1. Last year I served on the joint crisis committee regarding the Irish War of Independence, I served as a British Cabinet member.
2. Personally I feel the next major conflict will arise in India since, it is a developing country with a lot of economic power. Since it is now a BRIC nation and is experiencing rapid economic development there are not many regulations in business. This makes India a current world player, and since it is not on the best political terms with Pakistan, it could easily overshadow them. If a war were to break out, it could potentially lead to a classic western democracy versus eastern dictators and communism. Not saying that China would get involved but, it would certainly pit Great Britain and the United States against Middle Eastern hegemonies, like Iran and Saudi Arabia. This could even get Russia involved and then it would truly be a second cold war or even a third world war that would take place in sub-continental Asia.
3. My personal Utopia would most likely be laissez faire. I am a personal believer in true competition; despite the fact it might not work in real life, but when do utopias ever work. I think the Adam Smith methodology would best benefit the consumer and competition would yield the best product at the best price. It would drive innovation and promote a pure free market economy **without** government regulation. Then, and only then, would no one will have their hands in each other’s pockets, with the exception of a flat tax to run basic functions.
4. My favorite dystopian future would be an American government forced to be a military state. I would find it fascinating to see how the government and the people would either resist or submit to give up their basic tenants in the justification of protection.
5. I personally would find it easier to imagine the end of the world, because people will always trade. Even in the most strict, anti-capitalistic societies there has always been some way of improving your wealth or social class. I cannot see any ways that want for personal gain could ever vanish. It is much easier to see personal greed and quest for cash end the world. Whether it is a jihadist bent on making his religion the only religion or a business man wanting to eliminate the competition through force, it is much more foreseeable to witness an end to the world.
6. In 2050 I will be 56, and hopefully a professional who is doing his job well and making a small fortune from that. The name I would make for myself could hopefully transfer into local or state politics and try to make some sort of difference and try to make a more free market wherever I am.