



# NEWSLETTER

**NOW WEEKLY!** With art by Vera !  
from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

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## Margaret Cahill is recovering

**I** WAS asked a couple of days ago to suggest a UK publisher for astrology books. Which would be Margaret Cahill at the **Wessex Astrologer** in Bournemouth, who has published a good many astrology books over the past dozen years or so.

I went to the Wessex website and was distressed that Margaret has undergone chemotherapy for mantle cell lymphoma. She **writes** she is feeling better and is now on a well-earned holiday on the Isle of Wight. It is a rare and tricky disease, but doctors are making progress with it. I want to peek at her chart but do not have it and would not publish what I learned if I did.

It is Margaret you must thank for this newsletter, for it was Margaret who said I could

enhance sales by writing a newsletter. Regrettably I did not understand what sort of newsletter Margaret was thinking of and so created this one instead. **Hers** is much simpler.

Which makes me want to redouble my efforts to publish Brother Aloysius, and for that matter, enough **medical astrology books** that the precision of astrological medicine can be a comprehensive alternative to conventional therapy. I am upset that modern study has resulted in obscure and rare diseases, such as Margaret's, instead of simple, broad categories with universal, yet highly specific, cures.

The astrological solution to disease is to note the specific planetary factors that cause it, and then to apply known planetary remedies to cure it. By potion, plaster, gargle, or enema, by fumes, by taking the patient's excrement and using it to grow seeds, by trapping pus under the bark of a tree. Medicine's full powers are almost endless. Astrology can even judge when a disease will be fatal.

I wish Margaret a speedy return to good health. We need her expert publishing. From her updates, it is clear she has the full support of a knowledgeable team of caring doctors. I envy Great Britain's National Health Service. Even in its dilapidated state, it is so much better than US medicine.

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### ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

10	09:22	☽ ✕ ☉	Void
11	00:17	♀ ♀ ♃	
	06:16	♀ ♃	
	06:36	☽ ✕	
12	17:09	♁ 20♁ 06	1st Qtr/Void
	23:49	☉ ♀ ♃	
13	09:56	☽ ♃	
14	06:33	♀ ♁ ♀	
	10:04	♀ ♃ ☉	
	20:29	♀ ☐ ♀	
	20:57	♂ ♁ ♃	
	23:17	☽ ♁ ☉	Void
15	02:58	♀ ♃ ♃	
	12:06	☽ ♃	
16	06:41	♀ ♀ ♃	
	08:20	☽ ♀ ♂	Void

Extracted from **AstroAmerica's Daily Ephemeris, 2000-2020**. [Buy](#).



**Truthfulness.** The regard for truth as an instinct and an ideal is Aquarian and to a certain extent Scorpionic and Uranian, in that both Scorpio and Uranus try to get to the bottom of things and have a contempt for shams. In this latter respect one can associate Aries with them. From these characteristics arise the uncompromising candour and freedom from conventional restraint that are found in Uranus and Aquarius. Libra and Sagittarius are normally truthful, except that the latter easily exaggerates, as does Aries. Saturn in good position always tends to truth and keeps the native down to hard facts.

**Varicose Veins.** These are afflictions in the mutable signs and generally either Jupiter is involved or else its signs. It is also common to find the Moon, Venus or Jupiter tenanted in Aquarius, and Scorpio is frequently tenanted. Example: Male, born in Dorset, 7 degrees Libra rising, November 6, 1858.

— **Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology**, by C.E. O. Carter. [Buy](#).

### Vivian Robson's STAR OF THE WEEK

**COPULA** 51 M Canum Venaticorum 25 ♃ 19

**Notes:** The Spiral or Whirlpool Nebula mentioned by Ptolemy as the nebula under the tail of the Great Bear.

**Influence:** It is of the nature of the Moon and Venus, and causes blindness, defective eyesight, strong passions, hindrances and disappointments.

**LABRUM** delta Crateris 26 ♃ 53

**Notes:** Situated in the Cup, and symbolically called the Holy Grail.

**Influence:** Of the nature of Venus and Mercury. It gives ideality, psychic power, intelligence, honour and riches in disgrace and purifies to salvation.

**If rising:** Ecclesiastical preferment, or very good fortune.

— From **Fixed Stars**, by Vivian Robson [Buy](#)



Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson  
1893-1990



## IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

### The Moon and the Overweight Problem, part 2:

**P**EOPLE come in assorted sizes & shapes due to the assorted aspects possible between Moon & Sun. Besides the conjunction, square and opposition, she can be intermediate in aspect & thus intermediate in size by being semisextile, semisquare, sextile, trine, sesquare, or quincunx the Sun, registering a little bit more or a little bit less in weight accordingly.

The size of an increasing Moon at birth is also subject to modification if in bad aspect with limiting Saturn, energetic Mars, contradictory Uranus or illusive Neptune; or the physical Ascendant, making for fluctuations in weight from time to time. This is more apparent when she is within 3 or 4 days motion past the conjunction of the Sun, still thinned but gaining slowly & lacking in her expected size.

The natal Moon having left the Sun's opposition is decreasing in light: a reduction in size that in the native is reflected in a reduction in weight, and especially in her last quarter. For an overweight problem, then, we not only give particular consideration to the Moon when increasing at birth but also when increasing by progression (and by transit when the overweight native is under reducing treatment).

When a too-heavy person goes on a reducing diet & exercise regimen, he should remember that each phase of the Moon covers seven days & thus he should start with the Full Moon & lose in size along with her. — **The Way of Astrology**, 1967. **Buy.**

## Bashar al-Assad

“BASHAR THE LION”

**L**AST week I had a brief glimpse at the Syrian natal chart. As Syria is one of the most ancient of all nations, the chart we have, for January 1, 1944, is but the most recent of many.

My source was Nicholas **Campion's Book of World Horoscopes**, where he says,

*On 27 December 1943, under British and American pressure, the French finally agreed to transfer all the mandate powers to the Syrian Government on 1 January 1944, and Chart 322 is set for this date, for the capital, Damascus and, in absence of accurate information, for 00.00 hrs. [midnight–Dave] An actual time of 00.00 hrs. would be consistent with the time for the transfer of mandate powers in other states. (pg. 357, 1999 edition)*

Upon reading Nick, I immediately set the chart for noon. When a mandate ends, the colonial colors are struck and the new national flag is raised at a formal ceremony, which, by definition, takes place at the stroke of *noon*. If the colonials and natives are not in agreement so far as timekeeping is concerned, noon will be defined by the shadow of a stick, in other words, by a sundial. Pray the skies are clear.

Would you like more evidence the day begins at noon and still does, to this day?

Here in the eastern half of the US, the transfer of property, from one owner to another, invariably happens during a frantic morning “closing ceremony.”

Why does this happen in the morning? Well, they say because the property transfers hands “at the moment of signing.” Just like a wedding, come to think of it. Weren't you eager to kiss your bride, at long last?

In reality, the long-standing custom is that property changes hands as of noon on the day, and all arrangements must be completed in advance of that deadline.

I thought of sending Nick a note as to my discovery, but with Saturn squaring most of my chart at the moment, I am not a very sociable person. People will figure this out eventually.

Which was aside from the fact that Arab leaders never published their birth data, keeping their birthdays well-hidden. Thus, **Yasir Arafat**, who claimed to have been born in

Jerusalem, was most likely an Egyptian. **Prince Bandar**, of Saudi Arabia, has an “official” birthdate of March 2, 1949, which is not likely to be remotely correct. I have heard this is due to the fear of astrology Middle Eastern leaders have traditionally had for it. And, well, the necessity of being the person you need to be, in the case of Mr. Arafat.

So without hope I took a look at Wiki's page for **Bashar Assad**. And there, to my great surprise, found his birth data and location openly stated: September 11, 1965, Damascus, Syria.

Rectification was simple and gave no problem. Mr. Assad is quiet and shy. He had no interest in governing. By choice he trained himself to be an ophthalmologist, which is an eye doctor. He served as a physician in the Syrian army. By definition we are looking for someone who is strongly 6th house, as that is where we will find both doctors and the army.

By appearance, we are looking for someone with, say, late Virgo rising (**Anrius**). Going to the day itself, we find Sun in Virgo, opposing the Moon in Pisces. Which is the same Sun-Moon setup as with Johann Goethe, which means the *primary difference* between these two men will be in the *house placements* of their Suns and Moons. One was an artistic and scientific genius of the first order. The other is a forgettable flunky, the leader of a minor country, and not from his own hard work but thanks entirely to that of his father, who gave it to him.

This is always the way with astrology. Planets in *different signs* but the *same houses* make for *commonality*. You will identify with those who share yours. Planets in the *same signs* but *different houses* make for *strangers*.

Next time you're at a big astro convention and everyone is wearing ID badges with Sun/Sign, Moon/Sign, Ascendant/Sign, turn it about and give Sun/House, Moon/House, Ruler/House. See if that does not produce more interesting companions.

So with Bashar we have a Virgo-Pisces polarity. In Virgo we have Mercury, Uranus, Pluto and Sun. In Pisces we have Saturn and the Moon. One will be 12th. The other will be 6th. Which?

I am going to make Jupiter, in Gemini, square to both, the tie-breaker. With a Virgo rising chart, Jupiter falls in the 10th, which can indicate a rise in life. That Jupiter is de-

(continued, pg. 4)

This is a serialization of Vivian Robson's **A Student's Text-Book of Astrology.**

**Part 34:**

## General Principles of Judgement

3. The dispositor of a planet is also of importance. The dispositor of any planet is that body which rules the sign containing it. Thus the dispositor of Saturn in Libra is Venus which rules Libra.

4. The nature of the sign on the cusp influences the affairs of the house. Thus the cardinal and watery sign Cancer on the cusp of the 9th is an indication of voyages which will be upheld or contradicted by other factors in the map.

5. Houses containing intercepted signs are always important as the house contains part of three signs & therefore its affairs are complicated. In general the sign on the cusp indicates the earlier experiences in matters ruled by the house, and the other signs the later. This idea may also be used in connection with transitory matters related to the house. Thus if the latter degrees of a cardinal sign are on a cusp & the house also contains part of the following fixed sign it usually happens that any event denoted by that house starts off under the cardinal influence and later on is affected by the fixed sign, so that there will be an energetic & impulsive beginning followed by a slower period of greater tenacity & purpose.

6. Planets are not equal in strength in any one map. A planet in elevation or in an angle, or in a favourable sign or house, or very strongly aspected, is stronger for good than another not so placed. Of the houses the angles come first in importance, then the succedents, and then the cadents, and in the case of the signs the order of importance is first cardinal, then fixed, and then mutable. A planet in its own sign or exaltation is stronger and more powerful for good than when in other signs, whilst a planet in fall or detriment is stronger for evil.

— **A Student's Text-Book of Astrology**, by Vivian Robson. **Buy.**

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## A Complete Dictionary of Astrology

by James Wilson, 1819

**T**HE term **FIXED** is very inapplicable to many of the stars, and probably to them all. Several new stars have appeared, several old ones have disappeared, and a still greater number change their places. One in Cassiopeia, in 1572, appeared as large as Venus at her brightest perigee, and was actually seen in daylight. It continued so for sixteen months, and then gradually disappeared without changing its place. Some think it returns periodically in about 319 years [1891-2]. There is a star in the Whale's Neck that appears & disappears seven time in six years. Another, near the right heel of the Serpentarius, appeared in 1604, as large as Venus, and totally disappeared in 1605. One star in the Swan's neck appeared & disappeared several times, at very unequal periods, and in 1715, it settled as a star of the 6th magnitude, and so remains. Another star, near the Swan's Head, appeared & disappeared several times, and is now wholly lost. Another in the Swan has a period of about 405 days, but not quite regular. A number of other stars have appeared in Cassiopeia, and some of them have again been lost. One in her knee disappeared, and two more appeared north of its place. Caput Algol is a variable star, and its period is 2d. 21h. It remains 2d. 14h. as a star of the 2nd magnitude; in about three hours and a half it declines to a star of the 4th magnitude; in about three and a half hours more it resumes its 2nd magnitude, which it retains for 2d. 14h. as before. Beta, in Lyra, likewise has a period of 12d. 19h. during which time it appears of several magnitudes, from the 3rd to the 5th. — **Dictionary of Astrology**, by James Wilson. **Buy**

## The Marriage Partner

**T**HE selection of the planet representing the marriage partner in a horoscope is a matter that gives rise to a great deal of uncertainty and confusion in the mind of the student, owing to the extremely unsatisfactory textbook rules. We are told that in a man's horoscope the wife is denoted by the planet to which the Moon applies, and in a woman's horoscope the husband is represented by the planet to which the Sun applies. This is quite a straightforward rule so far as the Moon is concerned, but when we come to the Sun we encounter the first difficulty, for if we are to consider only the planets to which the Sun applies we are forced to exclude the Moon, Mercury and Venus which can never indicate the husband unless, in the case of the latter planets, they happen to be retrograde. The only way round this obvious absurdity is to treat all the planets in the horoscope as fixed, and move the Sun round to them, as is done in directional processes, but no writer has ever suggested that this method should be adopted, and the use of ephemeral rather than directional motion has always been implicitly understood.

Even here, however, our difficulties are not at an end, for we are also told that the marriage partner is denoted by the seventh house & any planets in it, together with the ruler of that house. If all these rules are to be followed, it is clearly quite possible for every planet to be involved, so that it behooves us to try to reduce this chaos into some kind of order.

If we turn to Ptolemy, who is the fountainhead from which most of our rules spring, we find that he ignores the seventh house altogether and considers only solar and lunar aspects. In the chapter on marriage, he states, "With regard to men, it is to be observed in what manner the Moon may be disposed. . . ." — **Astrology & Sex**, by Vivian Robson. **Buy.**



bilitated in Gemini means elevation may not be a completely good thing. It also means that rule based on it, a quality which the 10th, but not the 4th has, may be unwittingly cruel.

Bashar was one of four brothers and a sister. His father, **Hafez al-Assad**, who came to power in 1970, passed over Bashar in favor of the first born, Bassel, until Bassel was killed in a car crash in 1994. Hafez only slowly came to make Bashar his successor.

Ever see the movie, **The Lion in Winter** and Peter O'Toole's brilliant portrayal of Henry II? Henry knew exactly what his sons were worth. Any man who seizes the throne and then keeps it will be a shrewd judge of others. If you want to keep your life, this is a requirement. Hafez al-Assad was a very shrewd man. Son Bashar was initially an also-ran.

The other reason for Bashar's rise to power is based on the first: The Jupiter-Saturn conjunction in late Taurus in 2000. In that year, Jupiter no sooner conjuncted Saturn (late May) than Hafez al-Assad died (June 10), Jupiter changed to Gemini (June 30), and Bashar became the ruler (July 17). Whereupon in September 2002 Saturn transited Bashar's MC, making his rule complete. In this I am not helped by a rather sketchy Wiki article. Looking at the [talk page](#) I find Wiki is almost as hostile to Assad as it is to astrology. This is one of the faults of do-it-yourself jobs like Wiki, that they rarely rise above the commonplace.

**I HAVE set Bashar's chart** for 7:00 am. 26-something of Virgo rises, the mid-heaven is exactly square. Ascendant ruler Mercury is in Virgo and the 12th house, which means he keeps his thoughts to himself. Mercury in 12, remembering Robson, Bashar is deaf to outsiders, but, Mercury ruling both the ascendant as well as Virgo and being also direct and not retrograde, he is perfectly unaware of what he does not hear.

Mercury widely opposed to a Saturn-Moon conjunction, Bashar must make an effort to not be thought stupid. He tries harder, in other words. I imagine this particular conflict helps to limit his inherent "deafness."

Sun, Uranus and Pluto all tightly conjunct in Virgo, and in the 12th, Bashar is acutely aware of the details in his life as well as the need to have complete mastery over them.

Opposed to his Moon-Saturn conjunction, Bashar is also aware of threats to his personal safety, and, as the aspect is an opposition and three of the four planets among the most distant, Bashar knows he will never be genuinely popular and must be eternally vigilant in order to stay alive. The polarization of Sun and Moon, combined with the

## Bashar al-Assad

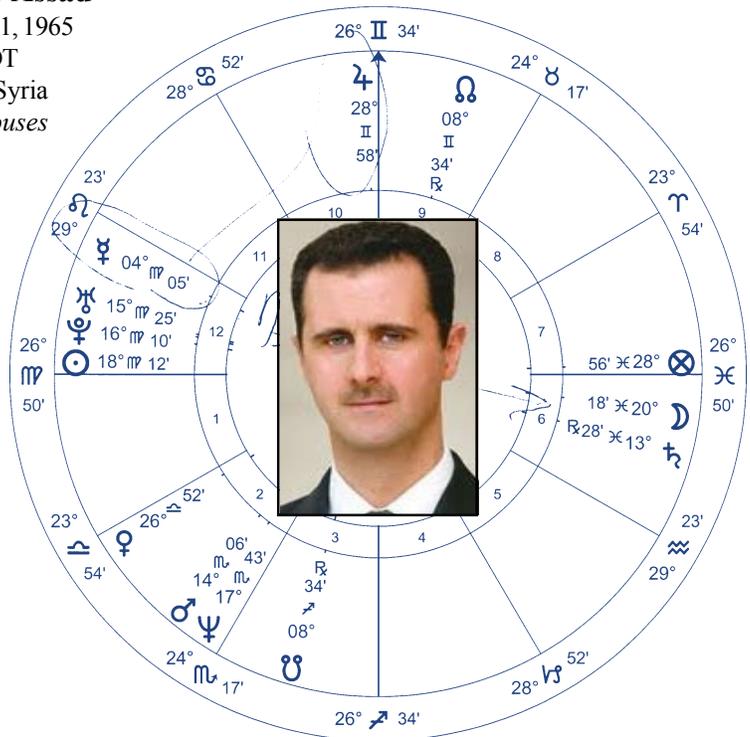
September 11, 1965

7:00 am EEDT

Damascus, Syria

Placidus houses

Mean node



intensity of Uranus, Pluto and Saturn, with their placements in the 6th and 12th, can make for a very secret, very cruel, very ruthless man. If I were his father, son Bashar would not be my first choice as successor, but if such came to pass, I would know that he would not go down without a fight.

I hear he has done well financially, which is Venus in Libra in the second. Rumor has it

that he has stuck his loot in many overseas locations (such that the US could not easily seize it), which is shown by Venus's rulership of Taurus (money) on the 9th.

With a Mars-Neptune conjunction in Scorpio straight in front of the 3rd (where the two planets want to be), Assad is highly intelligent in a devious, probing and underhanded way. Note that Mars, in the 3rd of brothers,

## Syria

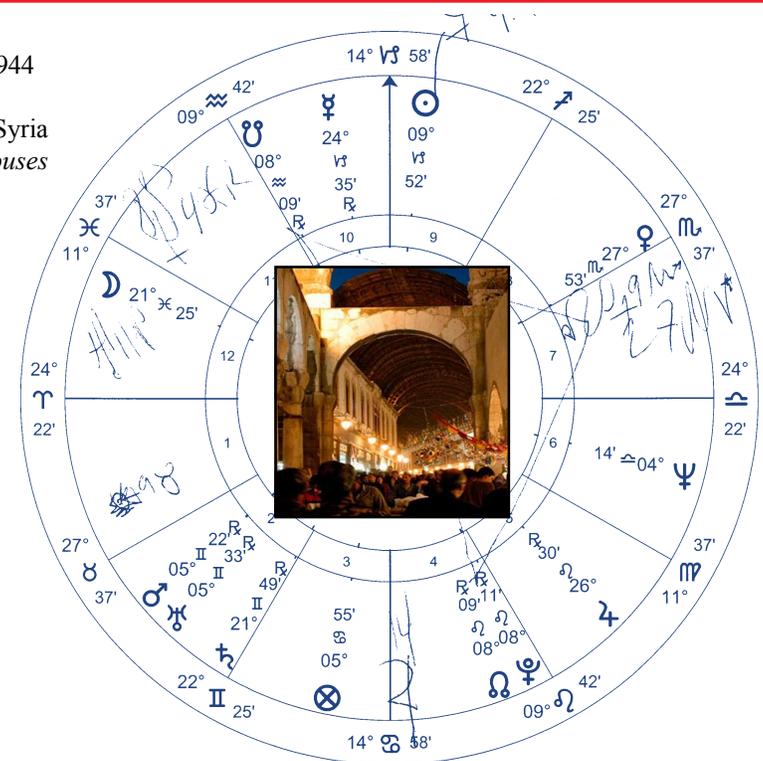
January 1, 1944

Noon EET

Damascus, Syria

Placidus houses

Mean node



rules the 8th, of death, and while the 8th is empty, Assad would not be afraid to deal firmly with challenges to his rule.

I understand the current civil war in Syria got started as a consequence of severe drought. Which would seem to have caught Syria's leaders unprepared. When your father simply hands you the kingdom you do not know where the dead bodies may be found, you do not know which buttons are hot and which are cold, you tend to glide along with your own paranoid fears until the outside world rudely arrives. Your father, who created all of this for himself and knew all the details would of course not have been caught out in this fashion, but sons are not so well informed and so are not so lucky.

With a firm hand, increasing experience, and lack of alternatives, a man such as Bashar al-Assad can turn things around and can continue to be the leader. From time to time all leaders stumble. When they do, outsiders invariably use it for their own purposes. Which is the case now. It is an old story.

Earlier this summer Bashar made common cause with Lebanon's **Hezbollah**, enlisting them to make short work of a particularly nasty set of rebels.

**THEN there was** the poison gas attack of August 21.

Now he and his country are under direct threat of attack from the US. I have absolute confidence the President of the United States will attack the nation of Syria, that Congressional approval, UN approval, active support from leaders of other countries, are mere fig-leaves. They will not be found necessary. We are merely passing the time until the moment arrives, which will be on one of the last days of this month, September 2013. When Saturn, Pluto and the node are all properly aligned on the 9's. Note the secondary alignment of Moon and Mars in Leo. This is not rocket science.

So let's take a moment to examine the gas attack, from Bashar's perspective.

From time to time a frightened leader believes he has to send a whiff of grapeshot up some street in his capital city. He has to put his foot down, he has to re-establish order.

Because it's the capital city, because he and his government live in the capital (in the case of Bashar, family roots in Damascus go back at least half a century), shooting civilians in one's own capital can be extremely tricky. While you tell your family and friends to get the heck out of Dodge and lie low until the party's over, you still run the risk that you will accidentally injure or kill someone who knows someone who knows you who will not be happy when he

hears the news. Once you have lost someone in this fashion your own life becomes worthless and you will seek revenge regardless of consequences. It is for this reason that attempts to put down uprisings, popular or not, by crude force, can so easily turn into the disaster the ruler most fears.

Yet from time to time a foolish leader will attempt the deed and learn the consequences. Such as we saw at Kent State, on May 4, 1970, at Tiananmen Square on June 4, 1989; as well as the Shah of Iran's futile efforts to quell the growing rebellion of 1978-9. An astute historian will find many other examples.

What no leader does, what no leader will ever do, is launch an *indiscriminate* weapon against the people of his capital city. The troops who are ordered to attack are always the most well-trained and the most loyal. The orders they are given are tightly worded, the loyalty of the commanders is without question.

In other words, the leader who will indiscriminately gas his own capital has not yet been born and I doubt ever will be. To attack with a weapon of indiscriminate means is certain to set off an uncontrollable wave of events. It is said the neighborhoods attacked were "under rebel control." This is nonsensical. So far as loyalty to the government, all neighborhoods are mixed, all neighborhoods have both Republicans and Democrats and you will often be surprised by traitorous Democrats hiding in your very household. If there is a black and white, it is by confession, i.e., religion. Not political loyalty.

**S**o if there was such an attack on August 21, 2013, then it was launched by those who had no fear of harming any of their own, no matter how remote the relationship may have been. The attack was therefore carried out by outside vandals. There is no other conclusion.

But, yes, there is one other possibility, and just as obvious. If there had been an attack, if a thousand or more people had died, then tens of thousands of survivors would now be in the streets, demanding retribution. The mob would either want the blood of Assad and his family, or would want the blood of the rebels who attacked and if there was the slightest doubt as to the guilty party, or if the government showed the slightest hesitation, the mob would want everyone's blood. Lots of it. No number of soldiers in the streets can quell such feelings, indeed, soldiers will only make things worse. Need I point to the **riots in Egypt?**

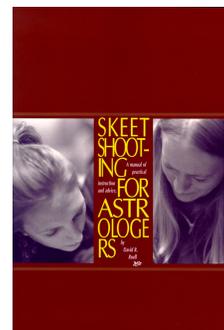
I am reading that Syria is "refusing access" to hospitals where the survivors may be found. There is effectively no difference

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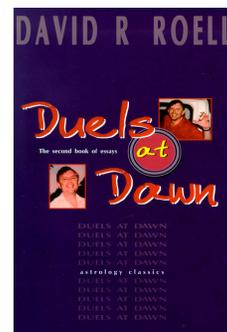
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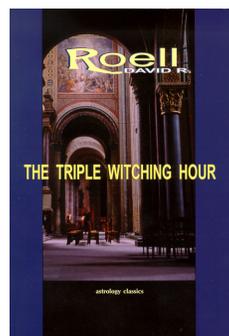
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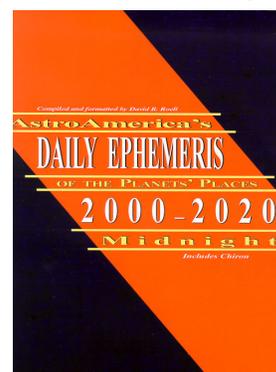
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between “refusing access” and *no survivors* because there was *no attack*. It is also true that a thousand dead mean a thousand funerals and a thousand graves, a thousand obituaries in the local papers, etc. Which will overwhelm local mosques and funeral parlors. Evidence for an attack, *if there was an attack*, will be easy to find and impossible to suppress. So where is it? Remember this is the capital city with an international airport, which remains open. It is flooded with reporters.

You will remember the results of the American Shock And Awe against Baghdad in the spring of 2003, which immediately resulted in a civil war that still continues. When people are slaughtered in this way, the consequences are swift and unavoidable. Therefore,

**THERE WAS NO GAS ATTACK IN DAMASCUS ON AUGUST 21, 2013.** None whatever.

**A**S his nation is now about to be attacked, what will be Bashar al-Assad’s likely reaction?

Given the man is cautious, insecure and paranoid, given that he has watched the destruction of Iraq, of Afghanistan, of Lebanon and of Libya, given that he knows the fates of Saddam Hussein and Muammar Gaddafi and that he presumably does not want the same for himself, there is no reason to think he will go peaceably.

At the moment the Middle East is as tightly wired into opposing camps as was Europe on the eve of World War I, the summer of 1914. As in 1914, we are told war will be limited, the troops home before the leaves fall, that it will be jolly quick and rapidly over.

But hard news is impossible to find, while speculation is rampant and worthless. Here is some that I have heard:

It is said that if the US attacks Syria, that Syria will attack Israel, believing the US to have acted as Israel’s puppet. If this is true, then it goes without saying that Syria will also attack US naval ships in the eastern Mediterranean.

It is said that if Syria is attacked, Iran will attack Israel. Which goes without saying that Iran will also attack US naval interests in the Persian Gulf and northern Indian Ocean.

It is said that if Syria is attacked, Hezbollah, the *de facto* government of Lebanon, will attack Israel. Which also means they will attack US naval interests in the eastern Mediterranean.

Perhaps in an effort to head off a bit of this mayhem, Prince Bandar, chief of the Saudi Intelligence Agency, recently warned Vladimir Putin, head of Russia, that if he did not stand quietly on the sidelines, that Chechen terrorists, under Saudi control,

would strike the upcoming **Winter Olympics**, to be held in Sochi, Russia, February 7 - 23, 2014. Whereupon Mr. Putin is alleged to have exploded and said that if any attack was made on Syria, that Russia would attack Saudi Arabia. Incredibly, it is said that Bandar brushed this off.

Because it seems the real reason for the mess in Syria is that Russia is building a **natural gas pipeline** through the country and that this will bypass Qatar and its natural gas. It is said that Qatar was financing Syrian rebels in an effort to shut down the Russian pipeline, weaken Syria and isolate Russia. When Syrian endurance stymied Qatari interests, it is said that Saudi Arabia, with more money and clout, stepped in.

**The Saudis** are now determined to eliminate Assad once and for all. There is speculation that if the US does not attack Syria, that Saudi Arabia and Qatar will. Which I think unlikely. The Saudi military has long been the King’s personal plaything. The Saudis do not want their shiny, expensive toys to get scratched. To the best of my knowledge, the Saudi military has zero combat experience, in a part of the world where experience would be easy to get.

Israel, the neo-Crusader Kingdom by the Sea which is everyone’s favorite bogey man, is allied not only with the US, but with Saudi Arabia and Qatar. Israel presumes the “US umbrella” will keep it safe. It has forgotten the Lebanon war of 2006, when missiles freely rained down upon it. It would like to believe in its invincible past.

China, which is said to get 20% of its energy from Iran, will look upon any attack on Iran with disfavor.

Finally, Turkey. The Turks are split. There is a strong pro-Israeli, pro-US wing, but I also suspect there are neo-Ottoman remnants who are eager to re-establish the old empire, either by direct rule, or by convenient puppets. Note that to Turkey the fate of Israel is a minor affair. They may be expected to play both sides.

Note that Bashar al-Assad’s Virgo-Pisces polarity falls across the MC/IC of the US Independence chart. Which is either very bad for him or very bad for us. Note that Bashar’s north node falls exactly on the US Uranus, which in this case is the possibility of his surprise attack against us. His south node falls on our ascendant, more or less, which is not something we will find nice.

Remember that from the point of view of the United States, our targets are many and widely dispersed through several countries.

From the point of view of the Syrians, the

Lebanese, the Russians and the Iranians, their targets, which are US and Israeli, are few and precisely known. Sink one guided missile cruiser and all its cruise missiles sink with it. Same for an aircraft carrier and its airmen.

Know that for the past 30 years it has been the goal of Russian, Chinese and, increasingly, Iranian engineers to build effective **anti-ship**, anti-US navy weapons. It is certain the US has countermeasures to take care of individual missiles, but it is also certain that salvos of dozens of missiles will overwhelm defenses, and that any single hit will immediately disable the targeted ship.

**I EXPECT it will become** clearer over the next week or so, as we get closer to a *de facto* Congressional Declaration of War, that as soon as passage of the bill is irrevocable (during the actual voting itself), that a formal state of war will exist between the US and Syria. It would then be foolish for the Syrians and their allies to wait even a single second longer before they attack the US. Like as not one or another of the various countries concerned will say as much in the next several days. This should give sane people pause, but the astrology says we are not sane at this time and that there will be war.

The US has traditionally been ruthless in its attacks, heedless of civilian casualties, and heavily destructive of civilian infrastructure: roads, bridges, power plants, water systems, etc. Since our weapons are concentrated in a handful of platforms, it would be in the interests of the leader of Syria to destroy as many of them as possible as soon as the Declaration was unstoppable.

But even if he should wait until satellite radar (Russian) tells him that an attack is underway, widely scattered shore batteries (with anti-ship missiles) have a vastly greater rate of fire than two or three missile launchers per ship, or an aircraft carrier’s ability to put perhaps four planes in the air per minute.

If the United States lost a round, lost an aircraft carrier, what would we do? Go nuclear? Would the Pentagon agree? What about the Russians?

With logic and evidence pointing away from Syrian guilt, do you now understand the stupidity and ego of the President of the United States in drawing a worthless line in the sand? Not only are the citizens of the United States asking him to stop, the whole world begs him to stop. Is the world’s leader about to stumble? Suffer the consequences?

Is Bashar due to have a bad day in the near future? So far as his chart goes, no, he will not. Not before mid-November, when Saturn arrives at his Mars.