soviets
- 4. \$1 billion in yearly arms sales, (one of Moscow's biggest customers)
- 5. (3) SAM-5 sites
- 6. 150,000 200,000 barrels of oil sent daily to the U.S.S.R. for debt servicing
- 7. (6) Foxtrot-class submarines

⁷² Anderson, and Van Atta, "Greed of Sandinista Gand of Three Rivals That of Somoza," p. A5

⁷³ Ben Box, Mexico & Central American Handbook, Passport Books, Chicago, IL., Sept. 1994, p. 673

^{74 &}quot;The New York Times - Page One," p. 336

⁷⁵ "Panama President Fires Noriega," A.P., Albuquerque Journal, Feb. 26, 1988, p. A1

- 8. Several radar-homing missile equipped Nanuchka-class corvette fast attack surface ships
- 9. (50) MIG-25's
- 10. (175) MIG-23's
- 11. A squadron of Tu-22 "Blinder" bombers
- 12. SS-1 Soviet Scud B missiles with "non-persistent lethal nerve agent" 76
- -- Items $#1-6^{77}$; items $7-11^{78}$

In September of 1969, military officer Col. Muammar Khadafy led a bloodless coup and formed a Revolution Command Council, with himself as Chairman. After subduing his fellow countrymen, he interjected himself into the problems of both African and European nations, spending hundreds of millions of dollars in support of international terrorism between the 1970's and the mid 1980's.⁷⁹

- 1. In 1977 Muammar Khadafy airlifted 2,500 troops to Uganda in an unsuccessful effort to prop up the government of Idi Amin against rebel factions.⁸⁰ Amin was ultimately deposed in 1979.
- 2. During 1981, Khadafy's asserted that Libyan territorial waters extended from the greater mouth of the Gulf of Sidra, -- approximately 360 miles east to west, and up to 160 miles from its shores. (International norm is 12 miles from the nearest coast.) In response to the proclaimed "line-of-death", President Reagan deployed the U.S. Navy to assert international rights of passage. On August 19, two Libyan jets were sent aloft, and upon encountering two U.S. carrier based "Tomcat" fighter aircraft, the Libyan aircraft hastily launched air-to-air missiles. The U.S. fighters quickly downed both aircraft.⁸¹
- 3. During the years of 1981 to 1985, Khadafy sent "huge shipments of arms" to a new Ugandan rebel leader in the successful overthrow of the pro-Western Gen. Tito Okello.⁸²
- 4. In 1983 he sent troops into Chad in support of the anti-government rebels. To protect their former colony, the French responded by sending in 3,000 troops. After a year of fighting, an agreement for mutual pull-out was made, but only the French withdrew. Within a year, continued Libyan-backed rebel attacks prompted the French to re-deploy 1,500 troops and tactical fighter aircraft.⁸³
- 5. During the early 1980's Libyan intelligence agents would tip-off European authorities of terrorist intentions against European targets. However by 1984/85, the Libyan anti-terrorist assistance ceased. Although mounting evidence of Libyan complicity would seemingly coalesce international anti-Libyan sentiments, the \$12 billion of European trade, along with tens of thousands of European workers in Libya, would hamper a truly unified response.⁸⁴

⁷⁶ "London Paper Reports Libya Has Nerve Gas," A.P., <u>Albuquerque Journal</u>, Nov. 24, 1986, p. A2

Marc Duvoisin, "Russians Quietly Establish Presence in Libya," Knight-Ridder, <u>Albuquerque Journal</u>, April 13, 1986, p. B7

⁷⁸ "U.S. Fleet Faces 3 Libyan Threats," Knight-Ridder, <u>Albuquerque Journal</u>, March 25, 1986, p. A1

Anderson and Van Atta, "Libya's Role in Terrorism Documented," Syndicated Columnists, <u>Albuquerque Journal</u>, April 9, 1986, p. A4

^{80 &}quot;Libya Helped Arm Rebels In Uganda, Khadafy Says," A.P., Albuquerque Journal, Jan. 30, 1986, p. A13

^{81 &}quot;In Past, Khadafy Has Backed Off," Knight-Rider, Albuquerque Journal, Mar. 25, 1986, p. A8

^{82 &}quot;Libya Helped Arm Rebels In Uganda, Khadafy Says," p. A13

^{83 &}quot;French May Send Troops Into Chad," A.P., Albuquerque Journal, Feb. 15, 1986, p. A19

^{84 &}quot;Libya Used To Expose Terrorists," p. A13

- 6. In July of 1982, a Libyan plot to assassinate Saudi Arabia's King Fahd was uncovered. 85
- 7. In December of 1982, a Libyan plot to support Italy's Sardinia separatists was uncovered. This conspiracy included plans for sabotage and kidnapping.⁸⁶
- 8. In March of 1984, a Libyan plot to destroy the Jordanian Embassy in Libya was uncovered.⁸⁷
- 9. In June of 1984, a Libyan airline employee shot and wounded a Libyan-born Athens, Greece publisher of an anti-Khadafy newspaper. Within one month, three other Libyans residing in Greece were killed.⁸⁸
- 10. In July of 1984, an ambitious Libyan plot was uncovered with goals of assassinating then Sudanese President Gaafar Nimeiry, blowing-up the American embassy and striking other targets.⁸⁹
- 11. On Friday, December 27, 1985, terrorists reportedly under the command of extremist Palestinian leader, Sabry al-Banna (also known as Abu Nidal), attacked the Schwechat Airport in Vienna, Austria, and the Leonardo da Vinci airport in Rome, Italy. They threw grenades and fired assault rifles at the U.S. Pan American and TWA, and Israeli El Al airline ticket counter customers. Between the two airport attacks, 18 people were killed, and 121 people wounded.⁹⁰
- 12. During the year 1985, Libya provided PLO terrorist Abu Nidal a home base of operations which resulted in 33 attacks which killed 90 people, and wounded 350.91
- 13. In early February 1986, in an interview with an Italian newspaper reporter, Khadafy suggested that if U.S./Libyan tensions remained high, that Soviet supplied "ultra-modern, long-range nuclear missiles" could be installed in Libya. 92
- 14. In mid March 1986, President Reagan ordered the U.S. Navy across Khadafy's "line-of-death" in response to an uncovered Libyan plot to "target" U.S. diplomats. The deployed fleet was a massive armada including three aircraft carriers, the *America*, the *Coral Sea*, and the *Saratoga*; supported by 24 escort vessels. On March 24, when representative U.S. Navy ships crossed Khadafy's self proclaimed 32 degree, 30 minute Gulf of Sidra territorial waters, two Libyan patrol boats responded with hostile intent. U.S. carrier based aircraft destroyed one and damaged the second. They also knocked out a SAM battery after it challenged the aircraft by firing six missiles. The next day, on the 25th, three additional patrol boats were dispatched in the direction of the U.S. fleet, and were either sunk or damaged.

87 IBID

⁸⁵ Anderson and Van Atta, "Libya's Role in Terrorism Documented," p. A4

⁸⁶ IBID

⁸⁸ *IBID*

⁸⁹ *IBID*

^{90 &}quot;PLO Linked to Raids At European Airports," compiled from Journal wires, <u>Albuquerque Journal</u>, Dec. 29, 1985, p. A8

^{91 &}quot;Peres Dares West To Help Punish Terror," p. A7

^{92 &}quot;Khadafy May Ask Soviets for Missiles,", compiled from Journal wires, Albuquerque Journal, Feb. 12, 1986, p. A9

^{93 &}quot;U.S. Uncovers 30 Libyan-Backed Terrorist Plots," Knight-Ridder, Albuquerque Journal, April 6, 1986, p. A3

^{94 &}quot;Land-Based, Carrier Jets Flew in Raid," Chicago Tribune, Albuquerque Journal, April 15, 1986. p. A2

^{95 &}quot;U.S. Forces Strike Against Libya," compiled from Journal wires, Albuquerque Journal, March 25, 1986, p. A1

⁹⁶ Karen DeYoung, "U.S. Gained From Operations, Admiral Says," Washington Post, <u>Albuquerque Journal</u>, March 27, 1986, P. A8

- 15. On April 2, a TWA jet liner was sabotaged over Greece, killing four Americans. Washington suspected Libyan involvement.⁹⁷
- 16. On April 5, a West German nightclub frequented by American servicemen was bombed. One serviceman was killed, 63 wounded, and approximately 140 civilians were also wounded. Libyan diplomats were linked with the attack.⁹⁸
- 17. On Thursday, April 9, the Italian Catholic bishop of Libya, Giovanni Martinelli; plus three priests from the Philippines, Malta, and Poland; and an Italian nun, were taken from their quarters in Benghazi.⁹⁹
- 18. On Sunday, April 13, in anticipation of a U.S. attack, Khadafy ordered American and Western European civilians into locations considered prime military targets. He also offered \$100 million for six American hostages then-held in Lebanon by Moslem extremists. ¹⁰⁰

The Ships Of Kittim*

DANIEL 11:29 "At the time appointed he shall return and come into the south; but it shall not be this time as it was before. ³⁰ For ships of Kittim shall come against him, and he shall be afraid and withdraw, and shall turn back and be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and give heed to those who forsake the holy covenant."

* (As historically established, Kittim refers to the island of Crete, and specifically to a seaport town that, in Daniel's day had the most powerful navy in the Mediterranean.)

On Monday, April 14, in response to the continued Libyan sponsored terroristic provocations, President Reagan ordered a direct attack on Libya. The U.S. naval carriers *America* and *Coral Sea* launched 15 A-6 and A-7 (medium bomber and light attack) aircraft, for a coordinated attack with 18 Air Force F-111 tactical bombers flying from England. The F-111's struck targets in Tripoli (including Khadafy's headquarters, a military airbase, and a terrorist training base); and the A-6 and A-7's struck targets in Benghazi (a command post and airbase). (This attack occurred before the American and European civilians could be deployed as human shields.) The attack against Khadafy's "headquarters" included his private residence. One of his children was killed in the residence, but Khadafy was in his 'prayer' tent on the lawn, unscathed.

Reagan's justification was based on two intercepted cables between the Libyan embassy in East Berlin and Khadafy's headquarters in Tripoli. The first was sent on April 4, advising Khadafy that a terrorist attack would occur the next day. The second cable was sent April 5, the day of the West Berlin disco bombing, advising Khadafy of the success "which could not be traced to Libyan people.""102

The history of these events established four basic premises. The first was that the king of the north (the Soviet Union, through a Libyan front) would again return to play a disruptive role in world affairs. The second was that this presence would extend into the realm of the king of the south (the European airports, West Berlin disco, etc.). Thirdly, the Soviet's previously successful intrigue

⁹⁹ "Libya Moves Westerners Into Camps," compiled from Journal wires, <u>Albuquerque Journal</u>, April 14, 1986, p. A1 ¹⁰⁰ *IBID*

^{97 &}quot;Thatcher Oks Bases for Libya Strike," A.P., Albuquerque Journal, April 13, 1986, p. A8

⁹⁸ IBID

^{101 &}quot;Land-Based, Carrier Jets Flew in Raid," p. A2

^{102 &}quot;Cables to Khadafy Provided Evidence," L.A. Times & Washington Post Service, <u>Albuquerque Journal</u>, April 15, 1986, p. A1

(Nicaragua) would prove to be a dismal failure this time (by way of a highly successful U.S. military strike against Libya). And fourth, that this action should be by the "ships of Kittim. Each of these criteria were succinctly fulfilled.

The Disinformation Campaign

DANIEL 11:29 "At the time appointed he shall return and come into the south; but it shall not be this time as it was before. ³⁰ For ships of Kittim shall come against him, and he shall be afraid and withdraw, and shall turn back and be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and give heed to those who forsake the holy covenant."

The air attack against Libya was designed to overtly deter Libyan aggression and covertly kill Khadafy. During the months preceding the attack, the CIA conducted a sophisticated dis-information campaign which was designed to threaten and taunt Khadafy. Immediately after the attack, Khadafy fled into the vast expanse of Libyan desert in fear for his life, while meantime, the U.S. government was still keeping busy preparing a second dis-information campaign.¹⁰³

JEWISH SYNAGOGUE MASSACRE -- (1986)

DANIEL 11:29 "At the time appointed he shall return and come into the south; but it shall not be this time as it was before. ³⁰ For ships of Kittim shall come against him, and he shall be afraid and withdraw, and shall turn back and be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and give heed to those who forsake the holy covenant.

Within five months of the Libyan attack, a particularly egregious act of terrorism occurred against Istanbul, Turkey's, main Jewish synagogue, the "Jews of Neve Shalom." On Saturday, September 6, 1986, at 9:20 a.m., two attackers, in their 20's, entered the synagogue shortly after the start of services. They locked the main door behind them, and standing 30 feet apart, started spraying the allmale congregation, young and old, with machine gun fire. They killed 21, wounded 4 (one seriously), and left one 17 year old unscathed (he pretended to be dead). They then poured gasoline over seven of the bodies, and set fire. Finally, they pulled the pins on their handgrenades, and blew themselves apart. Seven rabbis were among the dead, and Istabul's chief rabbi was wounded. The ten women upstairs were unharmed.

There was immediate widespread suspicion who these men were, and that "in such a well planned terrorist action that they had no accomplices." ¹⁰⁴ It was speculated that their automatic weapons and grenades entered Turkey through diplomatic means, ¹⁰⁵ and although several groups claimed responsibility, Abu Nidal was the leading suspect. (As described previously; during 1985, Libya provided Abu Nidal a home base of operations which produced 33 attacks in which 90 people were killed and 350 wounded.) Fifteen months after this attack, an article in the U.S. News & World Report (without divulging the intelligence source) pointed to Abu Nidal as the culprit. ¹⁰⁶

While the entirety of this work demonstrates that Daniel is called to prophesy to the nations, in this context we find that this Jewish massacre crosses the limiting line of Jewish pertinence to become an internationally acknowledged event.

Seymour Hersh, "North Tries, Unsuccessfully, to Alter Plans for Raid on Libya," <u>The Kansas City Star</u>, Feb. 27, 1987, p. 6B

 ^{104 &}quot;Gunmen's Identities Stump Investigators,", A.P. - Istanbul, Turkey, <u>Albuquerque Jorunal</u>, Sept. 9, 1986, p. A8
 105 IBID

Patricia Cullen Clark, "Washington Whispers -- Abu Nidal, Challenging Arafat," <u>U.S. News & World Report</u>, Nov. 30, 1987, p. 15

But the account of this event is not limited to this eleventh chapter of Daniel. It is also presented in the Daniel 8:11 & 12 commentary, (confirming the Soviet sponsorship of this horrific deed). When we explore this prophetic event even further, we find additional confirmation in the book of Psalms for that year of 1986.

PSALMS 86:14 "O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless men seek my life, and they do not set thee before them. ¹⁵ But thou, O Lord, art a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. ¹⁶ Turn to me and take pity on me; give thy strength to thy servant, and save the son of thy handmaid. ¹⁷ Show me a sign of thy favor, that those who hate me may see and be able put to shame because thou, Lord, hast helped me and comforted me."

Clearly, Daniel 11:30 and 8:11 & 12 refer to this same event. But the Psalms is a little different. The many chapters of Psalms are full of references to enemies, and calls for the thwarting of their misdeeds and misbegotten gains. Similarly, this defensive perspective has already been presented in context with the seventy 'years' of Jeremiah (Daniel 9). In verse 25 Daniel describes, and history documents, that the nation of Israel is built with "squares and moat" -- defensive fortifications. Likewise, it should come of no surprise that, with or without any specific prophetic significance that the book of Psalms could be randomly interpreted as presenting Israel's plea for God's favor against any one of the many onslaughts of "ruthless men."

But this Psalms 86 passage (for the year 1986) is more. In verse 16, the son of a "handmaid" is in jeopardy. In this verse, we find a plea for GoD's protection for that singular son. Once again, GoD provides a key clue for interpretative confirmation, and I again cite the Istanbul synagogue massacre and the fact that only one person was unscathed, -- a seventeen year old boy. (Ref. Dan. 8, "The Transgression That Makes Desolate - Neve Shalom")

CHINA - Tiananmen Square

DANIEL 11:32 "He shall seduce with flattery those who violate the covenant; but the people who know their God shall stand firm and take action. ³³ And those among the people who are wise shall make many understand, though they shall fall by sword and flame, by captivity and plunder, for some days. ³⁴ When they fall, they shall receive a little help. And many shall join themselves to them with flattery; ³⁵ and some of those who are wise shall fall, to refine and to cleanse them and to make them white, until the time of the end, for it is yet for the time appointed."

Perspective

In the scope of human affairs, governments have run the extremes, from espousing inherent God ordained 'human rights,' to denying any basic individual rights in deference to governmental goals and objectives. It is in this context that this first verse commences an extended scathing indictment of the nation of China.

Newspaper articles and investigative reporting still remind the world of the event in which peaceful protest by this country's young idealists was met with violence by a government willing to sacrifice compassion and tolerance for unbending rule. This event is known as Tiananmen Square, a populist

gathering in the same location where in 1949 Mao proclaimed the defeat of the Chinese Nationalists and the founding of a "New China." 107

During the years 1981 to 1987, Hu Yaogang was General secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, and was viewed by the populous masses as being lenient towards intellectuals and students. His abrupt dismissal in January of 1987, by Deng Xiaoping (then chairman of the Party Central Military Commission (considered China's supreme leader), was a disconcerting event for those expecting greater liberalization of thought.

Upon his death in mid-April of 1989, a group of university students marched on Tiananmen Square to express dismay with the slow progress of political reform and were joined by thousands of other young idealists. Deng Xiaoping offered restrained response. However, after several more demonstrations, the April 26 official Party newspaper, *People's Daily*, accused the students of an "organized conspiracy to sow chaos." ¹⁰⁸

Tiananmen Square

During the following weeks, up to 150,000 students¹⁰⁹ participated in various demonstrations. However, by the first few days of June, with students fully occupying Tiananmen Square and having issued the May 16 Declaration, the attention gained by this event was dealt with by force.

By the evening of June 3, under the shroud of darkness, soldiers started killing civilians.¹¹⁰ By 06:15, the square had been cleared with the exception of about 50 people.¹¹¹ After the troops subdued the populous (some troops were sympathetic while others were oppressive and murderous), the Chinese government announced that "6,000 fully armed soldiers were killed and hurt..., while only 300 students and bystanders were killed by mistake."¹¹² Western analysts estimated that 200,000 troops were called to Beijing, partly to suppress the student revolt, but more significantly as leverage in a perceived internal power struggle.¹¹³ Actual student/civilian deaths have never been independently verified.

Surprisingly, considering the instant world wide knowledge and recognition of this event, Tiananmen Square was a short lived experiment in civil liberties. Still today, recognized Chinese dissidents are still being arrested and persecuted, and recently one, Liu Nianchun, has abruptly disappeared after overt government threats.¹¹⁴

The U.S. State Department accuses China of "repressing dissenters and abusing prisoners" and bemoans "an unsatisfactory year on human rights." Sixty Minutes also reports on China's systematic starvation of orphans, 116 but the Chinese government rigidly limits journalists and suppresses much information including forced prison labor, forced abortions, religious persecutions, and untold repressions.

¹⁰⁷ John K. Fairbank, Children of the Dragon, Macmillan Publishing Co., NY, 1990, p. 11

¹⁰⁸ Fairbank, p. 11

¹⁰⁹ *IBID*, p. 11

¹¹⁰ *IBID*, p. 126

¹¹¹ *IBID*, p. 174

¹¹² *IBID*, p. 204

^{113 &}quot;Students Pledge To Hold Square," A.P., Beijing, Albuquerque Journal, May 29, 1989, p. A8

¹¹⁴ Susan Lawerence, "The Ghosts of Tiananmen," <u>U.S. News & World Report</u>, June 5, 1995, p. 38

^{115 &}quot;Chinese Official Appeals For Warmer Ties With U.S.," Amarillo Globe, Apr. 20, 1996, p. 12A

^{116 &}quot;Sixty Minutes," CBS Television, broadcast Jan. 21, 1996

According to Daniel, it appears that the rigidity of this Chinese government will endure "until the time of the end, for it is yet for the time appointed."

SADDAM HUSSAIN -- (1970 -- 2006)

DANIEL 11:36 "And the king shall do according to his will; he shall exalt himself and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak astonishing things against the God of gods. He shall prosper till the indignation is accomplished; for what is determined shall be done. ³⁷ He shall give no heed to the gods of his fathers, or to the one beloved by women; he shall not give heed to any other god, for he shall magnify himself above all. ³⁸ He shall honor the god of fortresses instead of these; a god whom his fathers did not know he shall honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts. ³⁹ He shall deal with the strongest fortresses by the help of a foreign god; those who acknowledge him he shall magnify with honor. He shall make them rulers over many and shall divide the land for a price."

Upon closely reading Daniel's depiction, one is struck with the many facets of description. This passage offers approximately 15 clues to this ruler and his methods. Interestingly, there appears to be several historical circumstances that can be considered in determining the accuracy of the fulfillment.

Historical Perspective

The pro-western Hashemite dynasty ruled the country of Iraq from its inception in 1921, until a military coup by General Abd al-Karim Qassem in July 1958. Five years later Qassem was ousted. leaving the country racked with political turmoil for another five years until July 1968, when the Baath Arab Socialist Party gained control. Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr was President ,but by early 1970, acting Vice President Saddam Hussain was already recognized as the "de facto 'strong man in Bagdad." In July of 1979 Saddam accepted the post of President, albeit merely a formal gesture. 117

Political Maneuverings - (1970 - 1990)

The sequence of milestones during Saddam's reign are presented as follows:

- 1. In September of 1970, with Iraqi troops deployed in Jordan, Saddam prevented Iraqi involvement in clashes between the Jordanian military and the resident PLO.¹¹⁸
- 2. In October of 1973, while Egypt and Syria combined forces for a concerted attack on Israel, Iraqi forces and support were uncommitted.¹¹⁹
- 3. In March of 1975, Saddam settled a longstanding Shatt Al-Arab waterway dispute with Iran by conceding to Iranian demands. This was adhered to by Saddam until the end of that decade. 120
- 4. After the January 1979, overthrow of the Iranian Shah, Saddam made open expressions of welcome to ingratiate himself with this new Islamic regime. To his disappointment, there was no reciprocation.¹²¹
- 5. In March of 1979 Saddam hosted an all-Arab conference which resulted in Egypt's expulsion from the Arab League due to Sadat's peace agreement with Israel (signed on March 27, 1979¹²²).

Lawrence Freedman, and Efraim Karsh, <u>The Gulf Conflict</u>, 1990 - 1991: <u>Diplomacy and War in the New World</u> Order, Princeton University Press, NJ, 1993, p. 29, 44

¹¹⁸ Freedman, and Karsh, p. 19

¹¹⁹ *IBID*

¹²⁰ *IBID*

¹²¹ Freedman, and Karsh, p. 20

- One year later found Saddam courting Sadat in a successful coaxing for military support. Over time, Egypt developed into a key provider, and Saddam inturn worked tirelessly to restore Egypt's membership in the Arab League.¹²³
- 6. In July of 1979, after Saddam assumed the office of the presidency he began a ruthless purge to suppress any potential challengers. "(H)undreds of party officials and military officers, some of whom were close friends and associates, perished."¹²⁴
- 7. In the spring of 1980, Saddam publicly raised concerns that Iran was sponsoring unrest in the Iraqi Sunni, Shei'ite, and Kurdish factions. He clamped down on these Iraqi factions, publicly criticized the Ayatollah Khomeini, and extended assistance to Iranian separatist factions in Iran.¹²⁵
- 8. In April of 1980, when Iranian operatives attempted to assassinate his Deputy Premier, Tariq Aziz, Saddam executed the Shi'ite religious leader along with hundreds of Shi'ite political prisoners, and deported 100,000 Shi'ites. 126
- 9. On September 23, 1980, in an effort to effect control within his own populous, Saddam began a limited force and scope invasion of Iran. Five days after the assault, Saddam stopped his forces having made his point, and sought immediate peace negotiations. As the war dragged on, Saddam continued to explore any venue available to reconcile his government with the religious zealots in Tehran. Finally, eight years later in July of 1988, with Iran's military resources exhausted, they moderated their stance against Saddam and accepted a peace plan.¹²⁷
- 10. In 1981, the Israeli's launched a precision air strike against the French designed nuclear reactor in Osiraq, leveling the facilities. (During the 1970's to late 80's the French had become Iraq's second largest trading partner, exchanging oil for military and consumer goods.) These facilities were carefully cultivated by Saddam both as a miltary nuclear 'equalizer' and the political icon of a significant regional power.¹²⁸
- 11. In the 1982 Fez Arab summit, Saddam joined other Arab leaders in the consensus that the states of Israel and Palestine could both exist. He later went even further and publicly supported "the existence of a secure state for the Israelis." 129
- 12. Starting in 1982, the U.S. sought to use Iraq against the Iranian government (partly in retribution for the 1980 to 1981 hostage crisis) by authorizing agricultural credits, providing satellite and communications information on Iranian troop movements, and indirectly supplying U.S. arms. By 1984, U.S./Iraqi diplomatic relations, severed during the 1967 Six Day War, were restored. By 1987, Iraq was receiving \$1 billion in agricultural credit, the largest U.S. loan to any country.
- 13. In 1985, Saddam offered \$700 million for Israel's consensus to the laying of an oil pipeline from Iraq to Aqaba, Jordan.

¹²² The New York Times - Page One, p. 285

¹²³ *IBID*, p. 21

¹²⁴ *IBID*, p. 19

¹²⁵ *IBID*, p. 20

¹²⁶ *IBID*, p. 20

¹²⁷ *IBID*, p. 21

¹²⁸ *IBID*, pp. 23, 24, 32

¹²⁹ *IBID*, p. 21

- 14. In early 1987, news of the U.S. administration's Iran-Contra arms for hostages (held in Lebanon) was made public. A few short months later, in May, an Iraqi Mirage attacked the U.S. frigate *Sark* with two Exocet missiles, killing 37 sailors. Apologies over "mistaken identity" were accepted.¹³⁰
- 15. During the years 1988 to 1989, clearly four challenges were made to Saddam's leadership. The first was a near mutiny by his military officers, openly challenging his ability to provide military strategy during the Iran/Iraq War. The second was a plan to shoot down his plane on the return leg of an Egyptian trip. A third coup attempt was aborted; and the fourth, an assassination attempt, was unsuccessful.¹³¹
- 16. In 1988, at the end of the Iran/Iraq war with the inherent impact on the Iraqi standard of living, Saddam, feeling compelled to demonstrate a "peace dividend," liberalized the Iraqi political climate and economic system. He also continued his moderate foreign policies by using statesmanship to effect the formation of the Arab Co-operation Council, and by signing a non-agression pact with Saudi Arabia.¹³²
- 17. In December of 1988, Saddam joined Egypt's Husni Mubarak in sponsoring the PLO's recognition of Israel's right to exist, in spite of Syrian opposition.
- 18. In September of 1989, British citizen Farzad Bazoft, a journalist for the British newspaper, the *Observer*, investigated an explosion in a military complex near Bagdad. He taken under arrest, and within six months he was tried, sentenced, and executed.
 - Over the course of the prior year, western intelligence noted significant conventional and nuclear weapons development. One of particular significance was a 'supergun' capable of launching artillery payloads as far as Israel and possibly into orbit. The Canadian large bore gun genius, Dr. Gerald Bull had been commissioned by Saddam to design and build this 'supergun.' Unfortunately for Dr. Bull, he was assassinated, (whether by agents of western or Israeli agencies is uncertain) after warnings not to complete the weapon's construction.
 - Now with the execution of this journalist, Western governments seized Iraqi bound nuclear and conventional weapons components. Under a near circus of media cameras, British, Greek, and Turkey customs agents impounded crate after crate of Iraqi bound hardware.
- 19. Also, still in 1990, U.S. agricultural credits had exceeded \$1 billion, but Iraq was under investigation for trading these goods to other countries for arms (known as the Italian Banca Nazionale Lavoro --BLN -- scandal). In addition, increasing U.S. criticism was leveled at Saddam for "gross violations of human rights." In response, Saddam denounced the U.S. Persian Gulf presence, and escalated anti-American sentiments.¹³³
- 20. Still at this same time period, the Soviets were allowing a mass Jewish exodus to Israel, and secret meetings were being held between Israel and Syria which alarmed Saddam. Fearing a conspiracy, he warned Israel against attacking his scientific or military facilities (anticipating a replay of the 1981 raid against the Osiraq reactor, but this time against his super-gun and other capabilities), hinting at retaliation by chemical warheads. The Israelis responded by inferring a

¹³⁰ Thomas B. Allen, and F. Clifton Berry, and Norman Polmar, <u>CNN: War in the Gulf</u>, Turner Publishing, Inc. Atlanta, GA, 1991, p. 49

¹³¹ Freedman, and Karsh, pp. 29-30

¹³² *IBID*, p. 22

¹³³ *IBID*, pp. 26-28, 31

nuclear counterstrike. Saddam subsequently used several diplomatic channels to successfully defuse the rhetoric.¹³⁴

The Cause & Course of The Persian Gulf War -- (1990 - 1992)

Problems continued to mount for Saddam in 1990. In 1980, at the beginning of the Iran/Iraq War, Saddam's coffers held \$35 billion. Ten years later, after the war and spending lavishly on military resources, the Iraqi government was \$80 billion in debt and needed \$230 billion to rebuild Iraq's economic infrastructure. His \$13 billion in oil revenues barely paid the military budget. 135

Where at the start of 1990 oil was \$20.50 per barrel, the two countries of United Arab Emirate (UAE) and Kuwait contributed to 75% of oil over-production (a 24 million barrel per day production versus the 22 million barrel bench mark), as established by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). This excess drove the price down to \$18.00 within three months, costing Iraq \$2.5 billion in 'lost' revenues. 136

After pleas and overt threats failed before the OPEC ministers, direct threats were targeted against Kuwait. On July 15, 1990, the Iraqi army was mobilized to the Kuwaiti border. At 01:00 on August 2 the attack was begun, supported by 140,000 troops and 1,800 tanks.¹³⁷

The plan was to immediately seize the Emir's seaside residence, the Dasman Palace, and the main royal palace in Kuwait City; and thereby capture the al-Sabah royal family. Thus, Saddam would have eliminated them as "traitors or agents of 'world imperialism," and forced Kuwaiti subservience by puppet government. He could have withdrawn his troops within months if not weeks. 139

Unfortunately for Saddam, the Emir had fled to fight for his throne, and what could have been an open and closed chapter in Middle Eastern history, "turned into a feud between Iraq and almost the entire international community." Initially, the Arab nations requested that the western powers leave this aggression to the Arabs. Accordingly, within a few days of the attack, the Arab League issued a statement of condemnation with little effect. 141

Within hours of the invasion the United Nations began working on a resolution to demand immediate withdrawal, and unified international pressures were mounted against the Iraqi regime, with even the most reticent governments falling in line. The United Nations "Desert Shield" was deployed on August 8 with unprecedented international concurrence.

This new era of international cooperation yielded a coalition of 22 countries, with 695,000 troops, 1,695 combat aircraft, and 174 warships¹⁴² heading toward a January 17 early morning commencement of "Desert Storm" air offensives.

On Feb. 24, at 04:00, G-Day (ground offensive day) began. One hundred hours later the Iraqi forces were decimated, and President Bush declared a cessation of hostilities. Of the more than 290,00 Iraqi

¹³⁴ *IBID*, p. 32

¹³⁵ *IBID*, p. 39

¹³⁶ *IBID*, pp. 41, 46

¹³⁷ *IBID*, p. 67

¹³⁸ *IBID*, p. 68

¹³⁹ *IBID*, p. 68

¹⁴⁰ *IBID*, pp. 68-69

¹⁴¹ *IBID*, p. 71

Allen, Berry, and Polmar, p. 97

troops, 100,000 deserted, 65,000 became prisoners of war, and an estimated 3,000 were killed in action. Of U.S. forces, there were 108 non-hostile Desert Shield deaths from August to January, and 150 Desert Storm deaths for the 100 hour period. A total of 3,000 Iraqi T-55, T-62, and T-72 tanks were destroyed or captured. Of the 1,956 M1A1 U.S. tanks, four were damaged beyond repair and another four had repairable damage. The effectiveness of the U.S. coalition forces is best summed up in the following excerpt from the book: "CNN: War in the Gulf."

"One M1A1 tank took two direct hits in the turret from a T-72. The Abrams crew was shaken, but their tank was still able to fight. The tank commander slewed his turret around, the gunner lased and fired, and they killed the T-72 that had hit them." ¹⁴⁶

GOG & MAGOG, PERSIA, LIBYA, AND ETHIOPIA

DANIEL 11:40 "'At the time of the end the king of the south shall attack8 him; but the king of the north shall rush upon him like a whirlwind, with chariots and horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall come into countries and shall overflow and pass through. ⁴¹ He shall come into the glorious land. And tens of thousands shall fall, but these shall be delivered out of his hand: Edom and Moab and the main part of the Ammonites. ⁴² He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape. ⁴³ He shall become ruler of the treasures of gold and of silver, and all the precious things of Egypt; and the Libyans and the Ethiopians, shall follow in his train. ⁴⁴ But tidings from the east and the north shall alarm him, and he shall go forth with great fury to exterminate and utterly destroy many."

g Heb. thrust at

EZEKIEL 38:10 "'Thus says the LORD GOD: On that day thought will come into your mind, and you will devise an evil scheme \$11\$ and say, "I will go up against the land of unwalled villages; I will fall upon the quiet people who dwell securely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having no bars or gates"; \$12\$ to seize spoil and carry off plunder; to assail the waste places which are now inhabited, and the people who were gathered from the nations, who have gotten cattle and goods, who dwell at the center of the earth. \$13\$ Sheba and Dedan and the merchants of Tarshish and all its villages will say to you, "Have you come to seize spoil? Have you assembled your hosts to carry off plunder, to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to seize great spoil?" \$14\$ Therefore, son of man, prophesy, and say to Gog, Thus says the LORD GOD: On that day when my people Israel are dwelling securely, you will bestir yourself \$15\$ and come from your place out of the uttermost parts of the north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great host, a mighty army; \$16\$ you will come up against my people Israel, like a cloud covering the land. In the latter days I will bring you against my land, that the nations may know me, when through you, O Gog, I vindicate my holiness before their eyes."

ⁱ Gk: Heb Will you not know?

¹⁴³ *IBID*, pp. 213, 220, 221

¹⁴⁴ *IBID*, pp. 216, 220

¹⁴⁵ *IBID*, pp. 209, 213

¹⁴⁶ *IBID*, pp. 212

Ezekiel 38 sets the stage for one of history's more significant conflagrations. Gog is depicted as assembling its forces, being poised to "seize spoil and carry off plunder," and Sheba, Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish confront Gog. But according to the eleventh chapter of Daniel, the king of the south goes beyond a verbal challenge, and thrusts at someone described as "him." This "him" could either be in reference to the "king of the north," who subsequently counter attacks, or this "him" could refers to another government, such as Iran, which might, effect intrigue in an unwalled (i.e., no credible military presence) like Iraq.

This future Soviet affrontation would probably be predicated upon a shift of Russian leadership to a strong-nationalist typical of Vladimir Putin.

The representative list of combatants include:

GEOGRAPHICAL IDENTITIES OF WESTERN ALLIES

Tribe/Country	Author's Interpretation	Harpers Dictionary ¹⁴⁷	Eerdmans Dictionary ¹⁴⁸	Interpreters Dictionary ¹⁴⁹
King of the South ^a	United Kingdom			
'strong prince' b	United States			
*Egypt ^c		Egypt	Egypt	Egypt
Sheba ^d		Yemen	Southern Arabia	N.W. Arabia
				S.W. Arabia
Dedand		Arabia	Southern Arabia	N.W. Arabia
Merchants of Tarshish ^d	US & UK	Sea Traders	Great Wealth	Distant Paradise

- a Daniel eleventh chapter
- b Daniel 11:5
- c Daniel 11:43
- d Ezekiel 38:13

When this half of combatants is evaluated, we see the evidence of current Western geo-political alliances. Just as in the Persian Gulf war, the nations of the Arabian region were protected and defended by American, British, and French troops among others. It would appear that this profitable alliance will continue for one more conflict, but with apparently greater involvement and at a greater cost.

*Please note that it is not entirely clear whether Egypt will be allied with either the Western allies and suffer the convergence of Libya and Sudan, or whether Egypt will align itself with the attackers and suffer some type of defensive strike, possibly nuclear, by Israel.

GEOGRAPHICAL IDENTITIES OF SOVIET ALLIES

Tribe/Country	Author's	Harpers	Eerdmans	Interpreters
	Interpretation	Dictionary	Dictionary	Dictionary
"him"	*Iraq			

¹⁴⁷ Paul Achtemeier, <u>Harpers Bible Dictionary</u>, Harper & Row, San Francisco, CA, 1985

¹⁴⁸ Allen Meyers, The Eerdmans Bible Dictionary, Eerdmans Publishing Co, Grand Rapids, MI, 1987

¹⁴⁹ The Interpreter's Dictionary Of The Bible, Abingdon Press, NY, 1962

Collin Sadler

King of the North ^e	Soviet Union			
Libyans ^f				
Ethiopians ^f	Sudan			
Gog ^g		north	Asia Minor, far north of Israel	north
'land of Magog' ^g - (fire - typical of Gog)		Unidentified	Unidentified	Southern Russia
Meshechg		Asia Minor	Unknown distant land	Ukraine
Tubal ^g		Unidentified	S.E. of Black Sea - Turkey, Russia, Iraq, Iran	Cappadocian area - Turkey political unit
Persia ^h		Iran	Iran	Iran
Cush ^h		Ethiopia	Sudan	Sudan
Puth		Libya	Libya	Libya
Gomer ⁱ		S. Russia	N. of Black Sea	Unidentified
Beth-togar'mah ⁱ - (Dead center Turkey)		Gurun, Turkey	N. of Palestine	Gurun, Turkey, due north of Palestine

- e Daniel eleventh chapter
- f Daniel 11:43
- g Ezekiel 38:2
- h Ezekiel 38:5
- i Ezekiel 38:6

Once again, certain alliances present themselves. Clearly, the Soviet Union, Iraq, Iran, and Libya have tacit interests. But Ethiopia, cited in Daniel 11:43, should be presented in its historical context. During Daniel's time that entire expanse immediately southeast of Egypt along the Red Sea was known as Ethiopia. Today, 2/3rds of that region is occupied by modern day Sudan, and the 1/3rd further southeast is today's Ethiopia. Thus, although Daniel called that region "Ethiopia," it's this author's expectation that he was referring to modern day Sudan.

Secondly, Turkey has been a member of NATO since the 1950's, but has sometimes been criticized for failing to meet all of NATO's expectations, being too cautious about not provoking its nearest and most ominous neighbor. This self preservation characteristic may either prove to manifest itself in allowing Soviet forces to pass through unimpeded, or there may be a political, religious, or social induced realignment of alliance.

And lastly, further evidence of these pending alliances can be discerned by news reports of nuclear weapon sales. A July 1992, <u>Albuquerque Journal</u> news article claimed that Iran purchased 3 nuclear weapons for \$500 million (either each or for all three, -- it was unclear), and an October 1992 article claimed that representatives of the Soviet Republic of Kazakhstan and Iran's defense minister, Akbar

Torkan, finalized the July sale of 4 nuclear warheads.¹⁵⁰ Subsequent to these reports, the <u>Jerusalem Post</u> reported that Iran had obtained an initial quantity of Soviet nuclear weapons prior to the already cited 1992 purchase, which were reportedly stored near Tehran, pending maintenance by Russian experts.¹⁵¹

*Please note that although current world events would intimate that Iraq would be the most likely candidate for a nation which would allow the massing of Soviet military forces, Iraq is not specifically identified by these prophetic passages, and this citation could apply to another country.

CHINA'S MILITARY MIGHT - Soviet Mortal Wound

DANIEL 11:44 "But tidings from the east and the north shall alarm him, and he shall go forth with great fury to exterminate and utterly destroy many."

EZEKIEL 38:18 "But on that day, when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, says the Lord GOD, my wrath will be aroused."

REVELATION 13:3 "One of its heads seemed to have a mortal wound, but its mortal wound was healed, and the whole earth followed the beast with wonder."

During the concerted attack against the middle east by the Soviets and their allies, this king of the north is alarmed by tiding from the east -- Red China. As indicated, the Soviets will go forth to utterly destroy those behind this threat, but the prophecies of Ezekiel, starting at 38:17, describe a terrible price to be paid.

Please recall the Revelation 13 beast, having feet of the bear, body of the leopard, and head of the lion, and whose seven heads represent the world's seven empires: 1.) Babylonian/Chaldean; 2.) Medo/Persian; 3.) Hellenistic; 4.) Roman; 5.) United Kingdom; 6.) Soviet Union; and 7.) Red China. (Remember that the Anti-Christ is the eighth that arises out of the seven by the unity of the three end-time governments -- the Lion -U.K./U.S.; the Bear - Soviet Union; and the Leopard - Red China.) One of the seven heads of the beast is 'mortally wounded', that being the sixth head, the Soviet Union during this event. Then the U.N./Anti-Christ 10 nation alliance will 'heal' this militarily defeated nation, and allow the Soviet peoples to continue to be governed by their Soviet leadership.

As such, speculation would suggest that Mikhail Gorbachev would be a most likely candidate to emerge into the leadership of this 'revived' nation. Speaking at the Fulton, Missouri, college campus where Winston Churchill delivered his famous 1946 "Iron Curtain" speech defining the essence of the Cold War, former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev called for the creation of a new "global government...to eliminate force and prevent conflicts from developing into a worldwide conflagration (by) collective action by the world community."¹⁵²

THE ANTI-CHRIST

DANIEL 11:45 "'And he shall pitch his palatial tents between the sea and the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, with none to help him."

Nick Ludington, "Iran Buys 4 N-Warheads, Rebels Say," A.P. - Washington, <u>Albuquerque Journal</u>, Oct. 13, 1992, p. A1

^{151 &}quot;Paper Reports Iran Has Nukes," Washington, Albuquerque Journal, April 10, 1998, p. A3

Eric Harrison, "Gorabchev Advocates Strong U.N.," L.A. Times, Albuquerque Journal, May 7, 1992, p. A9

REVELATION 13:1 "And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems upon its horns and a blasphemous name upon its heads. ² And the beast that I saw was like a leopard, its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And to it the dragon gave his power and his throne and great authority. ³ One of its heads seemed to have a mortal wound, but its mortal wound was healed, and the whole earth followed the beast with wonder."

REVELATION 13:11 "The I saw another beast which rose out of the earth; it had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon. ¹² It exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose mortal wound was healed."

REVELATION 17:11 "As for the beast that was and is not, it is an eighth but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to perdition. ¹² And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received royal power, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast. ¹³ These are of one mind and give over their power and authority to the beast; ¹⁴ they will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for his is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful."

Revelation 17 describes the seven kings which represent the seven world empires. This eighth king, as described previously, belongs to the seven because he arises out of the last 'divided' kingdom, which is per the Revelation 13 beast. (That is: U.K./U.S. - Lion; U.S.S.R. - Bear; Red China - Leopard.) Again, the ten horns represent the current five member United Nations Security Council permanent members, plus the five additional nominees. (That is: U.K., U.S., France, U.S.S.R., China, -- and Japan, Germany, Brazil, Nigeria, and India.)

It must be noted that these nations which align themselves comprise the "first beast." This "first beast" is an Anti-Christ entity, whose dominion shall last 42 months (3 1/2 years). (Please note that although this beast shall have his 42 month dominion, the Lion/Bear/Leopard may have the full 42 month dominion, and the remaining seven nations may have participation for a shorter length of time.) But not to forget, there's also a second beast. This second beast appears to be the personage whom we identify as THE Anti-Christ, in whom Satan directly controls. It also appears that this second beast will come on the scene at some later point in the 42 month dominion.

Also, as Daniel 11:45 points out, this eighth king, the Anti-Christ first-beast and second-beast, will not use the United Nations building in New York City as its throne. Instead, "he shall pitch his palatial tents between the sea and the glorious holy mountain," (most probably in Jerusalem). There, the Anti-Christ first-beast and second-beast shall rule over the whole earth, "yet he shall come to his end, with none to help him."