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THE PRESIDENT of the United States receives reports of 650 strange beings arriving on the coast of his domain. They come in ships never before seen, like floating islands. They speak an incomprehensible language. They are armed with sophisticated weapons; this has been demonstrated by the several thousand people they have killed in Atlantic City, where they landed.

The president postulates that it perhaps could be the second coming of Christ, so he wavers on his military options -- a mistake he will regret when he learns the strangers are mortals like himself. Nonetheless, the president does not want the strangers to approach Washington, so he sends gifts of gold bullion and plutonium to try to appease the strangers. This only whets the foreigners' lust for wealth. Along the way to Washington the strangers, aided by people whom the United States has economic and military control over, kill many thousands of people. Baltimore is particularly devastated by a huge massacre of its denizens.

Eventually, the foreigners reach Washington. They are greatly impressed by the capitol and its monuments. The city is as developed, if not more, than any from their own land. The aliens are arrogant and audacious and quickly take the president captive in the White House. The president is indecisive and orders his commanders and the population not to resist. They torture him to learn where the rest of the wealth is. The president is brave and obstinate and does not divulge that it is in Fort Knox. There are conflicting reports as to how he dies. Some say he was killed by a rock thrown by one of his relatives as he tried to calm the citizens down while he spoke from a balcony. One report is that the usurpers killed him. Yet others are convinced that he died of a broken heart.

After 37 days of being trapped in the White House, the invaders are running out of food and ammunition and decide to escape in the middle of the night. They flee Washington loaded down with all the treasures they can carry. The army and the citizens of Washington attack them. Many of the aliens and their allies are killed as they attempt to escape. They are pursued and harassed back to Atlantic City. Here they regroup. Alien re-enforcements arrive with more deadly weapons and are able to hold off the U.S. military and militia. Millions of citizens, who have no immunity to the new diseases brought by the strangers, become infected. The diseases are more lethal than AIDS or cancer because they kill quicker and are much more contagious and easier to contract.

Several weeks later, the invaders return and lay siege to Washington. The citizens continue to die from diseases, enemy assaults and starvation. After 85 days, Washington capitulates and is sacked. The Library of Congress and the White House are burned down. The Lincoln and Vietnam memorials and other symbolic structures are destroyed and buried. The vice president, who has taken command, surrenders and is tortured along with members of Congress. Their feet are so severely burned that they will never be able to walk again. The vice president is valiant and unflinching. Later he will be hanged in Honduras.

This pattern of destruction follows throughout the country and continent. Two thirds of the U.S. population will perish, 160 million, within 10 years. One hundred years later, 95 percent of the original U.S. population will be decimated. This rapid decline can be attributed to diseases, starvation, murder and working the people to death in mines and other types of hard labor. After the military conquest, the English language and U.S. culture are suppressed. English is not allowed to be used in the schools, media, courts and other institutions. Holidays like Easter, Christmas and George Washington's birthday are prohibited. Christianity is considered an evil religion, and the U.S. population is forced to adopt the conqueror's religion.

It all happened to the Aztecs and their civilization when Hernan Cortes and the Spanish arrived in central Mexico in 1519. Leaders like Moctezuma and Cuauhtemoc were tortured and killed. Their capital city, Mexico/Tenochtitlan was sacked. Aztec culture and institutions were attacked and dominated by the Spanish. The demographic catastrophe that occurred, one of the most profound in human history, reduced the 25 million pre-Columbian population of central Mexico by 95 percent within 100 years. The epidemic of 1547 alone killed 2 million people. Other indigenous people of this hemisphere fared no better under the succeeding invasions and domination by the French, Dutch, English and Portuguese. Now, do you think that the 500 years since the arrival of the Europeans should be a time for celebration by the descendents of the original inhabitants of this continent?

Commentary

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