



DrumBeat: August 6, 2006

Posted by [threadbot](#) on August 6, 2006 - 9:10am

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

[Update by Leanan on 08/06/06 at 9:30 AM EDT]

From Juan Cole: [One Ring to Rule Them.](#)

I've had a message from a European reader that leads me to consider a Peak Oil Theory of the US-Israeli war on Lebanon (and by proxy on Iran). I say, "consider" the "theory" because this is a thought experiment. I put it on the table to see if it can be knocked down, the way you would preliminary hypotheses in a science experiment.

[Media attacked for 'climate porn':](#)

Coverage breaks down, they concluded, into several distinct areas, including:

- * Alarmism, characterised by images and words of catastrophe
- * Settlerdom, in which "common sense" is used to argue against the scientific consensus
- * Rhetorical scepticism, which argues the science is bad and the dangers hyped
- * Techno-optimism, the argument that technology can solve the problem

Could apply to peak oil, too, huh?

[Global Warming Could Slam Food Supply](#)

Suppose the dinner on your table last night had cost 20 times what it did? Or 50 times as much?

Scientists say global warming very likely has something like that in store in the coming decades.

[War could trigger oil crisis, warns EIU](#)

The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) has warned that if Iran were to become involved

in the current Israeli-Lebanese conflict, the results could be “catastrophic” for the world’s oil market.

[Gazprom's huge Venezuela gas deal alarms US](#)

Gazprom, Russia's state-controlled gas company, is risking a diplomatic row with the United States over a mooted multibillion-dollar pipeline investment in Venezuela.

The Russian gas giant is close to a deal on the project, according to Venezuela's firebrand President, Hugo Chavez, who has led opposition to US influence in Latin America.

[U.K.: Firms face record power bills](#)

[Facing energy crisis, Chile looks at building dams](#)

[Gulf states struggle to boost spare oil output](#)

Abu Dhabi: Gulf oil producers are struggling to expand their spare crude output capacity to meet surging global demand and their plans are blocked by manpower shortages, security factors and their ageing oil reservoirs, according to the World Bank.

[Lebanon: Fneish denies reports of impending fuel shortage](#)

BEIRUT: Energy Minister Mohammad Fneish's office denied Wednesday that the country is facing a chronic fuel shortage, even as thousands of motorists fearing a crisis converged on gas stations to fill their tanks before supplies dried up.

Officials from the United Nations have said that there is an "acute fuel crisis" in Lebanon with only two to three days of supplies left owing the Israel's blockade of the country and attacks on gas stations.

"The UN figures are wrong," Ali Berro, an adviser to Fneish, told Agence France Presse.

[Carpool Passes Go Fast](#)

The state has so far received 74,108 applications for an allotment of 75,000 decals permitting hybrid owners to drive solo in HOV lanes.

[Shortage has truck drivers fuming](#)

Colorado - and the nation - are experiencing a diesel-fuel shortage this summer that is hampering a variety of shipping businesses and has trucking companies scrambling for fuel.

At some Colorado truck stops, fuel is being rationed to 50 to 75 gallons per truck - far less than the 100 to 300 gallons needed to fill the tank, said Colin Heupel, safety manager for HVH Transportation Inc. truckload division in Henderson.



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