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## **Better-Management Newsletter 13 November 2015**

### **EU printing more ‘money’ only a palliative / Chinese aggression**

#### **EU printing more ‘money’ only a palliative**

Money is a fairly abstract concept and many conflate money with reality. But in a world that is finite, an infinite amount of money isn't going to give us the energy to continue with exponential growth...

<http://peakoil.com/consumption/kurt-cobb-money-cannot-manufacture-resources>

The ECB is about to print more money as refugees and economic migrants flood into the EU, the walls go up and production drops...

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/11/12/us-eurozone-economy-production-idUSKCN0T10ZN20151112#YEuMVJ8LsiFKtW8V.97>

It also seems the Greeks are starting to revolt against the austerity measures... from Seeking Alpha...

“[Angry Greeks, fed up after six years](#) of austerity, are taking to the streets again. The country came to a halt today after employees in both the public and private sector downed tools to protest against yet more spending cuts and tax rises. Earlier this week, eurozone finance ministers denied Athens the first €2B tranche of a third foreign aid package, stating the country had not gone far enough on the issue of home foreclosures.”

And...

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-11-12/greece-comes-to-a-standstill-as-unions-turn-against-tsipras>

And fresh from dumping huge quantities of steel on world markets, and causing closure and losses for many of the world's major steel manufacturers, China has served notice that they will be irresistibly cheap across the board in the future...affecting all countries with manufactured exports...

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/11/11/us-china-trade-idUSKCN0T02LB20151111>

#### **Chinese aggression**

We have seen China rise and start aggressively encroaching on neighbouring seas. They have bought and owned eight deepwater ports between Piraeus and their borders. They have tried to kick out US maritime air and sea patrols from the high seas. They have built the first of

several aircraft carriers and launched military satellites. The Chinese media say they would be prepared to fight a regional war in the South China Sea against the USA (and presumably anyone else). At the very least they are calling the US bluff. Now they are formalising other plans...from Sinocism...

[“China plans maritime, space projects in next five years - Xinhua](#) "China is on its way to building itself into a maritime, space and cyber power," said Xu Qiliang, vice chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC), in a signed article in Thursday's People's Daily. Calling the seas, space and the Internet "strategic fields for military competition" and "commanding grounds for boosting economic and sci-tech development," Xu said concerted efforts from the whole nation and armed forces are needed to achieve major progress.”

All I can say is, “we don’t need this”.

The posture of USA, Russia and China has led to a considerable upsurge in people prepping for the collapse of civilisation as we know it. A world at war becomes ever more possible. Resource constraints will likely be a causal factor. But even with Russia and USA an arms race is accelerating...

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-34797252>

Over the last ten years I have written and described how countries like Libya, Syria, Yemen, Egypt and others in the Middle East, have used oil revenues to provide social welfare benefits to the masses and the masses have multiplied. Now we see a surge of the young and unemployed masses from North Africa and the Middle East heading for Europe...but the Middle Eastern countries are showing no sign of having learned what happens when they catch the “Dutch disease” after their oil revenues have peaked...

[http://seekingalpha.com/article/3673446-the-middle-east-could-face-a-historic-crisis-by-centurys-end?source=email\\_macro\\_view\\_mar\\_out\\_5\\_6&ifp=0](http://seekingalpha.com/article/3673446-the-middle-east-could-face-a-historic-crisis-by-centurys-end?source=email_macro_view_mar_out_5_6&ifp=0)

But even the Saudis are being forced to change their ways in order to avoid coup d’etat on the House of Saud....

<http://peakoil.com/publicpolicy/saudi-arabias-manifesto-for-change-in-the-face-of-rumours-of-coup-plots>

The arrangements that people are making for the “event of the century” range from placing gold and silver in a box at the bank, to lifestyle blocks being developed with sustainable farming practices, to yachts ready for sea....then there are the really huge bug-out shelters and multiple foreign properties being prepared by the billionaires....

<http://www.forbes.com/sites#/sites/jimdobson/2015/11/05/billionaire-bunker-inside-the-worlds-largest-private-apocalypse-shelter-the-oppidum/>

Despite the suggestions that the flow of people to Europe is climate related, it strikes me that it is due to the deteriorating economy of countries that are being failed states because of a breakdown in government revenues and social welfare support. Wars that were led by USA and Britain last decade have had their almost inevitable consequences in turning failing countries into failed states.

Oil dropped overnight to Brent USD45.20/bbl and WTI USD41.60/bbl. So all producers are still suffering. But it is having an effect on high cost quartile producers who are losing ground fastest.

How is the Eagle Ford shale play trending in Texas? Down, given the low oil price...

[http://seekingalpha.com/article/3675746-eia-data-shows-eagle-ford-production-completely-collapsing?source=email\\_macro\\_view\\_com\\_2\\_15&ifp=0](http://seekingalpha.com/article/3675746-eia-data-shows-eagle-ford-production-completely-collapsing?source=email_macro_view_com_2_15&ifp=0)