DEMOCRACY WITHOUT POLITICIANS THE THIRD PILLAR.

In the explosive novel **'It Could Just Happen'** a terrorist plot destroys not only a government but causes a reset of how citizens must learn how to govern themselves.

There are no political parties and no professional politicians.

County Councils and Parish Councils combine to produce communities.

Each community have a randomly selected governing group who use the Edward de Bono Six Hat procedure to find the answer to complex problems.

The Chairman, assisted by a diverse group of advisors, provide questions for each community to debate and find answers for.

As the author of that book, I have been asked to provide further details (by way of a podcast) on each of the seven pillars of governance.

THE THIRD PILLAR.

DEFENCE FROM AN EXTERNAL THREAT.

Even as I write this, the Ukraine people are trying to defend their country from an invasion by the Russian Federation. The rest of the world watches on TV as missiles, rockets, and bombs rain down upon innocent civilians. The Ukrainian military have defended with incredibly courage. We watch, as a country is systematically destroyed, with casualties numbering in their thousands. NATO and the west just look on, fearful that any real involvement might trigger World War 111, with the inevitable possibility of an escalation into a nuclear holocaust.

The irony is that once upon a time Ukraine held more than three thousand nuclear missiles on its territory. In 1992 it signed the Lisbon Protocol, and it joined the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1994 and waved goodbye to all those trump cards.

The question might be asked, would President Putin continue the systemic genocide of helpless civilians in Kiev or Mariupol if Moscow, St Petersburg,

or his palace in Sochi could be the target for even a fractional yield nuclear bomb!

Then how should this existential tragedy reflect on the defence policy for the United Kingdom? Should global Britain own a new, £4.5 Bn aircraft carrier (The Queen Elizabeth), without the modern fighter aircraft to use it, to strut its stuff through the South China Seas? Even the USA with its fleet of eleven carriers wouldn't be that impressed. We are in process of upgrading our Challenger II tanks – to be known as Challenger III. With a unit cost to upgrade of £5m each, an order for 148 and a cost of £7.4Bn., one must wonder what the purchasing officer thought when looking at the tank devastation brought about by a determined infantry, with modern, shoulder mounted anti-tank weapons, demolishing Russian tanks on the outskirts of Kiev. Much cheaper Turkish drones could also be programmed to loiter in an area until tasked to destroy enemy transport with deadly efficiency.

It is obvious, that with the future use of AI and robotics, drones, electronic disturbance, laser technology, to say nothing of chemical and biological offensive weapons, humankind teeters on the brink of Armageddon – where who has the most toys wins! Even the nuclear threat depends on an ability to destroy enemy missiles before they reach their target. Thus, countries can no longer rely on intercontinental ballistic missiles but strive to produce hypersonic delivery vehicles for their cargo of mass destruction.

The other existential threat, as we are all aware, is that of climate change. Perhaps even more potent a threat to our existence than an escalation to World War 111, the ever present and growing threat to the planet by our disregard for the space in which we live could soon make our life on earth untenable.

The Russian threat to Ukraine and maybe the wider world has already seen commitments to defence spending rocket. The world-wide defence industry is about to earn vast amounts of money. These funds are so desperately needed to combat climate change.

My book 'It Could Just Happen', doesn't look any further than what the United Kingdom should do, but it could just be a roadmap for the rest of the world.

It is time to pull out of NATO!

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation has only one real power base and that is The United States of America. The last time that Europe faced an enemy it was Great Britain that acted as a forward airlanding base (a monster aircraft carrier) to create a springboard into Europe. Do you think that that could ever happen again? The British Isles would have been

made uninhabitable within five minutes of war being declared – even if such niceties were observed in any future conflagration. I do not have much regard for Monsieur Macron but when he described NATO as being brain dead, he only stated the obvious. Macron wants an EU army to strengthen his political aspirations, and all strength to his arm but I would humbly suggest he is whistling in the wind!

My storyline was what the UK would do. The hero took a page out of Switzerland's book and claimed neutrality. As the banking, legal, data services centre of the North Atlantic it should be both the geographical and financial bridge between Europe and North America. The United Kingdom should retain its nuclear capability in all its scientific forms, and any enemy should be cognisant of the fact that any threat to the wellbeing of its population would be met with an immediate and ultimate response.

Our intelligence services must always be suitably funded, and GCHQ would be tasked with universal observation of all and any threats to ourselves or our trading partners.

We should maintain our specialist operation troops (SAS or SBS backed up by the Parachute Regiment and Royal Marines.) in order that we may respond in the event of an overseas problem that endangers our citizens or an internal attack at home.

Ultimate home defence must be our aim. Unmanned ships to guard our island nation together with unmanned submarines with a nuclear capability. Unmanned aircraft and missiles to defend our airspace. Whilst the weapons of war might be unmanned, the operators secure in their bunkers must be able to inflict massive damage before an enemy can pound our cities into dust.

No more trenches, howitzers, meat grinding tactics, no tanks or armoured cars brewed up on dystopian fields and smoking rubble where once people lived and worked.

2% of GDP could pay for our homeland security and leave money left over for more pressing needs in our country.

The concept of 'Hybrid Warfare' has been around for a while and practiced by Russia in Chechnya and Syria. It is an admixture of PR (fake news), use of mercenaries for whom no blame can be attached to the controlling country and real politic backed up with official military support.

In a world of 24/7 rolling news it is vital that the world has access to unbiased, definitive reporting by the brave men and women that choose to risk their lives to deliver the actual news from every dangerous trouble

spot on the planet. Forget Oscars for actors, Grammys for music makers, I would like to see very special awards for all the men and women that endure privation and risk their lives to bring us the true story of what happens in this world.

We know that sociopaths/psychopaths exist in the world, they surface from time to time in every stratum of society. Usually, we can recognise, diagnose, and deal with these people. However, occasionally one will slip through the net.

If that individual chooses to develop an entourage of fellow travellers who are rewarded with the ill-gotten gains of the sociopath's successes, then the power base grows until eventually the wider world becomes aware of it.

Adolf Hitler, Joseph Stalin, Benito Mussolini, Idi Amin, Muhammed Ghaddafi, Mugabi, Kim Jong-un, Saddam Hussein, Vladimir Putin, immediately come to mind. There is a profile that can easily be recognised. The world sees it, and recognises it, but allows it to fester until something has to be done to prevent the conflagration from destroying everything.

Shakespeare knew and succinctly described in Macbeth," If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well It were done quickly: if the assassination Could trammel up the consequence and catch with his surcease success; that but this blow might be the be-all and the end-all here, but here, upon this bank and shoal of time, we'ld jump the life to come."

In the storyline of 'It Could Just Happen' the problem lay with the Iranian Ayatollahs. This was resolved with the 'Rods from God' (this weapon does exist).

Should the world have done nothing when Grozny was raised to the ground, or Aleppo in Syria was reduced to rubble and women and children murdered? Should we just accept the death of a young women in the UK who was poisoned by identified assassins from Russia who attempted to murder a defector and his daughter.

The UN has become a joke, NATO has had its day, there is a need for an agency that is tasked to identify psychopaths in high places and then remove them to safeguard the world.

There is so much to be achieved if the world is going to be able to bring about a resolution to climate change, deliver us from future pandemics, and bring about a more equitable future for all races and creeds in the world, without the waste of resources and human life fighting amongst ourselves.

Let us tell this story and wish peace and goodwill to all who have ears to hear.

Thank you for watching and listening.

The written script for this podcast has been published on www.phoenixfilmandpublishing.co. discuss it with friends and family and let's hope that one day we might see some of the required changes take place.

My next blog will deal with 'Law and Order', some radical answers to some very pressing questions.