

An Epic Without Vision

by Glenn Mesaros

Water: The Epic Struggle for Wealth, Power, and Civilization

Steven Solomon

New York: Harpers Collins, 2010

Hardcover, 596 pp., \$27.99

This book is one of epic pessimism about man's ability to create new resources, such as fresh water. Here's one example from author Steven Solomon:

"The World Commission on Dams Report was a resounding turningpoint: The Global era of unbridled giant dam building was over."

And another: "... [D]esalination cannot be the panacea technology to solve the world's water crisis in the short term. . . . Even if costs plunged, there are unsolved environmental problems about how to dispose of the briny waste; inland regions cannot be reached without expensive pumping and building long aqueducts."

Contrast this with the approach of Rep.

Jim Wright, the Texas Democrat, who in his 1966 book *The Coming Water Famine*, described the problem, and proposed to solve it with a Great Project to provide the nation with a future fresh water supply.

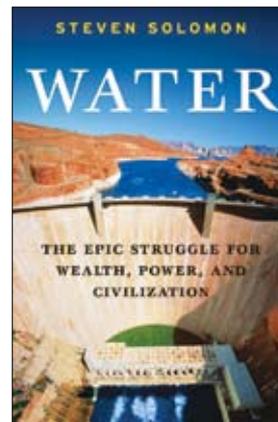
Wright, who spent 34 years in the House of Representatives, and was Speaker of the House from 1987 to 1989, was an original pro-growth FDR Democrat (a far cry from today's environmentalist Pelosi-led anti-capitalist lemmings, who are marching over the cliffs of oblivion into the "never never" land of carbon tax credits and banning harmless CO₂).

Wright wrote about real pollution problems in American rivers and streams, back in 1966, and advocated the Clean Water Act, which spent hundreds of billions of dollars to clean up the mess. Now, every day, I walk over the Mississippi River in Minnesota, which is clean enough to drink, and full of wildlife, right in metropolitan Minneapolis.

The aim of Wright's book about a "coming water famine" was to provide an infrastructure solution for future generations. He advocated a bold, visionary plan to divert water from the Yukon River in Alaska, southwards through the Natural Rocky Mountain Trench in Canada, and thence to the arid Southwest, California, and Mexico.

This "dream is, admittedly, both grandiose and visionary," he said. "However, the nation was built by visionaries. There have been some disturbing indications in recent years that we may have lost some of our capacity for dreaming and acting in those areas concerning our survival upon this earth. We must recapture that capability if we are to survive. . . ."

Wright called the Alaska waterway the "North American Power and Water Alliance," known as NAWAPA, and said that it "has almost limitless potential if we

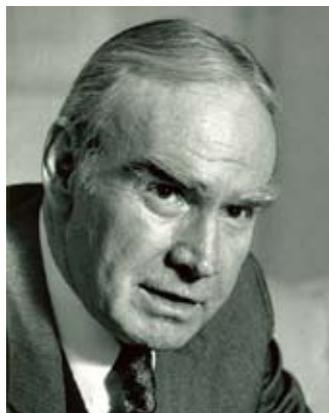


possess the courage and the foresight to grasp it."

The Cultural Shift

But just in the period when Wright was proposing NAWAPA, a cultural shift was imposed on the United States, replacing scientific optimism with its opposite.

Steven Solomon represents the "long descent of man" started by the Baby Boomer generation in 1968, which plagues the intellectual life of the trans-Atlantic world from Washington, D.C., to Berlin. Although Solomon has some good chapters on the past usage of water, from the Grand Canal in China, to the Nile River in Africa, to the Erie Canal in North America, in the development of industrial societies, he views these developments as



Jim Wright: An epic thinker with vision.

apparently all over now in the 21st Century: "No new innovative breakthrough capable of expanding usable water supply on a large enough scale to meet the demand is anywhere evident on the horizon. . . ." he writes.

And: "The age of water scarcity consequently heralds the potential start of a momentous transition in the trajectory of water and world history: from the transitional paradigm based on centralized, mass scale infrastructure . . . to a new efficiency paradigm built more upon more decentralized, scaled to task, and environmentally harmonious solutions that make more productive use of existing supplies."

Small is Beautiful

Solomon's paradise of future water usage can be found in "rural parts of India

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and Central Asia where British colonialism did not penetrate with its centralized, modern water techniques." For example, he says, "[V]illage built and managed water tanks in India offer small, local, partial, but helpful solutions to the nation's great water storage shortages."

"Several promising principles have been enunciated. These include striking a balance between the '3 E's': environmentally sustainable use of water; equitable access by the world's poor ... efficient use of existing resources..."

Solomon pays the usual drivel of hom-

age to Rachel Carson for starting this movement in 1962 with her *Silent Spring*, describing a world where the birds do not chirp any more because DDT killed them. This fraud did not save any birds, but killed millions of people of color, who died from malaria that DDT could have prevented. Today, even the World Health Organization recommends indoor spraying with DDT to combat malaria.

Solomon also recalls Earth Day, 1970, where "20 million Americans rallied to support an environmental health plan-

et." I remember this "day of infamy" at Rutgers's University in New Jersey, where the local Socialist Workers Party leader wore a badge which portrayed belching smokestacks, and proclaimed, "Capitalism fouls things up." He ended up drunk as a skunk on Ripple Wine that day.

Trans-Pacific Region

Fortunately, for the future of mankind, the trans-Pacific region of Russia/India/China has rejected the "small is beautiful" mantra of the now discredited "global warming," British dominated, environmental cartel.

'NAWAPA-PLUS'

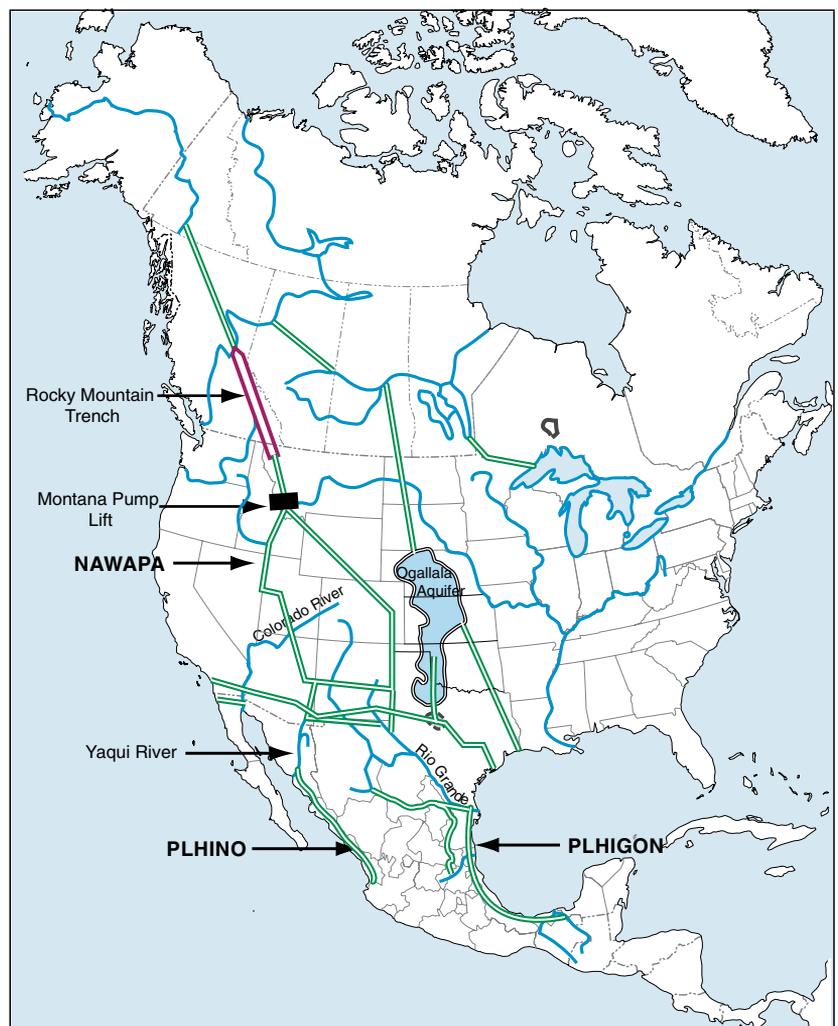
The great North American water project, the North American Water and Power Alliance or NAWAPA, was designed by the Parsons Engineering firm in the 1960s to harness about 17 percent of unused runoff from Alaska and northern Canada and bring it southward. Most of that 1,000 cubic kilometers of runoff water now flows unused into the Arctic Ocean.

NAWAPA-Plus, as conceived by *Executive Intelligence Review*, would extend the original NAWAPA design to link up in Mexico with both the PLHINO and the PLHIGON water projects, as shown, creating a single, integrated North American water project.

In the original NAWAPA design by Parsons, the water would be channelled into the Rocky Mountain Trench, a natural reservoir about 800 km in length, which runs from the center of Canada down into the northern United States. It is about 15 km wide and 100 meters deep, on average, and could store some 400 to 500 cubic kilometers of water, at a height of about 900 meters above sea level.

At the northern tip of the Trench, a navigable waterway would be built in Canada, from Vancouver in the West to Lake Superior and the St. Lawrence Seaway in the East—a great waterway that would connect the Pacific with the Atlantic.

For more on NAWAPA-Plus, see the Special Report, "Plhino: Water to



Sources: Parsons Company, *North American Water and Power Alliance Conceptual Study*, Dec. 7, 1964; Hal Cooper; Manuel Frías Alcaraz; *EIR*.

Green Mexico's Farmland," *21st Century*, Spring 2009. Also, see the Larouche video report on the project,

"NAWAPA-PLHINO: The Future of the Americas," <http://www.larouche.com/node/9257>.

China completed the world's largest dam, the Three Gorges Dam, in 2006, right in the middle of the "no new dams" era on the flood prone Yangtze River, despite opposition from the U.S. Export-Import Bank. It stands 600 feet high, and a mile and one half across, with "multi-tiered ship locks and a nearly 400 mile long reservoir."

As Solomon writes, "China is the unapologetic, leading state representative of the hard path."

"In 2001, Chinese leaders launched the transnational civil engineering water transfer scheme ... to redirect rivers of water—two and a half to three times the volume of the Colorado River or 25 times more than Libya's subterranean Man-made River—northward from the Yangtze basin. Three separate channels, totaling 2,200 miles in length, were designed to carry the water across mountains, canyons, waterways, railways ... to deliver parched north China from its dire thirst."

In effect, China is doing what the United States could have done with NAWAPA in diverting the Yukon River in Alaska all the way to Mexico between 1965 and 1995. As Jim Wright said in 1966, "our water problems will be solved only by moving water from areas of comparative abundance to sections of critical scarcity."

Congressman Wright forecast the benefits of NAWAPA to the United States, Canada, and Mexico: millions of acre feet of water, kilowatts of energy, irrigated land, and increased domestic national product by untold billions of dollars. Today, we can add the realistic plans to build a tunnel under the Bering Strait, thus linking Alaska, and North America, to Russia, and Asia with a high speed rail line, which would revolutionize the world's economy.

Again, in contrast, Solomon's lack of wisdom does not even mention that a huge increase in nuclear power development could solve the final cost containment of desalination of salt water.

One has to ask, what, really, is the point, of these "Epic" books on "natural" resources by Western publishers? To keep you, dear reader, in a controlled cultural and mental environment, away from the limitless potential of the universe that can be harnessed by each new generation of creative human beings.

GLOBAL WARMING UPDATE

Compiled by Gregory Murphy

Save the Whales So Their Dung Saves Us

A new report from the researchers of the Australian Antarctic Division (<http://www.aad.gov.au/default.asp?casid=37724>) claims that increased whale excrement in our oceans could help fight global warming by encouraging the growth of carbon-dioxide-consuming algae. The iron-rich droppings would feed blooms of phytoplankton, which, in turn, help regulate the ability of the ocean to store carbon.

Researcher Steve Nicol claims that a larger population of baleen whales in the Southern Ocean would work, but does not know how much whale dung it would take to make a difference.

The Insanity of Green Power

Yet another scam in solar power has been exposed in Spain, where solar power plants were caught using conventionally fueled arc lights to shine on the solar panels at night to increase the output of their solar plant. Why? Because solar power commands higher prices in the electricity market.

During plant inspections, it came to light that several solar power plants were generating current and feeding it into the net at night. To simulate a larger installation capacity, the plant operators also



Mike Double/@Commonwealth of Australia

Dung ho: Whale droppings being collected from a net.

made use of diesel generators.

The scam operators apparently failed to realize that someone would eventually notice that solar plants are not likely to produce current in the dark. Had the plant operators connected the conventional electricity generators during the daytime, to add to their solar power, the swindle might not have been noticed.

For more on the story, see <http://wattsupwiththat.com/2010/04/13/the-insanity-of-greenery/>

New Fashion Accessory For Global Warmers

There's a new face mask that we leave to readers to evaluate: The "Green Screen" by designer Robert Ortega, a graduate student at Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, is an anti-bacterial and reusable face mask that "sequesters the CO₂ from every exhale."



Courtesy of Anthony Watts

The SARCLIGHT®: The soon-to-be patented "solar power at night" arclight system.