

July 29, 1974

TO MY SCIENTIST-OBSERVERS

Perhaps you had quite a chuckle, a year or so ago, when I informed you that the SI's...UFO entities that I work for and with...were going to create a world-drought as one, big, definitive experiment...and then let their human representative, myself, PK Man, call the shots...i.e., name each area, each drought-stricken area, to get relief...over the globe (and in the U.S.)...thus proving once and for all that I am indeed the SI's single human link with the human race, and that they have the powers to do such a thing.

Attached is a newsclip from this morning's newspaper...indicating the "merciless, searing" drought prevalent in the U.S. today. I do not think...anyone is laughing now, at what I said some time ago. If they are, they are idiots, and you can quote me on that.

Texas...will be especially punished...for its treatment of me not long ago (re the radio station and its backers; unfortunately, that is the way the SI's work...they expect me to be well-received and well-treated AS THEIR OWN REPRESENTATIVE (much like a U.S. ambassador would be treated abroad) when I travel about. If I am tricked and/or badly treated, then God help that geographical area, state or country. (Disc-people need have no worries.)

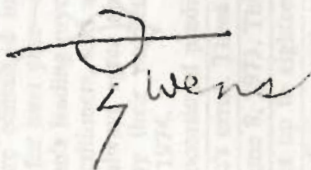
France...will be especially demonstrated upon (rather than punished) with white-hot drought combined with violent storms, lightning attacks, hurricane approaches, powerful winds, power blackouts, etc....not by the SI's (who are chewing up Texas) but by myself, to demonstrate what I can do "with half a brain"...the SI half.

Referring to the attached newsclip...of course I could bring rain and storms at will...to any of the stricken areas. But according to the terms of the SI Definitive Miracle (world drought) which they outlined some time ago, through me to you...I will not do so.

If you think...that my powers, through the UFO's, do not amount to a "5th world power"...wait, wait, until water practically vanishes and the earth is scorched...then let me see all the governments of the world replace that water, and save that earth, with their vast sums of money and great military establishments. Only I...will be able to replace the water...and repair the earth. Through the infinite powers of the UFO's, of course.

If any one of you...gave a poor reference to Dr. Poher...think about the above. You were doing a great disservice not only to Dr. Poher, but to France...and the entire world...in blocking the progress of the UFO plan to help this earth.

Sincerely,

Wens

* or Barbat

JUST AS
WHEN I PREDICTED IN
NEWSPAPERS IN 1971 AND 1972
THAT PRESIDENT NIXON
WOULD BE FORCED OUT
OF OFFICE. THOSE
PEOPLE
ARE
NOT
LAUGHING
NOW!

Note: See ①

CHAPTER 24

Ted Owens: The PK Man

"... President Nixon will not end in office. Something most unusual will occur, and he will either resign or be forced out of office."

This prediction by Ted Owens was made in 1970 for our 1971 compilation of predictions. While we have not yet seen it come to pass, few people would have predicted such a possibility three years ago. An amazing man with genius level I.Q., Ted Owens stands alone in his claims that he receives his predictions from the SIs; Space Intelligences. Whoever is providing predictions to Owens is often incredibly accurate in an unusual way. While he seems to be a prophet of doom and gloom, Owens has compiled an impressive record for accuracy.

According to Owens, he first came into contact with his extraterrestrial prophets one evening in 1965 when he was living in Fort Worth, Texas. He and his daughter were driving in the country when a cigar-shaped UFO suddenly appeared over a field and floated toward their car. There was no noise from the craft, but blue, red, white, and green lights flickered vividly from inside the UFO.

There was no dramatic contact with space-suited aliens landing to talk with Owens and his daughter. "From that day on my life changed radically," Owens reported. "Space Intelligence does the planning and the executing. I am just their middle man, their go-between, and their front. Their purpose in doing certain things is to make the authorities listen, but first they have to prove their existence to the skeptics."

Owens points out that he has never met the SIs face to face. He has not been given an outer space tour of another planet. He claims he has mental contact with the SIs, who use his brain as a receiving station for their telepathic messages. It is his contention that he can talk with them on his

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pro coaches, pro owners and pro players in past years. It will be connected to the Mafia or Syndicate.

Religion. What religion? Eat a soda cracker, drink a glass of wine, light some candles, chant hymns, handle rattlesnakes, speak with strange tongues and have a ball. Personally, I am waiting for the Second Coming. It is long overdue.

Celebrities. Passing away will be many of the greats. Show business's loss will be incalculable during the year of 1974. These personalities cannot be replaced with the current entertainers now gracing our television and movie screens with dull performances.

Earth Changes and Quakes. Worse than 1973, and tornadoes then were unprecedented. The weather was also unprecedented in a freakish way. Florida and California will be the unlucky participants of huge fires, quakes, storms, and other earth-damaging factors. The Midwest will be torn up in worse fashion by weather in 1974, than in 1973. Drought will strike the length of the United States in 1974. The lack of water will really cripple farms and ranches. The cities and towns of the United States will be dangerously short of water.

The shortage of drinking water in the United States will be intense in 1974, due to the Great Drought. (I am going to give it a name, since it will be with us for quite a long time.)



Note: See ②

INTRODUCTION

Welcome To The World of Tomorrow—1974!

"There will be a military takeover of the US government!" "A submarine and a UFO will collide off the Aleutian Islands. Some of the survivors will not be of this planet!" "John Connally will be the last president of the nation." "Atlantis will start to rise in 1974."

These are just a sampling of the startling predictions for the future contained in this unique glimpse of 1974. Our forecast for next year—and beyond—has been envisioned by the nation's leading psychics, tarot card readers, clairvoyants, ESP practitioners, and astrologers. While our prognosticators do not always agree about the course of future events, we can enjoy their predictions, utilize their advice, and keep score in 1974.

If an occasional prediction appears to be old news, it isn't a psychic's error. These predictions were made with a deadline of June 8, 1973. This means that the psychics were asked to predict up to eighteen months into the future. "Some of these predictions will come true before your book goes on sale," cautioned a contributor. "In today's fast-paced world, a psychic can receive impressions concerning a future event, then not have time to have it documented before the event has occurred."

There were plans to rate the seers who appeared in last year's compilation, but since there are still several months left in the year, such an undertaking would be folly. I will simply state that no psychic is able to maintain 100 percent accuracy in his predictions. The participating psychics, however, have numerous successes to their credit, and they are

Mark Smith in 1974
"Predictions For 1974"
(Howard Cohen)

The Virginian-Pilot

Norfolk, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, and Suffolk, Virginia, Friday, August 9, 1974

Nixon Quits

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Nixon resigned Thursday night, effective at noon today, telling the nation that "America needs a full-time president and a full-time Congress" freed of the pressures of Watergate and impeachment.

Nixon, in his final address from the Oval Office of the White House, said he leaves without bitterness toward his foes, with thanks for those who have supported him through the months of Watergate.

Nixon was to disclose his decision to an expectant nation six years to the day after he received the Republican nomination for President at the GOP National Convention in Miami Beach, Fla., on Aug. 8, 1968.

In the 133-year history of the Republic, eight presidents died in office, but none resigned.

A White House source said Kissinger was instrumental in persuading Nixon that the nation would be best served.

President Yields and Resigns

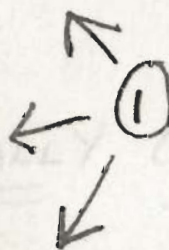
"The leadership of America will be in good hands," Nixon said.

Nixon, his face grim but his voice steady, said he is stepping aside in the national interest. His base of support in Congress, he said, has eroded to the point at which he would not have backing for the crucial decisions that confront the president.

He served almost three decades in public life as representative, senator, vice president, citizen campaigner, and ultimately, 37th president of the United States.

It was the first time in the 133-year chain of presidents that a chief executive resigned his office.

And it was the first time that the office would be filled under the presidential succession decreed by the 25th Amendment, ratified in 1967.



Newswatch 8/12/74



Dust Bowl '74 Page 56

A blistering drought is baking the Midwest grain belt, searing crops and bringing back memories of the ravaging dust bowl of the 1930s. Hopes for a bountiful harvest have disappeared—and if heavy rains don't come soon, the nation could suffer its first crop disaster in history. Chicago bureau chief Frank Maier visited the drought-stricken region and talked to worried farmers. From his file and those of other correspondents, Allan Mayer wrote the story.



AUG. 5, 1974

SCIENTISTS...

IF YOU GET BOOK, "PREDICTIONS FOR 1974" BY WARREN SMITH (AWARD BOOKS), AND READ THE CHAPTER (P. 156) ON TED OWENS... TURN TO PAGE 161 AND READ:

"THE MIDWEST WILL BE TORN UP IN WORSE FASHION BY WEATHER IN 1974, THAN IN 1973.

DROUGHT WILL STRIKE THE LENGTH OF THE UNITED STATES IN 1974.

THE LACK OF WATER WILL REALLY CRIPPLE
FARMS AND RANCHES.

THE CITIES AND TOWNS OF THE UNITED STATES WILL BE DANGEROUSLY SHORT OF WATER.

THE SHORTAGE OF DRINKING WATER IN THE UNITED STATES WILL BE INTENSE IN 1974, DUE TO THE
"GREAT DROUGHT." (I AM GOING TO GIVE IT A NAME, SINCE IT WILL BE WITH US FOR QUITE A LONG TIME.) "

I SENT THAT TO WARREN SMITH IN 1973, NOW...
READ ON, AND CHECK OUT MY ACCURACY, IN 1974!!

~~O~~ WENS
X PK MAN X

Back to Dust Bowl Days

First came the torrential rains of spring, sweeping away thousands of planted acres in the Midwestern grain belt, gouging great creases in the fields and delaying planting of new crops. Then the rain stopped, and for well over a month now, the sun has risen like a bright brass gong in a white sky. While days, then weeks passed without rain, the sun parched the soil and left corn stalks brittle, stunted and dead. From the Dakotas southward to Texas, from Kansas east to parts of Ohio, the most baleful weather in a generation is raising the specter of economic disaster for Midwest farmers and the businessmen who depend on them. The big drought is daily diminishing what had been estimated would be a bumper yield of corn, soybeans and other feed grains. Crops of spring wheat, oats and barley are also being reduced.

"It's the worst since 1934," says Nebraska Farmer Harold Buethe. Adds Gary Luth of Illinois: "Last year my soybeans were waist- to chest-high by this time. Now they're only ankle- to knee-high." Unless there is a break in the malicious weather this week, the corn crops could be devastated; soybean plantings will begin to burn up within weeks. Even if the rains come soon, this fall's harvest is now all but certain to drop well below amounts needed to restrain inflationary food prices. Says Jim Tippet, an official of the Illinois Farm Bureau: "We need hot, sticky weather now, with plenty of rain, the kind of weather that makes people suffer." Last week some rain fell in the Midwest, but officials said it was not enough to end the drought.

Shrinking income. In part because of the drought, Agriculture Department forecasts for the corn crop have been revised downward, from 6.7 billion bu. in May to 5.9 billion bu. two weeks ago. Since then, conditions have grown worse, and by last week the National Corn Growers Association was predicting that the corn harvest would drop "significantly below" 5.5 billion bu. v. 5.6 billion last year.

In Nebraska, the state with the biggest crop damage, "dry land" farmers (those without irrigation) reckon that they have already lost 75% of the 235 million bu. of corn they expected. Many farmers are holding tight to whatever grain they have, and a lack of feed for Nebraska's record 7.5 million head of cattle is hurting ranchers. In all, Nebraska's farm income could shrink by \$2 billion this year. Losses for Iowa and Kansas are conservatively estimated at \$3 billion.

Dry weather is also punishing Illinois, where the soybean crop will probably fall 20% below earlier expectations. Farmers in Oklahoma are getting only three cuttings of hay instead of five, and the spring-wheat yield in North Dakota is expected to be sharply reduced. The Governors of Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota have declared their states disaster areas. At the Midwest Governors Conference last week in Minneapolis, a resolution was adopted urging the Administration to expand farm disaster re-



lief and increase crop price-support programs, which only last year were reduced in order to boost production.

For small farmers, the drought could be ruinous. For example, Kenneth Grove, who invested heavily in weed killers and fertilizers to work his 220 acres in Tecumseh, Neb., has given up on part of his crop and is now mowing it to feed his 80-head dairy herd. On the other hand, many large and middle-size farmers, who earned the bulk of the \$32 billion in agricultural income last year, have enough financial protection to tide them over. Indeed, many big wheat farmers, who brought in their winter harvest before the drought struck, stand to make a bundle because they are holding back an unusually large proportion of their crop until prices are forced up still higher. Worst off are the cattle raisers, who overproduced in recent years in hopes of making plump

DRIED-OUT KANSAS FARM LAND
Multibillion disaster.



Nebraska farmer with stunted corn: 'First it's too wet, then it's too dry'



A '30s dust-bowl scene: New drought

2 The Dust Bowl of '74

The First Christian Church of tiny Sheldon, Iowa, was jammed—but not for the usual reasons. Seven hundred farmers and townsfolk had gathered to pray for rain. Not a drop had fallen since early June, and the fields of northwestern Iowa were baked hard, scarred with ugly zigzag cracks. The corn was stunted, the soybean plants seared yellow. Hope for a bountiful harvest had long since disappeared. Without a lot of rain—and soon—there might not be any harvest at all.

Sheldon's prayers were answered last week when half an inch of rain fell—but it simply wasn't enough. And so the Rev. Nicholas Vogelzang is planning a second pray-in for rain.

Sheldon is not alone in its plight. A blistering drought is baking the vast plains and prairies of the Midwest and West, parching the land unmercifully during what should be the prime growing season. To many farmers, it brings back frightening memories of the 1930s when the ravaging dust bowl cost hundreds of thousands their land, their farms and their futures. Even though rain came to sections of the Midwest late last week, it didn't do much good. Long-range weather forecasts are not promising, and it is already probably too late to save billions of dollars' worth of corn, soybeans and wheat.

So far, a full 75 per cent of Nebraska's non-irrigated corn has been damaged beyond recovery, and the state's hay crop is expected to be a mere 30 to 40 per cent of normal. Nebraska Gov. J.J. Exon, citing crop losses totaling more than \$2.2 billion, has declared his state a

disaster area. Iowa's corn crop is expected to be as much as 40 per cent smaller than last year's 1.2 billion bushels; in some especially hard-hit areas, the harvest may be down a disastrous 70 per cent, while soybean yield has fallen more than 40 per cent. In North Dakota, some counties estimate their wheat harvest could be as bad as a third of normal. "Unless the soybean and corn fields get some rain soon," warns commodity expert Robert Raelin, "we could have the first crop disaster in our history."

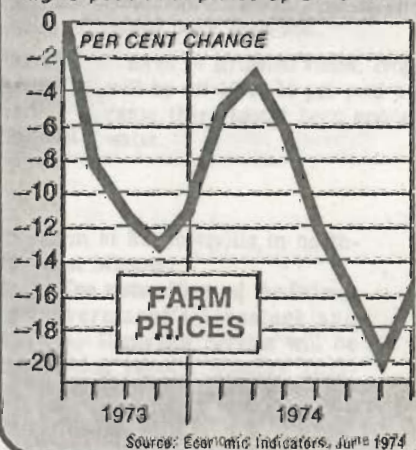
For consumers, the drought will mean higher food prices—perhaps drastic increases in the case of meat and poultry. What's more, the Nixon Administration's hope for cutting the inflation rate rests heavily on the lower food prices that a bumper harvest would bring. Now, that prospect seems increasingly unrealistic. "When the President talked about big crops to ease inflation, it was a lot of baloney," Raelin says bluntly.

Jump: Indeed, prices are already turning up. The Agriculture Department reported last week that prices of raw farm products jumped 6 per cent between June 15 and July 15 after four months of decline. Sharp increases in farmers' expenses for fuel, fertilizer and other overhead account for part of the rise, but the trend also reflects the first impact of the devastating weather that has plagued this year's crops.

An unusually wet spring delayed planting of corn and soybeans. Many planted fields were washed out and had to be seeded twice, some three times. But the wet spring was followed by a scorchingly dry summer. There has been

TURN FOR THE WORSE

Devastating weather is ruining crops, helping to push farm prices up once more.



virtually no rain since June in much of the Midwest Farm Belt and the prairies. Omaha recently had fifteen days in a row of over-100-degree heat; the first seven months of this year probably will turn out to be the third driest in the 104 years weather records have been kept in Nebraska—drier even than 1936, the worst Depression drought year.

What rain there has been has done little good. It has either been light and scattered or torrential and brief—too brief to do more than run off the hard-baked ground and evaporate. "It's so dry you can start a fire just from a car or truck muffler," says Harold G. Gallaher of Kansas State University's extension service. In Kansas last week, rural fire districts reported a record 30 pasture-land fires. South Dakota, too, is experiencing an unusual number of prairie fires. "First it's too wet, then it's too dry," grouches J. Orin Taylor, who farms

Sun-Scorched Midwest Gets Only a Dribble of Relief

KANSAS CITY (AP) — Scattered showers and some heavy rains fell on the parched crops of the Midwest in the last few days, but most weather and agricultural experts say they have not brought substantial relief from the drought.

Not many of the rains measured more than half an inch, and most of the showers left barely more than a trace of moisture.

From West Texas across south-east Colorado, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, and Indiana, many sections have had little more than an inch of rain since early June.

"This is truly a disaster," Iowa

Gov. Robert Ray said on a tour Friday from Council Bluffs to Atlantic and Hastings in south-west Iowa.

Keith Bruce and his son David took Ray into a cornfield on their farm near Hastings and showed him stalks on which no ears had formed. The Bruces grow 1,700 acres of corn, feed it all to the cattle they fatten for market, and even in normal years buy additional feed.

Normally they would have 4,000 to 5,000 head of cattle, but because of the drought they have cut back to 2,500 and are not replacing the ones they sell off.

"This has such an adverse ef-

fect on many things — livestock, main street, the consumer, the world food picture — all are hurt by this," Ray said.

Iowa's secretary of agriculture, Robert Lounsbury, estimated that the income of Iowa farmers has been cut \$1.6 billion from reasonable expectations earlier in the year.

The area which Ray toured is expected to lose 70 per cent of its corn production.

Iowa did have some rains during the week, up to 1½ inches in a few areas. But there were only traces in the areas which needed it most.

A survey made at the request

of Gov. J. James Exon, based on conditions at the end of July, showed that Nebraska's farmers have lost \$2.2 billion to the drought.

Paul Sindt, executive director in Nebraska for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service and head of the governor's drought-disaster committee, estimated that 85 per cent of the corn grown on nonirrigated land, 67 per cent of the sorghum grains grown on nonirrigated land, and 51 per cent of all soybeans have been lost.

Even in irrigated fields, crops will be off 15 to 16 per cent because there hasn't been enough water.

Nebraska has had a few sprinkles in the last few days, even a little more than an inch at the little town of Orchard in the northeast. The worst damage is in the southeast.

Spotty rains did not do much good for Oklahoma, particularly in its hard-hit west. The latest estimates showed two-thirds of Oklahoma's corn crop in poor to fair condition and 93 per cent of its cotton and sorghums poor to fair. Forty-one per cent of its soybeans were still in good condition, but that was down from 75 per cent a week earlier.

Many areas in Missouri report-

ed showers in the 24 hours ended at 7 a.m. Saturday, but reporting stations in the big-crop farm areas had little more than one-tenth of an inch or none at all.

There was no rain across Kansas, although the state has had some light and scattered showers in the last few days.

Frank Mosier, executive director of Kansas' Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, said: "We need 2 to 3 inches of gentle, soaking rain... when it sets in for two or three days."

Kansas has written off most of its corn not raised on irrigated

land, particularly in the eastern third of the state. Soybeans have been putting on few pods. Grain sorghums are stunted and their heads have been filling out with few kernels, if they have headed. Good rains in another 10 days would save some of the beans and sorghums.

One thing that has helped a little is a mass of cool air which surged down over the farm belt during the week. Many areas marked all-time lows for an Aug. 3.

"It will help us hold on a little longer," Dallas Pickett said from his 450-acre grain-and-livestock

farm at Stewartville in north-west Missouri.

The state offices of the federal government's Livestock and Crop Reporting Service will be making reports Monday afternoon on their weekly survey of crop and pasture conditions.

They are couched in general terms about the condition of crops and pastures, as of the previous Saturday, and give an estimate on the adequacy of soil moisture.

As of Aug. 1, the field offices made crop surveys which will result in the first bushel estimates on fall crops. Washington will announce them Aug. 12.

Drouth scorching American midlands

By David Smothers

By United Press International

A MERCILESS, searing drouth is drying up the midlands and it is probably too late to save billions of dollars in crops and livestock.

If rain, and lots of it, does not come soon, the situation can only get a great deal worse, state officials and experts surveyed by United Press International said.

The drouth of 1974 probably will mean climbing prices at the supermarkets. Administration hopes for bumper crops which could drive down prices and still keep farmers happy seem sure to be disappointed in some of the nation's richest farm and ranch country.

In Nebraska, there is talk that this drouth could be worse than the disaster years of the 1930s. Meteorologists have speculated the summer's sizzling dry spell might be the start of such a drouth cycle.

APPEALS FOR federal aid in the form of easier farm loans and higher prices are going out from state capitals.

E. L. Short, a rancher and representative in the Texas legislature, said, "Without relief and an incentive for the farmers and ranchers to stay in business and keep the supply and demand partially balanced, we have yet to see what higher prices are really about."

Already, Gov. J. James Exon of Nebraska has declared that state a drouth disaster area. There is frightening talk of almost a zero corn crop in some areas.

GOV. BRUCE KING has declared a state of emergency in New Mexico, where the U. S. Department of Agriculture says range land is in the worst condition since it began keeping records in 1922.

In the corn belt, many farmers have despaired of bringing in a decent crop and are chopping up their corn for silage except in some areas there is not much corn to chop.

In Weston County, Wyo., the hay crop is almost a complete loss and officials say ranchers have sold off 30 per cent of their livestock because they won't have enough money to make it thru the winter otherwise. The county has been declared a disaster area.

HUNDREDS OF persons prayed for rain at the First Christian Reform Church in the rich farm town of Shel-

don, Ia., where the minister said there has been no rain to speak of in 8 to 12 weeks.

Iowa is the nation's second state in popcorn production and it looks as if 25 per cent of the state's popcorn crop may be lost. Look for higher popcorn prices.

Anthrax, a disease which comes with drouth, is killing cattle from Texas to the Dakotas. Crop-killing insect infestations have been reported at the same points.

Conditions are approaching the critical stage as far east as Ohio.

STATE OFFICIALS are glum in calculating the costs so far and those to come.

Texas Agriculture Commissioner John C. White said drouth damage there to crops alone comes to at least \$2 billion. Winter wheat production is the lowest in seven years, he said, and, "even if the rains came today, it would be too late for much of the cotton, grain, sorghum, and other row crops."

Nebraska's Exon said his estimate of a \$1 billion loss is probably conservative "because the situation is deteriorating so rapidly." Feed shortages have become so serious, that Exon ordered hay growing along highway rights of way to be cut and sold at auction.

The loss in Kansas was estimated at about \$1 billion. Dryland wheat in New Mexico is dead. Some Texas ranchers are selling off all their herds because of high feed costs and dry range conditions.

IN CENTRAL Illinois, agricultural experts look for a 50 per cent cut in crop yields on some farms.

Altho the drouth is concentrated in the plains, it is feared the corn and soybean crop in northwest Ohio could be slashed by half if rain does not come.

The Cleveland crop reporting service of Murch and Co. advised last week, "It is a disaster area in the [corn] belt."

The cause is simple. It was a wet spring in the midlands. That delayed planting and held down the acreage which could be planted. Then there was no water.

Last week, there had been no rain of consequence in Kansas, aside from a July 3 downpour, since June 12. It was much the same elsewhere from the southwest plains well into the Mississippi Valley.

7/3/74
per 'Horrificed' by Drought

APOLIS, Minn. (AP) — Norman E. Borlaug, a Nobel Prize-winning food expert, Tuesday that he is "horrificed at the extent of drought conditions in the United States."

Borlaug returned last week after nearly six months in Asia and Africa, working on food projects with developing nations.

While his information is incomplete, Borlaug said, "It doesn't look promising."

He said he has unconfirmed reports of substantial winter kill in the Russian winter wheat crop, a factor which could affect world prices.

Borlaug spoke at the Midwest Governors Conference, joining Sen. Hubert W. Humphrey, D-Minn., and others in a discussion of world food problems.

Borlaug criticized the federal government for dealing inadequately with inflation. "It seems to me we've become so damn

obsessed with Watergate that we play Watergate-Watergate while inflation is ruining the world," he said.

Borlaug won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 for developing a strain of wheat useful in underdeveloped countries.

Speaking mostly in worldwide terms, Borlaug said food production is barely keeping pace with the "population monster."

August 1, 1974....

to my Observer-Scientists:

It is sad...that the SI's must have to prove their point the "hard way" for the human race...i.e., that they must produce a World Drought, then let me replace the water by rainfall around the world.

"calling the shots" in order to prove for once and for all that I work for and with the SI's (UFO entities)...that they are real...and that I am their very real human bridge, or link, to the human race.

They have just communicated with me...and informed me that shortly, when I return to Europe to complete my mission for them...that they must further modify my brain (at one of the European geographica locations outlined) so that I will be ABLE TO HAVE ENOUGH POWER TO REPLACE RAINFALL ONTO THE EARTH AFTER THE WORLD DROUGHT BECOMES SEVERE! Should anything stop me, or happen to me...then the surface of the earth will become a dried-out, unlivable (without water) crust.

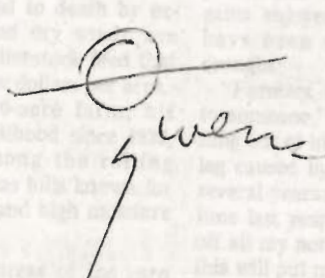
I trust...this gets over to you...the gravity of the situation.

All right, you can read more about the World Drought in the enclosed.

Now, another kind of predictions...Gerald Ford, presently Vice President... is a very very bad man...he works for the "Nixon machine"...and if he becomes our President, then we are lost...for we have already probably gone past the "point of no return" due to so many bad leaders in a row. Ford...will be a catastrophe for the United States...if he steps into the office of Presidency.

Another different kind of note to you...for years I've been controlling pro football teams in an effort to get enough money together for two things: (1) to go to Europe and Australia and carry out the SI "castle plan" and (2) to be able to move to a safe location for me and my family. Because this will shortly be made possible WITHOUT a pro football contract...then this season of 1974 I will not pursue my usual demonstration; except that I will stop the Dallas Cowboys and Houston Oilers, because of the knavery I experienced in Dallas not long ago....

Ted Owens (PK Man)



3-Million Crop Loss Va. Pilot

More States Have Damage From Drought; Aid Sought

8/3/74

By United Press International

South Dakota and Ohio Friday joined the growing list of states seeking federal aid because of a drought that has severely crippled the nation's crop country, causing an estimated \$6 billion in losses.

Kenneth Rush, President Nixon's chief economic adviser, said the drought also will mean higher prices at the supermarkets. "Food prices will be somewhat higher," he said. "It will not be as good as we had hoped and expected."

Administration officials had hoped for bumper crops which could drive down prices.

Gov. Richard Kneip of South Dakota and Gov. John J. Gilligan of Ohio asked the federal government to declare portions of their states disaster areas because of drought conditions.

Kneip said crop losses are total in some areas and extremely high in other portions of South Dakota. Gilligan said the drought already has destroyed one-third of his state's corn and soybean crop and expressed concern for the farmers.

On Thursday, Iowa Gov. Robert D. Ray asked Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz to declare Iowa a disaster area so farmers hit by the drought could seek federal assistance. The state damage estimate, presently at \$1.6 billion, will go higher, Ray predicted.

The drought picture across the country:

- **Illinois:** Corn crop cut an estimated half a billion bushels; state's crop production down by "25 to 30 per cent."

- **Indiana:** Agriculture experts say state already has lost millions of dollars and if rain came now it could be "too late."

- **Kansas:** State's dry land corn has matured to the point that rain now cannot help it.

Farmers predict a \$1-billion loss. Many have applied for disaster relief payments.

- **Missouri:** The agriculture commissioner is conducting a statewide survey to determine the extent of the drought. As of now, he said, the farmers are in bad shape.

- **Nebraska:** Damage estimate is \$1 billion. One of the first states to seek emergency funds from the federal government.

- **New Mexico:** Gov. Bruce King has declared a state of emergency. Rangeland is in the worst condition since 1922.

- **Oklahoma:** The drought and the cattle-killing disease anthrax has forced farmers to market in hopes of getting what they can—even if it means a loss.

- **Texas:** A \$2-billion loss because of the drought.

- **Wyoming:** The hay crop in portions of Wyoming is almost completely lost, and ranchers in some counties have sold 30 per cent of their livestock.

Va. Pilot 8/2/74

Not Enough Water

On the Dave Marple farm south of Topeka, Kan., the milo that was planted over a month ago either has not sprouted or is stunted. If rain fell on this milo crop, Marple could harvest 70 bushels per acre, but the problem is that not enough water is coming down. (AP)

Drought

Visions of a Dust Bowl Grow Daily

Va. Pilot 8/4/74

McLOUTH, Kan. (UPI) — John Bower sat sweating atop his creaky, rust-red 1945 tractor and gazed at 80 acres of cornstalks scorched to a sickening orange-yellow from the worst drought in 20 years.

"This isn't as bad as the dust bowl days in the 30s," the craggy-faced farmer said, climbing down from the tractor.

"At least, it isn't yet. But if we don't get rain in the next 30 days, it will be as bad, if not worse."

The tall, soft-spoken farmer wore traditional blue-gray dungarees with a matching hat. His leathery skin was brown from 35

years of working his land. He walked grimly toward a scene that is now a common and disquieting sight in eastern Kansas.

Thousands of rows of cornstalks, scorched to death by extreme heat and dry winds, are good only for livestock feed that will bring a few dollars per acre.

Bower's 200-acre farm, his home and livelihood since 1939, is tucked among the rolling northeast Kansas hills known for their rich soil and high moisture content.

As in most areas of the corn belt, only a few raindrops have pitted the light brown dust since

July 3, the only day of significant rain since early June.

Bower admitted that he and his neighbors were "spoiled" last year with a good crop and high prices. But most of the financial gains enjoyed last year already have been wiped out by the drought.

"Farmers are always in debt to someone," Bower said, shuffling out of his field on a wooden leg caused by a tractor accident several years ago. "For the first time last year, I was able to pay off all my notes at the bank. But this will put me right back where I was before."

Bower waved at other fields

holding about 100 acres of soybeans and milo — his only hope left for a break-even year. Those crops develop late in the season, he said, and he planted them as a precaution in case of drought. Rain in the next two weeks would save those crops.

Despite the drought that most state officials are now calling a disaster, Bower said he and his farming neighbors aren't ready to quit farming yet.

"Most of them have outside jobs," he said. "So they can keep going. But I'm 62 years old, and nobody wants someone my age. I'm too old to do much else than farming."

Rainfall Touches Midlands

By United Press International

Gentle rain, the first in 33 days, touched the drought-suffering midlands Tuesday offering hope that at least some crops may be salvaged.

Agricultural experts said the rain was too late to save most corn crops, but hoped that it may be just enough to preserve soybean and milo crops, giving farmers a chance at least to break even financially.

Fred Ostby of the National Weather Service said the rain was "gentle, the kind needed to gradually soak into the ground without much runoff."

Areas touched by rain Tuesday included Kansas, Nebraska, Texas, and Missouri. Kansas and Texas each has reported a \$28-billion crop loss so far, and Nebraska \$2.2 billion.

Other states reporting multimillion or billion-dollar losses include Missouri, North and South Dakota, Oklahoma, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Wyoming.

As the rain fell, officials studied ways to aid farmers and ranchers — suffering through the worst drought since the dust bowl days of the 1930s.

Rep. William Scherle, R-Iowa, said if the drought continued Congress would have to pass emergency legislation to provide help to farmers in the form of disaster loans.

"Certainly these steps would be mandatory to forestall a catastrophic depression which would wrench our nation," Scherle said.

Weather modification as an aid to ending the drought will be discussed Friday in a U.S. Senate Agriculture Committee hearing in Lawton, Okla.

"Anyone who is interested in finding ways to prevent or reduce the impact of a drought is invited to attend this hearing," said Sen. Henry Bellmon, R-Okla., who is conducting the session.

Oklahoma Gov. David Hall, saying farmers have been "wiped out by this drought," asked that portions of his state be declared disaster areas.

7/29/74 Va. Pilot, Norfolk) (The S.I. drought)

Drought Chokes Hope for

By DAVID SMOTHERS

Good U.S. Harvest

United Press International

A merciless, searing drought is drying up the midlands and officials say it is probably too late to save billions of dollars in crops and livestock.

(If rain, and lots of it, does not come soon, the situation can only get a great deal worse, state officials and experts report in a survey by United Press International.

The drought probably will mean climbing prices at the supermarkets. Administration hopes for bumper crops, which could drive down prices and still keep farmers happy, seem sure to be disappointed in some of the

nation's richest farm and ranch country.

In Nebraska there is talk that this drought could be worse than the disaster years of the 1930s. Meteorologists have speculated the summer's sizzling dry spell might be the start of a drought cycle such as Nebraska suffered in the 30s.)

Appeals for federal aid in the form of easier farm loans and higher prices are going out from state capitols. E. L. Short, a rancher and representative in the Texas legislature, said: "Without relief and an incentive for the farmers and ranchers to stay in business and keep the supply and demand partially balanced, we have yet to see what

higher prices are really about."

Already, Gov. J. James Exon of Nebraska has declared that state a drought-disaster area. There is frightened talk of almost a zero corn crop in some areas.

Gov. Bruce King has declared a state of emergency in New

Mexico, where the U. S. Department of Agriculture says rangeland is in the worst condition since it began keeping records in 1922.

In the corn belt, many farmers have despaired of bringing in a decent crop and are chopping up

corn for silage, except that in some areas there is not much corn to chop.

In Weston County, Wyo. the hay crop is almost a complete loss and officials say that ranchers have sold off 30 per cent of their livestock because they won't have enough money to make it through the winter otherwise. The county has been declared a disaster area.

John Regier, a Weatherford, Okla. cattleman, said: "Hay crops are drying up. Pasture is drying up. If it keeps going then cattle will have to start going down." Without rain in two weeks, he said, he will begin selling cattle at a loss of \$50 to \$100 a head.

Hundreds of people prayed for rain at the First Christian Reform Church in the rich farm town of Sheldon, Iowa where the minister said there has been no rain to speak of in eight to 12 weeks.

Iowa is the nation's second state in popcorn production and it looks like up to 25 per cent of the state's popcorn crop may be lost. Look for higher popcorn prices. PK'd Texas

Anthrax, a disease which comes with drought, is killing cattle from Texas to the Dakotas. Crop-killing insect infestations have been reported in the same areas.

Conditions are approaching the critical stage as far east as Ohio. State officials are glum in calcu-

lating the costs so far and those to come.

Texas Agriculture Commissioner John C. White said drought damage there to crops alone comes to at least \$2 billion, let alone cattle losses. Winter wheat production is the lowest in seven years, he said, and, "even if the rains came today, it would be too late for much of the cotton, grain, sorghum, and other row crops."

Nebraska's Exon said his estimate of a \$1-billion loss is probably conservative "because the situation is deteriorating so rapidly." Feed shortages have reached the point that Exon ordered hay growing along highway rights-of-way to be cut and sold at auction.



Ear Trouble

Jim Kuehl breaks open an ear of corn showing how little the corn has matured in the Omaha, Neb., area due to dry conditions. Gov. James Exon to declare the state a disaster area. (UPI)



Thomas Höpker—Woodfin Camp

A brink-of-death existence in an area as large as the U.S.: Ethiopians devour emergency food rations

Africa's Disastrous Drought

By ANDREW JAFFE

On the outskirts of Niamey, the capital of Niger, 20,000 nomads cluster in a pocket of disease and pestilence that passes for a refugee camp. The smelly four-day-old carcass of a donkey rots in the sun near the camp's main waterhole, and children—their bellies bulging from untreated parasites—play nearby. "There is almost no malnutrition here," says a complaisant Red Cross worker. But just then several mothers pass by carrying babies with yellowish hair and skin like papier mâché. They are suffering from marasmus—progressive emaciation.

At a camp in Dessiye, Ethiopia, 6,000 barefoot peasants huddle together for warmth as they wait for food. Some are half naked; others cling to rags so filthy that they are alive with flies and lice. Many of the children show signs of pneumonia and tuberculosis, and much of the camp is afflicted with crippling diarrhea. To while away the time, the children make long whips out of hemp and then lash each other in cruel delight.

In camps across north-central Africa, 1.5 million men, women and children are leading a brink-of-death existence. They are refugees from the great drought that has scourged sixteen African nations for several years (map, page 59). At best the camps provide the barest food and health care; at worst, they are hellholes.

But the Africans who inhabit the camps are, in a way, the lucky ones. Another million Africans have already died of hunger and disease. Five to 10 million more are starving in the African bush or the slums of drought-area towns. The African drought is one of the great catastrophes of the twentieth century. And the response of the world community and the African governments themselves has, in many ways, only compounded the tragedy.

The drought began in the Sahel—an arid savanna that stretches across six nations on the southern fringe of the Sahara desert. The natives of the Sahel are among the world's poorest people—ragged, cattle-raising nomads and subsistence farmers. When the region's meager rainfall failed in 1968—the result of a change in the global weather pattern—25 million Africans were soon hard pressed for a living. As the brutal dry spell continued and desperate nomads cut down trees and shrubs to feed their starving cattle, the Sahara itself moved southward at a rate of 30 miles a year. Eventually the drought spread east into the provinces of northern Ethiopia. "We have eaten more sand this year than in our thirteen years here," one European missionary in Western Niger told me. "There is not enough vegetation to hold back the desert." Today, in an area the size of the continental U.S., the streams

and watersheds of north central Africa are dusty, rocky beds. Even Lake Chad, one of Africa's principal bodies of water, has been reduced to a sea of mud and small ponds.

The reaction to the drought is an unedifying tale of official incompetence and inactivity. As herds died, hungry Africans by the hundreds of thousands began to drift to the edges of towns and cities. But the pride—or terror—of the governments concerned kept them from admitting the scope of the problem or sounding a timely alarm. This was particularly true in Ethiopia, where local officials long ago reported to the Cabinet that a northern famine had begun. When frantic men, women and children fleeing drought-stricken Wollo province appeared near Addis Ababa, authorities locked them up and left them to starve. A military coup has since overthrown the government of Ethiopia, and an investigation of this official indifference to the famine is under way.

Hushed Up: To make matters worse, the vaunted "early warning system" of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) first began reporting crop failures and food shortages in the Sahel in September 1972—years after they began. Though by then the situation was critical, it was a full eight months before FAO Director-General A.H. Boerma set

Catastrophe in the Sahel: Nomads in Mali sift the desert, grain by grain, for food air-dropped by French Army planes.

Alain Sorensen—AP Wirephoto

Newsweek, August 5, 1974

ve-man Office of Sahelian Relief (OSRO) in Rome. In the case of Ethiopia, fear of offending Emperor Haile Selassie even led U.N. officials to ignore field reports that drought and famine were affecting millions.

Not until last autumn did the FAO and experts from major industrial states survey the African drought region to determine the needs of each nation. The experts' figures—showing a need for nearly a million tons of food grain—were accurate enough. But the FAO failed to collate the data and organize a shipping schedule for donor nations until last February. Why the delay? OSRO chief J.V.A. Nehemiah's answer was candid if startling. "It's not such a long delay if you take into account that we had to break for the Christmas holiday," he explained. And U.N. coordinator in Niger Alexander Rotival lays blame at the door of the donor nations themselves. "In December and January we had almost no food coming in," he says. "Was it necessary for the donors to wait for us to finish before they started shipping?"

This delay has certainly cost lives. And it has increased the relief bill by millions of dollars. In June, for instance, the U.S. began an airlift of grain from Bamako to the wasted region of Mali around Timbuktu. Early this year, when the Niger River was navigable, supplies could have been moved for about \$80 per ton. But now Mali's food needs are so urgent that emergency measures have become a necessity. According to the FAO, the airlift the U.S. has organized may come to \$900 a ton. And a truck convoy that European nations have dispatched south across the Sahara from Algeria will cost more than \$200 a ton.

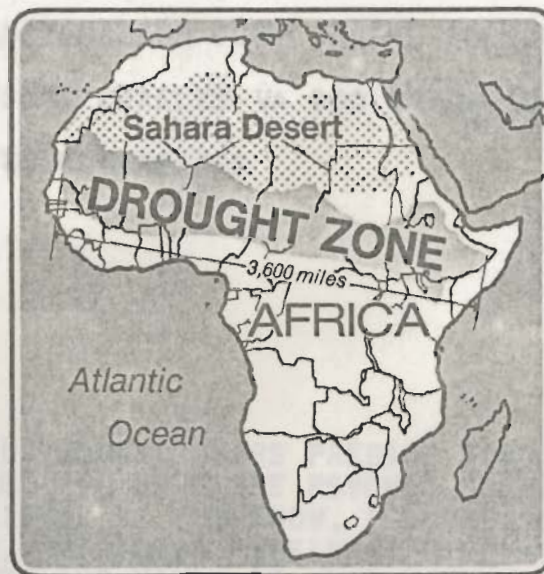
Badger: The relief effort that has been mounted is gigantic in scope. More than 120,000 tons of food a month are flowing from the U.S., Europe and Asia to the African interior. A small band of men share credit for finally getting the operation off the ground. One is former U.S. Ambassador to Mali Robert Blake. The State Department has never been overly concerned with the small and nonstrategic nations of north-central Africa, and Blake had to badger Washington for six months to shake loose funds for Malian disaster relief. Stephen Green, an American working for UNICEF, the U.N. children's agency, is the man responsible for first exposing the extent of starvation in northern Ethiopia. (The U.N. has since told Green, in effect, that his career as an international civil servant is probably finished.) And indefatigable Trevor Page, OSRO's 33-year-old British logistics officer, has managed to bully donors into line, break through bottlenecks all over Africa and personally set in motion the trans-Sahara truck convoy across Algeria.

But enormous problems remain. The food en route is grossly inadequate for the Africans' needs. And many drought victims are now so weakened from lack of nourishment that they are dying of simple afflictions like diarrhea. In the



Henri Bureau—Sygma

Too little, too late?: A West German helicopter brings food to Ethiopia



Famine belt: Only the strong will survive

meantime, 200,000 tons of grain are stacked at the ports of West Africa waiting to be distributed. When I toured the area, some of the food had already rotted from improper warehousing. Much of the blame for this lies with the Africans themselves. Recently, for example, the FAO discovered that food bound for Chad was stalled at the Nigeria-Chad border. The reason: the wife of Chad's President owns the national truck monopoly and she wanted to ferry the food into Chad on her own trucks—at twice the going freight rate.

Furthermore, current relief projects deal only with short-term needs. In the view of experts, a coordinated master plan for water conservancy and land use is what north-central Africa really needs. That, of course, would be very costly. "What is required is probably \$10 billion over a 25-year period," says Dr. Edward

Fei, AID's regional coordinator for Africa. One partial solution would be to resettle nomadic tribes on newly developed farmland. But that idea is bound to meet with resistance from the nomads themselves. "We would rather die than leave the desert," the son of one Tuareg chief in Niger told me.

Reticent: African governments are not enthusiastic about joint, long-range planning either. Each is pursuing its own interest and when a master plan is suggested, officials react much like Senegal's Planning Minister, Ousmane Seck. "What we are afraid of," says Seck, "is that some of the developed countries will impose priorities on us that only benefit their economies."

Within the next few weeks, the need to solve Africa's water crisis will be dramatically highlighted by nature. The scanty rains that annually water the Sahel and neighboring regions will descend in a sudden flood. The torrent will wash out roads—and thus make the delivery of relief even harder. And ironically, if the rainy season amounts to anything this year, it may actually leave the Africans worse off than a continued drought would. For the chances are that a marginal crop will emerge from an extended rainfall. And then the world community, which is already tiring of its \$500 million African relief effort, may seize the occasion to ignore the catastrophic drought and its victims. "What worries me," says one British relief worker in Upper Volta, "is that this year's rain may be a bit better. Then interest in the Sahel will dim. And people will forget the African drought before any permanent solution has got started."