

Who Needs Oil Anyway?

April 17 2056:

The past fifty years have past in a blur for the people who have survived. My father has told me the history of the past as much as he was allowed to tell. My father was involved in numerous departments within the government. He was taken prisoner last year along with my mother as a result of a leak. Their agency had been watched for some time before a head official began to leak information to the government. As far as I know the traitor was charged with a lesser offense for his cooperation. The people of importance in the group, which includes my father and mother, were charge with conspiracy, treason, and other numerous infractions. All but two of the people charged were sent to prison camps for life. No one knows for sure why two got less prison time, but my guess is they spilled like a cup of tea. Now I wander from town to town keeping a low profile and meeting with people in the vast network of friends my parents had made. I'm trying to keep their dream alive, but with no organized leaders it's hard. People who had taken part in this operation before are now scared, and they have all the reason to be. The world is now a scary place to live.

I'll try my best to tell you exactly what has taken place in the past fifty years. I think I'll start with the oil prices raising around 2005. Some time in 2005 the price of oil began to rise on a regular basis and continued to run into late 2007. In 2008 United States power over Middle Eastern oil was lost to a new terrorist regime. Heavy losses and a change in political leaders forced the United States to back out of the Middle East. The new regime of terrorists had overrun the larger Middle Eastern nations. This regime spread and terrorized most countries throughout the world. No one country could put up a strong-enough defense against them. One world leader expressed the sentiments of the world: "You can't fight something you can't see." Studies of alternate energy sources became a prime focus among many nations because the loss of 68% of the world's gas and oil. Each member of the United Nations contributed billions of dollars towards these studies whereas the United States put up a mere 250 million dollars. This forced the U.S to break previous preservation contracts in search of a new energy source, and began drilling in Alaska for an oil supply.

The United States became radical and ignored the policies of the United Nations. In 2010 the United States attacked the terrorist regime. The U.S coordinated an all out air attack on several locations marked as terrorist hot spots. The attacks were successful and drove the regime into hiding. The U.S controlled the largest world's supply of oil in the world, prices for other nations remained constant at \$109.78 a barrel, but in the United States prices began to shrink because there was access to the world's largest resource of oil. As a result of attacking

without conference with the United Nations, the United Nations then put the United States on probation.

The U.S continued to act unruly and began to kill civilians thought to be a part of the hidden regime. The U.N soon found proof of these acts and were disgusted. In 2011 the United Nations cut ties with the United States. Over the next five years, the United States grew more and more aggressive. The United States were driven by the fear of losing its world power; the government became more and more abusive of its power. The U.S began public executions to show that no opposition would be taken lightly. The U.S government also became paranoid and sent spies throughout the world to monitor countries policies and plans of the other top leaders. Several U.S spies were caught by nations such as France and Britain, former allies of the United States. Having been caught in Britain and France, members of the United Nations, learned that the United States had been using these spies. When the news was announced, much of the world turned their backs to the United States.

Losing respect throughout the world, the U.S became extremely paranoid and took extreme measures to show no weakness to its own citizens or the world.

On October 27, 2017, the United States took prisoner six French tourists, who were on American controlled soil in Egypt, having believed them to be spies. After several months, the United States refused to release the prisoners. Having lost support from the rest of the world, the United States was growing weaker and becoming less of a world power, but refused to show this weakness. The U.S now had no announced allies or friends. The world had officially turned against of the greatest powers known in history. On January 10, 2018, the United Nations declared conflict with the United States because they still had not released the prisoners. The United States cut off oil supply to other nations in an indirect way, by raising prices to \$279.43 a barrel. Although windmills and water powered turbines had become an alternate source of energy, oil remained a main source, and this cut was detrimental to the world. Soon United States government cut off supply of oil to its own citizens in order to conserve for weapons and defensive actions. The world knew a war was approaching; it was just a matter of time. On May 9, 2018, some of the United Nations cabinet members threatened to declare war on the United States if a release of the prisoners was not negotiated. On May 21, the United States agreed to negotiate. The negotiations took several months before each side came to terms. The agreed terms were the prisoners were to be released by December 1, 2018 and the U.S would have to pay no fine of any sort. December 1, 2018 came around and the United States still had not released the prisoners. They were given a final chance to release, and if release was not put in order in 3 months, war would be declared.

The United States refused to meet the demands of the negotiation terms and on March 3, 2019, the countries of France and Britain declared war on the United States. France declared war because the prisoners hadn't been released, and Britain declared war because they had become close allies with France after the spying incident. The majority of the fighting occurred on United States territory in the Middle East, mainly in Iran and Afghanistan. The

main battles remained on Middle Eastern soils for eight years. These eight years were filled with casualties and fierce argument between feuding nations. These small battles were going no where and ended up in loss of lives that were not needed to be lost. The U.S began scheming and put tactical studies to work on how to get out of this kind of a battle rut. In 2027 the United States began plotting outside attacks.

On November 19, 2027, the United States bombed both Paris and London. After these attacks, Italy joined France and Britain, against the United States and became known as the Allied Forces. The Allied forces were deeply disturbed on why the U.S would put forth such a large attack on civilian populated areas. After this allegiance was formed; Iran, Iraq, and Africa joined forces with the United States and began calling themselves the Radical Axis Powers. For five months the battling remained overseas on Allied territories. On April 17, 2028, the Allied Forces invaded Puerto Rico, Mexico, and surrounding islands. The Radical Axis then made numerous failed attempts at regaining this U.S territory, but the land remained overthrown. The Allied Forces realized that the Radicals weren't making an advance and began to settle and set up military bases. Numerous battles still were taking place on African and Middle Eastern soil.

On June 23, 2030 at 4:37 AM Eastern time the Allied forces staged attacks on coastal cities: Houston, Austin, Atlanta, Portsmouth, Williamsburg, Saint Augustine, Miami, Jacksonville, and Savannah. After these attacks the draft was re-instated, requiring all United States citizens 17 to 45 to serve. The battles then shifted to the Western Hemisphere and the majority of battles took place in the United States. After this shift in battle fields occurred, Texas was taken over by the Allied Forces in a matter of months. In 2032 Germany joined the Allied Forces, and soon after, Japan joined the Radical Forces. The world's oil crises lead to the beginning of WW III in 2032. Minor battles began to break out all over the world; death rates skyrocketed. Weapon production was limited because of the scarce supply of oil. Everything began being rationed because there wasn't the product needed to create rubber, plastic, and other synthetic materials. Women began to run all the factories as it had happened almost a century ago. The economy levels dropped, and the rate of poverty and death from disease grew immensely. Synthetic oils began to fuel the majority of machinery, and were also being used in the production of rubbers and plastics. This caused many conflicts because it was three times more expensive. The war continued for ten years until August 19, 2042. The war had come to a halt as a result of the lack of oil for supplies, and no success over many years of fighting. The United States and the rest of the Radical Axis forces were forced to surrender and sign a treaty. After this treaty was signed, the Allied Forces kept soldiers in the United States for eight years to maintain peace.

Now being 2050 and having allied troops stationed in the United States, the radical government began staging secret under ground meetings. In late 2050 the Allied Forces rebuild the American government, and begin to reinstate the laws and rights under the Constitution and Declaration of Independence that the nation had survived under for

hundreds of years. While this was occurring, the radical government remained “underground colonists” and began to grow yet again. My father, being a member of this “new established” government had also been a member of the radical government. My father was then able to gain more supporters, and assist in the joining of the two governments. The two governments eventually began to work together, secretly, to avoid being caught by the Allied troops that still had bases throughout the United States.

For the next five years the United States government and the Radical government worked together secretly. In 2055 a leak spilled the names people in power in the Underground Colonists, and they were arrested. After much testifying, the Allies agreed that the small group they found were the only radicals. My parents were captured and put in high security prison camp. Although some radicals still existed, without strong pursuers, many ideas collapsed. The nation was broken, split between views of the citizens. The United States remained under partial Allied control, and is no longer one of the great world powers. All this struggle and turmoil is a result of the greed and struggle for oil that began in early 2005. This is where I am, and where I will be for now. Like I said before I am one of the only Underground Colonists that still preach the word of freedom. I will continue my trip from town to town and I will put forth all the will I can afford. My sole mission now is to rebuild this nation from the underground up.

After word:

My story is based on part of the knowledge that I have learned in my recent studies by taking the course Applications of Alternate Energy Sources at my current high school. With the knowledge I have learned I used it to make a fictional story of what could happen in the future. I used my imagination to create a world that could possibly come about someday. I thought creating the worst-case scenario would make my story livelier and hook the reader into enjoying it.

This year I enrolled in a new class called Applications of Alternate Energy Sources and it turned out to be a good choice. So far I have learned a great deal of information of several forms of energy and alternative energy sources. I believe this to be important because in the future the oil shortage will force the world to turn to an alternative source. This course has showed me that will can turn to a different energy and still live normal life at an affordable cost.