



US Congressional Image

Kerry as Secretary of State: Global warming first, world hunger, disease, and nuclear arms second

By Steve Goreham

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With barely a whimper from the media, John Kerry is President Obama's official [nominee](#) for Secretary of State. Mr. Kerry is the senior Senator from Massachusetts, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and was the 2004 presidential nominee of the Democratic Party. Kerry has also been a long-time crusader in the effort to try to stop global warming.

With the possible exception of former Vice President Al Gore, Senator Kerry has been the most fervent climate hawk in the United States Congress. Kerry [believes](#) that "*catastrophic climate change represents a threat to human security, global stability, and—yes—even to American national security*" and that global warming is man-made. He further states that "*Once you accept the science, it's clear that such massive environmental change will create dislocation, destruction, chaos, and conflict.*"

Senator Kerry and his wife authored the 2008 [book](#) *This Moment on Earth: Today's New Environmentalists and Their Vision for the Future*, asking the question, "*And what, in the face of so many powerful interests defending the status quo, are each of us willing to do, today and tomorrow, to force a change of course?*"

True to his convictions, Kerry [co-sponsored](#) the American Power Act in 2010. The bill

would have established a US cap-and-trade carbon trading system, but died in the Senate without a vote.

Senator Kerry parrots the “science” of man-made global warming with the starry-eyed ideology of a young environmentalist. After tornados killed 50 people in the Southeastern US in February 2008, Kerry [appeared](#) on MSNBC and concluded that man-made warming was to blame: “*...this is related to the intensity of the storms that is related to the warming of Earth...the storms are more intensive and the rainfall is more intense...*” But a simple look at data from the National Climatic Data Center [shows](#) that strong tornado activity in the US has *decreased* since the 1970s.

In a 2009 [interview](#) with the *Huffington Post*, Mr. Kerry stated, “*Nowhere is the connection between climate and security more direct than in South Asia—home to Al Qaeda. Scientists now warn that the Himalayan glaciers which supply fresh water to a billion people in the region could disappear completely by 2035.*” He was referring to a statement in Chapter 10 of the 2007 Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

But in 2010, Dr. Murari Lal, the coordinating lead author for Chapter 10, [admitted](#) that the “melting by 2035” statement was not from peer-reviewed literature, but had been added to Chapter 10 to try to put pressure on world leaders. An accepting Senator Kerry fell prey to the ruse.

In another example last July, Senator Kerry [warned](#) about rising seas, stating, “*With the melting of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet alone, global sea levels could rise by as much as 3.26 meters in the coming years. And the Pacific and Atlantic coasts may be in for a 25 percent increase above average levels by century's end.*” But, empirical data indicate growth of both Antarctic [sea ice](#) and land ice over the last 30 years.

Data from the Climatic Research Unit at the University of East Anglia [show](#) no increase in global surface temperatures for more than ten years. Nevertheless, Mr. Kerry continues his climate crusade. In a speech on the Senate floor in August of this year, Kerry [declared](#) that global climate change was “as dangerous” as nuclear weapons in the hands of Iran. President Obama recently [said](#) that climate change would be one of his top three priorities for his second term. Mr. Kerry may be just the man to lead the crusade.

During the next four years, look for Secretary Kerry to boost efforts in a futile fight to stop global warming. The real problems of the world, such as hunger, poverty and disease in developing nations, terrorism, and nuclear proliferation, may need to take a back seat.

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