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OPINION | COMMENTARY | NOTABLE & QUOTABLE

Notable & Quotable: Climate Change c. 2004

'Major European cities will be sunk beneath rising seas as Britain is plunged into a 'Siberian' climate by 2020.'

Oct. 3, 2019 6:46 pm ET



Beachgoers in Brighton, U.K., July 24. PHOTO: GLYN KIRK/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

From "Now the Pentagon tells Bush: climate change will destroy us" in London's Observer, Feb. 21, 2004:

Climate change over the next 20 years could result in a global catastrophe

costing millions of lives in wars and natural disasters.

A secret report, suppressed by US defence chiefs and obtained by The Observer, warns that major European cities will be sunk beneath rising seas as Britain is plunged into a 'Siberian' climate by 2020. Nuclear conflict, mega-droughts, famine and widespread rioting will erupt across the world.

The document predicts that abrupt climate change could bring the planet to the edge of anarchy as countries develop a nuclear threat to defend and secure dwindling food, water and energy supplies. The threat to global stability vastly eclipses that of terrorism, say the few experts privy to its contents.

'Disruption and conflict will be endemic features of life,' concludes the Pentagon analysis. 'Once again, warfare would define human life.'

The findings will prove humiliating to the Bush administration, which has repeatedly denied that climate change even exists. Experts said that they will also make unsettling reading for a

President who has insisted national defence is a priority. . . .

As early as next year widespread flooding by a rise in sea levels will create major upheaval for millions.

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