

Start Trading Forex with up to \$10,000!

- Free Practice Account!
- No commission and low spreads!
- Live news, charts and indicators!





Zero Hedge On a long enough timeline the survival rate for everyone drops to zero.

- [home](#) [DARPA](#) [contributors](#) [news](#) [forums](#) [zh-tshirt](#) [store](#) [donate](#) [rss](#) [manifesto](#)

NIH on Abbot Labs - "They lied"

Posted by: Bruce Krasting
 Post date: 05/29/2011 - 09:22
 It's not just the banks that are screwing us.

Fadel Gheit Throws Wall Street's Big Banks Under The Oil Speculating Bus

Posted by: EconMatters
 Post date: 05/28/2011 - 14:33
 Public Relation people at Goldman Sachs can not be too happy about this, but we just can't resist the party that Fadel Gheit started earlier this week.

"Secret Fed loans" that were not so secret

Posted by: rcwhalen
 Post date: 05/28/2011 - 08:33
 I confess to be more than a little surprised when yesterday's morning reading turned up the following headline, from Bloomberg's Bob Ivy: "Fed Gave Banks Crisis Gains on Secretive Loans Low as 0.01%"

User login

Username: *

Password: *

[Create new account](#)
[Request new password](#)

Home

A Letter From A Fukushima Mother

 Submitted by [williambanza17](#) on 05/27/2011 07:36 -0400

[Japan](#) [Uranium](#)

Search

Search this site:

Navigation

- [Polls](#)
- [Donate To Zero Hedge](#)


Shopping cart

View your shopping cart.

Bankwest Business FeeSaver Loan

- No bank establishment fee
- No ongoing loan maintenance fees
- No surprises

[Find out more](#)




Zero Hedge Reads

- [Angry Bear](#)
- [Bearish News](#)
- [Boom Bust Blog](#)
- [China Financial Markets](#)
- [Chris Martenson's Blog](#)
- [Contrary Investor](#)
- [Coyote Blog](#)
- [Credit Writedowns](#)
- [Daily Capitalist](#)
- [Daneric's Elliott Waves](#)
- [DealBook](#)
- [Dealbreaker](#)
- [Dr. Housing Bubble](#)
- [ETF Digest](#)
- [Falkenblog](#)
- [Fibozachi](#)
- [Fund My Mutual Fund](#)
- [Gains Pains & Capital](#)
- [Global Economic Analysis](#)
- [Gonzalo Lira](#)
- [Hedge Accordingly](#)
- [Implode-Explode](#)

Letter from a Fukushima mother

When Tomoko-san, a mother of two in Fukushima City, heard from an NGO worker that I was going to be in Fukushima to report on a story about radiation levels at local schools, she was kind enough to volunteer her time to speak to me – and handed me this letter. I promised to translate it and share it with you. So here it is:

To people in the United States and around the world,

I am so sorry for the uranium and plutonium that Japan has released into the environment. The fallout from Fukushima has already circled the world many times, reaching Hawaii, Alaska, and even New York.

We live 60 kilometers (37 miles) from the plant and our homes have been contaminated beyond levels seen at Chernobyl. The cesium-137 they are finding in the soil will be here for 30 years. But the government will not help us. They tell us to stay put. They tell our kids to put on masks and hats and keep going to school.

This summer, our children won't be able to go swimming. They won't be able to play outside. They can't eat Fukushima's delicious peaches. They can't even eat the rice that the Fukushima farmers are making. They can't go visit Fukushima's beautiful rivers, mountains and lakes. This makes me sad. This fills me with so much regret.

Instead, our children will spend the summer in their classrooms, with no air conditioning, sweating as they try to concentrate on their lessons. We don't even know how much radiation they've already been exposed to.

I was eight years old when the Fukushima Daiichi plant opened. If I had understood what they were building, I would have fought against it. I didn't realize that it contained dangers that

- 05-29 15:04: Wal-Mart names senior China bosses, WSJ says
- 05-29 14:53: Kansas City Fed's Hoenig Sees Need to Lift Rates, reports WSJ, citing CNN
- 05-29 14:46: U.S.: China's progress on letting yuan rise "insufficient", Bloomberg says
- 05-29 14:35: Mexico denies Telmex license to offer video services, Bloomberg says
- 05-29 14:23: Total acquires 25% of Qatari exploration license from CNOOC, Bloomberg says
- 05-29 11:31: Egypt shares advance to two-month high on G-8 North Africa aid, Bloomberg says
- 05-29 11:01: Alwaleed says Saudi Arabia seeks oil price of \$70-\$80 a barrel, Bloomberg says
- 05-28 19:21: Banks may negotiate menu of payment options in foreclosure deal, Bloomberg says

The Zero Hedge Team

tips [at] zerohedge [dot] org - Our Reader Tips Mailbox

Make sure to read our "How To [Read/Tip Off] Zero Hedge Without Attracting The Interest Of [Human Resources/The Treasury/Black Helicopters]" Guide

ads [at] zerohedge [dot] org - Advertising Inquiries.

abuse [at] zerohedge [dot] org - Abuse / Infringement Issues

- Infectious Greed
- Investing Contrarian
- Jesse's Café Américain
- Market Folly
- Max Keiser
- Minyanville
- Mises Institute
- My Budget 360 Blog
- Naked Capitalism
- Of Two Minds
- OilPrice.com
- Pension Pulse
- Shanky's TechBlog
- The Burning Platform
- The Daily Crux
- The Economic Populist
- The Mad Hedge Fund Trader
- The Market Ticker
- The Technical Take
- The Underground Investor
- Themis Trading
- Wall St. Cheat Sheet
- Washington's Blog
- Wealth.net
- When Genius Prevailed

would threaten my children, my children's children and their children.

I am grateful for all the aid all the world has sent us.

Now, what we ask is for you to speak out against the Japanese government. Pressure them into taking action. Tell them to make protecting children their top priority.

Thank you so much,

Tomoko Hatsuzawa

Fukushima City

May 25, 2011

[Translated by Hiroko Tabuchi]

WB7: It's time to rock and roll people!

Your rating: None Average: 4.8 (24 votes)

» [+ Share / Save](#) [G+](#) [f](#) [t](#) [...](#) [Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments [Printer-friendly](#)

version [Send to friend](#)



by **max2205**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 08:04**
#1315839

Wow. That sucks. They really should move

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 08:05**
#1315843

I know it sounds incredulous, but that simple idea is not very simple in a crowded country like Japan.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Ergo**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:39**
#1316517

Clearly moving is not simple, and would be a great loss. But I wouldn't get my children killed over it. What's the point of living then? Time to go, even if you're refugees. The loss has already happened. They multiply their problems by not dealing with it.

(I've heard this type of denial before in other circumstances. It's not unique to Japan. A lot of people in a crisis will say, "what can I do?" So they do nothing. Always a bad choice. Sometimes in life you have to step out into the unknown. It's scary. But it's better than hurting yourself.)

-and thank you for a thought provoking article this morning, Mr. Banzai.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Fukushima Sam**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:01**
#1316988

This is sad. :-(

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Fish Gone Bad**

on **Sat, 05/28/2011 - 03:34**
#1318978

The Fukushima incident is rapidly becoming non-news. I wrote to NPR about it, but apparently it is not newsworthy. Add this to the ongoing bank failures that are no longer news. Add this to the BP spill that continues to kill endangered sea turtles, and pretty much anything else that swims in the gulf, it too is no longer news.

The Fukushima mess is not getting fixed. It is not going to stop spewing out death for a very very long time. The area is bathed in Xenon and Krypton gasses that are emitting gamma rays. Add to that all the radioactive sea water that is flowing into the ocean. The people actually have a choice. Get out of there with whatever clothes they have on their backs, by any means necessary, or plan their graves.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **flattrader**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:10**
#1317040

And speaking of "What can I do?"....

However minimal, go here and do this.

Stop them from forcing us to pay for our own demise.

SENATE ENERGY COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER "CLEAN ENERGY" BANK BILL

Powered by Ubercart, the [free shopping cart software](#).

It would be very wise of you to study our [disclaimer](#), our [privacy policy](#) and our (non)policy on [conflicts / full disclosure](#).

Mr. Durden retains sole power to bind Zero Hedge. No other person shall have actual or apparent authority to bind Zero Hedge to any contract. For any questions regarding this policy, or any other policy, contact legal [at] zerohedge [dot] com.

copyright ©2009, 2010, 2011 zero hedge - limited reproduction (with attribution) permitted by request

zero hedge's redundancy powered by:



MAY 26, 2011

BANK WOULD ENABLE UNLIMITED TAXPAYER FUNDING OF NEW NUCLEAR REACTOR CONSTRUCTION

ACT NOW TO BLOCK "CEDA"!

May 25, 2011

Dear friends,

The Senate Energy Committee is scheduled to consider tomorrow--May 26, 2011--a bill establishing a new "clean energy" bank called the Clean Energy Development Administration (CEDA).

Unfortunately, this "clean energy" bank is anything but a source for funding genuinely clean energy. In fact, **both new nuclear reactors and certain coal projects would be eligible for unlimited taxpayer backed loans if this bank were to be realized.**

Take action now: tell your Senators to reject CEDA unless nuclear power and coal are removed.

A press release from our friends at Union of Concerned Scientists with more background on CEDA is [here](#).

Please act quickly and tell your Senators--especially if they are on the Energy Committee (members listed below)--to reject CEDA as currently written. There is nothing "clean" about nuclear power, as a glance at any photo of Fukushima should make clear. Unless nuclear power and dirty coal are taken out of the CEDA program, it should be defeated.

If one of your Senators is on the Energy Committee (members listed below), please also call him/her today and urge him/her to reject CEDA unless nuclear and coal are removed from the program. Senate switchboard: 202-224-3121.

In other news, today NIRS hand-delivered to members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees a letter signed by more than 180 organizations and small businesses urging an end to the existing nuclear loan program. Thanks to everyone who signed this letter! The letter and accompanying press release are available on the front page of NIRS website, www.nirs.org.

Thanks for all you do,

Michael Mariotte
Executive Director
Nuclear Information and Resource Service
nirsnet@nirs.org
www.nirs.org

Stay Informed:

NIRS on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Nuclear-Information-and-Resource-Service/26490791479?sk=wall&filter=12>

<http://www.facebook.com/nonukesnirs>

<http://www.causes.com/causes/49098-no-nukes-nuclear-information-and-resource-service>

NIRS on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/#!/nirsnet>

Senate Energy Committee**Democrats:**

Chairman Jeff Bingaman (NM)
Ron Wyden (OR)
Tim Johnson (SD)
Mary L. Landrieu (LA)
Maria Cantwell (WA)
Bernard Sanders (I) (VT)
Debbie Stabenow (MI)
Mark Udall (CO)
Jeanne Shaheen (NH)
Al Franken (MN)
Joe Manchin (WV)
Christopher A. Coons (DE)

Republicans:

Lisa Murkowski (AK)
John Barrasso (WY)
James E. Risch (ID)
Mike Lee (UT)
Rand Paul (KY)
Daniel Coats (IN)
Rob Portman (OH)
John Hoeven (ND)
Dean Heller (NV)
Bob Corker (TN)

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

**by Fat Ass**

on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:40
#1317156

Someone mentioned "**Japan is crowded**" (and hence hard to relocate).

Surprisingly, Japan is not in the slightest crowded.

Simply look up the human density for comparable countries.

if you drive around Japan, it's basically empty, with the odd small city here and there.

(Exactly the same is true of the Usa, Germany and all other normal countries, excepting bizarre extremes in either density direction like "Monaco" or "Australia").

Tokyo is slightly crowded - but so what? Any number of major cities - Mexico City, Sydney, SP, etc - are much more crowded than Tokyo.

Those cities are crowded, but Japan, Mexico and Brasil are not in the slightest crowded, they are mostly empty.

Japan is not in the slightest crowded. You can move anywhere there (other than Tokyo).

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

**by Jim in MN****on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 13:50**
#1317494

Note that Sendai Plain was impacted by the earthquake and tsunami. As Kanto Plain becomes increasingly impacted by radiation, Japan has nowhere to go.

"The plains of Japan are few and small and cover only about 29% of the total land area. Most plains are located along the seacoast and are composed of alluvial lowlands, diluvial uplands, and low hills. The largest is the Kanto Plain (Tokyo Bay region), about 6,500 sq km (2,500 sq mi). Others include the Kinai Plain (Osaka-Kyoto), Nobi (Nagoya), Echigo (north-central Honshu), and Sendai (northeastern Honshu). There are four small plains in Hokkaido. The population is heavily concentrated in these limited flat areas."

Read more: [Topography - Japan - located, average, area](http://www.nationsencyclopedia.com/Asia-and-Oceania/Japan-TOPOGRAPHY.html#ixzz1NznQUjua)
<http://www.nationsencyclopedia.com/Asia-and-Oceania/Japan-TOPOGRAPHY.html#ixzz1NznQUjua>

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

**by malek****on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 17:48**
#1318254

You forgot to mention Nepal, such vast unpopulated areas there. <roll-eyes>

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

**by shortus cynicus****on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:04**
#1316066

Crowded Japan is one issue. The other is our western culture based on settling down. We are currently a real-estate economy.

In a long future, people must become much more mobile in a sense of moving with their families to places where they may find better living conditions. In the present time moving away is constrained mainly by two factors:

1. social networks like friends and family
2. real estate - homes are immovable, in other languages the term "immovables" is even used to describe buildings and property.

Problem 1. is partially solved by modern communication and open society.

But problem 2. remains unsolved.

In my free time, I'm designing movable high-tech home. If people in Fukushima had such homes, they could simply move them to other regions without losing all the wealth invested in building structure.

It sounds crazy, but it would be the optimal solution.

The concept of movable homes is strictly based on "zero hedge" assumption - nobody knows if place you're putting the building structure has any future for you.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

**by CH1****on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:24**
#1316463

FIWIW - that's not a "western culture" thing, that's a "ruler" thing.

Sheep are to remain inside their pens, and NOT to move around. Hence, they must gain approval and proper documents to move from pen to pen, and the fences between pens must be carefully maintained.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

**by Imminent Crucible****on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:38**
#1317143

All true enough, but the fact is that most people around the world are not much inclined to the nomadic life. I don't think too many Americans want to live in a van down by the river, whatever you or I might think about it.

The trick is to live your life so as to leave a minimum of trackable data. That means, among other things, driving an older car, as the newer ones all have black boxes:

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-1390435/Black-boxes-vehic...>

It also means losing the grocery store courtesy cards and cleaning out the cookie bin regularly.

There's little question that TPTB are steadily molding this country into a police state. I'm in the process of disposing of my US properties; I don't want to be chained to a house I can't sell, like the people in northern Japan.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

**by sherryw****on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:43**
#1316542

Streets very narrow there!

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

**by Ergo****on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:49**

#1316566

I refuse to own a home at present. (1) The interest payments are all front loaded. (2) If we lose a job, we have to sell at a loss, which isn't tax deductible. (3) If we sell ever, we lose 6% of the TOTAL price in realtor fees (not just our downpayment), which when added to other costs, wipes out our investment entirely - so we've leveraged up against ourselves. (4) property taxes in Texas are very high (5) it's cheaper to rent a home, and there are plenty available to rent from all the people who lost jobs and can't sell (6) in this day and age, job security is a myth, and mobility is very valuable.

That being said, having a place in the country is great, holds value during inflation, and we'll be enjoying time there this weekend.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **TheMerryPrankster**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:03**
[#1316634](#)

The solution is NOT more mobility. The solution is proper management of natural and human resources. If we merely move away after exhausting/destroying an area, it is only a matter of time before all areas are destroyed in the quest for wealth and a life without consequences.

If you have never spent any length of time living in a very rural environment, you would be unaware of the tremendous amount of infrastructure required to support and nurture a 1st world lifestyle. Clean water, electricity, sewers, roads, mail services, retail, tools, vehicles, fuel and hospitals and healthcare are all elements not easily transportable or replacable at a whim.

The problem is those in a position of power who are tasked with regulating and enforcing safety and environmental standards, have failed us all by being corrupt or incompetent and often both.

Either we hold those responsible, liable or we are on a treadmill to disaster after disaster.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Imminent Crucible**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:49**
[#1317179](#)

Can't imagine why anyone junked you. I would only add that 'corrupt' and 'incompetent' go together like 'politician' and 'bribe'.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **swamp**

on **Sun, 05/29/2011 - 03:50**
[#1320326](#)

Moving a radioactive house to another location is still a radioactive house.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Gully Foyle**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:20**
[#1316109](#)

max2205

I'm surprised there are no Pay-For-Green-Card-Marriage-To-Get-The-Fuck-Out-Of-Japan companies.

Usually the person seeking a mate pays in this case those who want to escape the ever worsening radioactive hell hole pays, and pays dearly.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Antartico**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:59**
[#1316627](#)

Completely tasteless, but it does sound like a business opportunity ideally suited for a low-rent, rat-bastard sociopath. Please keep us posted on how your new business venture is progressing.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **DoChenRollingBearing**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:00**
[#1316984](#)

Were the Bearing the President of the USA (yes!) I would offer LOTS of green cards to talented, hard-working and non-criminal Japanese. Win-win.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Antartico**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:10**
[#1317024](#)

I would not have a problem with either part of your scenario. ;D

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by pacosan
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 15:29*
#1317912

Detroit has available housing.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by Urban Roman
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 08:18*
#1315868

The cesium-137 they are finding in the soil will be here for 30 years.

Half of it will be here for 30 years. Of the remaining half, half of that will remain for another 30 years. And so on. It's really much worse than she stated.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by Cognitive Dissonance
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 08:28*
#1315888

I was eight years old when the Fukushima Daiichi plant opened. If I had understood what they were building, I would have fought against it. I didn't realize that it contained dangers that would threaten my children, my children's children and their children.

Tomoko Hatsuzawa,

While I admire that you are accepting personal responsibility for your **very** small part in this giant cluster fuck, and my heart weeps for your personal, family and county's pain, **no** eight year old can or should be held responsible for what their parents did not do. It was **not** you that should have been demanding answers to the tough questions many decades ago, but rather your parents and grandparents.

So America who is responsible for ending this giant financial cluster fuck currently playing out, our eight year old children and grandchildren or possibly you and I?

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by williambanzai7
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 08:33*
#1315898

Amen brother!

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by LawsofPhysics
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 08:40*
#1315931

Working on it CD.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by takinthehighway
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 08:56*
#1316030

CD, you're a bright fellow and I value your thoughts. What think you of this solution?

http://southernnationalcongress.org/truths/2011/sovereign_debt_crisis.php

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by Cognitive Dissonance
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:21*
#1316118

I have often said that this can all be over in a few months if a substantial, but still minority, of us just said "NO" and refused to enable the financial system's rape. There are several things we can do. The power of this comes from the fact that the national government can't force me to spend my money or to bank only at Bank of America **if** I am one of millions.

However, when a section of a nation decides to succeed, the national government can and sometimes will view it as life threatening and could easily physically attack the region that wishes to say "NO" and force it back into the rape parade. The only way this works is if it is done by several newly declared sovereigns at the same time, thus severely destabilizing the financial system that is the root of the power of the elite.

I'm not sure if Scotland or Greece would be considered so threatening as to warrant a physical attack. But if Texas or California or several smaller states joined forces I suspect the national (international) control system would consider this a direct assault and thus an act of war. Then it is a new day.


[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by duo
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:36*
#1316216

good luck with that. TX caved in to a threat from the TSA and shelved the bill criminalizing airport groping. If TX can't show some cajones, then it truly is game over.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

 **by Cognitive Dissonance**
on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:49
#1316288

Good luck with what duo?

I was asked my opinion and I gave it. I wasn't promoting the idea of state succession, but instead I was giving an opinion upon request. And the opinion was in fact negative with regard to American state succession because of the very real potential for an act of aggression against the state(s).

The basic assumption posed by the referenced article and the poster was that succession might be tried as a 'solution'. I personally don't think it would be tried, at least not until the pain gets much worse. But it might work **if** it was tried.


[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

 **by Imminent Crucible**
on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:53
#1317194

Forgive me, CD, but the words you wanted were "secede" and "secession".

I'll be happy if all the states succeed. Come to think of it, I'll be happy if most of them secede, too. Illinois, Cali and Massachusetts can stay behind and pay the bill.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

 **by Cognitive Dissonance**
on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 13:05
#1317270

LOL

That's what I get for trusting Tyler's built in spellcheck. It wanted to correct me and I just went along assuming the machine knew better than I. It usually does know better so I tend to trust it until it all goes horribly wrong.

Add in the fact that I've been a terrible speller since 1st grade and you get disasters like this one.

Thanks for the correction. :>)

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

 **by Sathington Willougby**
on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:54
#1316313

Yeah, but Texans have a problem putting their money where their mouth is.

I called my state senators and outright jeered at them. I said this phone call is to jeer at you for peeing down your leg when you saw a letter from a bureaucrat.

Of course I got the usual senatorial deferral of responsibility.

I just won't enter the feed lot [airport] until we start to live again as humans and not livestock.

And yeah, there are a lot of pussies in texas too.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

 **by Antartico**
on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:05
#1316643

And yeah, there are a lot of pussies in texas too.

Kind of dissapointing realization, isn't it? BTW, mad props on calling your state senators and giving them what fer.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

 **by swamp**
on Sun, 05/29/2011 - 03:53
#1320330

Sexist and misogynist language. Degradation of the female anatomy to common debauched language. Crude and uncivil.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

 **by earnulf**
on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:38
#1316849

The problem for texas succession as I see it is that Texas is far too wedded to the Federal Teat to seriously consider it. Texans are far too dependend on Food Stamps (according to the SNAP numbers) and other Federal Benefits to consider going it on their own, no matter what many in the public may feel.

A number of states have the same problem, they get more beni's from the Fed than they pay in. There is no incentive to go it alone.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments**by Cognitive Dissonance**on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:51**
#1317026

And what you just described is the ultimate hook, the monster financial crack sweeping Main Street. When a group of people become dependent upon the insanity they will support the insanity no matter how bad it becomes.

This is the lesson we must absorb if we are to understand where we are headed. As long as people are unwilling to become honest with themselves and their personal and social situation they will willingly hand over their innate sovereignty and accept some (more) pain today in exchange for the **false hope** that it will get better tomorrow.

The Pied Piper gave his audience what they wanted.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments**by Imminent Crucible**on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:56**
#1317211

I disagree. There *is* a great incentive for going it alone. If Texas were to secede and lose access to EBT benefits, a lot of the dead weight would pack up and leave Dallas/FTW and Houston and go somewhere more "progressive". Presto, instant urban renewal.

Next, with no one obligated to pay a freaking penny to Leviathan, Texans would be freed up to better respond to the cases of genuine need in TX.

And yes, I'm a longhorn taxpayer. And a Tarheel taxpayer, and a WV taxpayer.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments**by swamp**on **Sun, 05/29/2011 - 03:51**
#1320328

Derogatory terms tied to the female anatomy

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments**by Boxed Merlot**on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:06**
#1317008

I just won't enter the feed lot [airport] until we start to live again as humans and not livestock...

I took a quick drive from CA to OK recently, even with gas at \$4. instead of flying. Enjoyed it immensely. Not to mentioned getting to load up on New Mexican fireworks for celebrating US Independence in a couple of months. By the way, "with report" are the best ones.

Sure, CA says I'm not supposed to enjoy them as a US citizen on July fourth, but if I were Hispanic I'd allowed to on 5/5 and as an Asian I'd be allowed on Chinese new year. Multi-cultural rights, don't you know. LOL

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments**by kumquatsunite**on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:33**
#1317127

Didn't know about that fireworks for Asians and Mexicans but not for us. Can you say, end all immigration? Send all green carders home? End all Welfare, in any form? Especially the fraud of "college grants" and "college admissions for foreigners"? If not, cede your country, stick a fork in her, she is done.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments**by DoChenRollingBearing**on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:03**
#1317010

Yes, I hear you re Texas... Some of best years as a young guy were there.

Way to go for at least trying. SW666, email me (name at gm...) if you would like to get a link to my new blog.

An upcoming article will be about which **county** in Texas is the best one. I need more Texans so we can have a good shoot out.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments**by swamp**on **Sun, 05/29/2011 - 03:55**
#1320329

Derogatory terms tied to female anatomy. So sexist and misogynist.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments**by esprit**on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:18**

#1316405

Methinks perhaps the root cause of the U.S. Civil War should be studied with a more objective perspective.

Humanity vs. Socioeconomic dominance?

Favor the former and shun the latter and ye shall be branded a heretic, or worse - a domestic terrorist.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **illyia**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:25**
#1316442

Isn't it just so simple, CD: The only reason the debt-based usury system (which is demographically doomed, anyway) can function is that we all buy into it.

If enough people stopped patronizing certain banks, corporations, etc., it would send the system into a tailspin. And, it will happen - eventually - unless they can foist digital money on enough of us soon.

The problem is the numbers and that those are managed through propaganda. The marketing of "our way is the only way" is overwhelming any awareness of an alternative.

Perhaps, some sweet day, people will remember that the economy and society only functions because they participate **the way they do**.

Use cash, locally!

Thanks for all you do,

i.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Cognitive Dissonance**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:57**
#1316576

It is simple. Just not easy.

One of the difficult lessons I taught (and retaught and retaught) my at-the-time young son was that knowing what to do is the easy part. It's the doing that takes the real courage, particularly if it requires self sacrifice and especially if it requires self sacrifice **alone**.

And with all the yelling and screaming here on ZH and elsewhere about taking care of your own and not sticking your neck out, it all comes down to courage. Of course saying something like that is good for outraged comments anywhere I go. People prefer to believe the task is impossible or that it is someone else's responsibility than to face themselves and their unavoidable part in this mess.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **chaunceyG**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:54**
#1316935

"It is simple. Just not easy."

so true man. education is the first step. for that I thank you for all your posts and comments.

if we stop borrowing from banks they go away. then they force our government to borrow instead while at the same time raising our taxes and cutting social benefits! only way to fix that is for the government to exercise its constitutional right to print its own currency rather than having to borrow it from the banks.

This is why there is so much anti-government fiat money propaganda pumped out to the people. Most people think that is what our currency is rather than debt borrowed from private banks. This battle, public versus private monetary control, goes back to the beginning of money and credit itself.

Only way to fix this is to write off the bad debt and start over with a true representative democracy that controls its own currency. If we pay taxes we should not have to do so to service the debt held by handful of monopolists who can buyout our government on the cheap, and utilize it for its own benefits and not the people themselves.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **fredquimby**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:42**
#1316875

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/news/8525031/Orange-and-Barclaycar...>

Too late....digital money is here.....

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **fledermaus**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:17**
#1316704

CD do you think the Fraud-closure legal mess and the growing number of squatters not paying rent is destabilizing?

It's growing.

I personally would love to see banks reduce principal, across the board (not just rewarding those 'doing a bad thing...' either by hardship or strategic default...)

I would love to see them wiped out if they didn't do the basic due diligence to have paperwork -proving- they own loans... There has to be business lessons learned or we've

rewarded incompetence and fraud, like we have been. BTW- LOVED the fight club article. Let's ORGANIZE!

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by Cognitive Dissonance

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:05**
#1317001

CD do you think the Fraud-closure legal mess and the growing number of squatters not paying rent is destabilizing?

In the bizarre world we live in today this is actually bringing stability to the system....at least for now. If the only way to kick the can down the road is to keep personal spending up while infusing the system with fiat, then allowing the banks to kick the can brings order to disorder.

But the dike is springing more holes and worse, cracks are beginning to show. Which means even more drastic actions will be taken by the Ponzi including the following. If the banks are forced to write down principal it will be placed on the national credit card. They will not let the banks fail. The model is Japan who has been kicking the can for 20 years.

I've been thinking about this for some time, trying to see all the chess pieces on the board and many moves ahead along with the idea that there are no rules that can't be broken. This mess could go on for a very long time folks as long as they keep on moving the goal post and changing the rules. We are seeing various countries take the lead as liquidity sources. I think this will continue for several more years.

The thing is that when you are in the middle of a bad storm you think it can't get much worse than it currently is. Then suddenly it does. This mess can get much worse before it falls apart. Remember that those within the Matrix will fight to remain within the Matrix. Think of the current global financial system as a Matrix very few wish to see fail and most will actually support the worse it gets.

And I'm happy you enjoyed my latest piece. Thank you for saying so. It can become a bit demoralizing when some of the comments are simply intended to be hurtful and nothing else. So a kind word does serve to keep the boat balanced. :->

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by breezer1

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 08:36**
#1315909

if they want to live in canada i will sponsor them.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by illyia

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:27**
#1316459

breezer1, say it louder.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by DoChenRollingBearing

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:06**
#1317020

I am kind of ashamed that WE, the USA has not stepped up with an invitation like breezer1 suggests.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by hedgeless_horseman

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:22**
#1317086

Don't be ashamed. Some of us have.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by CPL

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:26**
#1317087

We've got room in the Ottawa Valley, wee ones are in trouble. I think I'll be discussing this with some of the groups this weekend and see if something can be arranged.

Just talked to DFAIT (Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade), best they could do is get a visitors visa, or if arranged, obtain a seasonal worker permit with the correct paper work to work on the farms (lots around here, Strawberry, tomatoe, livestock, etc). The immigration process is written like stereo instructions, it'll take me a couple of days to muddle through this shit to figure out the quickest route from point A to kids/parents being somewhere that doesn't make you glow.

Although, there is some real grey area in refugee claims. It could be argued that they are refugees from an unhostable environment and for the sake fo their own safety and the constraints of the society they are in they were given little or no choice. Plus the refugee system has the tools available to teach newcomers to learn either official languages.

There has to be a lawyer on here somewhere to give a bit of guidance...

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

by Tenma13



on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 08:43**
[#1315927](#)

Now, what we ask is for you to speak out against the Japanese government. Pressure them into taking action. Tell them to make protecting children their top priority.

That is something the Japanese people should, and need to do. Having spend several years in Japan, Japanese people react to the group consensus of other Japanese (no different in the UK), not outsiders telling them what they should, or should not be doing. A massive generalisation I realise, but look at the stubborn commitment to whaling and dolphin(ing?) hunting. Japanese people need to sort Japans problems, I need to contribute to helping UK problems. Without question show solidarity ala Egyptians for the workers in Wisconsin, but you need to do something. She realises she should, through hindsight, have protested the building of the plant, which in all likelihood that would never have happened. It is your government, YOU need to do something with the people around you who are directly effective, not some idealised 'other' coming to the rescue. I feel harsh for saying this, but its true.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:02**
[#1316059](#)

I dont think you have been paying attention.

There are people on the ground there, people who are not in the establishment, who have been trying very hard to get traction going during the past two months.

Are you proposing everyone should stand by and say I told you so?

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Tenma13**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:52**
[#1316302](#)

I said this:

YOU need to do something with the people around you who are directly effected'

At no point did I say do nothing. I simple made the point that people outside of Japan need to focus on the issues they can change. Its tough enough getting things done here. If we focus on all the ills of the world it can be overwhelming and cause paralysis. My simple point is get it right at home before looking further afield. Thats difficult enough.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:11**
[#1316370](#)

I did not mean to sound accusatory, but falling for the compartmentalization ploy is just what a common enemy that thinks truly globally want us to do.

I could sit here in HK saying not my problem, but clearly I don't.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Tenma13**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:40**
[#1316537](#)

valid point. I didn't mean to sound dismissive.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:52**
[#1316589](#)

Common enemies build uncommon alliances ;-)

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **shortus cynicus**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:12**
[#1316086](#)

workers in Wisconsin

They are not workers, they are public employees.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Tenma13**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:40**
[#1316246](#)

O_o people even?

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **kaiserhoff**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:47**
#1316263

Sloth people.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Tenma13**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:54**
#1316314

difficult for me to comment as I don't personally know them all. Massive generalisation perhaps?

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **kaiserhoff**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:02**
#1316335

Generalization yes, but ask anyone who has worked both in the public and productive sectors, or simply look at the results in any society as the percentage of "public servants" increases.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **DoChenRollingBearing**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:11**
#1317031

+ 1

I worked for .gov and I worked for companies.

And the hardest of all: starting a business, then another... The third time was the charm.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **kaiserhoff**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:41**
#1316249

Agreed. I feel for this woman, to a point. She needs to grab a pitch fork, tar and feathers, and go after her own damn government. The US is not the Nanny for all bad things in the world.

What happened when she was eight years old is a nice distraction, but she has a responsibility to her children here and now.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **i-dog**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:08**
#1316368

Agreed, 100% ... and I *don't* feel harsh for saying this: When the fuck are the children of the nanny states going to start taking personal responsibility for their own, and their dependents', well-being? Each of the governments they have been electing every few years for the last half-century have done nothing but ignore them and work against their interests. So, why do they continue to expect that their own government -- or another fucking government thousands of miles away -- is going to suddenly change into a fiscally and socially responsible entity and come to their rescue?

Governments are only interested in protecting themselves. Wake up, people!

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:11**
#1316384

Let me tell you something, we bear a greater burden because our inability to control our own government is a major part of the problem.

It's not just about jobs in the Mid-West and Linda Green. The virus is global.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **jms2112**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 08:40**
#1315930

Wow, that is really sad. What struck me is that she was sorry to the world for her country's screw up.

Hearing about what their life has become and what their kids have to endure and go without is very sad.

Christ - we don't even hear SHIT about this on the news.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:04**
#1316067

Let me tell you something, it takes a very big wave to get a Japanese person to sign a letter like that with their real name on it and then to ask a reporter to publish it outside Japan.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Tenma13**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:06*
[#1316341](#)

Isn't that precisely the problem? I hate to be taking the another side to you as I'm sure you have personal family in JP, as my girlfriend does, but that mindset is a huge part of the problem. deru kui wa utareru :(

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:12*
[#1316392](#)

Actually the biggest threat to the Japanese side of my family has been in tornado alley.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Cognitive Dissonance**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:23*
[#1316455](#)

Now **that's** true globalization. Or maybe just good old fashioned spreading (y)our seed wide and far. :>)

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Bagbalm**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 08:47*
[#1315967](#)

They need to leave - and refuse to go back. I saw the same thing here in the US when the people in Love Canal NY started getting all sorts of horrible conditions and diseases. They all wanted to preserve their wealth in their houses so none would just walk away without compensation. They wanted to be made whole and they sat there and died some of them rather than just walk. Nothing is worth getting sick and dying. If it is their last few yen they should get on a train and head away. What are they going to do? Arrest them and send them back? They would have to build prisons there to keep the people from leaving again or border fences and turn it into East Germany.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Tenma13**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 08:54*
[#1316008](#)

and go where? No doubt a great deal of their wealth is tied into their now worthless homes. There jobs are in the local area and may not be directly transferable to other prefectures. Most probably the one that could have moved elsewhere, would have already.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:09*
[#1316074](#)

They are stuck. Japan simply is not a place where you can pick up and move on a dime.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **sherryw**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:36*
[#1316510](#)

Yes, he's right. People stay put in one place. It's very hard for them to imagine being able to live somewhere else. "Face" is very important in this land where social, familial and occupational networks are tightly interwoven. They could only imagine becoming bag people and that is not an option. It's worse than death.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Mec-sick-o**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:36*
[#1316520](#)

Turn nomad until they find a solution, although it will be a rogue one.

There are some lost souls sleeping at Shinkansen stations throughout Tokyo.

Most productive sedentary people prefer to die at home than far away.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **sasebo**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 08:49*
[#1315979](#)

May God be with these wonderful people. I pray for them.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

by **dick cheney's ghost**



on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:00**
 #1316038

God Bless the Japanese People.....

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Fred C Dobbs**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:00**
 #1316051

ditto vato.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **zero intelligence**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:03**
 #1316061

Moving is hard but they should just leave. There is no more "wealth" in their houses, all that has been eliminated. They can rationalize the math (30 year half life) but they still think things are going to get better in six months or so.

My wife's sister's family lives about 70km from the reactor, in Koriyama, a city of 340,000 that is the second largest in Tohoku (the region stretching from north of Tokyo to Aomori at the northern tip of Honshu island). The city has become essentially uninhabitable, and they will leave soon.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **DeltaDawn**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:27**
 #1316479

I could house a family and would pay for airfare if they wanted to get out. They could fight the government from a safe distance and return if a safe alternative in Japan becomes available.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:33**
 #1316512

Your good karma will no go unnoticed my friend.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Bendromeda Strain**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:10**
 #1316064

The Japanese need to have a "come to Jesus" moment. It is my opinion after reading EX-SKF daily that they are truly overwhelmed, and unable to process the reality of how screwed the situation is. Needing to shore up the walls on a leaning Unit 4 should be a sign to everyone to get out! GTFO!! I appreciate WB7's admonition that it isn't easy, but if I couldn't just move, I would emigrate as a disaster refugee. The Government is attempting to treat the populace like children, *in extremis*. It's a far cry from the cold-eyed approach of Chernobyl, where the expendability of the Russian citizen was on display. I can't fault the Japanese for rejecting that, but when exactly *does* reality kick in for these people?

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:08**
 #1316084

Their government is a meat grinder. Those people are in the hamburger machine as we speak.

I can just hear it: "You stay here and do what we recomend or you get no help!"

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Gully Foyle**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:30**
 #1316175

[williambanzai7](#)

I find it interesting that there is no vast social movement in the rest of the world addressing aid. In the US we previously did concerts at the drop of a hat, Bangladesh and Farm Aid for example. Oh and we are the world to feed those starving Africans.

This is barely a blip and the only result I see are plans to shut down nuke plants around the globe.

At the very least Jackson Brown should reprise his songs from the No Nukes concert from the late seventies.

Oh wait they did.

<http://www.jacksonbrowne.com/news/2008/09/18/what-its-worth-no-nukes-reu...>

Oct. 12, 2007 - After almost three decades of near inactivity in the atomic sector, a bill has been sent to the U.S. government to [loan \\$50 billion dollars](#) to the nuclear power industry to kick-start stalled plant plans. In a protest against the proposed loan, members of the [famed "No Nukes" group](#), namely Jackson Browne, Bonnie Raitt and Graham Nash, have filmed a [YouTube video](#) for the Buffalo Springfield song "For What It's Worth." The "No Nukes" group - which once featured Magic man Bruce Springsteen and performed a series of concerts including a famous one at New York's Madison Square Garden in 1979 - now boasts appearances by Ben Harper and Keb' Mo'.

Where the fuck are these people when it is a REAL disaster? Where is all the money and consciousness raising they could generate?

And these are the "good" guys. I'm sure we will never see any conservatives involved in aiding a suffering nation. Except with bullets and bombs.

I suggest that everyone research who played the no nukes show. If any are giving concerts within driving range take a friend as witness or cameraman confront them and inquire as to why there is no benefit show for Japan. Do the same with the Farm aid people and the We are the world musicians.

Fuck use the strategy on every musician/artist/author who has some type of charity.

Post the answers on Youtube. Guilt them all.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:17**
#1316425

The Jazz people are going as is Bieber ;-)

But seriously, the money is not why they are not being helped.

It has more to do with bureaucratic control.

To think this situation is not our problem is so moronic on so many different levels. Those bureaucrats are fucking up our environment.

Please someone challenge that assertion.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **esprit**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:35**
#1316503

"I find it interesting that there is no vast social movement in the rest of the world addressing aid. In the US we previously did concerts at the drop of a hat, Bangladesh and Farm Aid for example. Oh and we are the world to feed those starving Africans".

WB, it is unfortunate that the recent aid sent to Haiti left such a bad karma over humanity. Send money they said, much of which was bottlenecked and diverted to administrative costs, and has yet to reach those in need.

Perhaps a much more effective method would be to sponsor families wishing to leave Japan, expedited by the U.S. The downside though would be cultural separation, education expectations, and (who would think it) discrimination.

Not an impossibility if you want it bad enough.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:35**
#1316516

Unfortunately there has always been a social stigma there against people who leave and come back. This situation is no exception.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Boxed Merlot**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:37**
#1316846

"I find it interesting that there is no vast social movement in the rest of the world addressing aid. In the US we previously did concerts at the drop of a hat, Bangladesh and Farm Aid for example. Oh and we are the world to feed those starving Africans"...

A couple of observations, these events occurred when administrative powers were more or less viewed as opposition forces to the artists and agendas being promoted. In today's environment, it seems the entertainment industry has been so diluted to include dancers and singers under construction for the benefit of msm producers.

Any public display of support for causes like this would be an embarrassment to the current administration, as their calling card for legitimacy has been their "grassroots" connection to the populace.

I agree however, the "starfish", individual salvation solution, a family at a time, may ultimately be the most practical, beneficial and longterm answer. In addition, with house values in the central valley in CA at 65-70% off from 2-3 years ago (and falling), it would seem a no brainer.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **kumquatsunite**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:37**
#1317139

Totally agree. Remember: there are four times as many people in Japan, which is the same size as California. So four times the population! Move them to Africa which needs their industriousness, their thrift, and their educational excellence. This will also offset China's current attempt to make Africa a colony of China.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **InconvenientCou...**
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:30*
#1316171

Keep the pressure on. The wound is still bleeding.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:35*
#1316185

If you are wondering what to do...repost the letter somewhere else.

Remember, our own government is complicit in the Fukushima information blackout.

Do you really think this is not impacting our West Coast?

Just remember the Claude Junckers all over the world: "Lying can be justified for the common good."

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **kaiserhoff**
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:56*
#1316318

Great insights as usual, William. We will help spread the truth. The MSM is doing jack shit on this whole mess.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **rsnoble**
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:35*
#1316196

Governments are only good at destroying mass areas, not saving them.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **breezer1**
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:37*
#1316205

i believe many , even here on zh don't fully understand the magnitude of this disaster. japan is dead. all should leave any way they can. this also applies to much of the surrounding areas. it will/is be affecting the northern hemisphere for centuries. the southern globe has a little more time. the good news is that the markets will be up and dancing with the stars will be in 3d.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:43*
#1316242

There is a typhoon bearing down on it as we write. What's that gonna do?

The older generation there is in a state of numb denial and the young are screaming bloody hell by Japanese norms of behavior.

One thing I have learned very well from my Mom, the powers in that country will stop at absolutely nothing.

Watch: The Bad Sleep Well by Kurosawa if you want a taste of what I am talking about.

He was young and angry when he did that film.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Broomer**
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:42*
#1316253

Who cares about third world filth?

Scores of those things die everyday.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **breezer1**
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:49*
#1316284

you really don't know whats waiting for you.

you have my sympathy.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Cognitive Dissonance**
on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:56*
#1316307

Spoken like a true sociopath enabler.

But then again I guess there is something to be said for greasing up and willingly accepting the brutal annal reaming as opposed to outright rape.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:19**
[#1316439](#)

How do you manage to get broadband down there? In the sewer.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **America- Some A...**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 13:34**
[#1317395](#)

+1

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **America- Some A...**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 13:34**
[#1317396](#)

+1

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Tenma13**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:23**
[#1316454](#)

WTF is this shit?

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Advoc8tr**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:48**
[#1316574](#)

You epitomise everything that is wrong with the world.

They have a culture that is already thousands of years old. Yours will be lucky to make half that. The soldier that killed your father during WWII was no different than your father who as a soldier probably killed someone elses father - both were brainwashed and misguided 'tools' of the elitist fuckers that oppress us all.

grow up and know your enemy.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Mec-sick-o**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:05**
[#1316645](#)

Get out of your bubblewrap.

Third world people may die early but these people get up and live every day and will not turn depressed, anorexic or whatever mind fuck illness is now on fashion.

We all take the same path, sooner or later, your cryogenic-coffin will not save you.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **chindit13**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 14:09**
[#1317566](#)

There are accidents of birth, and accidents of birth. You are an example of the latter.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **TideFighter**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 09:56**
[#1316308](#)

WB7,

Thank you for posting this letter. I will certainly repost it as many times as possible. Relocation, however difficult, strategically or financially, is the only answer. The best option, if moving inside Japan is too difficult, is to have them move to places such as Hawaii or Vancouver. If they don't have the funds to relocate, then we should provide decontamination, moving, traveling, and home buying funds to them.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **kaiserhoff**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:10**
[#1316377](#)

Who is this royal "we" and why should "we" help the relatively rich Japanese, and not the dirt poor North Koreans, Moldavians, or White Russians? I agree with the general idea of relocation, but how many Japanese could huddle in Pearl Harbor until the island tips over? ;)

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:42**
[#1316534](#)

I have a homework assignment for you. Go research how Japan got steered into going nuclear after losing so many lives to two bombs.

Is this supposed to be their delayed punishment?

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Bendromeda Strain**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:00**
#1316618

I hope he takes your advice. You have to assume many people have never put that particular 2 and 2 together...

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Mec-sick-o**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:19**
#1316700

I'm almost sure it is.

Too many bad decisions cannot be called an accident.

It is premeditated murder.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Herman Strandsc...**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:00**
#1316326

There should be a process of asylum available such as there is with war and political refugee status. I'm guessing that the 'authorities' would have to admit a real problem exists in order to instigate this idea amongst the rest of our world?

In UK we seem to receive 'asylum and political' refugees where there is a supposed effort to 'democratise' these areas and I wonder if they ever return home. It is clear that no NATO or other is going to be able to make Fukushima habitable.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:21**
#1316446

We are speaking of a place where many in high office think they are in The Last Samurai.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Jim in MN**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:01**
#1316327

Well, we can also express ourselves on the implications elsewhere. How many critical risks (the real topic of Zero Hedge) remain willfully ignored? Remember that Japan, along with France, are the countries always pointed out when nuclear supporters need a good example. Here is the new AP exclusive item on Fukushima today:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20110527/ap_on_bi_ge/as_japan_earthquake_tsunami_risk

AP Exclusive: Fukushima tsunami plan a single page

By *YURI KAGEYAMA and JUSTIN PRITCHARD, Associated Press Yuri Kageyama And Justin Pritchard, Associated Press* – 2 hrs 16 mins ago

TOKYO – Japanese nuclear regulators trusted that the reactors at Fukushima Dai-ichi were safe from the worst waves an earthquake could muster based on a single-page memo from the plant operator nearly a decade ago.

In the Dec. 19, 2001 document — one double-sized page obtained by The Associated Press under Japan's public records law — Tokyo Electric Power Co. rules out the possibility of a tsunami large enough to knock the plant offline and gives scant details to justify this conclusion, which proved to be wildly optimistic.

Regulators at the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency, or NISA, had asked plant operators for assessments of their earthquake and tsunami preparedness. They didn't mind the brevity of TEPCO's response, and apparently made no moves to verify its calculations or ask for supporting documents.

"This is all we saw," said Masaru Kobayashi, who now heads NISA's quake-safety section. "We did not look into the validity of the content."

The memo has Japanese text, boxes and numbers. It also has a tiny map of Japan indicating where historical earthquakes are believed to have struck. TEPCO considered five quakes, ranging from 8.0 to 8.6 magnitude, in northeastern Japan, and a 9.5 magnitude across the Pacific near Chile, as examples of possible tsunami-causing temblors.

Over the next nine years, despite advances in earthquake and tsunami science, the document gathered dust and was never updated.

When TEPCO finally did revisit tsunami preparedness last year, it was the most cursory of checks. And the conclusion was the same: The facility would remain dry under every scenario the utility envisioned.

"There was an attitude of disrespecting nature," said Kobe University professor emeritus Katsuhiko Ishibashi, who has sat on government nuclear safety advisory panels.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:27**
#1316462

They were considered the gold standard and amongst their peers they probably were. Makes you feel a lot safer, no?

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Bendromeda Strain**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:02**
[#1316628](#)

Compare the Tsunami Plan to the US tax code, or even Ford's UAW agreement. One of these things is not like the others...

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **davepowers**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:41**
[#1317146](#)

Jim, good to see you back.

How about an update on how you see things at Fuk these days. Given what I read at ex-shf, it sounds like even TEPCO now admits that at least some of the reactor cores of 1,2 and 3 are sitting on the floor of the Containment vessel. Can they just let it sit there in hopes that it won't melt thru? Can they do anything about it anyway?

Is #4 building really leaning/about to fall?

It sounds more and more like this mess is going to take its course with human intervention being limited to 'around the edges' sort of thing with no real solution possible.

What say ye?

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Jim in MN**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 14:15**
[#1317595](#)

hi davepowers, I have been busy in the Imperial Capital lately so harder to stay on top of things here. Thanks for asking.

Entropy will out, is one way to look at it. Yesterday TEPCO announced that the building they were transferring the water TO was itself leaking. 57 tons' worth in a short time. So they stopped the transfer for an indefinite period--meaning all work stops. Also the nitrogen pump and its replacement pump failed leaving Unit 1 at risk of another explosion for four hours. And yes, they are talking about 'reinforcing' building 4 so something is up there. That's the first I have seen on that from an official source, and it didn't mention why it needs reinforcing.

The cores are more or less as we've surmised. Core on the floor plus some degree of hole in the bucket. They are still pretty unclear on the actual condition. What they are discussing now is I understand simulation results and some amount of up close (new) monitoring of radiation levels in the reactor buildings. But the degree of melt and the disposition of the melted fuel has not been actually viewed yet. The overall story remains one in which bathing these destroyed cores in water is absorbing releases of cesium, iodine, etc. into the water. But nobody knows the details, or most importantly the actual shape and size of any agglomerated fuel piles. That is what could heat up further, go critical, etc. depending on things. The most likely case is pellets that have fallen and scattered, which would be better than molten slag in a big heap. If it's a bad configuration, with more activity in the mix, then no, there's nothing they can do about it. There's too much stuff in the way to remotely get any non-liquid material in there, and no way to reach in and grab/remove the fuel. They'd have to tear all the buildings apart, killing many workers in the process. I can't imagine pulling the steel vessel up and away without a lot of close-in work. Not going to happen.

I don't think I was too far off in my assessment of the radioisotope release potential all those weeks ago: but the vast majority is in this massive tonnage of water. Probably several Chernobyls' worth in there already which no one will discuss. The ultimate hot potato in the form of a giant water balloon.

At the same time, the continuing discovery of irradiated agricultural products further afield makes me think that the aerial release/deposition story is also not fully told. The government said this week that a new map of soil concentrations will be prepared based on an intensive sampling program. That won't be ready until August. I had hoped that the aerial survey done by the US for them was adequate but it doesn't seem that it was.

Mrs. Tomoko Hatsuzawa is correct in her fears, her anger and her beliefs that not enough is being done for the children of Fukushima.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **DeltaDawn**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:14**
[#1316403](#)

Could we pressure the U.S. to turn over our military base and the Fukushima people could evacuate there?

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:25**
[#1316470](#)

Good luck with that idea, although it is not a bad one.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **DeltaDawn**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:36**
[#1316508](#)

It will be increasingly difficult to get U.S. troops to stay there, if they know what is good for them. I would seriously host a family or two and pay for them to get over here if you hear of anyone.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:27*
#1316477

This is very interesting. But I can't make out the figure. Is it the finger?

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **BlackholeDivestment**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 23:43*
#1318711

...well Bill Bigtree of Life, I see things as they are ...inverted, as it were. Having been on the Hill as a messenger of warning, the revelation in the song may speak to the point of order unknown to you. Keep in mind, having lived in Japan for a few years, my heart is heavy enough to pull water from my eyes, if my heart had not developed a dam from the battle that drew me into the field.

There was no storm when I was walking upon the Hill but, when I came down, Tsunami suprise etc... Q S&P 666 etc.. ...and Fukushima!!! ...the storm is still getting stronger by the hour ...and the hour has yet to come.

I am confirming the Blind Eye of the Storm my friend. Have no doubt. There is a blues bottom, rocking roll rebellion, heavy metal punked out grunge, jazzed up classical overtone of passion that bleeds out of the guitar, pounds out of the base and wraps up the over all tone with cymbals speaking "entendre" with the drum beat of authority ...paced by The Word ...in "Fukushima Walk", like a letter from a Japanese Mother.

...Your sorrow does make me cry Momaaa Saaaaan, like a piercing guitar.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkrBggR4VmE>

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **DeltaDawn**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:19*
#1316441

We need to become anti-nuke activists....there is one planned in my area and I will fight it. The human race cannot take more Fukushima's.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:32*
#1316485

Or we need to start at design square one. Four big huge reactors in a row is a very bad idea, particularly on the coast in a tectonic hot spot.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Cognitive Dissonance**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:42*
#1316531

Actually 6 in a row with 2 more that were in the preconstruction planning phase that were to come on line in 2016 and 2017. That was until all the fireworks started.

Typical male small brain thinking. If big is good, even bigger is better. Everything is there, why not just add to the fun. Double Mint gum Japanese style.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fukushima_Daiichi_Nuclear_Power_Plant#cite_note-inf79-21

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:41*
#1316546

Thank you ;-)

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **RocketmanBob**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:50*
#1316584

There are new designs that are much safer; that don't require "active" cooling systems.

But as you say, placement is an important consideration. It just wasn't well thought out to cluster all of those plants in an area where tectonic activity is great.

Also the safety procedures are important. A cause for concern is that here in the US also the idea that the best place to store spent fuel is at the plant itself is more widespread than can be imagined.

It's a difficult decision to choose a waste repository, both for scientific and safety reasons, but also because of political demagoguery. Just look at the Yucca mountain argument that literally went on for years here before the last congress decided it wouldn't be used. Billions of dollars and years of development went down the tubed, because of political posturing instead of considering what was best in the long run.

And really, that's the main cause of this woman's suffering, the long term implications of a poor planning; made worse by the ensuing cover-up.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

**by DeltaDawn**on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:01
#1316638

No thanks. Don't want your "new designs that are much safer." I wanted them before Fukushima, but not now. Especially since I live in a state where others want to dump their nuclear waste. NY waste should stay in NY, California waste in CA.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments**by RocketmanBob**on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:09
#1316665

Don't you think that, from a security standpoint, it's safer to keep all of the spent fuel in one place?

I'm not being argumentative, but there were few sites in the country that had conditions that lent themselves to accomodating such a storage facility.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments**by earnulf**on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:46
#1316908

Yeah, that idea of clustering everything together from a "security" standpoint worked real well December 6, 1941 at American Air Bases in Hawaii because of the "threat of sabotage".

My point, after being a pain, is that putting all that together doesn't rule out "unexpected events" which because you have all that in one place, magnifies the conclusion.

I'm sure "threat of sabotage" was a secondary thought after the attack on December 7th.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments**by RocketmanBob**on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:11
#1317028

A valid point, but are you sure it's applicable in this circumstance?

The Yucca mountain facility storage are was deep underground, and would have been heavily guarded. Having worked in Strategic Weapons Systems for part of my career, I can say that it would be difficult to forsee a successful foreign weapon system penetrating to the depth of the proposed storage area. And as for an armed assault from the exterior, by criminal/terror types? Questionable chances of success indeed.

Now, admittedly when it comes to natural disaster possibilities there is far more room for an error in the "threat analysis, much like was made at Fukushima. But you would be correct to assert that there are always "unknown, unknowns" that can come back to haunt you.

The engineers aims were to minimize these unknowns. But no one can say with metaphysical certitude that they covered all the bases.

My Regards

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments**by esprit**on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:39
#1317134

Interesting mention of Yucca Mountain concerning storage capacity. Pumps fail or turned off and the tunnels fill with ground water, out of sight - out of mind.

Just one step closer to polluting all that sustains life.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments**by RocketmanBob**on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 13:56
#1317523

An independant set of analysis by GAO, USGS, and DOE determined that even if the local water table in the vicinity of Yucca mountain were raised due to tectonic or seismic activity by a hundred meters or more it still wouldn't have invaded the area where the spent fuel was being stored.

If it's the fuel itself your speaking of, no cooling water is required as it's vitrified and then sealed in a steel and concrete container.

In order to ensure that it doesn't pollute the environment.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments**by Cognitive Dissonance**on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 13:25
#1317348

The engineers aims were to minimize these unknowns.

So what did the engineers plan to do to minimize the need to guard the facility for 50,000 (or more) years?

Because it is most certainly unknown if the world would even remember what's down there (until it came back to bite them in the ass) after five or ten thousand years have passed. We don't even remember who really built the Sphinx and they wrote things down in stone back then.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **RocketmanBob**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 14:18**
[#1317611](#)

Well sir, the actual danger period was on the order of 10,000 years; but why quibble when we're talking about such a vast span of time.

Very much like with the Voyager spacecraft, symbology was used in addition to writing for all of the signage on the facility. But your point is well taken about the Spinx; although I don't know of any text in understandable hieroglyphics that's been unearthed relating to that monument itself.

Still, best laid plans and all, you have a point. The plan would break down if there was an apocalyptic event that wiped out much of humankind, or an international struggle, or internal event, that ended the US as we know it. Even in the latter 2 cases I believe the assumption was that the conqueror, or whatever societal structure supplanted the US would be aware of the storage facility a priori.

I'm not being argumentative, with all due respect. Indeed, this letter is very moving and speaks simultaneously about the folly of man's planning sometimes as well as the obtuseness of what we would think are transparent and truthfull governments. And as I have said that I personally prefer solar and geothermal energy sources where applicable.

I'm only responding as an engineer. When tasked with an assignment there are always a series of trade-offs in systems all with an eye to maximize performance and minimize risk-usually. Sometimes there isn't enough consideration given to the possible unknowns; or folks aren't creative enough in imagining possible failure modes. At Yucca mountain more than a decade of research and design work had been done before the project was scrapped for political advantage.

Because the facts are that the waste has to be dealt with. Mr. Chu at DOE would prefer a new study to consider using salt domes instead; the "blue-ribbon panel" approach being more politically palatable to the administration than alienating a key part of Mr. Obama's constituency by moving forward at Yucca mountain. I personally believe that Mr. Chu would like to see reprocessing become an option like in other nations, but that's just speculation on my part...

My Regards

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Jim in MN**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 14:34**
[#1317700](#)

The other problem, a more serious one, is the trains. Thousands of trainloads of waste. Coming from all over the country. Complete militarization of the rails to go with it.

If all the reactors were closed tomorrow it would still take thousands of shipments. And that would be the only stable political solution--support for storage in exchange for retiring the reactors. That is where Sweden and Germany have tried to go a couple of times. Of course such a solution is impossible in the US so we will continue limping along with no solution, the worst of all possible worlds.

A tangled web, indeed. Nuclear is the ultimate socialist technology. It's lunacy, from an engineering and political economy perspective, to maintain it in perpetuity with shipments going all over the place. Sure it would take 50 years or more to phase it out. But the alternative of keeping it never made much sense. Two thirds of the energy is thrown away.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **davepowers**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 17:20**
[#1318198](#)

a few weeks back I saw a documentary (Into Eternity) on the building of a gigantic (and very deep) underground waste storage site in Finland. Basically a series of massive tunnels blown/dug deep deep in the ground over the course of a decade with year s and years to go before completion and decades after that to fill up. Probably on the order of a 100 years before they're ready to close it up.

Twas not very good as docs go since it spent little time on the environmental impact of the blasting/digging and storing the removed rock, or the hazards of shipping the existing waste which hopefully won't go awry during the years it will take for the thing to be ready for filling. The film maker seemed more interested in artsy/fartsy special effects. Still it was eye opening to see the efforts that would have to be expended just for the waste in one small country.

At least the Finns are trying to do something.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by FMR Bankster
 on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:44*
 #1316879

The designs may be safer but the proof as to the real safety is in the market. Would any be built without government guaranteed debt? Of course not. Nobody would take on the exposure.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by RocketmanBob
 on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:11*
 #1317046

Now *this* is a very good point you make. Surely if the risk was manageable then the market would dictate the construction of these facilities like sprouting weeds.

But the level of government control needs to be considered as well; not that I'm arguing that intense scrutiny and oversight is a bad thing when it comes to controlled nuclear fission!

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by connda
 on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:38*
 #1316852

Yeah, and talk about the genius that decided that sitting spent fuel rods in pools directly above that reactor was a good idea. Heck, they needed to employ a 4 year old to review the engineer design of that clusterfuck. Obviously a shitload "highly trained nuclear engineers" couldn't see the flaw in that idea.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by RocketmanBob
 on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:13*
 #1317051

Very true indeed. I suspect that some "pragmatic" manager was involved in this reckless decision.

I'm certain that the cost of designing a separate storage facility was one of the drivers of this disastrous decision.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by williambanzai7
 on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:19*
 #1317073

That and space.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by AZSovreign
 on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:01*
 #1317003

Nuke power is a hell of a way to boil water..... :(

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by RocketmanBob
 on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:18*
 #1317057

Yes, I personally like the idea of solar and geothermal for individual residential use, where applicable.

It would sure take the load off of the grid, and allow existing plants to serve high-density city areas where the aforementioned schemes aren't practically implemented.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by Rhodin
 on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 14:09*
 #1317582

We need to close down the nuke plants built to the same design worldwide, including over twenty in the US.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by RocketmanBob
 on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 14:16*
 #1317621

I agree. They should be replaced with the more modern "pebble bed" design which is much safer.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by Eternal Student
 on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:35*
 #1316500

Superb job, williambanzai7.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **downrodeo**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:41*
#1316527

Thanks for this post. We need to listen to this person.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **RocketmanBob**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:40*
#1316544

My heart goes out to this woman and all her neighbors; the disaster is unimaginable for most people considering they have no clue what can go wrong with a nuclear reactor. And due to the complicity of governments, both theirs as well as our own here in the US, what has happened, and what is still going on, is being kept quiet.

It's hard to know what an average person can do, besides forward this link to folks you know, give what you can, and for the religious among us, remember them in your prayers.

I'll entertain any suggestions of any other helpful act that any of you folks can offer...

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:49*
#1316580

If the letter goes viral, it will be very embarrassing for certain people in Japan.

She really stuck her neck out.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **RocketmanBob**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:55*
#1316606

Having spent my career as an "east coast guy", with the Atlantic fleet, generally deployed to the Med or Persian gulf, I never got to get acquainted with the Japanese people and culture. I do realize that she's taken a big risk in speaking out.

Maybe it's an American reaction, but I have to think that the current political "crew" will be sent packing in the next election precisely because of the way this disaster has been mismanaged and covered-up.

Of course, like here, there is a risk of it only become a, "meet the new boss, same as the old boss", situation.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:41*
#1316865

There really was a vociferous environmental and anti nuke movement in Japan abbot 30-40 years ago. But the machine wore them down and bought them off. Veiled threats by gangster looking types was also very prevalent.

Now the old timers are crying and blaming themselves for not fighting till the end.

But it really was not their fault.

Now they are treated as heroes.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Herman Strandsc...**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:52*
#1316942

I wonder what would happen if a Japanese family turned up at a western embassy in Tokyo and claimed/sought asylum? It shouldn't be too difficult to find out.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **RocketmanBob**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 14:18*
#1317631

That would be a great way to raise awareness, and force some media coverage.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **slewie the pi-rat**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 13:17*
#1316561

ty, 7. so, hang in there, mrs. hatsu + kids!

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **onlooker**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 10:59*
#1316612

Be aware people that we have information flow here within a society that controls information flow and

education.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **jm**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:04**
#1316631

Ok. Read most comments and can only say that most are imposing a very American view on a Japanese letter.

She says "I'm sorry" -- sumimasen. But this lady is really, really pissed. She is essentially pointing out a dishonor not only of a government. The dishonor is committed by her society itself, and she is laying it out for the entire world to see. She is saying that the outside needs to see the shame that is going on inside.

The examples may seem trivial-- no air conditioning and such. They are not. This is the Japanese way of skirting around the obvious, making the obvious even bigger by comparison.

This is huge. This is not easy for Japanese people to do. Japan is not about yelling. It is not their way.

I really do hurt for her. I'd be glad to help her or someone else with a red envelope if there was some way.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **aerial view**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:07**
#1316656

So very sad

What can they do? Mass protests.

What can we do?

Americans could stop buying their cars until adequate safety measures are enacted and independently verified

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Antartico**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:04**
#1316659

Thanks for grabbing this off Twitter and putting up here. I'm sure I would have missed seeing it otherwise. :(

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **old naughty**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:05**
#1316664

WB,

Let's start signing a petition here in support of Tomoko-san's call to pressure the Japanese government.

Here's mine: Vee Wong

Thanks for sharing.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **old naughty**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:23**
#1316666

Dup

deleted

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **TSA gropee**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:15**
#1316699

When our wonderfully impartial media pulled the plugged so abruptly on Fukushima news, and the EPA decided to raise the PAG limits on acceptable exposure limits, my oh-shit-this-is-bad meter went full scale. So I did what any red-blooded American would do and ordered myself a geiger counter and will setup a website with daily results of soil, airborne and fresh produce readings that will cover the Phx, AZ area. I'll post the url once it's up.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:40**
#1316878

Very cool ;-)

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **downrodeo**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 13:00**
#1317225

excellent work; i look forward to that website. Thank you for taking into your own hands what the

authorities refuse to deal with.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **JohnKing**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:12*
#1316703

Maybe we should give Detroit to Japan. It would be better for everyone if they rebuilt that piece of shit city instead of the waste dump they are on.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **DeltaDawn**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:26*
#1317106

Love it! We would all want to move there within 5 years.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Rhodin**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 14:19*
#1317617

Seriously, Detroit has tax sale homes without bids. Maybe if someone got them to advertise in Japan?

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **connda**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:23*
#1316756

Anyone got the address to the Japanese Government? Like any Japanese Government official is going to give a rip about what a Gaijin writes if they are already more than willing to sacrifice their own population in order to save face. "Big, Big Problem...but we ignore so not there!" I can't even fathom the horror those people are going to suffer within the next decade or two. Unfortunately in this day and age, those responsible no longer have the honor to ritually disembowel themselves -- no less having the honor to go to the nuclear plant and volunteer to put things right.

Tomoko-san: my heart goes out to you, your children, and those who live within the disaster zone that are being left to slowly die by the Japanese government. Unfortunately, it is the symptom of the far greater disease of corpocracy which cares not for humanity.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Trifecta Man**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:31*
#1316816

Thinking inside the box, we have lots of empty homes in America that have not been sold. The owners of the empty homes (whoever they are) can offer these home to the affected Japanese for free in return for newly printed Fed currency. We're going to print up that currency anyways. The spur to our economy would be tremendous from many aspects.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:47*
#1316909

There are two kinds of social stigma there, leaving and coming back, and accepting charity.

For these reasons, few would ever consider leaving.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **hedgeless_horseman**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:35*
#1317121

Sadly, that has been my exact experience.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Rhea**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:34*
#1316827

Mr Banzai, may I have your permission to spread the letter of Fukushima for people of my home country?

I understand that Brasil (with "s"), has always been home to many Japanese people who are at least entitled to know it exists

Thank you Sir

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on *Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:42*
#1316889

I presumed this letter was for broad dissemination. Please do!

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by Rhea
on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:56
#1316948

Ok, fasten your seatbelts ;)

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by williambanzai7
on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:15
#1317050

Please keep me posted...@williambanzai7 on twitter

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by Confuchius
on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:36
#1316854

WB7

Some good news: The sea surface temperatures are quite cool around Japan which will put the brakes on the typhoon tomorrow. Passing Honshu it should be rainshowers and some 60 kph wind.

What we're really looking at is a slow motion "Joplin, Mo." lasting for the next 100 years or more.

There was a Russian Nuclear Scientist in Japan the week after the "shake & bake" at Fukushima. He told the Gov't. ministers of "dis & dat" they had a Chernobyl cubed in progress and they must evacuate at least a 100 km radius around the site. He was on TV & on blogs.

His advice was totally ignored. They did not want to know. (If we ignore it all long enough it will all go away.) The problem is partly meltdown & mostly built-in blockheaded cultural & criminal stupidity. Any poor folk depending on a gov't. to look after them (Any gov't., anywhere) are doomed.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by williambanzai7
on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:47
#1316896

I believe it is the concept of State Failure, which has been known to lead to regime change.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by Fiat2Zero
on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:31
#1317119

It's beyond state failure. We are looking at world-wide systemic failure. The failure of the global system.

Regime change is often a hollow victory. The result of "well let's throw the bums out". Once the new regime is in place, people often find that the problems remain, and the new group is simply a less capable version of the last group.

I'm not being an apologist for the Japanese Government. However, with the advanced state of Corporatism that currently infests the advanced western countries, it's hard to see the right types of changes coming from _any_ (existing) government.

A central problem to solve, in my opinion, is an involved and educated citizenry. There needs to be a fairly large group of people (not necessarily all people) that are dedicated to keeping the issues out in the open. This used to be the function of the press. However, now, the press is so concentrated in a few hands, that it spouts a single message, and lulls everyone to sleep.

Ask yourself how can this disaster be unfolding but no one is talking about it? Although I don't have evidence, I'd argue there is suppression of the truth at multiple levels throughout society (including the lowest level, ourselves - we have all been well trained not to be "hysterical").

To that end, I think ZH does a great job. I myself have benefited greatly from the articles posted. It's great to see the revival at some level of what we used to call "news". Thanks to all ZH contributors and Tyler for this.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by williambanzai7
on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 13:02
#1317233

I agree with what you are saying.

I watch these developments on TV in HK, where I am know for certain they are given more air time than in the US.

But the full scope of the disaster is something that is undergoing another massive information control exercise. The problem is they can't control the reactors.

Shit is gonna keep happening there for a long time I am afraid.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by fredquimby
on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:38
#1316861

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by nobusiness
on Fri, 05/27/2011 - 11:38
#1316868

The worst Nuclear disaster of all time (not that the media even mentions it) and no one cares. As long as the stock market is not hurt everything is fine.

Luckily for the residence of Japan, China has 10 Million empty apartments ready for them to move into tomorrow.

Makes me sick what is viewed as important. 40 million people watched American Idol and Dancing with the stars thursday night. I doubt 10% of them know what is happening in the world.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **earnulf**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:00**
#1316996

I live four miles from Joplin, Mo and I've seen the devastation first hand. What Tomoko and her family are going through is not so different except here we can see the injuries and see the damage. We can work to clean it up and we can rebuild, secure that the land will allow us to.

Japanese will struggle through this, put on a brave face and pay a heavy price for it. It is not pride as we think of it, it is the Japanese way, to suffer untold agony rather than make a sincere apology and change.

Japan was prepared to sacrifice everyone in an American Invasion in 1945. They pioneered the suicide bomber where the highest ideals were to kill as many of the enemy as they could. It took the Emperor to end the war, over the objections of army generals who wanted to die rather than suffer the humiliation of surrender.

But this is a turning point for Japan. They suffered for two decades with a dead economy, limping along while enduring the pain. Either Japan will undergo the transformation begun when the white ships first entered her waters or it will slowly expire from her own humiliation, unwilling to admit her mistakes or change her ways.

Still, it's the children who suffer. It's always the children.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 13:11**
#1317047

They have been suffering under a surrogate form of feudalism in a sense. We could write books on the subject, but it is there struggle to fight. As much as the bureaucracy there cares little about outside advice, they are very sensitive to outside appearances. They will not like to see this letter publicized.

And, BTW, I don't mean to diminish the suffering going on with the disasters in the US. My favorite question in that regard is why in this day and age is it so difficult to set up an effective system for accounting for survivors?

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Rhodin**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 14:28**
#1317689

If this is our new weather pattern it is obvious that we need to build sturdier structures. Later nuke plants suggest a design. Concrete dome homes!

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **bamboo**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:05**
#1317019

<http://hawaiihealthguide.com/healthtalk/display.htm?id=915&hhsid=9ea42c3...>

inosine is also recommended.

<http://www.easycart.net/BeyondACenturyInc./Vitamins.html#1160>

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **nuscorb**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:18**
#1317067

Agree this is very sad. People need to realize their only hope is to take charge of their own future.

As long as you believe that you are some kind of child who needs "the government" or "the gods" or some other parent figure to make things right for you, you will be exploited. I know it's difficult when you've been put down in this way your whole life, but really there is no alternative.

If you think it's too late for you to change, at least start treating the children in your life as fully responsible human beings, show them as much respect as you would show one of these parent figures, so the next generation doesn't also grow up thinking of themselves as helpless dependent pawns. Look up Alfie Kohn's Unconditional Parenting: Young children are not bad, they don't need to be "educated", they only need our love and support. They are smart unbroken people who already know how to grow into beautiful human beings if only we let them.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **Fiat2Zero**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:18**
#1317071

William,

Thank you for the post. Too often in the maelstrom of disaster news we are bombarded with, we disconnect, and don't remember that there are real life flesh and blood people, just like us, with families, struggling to survive.

While there is much blame one could place, the more pressing question is "what should we do now?"

I think one of the most basic things that each of us can do is to try to promote awareness from the ground up. The MSM is certainly doing its part to keep us anesthetized to the painful truth of the ongoing disintegration of the fragile, time worn, man-made systems we have in place.

If we are to build a "community" on ZH beyond the basic fight club ethos as CD suggested in a previous post, I'd argue there would have to be some central thesis beyond "making a killing on the trade."

While I won't suggest what that central idea should be, helping others awaken to the human calamity that is befalling all of us (and adding the human dimension to the fiscal/numerical dimension) is a good start.

Again thanks for showing heart, and thanks for the post.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments



by **williambanzai7**

on **Fri, 05/27/2011 - 12:29**
#1317115

This trader/social ethic dichotomy you allude to is very interesting.

While I agree that trading can induce a fast buck mentality, I would go one step further.

It requires very strong mental discipline to trade outside of the box. It also takes that kind of mental awareness to see the social forest from the trees.

That is probably why this unlikely combination seems to flourish here.

The two planes do not overlap perfectly, but they are symbiotic on this site. Which is why I frown on those who spend their time yapping about what should and should not be published here.

If it is current and relevant from a financial, economic, political and social perspective, why the hell not.

We already have a giant filter on the MSM. We don't need one here.

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post comments

1 2 next › last »

Comment viewing options

Threaded list - expanded Date - oldest first 200 comments per page

Select your preferred way to display the comments and click "Save settings" to activate your changes.