



# *The* **SPECTRUM**

**“Achieve the wisdom of knowledge of Truth  
as this will enable you to wisely follow the Laws of The Creation.”**

**— A Non-Profit Educational Corporation Dedicated To Bringing You The Truth —**

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# **Will Healthy Agriculture Survive Big Business? Organic Gardening—Power Of The Soil**

## **IN THIS ISSUE:**

**What Would We Do If There Was No Food? p.2**

**The News Desk, p.3**

**Skolnick's Report On Crooks In High Places, p.14**

**England “Bombs” Gold Prices, p.19**

**SOLTEC: Go With The Flow Of  
Your High-Frequency World, p.23**

**Hopi Elder Chief Dan Evehema's  
*Message To Mankind*, p.24**

**California's Power Crisis:  
A Most Revealing Update, p.27**

**SANANDA: What's Truly Important In Your Life? p.29**

**Farming Ourselves Into Oblivion:  
Small Sustainable Farms Are Our Greatest Hope  
Against A Faceless Agriculture, p.34**

**SPECTRUM Booth At Upcoming Conference, p.38**

**So You Want To Plant A Garden? p.39**

**4/3/01 RICK MARTIN**

It's the time of year to get our hands dirty—and I don't mean spring housecleaning! Mother Nature begins to wake up from her winter sleep and it's time to start planting. Whether it be vegetables, fruit trees, berries, roses, other flowers, whatever your taste, now is the time to get started. And that's the key—getting started.

For some of us really serious gardeners, we're already well into the growing season and, with each lengthening day, we have an array of small seedlings hatching and growing in protected places, and almost ready for planting in the garden beds we're already preparing. We wouldn't have it any other way.

Over the years there has been one exceptionally superior source of information and inspiration about all matters related to working conscientiously with the ways Nature prefers to grow things. That is the magazine called *Organic Gardening*, which has been around since J.I. Rodale founded it in 1942, and is presently headed by the third generation of the founding Rodale family. Today I had the distinct pleasure of speaking for awhile with the very busy President and Editor of *Organic Gardening*, Maria Rodale, on our mutually favorite subject.

Maria is a delight to talk with and wastes no time getting right to the core of the sometimes quite complex issues that lead to balance in working with Mother Nature. Like the kinds of situations we must often handle with *The SPECTRUM*, she finds that some readers want “pure” organic gardening information and they become irritated when their tranquility is rocked because she insists upon covering the Larger Picture

*(Please see: Power Of The Soil, p.31)*

**WEB ADDRESS: [www.TheSpectrumNews.org](http://www.TheSpectrumNews.org)**

# What Would We Do If There Was No Food?

*There was a bittersweet snapshot (one of many) drawn in the 1970s by the great cartoonist on scientific subjects, Sidney Harris. It showed two guys in the Big-J Cereal Company's corporate executive offices. The boss is sitting a bit dejectedly behind his big desk. The other guy is standing there holding a piece of paper. The caption goes: "The report isn't all bad. They say that, eaten with warm milk, the BOX could provide some nutrition."*

*Another of his cartoons of that era freezes a husband and wife in their kitchen with a startled look on their faces. She's in the midst of setting the table for a lunch of soup; he is in front of an open kitchen cabinet with cans on the shelves. Having just selected one, he is reading aloud the label on a particular soup can. It goes: "Clam Chowder—Ingredients: clams, potatoes, water, hydrolated plant protein, sodium phosphate, calcium carbonate, butylated hydroxytoluene. FOR EXTERNAL USE ONLY." That's when the husband and wife look at each other with those startled expressions on their faces.*

*The point behind these snapshots of modern life is, of course, what is happening to our food as a result of "big business" getting in the middle of the food chain, between source and consumer. No wonder the whole "health food" movement took off like a rocket at that time. Now we even have organic fruit and vegetables showing up in average grocery stores, due to the overwhelming level of public demand.*

*The public has been able to understand that more obvious part of this subject. But other, more basic—and potentially tragic—parts of the food production equation remain largely hidden from public view for a number of reasons. And it is THAT arena we hope to illuminate a bit for you through several articles in this decidedly "green" issue of The SPECTRUM.*

*You can blame Rick Martin for getting the ball rolling along these lines. We wanted to share his updated and expanded gardening article in this issue, as was promised last month (if we were still afloat, which we are, just barely, as usual). And one thing led to another, as some good information "just happened" to cross our path related to agriBUSINESS versus conscientious "organic" farming. That, in turn, led to our front-page feature interview to round out this subject and tie the loose ends together.*

*The point is that we largely take food for granted, like we do water. But there are things going on in agriculture that are putting our food supplies into serious jeopardy—and I don't just mean that so many foods these days are devoid of flavor and health-imperative trace minerals.*

*We hope what we offer in this issue of The SPECTRUM helps to inform you in a way that not only illustrates the dangers and pending tragedies, but also provides solutions—things you can do to help steer the great ship of farming and agriculture back into more healthy waters. Each small positive step taken truly does add up.*

*Now, Congress is another matter entirely. As Mark Twain put it so well back when times were simpler: "There is no distinctly native, American criminal class—except Congress." As I write this our criminal class has just decided that THEY know how to spend YOUR money (tax dollars) much better than you do; they just stole back \$450 billion from the \$1.6 trillion tax cut bill that is presently under discussion—to fund THEIR own pet projects, of course.*

*And while they're spending your money like it was theirs (sounds like the definition of a criminal to me), I want to sincerely thank those of you who have been helping us stay afloat through the incredible kindness of your monetary donations. Think of this important "green" issue of The SPECTRUM as the latest miracle product of that thoughtful generosity.*

*Some of you are making great sacrifices to help us. We know that. We are humbled, on the one hand, by the trust you place in us, and we are inspired, on the other, to do our very best to bring you these "class notes" for this multi-dimensional (literally!), "full spectrum", Higher Education course. Bless you who care enough to help us share The Truth.*

*Speaking of which, don't miss our update on the "crisis" of California's power shortages. The plot really thickens when you compare the latest uncoverings with the old business "success formula" from Three Mile Island that was explained in our February 2001 front-page story. Meanwhile, California Governor Gray Davis delivered a brief statewide address the evening of April 5 to officially steer blame away from guilty parties and place the fix-it burden squarely on the shoulders of already buckling taxpayers and ratepayers—in typical criminal fashion.*

*And speaking of further Truth, that same evening's news programs "spilled the beans" on a longtime racket going on in the "sacred" prestigious medical journals like The Journal Of The A.M.A. and The New England Journal Of Medicine. It seems that pharmaceutical companies have been writing "research" papers favorable to some new drug they're pushing. Then they pay some outside doctor, usually affiliated with a medical school, to review and then sign and submit the paper as their own research work. In other words, drug company researchers ghostwrite papers "from" medical school doctors—to plug company products.*

*This is déjà vu for me. I wrote about that (and a lot worse corruption going on in the so-called professional scientific arenas) back in 1988, in an invited article on the problems and pressures within the so-called premier institutions of so-called "higher" education. That Truth had a lot to do with my being "asked" to leave M.I.T. shortly after the paper's publication.*

*Some things are very slow to change when you tell The Truth. But we keep at it anyway, with your financial help and faithful good wishes.*

— Dr. Edwin M. Young, Editor-In-Chief



The paper covering the "full spectrum" of news and information to help you to follow the First Law of The Creation.

The Highest (First) Command of The Law of The Creation states: "Achieve the wisdom of knowledge of Truth, as this will enable you to wisely follow the Laws of The Creation." In other words, go forth and gain as much knowledge and experience as you can.

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# The News Desk

4/4/01 DR. AL OVERHOLT

(alo@tminet.com)

PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY URGES  
INQUIRY IN  
FOOT-AND-MOUTH SLAUGHTER

From Leonard G. Horowitz  
<tetra@tetrahedron.org>, 3/20/01: [quoting]

For Immediate Release

Contact: Elaine Zacky at 208-265-2575; 800-336-9266

Public Health Authority Urges Inquiry  
In Foot-And-Mouth Slaughter:  
Raises Spectre On Industrial Espionage

Could the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease affecting global beef markets be an act of industrial espionage rather than Nature?

Could Tyson Foods Corporation, the world's leading meat supplier be behind the deadly slaughter?

These are serious questions being raised by a leading American public health authority, Dr. Leonard Horowitz, a Harvard graduate and the author of several books on infectious diseases.

Many Americans can recall the hoopla over Hillary Clinton having made more than \$100,000 virtually overnight in the swine futures market in 1998. The tip came from James Blair, chief counselor at Tyson Foods. The Springdale, Arkansas-based company showered gifts for favors upon Clinton administration officials including former Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy. Don Tyson was one of Bill Clinton's closest friends and biggest supporters, according to grand jury testimony concerning Tyson political misconduct. Don Tyson was Bill Clinton's top fundraiser during his gubernatorial and presidential elections.

The grave possibility that the international foot-and-mouth disease outbreak stems from a Tyson plot is documented in *Healing Codes For The Biological Apocalypse* (Tetrahedron Press, 1999; ISBN: 0-923550-01-1) in which Dr. Horowitz explored little-known facts about mad cow disease outbreaks.

Suggesting a new form of bioterrorism to facilitate what past CIA Director James Woolsey called industrial espionage, Dr. Horowitz considered the fortuitous fear campaign that facilitated Tyson's takeover of the Hudson Beef Company in 1997 after the latter's stock dropped in value 35% due to an alleged E. coli contamination that was never confirmed.

The doctor's suspicions were based on a review of a U.S. *Congressional Record* that showed E. coli had been one of the principle germs manipulated by the CIA, and James

Woolsey's statement: "With the end of the Cold War, the CIA must enter the era of economic [or industrial] espionage". In the language of espionage, French columnist Paul Javanovic explained, this meant the CIA will henceforth do many services for American enterprises which take the trouble to ask it for "help" in both counterespionage and espionage itself.

Regarding the foot-and-mouth outbreak, a similar ruse was proposed involving Tyson only months following their Hudson Beef takeover. This time it was a chicken influenza outbreak in Asia. In December 1997, the *Associated Press* reported that a 60-year-old woman had died of suspected bird flu. The U.S. Government immediately announced it would halt all chicken imports from China in a move to curb the spread of the virus. Days later, pressured by the media and foreign governments, 1.2 million Asian chickens were slaughtered to allegedly prevent the flu from spreading to other countries and species.

Few knew that prior to these events, Dr. Horowitz wrote, Tyson was vying to bring the Asian poultry industry into its global monopolistic fold. The emergency primarily targeted Tyson's Asian competition, mostly small chicken farmers. What was most likely a CIA-directed outbreak conveniently required the annihilation of Tyson's competitors. That would have been a very effective, albeit immoral, industrial espionage operation.

On March 15, 2001, *USA Today* reported that Tyson Foods stands to gain most from the current foot-and-mouth disease problem. They had four times tried to purchase America's leading beef supplier IBP Corporation, most recently for \$3.2 billion, or \$30 per share of stock valued at only \$24.11. The international slaughter of cattle, the article said, was sure to reduce IBP profits, making Tyson's offer even more appealing.

Dr. Horowitz, in support of the British Farmers for Action, is calling for an immediate halt to the slaughter of uninfected herds, and an investigation by the British government officials into the possibility that the entire foot-and-mouth disease outbreak was premeditated.

NOTE TO JOURNALISTS: For background information on Dr. Horowitz link to <www.tetrahedron.org> or call Elaine Zacky at 208-265-2575. [End quoting]

Most likely all of you thoughtful SPECTRUM readers have entertained an ample array of suspicions about the sudden appearance of this foot-and-mouth epidemic. And since Dr. Len is no stranger to these pages, we wanted to share with you his possible scenario about what may be going on.

There's nothing to preclude multiple reasons

behind this event. Another hypothesis is along the lines that the foot-and-mouth extermination campaign is a cover for something more serious affecting the animals—like mad cow disease.

The following presentation is equally as important as Dr. Len's above, and the introductory editor's note bears thoughtful consideration. This is brought to us courtesy of another SPECTRUM friend, David Icke.

UK FOOT-AND-MOUTH "CRISIS"

Excerpted from the INTERNET, <http://sightings.com>, 3/25/01: [quoting]

The Untold Story From *Educate Yourself* <http://educate-yourself.org>

Editor's Note: As the following article by Steven Ransom clearly reveals, the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) "epidemic" is a manufactured crisis. It is yet one more in a series of orchestrated and planned events—such as the West Coast electrical power "shortages" and the "epidemic" of school shootings—designed to stampede the public into compliance with ever tightening government control over our lives through fear and hysteria.

The slaughter of disease-free Vermont sheep, by government officials who have refused to even test them before destruction, is probably a trial run to gauge how meekly the American public will react to such overt acts of totalitarian control. And this for a disease that FMD expert Abigail Wood says "is as serious to animals as a bad cold is to human beings".

In the past decade, the government prevented farmers from holding large stores of grain and seed, and now they actively destroy healthy sheep. These measures, along with the additional "catastrophies" yet to be sprung upon us, will drive prices up at a time when the stock market (and the economy/employment) are going down.

The darkening clouds of the New World Order takeover agenda are steadily drawing closer in America and around the world. The most helpful thing you can do is to bring this awareness to others and to prepare to live independent of "the system" as soon as possible.

Introduction From David Icke  
(<http://www.davidicke.com>)

Some months ago, a friend was told by a Member of Parliament's wife that something was going to happen before the end of March that would stop the movement of people around the UK. Now the Foot-and-Mouth "crisis" is doing just that. A coincidence?

Foot-and-Mouth is being used as the HIV of the animal world, and hour after hour the BBC and other ignorant UK broadcasters are bombarding the public with fear stories about a "catastrophe" while access to the countryside and at least many sacred sites is banned. And all for a disease that 95% of animals recover



from in a couple of weeks. Why?

Please e-mail the following article to everyone you know and particularly every UK television and radio station you can.

Thank you, David Icke

### Distortion Of The Facts Is The Only Crisis

Stay away from the countryside!  
And stay away from the facts!

Foot-And-Mouth: The Management  
Of A Pseudo-Crisis

By Steven Ransom  
Credence Publications (3/25/01)

### THE SCARY HEADLINES

Over this last week, international television and radio news bulletins have brought world audiences graphic reports of an encroaching pestilence. The dreaded and highly infectious livestock disease known as “foot-and-mouth” or FMD has returned to British shores.

The globe is being treated to round the clock reports on “the extent of the FMD nightmare”. Mounds of destroyed cattle, gruesome pyres burning through the night, ashen-faced reporters delivering the latest outbreak statistics, people being warned to stay away from the countryside: “As well as being airborne, the foot-and-mouth virus can adhere to car tires. Do not venture into the countryside unless absolutely necessary” warned the BBC on the Monday, 26 Feb, 10 o’clock evening news. The same feature included reports of international rugby matches being cancelled, a meat shortage crisis pending, pan shots of once-thriving but now empty cattle markets, lots of hype, lots of emotion, lots of TV batten-down specials—but, as we shall soon discover, no actual facts.

**In truth, if the events of this last week have taught us anything, it is just how much we are at the mercy of misleading government information.** As a result of this barrage of emotive, inaccurate hype, there are now members of the public who consider it genuinely irresponsible to hang out a strip of bacon for their garden birds, or to go for a walk in the country until this crisis is over. Despite the governmental pronouncements, the facts surrounding this “crisis” are very different to what we have so far been told.

Abigail Wood is a vet and researcher into the history of FMD, based at the University of Manchester in the UK. She remains very down-to-Earth over these latest “rampaging vicious virus” reports. Credence Publications contacted her as a result of her recent *UK Times* article, which began thus: “Foot-and-mouth is as serious to animals as a bad cold is to human beings. So why the concern?” Wood’s research, when taken in conjunction with research carried out by

Credence Publications, makes it quite clear that FMD is not the vicious gremlin we have been led to believe.

### THE FACTS

So what is FMD? The current wisdom, which we shall be examining a little later, theorizes that FMD is viral in nature. Symptoms of FMD in livestock begin usually with a temperature, followed within 24 hours by the appearance of blisters and ulcerations on places such as the tongue, lips, gums, dental pad, interdental skin of the feet, bulbs of the heels, and milk teats. Occasionally, ulcerations appear inside the nostrils or on the muzzle or vulva. Visually, these ulcerations are the equivalent of large cold sores. The resultant illness and lameness causes decreased appetite, a drop in milk yield, a drop in productivity, and of course, increased care costs.

Afflicted animals almost always recover, usually within a week or two. Death occurs in only 5 percent of cases. And the meat is fit to eat.

For much of the 19th century, FMD was common across the UK. In fact, it was endemic. But it did not destroy farming. We lived with it. Our cattle became ill, and then they recovered. Life continued on as normal.

So why today’s scenes of mass destruction? Quite simply, it is because we are continuing to adhere to some woefully errant farming policy instituted nearly 50 years ago. [*Well, SPECTRUM readers would hardly swallow that it’s “simply” for the above reason, though some bureaucratic mechanism may well be utilized as a cover for carrying out a more diabolical agenda.*]

Says Wood: “The instant destruction policy was implemented in the 1950s by the UK governing bodies, as a result of growing pressure over the years from pedigree herd owners—rather than the more common meat and milk producers—who wished to see the eradication of FMD. Continued promotion of the slaughter policy by UK authorities, as the most effective way of dealing with foot-and-mouth, eventually persuaded the continent, and then the rest of the world, to follow suit. We instituted the policy, and now we have to live with the results of that policy.”

In those early years, FMD was as much a part of British farming as bad weather, poor harvests, and other afflictions affecting livelihood. But in today’s intensive farming climate, production and global reputation is everything. Because of the UK’s continued and, as we shall see, unfounded insistence that FMD is highly infectious, and must be eradicated at all costs, one whiff on the global food markets that UK herds have FMD leads quite naturally to today’s totally disproportionate scenes. [*Such an hysterical response would not happen without the all important media-driven frenzy to “inform” the people of the “facts” they must be programmed to believe.*]

If we are in a pit, then it is a pit of our own

making. And if this latest “outbreak” is to be referred to as a nightmare, then it is a nightmare brought about by our own political and economic policies.

The early zeal for the perfect pedigree—a disease-free herd—is this same ideal not mirrored in today’s genome quest for a disease-free human race? It seems that the FMD “instant destruction” policy has its roots fair and square in the mistaken belief that all illness and disease, even those considered minor and/or harmless, can eventually be eradicated.

The cows, pigs, and sheep dying today are not doing so as a result of any illness.

They are dying entirely at the hands of man. The preliminary report on this latest FMD “outbreak” submitted by Dr. J.M. Scudamore, UK Chief Veterinary Officer, to the OIE (Office International des Epizooties) tells of 35 cases on three farms, no deaths occurring anywhere from the actual disease, but 577 animals on those farms nevertheless instantly destroyed. Should we line up our children because they are coughing?

### FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS

With the facts at hand regarding FMD, should we not begin to ask some fundamental questions? Why can’t our vital farming community, and the public at large be given the necessary facts, and then more importantly, the opportunity to question this instant destruction policy?

But therein lies the difficulty, folks. “It would be very difficult to change it now,” Wood told us. “That would be to question the perceived wisdom of the last 100 years.” It is entrenched scientific error, and intractable pride on behalf of the UK agricultural and governmental bodies, that is the killer in our midst.

A spokesperson from the diagnostic department of Animal Health Trust who wished not to be named, stated: “The hype is all out of proportion. If the authorities just left the animals alone to recover from FMD, this would make them healthy, and immune the next time around.”

Moving on from “foot-and-mouth as common cold”, what’s all this about FMD being viral in nature, being airborne, and sticking to car tires and Wellington boots? Apparently, the FMD virus is quite choosy, being breathed out by pigs, but not breathed in by cats or dogs. It can be hosted by horses, but to no ill-effect, and humans too can contract the virus, suffering mild skin irritations.

But is this pattern of disease grounded in reality? Does it conform to a sensible pattern of disease? Or are we once again just trusting the wisdom of the day? In attempting to discover how these agencies arrive at a positive diagnosis of FMD, and to try and get an explanation for the seemingly illogical nature of FMD proliferation, it soon became clear that these questions were not at all welcome, and some of those well-worn tiresome conventional “dodging” techniques very soon began to surface.... [End quoting]



No need to continue the story. You can see where it is going next—whenever some uppity investigator starts to ask intelligent questions about the officially stated reality.

Meanwhile, no sensible person can be expected to make sense out of why they would transport suspect sheep from Vermont, hundreds of miles cross-country, to slaughter and examine them, after telling us that in Britain it is so contagious that they don't want people even going to visit the countryside where the sheep are. Wouldn't they be spreading the disease all across the hundreds of miles from Vermont to the Midwest destination point?

Again, just what might "they" be looking for in these animals, disguised as a foot-and-mouth emergency? Perhaps if we knew the answer to that one, there'd be a REAL panic! If the opposite is true—and nothing is seriously wrong with these animals, but they're being slaughtered to create an "emergency"—then you and I both know who ought to be locked-up for a very long time.

#### COUNTDOWN TO THE SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS: PROTEST THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Excerpted from the INTERNET, <AABCC@yahoogroups.com>, 3/22/01: [quoting]

Americas: Protest the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas (FTAA)

Anti-summit activists will pay minister a visit.

Repercussions of the FTAA + a great way to get around the mainstream media ban on truth + Quebec Solidarity => Wear a scarf April 2 + #1 most censored story: corporatizing water worldwide + International Day for Forests and Against Free Trade + Anarchists Claim Responsibility for Seattle Earthquake—This compilation is also available from <http://www.cybernaute.com/earthconcert2000/CountdownSummit.htm>

Hello everyone,

Make no mistake: the proposed Free Trade Agreement of the Americas (FTAA) to be rubberstamped in Quebec City by 34 "heads" of states, is in fact a repeat of the failed attempt to impose on the entire world the infamous Multilateral Agreement on Investments (MAI) that was derailed in Seattle. Over 60,000 demonstrators are expected to come to Quebec City, where they will face a small army of 5,000 policemen in full riot gear and a formidable, almost impregnable barrier erected around the posh hotels and congress center to "protect" the leaders and their bureaucratic cohorts from being inconvenienced by those protesting the corporate globalization and wholesale destruction of the planet. Total cost of this police operation: \$70 million for the Canadian taxpayers.

There is much to be said about all this, and I intend to revisit this issue before, during, and after the summit, as this is a major challenge and

important round in the battle to prevent the world from further slipping into what could be called "extremist capitalism" and the domination of the world by corporate interests.

Thanks for passing this on to others,

Jean Hudon

Earth Rainbow Network Coordinator

P.S. To review the Special Media Compilation about the LFAS and the toxic contamination of the world which I also e-mailed tonight to my media list, please go to the [www.cybernaute.com/earthconcert2000/MediaCompilation1.htm](http://www.cybernaute.com/earthconcert2000/MediaCompilation1.htm) Internet website.

[End quoting]

On the one hand, the FTAA is likely to become a reality, at least in the short term. On the other hand, it is refreshing to see that so many people are waking up to the noose-tightening shenanigans of the New World Order gang of would-be kings. Events like these stimulate quite a bit of awakening of the public to the truth of our enslaved world and make it that much more difficult for the next NWO trick to be pulled. The situation most feared is the awakening of the public at large.

#### NEW YORK IS NEXT FOR BLACKOUTS, WARNS BUSH

Excerpted from the INTERNET, 3/19/01: [quoting]

By Simon Davis in Los Angeles and Ben Fenton in Washington <www.telegraph.co.uk>

President Bush meets with National Energy Policy Development Group

The White House U.S. Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham delivers a national report on America's energy crisis; warns of lengthy "crisis".

New York could be the next American city to experience electricity cuts, the White House said yesterday, as the power crisis spreads outwards from California.

Boston and other cities in New England may be affected, but local power managers said they believed they could keep the lights burning through the summer unless particularly hot weather forced customers to turn up their air conditioners.

As blackouts in California were announced last night for the second day in succession, President Bush gave warning of critical shortages of gas, petrol, and electricity this summer. On Monday, cars crashed when traffic lights failed, office workers were trapped in stalled lifts, and thousands of homes were plunged into darkness as California suffered a string of blackouts.

Unlike the power cuts eight weeks ago that affected a relatively small section of northern California, this week's blackouts hit communities in the more populous areas, from Silicon Valley to Beverly Hills and Santa Monica. San Diego and the state capital, Sacramento, were also affected.

The California energy crisis led Mr. Bush and Spencer Abraham, his Energy Secretary, to say

they believed blackouts would spread. Mr. Bush said: "One thing is for certain: there are no short-term fixes. The solution for our energy shortage requires long-term thinking and a plan that we'll implement that will take time to bring to fruition."

Mr. Abraham told leaders of small businesses that America was facing its worst energy crisis since the [similarly manufactured "crisis" of the] Seventies and predicted that, unless radical restructuring was brought in rapidly, the whole economy could falter as it did then.

He said: "The good news, I think, is that America's energy problems can be solved. The bad news is that the situation in California is not isolated, it is not temporary, and it will not fix itself. America faces a major energy supply crisis over the next two decades. The nation's last three recessions have all been tied to rising energy prices, and there is strong evidence that the latest crisis is already having a negative effect."

The new administration's energy strategy will focus on conservation but also on a controversial expansion of exploration for oil, gas, and coal, as well as developing existing energy sources. It is not likely to solve California's immediate problem....

[End quoting]

This announcement is 100% predictable: if the power kings got away with "highway robbery without a gun" in California (which they have), they certainly wouldn't stop there. Furthermore, look at how the public is being conditioned to allow (and then enthusiastically endorse) these controversial explorations for more oil, gas, and coal—as if there were no other solutions. And our President's family is in what black, slippery business bigtime?

Hmmm.

#### SEX FOR INFANTS

From THE SPOTLIGHT, 3/12/01: [quoting]

More than 200 children from infancy through 16 attended the 35th annual Michigan "Womyn's" Music Festival along with 6,500 women, mostly lesbians. The children saw and heard sexually oriented workshops, and lesbian and sadomasochistic sex acts in progress. A website dedicated to the festival allowed participants to describe the types of sexual encounters in which they engaged, with many bragging of children watching them. Michigan law makes exposing children to sexual activities a crime. So far, no arrests have been reported. [End quoting]

Can anyone tell me that we aren't playing the "Fall of Rome" scenario all over again? Or is that Sodom and Gomorrah?

Go back and re-read (if you have the stomach for it) our article in the October 2000 SPECTRUM titled "The Homosexual Agenda That Is Quietly Invading Our Schools" in order to fit the above into the larger picture. Every parent of a school-age child should know what is going on here. Of course, those advancing this kind of

agenda count on parents being too busy to pay attention to what the foxes are doing in the henhouse.

NORTH DAKOTA FARMERS ANGRY!  
CAN NO LONGER BUY  
NON-GENETIC-ENGINEERED SEEDS

From the INTERNET, <www.sightings.com>, 3/27/01: [quoting]

Excerpts:

Wiley was informed that his sample had tested positive for genetically modified varieties. The level of contamination was 1.37 percent, which was too much for the Japanese.

"I was stunned and sick to my stomach," Wiley said. **"I finally went into the house to tell my wife we had just lost \$6,000 because of a neighbor's planting decision."** Other producers who sell into markets that prohibit or severely restrict the use of genetically modified crops are having a hard time finding seed.

Donald Vig, an organic farmer from Valley City, said **he has talked to seed suppliers as far away as California and cannot find seed guaranteed to be free of foreign genes.** "The organic industry has a zero tolerance for genetically modified crops," Vig said.

Rodney Nelson, a farmer from Amenia, is also looking for soybean seed free of genetically modified varieties. Nelson is being sued by Monsanto, producer of Roundup Ready soybeans, for growing their variety of soybeans without buying seed from the company. "I want soybean seed that's guaranteed not to contain genetically engineered material," Nelson said. "When I asked my seed dealer for a guarantee, he laughed at me...".

INDIANA FARMERS GETTING  
THE BAD NEWS ON BIOTECH:  
"WHY DIDN'T YOU WARN ME  
ABOUT GMOs?"

(Excerpts: Tom Bechman, *Indiana Prairie Farmer*, a Farm Progress Publication)

Purdue Extension corn specialist Bob Nielsen didn't mince words when he addressed the issue of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and the controversy still swirling throughout agriculture due to the StarLink Bt debacle last fall. He warned farmers that while the long-term potential for great benefits from biotechnology still existed, the short-term fall-out could actually make life more difficult, and perhaps even less profitable, for farmers who didn't manage carefully in the short term.

When he finished his talk at the Wayne County Conservation Tillage Workshop in Richmond, IN, one farmer in the crowd was quick about not mincing words, either:

"Why didn't you tell us about all of these potential negatives a long time ago?" he questioned, sharply. "Where have you been for the last two or three years?"

"I came here this morning feeling pretty good" the farmer continued. "But now you've got me very concerned about where we're going to sell our GMO crops in the future. It's not right that you let us all get hooked growing these GMO crops, and now tell us that maybe we should be growing something else."

While Nielsen is never at a loss for words, he did acknowledge that the farmer had a point. But it wasn't just Nielsen who didn't see the controversy coming. He contended that it was all of agriculture, plus the media, and even regulatory officials.

"Six months ago, hardly anyone in Indiana even knew what StarLink was," Nielsen says. "It was barely a blip on the radar screen."

[End quoting]

Killing off so many animals and driving the farmers off their lands—perhaps there are going to be a lot of hungry people in a short while. Be sure to catch the insightful *ACRES USA* interview elsewhere in this issue of *The SPECTRUM* for a bittersweet view of the problems being faced by farmers today—and some of their clever solutions around the purposely engineered traps.

MONSANTO PULLS THE PLUG ON  
GENETICALLY ENGINEERED POTATOES

From the INTERNET, <www.sightings.com>, 3/22/01: [quoting]

By Peter Reschke, <www.ontariofarmer.com>

Monsanto has decided to get out of the genetically modified business for potatoes. Starting with the 2001 season, the company will no longer market its NatureMark potato, the one that features a Bt gene to help it ward off Colorado potato beetles.

Adele Pelland, the company's manager of public affairs, says Monsanto will buy back any pre-commercial lead seed that growers have already purchased. Common seed, which is currently held by a few growers, can still be planted this year since the varieties are still registered, she says.

The announcement came "as kind of a surprise" says OMAFRA potato specialist Eugenia Banks. She says seed growers received letters announcing the decision a couple of weeks ago.

Although the genetically modified varieties, Shepordy and Atlantic, gave growers new resistance against insects and disease, Banks says sales of the varieties "were not very good". She says the varieties were agronomically good but there was concern about consumer reaction, which was heightened when ONE major processor, McCain, decided it would no longer buy genetically modified spuds.

Pelland played down the anti-genetically modified controversy and would only say that Monsanto has been forced to concentrate its biotech resources in strategic areas. From now on the company will be focusing on corn, oilseeds, wheat, and cotton. "We've had to scale back our activities with other crops" she says.

Shepordy had two resistance genes, one to combat Colorado potato beetles, and the other against mosaic virus, Banks says. Atlantic only carried the Bt gene against the beetles. [End quoting]

Hopefully, the groundswell of protest will continue to cause more genetically engineered seeds, crops, and foods to be pulled from the market—before it's too late. Already the damage is propagating, as other fields get contaminated with genetically modified varieties.

VOTING FOR LAWYERS VIOLATES  
THE LAW & COSTS EACH OF US \$100  
A WEEK\*!

From *WINNING WITH TRUTH vs. POWER POLITICS*, Mike Calhoun <www.calhounreport.com>, 305-534-1362, for 3/01: [quoting]

(\* applies to all public offices outside the court-judiciary)

Lawyers have become the biggest special-interest soft-money threat! Elections, elderly reform attempts are prime examples. From pothole repairs to \$31 billion tobacco law fee, piecemeal reform endeavors are not working.

A lawyer-controlled legislature is dragging feet on changing a 1978 law to guarantee that the ballot you cast is the same one that's counted. Florida Statute 101.5614 permits precinct ballot box opening prior to official vote tabulation. The entire election process is jeopardized. Lawyer/judge-run Canvas Board sworn testimony has revealed the worst mischief of all as a result: ballot-switching.

The public isn't aware that at precincts ballots are dumped, counted, placed into smaller boxes, resealed, and transported (privately) to isolated downtown location where supposedly ballots are handled for first time! Common sense would dictate ballots should be escorted under lock and seal (no key at precincts) and with poll-watcher escorts to official counting location.

• Art. II, Sec. 3, *Fla. Constitution* (derived from Non-Lawyer James Madison's *Same-Hands Separation Of Powers* law passages in the *US Constitution*): "No person belonging to one branch shall exercise any powers pertaining to either of the other branches unless expressly provided herein."

Lawyers "belong" to the judiciary (court) branch of gov't. By secret unsigned ballot the Florida Bar was merged with the Florida Supreme Court (40 So.2d p.902; 1949). Therefore lawyers should follow the law like everybody else: they should resign from the Bar or from public office (outside of Court/Judiciary)!

Insist on Truth over Power Politics & Candidates.

Mike Calhoun, Former Dade County Commissioner [End quoting]

This prohibition is part of the *U.S. Constitution* even though the writer is stressing Florida. Also remember that infamous (and presently missing) original *13th Amendment* which said no lawyers should hold governmental

offices. Who do you think caused that insightful legislation to disappear? No wonder they run so many *Perry Mason* reruns on television—to try to keep us thinking most lawyers are like him, instead of the reality of the matter!

### BLACK DEATH FOR TERMITES

From *POPULAR SCIENCE* magazine, March 2001: [quoting]

Think of it as the plague for termites. Introduced to the U.S. market late last year (it's been available in France since 1996) by Adventis Environmental Science of Montvale, New Jersey, Termidor kills termites in a whole new way.

The insecticide is applied around the perimeter in the home. When a termite passes through it, the chemical is absorbed into its fatty tissue. This creates havoc in the insect's nervous system, eventually killing it.

What's plague-like about Termidor is the way it spreads. "Termites are very social insects," says Karl Kisner of Adventis. As they feed and groom one another, the chemical spreads through the colony like a deadly virus. "They pick up a lethal dose just by rubbing up against one another," says Kisner.

Conventional termite baits kill only the insects with which they come in contact—and they take 6 to 18 months to do their work. But Termidor works in half the time, or less. "Regardless of colony size," he says, "we've always had control within 3 months". — C.W. [End quoting]

What do you think are the probable hazards to children, pets, and wild animals? Or the effect on other, innocent outdoor insects, especially beneficial insects such as those which help out with garden pests? We seem to be living in an age when each so-called solution ends up creating more problems due to the "wonders" of chemistry. Let's hope this one is a genuinely user-friendly solution to a pesky problem.

### PERVERTED PRIORITY

From *THE SPOTLIGHT*, 3/12/01: [quoting]

While the rest of the nation is laying off workers, Congress has provided the Internal Revenue Service with authority to hire 2,036 full-time employees this year, the *Washington Times* reports. The total number of employees currently working for the IRS in offices in the United States is in excess of 98,000 IRS employees. [End quoting]

What's wrong with this picture? More and more people are finding themselves the victims of a slowing economy—sometimes 5-10,000 layoffs at a time being announced almost every day from even the big-name companies—and yet we need a larger "tax police" force?!? The congressional prostitutes get away with this kind of stuff because not enough of the public bother to pay attention and let their congressional representatives know they're being watched—and about to be voted out for bad decisions!

## KIND WORDS FROM OUR READERS

"Hello friends, blessings to you. The SPECTRUM is a great source of Truth, Wisdom, and pure Knowledge. Please give me a 1-year subscription. I also love the spiritual articles." — M.F. from MD

"Please accept my contribution to The SPECTRUM as my deepest thanks for being a recipient of your treasured newspaper! God bless you all." — K.F. from TX

"WOW!!! You people are beyond words of praise—flying high on the light and sound current of the creative GOD of LOVE. Please send me FIVE copies of Vol. 2, #9." — M.H. from WA

"Everyone—the articles and information, News Desk, the way it is put together, are astounding. I know it is a lot of work; my dad used to be in the publishing/printing field. I do not know how you do it. Mr. Martin, you sure must have a lot of contacts other than etheric, on this planet. The last article (they are all great) with Al Bielek was nothing short of stupendous information. I can't tell you how much I appreciate this kind of work. And then in the same issue—Robert Ghost Wolf's prophecies. Just EXCELLENT, everyone.

"I can't express in words, heartfelt it is, my love and admiration of your courage and persistence to keep on keeping on, and somehow bring such wonderful information month after month, and to bring the Truth. Let's be full of hope and joy every day, without fear of the future, and live in the present, knowing that somehow this all translates into money from everyone out there also. NOBODY ON THIS PLANET DESERVES IT MORE THAN ALL OF YOU AT THIS PRESENT TIME. WITHOUT TRUTH RIGHT NOW, WE ARE SUNK. PERIOD." — Dr. C.M. from CA

"Enclosed is a donation to help support The SPECTRUM publishing costs. You are all doing a wonderful job, and my prayers are with you. Keep up the good work!" — B.H. from NV

"Please know that your dedication to publishing The Truth for the purpose of helping people to wake up at this pivotal point in the history of our planet is deeply appreciated." — A.H. from CA

"Dear SPECTRUM, I was astonished at the completeness and accuracy of the 'Buffalo' article on page 47 (Feb. 2001 issue). What an incredible gift! Thank you for publishing it!" — M.A. from WA

To order *The SPECTRUM* newspaper, please call **1-877-280-2866**, or if you are outside the U.S. please call **1-661-823-9696**.

And what was that promise from President Bush to simplify the tax system? Don't you wonder how most of our congressional representatives can sleep at night? (Oh, you say they're devoid of a conscience? Maybe it's a prerequisite for the job!)

### LIGHT-EMITTING DIODES SPEED UP WOUND HEALING

From *POPULAR SCIENCE* magazine, March 2001: [quoting]

Light-emitting diodes developed by NASA to grow plants in outer space, it turns out, can generate a lot more than a little green. Scientists have also discovered that the diodes speed-up wound healing.

In a small study, a portable flat array of LEDs placed on the outside of a patient's cheek for about 1 minute a day helped heal mouth ulcers caused by cancer therapies. Now, as part of a nationwide clinical trial, scientists are investigating the therapy to treat such hard-to-heal wounds as diabetic skin ulcers, burns, and oral sores.

While laser light and pressurized oxygen are known to speed healing, their use in a clinical setting is problematic, explains lead researcher

Harry Whelan. "They don't emit the appropriate wavelengths, and the machines are the size of refrigerators." LEDs emit infrared light at up to 880 nanometers—wavelengths that are long enough to penetrate deep into bodily tissues. And because they can deliver light without heat, they are safer than most lasers.

Normally, cells get their energy from the food we eat, but cells can also use light to generate energy. In the laboratory, skin and muscle cells exposed to the infrared light grow 150 to 200 percent faster. Whelan is also investigating whether LEDs can heal muscle and bone injuries that have not healed through traditional physical therapy. — G.S.

[End quoting]

The idea behind this sounds very good. The right frequencies beamed to a body can greatly assist in healing efforts, provided the mind doesn't over-ride the energy being offered. We have much to learn about the healing possibilities from both light and sound. Meanwhile, some of that powerful knowledge is being purposely kept from us by interests who know they won't be able to drain our wallets as effectively with such simple techniques as is possible with current medical procedures.



## GREENSPAN STUCK TAXPAYERS WITH BANK LOSSES

From *THE SPOTLIGHT*, 3/5/01: [quoting]

Chairman Alan Greenspan devised a seedy scheme to bail out—at taxpayers' expense—banksters who played fast and loose with bank funds. By George Nicholas

It is not always easy to retrace the step-by-step descent of an august, powerful public official into corrupt compromises and ultimately into criminality. But in the career of Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, the events of November 14, 1990 marked a turning point, a *SPOTLIGHT* investigation has found

To understand what happened that day, it is necessary to know that each year the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) submits every bank whose deposits it insures to a thorough, top-to-bottom audit. As a result of these audits, the FDIC classifies banks into five categories.

Categories one, two and three are assigned, in that order, to well-functioning or moderately troubled money centers. Category four is for deeply troubled financial institutions that need federal assistance to survive. Category five is a rare classification: it is reserved for spent, wrecked banks that require immediate federal shutdown.

In the early afternoon of November 14, 1990, a staff courier delivered a file marked "TOP SECRET—EYES ONLY" into Greenspan's hands at his Fed office.

**It contained the stunning news that after auditing Citibank, then the largest U.S. commercial bank, the FDIC had placed it into Category Five and urged its immediate shutdown.**

Greenspan knew that the entire U.S. banking system was in turmoil and close to real trouble, but the report about Citibank's insolvency hit him like a bombshell. The underlying causes of the disaster were not a secret.

Under the chairmanship of Walter Wriston, a headstrong, high-flying financier, Citibank had plunged into "buccaneer banking", transferring many of its operations to the Bahamas, where U.S. regulations and the requirements of fractional reserve banking did not apply.

Through its Nassau branch, Citibank made feckless loans across the continent, many of

which inevitably turned sour. It gambled heavily in the Euromarket, sometimes profitably, sometimes disastrously. To be sure, Citibank grew fast, but much of its increased turnover represented losses rather than real gains.

The law now required that upon receipt of the FDIC's audit, Greenspan initiate the federal takeover of this recklessly extended, insolvent commercial bank, no matter how large.

But by 1990, Walter Wriston had retired. Citibank's new boss was John Reed, a close personal friend of Greenspan and of the powerful president of the New York Fed, Gerald Corrigan. The two Federal Reserve chieftains decided to bail out Citibank—and make American taxpayers pony up the uncounted billions of dollars the rescue would cost.

**"In the sense that it contravened the statutes and regulations on how to deal with a bank driven into insolvency by its own management, Greenspan's and Corrigan's decision to stage a bailout was illegal," says Dr. Aldo Milinkovich, a former treasury bank examiner.**

**In the sense that it secretly diverted billions in public funds into refinancing a private bank without the consent or even knowledge of the American taxpayers who were made to pay for the bailout, it was a scam, Dr. Milinkovich added. And in the sense that the operation was set up to generate billions in profits for insider investors, the scheme was corrupt, he concluded.**

The two Fed bosses went about the operation as deceptively as possible.

Pretending that he was needed for "consultations", Corrigan flew to Saudi Arabia, where he went into a closed-door huddle with Prince Al-Waleed bin Talal, one of the few international investors with deep enough pockets to refloat Citibank.

Corrigan managed to persuade the Arab mogul to sink two billion dollars into a refinancing of the foundering U.S. bank. He did so by promising the prince that with the Fed's secret support he would find this outlay the "most profitable investment" of his life.

As soon as Citibank had the Arab cash, Greenspan turned to a curious maneuver. He began to drastically lower the borrowing costs of banks by chopping the two principal loan rates—known as the "Fed funds" and the discount rates—directly controlled by the Federal Reserve.

In 1991, the Fed funds rate stood at 9 percent; in six months, Greenspan trimmed it to 2.7 percent. When startled congressional committees inquired about the reasons for such drastic manipulation of the financial markets, Greenspan stoutly testified that the realignment was necessary to "preempt inflation".

But there was no inflation anywhere in sight, said veteran Wall Street loan broker Wally Merkel. "Greenspan lied" he noted. "The real purpose of his rate slashing was to

enable embattled banks like Citi to borrow from the Fed very cheaply—and then to relend the same money to the U.S. Government by buying Treasury Bonds that paid between 5.5 percent and 6 percent interest."

This covert bank bailout became known among financial insiders as the "carry trade", because all a big bank had to do was to pick up its money at the Fed, then carry it over to the Treasury and relend it, in effect, to U.S. taxpayers at a secure, fat profit margin.

The "carry trade" eventually broadened into a covert Fed bailout of troubled banks.

Prince Al-Waleed bin Tulal's original investment in Citibank generated an \$8 billion profit in rising bankshare prices. Greenspan acquired the reputation of a financial wizard. Everyone won something—**except for the bilked American taxpayers, who were conned into financing the entire scheme, without ever being told the truth about it.** [End quoting]

This is a good example of how the laws are only there to control the little guy; meanwhile the big boys play without regard for such rules and regulations. How many other "rescue missions" like this do you think the American taxpayer has conducted—of course without knowledge? As Mark Twain noted so long ago, if we were to lock-up the REAL criminals, we'd run out of building materials.

## LAMB WITH "HUMAN FACE" PERISHES AFTER BIRTH

From the INTERNET, <para-discuss@tje.net>, 3/26/01: [quoting]

A lamb reported to have a face resembling a human wearing dark sunglasses has died hours after its birth in India.

The animal did not have hair on its body and had a nose, eyes, mouth, tongue and teeth like a human.

At a glance the lamb, born near Parappanangady, resembled a bald man wearing dark sunglasses.

It died immediately after birth, but its normal twin sister is said to be doing fine, reports Indian media. [End quoting]

This report is along the same lines as many circulating over the past several years of very unusual animal births. Some speculate a tie-in with the widespread, ongoing animal mutilation phenomenon.

Meanwhile, in the "public sector" cloning department (in contrast to what's been going on for decades in the super-secret underground laboratories), there seems to be a media drive going on right now to dissuade the next step of human cloning experimentation. All of a sudden we are being told that human cloning is "just too complex" and, to prove the point, animal cloning is, all of a sudden, being reported to cause a lot of defects and early deaths—that haven't been reported to this point. It's difficult to figure exactly what's going on, but maybe the "super-

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secret club” is getting worried about the “public sector” catching up with them.

#### VOTERS IN SWITZERLAND SAY “NO” TO EUROPEAN UNION

From *THE SPOTLIGHT*, by William Carmichael, 3/19/01: [quoting]

Another pothole has developed on the road to the Global Plantation, pitting the Swiss people against their leadership in a vote to join the EU.

The push toward the Global Plantation, in which national sovereignty disappears, took another serious hit during the first week of March when the Swiss appeared to have overwhelmingly rejected proposals to start immediate negotiations to join the EU.

Exit polls in a March 4 referendum showed 78 percent of the electorate were against the initiative launched by the New European Movement Switzerland.

Early results showed that 22 of the country’s 26 cantons had voted “No”.

The Swiss government, parliament, and industry had opposed early talks as premature and argued that the Swiss needed more time to get used to bilateral accords with the EU, mainly on trade issues.

“The proposal puts us under unnecessary time pressure,” said Swiss Foreign Minister Joseph Deiss.

*The Telegraph* of London opined: “If anti-EU sentiment is as widespread as the vote suggests, the government would stand little chance of getting voters’ approval for plans to start talks in 2004 to join in 2010 at the earliest.”

It was the second time that a referendum vote has failed to bring Switzerland closer to EU membership.

In 1992, Switzerland made a formal request to join the EU, but plans were pushed to the back burner after voters rejected joining the European Economic Area, seen as a halfway house to full membership.

*The Telegraph* reported that anti-EU sentiment is particularly strong in the German-speaking northeast, where Christoph Blocher’s nationalist Swiss People’s Party draws the most support.

The Swiss are angry that the EU is putting pressure on them to share information on so-called tax dodgers from EU countries who deposit undeclared earnings in Swiss bank accounts. They say it would mean the end of banking secrecy—one of the pillars of the Swiss financial sector.

The Swiss and the American IRS have already established what is called a “working relationship”, but it is not all-inclusive and European countries have not extended the same courtesies.

The Swiss also considered that the EU was “interfering” in their neighbor’s sovereign affairs in its treatment of Austria when nationalist Joerg Haider’s party won a share of the government in the 1999 elections.

Television exit polls showed that while 80-90 percent of German-speaking Swiss rejected the EU, more than 55 percent of French speakers—who are generally more pro-European—also voted “No”. [End quoting]

If this was a test of people’s receptivity toward the New World Order, then the engineers better get back to the drawing board. Or put another way, the Swiss people should expect some “things” to “happen” which “help” them to not just see the value of joining the EU, but induce them to DEMAND to join it!

The same machinery has worked for a very long time. That is, behind every important decision that the public thinks they are making is some well orchestrated events of mind control to induce them to make the decision desired by the controllers.

And while we’re on the subject of such persuasion mechanisms, how about this, which is the more “blunt instrument” approach:

#### EURO-COURT OUTLAWS CRITICISM OF EU

From *The Spectator* for December 2000, by Ambrose Evans-Pritchard in Brussels: [quoting]

Now It’s Blasphemy To Mock EU

The European Court of Justice ruled yesterday that the European Union (EU) can lawfully suppress political criticism of its institutions and of leading figures, sweeping aside English Common Law and 50 years of European precedents on civil liberties.

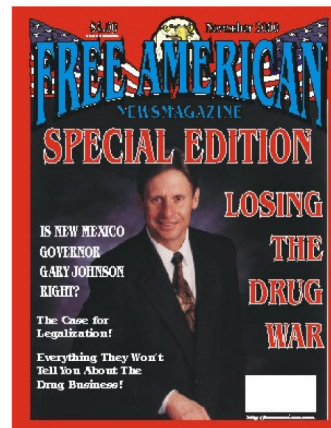
The EU’s top court found that the European Commission was entitled to sack Bernard Connolly, a British economist dismissed in 1995 for writing a critique of European monetary integration entitled *The Rotten Heart Of Europe*.

**The ruling stated that the commission could restrict dissent in order to “protect the rights of others” and punish individuals who “damaged the institution’s image and reputation”.** The case has wider implications for free speech that could extend to EU citizens who do not work for the Brussels bureaucracy.

The court called the Connolly book



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“aggressive, derogatory, and insulting”—taking particular umbrage at the author’s suggestion that the Economic and Monetary Union was a threat to democracy, freedom, and “ultimately peace”.

However, it dropped an argument put forward three months ago by the advocate-general, Damaso Ruiz-Jarabo Colomer, which implied that Mr. Connolly’s criticism of the EU was akin to extreme blasphemy, and therefore not protected speech.

Mr. Connolly, who has been told to pay the European Commission’s legal costs, said the proceedings did not amount to a fair hearing. He said: “We’re back to the Star Chamber and Acts of Attainder: the rights of defendants are not respected or guaranteed in any way; the offence of seditious libel has been resurrected.”

Mr. Colomer wrote in his opinion last November that a landmark British case on free speech had “no foundation or relevance” in European law, suggesting that the European Court was unwilling to give much consideration to British legal tradition.

Mr. Connolly now intends to take his case to Europe’s other court, the non-EU European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

[End quoting]

The so-called “elite” controllers of this planet are fighting like rats who are losing ground. This



is indeed an interesting (if challenging) time to be alive on schoolroom planet Earth!

SUNSPOT COUNT  
HAS JUMPED TO 339

From the INTERNET, <para-discuss@tje.net>, 3/27/01: [quoting]

By Mitch Battros, producer of *Earth Changes* TV, <www.earthchangesTV.com>.

Those of you who have been following *Earth Changes* TV over the years have known of the sunspot/extreme weather connection. NASA now openly confirms such a Sun-Earth equation.

Today's sunspot count has risen to 339. Most would agree we have passed the known 11-year cycle "apex" named "Cycle 23". This would suggest we are not in your typical 11-year cycle. I would further say we are not in a known 22 or 1200 year cycle. I believe we are witnessing what I call a "Mega Cycle". This cycle could be every several thousands of years (exact number unknown).

If this is so, it would match what our ancestors have said thousands of years ago when they were describing the current times. Science is just catching up to ancient texts. "We must know the past, to understand the present, which will tell us of our future."

Equation: Sunspots => Solar Flares => Magnetic Shifts => Shifting Ocean and Jet Stream Currents => Extreme Weather.

Watch for "record breaking" weather within the next 48 hours. Expect X-Class, M-Class, and C-Class solar flares to occur. Also watch for extraordinary geomagnetic storms and probable auroras. [End quoting]

Of course this most important solar activity is largely kept out of the evening news programs—unless it is so widespread that mention must be made. The recent "red sky" aurora on Friday evening 3/30/01 was a good example of an occurrence that couldn't be ignored, though it was so downplayed (and misinterpreted) by the media as to seem to be a non-event for anyone who didn't see it firsthand due to overcast weather conditions in their area that evening. One might assume a strong correlation between all that red in the sky (which should have been dominantly blue-green if a natural aurora) and whatever is being sprayed as part of the super-secret chemtrails project.

For those of you who have been following Geophysical Commander Soltec's messages in these pages for a very long time, it is well known that our planetary system is traveling through a high-frequency region of space (called by some the Photon Belt) that is stimulating many levels of "cleansing" phenomena—from what is happening in people, up to such large-scale things as our Sun's solar flare "sneezes". Mitch is correct to postulate a long-time cyclic nature to this "extra-energetic" activity since the Photon Belt is encountered, like a car wash stall, twice in every 24,000-year cycle of our planetary system in

orbiting around the larger galactic system's central Sun. Since we are just entering this high-frequency, high-energy "car wash" at this time, we can expect a lot more to be happening that hasn't occurred in a very long time of what we think of as recorded history.

ABUSE OF POWER BY SOME  
EMERGENCY MEDICS

From the INTERNET, <illusions@beyond-the-illusion.com>, 3/13/01: [quoting]

ALERT:

I am sending this to remind you that we have to question everything. Dishonesty in uniform is showing up everywhere. Prison guards, cops, medics: Together they are not "isolated incidences". Dishonesty and corruption in any uniform of authority is inexcusable. Don't get afraid; just get determined! Learn the truth, ask for investigation, and demand professionalism for your dollars. Visualize the Power of the People! — Kay Lee

Hi, my name is John ([swinston@vdh.state.va.us](mailto:swinston@vdh.state.va.us)) and I have been a medic for the last 14 years. Presently I work in North Carolina. Do you know any of us? We respond to your calls for help when you are at your most vulnerable.

Did you ever take the time to come and meet us at the local fire station? One day you or a loved one will depend on us to save your life at a time of crisis. Do you know what you are getting? Like every profession in this country we have good and bad people. Do you know the difference? It could cost you your life.

In my 14 years I have seen things that would shock the toughest person, and at that point it is when I must perform at my best.

Some people in my profession really don't care about you or your welfare. I have seen them steal money off dead bodies of our loved ones. I have seen them not act when they should have, and the patient has died. I have seen them do the wrong thing, causing further complications to your injuries. I have seen them do things that have paralyzed someone for life.

Most of these crimes are hidden and most families do nothing to expose them. **If for one second you think every paramedic in this country is honest and trustworthy, you will definitely become prey to them. Please help me expose these people. There are many of them collecting a paycheck from your tax dollars.**

In Hampton, Virginia, Medics/Firefighters are deliberately withholding and delaying care to minority patients who call 911, causing serious injury and death. I am calling for an independent investigation into these activities.

In Hampton, the evidence is overwhelming that this goes on. In one such case, two African American males were denied treatment and care withheld for a documented 56 minutes while they bled to death.

The state EMS board is finally investigating

this case. Please e-mail the investigator and let him know you support an investigation, and the truth will come out.

The investigator is Dave Cullen and he can be contacted at his [dcullen@vdh.state.va.us](mailto:dcullen@vdh.state.va.us) e-mail address. [End quoting]

It's bad enough when criminals dress-up and impersonate uniformed people of trust, like police officers. However, a very important point is made here concerning the corruption existing FROM WITHIN these various groups. Police departments have been notorious for tolerating such internal corruption, rather than weeding it out—especially when large sums of money are involved. As society continues to break down, it only stands to reason we have to be vigilant about other groups who are placed in positions of public trust, such as the medic above cautions us about.

GLASSES FOR THE POOR

From the INTERNET, 3/5/01: [quoting]  
Visionary Scientist Creates \$5 Spectacles

By Robert Davis, *USA TODAY*, 11/8/00

The glasses that physicist Joshua Silver made look more like they came from Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry than his lab at Oxford University.

But the simple magic the funky spectacles perform is no fantasy. And the view they could give to some of the 1 billion people around the world who can't see clearly may give the Harry Potter look a whole new meaning.

"There is a need for an astonishingly large number of spectacles in the developing world," Silver says. "Most of those people will never get them."

One reason millions can't get help is that there are not enough eye doctors in the world to fit the masses with glasses. Another, of course, is cost.

Silver, 54, has tried to fix both. He has invented a pair of cheap glasses that can be adjusted to fit each individual's needs.

His story goes like this:

Years ago, the atomic physicist was urged by his wife to turn his inquisitive and inventive mind toward something that would help people. He focused on the need for glasses in developing countries.

Silver, who typically studies highly charged atomic ions, picked up a scientific trail that dates to 1879. Back then, a French ophthalmologist made a fluid-filled lens that changed shape. Injecting water between two glass lenses changed the shape of the combined lens as the water pressure changed.

But the hydraulic device was more than an eyesore; it was mounted on a bench in the lab.

Silver found a way to use modern materials in a product that could be worn—if not adorned.

Silver and his team at Adaptive Eyecare ([www.adaptive-eyecare.com](http://www.adaptive-eyecare.com)) use elastic lenses made of Mylar, a plastic. He uses a highly refractive silicone oil between the lenses instead of water.



The result is a pair of glasses that can cost as little as \$5 and that the user can adjust to his or her own eyes.

By dialing big knobs on the side of the frames, the user can bring each lens into focus for each eye. The range of the glasses is minus-6 to plus-6 diopters.

The glasses don't help people with severe astigmatism, a common condition that results from a misshapen eye, but they can help both nearsighted and farsighted people see better.

Once the person can see better, the knobs and the silicone pumps are removed. They can be used later to adjust the glasses if the person's vision changes or if another person wants to use the glasses.

Silver says that about 300 people in Ghana, South Africa, Nepal, and other developing countries have benefited from the glasses. He hopes to distribute them more widely beginning next year.

A prototype that looks more appealing is being made, though Silver says U.S. eye doctors won't likely be put out of business by his glasses.

But he does think that the technology could lead to the day when patients can correct their own vision problems.

"We think you can correct your own vision" he says, but he is quick to add that everyone should have his or her eyes examined for any potential health problems. "We don't think you should do away with eye professionals."

For now, the glasses are helping people in developing nations see. [End quoting]

This kind of news creates as much of a dilemma as it appears to solve a very worthwhile problem. Just like President Bush saying we need to drill for more oil to offset the current energy "crisis", we are subliminally told here that we need to supply more glasses to people who can't see well.

What about the fact that some very good techniques (such as the old Bates eye-relaxation method) have been around for a century to improve eyesight naturally, with an array of eye exercises? Who do you suppose is responsible for keeping this extremely effective information from wide public awareness?

Greed plays such a central role in the activities of so-called "modern" life and, as Hopi Chief and Spiritual Elder, Dan Evehema, cautions in his message elsewhere in this issue of *The SPECTRUM*, we better start to recognize and act upon what is TRULY of value for our fellow planetary dwellers. Too much of a detrimental nature has been advanced either in ignorance of the facts or in purposeful concert with the dark ones presently struggling to maintain their control of this planet.

#### BIZARRE MALFUNCTION OF CAR KEYLESS REMOTES

Excerpted from the INTERNET, <<http://sightings.com>>, 3/25/01: [quoting]

Something has caused almost all the devices to stop working in Bremerton, WA. Joel Maimon of Port Ludlow first noticed the problem when he arrived in Bremerton for work Thursday morning. No matter how many times he clicked the remote keyless entry device for his car, it wouldn't work.

He wasn't alone.

Art DeCamp, service manager for Haselwood Expo Buick-Pontiac dealership in Bremerton, first realized something was amiss Wednesday afternoon when a flood of customers began calling with the same problem.

By Thursday, virtually every new car dealership in the Bremerton-Port Orchard area was inundated with hundreds of similar calls from upset customers. The outage also affected unsold new cars sitting on their lots.

The cause of the bizarre problem was—and still is—a mystery. No one so far has been able to explain why the remote keyless entry systems on nearly every vehicle in the Bremerton-Port Orchard area suddenly stopped functioning at about the same time Wednesday afternoon and hasn't worked since. "It's strange" DeCamp said. "A lot of people are really upset."

Speculation about the cause has ranged from solar flares, to the Mir space station, or possible interference from USS Carl Vinson or some other local Navy ship.

But Navy officials say there's no evidence that a naval vessel is causing the problem, and experts say such a localized problem couldn't be caused by solar activity.

A spokesman for the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D.C., which regulates radio-controlled devices, said the agency will look into the problem if it persists.

The malfunction, which seems to afflict all makes and models of new vehicles, disappears as soon as a car is driven outside the area. Although a few vehicles with remote entry seem to be immune to the problem, the vast majority are affected by the outage.

Larry Sharrett, general manager of the Parr Auto Group, said all new cars at the group's Bremerton dealerships are affected, whether foreign or domestic.

"It's across the board" he said. "I simply have no idea what's causing it." DeCamp said remote keyless entry devices use a radio signal in the 300 to 500 Megahertz range. When the "lock" or "unlock" button is pushed on a handheld device, it transmits a signal to a receiver in the car that locks or unlocks the doors.

But in the Bremerton area "something is keeping it from working by not allowing the signal to do what it needs to do" DeCamp said.

[End quoting]

The last I heard on this, from Art Bell's late-night talk-radio program, was that about the time the FCC had *almost* located the source of the problem, it stopped. Hmm.

How about some secret government testings going on? Especially since similar suspicious situations have also happened in other locations, but aren't being publicized. The so-called "elite" controllers are likely testing another of their "toys" with which they can paralyze our vulnerable, electronic-gadget-dependent society through the push of a button—otherwise known as non-lethal weapons.

#### UN TO CENSOR INTERNET?

From *THE SPOTLIGHT*, 2/26/01: [quoting]

The United Nations is planning a conference on racism to be held in South Africa this summer. High on the agenda will be what is perceived as a "problem" by the UN: what is referred to as the proliferation of so-called "bait sites" on the Internet. [End quoting]

All of the New World Order's control

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mechanisms and institutions are just itching to get their hands on the Internet. Any excuse that can be manufactured is fair game to attempt to suppress the free and fast exchange of information the Internet affords the common person. So far, all such excuses to control the Internet have failed, largely because so many Internet users are of a savvy nature and see the excuses for exactly what they really are.

However, we must constantly remain aware of the vulnerability of the Internet to all kinds of attacks, both of a hardware (electrical) and software nature. Should we become too dependent upon it, in an "emergency" it is even easier to paralyze than the keyless entry devices described earlier in this News Desk. Moreover, the disinformation experts have a great time working through the medium of the Internet, especially in subject areas of great importance to awakening the people to Truth.

### TERRORIST ELIMINATION ACT

From *THE SPOTLIGHT*, 2/26/01: [quoting]

Perhaps harkening back to his earlier days as a former staff member at the CIA, Rep. Bob Barr (R-GA) has introduced a so-called Terrorist Elimination Act that would restore to the **president the right to order a "hit" on a foreign leader if the president decided that individual was somehow a threat** to U.S. personnel or "national security" (whatever that may be or however it is defined). [End quoting]

At least the crooks in high places are getting to be more honest about the newer version of the motto of the once great United States: "If you don't agree, you die!" Whatever happened to: "In God We Trust"?

### THREE-IN-ONE CD

From *POPULAR SCIENCE* magazine, February 2001: [quoting]

No sooner had Philips and Sony announced their double-density rewritable CD with 1.3 gigabytes of storage (Electronics Newsfront, Nov. '00) than they were trumped by a triple-density CD technology called MultiLevel Recording (ML). The new 2GB ML discs hail from TDK Electronics of Garden City, New York, and Calmetrics of Alameda, California, which claim the technology requires no alteration to existing CD recorders.

All that's needed to turn a regular CD recorder into an ML version is the addition of one or two inexpensive chips. Although ML-equipped drives retain read and write backward-compatibility with conventional CDs, discs recorded in the ML format aren't playable on today's CD drives. That's because the marks on the discs vary in length but have the same reflectivity. ML recorders create roughly uniform marks but with varying levels of reflectivity. So in the same space where either a zero or one is stored on a regular CD, the ML process stores

values from zero to eight or more, increasing storage capacity within the same surface area of a 4.72-inch disc.

Because the technology is chip-based, ML drives will cost little more than conventional CD-RW hardware. And ML-recordable discs will maintain the same cost-per-megabyte ratio of today's recordable and rewritable blank CDs. At ML's launch later this year, TDK and Verbatim will offer ML discs, and Plextor will provide the first drives. Although ML Recording is being launched as a PC recording medium, it's likely to find its way quickly into digital audio, video, and photography products.

As for double-density rewritable CDs, Philips has announced it won't offer consumer audio products. Instead, it will license the technology to others for data storage.

—Stephen A. Booth [End quoting]

The rate at which our consumer technology is changing is already paralyzing some from purchasing anything—for fear of their purchase becoming obsolete before they even get home from the store!

### A FEW MORE WEBSITES FOR YOU

<[www.universebooks.com/earthchanges.html](http://www.universebooks.com/earthchanges.html)>.

<[www.all-ez.com/cayce.index.html](http://www.all-ez.com/cayce.index.html)>.

<[www.all-ez.com/ancient.htm](http://www.all-ez.com/ancient.htm)>.

<[www.lavasoft.de/aaw/index.html](http://www.lavasoft.de/aaw/index.html)> Get rid of Spyware now.

<[www.rense.com/general7/alchemkubrick.htm](http://www.rense.com/general7/alchemkubrick.htm)>

Very interesting article about *2001 Space Odyssey* film.

<[www.livingcosmos.com](http://www.livingcosmos.com)> Very interesting site about the Cosmos.

<[www.futuredynamicadvantage.com/newparadigm/paradigmvoll.html](http://www.futuredynamicadvantage.com/newparadigm/paradigmvoll.html)> Some interesting free books to download.

<[www.beta.profusion.com](http://www.beta.profusion.com)> A search engine that I found.

### SOMETHING TO

### TICKLE YOUR FUNNY BONE

From the INTERNET, John F. Winston, <[johnfwin@mlode.com](mailto:johnfwin@mlode.com)>, 3/27/01: [quoting]

Subject:

Something To Tickle Your Funny Bone.

Here is what a person sent me that may make you feel your funny bone has been hit:

From: g

Subject: More Religious Humor

I know you have all seen church bulletin bloopers before, but there are some new ones in this group! Enjoy, and have a good belly laugh! Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences actually appeared in a church bulletin or were announced in a church service:

- Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa, will be speaking tonight at Calvary Memorial Church in Racine. Come tonight and hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.

- Announcement in the church bulletin for a

national prayer & fasting conference: "The cost for attending the fasting and prayer conference includes meals."

- Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands.

- The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.

- The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water". The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus".

- Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Jack's sermons.

- During the absence of our pastor, we enjoyed the rare privilege of hearing a good sermon when J.F. Stubbs supplied our pulpit.

- The rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing "Break Forth Into Joy."

- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community.

- The senior choir invites any member of the congregation who enjoys sinning to join the choir.

- Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles, and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

- Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 P.M.—prayer and medication to follow.

- The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

- This evening at 7 P.M. there will be a hymn sing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

- Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

- The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's *Hamlet* in the church basement Friday at 7 PM. The Congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

- Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

[End quoting]

Do you think we provide adequate entertainment for any extraterrestrials observing us from their craft?

### AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'

From *GUIDEPOSTS*, March 2000, P.O. Box 1479, Carmel, NY 10512: [quoting]

School counselor Piet Lammert was looking for new ways to inspire the students at East Belfast School in Maine when he heard about a program in which kids agree to perform good deeds and log them in a journal.

Piet had a perfect test case in mind: a class of 20 fifth graders who had a reputation for out-of-control behavior. "They weren't bad kids, just unfocused," Piet says. "We wanted to give them some direction before they went on to middle

school.” He set a goal of 33 good deeds per student, totaling 660 acts of kindness altogether, over the year.

The kids took to the idea with surprising enthusiasm and, one by one, the deeds piled up: visiting a nursing home, organizing a penny drive for the local animal shelter, shoveling snow for a neighbor, taking notes for sick classmates, rescuing stray cats during a storm. Every day the kids traded stories of their latest acts of charity and the class bonded in a way neither Piet nor their teacher, Trudy Eldridge, had ever seen before.

The class reached its mark of 660 deeds before the end of the school year—and kept on going. “We lost track after seven hundred and fifty,” says Piet. “And a few kids have started their third journal already.” Nowadays it isn’t the kids, but the kindness, that’s out of control at East Belfast! —Catherine Scott

[End quoting]

If you’re in any way associated with school systems in your area, please get this news item to them. More often than not, children just need something more positive than bloody, mind-numbing video games or MTV to focus on in order to blossom. The school of personal experience is still the best teacher we have!

### NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF GOD

From the INTERNET, <para-discuss@tje.net>, 3/29/01: [quoting]

A man recently told a story about the pastor of his church:

He had a kitten that climbed up a tree in his backyard and then was afraid to come down. The pastor coaxed, offered warm milk, etc. The kitty would not come down. The tree was not sturdy enough to climb, so the pastor decided that if he tied a rope to his car and drove away so that the tree bent down, he could then reach up and get the kitten.

He did all this, checking his progress in the car frequently, then figured if he went just a little bit further, the tree would be bent sufficiently for him to reach the kitten. But as he moved a little further forward, the rope broke. The tree went “boing!” and the kitten instantly sailed through the air and out of sight!

The pastor felt terrible. He walked all over the neighborhood asking people if they’d seen a little kitten. No. Nobody had seen a stray kitten. So he prayed: “Lord, I just commit this kitten to your keeping” and went on about his business.

A few days later he was at the grocery store, and met one of his church members. He happened to look into her shopping cart and was amazed to see cat food. Now this woman was a cat hater and everyone knew it, so he asked her: “Why are you buying cat food when you hate cats so much?”


She replied: “You won’t believe this” and told him how her little girl had been begging her for a cat, but she kept refusing.

Then a few days before, the child had begged again, so the Mom finally told her little girl “Well, if God gives you a cat, I’ll let you keep it.”

She told the pastor “I watched my child go out in the yard, get on her knees, and ask God for a cat. And really, Pastor, you won’t believe this, but I saw it with my own eyes. A kitten suddenly came flying out of the blue sky, with its paws outspread, and landed right in front of her!”

Never underestimate the Power of God!

[End quoting]

Perhaps we should keep this suggestion in mind as we go about our day—especially when we come up against those seemingly impossible challenges that life brings every so often. 

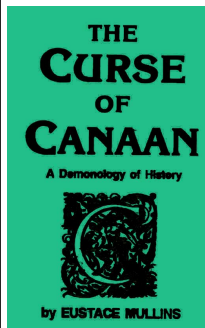
“I CHOOSE to realize that, whereas the illusion is that I am a human being having some spiritual experiences, the reality is that I am a spiritual being having some human experiences.”

From: *THE BOOK OF CHOICES: Keys To Enlightenment*,  
by Allisone Heartsong (See page 29 for ordering information.)

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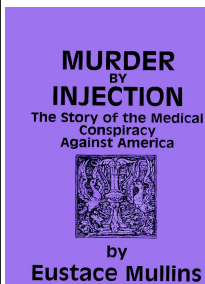


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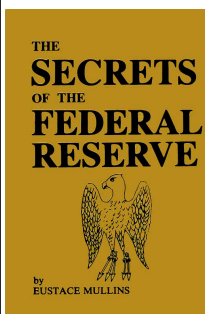
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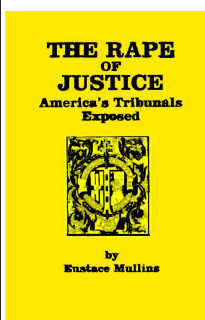
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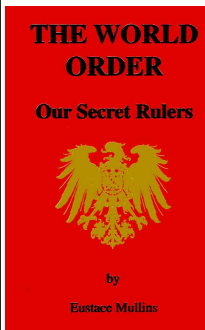
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# Skolnick's Report On Crooks In High Places

*Editor's note: Once again Sherman Skolnick and his well-earned resources share some astonishing information that is "just a bit" at odds with the controlled print & broadcast news media's tall tales. In fact, some of Sherman's stuff is too hot for frightened media "professionals" to even consider running—as you'll read below.*

**APRIL 2001 SHERMAN H. SKOLNICK**

(skolnick@ameritech.net)

(<http://www.skolnicksreport.com>)

Marc Rich—Swindling  
The Pope's Soybean Company  
(3/14/01)

The Pope and his advisors had good reason to believe Chicago was the place to conduct business. The Windy City has the largest number of Catholic Church parishes of anywhere in America. Under Church provisions and Illinois law, the Catholic Archbishop of Chicago is a Corporation Sole. A little-known one-man corporation is not the usual image, however, of big business. And the Archbishop of Chicago has much more power than just any Archbishop.

He is also the treasurer for Church funds from the entire western hemisphere. Traditionally, such huge cash flow was deposited in the Continental Bank of Chicago.

For many years, one of the largest stockholders of the bank was Walter Cummings, Jr., who was a "man of trust" for the Church—that is, trusted to secretly handle the Church assets. And Cummings, also for many years, was the chief judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals, 7th Circuit, headquartered in Chicago and one step below the U.S. Supreme Court.

As a reality, his court was the end-of-the-line for most federal cases from Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana, since the high court in Washington agrees to consider only a few petitions a year. (Cummings did NOT disqualify himself in appeals involving his bank. Guess who won in his crooked court?)

When Continental Bank collapsed in 1984 (two months after I accurately publicly predicted it), judge Cummings used his huge influence as a banker-judge to quietly warn local lawyers not to try to get wealthy by suing his bank, on behalf of other stockholders, for plainly evident mismanagement and bank fraud.

As exclusively then detailed by me, the Japanese mafia, the Yakuza, led the "run" on the bank's holding company, where they had been falsely informed their twenty billion dollars of flight capital would be in a "bank of deposit". Unlike actual banks, bank holding companies are not insured "banks of deposit". To appease the oriental underworld, several divisions of the bank were turned over to the Yakuza. In later years, Bank of America, reportedly largely owned by the Yakuza (jointly with the Jesuits and the Rothschilds), took over Continental Bank.

For years the Vatican-owned department store chain, Carson Pirie Scott & Co., had been headquartered in Chicago. And Vatican-owned Hines Lumber, a giant in its field, was reportedly owned or linked to Vatican enterprises. Commonwealth Edison, the electric monopoly headquartered in Chicago, is one of the largest power firms greatly dependent on nuclear facilities. A government report showed that the Dutch Catholic financial octopus, Robeco, owned by the Vatican, is one of the largest owners of Commonwealth Edison. A federal law forbids a foreign power (like the Vatican) to own nuclear facilities in the United States. A Chicago researcher who complained about this had her electric shut off arbitrarily. (Lots of details; scroll down our website to "The Electric Scandal".)

The Vatican found comfort in the fact that the Chicago Board of Trade has been, almost all its years, controlled by the Irish Catholic aristocracy, jointly with the Vatican's financial partners and advisors, the Rothschilds. These were people who understood things and took actions on their own, not as part of the common people. And their acts and doings are not to be blamed on ordinary Irish Catholics collectively.

So the Vatican had good reason to believe they could succeed in becoming a major competitor in the soybean business in the U.S., in a place the Pope thought to be friendly to the Vatican's interests. What the Vatican and their soybean executives did NOT know or understand is the operation of worldwide criminal Marc Rich.

**Real name Reich, Rich laundered huge illegal flows of cash masquerading as soybean trading in Chicago. Clandestine gold deals for the American CIA were disguised by Rich and his gang as soybean deals, and conversely, soybean trading disguised as**

**smuggled gold deals.**

A principal partner to Marc Rich and his pirates has been the family of George Herbert Walker Bush—that is, the Elder Bush and his sons, George W., Jeb, and Neil. As shown by secret Federal Reserve wire transfer records, the Bush family laundered the proceeds from worldwide illegal dealings through a joint account with the Queen of England, through the bank owned by the British monarch, Coutts Bank London. (Visit our website series "Greenspan Aids And Bribes Bush" with documentation there.)

Ferruzzi Finanziaria S.p.A., the agro-holding firm, was run by what some called a wizard, Raul Gardini, who had married the daughter of the firm's founder, Serafino Ferruzzi. Their operation in the U.S. was called Central Soya Co., of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, and Ferruzzi U.S.A., Inc., with principal offices in Louisiana. Those who understood business realized Ferruzzi was actually owned and supervised by the Vatican Bank, and by the Vatican Bank Chief, Bishop Paul Marcinkus, who originally once ran a Church in the mafia enclave of Cicero, adjoining Chicago, and was the dominant force in First National Bank of Cicero.

The Italian firm was getting a bigger and bigger presence in the soybean markets, the Chicago Board of Trade. Fair and square, following the exchange rules, Ferruzzi had cornered the market in 1989 when there was a drought expected. There was a shortage of soybeans. Ferruzzi's main competitors included Cargill, the highly secretive, privately owned firm, headquartered in Minnesota. Cargill conducted a great deal of clandestine business through the U.S./French/Israeli espionage-linked Bank of Credit and Commerce International, BCCI, interlocked with the secret dirty dealings of Marc Rich.

Another Ferruzzi competitor was Archer-Daniels-Midland, the highly political firm headquartered in Illinois. A principal of the firm, Dwayne Andreas, should have gone to prison in the Watergate affair for laundering funds for the Nixon Whitehouse. (From 1995, ADM was accused of price-fixing certain of their items, not soybeans, and their top management has been found guilty and sentenced to federal prison.) ADM is the sponsor of several TV network commentary programs. So the monopoly press tells us little, if anything, about the crimes of ADM.

In view of the circumstances in 1989, Cargill and ADM, in soybean contracts with Ferruzzi, had taken a wrong position. To fill orders, both domestic and foreign, Cargill and ADM would have to come to terms with Ferruzzi, who bet heavily in opposition to them. The Pope's firm rightfully could and would push them into default. Under the terms of the commodity exchange contracts, their failure to make good would mean that Ferruzzi would own them, since the contracts were in such large amounts.

To save themselves, Cargill and ADM reportedly had a malign influence on the Chicago Board of Trade. The then Chairman of that commodity exchange, by Emergency Resolution, July 11, 1989, changed the rules in the middle of the game. Ferruzzi was ordered to drop most of their position in soybeans.

Ferruzzi brought a suit seeking injunction against the Chicago Board of Trade in Chicago's highly corrupt federal district court. (Ferruzzi Trading International, et al., vs. Board of Trade of City of Chicago, No. 89 C 5469.) The case was assigned to Chicago U.S. district judge James B. Zagel, a close crony of former Illinois governor Jim Thompson.

(In November, 1994, on our one-hour public-access cable TV program, we demonstrated how "Big Jim", as he is called, and his circle are kingpins in the "China White" high purity heroin smuggling into Chicago through small suburban airports. In later years, through interviews, we found out that Zagel, through "Big Jim", is reportedly tied to Marc Rich. Big Jim has been Chairman of the worldwide lawfirm, headquartered in Chicago, Winston & Strawn. According to our TV show, they have an inner secret unit, not actually in the "law business", transacting smuggling in contraband such as dope. This, through Switzerland, home-base of Marc Rich.)

**Disregarding the law and the facts, judge Zagel was not about to let Ferruzzi default Cargill and ADM, and Ferruzzi end up owning their business. The judge, with little fanfare, arbitrarily denied the injunction. Ferruzzi was forced to dump their contracts and positions on soybeans. Thousands of farmers were ruined, some bankrupted, some committed suicide.**

How did this happen? How could it be that, at a time of soybean shortages, with not enough to meet domestic demand and for export, soybean prices collapsed instead of going up?

In the U.S. District Court in Chicago was brought a purported class-action lawsuit on behalf of angry farmers (American Agriculture Movement, Inc., et al., vs. Board of Trade of City of Chicago, case No. 89 C 8467). It was assigned to Chicago federal district judge George M. Marovich, a long-time banker whose bank, South Holland Trust & Savings Bank (in a Chicago south suburb) was a correspondent bank of Continental Bank of Chicago, mothership at the time of the commodity markets and the Chicago Board of Trade.

Presidential campaigns are planned four or more years in advance. Hillary Rodham Clinton was linked to a group of bankers, lawyers, and others from Fayetteville, Arkansas and elsewhere in that state. The Chicago Board of Trade was part of a money laundering apparatus, orchestrated by Marc Rich and his gang, washing illicit funds, such as from dope, for the 1992 presidential campaign of Bill Clinton. Such as, washing dope money from the CIA/

George Herbert Walker Bush/Ollie North/Bill Clinton operation through the Mena, Arkansas Airport. Funds transferred through Garfield Trust & Savings Bank of Chicago, a principal owner of which has been defrocked, ex-convict Congressman Dan Rostenkowski. From there the funds were sent through the Chicago Board of Trade and Chicago Mercantile Exchange, with the connivance of Marc Rich, disguised as soybean dealings.

As a result of investigating the foregoing for my weekly one-hour television show, I and an associate of mine, Joseph Andreuccetti, were placed on Hillary Rodham Clinton's "enemies list" to be arbitrarily hounded and harassed by her Gestapo—doing dirty tricks to try to stop us. We detailed a number of these illegal things happening to us as a result of being on her "enemies list". The undisputed details are a matter of court record in Sherman H. Skolnick and Joseph Andreuccetti, plaintiffs, versus Hillary Rodham Clinton et al., defendants, case No. 96 C 4373, U.S. District Court in Chicago, assigned to the selfsame Judge George M. Marovich.

Here are some excerpts from the undisputed court records:

- "That the financial interests of defendant Hillary Rodham Clinton, and her law partner, Vincent W. Foster, Jr., were interwoven with certain lawyers, bankers, and agents, representatives, and investigators from Fayetteville, Arkansas and elsewhere".

- "On December 1, 1991, defendant (Hillary Rodham) Clinton, in conjunction with her business partner, Vincent W. Foster, Jr., by and through bankers, lawyers, and representatives, agents, and investigators, sought and obtained a meeting with plaintiff Skolnick. Said group from Fayetteville, Arkansas and elsewhere in Arkansas, and other places.... Skolnick was informed that said group had a financial interest in the billions of dollars of transactions in a class action in the federal courts in Chicago, entitled American Agriculture Movement, Inc., et al., plaintiffs vs. Board of Trade of City of Chicago, et al., defendants, No. 89 C 8467, in the U.S. District Court.... At a later date, Skolnick became aware that said transactions were part of a massive, illicit enterprise, laundering dope funds such as from Mena, Arkansas, to raise funds for the 1992 Presidential election campaign of Bill Clinton, in which defendant Clinton played a key role along with Vincent W. Foster, Jr and defendant Amy Zisook, chief fund-raiser for the '92 campaign."

- "Skolnick was informed that the investigation of said group showed that the presiding judge in said litigation, U.S. District judge George M. Marovich, was acting in a corrupt manner and under a malign influence, to favor the defendants therein, including the Chicago Board of Trade."

- "Said group acknowledged and confirmed to Skolnick that corrupt federal commodity

regulators, such as the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, permitted and condoned this corruption, including the Chicago Board of Trade and their officials in a position to work a malign and corrupt influence on George M. Marovich as banker and judge. The following colloquy took place:

"Question by Skolnick: Do you wish to 'go public' with this, to finger judge George M. Marovich, such as being guests on my show?"

"Answer: Not just yet.

"Question by Skolnick: Or do you wish to strong-arm and blackmail judge Marovich for your own financial advantage?"

"No answer was given.

"By said acts and doings, by and through said group, defendant Clinton and Foster misused plaintiff Skolnick, an electronic journalist and court reformer; for defendant to blackmail judge Marovich, to gain a financial advantage and to cover up the defendant's massive illicit transactions through the Chicago markets and massive tax evasion; and for the purposes of defendant covering up the related matters of the 50 million dollar transfer referred to herein.... Said group acknowledged and confirmed to Skolnick that judge Marovich, individually and through persons financially associated with him, and through banks acting in conjunction with him and them, speculates in the commodity markets in the selfsame commodities in said litigation."

The undisputed federal court records detail a meeting with the other side of the soybean litigation pending before judge Marovich:

"That on January 15, 1993, certain persons sought, and obtained, a meeting with Skolnick and Andreuccetti. SAID MEETING INCLUDED A DIRECTOR OF THE CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE AND PRINCIPALS OF TWO TRADING MEMBER FIRMS. They informed plaintiffs (Skolnick and Andreuccetti) they were undecided whether they wanted to appear as guests on Skolnick's public-access cable-TV program *Broadsides*, in which Andreuccetti assists in the production and distribution.

"During the meeting, the following took place, with Skolnick asking the questions, Andreuccetti observing, and a director of the Chicago Board of Trade answering:

"Question: In the case against you, American Agriculture Movement, Inc. versus The Board of Trade of the City of Chicago, is it true judge Marovich was somehow corrupted?"

"Answer: Yes, it cost us 62 million dollars between the judge and those in the appeals court.

"Meaning to be understood by said director, and was so understood by plaintiffs, that it included judges James B. Zagel and Joel M. Flaum among others.... Thereupon, a trading firm member principal reached across the table and said to the director of the Chicago Board of Trade: You shouldn't be telling him (pointing to

Skolnick). Whereupon the Chicago Board of Trade director answered.

“Answer: I am telling him (meaning Skolnick) because he probably already knows and it is bound to come out and we’re all going to be blackened. You (referring to the principal of the trading firm member) know we had to do it.

“Further question by Skolnick: Are you confirming you paid off the judges, including judge Marovich?”

“Answer Yes.

“Meaning to be understood by the director, and so understood by plaintiffs, that the bribery included judges Zagel, Flaum, Ripple, and Eschbach. At a later date, Skolnick found out that said group at said meeting used the happening of the meeting to blackmail a financial advantage of CFTC and Marovich.”

Note: By the year 2001, judge Marovich has become a senior district judge. Judge Zagel still sits in the U.S. district court. Ripple is still a judge on the federal appeals court where judge Flaum has become the chief judge. Eschbach is no longer there.

Further excerpts from the undisputed federal court records in case No. 96 C 4373:

“Whereupon, in July, 1993, defendant Clinton, by and through directors and officials of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, sought and obtained a series of meetings with Skolnick and Andreuccetti, as follows. On July 14, 1993, in the presence of those officials and directors, and an Exchange security official, Andreuccetti pushing Skolnick in his wheelchair, plaintiffs were escorted around the entire floor of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, during a trading session. Skolnick was told that this was the first time a person in a wheelchair was on such a tour. Many of the Exchange’s employees stopped their activities when Skolnick was rolled past, and asked Skolnick and Andreuccetti, ‘Are you investigating us?’ and followed by ‘we watch your show’. Skolnick simply smiled and responded, ‘I am enjoying the tour.’

“Thereafter, Skolnick and Andreuccetti met with the directors and officials of the Exchange in a snack shop. Skolnick was told ‘There is no basis to you investigating and raising questions about the Merc and the First Lady and her associates (meaning Vincent W. Foster, Jr., the then newly appointed Clinton White House deputy counsel). There is no basis to it. Everything’s out in the open here.’

“Skolnick, in the presence of Andreuccetti, simply smiled and responded, ‘I am enjoying the tour.’ Whereupon there followed a luncheon with the Merc’s directors at a nearby restaurant. Substantially the same dialogue took place at said meeting also. Some six days later, Foster was found mysteriously dead, some say murdered.”

Note: Compare the July 14, 1993 date with the July, 1993 dates in our website story “Marc Rich And Others, Fingered By A Letter”

detailing the tie-in between Foster and Marc Rich and a failed attempt by then FBI Director William Sessions to have Rich grabbed on the Swiss-French border.

More excerpts from the undisputed federal court records in No. 96 C 4373:

- “That assistant U.S. attorney William R. Hogan, Jr., was, in effect, the representative in the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Chicago of (1) the office of the Catholic archbishop of Chicago; (2) The Vatican Bank and Bishop Paul Marcinkus who was Vatican Bank chief up to November, 1991; (3) The Pope.”

- “Marcinkus’ nephew/godson, Christian Henning, Jr., by falsely claiming to be Joseph Andreuccetti’s business partner, caused Andreuccetti to be defrauded of many millions of dollars as hereinafter stated.... Yet, at a time of soybean shortage, because of this corruption, soybean prices went down when they should have gone up. As a result of the corruption, thousands of soybean farmers were ruined, some bankrupted. Another result of the judicial corruption, Ferruzzi lost upwards of a billion dollars and the chief of their holding firm, Raul Gardini, who had married into the Ferruzzi family, and was considered a wizard, committed suicide, July, 1993.”

(Later interviews with the Ferruzzi family, Milan, Italy, show that Gardini was, in fact, murdered, about the same time as the apparent murder of Vincent W. Foster, Jr. Other interviews support our position that Marc Rich reportedly arranged not only for the bribery of the Chicago federal judges, the largest judicial bribery mess in U.S. history, but the apparent arrangement to murder Ferruzzi chief Raul Gardini in the same time period as Foster.)

More excerpts:

- “It was no mere coincidence—for the related benefit of defendant Hillary Rodham Clinton, who along with her business partner Vincent W. Foster, Jr., had massive interest, the Clinton Justice Department torpedoed Ferruzzi’s informal representative in the U.S., William R. Hogan, Jr., an Assistant U.S. Attorney in Chicago. Hogan, the lead prosecutor in a group of cases against the El Rukns, a narco-terrorist street gang in Chicago, was accused by the Justice Department of alleged misconduct in the El Rukn cases in 1993 and put on administrative leave. Hogan countered that the Justice Department knows full well, but takes no action, that six federal judges in Chicago are corrupt and take bribes, including Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge John D. Schwartz.”

(Note: Judge Schwartz kept Andreuccetti falsely in INVOLUNTARY bankruptcy for fourteen years as part of a scheme to cover up the disappearance of 50 million dollars belonging to Andreuccetti, secretly transferred to Little Rock, in an attempt to cover up a 47 million dollar Savings & Loan embezzlement, for which Bill and Hillary Clinton are subject to federal criminal prosecution and jailing. Hillary’s family

crony, John E. Gierum, who supervised the 50 million dollar illegal transfer, was one of the defendants in the “enemies list” case.)

Using inside details he knew that his bosses at the Justice Department knew about but took no action, Hogan was, using apparent blackmail, restored to his job with backpay. He knew about the bribery of the federal judges in order to ruin the Pope’s soybean business, Ferruzzi. He knew about the role of Marc Rich in the bribery of the federal judges to stop the Vatican from competing in the soybean markets with ADM and Cargill.

Disregarding the law and the facts, judge George M. Marovich refused to hear the “enemies list” case against Hillary Rodham Clinton, and others. The judge cited a ridiculous reason, that there were too many facts, dates, and details for him to consider. Hillary’s attorneys were in a position to blackmail judge Marovich not only on the bribery of the judge in the soybean case involving Ferruzzi as well, but also based on the judge’s mandatory annual financial disclosure report which shows judge Marovich owns a west suburban shopping center, Cermak Plaza, near First National Bank of Cicero.

Our investigation showed the IRS and State Revenue top officials are silent partners in the shopping center, and various gangster enterprises use the shopping center as a way to launder illicit funds. The top revenue officials assist the gangsters to evade taxes. Also note Congressman Henry Hyde escaped a federal agency judgment against him for causing the downfall of a suburban S & L of which Hyde had been a director. Hyde headed the House Judiciary Committee with power to impeach judges. Hyde was in a position to know about judge Marovich and the gangster/top government officials/judge Marovich shopping center. You guessed it—judge Marovich had the case against Henry Hyde and turned him loose.

So Marc Rich, using bribery and murder, destroyed the Pope’s soybean business in America. And Marc Rich was enabled to do this with the connivance of some in the soybean markets, the Justice Department, and the American CIA, and others. The Vatican lost billions of dollars. And a French firm took over Central Soya, a Ferruzzi enterprise, and reportedly shared the business with the Riady family, ethnic Chinese, who owned the tiny First National Bank of Mena, Arkansas, a transit point for hundreds of millions of dollars shuttled up to the Chicago markets disguised as soybean dealings.

In the “enemies list” dismissal by judge Marovich, we took an appeal which, of course, ended in the U.S. Court of Appeals in Chicago, with the same judges who were bribed to destroy Ferruzzi. Although we had a statutory right to have our appeal heard, the judges refused to consider our appeal, sent back our briefs in a box, and entered an illegal and



poisonous ruling that I and my TV associate, Joseph Andreuccetti are barred from being in any federal court in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin. The U.S. Supreme Court refused our petition to remedy this outrage.

To justify these terrible things inflicted on the Vatican and Ferruzzi, what supposed “crime” did the Pope commit? That the Vatican, fair and square, wanted to be a major player in soybean trading in the U.S.? In America, and certainly in large cities like New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles, there is a non-statutory offense, that is an unwritten crime: It is called simply “failure to bribe”. Of this the Pontiff certainly was “guilty”.

More coming on the Ferruzzi Affair.

Stay tuned.

\* \* \*

### Pardongate And Bushfraud

(3/18/01)

Some continue to assert that George W. Bush is a tainted president who took the seat of power under circumstances they call Bushfraud. Some go even further, and proclaim that the Elder Bush, and sons Jeb and George W., are part of a “fascist coup”.

Others call the final hours of the Clinton Administration as Pardongate. Thus referring to a foul smell going up from some of more than 170 presidential pardons and commutations Clinton entered at the last moments of his apparent constitutional authority.

**A profound consideration of the events and players involved show there are links between Pardongate and Bushfraud.**

Some of the players and events:

- HUGH RODHAM: brother of the former First Lady HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON elected in 2000 as a Senator from New York.

Hillary is accused of taking massive benefits, if not actual bribes, to arrange to set loose a group of Hassidic Jews who swindled the federal government of some \$30 million with a fake village development. Available to federal grand juries looking into possible corruption by Clinton as president are audio tapes and other evidence directly implicating Hillary as reputed “bag lady” for her husband, evidence which may become the basis of a federal criminal indictment of her, and naming Bill as an unindicted co-conspirator, for receiving financial benefits and emoluments as a bribe or inducement to get her husband, then president, to pardon the culprits.

As a Miami lawyer, Hugh Rodham seems to specialize in defending—if not actually arranging the affairs of—sizeable dope traffickers. He is reportedly very knowledgeable on cocaine trafficking from Colombia, involving the dope cartels as well as, more recently, the activities of the Russian mafiya combined with those illicit enterprises, all jointly with international criminal MARC RICH, likewise pardoned by Clinton.

Rodham seemed to prosper during the some 15 years JANET RENO was a south Florida state prosecutor who somehow did not see fit to run after dopers. A Florida attorney, Jack Thompson, ran unsuccessfully to unseat Reno in 1988 as state prosecutor. **The monopoly press, he contends, failed to report or act on his evidence and witnesses showing Reno was subject to blackmail because she cavorted with lesbian prostitutes and that she is a fallen down drunk who assisted known criminals. His offer of testimony and evidence was likewise rebuffed by the U.S. Senate Committee in 1993 that ratified Reno’s appointment to head the U.S. Justice Department.**

Those in a position to know proclaim the acts and doings of Hugh Rodham and Janet Reno were interwoven with JEB BUSH, who became Florida Governor. (Corruption knows no political party.) For a period starting about 1977, with his Latino wife, Jeb was stationed in Venezuela, where he headed or played a key role in the branch of Texas Commerce Bank owned in great part by his father, George Herbert Walker Bush and his circle of oil-soaked confederates. Only rarely mentioned in the monopoly press is that a sizeable portion of the dope money coming back to the Colombian cartels is transacted through next-door Venezuela.

From that point, Jeb reportedly became interwoven with laundering the funds of dope kingpins disguised often as huge real estate projects, some of which went under, damaging innocent investors. Jeb was also the eyes and ears on occasion of the American CIA in Venezuela. In its most direct role, the CIA acts as the petroleum police in foreign oil fields—such as for the Rockefeller family, who own and dominate most oil production in Venezuela.

In a rare documentary, CBS’ *60 Minutes* program once showed how apparently corrupt CIA officials, together with those of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration in Venezuela, participated in large shipments of cocaine to the U.S., supposedly to study how the dope cartel operates—as if they did not really know.

(A former espionage undercover operative, who says he did business with Jeb, has numerous details in his book and on his [www.almartinraw.com](http://www.almartinraw.com) website.)

Upon receiving two hundred thousand dollars as a fee, Hugh Rodham arranged with his brother-in-law, William Rockefeller Clinton, to commute the jail sentence of CARLOS VIGNALI, who had served just six years of a 15-year sentence for being the top dog in a drug ring that distributed 800 lbs. of cocaine. The jail-bird’s father, Horacio, a wealthy Los Angeles parking lot owner, donates to political campaigns. The younger Vignali is reportedly very well-informed about the dope from Colombia smuggled across Canada and entering across the border to Montana.

(Our interviews with middle-level members of the Rockefeller family, together with other data, convince us Bill Clinton is the illegitimate great grandson of old John D. Rockefeller, founder of the infamous Standard Oil Trust.)

- MARC RACICOT: his term as Montana governor ended in January 2001. Knowledgeable law enforcement personnel as well as several crusading journalists have contended Racicot has reportedly been directly implicated in the massive dope from Red China and Colombia coming across the border from Canada. Side-kick of Bill and Roger Clinton, Ollie North, and the Elder Bush, namely Barry Seal, up to the time Seal was murdered by the American CIA and the DEA to shut him up, arranged the dope traffic from Canada through Montana. This was an alternative to coming in through the southern states, such as at Mena, Arkansas, which had become too well known.

A former undercover government operative involved in the Montana operations described it as: “An aircraft departs Colombia, flies to the Bahamas to rest and refuel, and then, when a weather window opens, continues the flight to Nova Scotia or Quebec. Again, rest and refuel. Then continue to a US-Canadian border landing strip.”

The former operative goes on to detail the acts and doings of FBI senior agent Terry Nelson, of the southern Florida FBI office, who has business and relatives near Montana-Canada border: “Nelson not only recruits the law enforcement officials and politicians he needs, he can also supply data from the law enforcement arena such as the DEA NADDIS computer, Customs TECS II, EPIC, FBI, and others involved in ongoing investigations. Nelson then provides this intelligence to his drug contacts. This helps obstruct any investigation and diffuse potential problems.

“Terry Nelson, a senior agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, continues to provide his valuable services to drug cartels and others who will pay his fee, out of his FBI office in southern Florida.” (Excerpts from *DRUGGING AMERICA* by Rodney Stich, page 297 and page 294; as to Barry Seal, chapter on “Montana Drug Gateway”; 1999, Diablo Western Press, P.O. Box 5, Alamo, California 94507.)

Others contend that the Clinton White House blocked Canadian law enforcement from serving an arrest warrant on Nelson when he was in the area.

During the Presidential election turmoil in Florida in November and December 2000, then Montana Governor Marc Racicot was the trusted “hatchet man” for George W. and Jeb Bush. Racicot was trusted because he was reportedly part of the Bush family’s worldwide laundering of hundreds of billions of dollars of illicit dealings through 25 secret Bush accounts worldwide. (Visit our website series called “Greenspan Aids And Bribes Bush Family” with attached documents.)

Racicot, together with operatives linked to Florida senior FBI agent Terry Nelson, jointly with Hugh Rodham, reportedly arranged to convey financial benefits and emoluments (called, by some, straight-out bribes) to top DEMOCRATIC officials in southern Florida to arrange for the DEMOCRATS to arbitrarily stop the recount of ballots. This was done to prevent Albert Gore, Jr., from winning Florida's essential Electoral College vote and hence the U.S. Presidency, after Gore had already won the national popular vote by a plurality of more than six hundred thousand votes. The funds for the financial benefits, or bribes, were made available through Marc Rich and his cronies in the Russian mafiya, which have joined forces with the Colombian dope cartels.

• **ROGER CLINTON:** reportedly solicited and received a two hundred thousand dollar pardongate bribe from the family of a convict in federal prison on fraud charges. The bribe was reportedly shared by Roger with brother Bill, at the time President, who did NOT grant the pardon.

An "honorable" crooked politician sells his office, and supplies services, as he is paid. A stupid crook takes the bribe and reneges.

Part of the Roger Clinton pardongate was the ostensible smuggling of dope into the U.S. from Southwest Red China, disguised as commodities. Roger Clinton and his cronies apparently laundered the proceeds through two Chicago commodity brokers known to be fronting for the Red Chinese dope trade, called "China White". (See the reportedly related stories on our website as to Rahm Emanuel, former Clinton White House senior advisor, more recently managing director of Wasserstein Perella & Co., reputed experts on laundering illicit Asian dealings; also, REFCO-LFG Division [Richard Friedman & Co.], a Chicago-based brokerage.)

The Roger and Bill Clinton dope trafficking proceeds are laundered as currency and commodity deals on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and the Chicago Board of Trade. Bill as President often visited the Merc, as the fountain of illicit funds. Alleged President George W. Bush follows the pattern of his crony, Bill Clinton, and shortly after being inaugurated, George W. likewise came to the fountain of money, the Merc, to put the arm on them.

Several federal grand juries have testimony available, or already under subpoena, and in some instances, as of the date of this posting, already heard, showing the following among other things:

(1) Roger Clinton may be indicted for various federal criminal offenses along with Tony and Hugh Rodham, and Hillary Rodham Clinton as part of details of pardongate. Facing being named in this as unindicted co-conspirators are William Rockefeller Clinton, commonly called William Jefferson Clinton, and his close crony, George W. Bush.

(2) Testimony and evidence related to the foregoing include the acts and doings of pardongate offenses overlapping onto election fraud of: former Montana governor Marc Racicot; Florida senior FBI agent Terry Nelson and confederates; and Florida governor Jeb Bush; and super criminal Marc Rich.

(3) To avoid federal criminal indictment, or being named as unindicted co-conspirators, some of the foregoing persons have given testimony or are offering testimony against some of the others.

Reporters of all three major news networks have already interviewed (or have sought to interview) various witnesses as to the foregoing, including those available to testify (or have already testified) against Roger Clinton. All the chief judges in charge of the federal grand juries, so far as is now known, have NOT entered a "gag order" preventing witnesses from being interviewed by the press.

Despite that, the George Bush 2nd White House has ordered the American Gestapo (the FBI) to severely threaten and harass network reporters and executives; the FBI is claiming that the media people are supposedly "obstructing justice"—for example, by interviewing witnesses fingering Roger Clinton, wherein brother Bill, along with crony George W. Bush, would be named as unindicted co-conspirators, along with Marc Racicot and international criminal Marc Rich.

**An official of one of the news networks confided to us that he and his associates are fearful for their lives, in view of the severe threats by the FBI at the behest of the Bush White House.**

**All three major networks have so far embargoed video and audio tapes of interviews as to both Pardongate and Bushfraud. The FBI, according to the official (and confirmed by his associates), has threatened network reporters, TV and Radio crew members, as well as news managers, producers, and supervisors.**

Key sources and eyewitnesses have confided in us, knowing that we have a 40-year absolute policy against divulging sources and witnesses of our data. In 40 years, as the head of our research and investigative group, I have been jailed some 8 times, wheelchair and all, for "contempt of court", for absolutely refusing to divulge witnesses and sources to state and federal authorities publicly accused by us of high-level corruption. In each instance, after being falsely and unlawfully jailed, I was later vindicated, and the judges involved were themselves sent to prison for bribery, tax evasion, and other crimes, as I had publicly accused them to their face. (Visit our website for the four-decade background of our work.)


As part of a much lesser mess, reporters of *Newsweek* and *TIME* magazines have reportedly compiled sufficient sources and records to show that Florida governor Jeb Bush and alleged President George W. Bush are part of a sex

triangle with Florida secretary of state Katherine Harris, who played a key role in what some call Bushfraud. She was an instrumental player by which Al Gore, Jr., was kept from being certified as the winner of the Florida election, and hence, kept from having the Electoral College vote of Florida—Bush thus stealing the U.S. Presidential Election 2000.

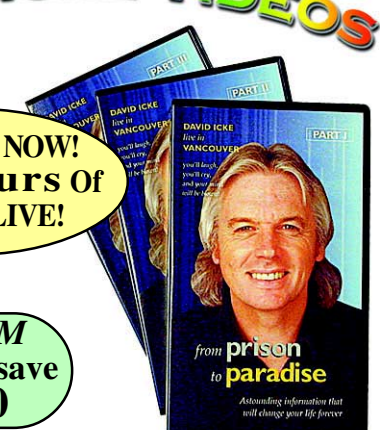
Like in the infamous 1876 election that I have earlier written about, Gore won the presidential election, as did Samuel Tilden. But, like Tilden, there has been a failure to inaugurate Gore as the President of the United States.

Although both magazines have reportedly corroborated my story about Jeb Bush/George W. Bush/Katherine Harris, with her also as the reputed "bag lady" in fixing the election, the oil and dope soaked monopoly press are too "chicken" and have too many financial hang-ups to so far go with the Katherine Harris story.

Network officials and reporters have confided to us that the details in this report are known by them to be substantially correct. BUT, the press is reluctant to undermine George W. Bush at a time of impending financial meltdown.

More coming. Stay tuned. 

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# England “Bombs” Gold Prices

*Editor's note: Between pages 12-14 in last month's News Desk, we devoted a larger-than-usual space to “Gold Jitters” and other recent shenanigans going on in the gold market—and for very good reason. The Bank of England is, of course, taking orders from higher up the ladder of so-called “elite” controllers of this planet to steer the gold market in the desired direction of the New World Order's financial control agenda.*

*People who have been watching (and trying to make sense of) the more recent maneuverings in such markets—but who may not presently be aware of the actual dark ones running the show from well behind the scenes—are either confused and shaking their heads, OR becoming so curious about just WHAT in the queen's counting house is going on, that their puzzlement will eventually open up their awareness to The Bigger Picture.*

*With that in mind, enjoy the following, written by “one who knows” in a style which is as amusingly colorful as it is professionally insightful. Emphasis of some key points has been added by The SPECTRUM.*

**3/16/01 ADAM HAMILTON, CPA, MCSE**

([www.ZealLLC.com](http://www.ZealLLC.com))

On March 14, 2001, the Bank of England continued its long and bloody war of attrition against gold. Royal Air Force Harrier jump jets and Panavia Tornados roared through the blue skies, leaving terror and destruction in their wake.

Not armed with the usual laser- or Global Positioning System-guided 500-lb and 1000-lb high-explosive bombs, they were equipped with highly specialized munitions for this particular crucial combat mission. The RAF fighters, under Bank of England command and control, carried gold bullion bombs. The amount of pure gold bullion in each bomb remains classified, but the total bullion delivered under the mighty wings of the Harriers and Tornados is well known, exactly 25 metric tonnes.

Like the legendary Babe Ruth brazenly standing at home plate and pointing his bat to the exact spot on the outfield fence over which he intended to launch the pitched baseball, the Bank of England (BoE) also “called the wall” prior to the actual gold bombing. As in the past, this latest gold bombing was scheduled in advance and crafty public relations folk ensured that there would be maximum knowledge of the aggressive raid about to be launched.

Timeless principles of information warfare, handed down from the legendary Chinese strategist Sun Tsu, were fully employed pre-raid to create the maximum amount of confusion and fear for the BoE's old enemy, the free gold market.

On mission day, the BoE launched the raid, and the contract RAF pilots delivered the 25 tonnes of bullion bombs with spectacular precision. The target was a recent rally in the gold price caused by unrelenting rumors that the BoE was having trouble settling its gold obligations with physical gold.

Spiraling short-term gold lease rates, which led to the gold rally, helped confirm the odd physical tightness in the global gold markets. The nemesis of BoE—gold—was rearing its ugly head and had to be destroyed before the gold price action opened the floodgates of worldwide gold investment demand.

As the British ground attack fighters screamed toward their target at treetop level, laser designators on the bellies of the jets were switched on, and the gold rally was painted with innumerable laser dots invisible to the human eye. The computerized seeker-heads on the gold bullion bombs were uncaged and immediately locked on the bright laser lights dancing on the target. Soon swarms of bombs were unleashed, their computer heads flying them in a kamikaze trajectory directly to their destruction into the laser-designated gold rally.

As bullion bomb after bullion bomb found its mark, the resulting destruction in the gold market was spectacular, and the dangerous gold rally was shredded by the state-of-the-art munitions.

The contract RAF pilots returned home, and reports claimed that no casualties were received during the gold bombing raid by the BoE and its cohorts. All in all it looked like a successful mission in the government of Great Britain's undeclared war on gold.

But how successful really was the mission? Is the BoE employing subterfuge and intentionally misleading the gold markets?

In this essay, we explore the BoE's war on gold, the latest gold auction, and the possibility that the BoE is publishing dis-information to continue to wage the gold info-war long after the booming of the gold bullion bombs has finished echoing through the formerly peaceful free-market countryside.

As in any financial analysis, it is prudent to

begin with a proper perspective on the BoE gold auctions.

The Bank of England, on May 7, 1999, announced “a restructuring of the UK's reserve holdings to achieve a better balance in the portfolio by increasing the proportion held in currency. This will involve a programme of auctions of gold from the Exchange Equalisation Account, which holds the UK's official reserves of foreign currency and gold, with the proceeds being invested instead in foreign currency assets and retained in the reserves.”

In the first place, the idea of selling something with 6,000 years of unassailable worth—gold—and buying fiat currency is, by itself, pretty ridiculous. What did the BoE intend to buy to replace gold in its FOREX reserves? A currency that has only been around since WW2, like the fiat Japanese yen, which has performed as well as a blind duck migrating in recent years? The vastly overpriced US dollar, perhaps, which defaulted on its gold backing in 1971, and is from the largest debtor nation in world history? Or, God forbid, that bastard step-child of fiat currencies the Euro, for which not even a single sovereign nation is accountable?

**Selling gold to buy fiat currencies ANYTIME before Y2K, until today, is just a wacky and “out there” idea devoid of common sense. The BoE auctions were suspect right from the original stated goal!**

In order to execute the “portfolio rebalancing”, the BoE stated its intentions of auctioning off gold in 25 tonne lots, in a series of auctions. At the time of the announcement, the BoE reported that the United Kingdom had official holdings of gold reserves of 715 tonnes. Her Majesty's Treasury would be using the BoE to liquidate 415 tonnes of gold, with a target gold foreign exchange balance of 300 tonnes. So far, including the March 14, 2001 sale, the BoE has sold 275 tonnes of gold into the open market since July 1999.

415 tonnes is a healthy amount of gold! Global gold demand is estimated to be between 3,500 to 4,000 tonnes per year. All the gold mines in the world are believed to dig up, process, and refine about 2,500 shiny new tonnes per year. By comparison, 1 million ounces of gold, roughly equivalent to the annual production of a mine on the scale of South Africa's Durban Roodepoort Deep, is approximately 31.1 tonnes. (One metric tonne equals 32,150.743 troy ounces.) The United States of America has long reported official gold reserves of 8,139 tonnes, although the US gold reserves have not been independently audited.

On the initial announcement date, the BoE also outlined the terms of the gold auctions. The following is verbatim from the BoE's press release:

“The first auction will be conducted on a single, or uniform, price basis. Under this format, the bidding process will be competitive: bars will be allotted to the highest bidders, but all



successful bidders will pay a single price that is equal to the lowest accepted bid. It is intended that subsequent auctions will also follow this single price format, but the pricing method will be subject to review in the light of experience.”

Hmmmm. Any of you capitalists out there catch that? The auctions of gold would accept competitive bidding, BUT the gold would be sold to the highest bidders not at the price they bid, but at the price equal to the LOWEST accepted bid.

As the BoE is acting as a fiduciary for Her Majesty's Treasury, which is presumably holding the public gold collectively owned by the citizens of Great Britain, one would expect the BoE to MAXIMIZE the sale price for the gold it was commissioned to sell. Why not, for instance, if the spot gold price was \$275 and an entity bid \$300 for 5 tonnes of gold, allow the bidding entity to pay the full price it bid? After all, a bidding entity would be happy with its bid price, otherwise it would not have submitted the bid.

**This goofy Dutch Auction process is fine for bidding on beanie babies and other fungible junk on eBay, but is it proper when liquidating 58% of the public gold of one of the greatest Western nations in history?**

Why use an auction process that ensures that Her Majesty's Treasury receives the lowest price possible for valuable gold? It is analogous to being cheated out of a percentage of every trade, which adds up to real money over time.

**This is just ONE small anomaly of MANY in the BoE gold sales.** The House of Lords and House of Commons could have a field day investigating the many failings of this illogical auction program!

While we are discussing the illogical, it is interesting to mull over the implications of announcing the whole series of auctions in advance to great fanfare. If HM Treasury was interested in obtaining the highest price for its citizens' (or the Queen's, if the British government still considers its people merely peasant subjects and not citizens) gold, why pre-announce the sales? Any large trader knows that the quickest way to eviscerate a trade is to publicly herald one's intentions. If other players know that a large trade will be made, prices will be bid up or sold down in order to ensure that the big trader receives the worst possible deal.

Imagine, for instance, if Warren Buffet held a press conference and told the world that he was planning on selling 58% of Berkshire Hathaway's holdings in XYZ Inc. Astute traders would

IMMEDIATELY sell-off XYZ on Buffet's announcement, and the price of the stock would plummet on the open market.

**Pre-announcing large trades, if one is a big player, is absolutely foolish at best, and downright dumb at the worst. Pre-announcing a huge gold sale, which is virtually guaranteed to bomb prices, only makes sense if HM Treasury and the Bank of England had full intentions, going into the auctions, of depressing the world gold price.**

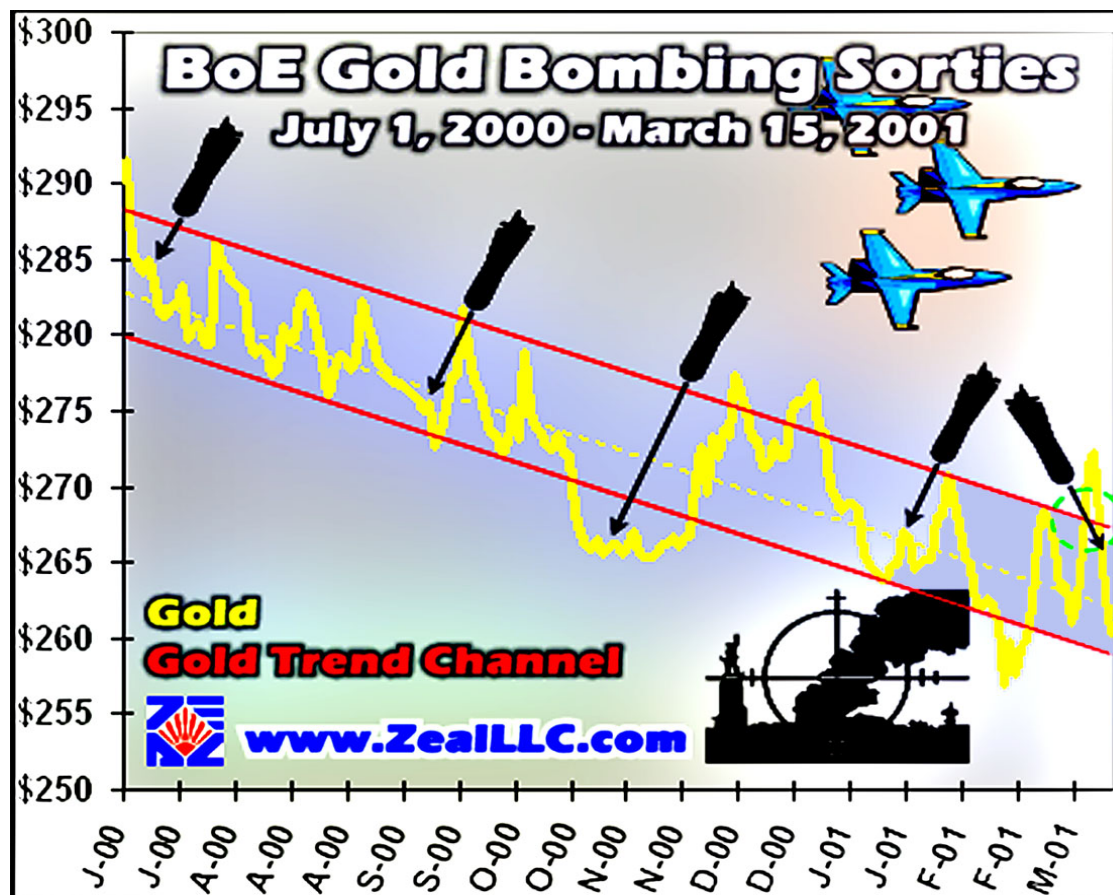
This allegation, while serious and ominous, is certainly not baseless. American Attorney and Bank for International Settlements shareholder Reginald Howe, in his landmark lawsuit against the BIS and large money-center bullion banks allegedly engaged in a global conspiracy to suppress the gold price, includes stunning comments about the original intentions of the British government. The following is from Howe

paints the British government's strange series of gold firesales in a much more menacing light. Howe v. BIS et al is one of the most important documents in the long and distinguished history of gold. **It is an absolutely MUST read for advocates of free markets and anyone interested in learning why the behavior of gold in the last six years has utterly defied all laws of economics and all historical precedent.** (An easily portable Adobe PDF copy of Howe v. BIS is available for free download at the [www.zeallc.com/howe.htm](http://www.zeallc.com/howe.htm) website.)

Do the stated goals of HM Treasury and the BoE make sense in light of the effects of the gold auctions? In the markets and in life, when dealing with any entity or person, it is always useful to not only listen to the words they speak, but to carefully analyze the fruits of their labors. Often men of little honor and integrity will say one thing, but their actions will betray something else entirely.

By carefully observing the fruits of their actions, the true driving forces and motivations behind a decision often become MUCH more apparent. This principle is ancient and was immortalized in the *New Testament* of the *Bible*. In the popular vernacular of today, "talk is cheap". **The real goals of HM Treasury in flooding the world market with a marginal physical gold supply are much easier to discern by their fruit than from the sterile press releases and soundbytes.**

We began by discussing the latest BoE gold bombing of March 14, 2001. The chart nearby highlights the fledgling gold rally, which had to be contained, and the results of the latest mission in the long



vs. BIS et al, paragraph 55. It is extraordinary!

Quoted literally from Mr. Howe's complaint, paragraph 55: "According to reliable reports received by the plaintiff, this effort was later described by Edward A. J. George, Governor of the Bank of England and a director of the BIS, to Nicholas J. Morrell, Chief Executive of Lonmin PLC: **'We looked into the abyss if the gold price rose further. A further rise would have taken down one or several trading houses, which might have taken down all the rest in their wake. Therefore, at any price, at any cost, the central banks had to quell the gold price, manage it. It was very difficult to get the gold price under control, but we have now succeeded. The U.S. Fed was very active in getting the gold price down. So was the U.K.'**"

Wow! Amazing information, and it further

BoE gold bombing campaign.

(Disclaimer for all you military purists out there: We are well aware that British Harriers and Tornados look nothing like the F-18s in the graph nearby, and that a precision guided bomb does not look like an AGM-65 Maverick air-to-surface missile; please forgive us.)

This graph is relatively short-term, only since last July. We use it because we employed it last week in our essay "Gold/XAU Breakouts?" where we pointed out that the Philadelphia Stock Exchange Gold and Silver Index HAD broken out short-term and that gold just breached the top technical resistance line shown in the graph. (The temporary breakout is marked by the dotted green circle at the right edge of the graph.)

In this newest incarnation, the latest BoE gold auction has transpired and gold has been SLAMMED back down into the channel as if it



ran into a 20-foot-thick reinforced concrete blast-wall at 100 mph on a motorcycle.

The turn executed by gold in the day before the latest BoE auction is striking in its violence. This amplitude and frequency of the recent up and down move is greater than anything else on the graph. The trading days between March 8 and March 15 witnessed EXTREME daily volatility for the usually staid and calm gold world! Those six trading days had average interday volatility of 1.4%, compared to an average of roughly a third of that, or 0.50%, for the entire time period encompassed by this chart.

The BoE gold auctions are marked with the bomb silhouettes above. In each of the last five gold auctions of 25 tonnes, the market ALWAYS dropped on the BoE gold auction. As we discussed above, if one is a big player, telling the whole world in advance before they buy or sell a large position is the financial equivalent of shooting oneself in the foot! By telegraphing large gold sales, the Bank of England guaranteed that HM Treasury would receive the lowest possible price for its gold as arbitrageurs traded on the news and sold gold into each auction. Unbelievable!

Of all the research we have seen on the BoE gold auctions, our favorite graphs by far analyzing the situation were constructed by the renowned Donald Lindley, the highly esteemed member of the Gold Eagle Gold Forum ([www.gold-eagle.com/cgi-bin/gn/get/forum.html](http://www.gold-eagle.com/cgi-bin/gn/get/forum.html)). Mr. Lindley has been carefully watching and analyzing the gold markets for many years, and his contributions to the Forum and the gold market have been invaluable. Last year, when gold was at \$290, Mr. Lindley was one of the few steadfast gold bulls who believed that gold would be

pushed lower by derivatives games being played. His "Option Cube" indicated a slide in prices from \$290, and he was right on the money.

Mr. Lindley has constructed a gorgeous graph for [www.GoldenSextant.com](http://www.GoldenSextant.com), Reginald Howe's company's website, and it is readily available at the very informative [www.goldensextant.com/commentary16.html#anchor10789](http://www.goldensextant.com/commentary16.html#anchor10789) website. On his superb graph, Mr. Lindley has indicated when BoE gold bombing runs were announced and when the dirty deeds were actually perpetrated.

It is really interesting to note that EVERY single time a BoE auction was held, gold fell fairly aggressively—with the notable exception of the landmark Washington Agreement of September 1999, where European central bankers suddenly had light bulbs popping on over their heads and came to the stunning

realization that central bank sales were destroying the world gold markets.

And who says central bankers are clueless? They are just SLOOOOOOW to grasp the patently obvious! They announced they were capping their gold sales, and entities who owed gold that they didn't have scrambled to buy gold in the open markets like men possessed. The resulting rally rocketed gold from \$255 to over \$320 in days.

Armed with the perspective provided by Mr. Lindley's excellent graph, it is quite obvious to ANYONE that the BoE gold sales are very damaging to the price of gold. As more information on the BoE gold sales accumulates, it is more and more difficult to accept that all is on the up and up and there are no ulterior motives from HM Treasury or the BoE.

If it looks like an intentional gold suppression scheme, feels like an intentional

auctions, and the light green the tranches of the second series of gold auctions, which just finished on March 14. Boldfaced dates represent auctions covered by the period of time in the chart we discussed earlier.

The next column is the number of troy ounces of gold the BoE offered at each auction. The first yellow column shows the number of troy ounces of gold the market bid for (tried to buy) from the BoE, followed by the final gold price of the auction.

The second yellow column contains the "times covered", or the number of times that the BoE gold offered was overbid for by entities wishing to buy gold at a particular auction. The rest of the columns are explained below, after you have reviewed the table.

After a brief perusal of this raw auction data, direct from the BoE, it becomes obvious that the market wanted to buy a LOT more gold than the BoE was prepared to sell at any one time. Now, if the BoE was rational and it really intended to minimize its

disruption to the world gold markets, why not sell whatever the market demands at each auction until the total 415 tonnes of unloved and unwanted gold is liquidated? For instance, in the first auction on July 6, 1999, why didn't the BoE sell the whole 4,174,400 troy ounces of gold that the gold buyers bid for? If the purpose of the auctions was simply a FOREX reserve "portfolio rebalancing" as the BoE claims, why drag the sales out for years when the market could have easily absorbed the gold much more rapidly? These are tough and very important questions.

We subtracted the "BoE Offer" column from the "Market Bid For" column to obtain the "Wasted" column. This is

wasted gold demand. Since the BoE could have sold almost 4.2 million ounces of gold at its original auction, why did it hold back, deny its bidders their sought after gold, and only sell 0.8 million ounces at the LOWEST bid? Very odd indeed!

The next column is the "Cumulative Wasted Ounces" representing the total gold demand that was spurned and ignored by the wizards at the BoE. The final column converts these Cumulative Wasted Ounces into metric tonnes for easy comparison to the BoE's original stated goal of jettisoning 58% of the total gold reserves of the United Kingdom, or 415 tonnes.

Provocatively, by the fourth tranche of the first series of five auctions, enough bidders (serious high quality entities, as only members in good standing of the secretive London Bullion

BoE War on Gold Official Auction Results							
Date	BoE Offer	Market Bid For	Price	X Cov	Wasted	Cum. Wasted	CW Tonnes
Jul 6, 99	803,600	4,174,400	\$261.20	5.2	3,370,800	3,370,800	105
Sep 21, 99	803,600	6,420,400	\$255.75	8.0	5,616,800	8,987,600	280
Nov 29, 99	803,600	1,669,600	\$293.50	2.1	866,000	9,853,600	306
Jan 25, 00	803,600	3,451,200	\$289.50	4.3	2,647,600	12,501,200	389
Mar 21, 00	803,600	2,411,600	\$285.25	3.0	1,608,000	14,109,200	439
May 23, 00	803,600	2,134,400	\$275.25	2.7	1,330,800	15,440,000	480
Jul 12, 00	803,600	1,046,400	\$279.75	1.3	242,800	15,682,800	488
Sep 19, 00	803,600	2,103,600	\$270.60	2.6	1,300,000	16,982,800	528
Nov 7, 00	803,600	2,670,400	\$264.30	3.3	1,866,800	18,849,600	586
Jan 23, 01	803,600	3,852,400	\$268.00	4.8	3,048,800	21,898,400	681
Mar 14, 01	803,600	1,800,000	\$266.00	2.2	996,400	22,894,800	712
Averages		2,884,945	\$273.55	3.6	2,081,345		

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gold suppression scheme, smells like an intentional gold suppression scheme, and tastes like an intentional gold suppression scheme, chances are it is—drumroll—AN INTENTIONAL GOLD SUPPRESSION SCHEME!

As if what we have discussed so far is not bad enough, there is seriously damning evidence emerging that the whole BoE gold firesale has NOTHING to do with foreign exchange and is deliberately designed to artificially augment gold supply and dampen investor enthusiasm through information warfare principles in order to quasi-covertly suppress the global gold price.

The table nearby lists all the BoE gold bombing sorties to date. The left column is the date of the auction. Light blue shaded dates represent the tranches of the first series of gold



Market Association were allowed to bid on England's gold) placed bids that in total amounted to 489 tonnes of gold! This number is derived from four sales of 25 tonnes each (that's 100 tonnes for all you CSCO shareholders out there) PLUS the cumulative wasted demand of 389 tonnes—net 489 tonnes of gold demanded in the first four sales of HM Treasury gold. **The BoE could have easily sold the entire 415 tonnes commissioned by HM Treasury by January 2000!**

If the BoE simply wanted to sell gold to buy currency without disrupting or overhanging the gold market, why not do the sales:

(A) quietly,

(B) to the highest bidder at the individual bid prices, and

(C) in the SHORTEST amount of time in which the market could absorb the physical gold offered?

***The fact that the BoE could easily have sold the entire lot in four sales, with a greatly limited disruption to the gold market, but chose to draw it out, lends great support to the theory that the BoE is being used by the socialist British government to actively intercede to suppress a global free market.***

Granted, over time cumulative wasted demand MAY be overstated—as a bidder whose lots were not filled in a given auction may have bid again at the successive auction—but still, even adjusting for that possibility, the general principle stands strong. Per the BoE's own records, MUCH more gold was demanded in each individual auction, EVERY SINGLE TIME, than the stingy BoE would offer. The sales have been dragged out LONG after the market demanded the 415 tonnes of gold to be sold. The plot thickens.

The second critically important bit of information in this table is the latest auction results, direct from the BoE. In recent weeks, rumors have abounded that the BoE was having trouble finding physical gold to settle its gold obligations. These rumors would not be a big deal, EXCEPT for the undisputable fact that short-term gold lease rates have rocketed to new interim highs, zooming from 1% in early January to 7% intraday in recent weeks. **The current gold lease rate action indicates EXTREME pressure in the gold market. This is analogous to the U.S. Federal Funds interest rate rocketing from 5% to 35% in a little over two months.** Serious disruptions in gold lease rates of this magnitude are extremely rare, and the last episode preceded the monstrous September 1999 *Washington Agreement* rally.

Against the backdrop of trouble in the gold world, U.S. equity markets were being torn to shreds by the awakening bear in the days leading up to the auction. Reginald Howe and the Gold Anti-Trust Action Committee (GATA at [www.gata.org](http://www.gata.org)) were making serious inroads in the legal fight to free gold, and the whole gold world was very nervous and jittery.

The last few weeks have truly witnessed

extraordinary uneasiness in the gold world. With this in mind, please go back and examine the numbers highlighted in red, which cover the latest March 14 gold auction.

First, note the "Market Bid For". In the tightest gold environment in the entire BoE strategic gold bombing campaign, the 1.8 million ounces bid for was over 1 million ounces BELOW the AVERAGE for all the auctions. The times covered (X Cov) was only 2.2x, the THIRD lowest out of all eleven auctions.

**Anyone else have a funny feeling about the data the BoE provided?**

**Even worse, note that EXACTLY 1.8 million ounces was bid for. Now review previous auctions. NEVER has there been an auction that just "happened" to have a perfectly round number of ounces asked for.**

There was only one other auction even remotely close to this, the third one. What are the odds of a perfectly round bid number in a chaotic gold market? It is kind of like witnessing the DJIA close at EXACTLY 10,000.00. It is possible, but statistically quite improbable.

**As a Big-Six-trained Certified Public Accountant and auditor who has witnessed financial fraud situations first-hand, the latest auction results, when viewed in context of the whole auction series and the tight gold environment of 2001, throws off a cacophony of shrill warning sirens careening through my skull.**

**Something IS odd here, and we believe there is greater than 50% probability that the latest "1.8 million ounce" and "2.2x covered" numbers are nothing more than hastily fabricated accounting plugs.**

They stick out of the series; they make no sense in reference to the current gold market environment; and it certainly appears that the BoE is "cooking the books" in their latest press release. One would have to be gullible enough to believe the NASDAQ has bottomed already if one's suspicions fail to be aroused by the latest BoE reported auction results.

Motive?

Simple: **IF the latest BoE auction had been reported as massively oversubscribed (a high "times covered" ratio), HUGE amounts of physical gold buying would have sloshed into the gold market from all over the world and launched gold into a rapid ascent north. This would have disemboweled large money**


**center banks which owe physical gold they don't have. If the BoE did indeed heavily understate its reported gold auction results, a massive short-covering rally in gold was averted—for now.**

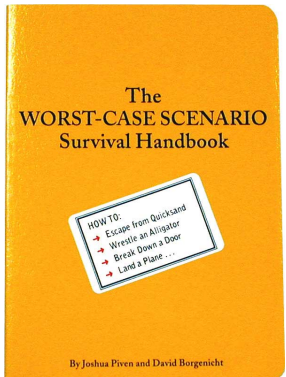
Of course, if the BoE REALLY wanted to maximize the proceeds of the gold sales for HM Treasury and the citizens of the great nation of Great Britain, then it would be really happy about rising gold prices for future auctions. But, as we have explored in this essay, **virtually everything about the BoE gold sales stinks to high heaven and reeks of blatant market manipulation.**

As American citizens, we can do nothing about this, but our British friends can. We encourage all our readers from the United Kingdom to contact their representatives in the House of Commons or House of Lords and demand an investigation into the BoE activities in the gold market. If everything proves to be legitimate, it will cause no harm for the legislative bodies of Great Britain to independently look into the gold sales. If, however, the BoE is squandering HM Treasury's gold to save the bacon of a handful of elite bankers who made stupid bets, the citizens of Britain and the Queen certainly have every right to know about it immediately.

After this latest gold bombing run, the BoE announced yet ANOTHER long, drawn-out series of six 20-tonne auctions beginning in May. **The more the fruits of the BoE gold bombing raids are analyzed, the more it appears that the BoE is intentionally damaging the world gold markets and knowingly destroying the African nations that rely on gold for much of their private and government revenues.**

As the gold info-war rages on, there is little doubt that the Bank of England has chosen to side with the gold shorts desperate to save their own crooked hides by attempting to perpetually suppress the global gold market.

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# Go With The Flow Of Your High-Frequency World

3/31/01 SOLTEC

Good afternoon, my friend. It is I, Ceres Anthonious “Toniose” Soltec, come in the Light of Creator Source—*The One Light*.

Allow for the energies to settle around you. Your planetary environment is continually shifting upward in frequency, and you need only ALLOW for the changes within you in order to match frequency with the environment—rather than trying to hold fast to what you once considered to be a high-frequency state. This can be disorienting, for you each are being “stretched” to some extent as the energies continue to come forth, bathing your planetary system with an ever increasing frequency and intensity.

Allow for change through growth. Growth IS what the soul-you continually seeks out and desires. With every day comes the possibility to expand one’s awareness of self and one’s placement in the ever evolving experience of life-force expression.

I use the terminology “life-force expression” in an attempt to bring focus to the fact that all beings, both physical and non-physical, experience—and thus contribute to—the experience of the Collective Whole. The unseen world of the “spirit” realms contributes just as much to the evolving experiences of your world as do the physical participants. The sum of the entire interaction between the physical and non-physical creates a synergistic relationship, with a balance that is optimized for soul growth-potential.

Allow for the fact that the physical schoolroom is evolving and that natural cycles are responsible for the shifts that are now occurring. You ones are NOT being punished by some mythical god of vengeance. Your world is simply entering an area of space in which the vibratory rate is quite a bit higher than what you ones have been used to. This upshifting of frequency can cause restlessness, anxiousness, agitation, and so forth if you resist the speeding up.

On a larger scale, this frequency upshifting is resulting in social upheaval all over your world. The inner stresses that many are experiencing (and will continue to experience)

are due in large part to the inability of these ones to match the frequencies now coming into your planet.

The ability to match frequency depends greatly on one’s ability to freely flow energy through the body in a manner so that there is no perceivable frequency difference. This could be likened to equalizing the pressure in your ears as you change in elevation. The failure to do so will cause an uncomfortable pressure (stress, anxiety, restlessness) to be felt.

The primary reason people fail to match frequency—and thus feel a sense of chronic stress and such—is due to various emotional energy blockages. These blockages are usually self-induced punishments of sorts, most often manifesting because ones anchor themselves emotionally in past experiences of great personal trauma. Such emotionally charged experiences happen for many reasons, but a common thread will always be so that you can have opportunity to examine an aspect of yourself and grow from the experience.

No matter how traumatic an experience, you need NOT continually hold onto it (punish yourself) any longer than it takes to understand the lesson it provided to you. Many of you get caught-up in the emotional energy surges of such emotions as grief and pain and, in the midst of such overwhelm, you make a decision or choice to “never forget”. So you henceforth carry that “charge” of emotional pain as a reminder of the past. For many, to stop feeling the pain would somehow be a sacrilegious act of breaking a promise to yourself “not to forget”.

Often this condition is associated with the loss of a loved one, and is perhaps most severe in the case of a mother who loses a child. The common trait will be the “broken heart” associated with the memory. In the case of the death of a loved one, you should know that these ones who have passed DO NOT find comfort in your misery, and in many cases they try to assist you to move on and move past such limited viewpoints that would cause you to hold to such pain with such “reverent” vigor that you make your lives a depressing and miserable existence that simply “must be endured”.

Each of you have experienced painful moments in your lives from time to time. These experiences are part of the “bio-feedback” mechanism of the physical schoolroom that help you to understand the consequences of your decisions and choices.

You entered into the physical environment knowing full well the ways in which emotional energies were going to affect you, and that there would be times of discomfort as you learn and grow. The pain you experience should simply be looked upon as an indicator to you that your guidance system is working properly and that you have need to learn a lesson in a particular area of life in a particular way.

Seek out the understanding (the lesson in point), and the pain WILL go away. Hold onto a misunderstanding (erroneous belief) associated with the “traumatic” event, and the pain WILL persist.

In general, ones on your planet tend to accumulate more and more “heartaches” over a given lifetime. These emotional accumulations clog-up the natural energy pathways, much like the plaque on the walls of arteries restrict (and eventually block) nourishing blood flow. Such clogs or restrictions in the energy field of an individual in turn usually lead to physiological imbalances because the life-force energies are diverted into sustaining the emotional trauma rather than flowing throughout the body to nourish the various physical systems. The accumulated emotional “garbage” will eventually lead to further degeneration and physical death if not addressed directly.

**Moreover, as the frequency of the planet continues to rise, and at an ever increasing rate, what once took decades to manifest as, say, a cancerous tumor, will manifest much more quickly. The time in which ALL feedback cycles occur is shortened, and ones will be, in essence, led to confront and grow past any erroneous understandings—or they simply will not be able to sustain adequate functioning of the physical apparatus. This is the thorough nature of the cleansing process at work on your planet at this time—a process known to your Native American brothers and sisters as The Great Purification.**

Remember, this is a NATURAL cycle resulting from your planetary system’s travel into a higher-frequency region of space—NOT a punishment from some vengeful god. Such high-frequency planetary conditions provide an excellent atmosphere in which to make great forward strides in ability, understanding, and growth.

Many who observe from the more expansive view of the non-physical perspective look upon the unfolding environment on your planet as a great opportunity for many “stuck” (one who resists change) souls to free themselves from the repetitive “rut” they seem to fall into, lifetime after lifetime. It is for these

reasons that there is great interest from the Higher Realms in the unfolding choices and decisions being made as these upward shifts continue to modify inner perceptions on an individual basis—and how that process, in turn, resonates on the larger social level as ones effort to express (and otherwise address) their inner feelings of restlessness and such.

Many ones are having their lives turned upside down and inside out, not really understanding why it is that these things are occurring. Each one will sense in their own way the need for “something more”—and yet, for the large part, they will not know where to look. This is where the interaction of the non-physical comes into the picture.

We of the non-physical Lighted Realms, who come in service to help others, act as Guides and Wayshowers. We work “behind the scenes” to cause paths to cross and experiences to unfold in ways that will help answer the heart’s call for understanding. Our methods and orchestrations often require us to go within and tap a Higher Creative Potential so that we may be effective in many ways that are often overlooked by you ones in the physical. Please remember that there really are NO coincidences in your world. A coincidence is merely the recognition of a Higher Hand working in your life.

Remember that each desire expressed sends out a call that will return an answer. The stronger the desire (the greater the clarity and intensity of the emotional energy behind the desire), the quicker the answer will come.

Many simply want to understand what is “wrong” with the world or others. Yet, when the answers are presented to them, they reject same because their current “religious” or “scientific” belief system says that the given answer “CAN’T BE SO!” Thus the condition of ignorance, uneasiness, stress, frustration and such persists.

To arrive at a better understanding of something that is perplexing you, recognize that some current belief you hold is untrue. One must often confront the idea that they may have bought into a lie. This recognition can cause great inner struggle as one must contend with the ego’s “need” to “save face”. Ask yourself: “Why do I believe what I believe?” Is it because of personal experiential (inner or heart) knowing? Or, is it because of something others have told you that you should believe?

We of the Lighted Brotherhood, who come in service to help ALL ones, will not insist that another accept our words, guidance, or suggestions. To do so would cause ones to accept concepts out of fear—rather than appreciation and understanding—and thus NO ACTUAL GROWTH would occur, and we would, in essence, be slowing growth and binding ourselves in a karmic sense to anyone to whom we should try to do this.

We only offer information that is in direct


response to a request that is being made to us. Please remember that it is when you make a DELIBERATE call for help from Angels, Guides, Lighted Brotherhood, etc., that we can do much more to help you ones find the answers you desire. Many of you do this as a natural course of habit, and you are almost always open to the thoughts, ideas, and “coincidences” that you receive in answer.

Please learn to recognize and exploit EVERY opportunity that comes your way, and KNOW that you can and will find the answers to the questions that weigh on your heart. Many of you ones reading this message are greatly compassionate people who simply want to know where you “fit into the picture” and why things are happening to you.

You each have experience and knowledge

that can help others if it is shared when the opportunity presents itself to you. Learn to recognize when your experience and understanding would benefit one who is guided to cross your path. Learn to share same in a manner that is acceptable to the one you wish to assist. Allow the other to come to their own conclusions in their own time. Sometimes what you tell a person today will not make sense to them for years to come, but eventually the truth will be the only thing left standing when all other “reasoning” has failed.

I am Ceres Anthonious “Toniose” Soltec, come in Light and Service to *The One Light*, Creator Source, so that you ones may gain insight and understanding about some of the matters that may be concerning you.

Much Love and Light to you ALL! Salu. 

# Hopi Elder Chief Dan Evehema’s *Message To Mankind*

*Editor’s note: Chief Dan Evehema, longtime spiritual leader of the Hopi sovereign nation, doesn’t trust the normal print and broadcast media to convey a message of Truth. As he put it: “...what gets into the papers is what the government wants people to believe, not what is really happening.” Surely all of you SPECTRUM readers have no trouble identifying with that wise caution.*

*We are IN the time of the Sorting and Purification, spoken about so long ago in Hopi (and other) prophecy. And this is the time when it was said there would be the sharing of some very interesting (if sometimes cryptic) messages, like the following.*

*Naturally, the behind-the-scenes dark-world powers are trying desperately to stop the spiritual upliftment that originates from the Hopi “home base” of Hotevilla, Arizona—from which this message originates through Chief Dan. Disrupting the base is generally an effective way to disrupt the messenger, and thus the message. Or so the dark, would-be kings think in their all-too-linear reasoning.*

*But that probably won’t happen in this case, due to the pivotal nature of current world circumstances and the Power behind the messengers of The Awakening. Within the Native American culture, this dedicated message-giver is known respectfully as: Chief*

*Dan Evehema (105), Spiritual Leader, Eldest Elder Greasewood, Roadrunner Clan Society Father, Snake Priest, Kachina Father. In other words, the dark destroyers don’t really stand much of a chance deterring a messenger entrusted with such a critical mission!*

*We would like to sincerely thank Mitch Battros, producer of Earth Changes TV, for sharing this important message with us by way of his [www.earthchangesTV.com](http://www.earthchangesTV.com) Internet website. We also thank R.B. for making sure it landed on our desk despite the whirlwind of items that cross our path in any given day. As Chief Dan reminds us, it is only through working together that peace and prosperity shall be returned to this planet. We likewise thank Chief Dan for maintaining an amazing level of courage and persistence despite the kinds of attacks that would deter a lesser soul.*

**3/27/01 CHIEF DAN EVEHEMA**

I am very glad to have this time to send a message to you. We are celebrating a time in our history which is both filled with joy and sadness. I am very glad that our Hindu brothers have given us this opportunity to share these feelings with you because we know many of you are having the same troubles.

We Hopi believe that the human race has

passed through three different worlds and life ways since the beginning. At the end of each prior world, human life has been purified or punished by the Great Spirit "Massauu" due mainly to corruption, greed, and turning away from the Great Spirit's teachings.

The last great destruction was the flood which destroyed all but a few faithful ones who asked and received a permission from the Great Spirit to live with Him in this new land. The Great Spirit said: "It is up to you, if you are willing to live my poor, humble, and simple life way. It is hard, but if you agree to live according to my teachings and instructions, if you never lose faith in the life I shall give you, you may come and live with me."

The Hopi, and all who were saved from the great flood, made a sacred covenant with the Great Spirit at that time. We Hopi made an oath that we will never turn away from Him. For us, the Creator's Laws never change or break down.

To the Hopi, the Great Spirit is all powerful. He appeared to the first people as a man and talked with them in the beginning of this creation world. He taught us how to live, to worship, where to go, and what food to carry, gave us seeds to plant and harvest.

He gave us a set of sacred stone tablets into which He breathed all teachings in order to safeguard His land and life. In these stone tablets were made instructions and prophecies and warnings. This was done with the help of a Spider Woman and Her two grandsons. They were wise and powerful helpers of the Great Spirit.

Before the Great Spirit went into hiding, He and Spider Woman put before the leaders of the different groups of people many colors and sizes of corn for them to choose their food in this world. The Hopi was the last to pick, and then choose their food in this world.

The Hopi then chose the smallest ear of corn. Then Massauu said: "You have shown me you are wise and humble. For this reason you will be called Hopi ("people of peace") and I will place in your authority all land and life to guard, protect, and hold trust for Me until I return to you in later days, for I am the First and the Last."

**This is why, when a Hopi is ordained into the higher religious order, the Earth and all living things are placed upon his hands. He becomes a parent to all life on Earth.**

He is entitled to advise and correct his children in whatever peaceful way he can. So we can never give up knowing that our message of peace will reach our children. Then it is, together with the other spiritual leaders, that the destiny of our future children is placed. We are instructed to hold this world in balance, within the land and the many universes, with special prayers and rituals which continue to this day.

It was to the Spider Woman's two grandsons that the sacred stone tablets were given. These two brothers were then instructed to carry them

to a place the Great Spirit had instructed them.

The older brother was to go immediately to the East, to the rising Sun, and upon reaching his destination was instructed to immediately start to look for his younger brother, who shall remain in the land of the Great Spirit. The older brother's mission, when he returned, was to help his younger brother (Hopi) bring about peace, brotherhood, and everlasting life on his return.

Hopi, the younger brother, was instructed to cover all land and mark it well with footprints and sacred markings to claim this land for the Creator and peace on Earth. We established our ceremonials and sacred shrines to hold this world in balance in accordance with our first promise to the Creator.

This is how our migration story goes, until we meet the Creator at Old Oribe (place that solidifies) over 1000 years ago. It was at that meeting when He gave to us these prophecies to give to you now, at this closing of the Fourth World of destruction and the beginning of the Fifth World of peace.

He gave us many prophecies to pass on to you, and all have come to pass. This is how we know the timing is now to reveal the last warnings and instructions to mankind.

We were told to settle permanently here in Hopiland, where we met the Great Spirit, and wait for Older Brother, who went East to return to us. When he returns to this land, he will place his stone tablets side by side to show all the world that they are our true brothers.

When the road in the sky has been fulfilled, and when the inventing of something, which in Hopi means "gourd of ashes", a gourd that, when dropped upon the Earth, will boil everything within a large space and nothing will grow for a very long time. When the leaders turned to evil ways instead of the Great Spirit, we were told there would be many ways this life may be destroyed, if humankind does not heed our prophecy and return to one's original spiritual instructions.

We were told of three helpers, who were commissioned by the Great Spirit to help Hopi bring about the peaceful life on Earth, would appear to help us and we should not change our homes, our ceremonials, our hair, because the true helpers might not recognize us as the true Hopi. So we have been waiting all these years.

It is known that our True White Brother, when he comes, will be all powerful and will wear a red cap or red cloak. He will be large in population, belong to no religion but his very own. He will bring with him the sacred stone tablets. With him there will be two great ones, both very wise and powerful. One will have a symbol or sign of swastika, which represents purity and is female, a producer of life.

The third one—or the second one of the two helpers to our True White Brother—will have a sign of a symbol of the Sun. He, too, will be many people and very wise and powerful. We have, in our sacred Kachina ceremonies, a gourd

rattle which is still in use today with these symbols of these powerful helpers of our True Brother.

It is also prophesied that, if these three fail to fulfill their mission, then the one from the West will come like a big storm. He will be many in numbers and unmerciful. When he comes, he will cover the land like the red ants and overtake this land in one day.

If the three helpers chosen by the Creator fulfill their sacred mission, and even if there are only one, two, or three of the true Hopi remaining, holding fast to the last ancient teachings and instructions of the Great Spirit, Massauu will appear before all, and our world will be saved.

The three will lay out a new life plan which leads to everlasting life and peace. The Earth will become new, as it was from the beginning. Flowers will bloom again, wild game will return to barren lands, and there will be abundance of food for all. Those who are saved will share everything equally, and they all will recognize Great Spirit and speak one language.

We are now faced with great problems, not only here but throughout the land. Ancient cultures are being annihilated. Our people's lands are being taken from them, leaving them no place to call their own.

Why is this happening? It is happening because many have given up or manipulated their original spiritual teachings. The way of life which the Great Spirit has given to all people of the world, whatever your original instructions, are not being honored. It is because of this great sickness, called greed, which infects every land and country, that simple people are losing what they have kept for thousands of years.

**Now we are at the very end of our trail. Many people no longer recognize the true path of the Great Spirit. They have, in fact, no respect for the Great Spirit or for our precious Mother Earth, who gives us all life.**

We are instructed, in our ancient prophecy, that this would occur. We were told that someone would try to go up to the Moon; that they would bring something back from the Moon; and that after that, Nature would show signs of losing its balance.

Now we see that coming about. All over the world there are now many signs that Nature is no longer in balance. Floods, drought, earthquakes, and great storms are occurring and causing much suffering. We do not want this to occur in our country, and we pray to the Great Spirit to save us from such things. But there are now signs that this very same thing might happen very soon on our own land.

Now we must look upon each other as brothers and sisters. There is no more time for divisions between people.

Today I call upon all of us, from right here at home, Hotevilla—where we too are guilty of gossiping and causing divisions, even among our own families—out to the entire world, where



thievery, war, and lying go on every day.

**These divisions will not be our salvation. Wars only bring more wars, never peace. Only by joining together in a Spiritual Peace with love in our hearts for one another, love in our hearts for the Great Spirit and Mother Earth, shall we be saved from the terrible Purification Day which is just ahead.**

There are many of you in this world who are honest people. We know you, spiritually, for we are the "Men's Society Grandfathers" who have been charged to pray for you and all life on Earth, never forgetting any thing or any one in our ceremonials.

Our prayer is to have a good and happy life, plenty of soft gentle rain for abundant crops. We pray for balance on Earth, to live in peace, and leave a beautiful world to the children yet to come.

We know you have good hearts, but good hearts are not enough to help us out with these great problems. In the past, some of you have tried to help us Hopis, and we will always be thankful for your efforts.

But now we need your help in the worst way. We want the people of the world to know the truth of our situation.

This land, which people call the Land of the Freedom, celebrates many days reminding people of the world of these things. Yet, in well over 200 years, the original Americans have not seen a free day.

We are suffering the final insult. Our people are now losing the one thing which gives life and meaning of life—our ceremonial land, which is being taken away from us. Hotevilla is the last holy, consecrated, undisturbed traditional Native American sacred shrine to the Creator.

As the prophecy says, this sacred shrine must keep its spiritual pathways open. This village is the spiritual vortex for the Hopi to guide the many awakening Native Americans, and other true hearts, home to their own unique culture.

Hotevilla was established by the last remaining spiritual elders to maintain peace and balance on this continent—from the tip of South America up to Alaska. Many of our friends say Hotevilla is a sacred shrine, a national and world treasure, and must be preserved. We need your help.

Where is the freedom which you all fight for and sacrifice your children for? Is it only the Indian people who have lost, or are all Americans losing the very thing which you originally came here to find?

**We don't share the freedom of the press because what gets into the papers is what the government wants people to believe, not what is really happening.** We have no freedom of speech, because we are persecuted by our own people for speaking our beliefs.

We are at the final stages now, and there is a last force that is about to take away our

remaining homeland. We are still being denied many things, including the right to be Hopis and to make our living in accordance with our religious teachings.

The Hopi leaders have warned leaders in the White House and the leaders in the Glass House, but they do not listen. So as our prophecy says, then it must be up to the people with good pure hearts, who will not be afraid to help us to fulfill our destiny in peace for this world.

**We now stand at a crossroad—whether to lead ourselves in everlasting life or total destruction. We believe that human beings' spiritual power through prayer is so strong it decides life on Earth.**

So many people have come to Hopiland to meet with us. Some of you we have met on your lands. Many times people have asked how they can help us. Now I hope and pray that your help will come. If you have a way to spread the truth—through the newspapers, radio, books, through meeting with powerful people—tell the truth! Tell them what you know to be true. Tell them what you have seen here; what you have heard us say; what you have seen with your own eyes.

In this way, if we do fall, let it be said that we tried, right up to the end, to hold fast to the path of peace as we were originally instructed to do by the Great Spirit. Should you really

succeed, we will all realize our mistakes of the past and return to the true path—living in harmony as brothers and sisters, sharing our Mother, the Earth, with all other living creatures. In this way we could bring about a new world. A world which would be led by the Great Spirit, and our Mother will provide plenty and happiness for all.

God bless you, each one of you, and know our prayers for peace meet yours as the Sun rises and sets. May the Great Spirit guide you safely into the path of love, peace, freedom, and God on this Earth Mother. May the holy ancestors of Love and Light keep you safe in your land and homes.

Pray for God to give you something important to do in this great work which lies ahead of us all, to bring peace on Earth. We, the Hopi, still hold the sacred stone tablets and now await the coming of our True White Brother and others seriously ready to work for the Creator's peace on Earth.

Be well, my children, and think good thoughts of peace and togetherness—peace for all life on Earth, and peace with one another in our homes, families, and countries.

We are not so different in the Creator's eyes. The same great Father Sun shines His love on each of us daily, just as Mother Earth prepares the sustenance for our table, do they not?

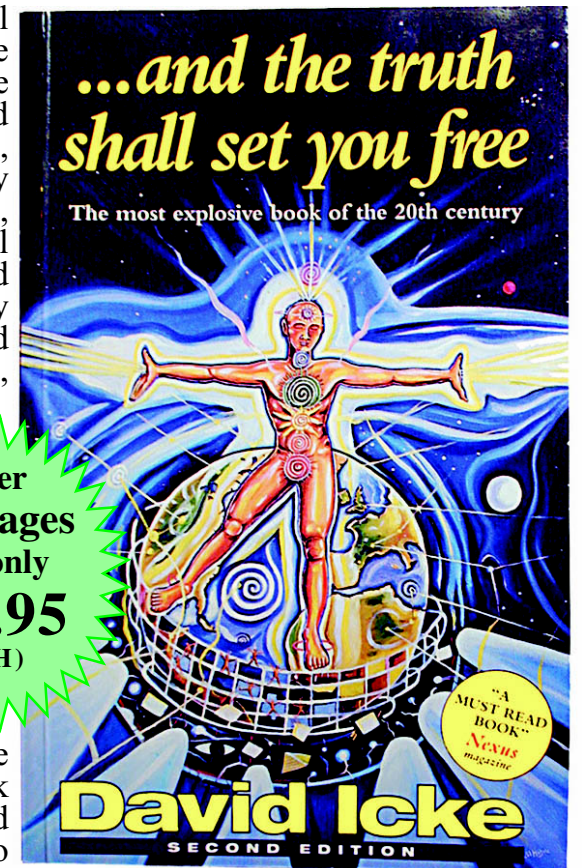
We are one, after all. △

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# California's Power Crisis: A Most Revealing Update

3/27/01 RICK MARTIN

It's a headache that just keeps getting worse and worse for California Governor Gray Davis. And apparently our February 2001 front-page story, *Will The Lights Go Out In California And The Nation? Expert Exposes Fraud & Greed*, was as prophetically revealing as it was thoroughly uncomfortable for all of the crooks involved.

Let's take a moment to bring you up to date on what's happened in this "chess game" since our outlay appeared—that is, what's been going on besides a lot more lights going out around the state without warning.

To begin with, on Tuesday, March 20, Los Angeles City Attorney Brian Williams filed suit against three large energy companies claiming "they had engaged in a 'massive conspiracy' to eliminate competition and drive up prices, helping create California's power crisis."

Not only that. In a story appearing in the *Sacramento Bee* on March 22, we read: "Electricity wholesalers have overcharged California \$6.2 billion since May by manipulating the energy market, power grid managers said Thursday. The Independent System Operator will file the findings with federal regulators and ask for a refund, ISO spokesman Patrick Dorison said."

In another story, written by Emily Bazar and Amy Chance, appearing in the same edition of the *Sacramento Bee*, we read:

"Power solution eludes Davis: Lawmakers grow edgy as crisis drags on.

"Gov. Gray Davis likes to compare the state's energy crisis to a complicated 'three-cornered' billiard shot. But as California plunged into another round of power blackouts this week, Davis has yet to line up the angle on an ultimate solution.

"The state's short-term power bill is nearing \$4.2 billion, and legislators are balking at the administration's requests for additional money."

In a March 22 *Los Angeles Times* story by Dan Morain and Jenifer Warren, we read:

"After two days of statewide blackouts, power plants that had been shut down were cranked up. Unseasonable heat tapered off. The operators of the statewide power grid

relaxed their state of emergency. But plenty of ominous signs remained. Many small producers remained shut down, skeptical about Gov. Gray Davis' plan for utilities to pay them.

"State Controller Kathleen Connell issued a sharp warning about the high cost of the state's foray into the power business and announced that she will block an administration request that she transfer \$5.6 billion into an account that could be tapped to pay for state purchases of electricity."

In two stories appearing in the March 24 edition of *The Sacramento Bee*, we read: "The Pacific Gas and Electric Company threatened Friday to sue the state if legislators pass a handful of energy measures that supporters say are needed to keep California's electricity efforts from spinning out of control."

And "The proposed actions will destabilize [PG&E's] current situation with creditors and put the entire possibility of reaching a balanced solution to California's energy crisis at risk' the utility said in a statement distributed to reporters."

In the second story from the same paper: "William Massey used to be a team player. Then the lights started flickering in California. Now, Massey is the dissenting voice of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission—a preacher, an absolute convert to the idea that free markets be damned because California is getting a raw deal.

"Wholesale electricity prices are rocketing into the stratosphere. Gov. Gray Davis, joined by the governors of Oregon and Washington, is screaming for price controls. And yet Massey said his colleagues wouldn't do their job to ensure 'just and reasonable' prices and rein-in price gougers."

"I fear a disaster in the making' Massey told a House subcommittee this week. He said that without price controls this summer, he fears the worst."

As if all this weren't enough, on March 27, California's Public Utilities Commission voted unanimously to raise electricity rates. In a March 28 *Los Angeles Times* story we read: "With protestors jeering their disapproval, besieged utility regulators Tuesday adopted the largest electricity rate hike in the state's history

and defended the action as the only way to keep the lights on for millions of customers.

"The California Public Utilities Commission unanimously approved an increase of 3 cents per kilowatt-hour. That will boost rates by as much as **42 percent** for some Southern California Edison customers and up to **46 percent** for some served by Pacific Gas & Electric Company."

**What was the PUC's reason (excuse) to justify such a whopping rate increase? Why, because it would help the public practice conservation!** (What does that say about the role of the PUC in this orchestrated shenanigan?) And while it is stated that "low income" residents will be exempt from these "necessary" increases, the reality of that statement remains to be seen.

Now we come to a real gem of a news item. (This is an example of why truth is always stranger than fiction.) This matter first broke to wide publicity (from obviously purposeful secrecy and overlooking by the regular print and broadcast media hounds) the last week of March on Art Bell's late-night talk-radio program.

Let's start with the news story:

[Quoting]

NEWS FROM NIRS—Nuclear Information and Resource Service, 1424 16th Street NW, #404, Washington, DC 20036; phone: 202-328-0002; fax: 202-462-2183; nirsnet@nirs.org; www.nirs.org

For Immediate Release, March 22, 2001

Contact: Michael Mariotte or Paul Gunter

## LITTLE NOTICED ACCIDENT AT SAN ONOFRE

## NUCLEAR POWER REACTOR IS KEY STORY BEHIND CALIFORNIA BLACKOUTS

A significant accident February 3 at Southern California Edison's San Onofre-3 nuclear power reactor is a major cause of the rolling blackouts that have plagued California this week.

According to published reports, California has lacked up to 800 Megawatts (MW) of power during the blackout periods. When running at full power, San Onofre-3 produces 1120 MW of electricity. Had the reactor been operating, the blackouts almost certainly would not have occurred.

The accident occurred when a circuit breaker fault caused a fire—that lasted nearly three hours—a loss of offsite power and a reactor scram. A related failure of an oil pump resulted in extensive damage to the plant's turbine.

The reactor is expected to be shut down for repairs for at least three months. Although the utility claims no radiation was released and no nuclear safety issues were involved, the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission sent a Special Inspection Team to the plant site to investigate the accident.

The NRC met with SCE officials today to



go over their findings. That team's report is expected to be publicly released soon.

"This serious accident, which has gone virtually unnoticed in the daily attention given to California's electricity problems, highlights the vulnerability of electrical systems that rely on nuclear power, and is a clear demonstration why atomic reactors can never be counted on to meet our energy needs. Not only have nuclear plants always been too costly, they are too unreliable as well" said Michael Mariotte, executive director of the Nuclear Information and Resource Service (NIRS), a Washington-DC based nuclear watchdog group. "When one of these large reactors goes down—and as reactors age, they will go down more often—large amounts of replacement power are needed, but are not always available. This situation is likely to worsen as time goes on, not improve."

In January, California's electricity shortage was prompted in part by a storm which washed large amounts of kelp into the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant's water intake system, forcing those two reactors to reduce power to 20% to avoid a potential meltdown accident.

"Using nuclear power to meet electricity needs is a lot like playing Russian Roulette" said Paul Gunter, chief of NIRS' Reactor Watchdog Project. "Most of the time you'll win, but when you lose, the results can be catastrophic."

NIRS was among the organizations that opposed California's deregulation law from the beginning, and supported a 1998 referendum that would have repealed that law. But California utilities spent \$40 million to defeat the referendum, thereby ensuring their steady march toward bankruptcy.

"At the time, Pacific Gas & Electric and Southern California Edison were eyeing some \$25 Billion in 'stranded costs' charged under the deregulation scheme to California ratepayers to pay for San Onofre and Diablo Canyon" explained Mariotte. "Much of that money seems to have been distributed to their holding companies, and has not been used for the benefit of Californians. And the bailout certainly hasn't made their reactors any more reliable, nor any safer."

"Anyone who believes nuclear power is a way out of California's (or the nation's) energy problem should simply consider how much electricity could have been provided by safe, clean renewable energy and energy efficiency programs for the \$25 Billion California spent on its unreliable nuclear reactors" concluded Gunter. "The choice is clear: we can meet our energy needs economically, or we can have nuclear power. We can't have both."

[End quoting]

Now, for those of you who remember what our February 2001 front-page story interviewee, Galen Winsor, had to say about the "business strategy" behind why the Three Mile Island reactor "accident" happened—well, is this recent "accident" on the central California coast a case

of déjà vu or what? (If it worked then, why not try it again now; after all, the public will never suspect a thing.)

Let me refresh your memory from that interview with a brief excerpt:

"**Martin:** Do you think there is a conspiracy among those involved in the power companies to withhold power in an effort to glean profit?"

"**Galen Winsor:** I can name the date when it started. The 28th of March, 1979, at Three Mile Island-II."

And that was followed by Galen explaining the business strategy about why it was so profitable for Three Mile Island-II to have an "accident" of some supposed serious nature.

Art Bell's website ([www.artbell.com](http://www.artbell.com)) has several photographs of the well-timed nuclear plant "accident" on the central California coast, as well as the following caption to introduce the photos:

"Accident at San Onofre-3 Nuclear Reactor. These photos were sent to us by a Nuclear Industry Employee, of the Feb. 3rd accident at the San Onofre-3 plant. Art called a Public Relations representative of the plant, and he confirmed that these photos are real."

Do you think it just a coincidence that the public announcement of the Three Mile Island "accident" and this current one is so close in date, except for the span of years? Might that be an "inside joke" among those New World Order gang whose conspiring fingerprints seem to be all over both "crime scenes"?

While all of this is going on, have you heard the Governor of California mention anything about other power options—even well-known alternatives like solar cells and wind generators? Or better yet, have you heard him discussing "free energy" devices? Have you heard him suggest invoking Eminent Domain and taking over the so-called PUBLIC utilities for the PUBLIC good?

Well, one thing is certain—California's well-engineered power problems have only just begun and will, ultimately, dig deeply into the pockets of the state of California's apparently all too abundant budget. The covert plan to dig further into the pockets of the rate-payers and tax-payers is coming dangerously close to inciting a "meltdown" of people's patience, and may very well lead to riots of one kind or another—as happened in San Diego last year.


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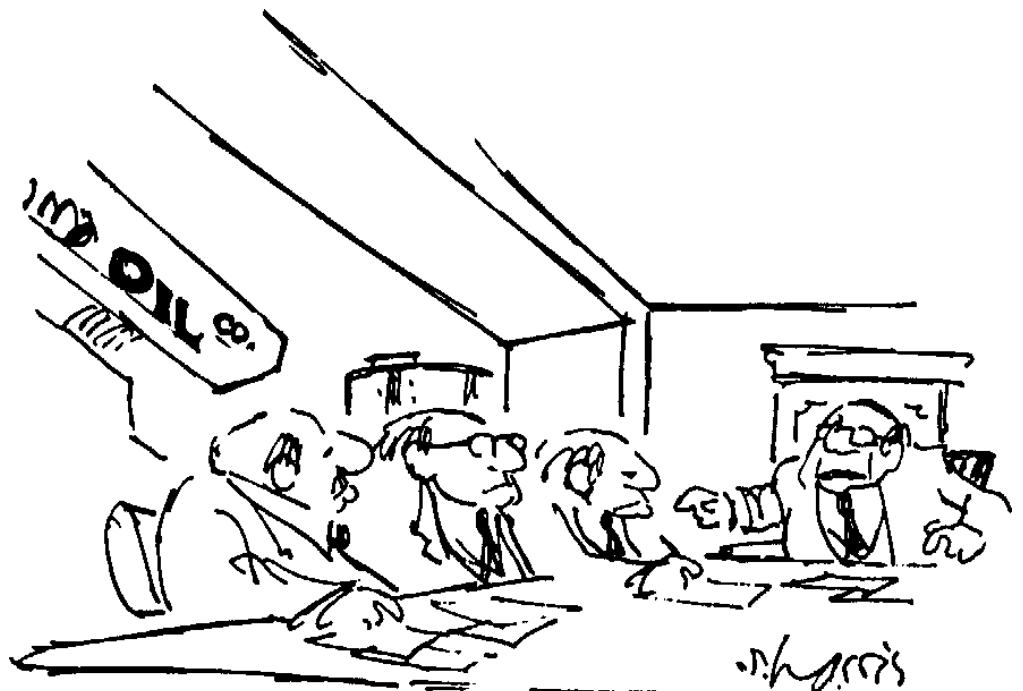
the covert psychological agenda of the New World Order gang, orchestrating this "disaster" from behind the scenes through these clashing teams of political and business puppets? How about demoralizing the business people? More and more of them are seriously considering moving out of California, rather than trying to work around such unreliable electrical power. (Do you know how much time and money is lost when, say, a Silicon Valley chip-maker has to start-up a major high-tech plant, again and again, after each, often unannounced, major power outage crashes or otherwise suspends their operations?!)

As we said in our February front-page story, what happens in California is likely to ripple throughout the United States—and maybe beyond, considering the tight interconnectedness of the electrical utility grid. And we haven't even begun to enter the ominous challenge of the massive electrical demands of summertime air conditioning.

Will the next major "power shorage" event in California (or elsewhere) be timed with some other orchestrated happening(s) to effectively paralyze—both physically and psychologically—an entire region? Might want to check those emergency supplies that have been neglected for awhile!

*Editor's afterword: As I said in the page-2 editorial, California Governor Gray Davis delivered a brief statewide address the evening of April 5 to officially steer blame away from guilty parties and place the fix-it burden squarely on the shoulders of already buckling taxpayers and ratepayers—in typical pass-the-buck fashion.*

*The next morning, Pacific Gas & Electric (remember the villain in the superb movie Erin Brockovich, in which Julia Roberts just won the Best Actress Oscar), CALIFORNIA'S LARGEST UTILITY, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, saying it had run up an \$8.9 billion deficit buying electricity (from whom?!?) as of February 28. *



"Our problem, once solar energy is in operation, is to find a way to have the citizens whose homes are heated by the Sun continue to pay us every month."

(From: *What's So Funny About Science?* Cartoons by Sidney Harris)



# What's Truly Important In Your Life?

## 4/8/01 ESU "JESUS" SANANDA

Good evening, my scribe. It is I, Esu "Jesus" Sananda, come in the Radiance and Oneness of Creator God, *The One Light*. Blessings and peace, dear ones.

Allow for the natural unfolding of events surrounding these times of swift change. Abrupt shifts in focus will become necessary for MANY in the coming weeks, months, and years. This is to say that where you think you are heading is, in all likelihood, quite a bit different than where you will eventually be. Many of you will have experiences that will cause sudden and abrupt changes of priority and focus, thus leading you down a path you may never have considered prior.

Allow for the spontaneous unfolding of life and living. Be ever diligent to remain flexible in your thinking and reasoning, so as to allow for these sudden shifts in "reality". In many cases your very ability to adapt to new and quickly changing situations will further enhance your survivability, and thus further your opportunities to experience and grow within the present, chosen physical environment.

Never underestimate your ability to adapt to new situations. Regardless of age or state of physical health, and regardless of the amount of "chaos" that may be unfolding around you, with the proper mental outlook and ability to stay centered and balanced, you can connect within for the Guidance to find an appropriate course of action that will further enhance your experience.

In times of sudden change (many would call such events "disasters"), ones often become overwhelmed with the abruptness of the "reality" shift, and become paralyzed as they wrestle with the inner emotional energy surges of shock and disbelief. In such states of paralysis, these ones will be looking for answers and understanding, as well as guidance in terms of what they should do.

Be quick to ground yourself in an understanding of the Larger Perspective—in which you are a student in a schoolroom, and the experiences you encounter are for a reason. Whatever crosses your path is no accident, and there is opportunity to learn and grow from ALL things.

Regardless of your perceptions in a time of seeming "chaos", please remember that ALL

experiences have a POSITIVE growth potential associated with them when viewed from the spiritual level from which you all originate and shall return. Each day you are faced with a series of choices and decisions that further lead to new and forever changing situations.

Abrupt change often serves you in such a way that you are caused to more deliberately focus your attention in a manner that will "quicken" the process of making choices and decisions. In such times ones are often caused to focus upon the "things" in life that are REALLY important.

For example, let us consider the situation where you are on an airplane and, while in mid-flight, it becomes evident that there is a serious problem with the aircraft. It is suddenly announced that there is need to prepare for a crash landing.

What goes through your mind? Do you worry about the mortgage payment or what the stock market is doing? Do you worry about ANY of those "precious pots of gold" at the end of the ever elusive rainbow you've been chasing most of your life?

No.

Most ones confronted with such situations quickly distill the clutter and superfluous "garbage" down to what is REALLY important. You ponder family and loved ones, and regret any missed opportunity to give them a hug and tell them one last time how much they are dearly appreciated and loved. This can be quite a powerful and insightful experience—especially for those who survive same. These "graduates" are often left with a very lasting appreciation for what is TRULY important in life.

In such situations, you will always regret recent harshness toward a loved one, and pray for the opportunity to "make things right". Never does one pray for the opportunity to survive so that they can make their next credit card payment. Nor is it the fancy cars or the large houses or the bank accounts that may have once represented security and safety.

**No, dear ones, the important things in life are the acts of kindness toward others and the expressions of**

appreciation for the subtle riches of, say, the grandchildren's smiles when you give them a hug, or the opportunity to tell someone how special they really are.

Sudden, impacting change should thus be viewed as a great catalyst for inner growth and understanding. Never are such abrupt shifts actually the "disasters" they are often regarded to be from a purely physical perspective.

ALL experience offers you an opportunity to express your uniqueness, as well as appreciate the uniqueness in others. Sometimes you will playfully ask one another: "What if you were given only 24 hours to live? What would you do?" This may seem like an innocent game, however, there is a bit of wisdom in pondering such queries with a moment of serious contemplation.

Those who go through and survive things that would be considered "near-death experiences" often emerge as "changed" people. There is usually a greater appreciation for the more simple and subtle things in life—especially interactions with loved ones who may have previously been taken for granted.

Would not such LEARNED appreciation be a valuable lesson to acquire without the need for a seemingly negative event? Often souls experiencing in the physical become too caught-up in a multitude of distractions, and severely neglect the REAL reason they came forth to experience in the physical. Usually the "tragedies" which ones are faced with leave them with a greater awareness of what they had, but simply did not fully appreciate until it was "too late".

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You ones can avoid many lessons of perceived “harshness” if you learn to appreciate those seemingly small things in life that often get taken for granted. Take the time to pull yourself out of those constant preoccupations with self-distraction long enough to really see what it is that is TRULY important. There is no need to wait until the time when it is “too late”—and yet the majority do exactly that.

Be quick to give appreciation to others and be slow to criticize. Look not to blame another for YOUR emotional state, and know that YOU are responsible for your “bad” days as much as the “good” ones.

There are no victims in life; all experiences that directly or indirectly impact you are for one very good reason—to help you to recognize and appreciate the Lighted God-force Potential within self. In doing so, you will then be able to recognize same within ALL others. A great, effortless appreciation for ALL ones and ALL life will then become a part of your experience, and you will begin to know what TRUE happiness is.

Learn to live your life without regrets. If you have regrets now, then do your best to alleviate them. There is no need to dwell upon past “mistakes”. The very fact that you can recognize a past choice or decision as a “mistake” says that you have learned a valuable lesson from same. Take the value from the experience and go forward with a greater understanding, and use it to help others.

Often the best method of teaching is to use yourself as the example, for it shows understanding and compassion, and therefore the impacting is much greater. Please know that you are never too old, sick, or weak to either teach another or learn something new yourself.

One of the most valuable skills ones can learn while in the physical is to recognize the many subtle things they have in their lives for which to be appreciative. Each person reading this message can find much more than one thing in their life to be appreciative for having as a part of their experience.

Look at the seemingly small things and examine them closely: What is common in each? How can the small insights help you to notice more things in your life to be appreciative for? Time spent examining these small, subtle things can and will lead to great insights, understanding, and wisdom.

Knowledge without wisdom most often leads to corruption and, eventually, destruction. Seek out true understanding and wisdom, and all the riches of heaven will be poured out to you, and you will know true happiness. Seek out the physical world’s “riches” as a means to finding happiness, and you will, without fail, be creating a cold and lonely “prison” from which you will eventually seek escape.

Look inward for your Guidance at all times and learn to trust your intuition. Your

Inner Guidance (conscience) is what will enable you to adapt to any situation and see good in all experience, regardless of the physical outcome.

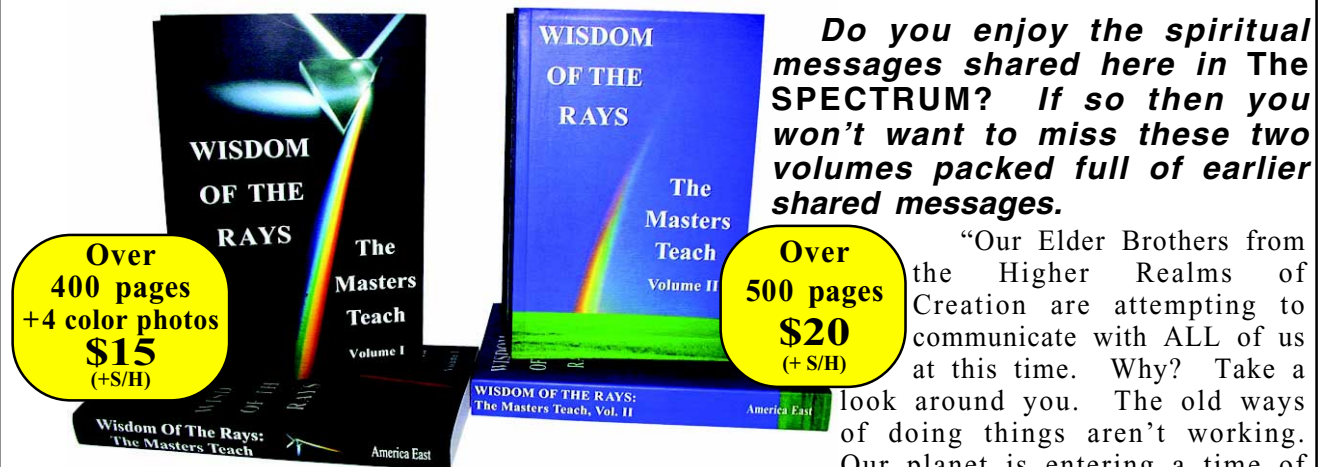
I am Esu “Jesus” Sananda, a fellow traveler along the infinite journey of Life. I am merely one who has traveled a bit further down the “road” of Understanding, and I have come to appreciate the opportunities, like this one, to

help any and all who seek my assistance.

May the Light of Father-Mother Creator Source—The One Light—forever be recognized within your heart, mind, and soul, so that you never feel that you are somehow abandoned or forsaken, for that shall never be. You are dearly loved and appreciated without conditions.

In Light, Love, and Appreciation—Salu.

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The bottom line is that the Purification of the Earth is underway, and will continue to escalate. **WHY THE END?** will prepare you mentally for the events, while those less informed will become incapacitated by fear as they witness the end of life as we know it. In reality, it is the cleansing of the old to make way for the new “Golden Age”. It then becomes your choice as to how you will view and interpret and experience these events.

# Power Of The Soil

[ Continued From Front Page ]

of topics imperative to an intelligent outlay of the subject—like genetically modified crops, EPA-approved lethal poisons getting into compost and water supplies, and related political/greed matters *SPECTRUM* readers are all too familiar with.

But that's life as we must confront it in these challenging days of massive greedy corporate interests on the surface, supported by diabolical, behind-the-scenes political agendas. Hiding from The Truth and looking the other way are not going to fix the situation! Becoming informed and wisely active is.

With that in mind, directly following my short-but-sweet interview with Maria Rodale, we are reprinting a wonderful interview that the discerning publication *ACRES U.S.A.* recently conducted and aired with longtime agricultural economist John Ikerd. These two, well-informed sources present a back-to-back picture that will take you on a rollercoaster ride up and down the blood-pressure scale. Both have valuable and courageously potent information to share on the overall subject of what we call organic versus commercial agriculture.

Why the focus on this? While it doesn't often make the evening news, what is going on in the agricultural arena is as basic to our welfare as is the necessity of eating. And the way a lot of growing is being done right now, we could all easily be sick and starving soon if major business interests had free reign!

We need to become as informed and knowledgeable about what is going on in the food production department as we have been attentive for some time about the often poisonous state of our planetary water supplies. Food and water—pretty basic stuff for staying alive, don't you think?

So, is this subject important to address? You bet your salad bowl it is! With that in mind, let's move now directly into my delightful, if maybe all too brief, conversation with Maria Rodale.

**Martin:** It's no secret that commercial agriculture is ruining the soil, which is having very long-term effects, and also there seems to be an increased public awareness about organic gardening methods, or what is called "sustainable agriculture".

(The following definition of sustainable agriculture was obtained from the Seeds of Change website, referred to later in this interview: "Unlike industrial agriculture which views farming like a factory, sustainable agriculture views farming as a natural, integrated, holistic system. Furthermore, according to findings published in the scientific journal *Nature*, November 11, 1998, organic

yields equal conventional after only four years, and soil quality improves, carbon dioxide emissions are reduced, and in periods of drought, organic fields can actually yield more than conventional plots.")

Do you find this to be the case?

**Rodale:** That there's more awareness about organic and sustainable?

**Martin:** Yes.

**Rodale:** Definitely it's the case. I still find a remarkable, though, lack of knowledge from the basic home-owner, home-gardener perspective.

**Martin:** How so?

**Rodale:** If I'm speaking at a garden club, for instance, most people don't garden organically; they don't know about it. I think they're turned off by the high price of organic food. Among the supporters, I think there's growth. There's still a lot of work to be done among mainstream America.

**Martin:** What are the greatest challenges you face publishing material on organic gardening? What are the challenges that you've come up against, on a month-to-month basis?

**Rodale:** Our biggest challenge is reinventing organics so that it doesn't mean, earthy, crunchy granola—hippie stuff.

**Martin:** So you think the hippie movement set organic gardening back?

**Rodale:** I don't think it set it back, but I think that association is holding it back. There are perfectly good people who are staying away from it because they see it as a life-style choice that they don't want to make, as opposed to just common sense.

**Martin:** Well, those who don't know about gardening tend to be overwhelmed by the idea of putting in a first garden. It's almost like it's this big mystery thing.

**Rodale:** Right.

**Martin:** And the idea of putting in an "organic" garden is even more overwhelming because, as you start reading about it, there are so many ways to go—square-foot gardening, raised beds, etc., that people don't know where to turn.

**Rodale:** Right. You know, there's also a human nature solution, that if I buy something to do it *for me*, everything will be easier. So, for example, they'd rather buy a bottle of Roundup to start a garden bed, than to buy a shovel, you know. Or they'd rather buy a leaf-blower than a rake.

**Martin:** (Laughter)

**Rodale:** Like, the more you spend, the more complicated the solution. It equates to "the easier it will be for me" and, of course, we

know that's not true.

**Martin:** Well, I've found that a shovel and a rake will basically do the whole thing; pretty much, that's it. There are a couple of other things—a wheelbarrow would be nice. (Laughter)

**Rodale:** (Laughter) Uh-huh. There's really, I think, also, the organic gardening movement has not done a good job of communicating how simple it really is. Everybody wants to have, kind-of, their own unique take on it. But, fundamentally, it is just a very simple process.

**Martin:** I couldn't agree more. Let's say you're talking to a lot of readers out there who have never planted a garden, and who are just overwhelmed at the idea. What would you tell a "first time" gardener?

**Rodale:** The first thing is to build up your soil with healthy soil, because then everything grows really easily and you don't need to do anything else. So, if you've got bad soil to begin with, just build a raised bed and fill it with compost. And don't worry about "double-digging", don't worry about anything else. Just fill it with compost and plant your garden, and watch it grow.

**Martin:** It's so nice when I get confirmation of what I've been telling our readers. (Laughter)

**Rodale:** (Laughter) Good.

**Martin:** I'm looking out my window here at two huge piles of compost from last year that I need to sift through before I put it on the beds next week. I'm calling from California and the weather is just starting to get nice. It's almost time to plant.

**Rodale:** Good. (Laughter)

**Martin:** Ok, now, let's step back. What counsel would you give the "seasoned" gardener, someone who has been at this a long time? What would you tell them?

**Rodale:** About gardening organically?

**Martin:** On this very subject, any words of advice or recommendations?

**Rodale:** Keep doing it, do more. Make sure it is in your whole yard. I guess for the seasoned gardener I would say: "Try to be a teacher."

**Martin:** There you go, that's what I was looking for.

**Rodale:** Yeah, and a mentor. And, I think also, again, the real breakthrough in organic is going to happen when we get the people in suburban America to start having organic yards. And the people in suburban America are concerned about making their yards look good. So, I would say, it's important for organic gardeners to put on a good impression, create a good impression for their neighbors.

**Martin:** And, I think, if we're talking about suburbia, there's this—oh, it's not a phobia, it's some kind of weird hang-up from the '50s, or something—there's this thing about having a lawn.



**Rodale:** Right.

**Martin:** And I don't know what that is, but if people would just dig up their lawns and start planting shrubs and roses and flowers and vegetables, it would be prettier and more productive.

**Rodale:** Yep. Although lawns are great for kids to play on, there's no substitute for that.

**Martin:** Well, we're trying to push gardening here, though. *(Laughter)*

**Rodale:** Yeah. *(Laughter)*

**Martin:** I live in Tehachapi, and as I come from the mountain area into town, I pass all these sod farms, and it blows my mind because they've pulled all these apple orchards around here and they're growing grass now, because that's more lucrative than growing apples.

**Rodale:** I think lawns, by themselves, are fine, as long as you grow them organically. I, personally, can't understand why people put chemicals on their lawn, because grass is one of the easiest things to grow; it's a weed, basically. It really does not need care and attention. In fact, the more care and attention you give it, the harder it is to take care of. I'm not against grass. The best lawns are ones that take care of themselves.

**Martin:** I almost think, from an educational standpoint, that for those experienced gardeners wanting to educate people about it, perhaps explaining to friends and family and associates that it's almost an alternative to the '80s workout at a gym thing. You know, you can work out in the yard and get tan, exercise your muscles, and get a good workout, and at the same time make your space more beautiful AND have good food to boot. I mean, it's like the best of all worlds.

**Rodale:** Well, actually, I've seen a study that shows that the only two activities that prevent osteoporosis in women are weight lifting and gardening.

**Martin:** That's interesting.

**Rodale:** Yeah, and I think because, with gardening, you are doing a lot of weight-bearing activities.

**Martin:** Another thing: If we look at all the cities in this country, people tend to be limited in their thinking about gardening. It's the mindset: "If I don't have an acre of land, I just can't grow a garden." And that's just not so.

I used to live in San Francisco years ago, and I had gardens that happened to be on the roof, and they happened to be in big pots and that kind of thing. You can, either with rooftop growing or with grow lights, improvise and come up with some really creative ways of having nice plants, either food or not food, in your space. And it's just a question of your own creativity that limits the possibilities.

I think people tend to get limited in their thinking about it and would rather go to the

grocery to buy lettuce, which happens to be pretty bland, rather than growing their own beautiful butter lettuce, or something that is a totally different experience.

Let's talk about genetically altered seeds for a moment. What's your take on that?

**Rodale:** That it's unnecessary and unwise, and people should avoid it at all cost. I, pretty much, follow—I don't know if you are familiar with Michael Pollin?

**Martin:** No, I'm not.

**Rodale:** He writes for the *New York Times* magazine, Sunday magazine. He's just coming out with a new book in May, called *The Botany Of Desire*. To me, if you want a really articulate voice on why genetic engineering is just stupid *(laughter)*, he's the greatest person to look to. The most recent thing he wrote for the *New York Times* magazine basically explains the "golden" rice that has been invented by Monsanto to bring Vitamin A—are you familiar with this?

**Martin:** I'm familiar with Monsanto. I'm not familiar with the "golden" rice issue, per se.

**Rodale:** They've basically created a yellow rice that's high in Vitamin A, to kind of save their image; to make people—they're spending hundreds and hundreds of millions of dollars to promote Monsanto, on television, as saving the world, because they're creating this rice that's going to prevent blindness—when, in reality, they're just continuing the destruction.

If they, say, gave just a quarter of that money to send Vitamin A capsules to Africa and Asia, the problem would go away completely! They're just desperately trying to—you know, Monsanto has basically come out and said that chemical farming and agriculture and gardening ARE poisoning the planet, and THAT'S why they're creating genetic engineering, to kind of make it all better. They've just failed miserably, and the biggest crime is that this stuff is already out there in our food system, but people don't know about it.

**Martin:** Well, Monsanto has taken some strong hits, and rightly so. We've delivered as many of those hits as possible, and will continue to do so. It is the corporations like Monsanto that are the bane of agriculture. I can't speak negatively enough about organizations like that. So, there's no prejudice here. *(Laughter)* Can't stand them.

**Rodale:** Right. You and me both.

**Martin:** Yellow rice, huh? They're desperate, and they're not only desperate but they're doing a lot of work under different umbrellas other than the Monsanto name, in an effort to disguise what they're doing. It's not nice to fool Mother Nature.

The whole concept of genetically altered food, which is what they're all about, Mother Nature is just going to turn around and bite them, eventually. And I think it has been; they've been exposed. I assume they can

recover because they have so much money, but everyone has to be alert to what their next move is because they can pop up from any direction. I'm glad to hear that this *New York Times* writer is exposing them.

Any recommendations as to where people might go for non-genetically-altered seeds, non-hybrid?

**Rodale:** Seeds of Change is great; they're my personal favorite.

*[Editor's note: To request a cool catalog or order seeds from Seeds of Change, call 888-762-7333, or visit their highly informative and colorful www.seedsofchange.com website. And by the way, Rick Martin has put together a long list of good seed companies, including this one, in his gardening article elsewhere in this issue of The SPECTRUM.]*

**Martin:** They're in New Mexico?

**Rodale:** They're company is located in New Mexico, but they have seed growers all over the country. So it's not just a regional seed company.

**Martin:** And this is something of a repetitive question, but what would you say to the reader out there who is completely intimidated by just the idea of growing a garden—overwhelmed, doesn't know what to do?

**Rodale:** Don't be ruled by your fears in life. If you have a fear of something like gardening, then I think it is wise to get over it. *(Laughter)*

**Martin:** *(Laughter)*

**Rodale:** Because there's nothing to be afraid of.

**Martin:** Absolutely. What's your take on the use of equipment and gardening? Some people think that you can't have an organic garden and use a tiller. I've tried to do my part to dispel that myth. If you've got to use a tiller to get the soil so you can grow, use a tiller. If you want to use a shovel, use a shovel, but don't limit yourself.

**Rodale:** I mean, there are good tools, and there are stupid tools. The leaf-blower is probably the stupidest tool ever invented! But the tiller is especially good when you're just starting out and you really want to loosen up the soil. Over-tilling is NOT good, because you're chopping up all the earthworms—which, I found out recently, do not grow back. They don't turn into two earthworms; they do get killed. It loosens the soil more than it needs to be loosened.

So, I think a lot of organic gardening, and all these related issues, are basically just common sense—moderation, don't overdo it. Don't put too much compost on. Don't get obsessed about it. Just kind of approach your garden, your back yard, with a healthy dose of respect, and gentleness, and you'll be rewarded for it.

**Martin:** You're around this subject day-in and day-out, so you're probably so close to it.

It's like us in the newspaper business, we're just so close to information all the time that sometimes it's hard to back up and take a fresh look at it.

What do you see as some of the key issues concerning the whole field of organic agriculture today?

**Rodale:** I think there are two main areas that have to be dealt with. One is creating solid research into why organic is better, in terms of food. If you look, there really isn't any solid research that proves that organic food is more nutritious, healthier. There's a lot of research about soil health, environmental health, water health quality being better. But there is still a real lack of research in terms of the organic food being better.

I also think the second big area is kind of like the organic agricultural movement not killing itself, because part of the organic ideal is this sense of the small farm, the family farm, in a community. But, in order for organic agriculture to meet the needs of people, there's going to have to be a sense of accepting large farms, and supporting large farms. We've got to band together and do everything possible that needs to be done, rather than tear ourselves apart.

**Martin:** Well, of course, the trend in this country over the last number of years has been for the family farmer, the small farmer, to go out of business. They're being completely usurped by the large agricultural concerns, like Monsanto. So, there is a real struggle, in middle-America, to survive. And, of course, many of these farms are going under because of the cost of heavy equipment, loans from banks, and that sort of thing.

**Rodale:** And the cost of chemicals, and pesticides, and genetically engineered seed contracts.

**Martin:** Right.

**Rodale:** There's a great book out that I'm just now reading, called *Fast-Food Nation*. Have you heard of it?

**Martin:** No.

**Rodale:** Basically, the premise of that book is that we tend to think that it is the Monsantos that have killed organic agriculture and the family farm. In reality, it is our own desire and consumption of fast-food that has killed the family farm, because the more you eat at McDonald's, the more you eat at Burger King, the more you are supporting this whole infrastructure of cheap, mass-produced, and low-quality food, produced at any cost to the environment.

We always tend to blame other people, but really, we have to examine our own actions, and understand all of the relationships between things before we come to make a judgment.

**Martin:** Any words of advice about composting?

**Rodale:** Again, just don't be afraid to do it. Throw stuff on the pile. I'm not a fussy

composter. I, basically, just throw it on and take stuff from the bottom when I need it. I used to, also, be intimidated when I was younger. And the more I researched and understood it, decomposition is just such a fundamental, natural process, that it's going to happen whether you do anything about it or not.

So, just let Nature take its course, and take advantage of it. But don't overdo it. Don't over fuss. Don't over-use compost. Just be sane about it.

**Martin:** Moderation.

**Rodale:** Moderation.


**Martin:** Again, stepping back and just looking at the whole field, what kind of advice would you give our readers who are concerned about organic growing and want to further that cause in whatever way, either through having their own gardens or sharing information about gardening with others? What sage words of wisdom would you have for our readers concerning organic food, organic gardening, the

whole general field?

**Rodale:** I think I always just come back to—*everything* you do matters, so pay attention to *everything* you do. Try to support organic as much as possible, whether it's in your own backyard or at the supermarket, or even buying recycled toilet paper. Everything you do matters and has an impact. It's in the details that we'll create a massive change.

**Martin:** I know you're busy. Thank you for taking the time to do this.

**Rodale:** You're welcome.

[*Editor's postscript: For those of you unfamiliar with Organic Gardening magazine, you may visit them at their [www.organicgardening.com](http://www.organicgardening.com) Internet website. Check-out their "Watchdog" section for the very latest news on controversial organic gardening issues. A one-year subscription to Organic Gardening is \$19.96 in the United States (7 issues). Write to their subscription service at: P. O. Box 7377, Red Oak, IA 51591-2377, or call: 1-800-666-2206 to subscribe. You'll be happy you did.*] 

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# Farming Ourselves Into Oblivion:

## Small Sustainable Farms Are Our Greatest Hope Against A Faceless Agriculture

*Editor's note: It is always a refreshing—if too often scary—event when someone who really KNOWS is courageous enough to tell the truth. It is even more satisfying and admirable when a person of tremendous professional background is willing to be honest enough to reflect upon their own involvement in an area, and admit that their past contributions may not have been all that helpful—given what they know now. In other words, live and learn.*

*We are pleased to share the following interview with retired agricultural economics professor, Dr. John Ikerd. This interview was conducted several months ago by the superb publication ACRES U.S.A., which has generously granted permission for reprinting here. (Contact them at: ACRES U.S.A., P.O. Box 91299, Austin TX 78709; 1-800-355-5313 or 512-892-4400; website: www.acresusa.com and a subscription is \$24/year.) The SPECTRUM has emphasized some of Dr. Ikerd's provocative commentary in italics.*

*Dr. Ikerd is professor emeritus of agricultural economics at the University of Missouri's College of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources. To contact Dr. Ikerd, write to: 5121 S. Brock Rodgers Road, Columbia, MO 65201; or e-mail: <JEIkerd@aol.com>.*

*How long will it take for us to learn the lessons that the organic farming community has been offering for a very long time? Thanks to heartless agriBUSINESS, we not only have sick animals and sick plants and sick soil—but a lot of heartsick farmers who have lost their land or who feel cornered into “going along with” what they instinctively know is wrong. Throughout Dr. Ikerd's assessment, those of you who are perceptive about such matters can't help but spot the New World Order gang's covert agricultural agenda in full swing.*

*On the one hand, what is happening is surely a sad state of affairs; longtime family farms are dying out with each passing growing season. But on the other hand, there is great hope in the so-called “niche farming” that the big boys of agribusiness have largely overlooked. And THAT route is bringing new enthusiasm and great satisfaction to many who have a love of the land in their heart, as well as a genuine desire to help their fellow man.*

**DECEMBER, 2000 DR. JOHN IKERD**

**ACRES U.S.A.:** One of the bankers at a recent meeting of that fraternity made a remark to the effect: “Let the cartels have agriculture. Who needs it? We are getting along fine without the individual farmer.” Without trying to serve you up a loaded question, how would you assess the pros and cons of that statement?

**IKERD:** I think from the pro standpoint that he is talking about what economists have been talking about for years; they are saying that *the only thing that really matters with respect to agriculture is that we produce food and fiber as cheaply as we can possibly produce it in terms of purely economic cost.*

The generally accepted premise is that the most efficient way to do anything in this economy is to do a kind of industrialization, which is specialization, standardization, and eventually, centralization of decision making. That is the process that we have been going through in agriculture throughout my professional career—and before that for at least the last 50 years.

We have been trying to industrialize agriculture. We have been centralizing, first by going from diversified family farms to the specialized crop and livestock, and now specializing in a particular crop or livestock or even in a particular phase of livestock production.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** Such as your hog

operations and dairy operations?

**IKERD:** Hog operations are a good example. The crop farms in this area of the country are corn and soybeans, and in some cases, only corn or only soybeans. We have specialized, and then we have standardized the whole process to make those systems work.

We tried to get it down to the point where we could farm by recipe as much as possible. We came out with recommended practices or best management practices or the best variety—whatever it is. We are trying to make the same thing work on every farm by standardizing every process and by standardizing through grades and standards so that we only sell basic, generic commodities.

Where we are now is really in the final stages of that third stage of industrialization, which is the consolidation or centralization of decision making. We have really been going through that for some time, from the standpoint of moving to larger and larger farming operations, which mean fewer and fewer decision makers.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** This is monoculture, basically?

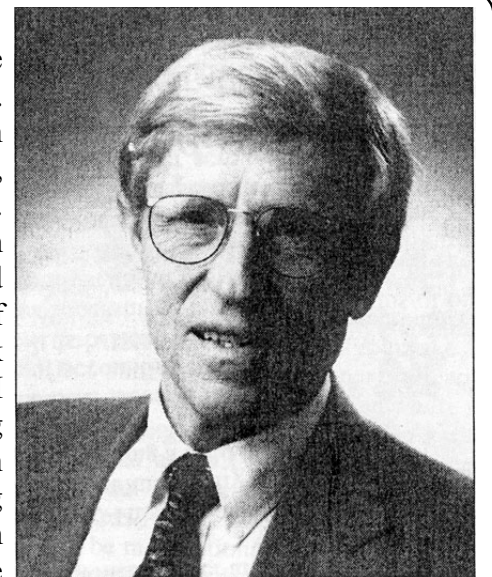
**IKERD:** Monoculture really operates with the farm as a factory, and running a field or a feedlot as if it were an assembly line.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** Doesn't it rely to some extent on a certain type of accounting too?

**IKERD:** It is basically just the economic

### John Ikerd, Ph.D.

John Ikerd is an economist who has studied the farm scene before and since graduating from the University of Missouri. His 30-year career was spent at four universities: North Carolina State, Oklahoma State, the University of Georgia, and, of course, the University of Missouri in his home state. This native returned to Missouri in 1988, bringing along an outlook that recognizes the new paradigm in farming. Ikerd began his career as a “traditional” economist. His area of special attention was livestock marketing, market outlook futures, and all the nuances of farm marketing reality. “I really began to question a lot of the things I was doing during the farm crisis of the 1980s” Ikerd said. This led to an in-depth consideration of farm financial management. Facing this hardscrabble reality forced Ikerd to move in the direction of sustainable agriculture. He now spends most of his time writing and speaking on issues related to sustainable agriculture with an emphasis on the economics of sustainability.





accounting in terms of measuring production in terms of output per person, per farmer, or in some cases, production per acre. Those things assume that the limiting factors are the number of people who are farming.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** We have often pointed out that, in terms of capitalization per acre, and even in terms of production per acre, smaller units seem to measure up a lot better.

**IKERD:** *Smaller units that are more intensively managed, that have more managers per acre—more people, more farms, if you will—have the capability certainly of increasing production per acre over and above what you can do on a large farm.*

The output per unit of capital in agriculture, and the output per unit of purchased input in agriculture, have been going down over the years. But if you measure simply in the generally accepted industrial economic terms, then back to your original question, the big corporate operations would tend to move you toward a more efficient kind of agriculture from a strictly economic standpoint. That is what people are going by.

I don't think that you can even justify where we are now in terms of the corporate takeover of agriculture from the standpoint of economic efficiency, although that is the economic argument. *I think that now the consolidation and corporate takeover is being accomplished by purely market power strategies where the independent farmers who are out there—even if they are more efficient and have lower cost of production than the corporate operations—are losing access to the markets. In other words, the corporations are using their market power in the processing and distribution sector to eliminate markets, or to at least impede market access on the part of the independent producers.*

**ACRES U.S.A.:** Doesn't that extend to management of public policy as well?

**IKERD:** Yes. I think public policies that we have had over the years have reflected this bias in terms of what we have concluded was the way to achieve the most efficient agriculture.

*I think you can look straight down the list of all the government programs that we have had in agriculture, and those programs have really promoted or provided farmers with an incentive to become more and more specialized, more and more standardized, and more and more centralized, or consolidated, in terms of the management and operation of the farming operation.*

For example, take the price support programs that have been popular with farmers because they look at them as a way to prevent having to accept low prices. But what the commodity price support programs do is take the risk away of having an extremely low price. In other words, the government makes up the deficiency in price. That really allows farmers to move away from the diversified farming systems and to specialize in a specific commodity.

*What they don't realize when they do that is that the increased incentive to specialize, by removing some of the downward price risks, is driving farms toward becoming larger and larger, which means, as they move in that direction, some farmers are going to be forced out of business.*

**ACRES U.S.A.:** It hasn't prevented a lot of farmers from consuming their own capital, has it?

**IKERD:** No. *Generally that is part of the process by which the farmers are forced out of business.* You have something come along, usually a technology that comes in, and even the technology that we have developed through the USDA and the public institutions—the land grant universities as well as in the private sector—that technology invariably promises that the farmer, if they adopt it, will be able to produce at a lower cost per unit, at a lower cost per bushel or per hundredweight. But to gain full advantage of that new technology, they have to expand their production or their output.

When we have a new round of technology that comes in, the early innovators adopt it and they expand their output as more and more of them adopt that new technology; then, of course, production increases and the prices drop. You get into a situation then where the people who don't adopt the new technology quickly enough eventually have to adopt it just to survive.

Then you are left with people who, for one reason or another, because of their financial situation or because of a bad crop year or because of not being in a position to adopt a new technology, they are the people who are forced out of business.

*That process of forcing them out of business is something to look at. They don't go out of business over night.* They get into a situation where they are not competitive because of something new that has come along. Initially, rather than cut back or go out of business, they will simply, as you say, consume some of their capital. They will live off the capital appreciation as they try to stay in business.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** The one thing they don't seem to want to do is think the thing through and come at it from a different angle.

**IKERD:** They get caught up in this race of saying "This is the way agriculture is. We are going to have to find some way to continue to get larger and larger, and more and more specialized."

*They don't realize that if they play that game, there are going to be fewer and fewer winners every round. The system is forcing you to fewer and larger farms, which means there are fewer and fewer farmers who are going to survive each round.*

The losers, so to speak, use up the capital and whatever they have got in agriculture, and eventually they either go bankrupt or they see the handwriting on the wall and realize they can't continue to farm this way, and they sell out, while they still have some equity, to the neighbor who is still on the treadmill and still trying to get larger

and larger.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** Who thinks he is going to be an ultimate winner.

**IKERD:** Yes. He thinks he is going to be an ultimate winner without stopping and thinking that, in the end, there will be fewer and fewer winners each time.

*This has been going on for years and years. But, what is different this time is that we are in a process now where we are not just consolidating farms into fewer and larger farms, with those farms continuing to be under family ownership or independent farm ownership. What we see now is that corporations are moving toward agricultural production in a big way.*

I think they learned from the poultry model. They see, in particular, an opportunity in agriculture where, if a few enough of those big farms can gain a large enough proportion of the total market, then they can stabilize supplies and they can stabilize profits over the long run.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** But is that going to be possible? I am thinking of Steven Blank's treatise on the end of agriculture in the American portfolio. The big fish will swallow the little fish, and then the foreign fish will swallow the American fish. What is your take on that?

**IKERD:** I think that is a logical next step with what is happening now. *We are in a situation where the corporations are taking control of American agriculture. The farmers who are left out there become contract producers for the corporations rather than independent decision makers.*

More and more, those corporations are going to be multinationals in one sense or another. They are going to be a subsidiary of some foreign firm, or they are going to be a U.S. firm that has subsidiaries in other countries.

When you get into that situation, where total agriculture is really under the control—either contract or direct control—of just a handful of giant multinational corporations, *then those corporations have no sense of place. They have no commitment to a particular community because they are not a person; they have no particular commitment to any country.* They are simply trying to make as much profit as they can and grow as fast as they can. That is all a corporation can do; it is nothing more than a piece of paper.

What Blanks says—and I agree with him—is that when you reach that point, then you are going to have agriculture located wherever in the world that resources are the cheapest, particularly the land and the labor resources. His argument is that land and labor are always going to be cheaper somewhere other than in the United States as long as we have an economy where our level of living exceeds most of the rest of the world.

*Agriculture will be moved out of this country to someplace where the land and labor are cheaper.*

**ACRES U.S.A.:** An associate who used to

be an editor of the *Tulsa World* newspaper once made the remark that, in closing down the independent farmer, we are closing down one of the most successful institutions of learning that this country has ever had. As an educator, how do you see that?

**IKERD:** I agree with that. I think that statement comes from the standpoint of seeing the real potential productivity for the future, and actually the real future of human civilization depends upon having people who are productive—as opposed to just having technologies or factories or whatever the means of production might be.

One of the big concerns I have now is that we are moving toward a system where fewer and fewer people are doing the thinking and making the decisions. Ultimately the benefit in any society or economy goes to the people who do the creative thinking and who make the decisions.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** And that has always been the farmer, hasn't it?

**IKERD:** Historically, in American agriculture—and this is not just true of agriculture, but of a lot of other sectors of the economy that have been virtually destroyed up until now—but in agriculture it was the farmers who were doing the thinking; it was the farmers making the decisions.

Each one of these farms out here was a unique farming system, a unique operation; they had their own particular set of enterprises which for many of them were very diverse—hogs and chickens and cattle and whatever. Up until the chemical age in agriculture they had to understand how to keep their particular piece of land fertile and keep their crops growing. They had to understand how to rotate crops to at least minimize the pest cycles and keep the productivity up. In other words, the farmer had to have a knowledge and they gained this knowledge either by growing up on the farm or working with someone else who had the knowledge.

*I think that is what a lot of people, including Thomas Jefferson and various leaders through the ages, have referred to as the real solid foundation for society and the economy among rural people and among farmers. We had that tremendous stock of knowledge, then, in the heads of these people.*

Going back to this industrialization of agriculture, what we have done is transferred this thinking and this knowledge off the farm. *These new technologies that we have developed over the years, these industrial technologies, have not been developed by farmers; they have been developed in a university experiment station or by someone in an agribusiness laboratory somewhere.*

That information is simply transferred to the farmer, and all the farmer is doing with that technology is just applying it. They don't understand what is going on because they are not doing the thinking. As we move into these contract production operations, the farmers out

there become contract operators, or at best franchise holders, and they are not doing the thinking; they are not making the decisions.

*What we are doing is really depleting this intellectual resource by concentrating the thinking and the decision making into the minds and hands of fewer and fewer people.*

**ACRES U.S.A.:** We are getting diminishing returns in the resources themselves, in the landed resources, let's say. For instance, out there in the Imperial Valley there are thousands of acres off duty because they have been salted to death by that kind of label-reading farmer who didn't understand the system.

**IKERD:** That's the downside, going back to your original question of how would you assess the pros and cons of agricultural industrialization. What we have talked about until now has been primarily the pros in terms of simply pure economic efficiency.

*But pure economic efficiency basically ignores what we are doing to the inherent productivity of the natural resource base of the land and the water. It also ignores what we are doing to the inherent productivity of the people, such as the farm intellectual resources. In the process of gaining economic efficiency, we have really been depleting that basic resource base that ultimately we are going to have to depend upon to feed and clothe ourselves.*

**ACRES U.S.A.:** Is the sustainable model a viable alternative?

**IKERD:** I think the sustainable model is the common-sense alternative if you look at it in the generic sense. To me, sustainability is nothing more than saying we are going to look at the long run; we are not just going to look at the short-run economics as we have with the industrial model. We are not just going to ask the question: can we feed and clothe ourselves today, but can we sustain the ability to feed and clothe ourselves indefinitely into the future, and can we do it in such a way that it is good for people?

To me sustainable agriculture just simply asks: how can we meet the needs of the present and leave equal or better opportunities for people of the future? It is farming for the long run and farming that will last.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** It is also farming for the community, is it not?

**IKERD:** Right. It is farming in the sense of not only meeting our needs, but meeting the needs of society into the future.

I like to think of it as applying the Golden Rule. The Golden Rule says: "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you." We go about farming and it is important that we are able to take care of ourselves as farmers or people involved in agriculture because we can't do well by other people unless we do well by ourselves. You have to have respect, confidence, and some integrity yourself, or else you can't do well by other people.

*But it goes beyond the economics of self-interest to be taking care of ourselves. We*

*have to see that it is really in our benefit to take care of other people—and that is, people within communities, within families, and within societies today. It is developing the kind of agriculture that is not just good for the producer or the consumer, but good for society in general. Sustainability really extends that and says it is not just about doing for people now, but it is doing for people of the future as we would want them to do for us if we were going to be a member of that future generation.*

**ACRES U.S.A.:** Joseph Schumpater, the economist, once made the remark that it is the innovator who launches the assault on the establishment. Are we going to have enough innovators in sustainable agriculture to turn this situation around?

**IKERD:** We have thousands of innovators now. Nobody can foresee the future with absolute certainty, but we have the innovations all across the country.

I am one of the privileged people who really has the opportunity to go around the country to attend and speak at various conferences where we have hundreds of farmers at any given conference, with thousands of farmers all across the country who are really following this general approach in terms of sustainability. They are farming in such a way as to meet their needs and be profitable while being sustainable.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** They are able to do this with a niche-type of approach?

**IKERD:** They are doing it mainly by being more intensive managers, by making more of the decisions themselves, which allows them to reduce the costs and gives them access to a particular high-value niche market such as organic and hormone- and antibiotic-free meat and things of that nature. It is recognizing their particular abilities as producers, so they do the things that they feel strongly about and the things that they do best.

They also work together and build relationships, and they are able to make these work. They have an acceptable economic level of living. I am not going to say that these people who I am talking about are necessarily going to be the wealthiest farmers in the county. I will say that, in most cases, they have a better level of living if you include the whole realm of how much they are contributing to their net worth, whether or not they are living off their capital, and whether or not they have a sense of economic security that will enable them to go on, year after year, without government programs and things of that nature. In other words, they have an acceptable level of economic returns and they are able to do it in such a way that they are taking care of their natural resources.

*They are farming in a way that, to them, is ecologically sound. They are not risking their health with pesticides, agricultural chemicals, hormones, or whatever it is that they are trying to move away from. They are not all organic, but they all have that ecological conservation or*

*environmental dimension to what they are doing.*

**ACRES U.S.A.:** You think these two dimensions are what it takes?

**IKERD:** *I think there is a third dimension beyond the environmental or economic dimension. These farmers have a very strong sense of community and family, and their farming is very much about building relationships with other people, particularly likeminded people in the organic or sustainable agriculture community, or other people who have a different vision for the future.*

I used to be pretty much in conventional, mainstream agriculture, and I still go to some of those conferences. Mainly what you hear in conventional agriculture, and have for years, is depression. It is about what the government isn't doing that it should be doing, or is doing that it shouldn't be doing; it's about market, it's about struggling to stay alive, and it's about trying to beat out each other to see who can have the highest yield or who can farm the most land or who is going to get the next farm that comes up for sale.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** It is all about traditional competition for resources.

**IKERD:** It is a very competitive, destructive, and depressing environment in which you are operating.

*In the sustainable agriculture meetings it is exactly the opposite. These people are optimistic and enthusiastic, and they really have a lot of hope for the future. They think they are involved in something that is working and that is going to work even better in the future. They share information with each other. It is generally just an altogether different attitude.*

I was a little bit concerned last fall when I went out on the meeting circuit because agriculture commodity prices have been so depressed for the last couple of years. I knew a lot of what I would call sustainable producers, or alternative producers, sell a lot of basic commodities. I thought it might be difficult for them to hold on and continue doing what they are doing.

*But what I found was just the opposite. These people were more optimistic about the future because they realized that if they hadn't changed their operations over the last 10 or 15 years, then they probably would have been in a very severe financial situations this year.*

I talked to quite a few people who said that the downturn in agriculture commodity prices had really encouraged them, or in some cases pushed them, into going ahead and making the changes that they wanted to make anyway. In other words, it had made them even less dependent on the commodity market than they had been before, because it kind of gave them a push to go ahead and do more direct marketing or niche marketing or something different that would make them less vulnerable to these economic downturns.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** Have you surveyed state by state, or in Missouri, the scope of sustainable

agriculture?

**IKERD:** It is very difficult to define because sustainable agriculture doesn't have a particular recipe. You can't look at a particular set of practices and say this is sustainable and that isn't, because it is all in how you put it together. Sustainability is much more in the minds of the people who are farming.

I have been involved in a project with the USDA to develop a thousand-case study of farmers all across the country who farm according to what I call this sustainability philosophy. You could really see the diversity of it.

I wanted to put together a thousand because I know that there are thousands out there and that there would be enough to get across the fact that there really are all different ways of doing it, and there are lots of people involved in it. They are now in the process of doing the pilot program of the first 50 of these. I am optimistic that, when they see the first 50 that have been put together, then they will go ahead and support the project.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** When will these case studies be available?

**IKERD:** I think that will be out by the end of the year. There are case studies scattered all over the country that I am familiar with, but they are not pulled together in one place and there is no uniformity about the questions they are asking and the information they are getting.

I can tell you—and you can verify this all across the country—the places where they have organizations that have been around for the last 10 years or so, since sustainable agriculture has come to the national level, where there are farmer meetings, where 75 to 80 percent of the attendees are farmers and not USDA or university people, those organizations are growing every year. In some cases they are growing by leaps and bounds.

The Upper Midwest Organic Conference, for example, had over 1,200 people this year. I am going out to the Ohio Ecological Food and Farming Association this fall, and I know last fall they had over 400 people, and that was just one state. I was out at the Northern Plains Sustainable Agriculture Association a year or so ago in Bismark, North Dakota, and even out there, where they are sparsely populated, they had 250 or 275 people. I was down at the Southern Sustainable Agriculture Work Group meeting in Jekyll Island, Georgia, and there were over 400 people there. The Small Farm Conference here in Columbia is putting more and more of an emphasis on sustainable agriculture in both the Conference and in *Small Farm* magazine, and I think that was up to 3,200 last year and growing. I was out in Fresno, California, and they had their first meeting of an organic farmers group—right in the heart of contract and commercial agriculture. They had about 150 people there. On the West Coast of California they have big conferences that have been going on for some time.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** Thirty years ago we staged

a conference and it was the only one in the country.

**IKERD:** Yes, but now they are going on all across the country. But my perception is that attendance is falling off because there are fewer and fewer farmers left out there.

I think there is growing evidence of a viable movement, if you will. I resisted the term for a long time, but I think when I talk about sustainable agriculture now, that it is a movement.

*I think sustainability is a social movement; it's a change in farming; it is really fundamentally a different philosophy of life.*

That's what I see and that's what I hear among a lot of people at these conferences. The people who come to *ACRES* conferences have a different philosophy of life than do the people who are attending a lot of these commercial agriculture meetings.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** To what extent will the university participate in this movement?

**IKERD:** *I am very pessimistic about the universities participating. I have worked very hard for the past 10 or 11 years at the University of Missouri to convince the university that sustainability is a part of the future and it is particularly a responsibility of the public and land grant universities to stay in tune with the needs of the people as individuals. The corporations can basically take care of themselves. I am not opposed to technology or even the industrial technology if someone wants to develop it as it arises out of the free market, but I am opposed to taking taxpayer dollars and using them to support the development of the kind of technology that displaces people, degrades the resources, and degrades the ability of people to make a living. I think that is a lot of what is going on. I said that when I was with the university, and since I have retired. I am still a Professor Emeritus at the University of Missouri and I still say the same things because I believe them to be true.*

**ACRES U.S.A.:** You are writing off the university?

**IKERD:** I'm concerned. I am not going to write off the university in terms of working with the people in sustainable agriculture. There are some good people in the university who are working very hard to try to maintain the integrity of the program and try to continue to build it so that it will serve the needs of what I call the common people—small farmers and people in rural communities. Those are not the people who are basically going to be on corporate contracts in the future.

I think there will be less and less need for the things that universities legitimately did in the past, when we were going through the industrialization of agriculture, because there will be fewer and fewer decisions that will be made on the farms out here. More and more of the decisions regarding breeds, variety, production practices, equipment, technology, buildings, or



whatever—all of those decisions are going to be made by the corporations. The people who are on the land, the farmers, are going to be either contract laborers or contract landlords.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** It sounds like the opening chapter of *Grapes Of Wrath*.

**IKERD:** Yes, I think so. *It has been a long time in the making, but I think we are in the final stages of it.*

**ACRES U.S.A.:** This corporate agriculture depends largely on a peasant labor force, so to speak.

**IKERD:** That is how some people have referred to it. *Some talk about serfdom and say we are going back to medieval times. The farmer is going to be the equivalent of the serf who is out working the land for someone else.*

Some people refer to the folks who are in the poultry industry today as the new serfs of agriculture. I don't think that is necessarily unfair. I think a closer relationship to what we have today is a franchise operation, but most people look at a franchise and don't understand what is involved in the ownership.

People see a McDonald's hamburger franchise and think this is a real going operation. They think the manager is making money, but that is not the case. It is the people who own the franchise who make the money, and the people who pay them to put up the golden arches are barely getting a living wage out of it.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** Certainly the people who are working there aren't getting anything but minimum wage.

**IKERD:** The people who are working there don't get anything, and the people who even own these franchises, if they also operate the franchise, don't get anything much more than a living wage.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** Are you going to continue speaking on the circuit, so to speak?

**IKERD:** I am continuing to speak out on these issues and write about them and do whatever I can. *As I say, I think this is a movement; I think it is important; and I am concerned about what has happened to agriculture during my career.*

I guess I feel somewhat responsible, since during most of my career I was at least a part of what I see as negative in agriculture. I wasn't doing anything in particular to move it in a positive direction. Now I want to do what I can to use what I have learned along the way to help make the situation better.

*In the long run, the agriculture that we have today in this country is simply not sustainable. In the longer run, we are going to lose the ability to feed and clothe people in the process of trying maximize production and profits in the short run.*

**ACRES U.S.A.:** We do have the situation where ConAgra and these other big corporations are increasing profits exponentially, but their primary suppliers are going down the tube.

**IKERD:** I think we can expect to continue

to see that kind of split in the proportion of farms that are going to the corporate sector and the proportion of farms that are going to independents or the contractors.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** The only answer to that is to change the system. If not the entire system, then at least your farm system.

**IKERD:** That's what I tell people. A lot of the farmers have already done that. But eventually, even the farmers who are out here today—for instance, those on managed grazing systems—the main thing they are working on is reducing the cost of production.

Up until now, what has been focused on is reducing costs, but I think the day will come when the small dairies—as the chicken people did—are going to lose access to the market unless they develop their own market all the way through to the customer. I think individual farmers have to break away because the industrial system of processing, marketing, and distribution eventually is going to wring all of the profitability out of whatever kind of farming or production operations sell to them or feed to them through a contractual arrangement.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** Is there any good news?

**IKERD:** *I think the good news is that independent farmers are proving that they can, in fact, break away from the system.*

A lot of people look at it and say, well, these are just niche markets; they are just selling through farmers' markets or CSAs or direct marketing; these are small markets. But in reality, every consumer market is a niche market. We all have tastes that are a little bit different, and we all want something a bit different from what anybody else wants. We just buy all the same things at the supermarket because that mass production, mass distribution system can only handle a very limited variety of things, even though we think there is tremendous variety in the grocery store. That store still isn't providing all of the variety that all of the customers would prefer.

*These individual farmers are giving people the individualized service and attention they want. The place where it shows up now is in the fastest growing niche market—the organic market. It has been growing about 20% a year for the last eight years; it has been doubling every three or four years.*

You probably know


that there is also a growing market for hormone- and antibiotic-free meats. It is not necessarily organic, but it is people who do not want meats with hormones and antibiotics.

There is a fast-growing market for range chickens and pastured poultry. People don't like the taste or think that the chickens that come out of the broiler factories don't have any taste.

**ACRES U.S.A.:** If they have a taste, it is an unwholesome taste.

**IKERD:** People will pay almost anything for chickens that are raised and slaughtered right on the farm. I haven't met anybody yet who could raise and slaughter as many chickens on the farm as customers that would come out and pay anywhere from \$6 to \$8 a bird.

These are all niches that nobody paid very much attention to three or four years ago, and they are growing faster and faster. The USDA just released information saying there are something like 5,683 farmers' markets in the country now and they are growing at a tremendous rate. CSAs—where you pay for your vegetables at the beginning of the season, and then pick them up throughout the season—are also growing.

All of these things, people look at them and say they are just little niche markets, but I run across people all of the time who are making these work. We can hope that in 30 or 40 years industrial agriculture might be the dinosaur of the past that we discarded because people finally woke up and realized that it just wasn't working. 

**For interested readers, The SPECTRUM will have a booth at this upcoming San Francisco Bay Area show. Rick and Gail will be present to answer questions and accept subscriptions and book orders.**



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## Basic Safety Net In Difficult Times

# So You Want To Plant A Garden?

*Editor's note: The miracle of a garden is a creative enterprise within the reach of all of us.*

*From the smallest of kitchen windowsill herb boxes, to the most ambitious plot of outdoor acreage, that a few packets of tiny seeds will turn, over a relatively short span of time, an area of barren ground into a jungle of juicy edibles is unquestionably the driving force that lures so many of us to the soil. We want to witness this wonder over and over again, each season—because, by the time winter is over, the dimming thoughts of last year's effort seem just too incredible to believe:*

*Did it really happen—did all that stuff REALLY grow—or was it simply an overactive imagination? How could the very same soil + water + sunshine formula produce juicy tomatoes over here and golden corn over there and so many other spectacular creations in between? Did I REALLY give away THAT many cucumbers almost the size of a baseball bat, and STILL can so many pickles to enjoy all through the colder months?!? Yes, it's a miracle alright—going on right before our eyes according to the most ancient yet subtle of Nature's ways.*

*This year the value of a garden takes on an atmosphere of urgency not seen since the Victory Garden days of World War Two. Where did this suspicious Hoof & Mouth Disease come from that is decimating European livestock? And what about the even-more-sinister Mad Cow Disease? How many other complex biological terrors are about to be unleashed while being cloaked from public scrutiny through as many diagnostic disguises as "they" can get away with—because of a mostly unsuspecting public.*

*Moreover, what about the weather patterns that are getting more wild and curiously "artificial" in behavior? Will these wreak havoc upon our farmlands and cause shortages of foods we presently just take for granted will ALWAYS be there at the grocery store? The more "they" play with their HAARP-related super-duper secret technotoys, the more hostile the crop growing conditions will likely become. It really doesn't take much of a change in weather patterns for massive crop failures to result.*

*And then there's the genetic engineering of plants that's becoming, with each growing season, more widespread (actually, forced upon many farmers through economic pressures) yet loaded with serious questions. Recently "they" apparently had to confess on their controlled media that—surprise, surprise—it now looks like genetically modified corn, not approved for human consumption, has crept into a lot more than just those millions of taco shells that were recalled several months ago. What else has been adulterated (and diabolically programmed) without our knowledge or desire?*

*And that's "just" the icing on top of the cake of the longtime chemical approach to "pumped-up" agriculture—agriBUSINESS—that makes our farmlands look more like a chemical factory than an organic process of Mother Nature. It's a miracle anything at all grows in the artificial soup that has replaced what used to be rich, mineralized, and worm-laden soil.*

*Genetic and chemical tinkering—for reasons of both commercial profit and a more sinister health-degradation-of-the-populace agenda—have made most fruits and vegetables bland-tasting and vitamin/mineral-deficient at best, and outright poisonous at worst. It's a sorry state of affairs when that old decorative bowl of wax fruit on grandma's dining room table looks (and may taste) more and more appealing.*

*For all the above reasons—and many more*

*you all could add-in here—a home garden is a very good idea.*

*So, at this timely juncture in the early stages of this year's growing season for North America, we enthusiastically share Rick Martin's constantly evolving tutorial on home gardening. Again this year Rick has updated and expanded his ongoing "work in progress" and we also include several photos of some of his past efforts. His local gardens are, from personal experience, as beautifully satisfying to look at as they are functionally bountiful.*

*It's time to get to work—or play, as the case should be—and enjoy the satisfaction of creating one of the most important contributions you can possibly make to your—and your family's and friends'—good health and well being!*

**3/26/01 RICK MARTIN**

The season is once again upon us to begin thinking about ordering seeds and planning the Spring garden. Some of you may already have plants started in flats, perhaps in a cold-frame. And speaking of cold-frames, we've given this "work in progress" something of a face-lift, with new graphics, charts, and hopefully some useful information for you serious gardeners out there.

The previous "warnings" about Monsanto and other corporations working on genetic engineering of our food still hold true today,



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perhaps more so. The importance of home-grown food just can't be stressed enough. It's good exercise; it helps bring the family together on a mutually beneficial project; and it is a pure joy to experience the garden throughout the seasons.

In looking over the previous comments I've made about gardening, I hope that one point has been made with absolute clarity. And that point is: RAISED BED gardening has a wealth of advantages over traditional open-field gardening, not the least of which are:

- increased yield using less space,
- less labor (during the hottest part of the summer), and
- less water.

You can make those beds any shape you like, which usually depends upon the contour of your property—half moon beds, circular beds, long beds, short beds—well, you get the idea. But getting those beds 6 inches to 1 foot up from ground level also means you have less distance to stoop down to work. Everything is at arm's reach—presuming, of course, that all beds are 4-5 feet across. (And, as an aside, you don't ever want to actually walk on the beds once they're shaped and planted.)

The scientific gremlins behind the scenes at Monsanto recently had the sheets thrown back on their "terminator seed" plans, thus exposing them for exactly who and what they are. But don't think that, just because public opinion rallied on the seed issue for a brief time, this monster won't rear its ugly head once again, soon, only from an entirely different direction, probably under an entirely new name.

"So what!" you say? Well, here's what. The nutritional value of the very food you eat is determined by a wide range of influences, but the primary one is the genetic makeup of the seed itself. Beyond that there is, of course, soil nutrients to consider. And, of course, the amount of actual love and other "green thumb" energy you put into the planting and growing.

But, let's not pass over the critical importance of the actual seed that starts it all. Most commercial and home gardening seeds

these days (you know, the kind you pick up in the grocery store or at a hardware store) are *hybrid* seeds.

Hybrids may all ripen at roughly the same time; they may be prettier to look at; they may even be hardier and more resistant to disease and pests. But you cannot plant a garden next year using the seeds from this year's crop.

That's right: you have to go back to the trough, shell out some more coins, and the big, usually oil companies get the profits, while laughing all the way to the bank. And there's no telling what genetic traits important to good health and taste have been eliminated from those hybrid seeds.

Here's a concept worthy of your consideration: Why not grow and save your own seeds? This can (and should) be done by utilizing that now-rare breed called "heritage" or "open-pollinated" seeds. Amazingly enough—although I suppose this shouldn't be a surprise—there are only a handful of seed companies where you may still purchase these PRICELESS TREASURES. I have expanded the list herein of available resources for open-pollinated, heirloom seeds based upon the latest information I could find and assemble.

Planting a small garden at home is an idea that just makes sense. Everything about it is good. It is good exercise. It's a good excuse to get you outside, if you need an excuse. It feels good to do it. It tastes good to eat it. And if you do it right, it looks good, too. Moreover, gifts from your home garden are a wonderfully personal way to share with friends and neighbors.

Unless you have access to a great

health-food store near you that actually sells some living food, there is nothing, AND I MEAN NOTHING, to compete with freshly picked salads, beets, melons, tomatoes—you name it. There is only one slight problem I can anticipate about such a project: You MAY become addicted to gardening, once you start!

Yes, that's right. You'll have to have your daily dose of

crispy butter-lettuce, or fresh herbs for that special sauce. And once you get used to having these gifts from the Earth as staples of your diet, you just may never go back to buying that old stuff at the grocery store again—at least from the produce section. And that's by no means all of the good reasons to devote some of your energies to a garden of life-sustaining bounty.

The forces of Nature have only grown more wild over this past year, leaving millions of people the world over without the basics of food or shelter. Food shortages are common in many regions. It doesn't take a genius to figure out that, in what are certain to be difficult economic times in the days ahead, having a home garden to help sustain you and your family becomes not only prudent, but potentially even profitable.

Let me just take a few moments here, early on, to add some comments of a general nature to this article, originally written some time ago. I guess you could call these comments a general "stream of consciousness" sort of thing, but there may be some points touched on here that I may have missed in the earlier passes at covering this subject.

There are many factors to consider when planning a garden—be it a little patch for some





fresh salad lettuce, or substantial acreage to support a larger goal. Water is an important component, and the cost of that water CAN be very expensive.

It is easy to look at, say, an acre of barren land and imagine it covered with juicy zucchini, tomatoes, and lettuce. But it is an entirely different matter to plant an acre, water an acre, weed an acre, and, generally, devote yourself to that acre of land until harvest time. Obviously there are pros and cons to both extremes. But there is a balance point, I believe, somewhere in-between.

Soil preparation is CRUCIAL to a healthy, nutritional crop. Many of the old-timers swear by cow or horse manure, compost, and other “natural” soil amendments. Others swear by the use of “modern” chemical fertilizers. Only you can decide what is appropriate for you and your family.

With the discoveries over recent years about bacterial, biological, chemical, antibiotic, and potentially genetically dangerous substances in cow dung, for example, you may want to consider using other natural amendments than manure. Be diligent, though, because most so-called compost, in bulk, these days, is treated with either solid waste or urine.

If you sit down to plan your garden and you decide you want it to be “organic”, that decision has some implications in terms of how you prepare the soil. And please don’t think that you will be putting seed into the ground the day you decide to plant a garden—not if you expect a real crop.

SOIL PREPARATION and QUALITY SEED (meaning: open-pollinated, non-hybrid—not the genetically altered norm) are *the key factors* to having a beautiful and satisfying gardening experience.

Another pointer: Plant food YOU LOVE TO EAT. For example, many years ago I really enjoyed cantaloupe and other melons, so I planted LOTS. When it came time to harvest (as I had NOT staggered the plantings—big mistake), I had over 50 melons all ripe at the same time. What did I do? I juiced them, froze the juice, and had fresh juice throughout the winter months.

Also, try planting some foods you either don’t know about or have never tried. One “fun” food is spaghetti squash.

And another point: think about color in your garden. It is amazing what a few well-placed flowers can do for the overall appearance of a garden in full bloom, as well as attracting some pest-eating birds and other insects.

When you are designing your garden, contemplate the garden to accommodate the space available. Is this space more conducive to a circular garden? How about a half-moon?

Raised beds are certainly the most efficient method of planting (in my opinion)—but where is it written that all raised beds must be square or rectangular in shape? Get creative, but

consider practical application within that creative shaping. Also, allow yourself enough physical space between the garden beds so that when you walk through the garden, when it’s fully grown, you won’t have to tip-toe over vines and dodge overall garden growth. It simply is a more comfortable feeling to be able to walk through your garden in a relaxed (rather than cautious) mode.

Staggered planting: When you are planting rows and rows of any given food, be it lettuce, carrots, or whatever, plant a row or two, then leave space for planting another row or two every other week, for a number of weeks. So when you are viewing your garden, you’ll have several planted rows punctuated by open space reserved for subsequent plantings of the same crop. And then a switch to several rows of a different crop, then open space “reserved”, etc.

Ask yourself: is there a particular crop that seems to grow well in your area? Is there a particular crop that there seems to be a “demand for” in your area? Is there a possible market for your excess produce? Could you set up a “truck farm” stand at your property and make some extra cash to help with expenses?

Also ask yourself, when planning: is this garden large enough to justify starting a compost pile? Composting should become second nature to you as you progress in your gardening experience. Compost, done right, can not only create the healthy, aerated soil you need, but it is a creative by-product of your garden waste.

Another aspect of gardening to consider is this: Do you want to sow seeds directly into the ground, or do you want to prepare little seedlings to be transplanted into the garden? There is a lot to be said for planting seed directly into the ground, although often you have to wait a little longer for the proper soil temperature.

One COMMON mistake is to plant your seeds too deep. The SIZE of the seed will give you an indication as to how much dirt to place over them. Small seeds require a shallow planting. Beans, for example, are planted much deeper than, say lettuce. And if you would like nice straight rows, use a string tied between two sticks as your planting guide. Also, sow your seeds more heavily



than you would normally think to do (or most seed-packet instructions suggest) if you would like nice “full” rows. You can always thin out the plants to allow proper spacing, if they’re too thick. But it’s difficult to fill in the spaces when there is no seed growing!

In particularly cold regions, the use of a “cold frame” or “mini-greenhouse” can save months of growing time. It is possible within a cold frame to get lettuce and other seedlings started in “flats” which can be transplanted directly into the garden beds when the time is right. Cold frames are easily constructed and can be made of anything from cinderblocks and glass, to a wooden frame with clear plastic. The more ways you can start your garden to grow, sheltered from a potentially harsh physical environment, the more likely it is that you’ll be eating fresh garden food when others are still only watching their gardens sprout.

Hydroponics offers another viable alternative for “indoor” gardening, but that more exotic

### LONG-SEASON CROPS

Crop	Average Days to Maturity	Season of Growth
Beans (pole)	108	Midseason
Broccoli	110 (60 after transplanting)	Early or late
Brussels sprouts	130 (85 after transplanting)	Whole season
Cabbage	140 (90 after transplanting)	Early or late
Cauliflower	110 (60 after transplanting)	Early or late
Corn	70-90	Midseason
Eggplants	120 (70 after transplanting)	Midseason
Garlic	90	Mid to whole season
Leeks	150	Whole season
Melons	90	Midseason
Onions (storage)	100	Whole season
Parsley	80	Whole season
Parsnips	120	Whole season
Peanuts	120-140	Whole season
Peas	70	Early or late
Peppers	125 (75 after transplanting)	Midseason
Potatoes (sweet)	140-150	Whole season
Potatoes (white)	80-140	Mid to whole season
Pumpkins	110-120	Whole season
Salsify	120	Whole season
Squash (winter)	80-100	Mid to whole season
Tomatoes	126 (70 after transplanting)	Midseason
Watermelons	75-90	Midseason

pursuit is not the topic of this particular article. There are many good references out there on this subject, though it is a more “high-tech” approach to growing things.

Another point worthy of consideration when planting a substantial garden is PRESERVING some of your crop for another day—that is, canning, freeze drying, or dehydrating. Also, if your property permits, consider a “root cellar” where you can cold-store foods such as acorn squash, large onions, carrots, potatoes, etc.

In an older *Seeds Of Change* catalog (also be sure to see their excellent [www.seedsofchange.com](http://www.seedsofchange.com) website), we read:

[QUOTING]

The establishment of a sustainable food system that can provide sufficient nutrition for all is one of the greatest challenges of our time. To do this without damaging our natural resources—water, air, soil, plants, and animals—will require an unprecedented cooperative effort. The current commercial, industrial-style model of agriculture is capable of producing massive quantities of food, but carries with it tremendous costs. Foremost is the depletion and degradation of non-renewable resources, including topsoil, oil, minerals, clean water, and widespread social disruption through the elimination of traditional rural communities and their land base.

During the past couple of decades, there has been a growing worldwide movement to reclaim our food system. By implementing state-of-the-art organic farming methods, along with time-honored traditional wisdom that has largely been ignored by modern agriculture, conscientious farmers can pass their land on to their children in better condition than when they started. Most contemporary farmers believe in good land stewardship, yet have been forced to compromise because agricultural goods are significantly undervalued, and chemically-grown foods are subsidized by the government. A few philosophically passionate individuals have chosen to adhere to organic principles by creating farm ecosystems that maximize natural biological processes and interactions. They invest more of their time and energy than conventional farmers do into restoring and improving soil with good crop rotation, cover crops, composting, and controlling pests using methods that have a low impact upon the environment.

[END QUOTING]

So, with this background in mind, let’s begin our journey toward understanding the mechanics of putting in a garden. And, yes, IT CAN BE FUN!

Oh, one last thing: be sure to plant some sunflower seeds along the perimeter of your garden. Late in the season those big, bright sunflowers really add cheer to the space and attract birds who also feast on the insects feasting on your now lush garden.

## THE SOWER

*That same day Immanuel went out of the house, and sat by the seaside.*

*And many people gathered around him, so that he had to go up and sit in a boat, and all the people stood on the seashore.*

*And he spoke many things to them in parables and said, “Behold, a sower went out to sow;*

*“And when he had sown, some seed fell on the roadside, and the fowls came and ate it.*

*“Other seed fell upon the rock, where there was not sufficient soil; and it sprang up earlier because the ground was not deep enough;*

*“But when the Sun shone, it was scorched, and because it had no root, it dried up;*

*“And other seed fell among thistles, and the thistles sprang up and choked it.*

*“And other seed fell in good soil and bore fruit, some one hundred-fold and some sixty and some thirty.*

*“He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”*

— Matthew 13:1-9

## CONSIDER THIS

With geophysical and climatic changes of great proportions looming on the horizon, combined with awakening to the reality of nutritionless food, growing one’s own food becomes an increasingly desirable idea. At some point in the not too distant future, it will become a necessity.

*“Give us the strength to encounter that which is to come that we may be brave in peril, constant in tribulation, temperate in wrath, and in all changes of fortune, and down to the gates of death, loyal and loving to one another.”*

—Robert L. Stevenson

The *Golden Rule* as given by the Prophet to

## SPACE-EFFICIENT ROOT PATTERNS

The pairings below match crops with complementary root growth patterns. Planted next to each other, roots won’t compete and will make the best use of the available space underground.

Beans-carrots	Melons-radishes
Beans-celery	Onions-cabbage
Beans-corn	Onions-carrots
Beans-cucumbers	Onions-eggplants
Beans-onions	Onions-peppers
Beans-radishes	Onions-radishes
Beans-squashes	Onions-spinach
Corn-lettuce	Parsnips-lettuce
Corn-potatoes	Peas-radishes
Kohlrabi-beets	Peas-turnips
Leeks-carrots	Salsify-lettuce
Lettuce-carrots-onions	Swiss chard-cucumbers
Lettuce-radishes	

Reprinted from: *High Yield Gardening*, by Hunt & Bortz

the Shawnee:

*“Do not kill or injure your neighbor, for it is not he that you injure; you injure yourself. Do good to him, thus adding to his days of happiness, even as you then add to your own.*

*“Do not wrong or hate your neighbor; for it is not he who you wrong; you wrong yourself. Rather, love him, for The Great Spirit loves him, even as He loves you.”*

Most people in cities have no idea how to begin a garden or even consider the possibility that such a thing can be done on a smaller scale using planter boxes. But for the average person in more rural areas who is unfamiliar with the often technical aspects of growing a garden, the prospect becomes too overwhelming to consider and is put off indefinitely.

*“...the Earth is utterly broken down, the Earth is utterly moved, the Earth is staggering exceedingly. The Earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard and shall be shaken like a hut and its transgressions shall fall and not rise again.”*

— Isaiah 24:19-20

Well, dear readers, the time for putting off growing your garden—big or small—is past and

## GUIDELINES FOR SPRING PLANTING

For spring planting in the Solar Growing Frame, the following vegetables are recommended by Eileen Weinsteiger. Planting dates are for eastern Pennsylvania. Choose varieties described as cold resistant in seed catalogs.

Broccoli	Start seedlings indoors in late February or early March and set them into the frame on April 1.
Cabbage	See Broccoli
Carrots	Direct-seed on April 1.
Kohlrabi	See Broccoli
Lettuce	Direct-seed on April 1. To transplant, start indoors in February and set into the frame in March.
Onion sets	Plant in the frame in mid-March.
Parsley	Transplant on April 1.
Peas	Direct-seed into the frame two to three weeks earlier than you would into a garden, or in mid-March.
Radishes	Direct-seed at the beginning of April.
Spinach	Start indoors in February and set into the frame in March.

All spacings for spring crops should be at least half again as wide as spacings recommended for growing beds, because of the danger of fungus disease in the moist, warm conditions of the frame during spring weather.



it truly is the better part of WISDOM to take steps in this direction to insure quality nourishment in the days, months, and years ahead. I know that the time for *beginning* a garden for *this* growing season may seem to be too late for some geographical areas which receive this publication—but please remember that the garden spot you prepare will be needed and used not only this season, but for many years ahead. Therefore, by all means, get busy! No excuses! Also, buy a straw hat for Sun protection.

The instructions here are something that I have personally used over the last 15+ years. If you follow the instructions explained here, they *will* work, and you will have food to eat.

The initial financial outlay can be considerable—but in subsequent years the cost is relatively small. When you consider growing your own food, rich in nutrients, the cost should be secondary. The charts within this article hold a wealth of critical information—by all means, USE THEM. Even the most sophisticated gardener can learn from the information contained within them.

*“Our old food we used to eat was good. The meat from the buffalo and game was good. It made us strong. These cows are good to eat, soft, tender, but they are not like that meat. Our people used to live a long time. Today we eat White man’s food; we cannot live so long—maybe seventy, maybe eighty years, not a hundred. Sweet Medicine told us that. He said this food would be sweet, and after we taste this food we want it, and forget our own foods. Chokecherries and plums and wild turnips and honey from the wild bees, that was our food. This other food is too sweet. We eat it and forget.... It’s all coming true, what he said.”*

— Fred Last Bull, Keeper of the Sacred Arrows of the Cheyenne Tribe, as told to an audience in Busby, Montana, in 1967.

#### SIZE-UP YOUR PROPERTY

An obvious first step is to survey your property to see what the most reasonable location for a garden would be. Always keep in mind the availability of water. Choose a location with lots of direct sunlight. Also consider overall size—the larger the garden, the more time and water it will take to maintain.

You want an area large enough to produce sufficient food for you, your family, and friends, but small enough so you are not an absolute slave to the demands of its size. As a single person, starting with a garden about 10 feet x 10 feet is adequate. I would recommend, however, that larger would be more desirable. For the purposes of this article, I use a

## GUIDE TO ORDERING SEED AMOUNTS

Do you have any idea how many seeds you get in a packet? And do you know how that number relates to the garden space you intend to plant? Most gardeners aren’t clear on that relationship, and this uncertainty can make filling out seed order forms an exercise in creative guesswork. Seed catalogs offer varying degrees of assistance. The most helpful tell you how many ounces of seed a packet contains, how many plants a packet produces, and how many feet of row that fills. Other catalogs offer slightly less complete information, and some provide no help at all.

When you’re in a quandary over how much seed you need to order, refer to the following listing of vegetables for some guidance. It should help you avoid ordering three times as much turnip seed as you really need or having to scramble and reorder snap beans for a midseason succession planting.

<b>Vegetable</b>	<b>How Many Feet of Row Will One Packet Plant?</b>
Asparagus	One packet produces 60 roots; need 15-20 roots to plant 25-ft. row.
Beans	
Fava	2-oz. packet contains 35-40 seeds, enough to plant a 20-ft. row.
Lima (bush)	2-oz. packet contains 115-130 of small-seeded variety, 45-50 of large-seeded variety; large-seeded packet will sow 15-ft. row, small-seeded packet will sow longer row.
Lima (pole)	One packet will plant 10 poles or 10-ft. row.
Snap (bush)	2-oz. packet contains 130-150 seeds, enough to sow 25-ft. row.
Snap (pole)	2-oz. packet contains 100 seeds, enough to sow 16 poles or 25-ft. row.
Soybean	2-oz. packet contains 200-400 seeds; depending on variety, enough to plant 33- to 66-ft. row.
Beets	1/2-oz. packet contains 600 seeds, enough to sow 50-ft. row.
Broccoli	1&1/2-g. packet contains 375 seeds, enough to sow 30-ft. row; 1-oz. packet produces 2,500-3,500 plants.
Brussels sprouts	1-g. packet contains 250 seeds, enough to plant 25-ft. row; 1-oz. packet produces 2,500-3,000 plants.
Cabbage	see Brussels sprouts
Cantaloupes	4-g. packet contains 140 seeds, enough to transplant 30-ft. row or 12 hills.
Carrots	2-g. packet contains 960 seeds, enough to sow 20-ft. row; 1-oz. packet contains 6,000-9,000 seeds, enough to sow 250-300-ft. row.
Cauliflower	0.75-g. packet contains 225 seeds, enough to transplant 20-ft. row.
Celery	0.5-g. packet contains 900 seeds.
Chinese cabbage	1-g. packet contains 500 seeds, enough to plant 30-ft. row.
Corn	2-oz. packet contains 200 seeds, enough to plant 50-100-ft. row.
Cress, garden	1/4-oz. packet contains 250-300 seeds, enough to plant 25-ft. row.
Cucumbers	2.5-g. packet contains 83 seeds, enough to plant 12-ft. row.
Eggplants	0.25-g. packet contains 50 seeds, enough to transplant 100-ft. row.
Garlic	1-lb. of sets plants 20-ft. row.
Kale	2-g. packet contains 500 seeds, enough to sow 45-50-ft. row.
Kohlrabi	2-g. packet contains 400 seeds, enough to sow 40-60-ft. row.
Leeks	2-g. packet contains 750 seeds, enough to transplant 100-ft. row.
Lettuce	
Loosehead	1-g. packet contains 670 seeds, enough to sow 30-ft. row.
Looseleaf	see Loosehead lettuce
Romaine	see Loosehead lettuce
Mustard	1-g. packet contains 500 seeds, enough to plant 30-ft. row.
Onions	
Plants	75 plants will cover 18-ft. row.
Seeds	5-g. packet contains 1,700 seeds, enough to sow 50-ft. row.
Sets	1-lb. will plant 50-ft. row.
Parsley	1.2-g. packet contains 600 seeds, enough to plant 20-ft. row.
Parsnips	4-g. packet contains 1,400 seeds, enough to sow 50-ft. row.
Peas	
Edible-podded	4-oz. packet contains 500 seeds, enough to sow 25-ft. row.
Garden	see Edible-podded peas
Snap	see Edible-podded peas
Peppers	
Hot	0.5-g. packet contains 50 seeds, enough to transplant 30-ft. row.
Sweet	see Hot peppers
Pumpkins	Packet containing 30 seeds will sow 10-15-ft. row.
Radishes	5-g. packet contains 350 seeds, enough to sow 25-30-ft. row.
Rhubarb	8 roots are enough to plant 25-ft. row.
Rutabagas	2-g. packet contains 570 seeds, enough to plant 50-ft. row.
Salsify	1/4-oz. packet will sow 25-ft. row.
Spinach	5-g. packet contains enough seed to plant 20-ft. row.
Squash	
Summer	4-g. packet contains 35 seeds, enough to plant 10-15-ft. row.
Winter	Packet containing 30 seeds will plant 10-15-ft. row.
Sunflowers	Packet containing 50-75 seeds will plant 25-ft. row.
Swiss chard	5-g. packet will plant 30-ft. row.
Tomatoes	0.5-g. packet contains 150 seeds; 8 to 10 plants needed to transplant 25-ft. row.
Turnips	2.5-g. packet contains 938 seeds, enough to plant 20-ft. row.
Watermelons	2.5-g. packet contains 50 seeds, enough to transplant 15-ft. row.



hypothetical garden plot of 20 feet x 80 feet, which is a pretty good-sized garden for a small family. When you start planting more than a quarter acre, then you've got something which may keep you tied to it with a ball and chain.

If you only have an area where there is a lawn, consider turning it under and planting a garden instead. In difficult times you won't want to eat the lawn—or perhaps I should say: you *may* want to eat the lawn, but a garden will taste a lot better.

In times of drought, a small, intensively grown garden is highly desirable as the yield is very high and it requires less water than traditional farming methods.

*“No one should control more arable land than he can maintain in a high state of productivity, the four great factors of which are good seed, suitable moisture, abundant available plant food, and rational tillage. In a large majority of cases where failure, or partial failure of an abundant crop is observed, the meager results are due to a partial lack of one of these four fundamentals.”*

— Isaac Phillip Roberts in the book *Ten Acres Enough*

## SEED

Once you've decided to put in a garden, and have some idea about how big it will be and where it will be located, then you need to choose what you'd like to grow—always keeping in mind the specifics about your particular geographical region and the time of year. **GET YOUR SEEDS ORDERED ONCE YOU'VE GIVEN SOME CAREFUL THOUGHT TO IT, AND THAT WAY THE SEEDS CAN BE ON THEIR WAY TO YOU WHILE YOU COMPLETE OTHER ASPECTS OF THE GARDEN PREPARATION. ORDER SEEDS FIRST, THEN PREPARE THE SOIL. ALSO, ORDER NON-HYBRID, OPEN-POLLINATED OR “HEIRLOOM” SEED.** With this type of seed, which is rare in this country, you may replant year after year after year using seed from your own crops.

Here are some excellent non-hybrid, open-pollinated seed companies that I strongly recommend you communicate with and get their catalog:

Territorial Seed Company  
P.O. Box 158  
Cottage Grove, OR 97424-0061  
(541) 942-9547  
fax: 1-888-657-3131

International Seed Saving Institute  
P.O. Box 4619  
Ketchum, ID 83340  
(208) 726-4694

Abundant Life Seed Foundation  
1029 Lawrence St.  
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Seeds Trust  
High Altitude Gardens  
P.O. Box 1048  
Hailey, ID 83333  
(208) 788-4363

Garden City Seeds  
778 Highway 93 North  
Hamilton, MT 59840

Ecology Action  
5798 Ridgewood Rd.  
Willits, CA 95490

Seed Savers Exchange  
3076 North Winn Rd.  
Decorah, IA 52101  
(319) 382-5990

Seeds of Change  
P.O. Box 15700  
Santa Fe, NM 87506  
1-888-762-7333  
website: [www.seedsofchange.com](http://www.seedsofchange.com)

Dirt Cheap Organics  
3070 Kerner Blvd, Unit T  
San Rafael, CA 94901  
(415) 454-8278  
fax: (415) 454-8210  
email: [dirtcheap52@hotmail.com](mailto:dirtcheap52@hotmail.com)

Heirloom Seeds  
P.O. Box 245  
West Elizabeth, PA 15088

Nichols Garden Nursery  
1190 North Pacific Hwy.  
Albany, OR 97321  
(541) 928-9280

Eastern Native Seeds Conservancy  
P.O. Box 451  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

*“The cost of seed is ordinarily a trifling matter in comparison with the expense of the season's labor and the value of the crop.”*

— L. H. Bailey in *The Principles Of Vegetable Gardening*

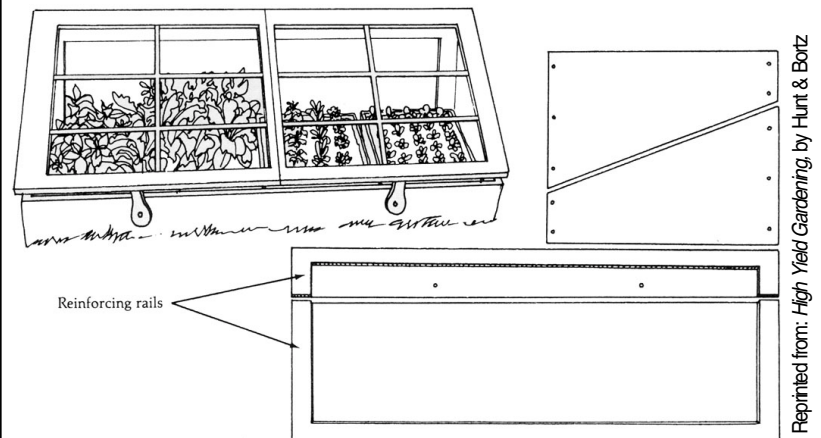
## COLD FRAMES

Cold frames are basically mini-greenhouses. For most of you in the colder parts of the country, you may extend your growing season considerably through the

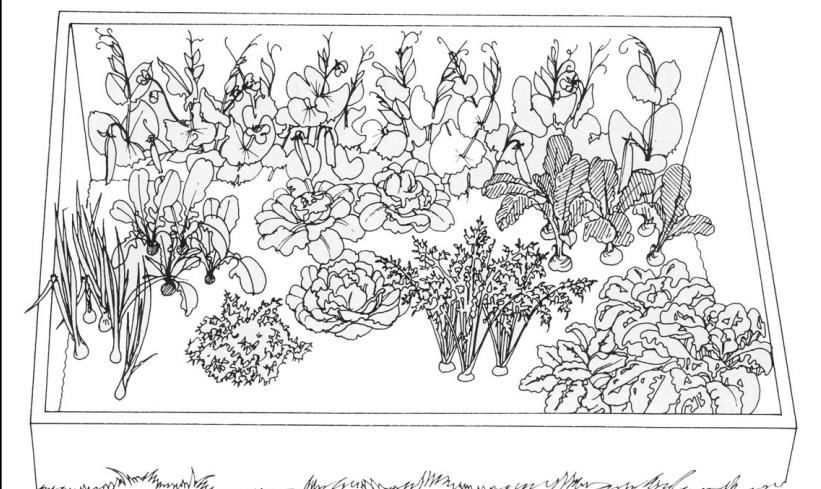
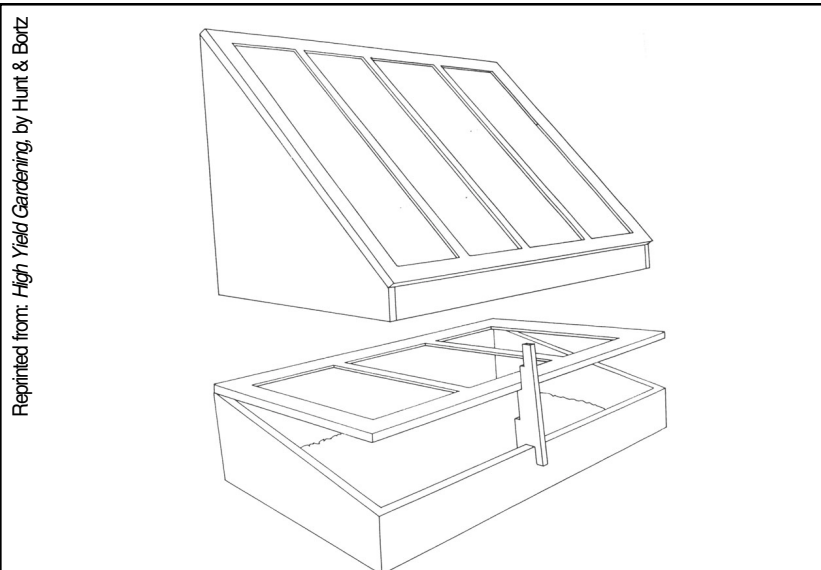
## A PORTABLE, EASILY STORABLE COLD FRAME

Jack Ruttle, an editor of Rodale's *Organic Gardening* magazine, came up with an ingenious way to build a portable cold frame from a half sheet of 1/2-inch exterior plywood, a few screws, and two small, old wooden storm windows given him by a friend. He used 3/4-inch scrap lumber for screwing blocks placed in the corners of the frame. More of the scrap was used for reinforcing rails along the top of the front and back pieces. These rails provide a sturdy support for the storm windows. Both the blocks and rails were attached permanently to the front and back pieces with screws and glue. The end pieces were attached to the front and back with a screw in each of the eight corners. The back of the frame is 18 inches high and the front is 6 inches high. Window size determined the width and the angle of the frame.

Ruttle assembles his frame early every spring to house the large quantities of seedlings he starts indoors. To work in the frame he simply removes a window, and to vent he turns a window slightly to create an opening. When the last of the spring seedlings has moved to the garden, he unscrews the frame and stacks the pieces in a neat pile until next season.



**Easy Portable Frame:** This cold frame was fashioned from a half sheet of plywood and two recycled wooden storm windows. It's easy to assemble, so you can set it up and take it down as your seasonal gardening needs require



**Cold Frame Crops:** Fast maturing, cold-tolerant crops can be spurred on to an early start (and early vest) in a cold frame. In this frame: dwarf peas, lettuce, beets, carrots, parsley, onions, spinach, and radishes ready for picking.

use of this very inexpensive and sensible idea.

We've reproduced nearby several graphics that will give you the basic idea of how to fashion a cold frame. But essentially, a greenhouse or a cold-frame can be built using available materials, and the end result is that you can be eating fresh garden lettuce while everyone else is waiting for the snow to melt! It is recommended that you place the cold frame in a physically sheltered area with a southern, sunny exposure, thus maximizing the use of the available light.

Depending on the area in which you live, you may even elect to maintain a cold frame (or green house) garden year round and forget the rest, simply because of the ability to control the growing environment for your plants.

In some areas of the country, extreme heat becomes a problem throughout summer, and in other areas it can be difficult to maintain growing conditions that are warm enough.

One inexpensive way to heat a cold frame (a bit smelly, but effective) is to line the bottom of the cold frame with "fresh" horse or cow manure, place a thick layer of straw over it, and then put the "flats" of seedlings on top of that. The warmth generated by the decomposing (composting) manure will heat the cold frame. There are many techniques for achieving the same end (usually just a

## GUIDELINES FOR FALL PLANTING

Eileen Weinstein of the Rodale Research Center horticultural staff suggests the following crops for fall solar-frame planting. They are listed along with their seed-starting times (in eastern Pennsylvania) and recommended spacings. Choose varieties described in catalogs as low-light tolerant and cold resistant.

Vegetable	When to Seed	When to Transplant	Spacing (in inches)	Harvest †
Broccoli	July 1-14	3-5 weeks later	12-15	Sept. to mid-Nov.
Cabbage	July 1-14	3-5 weeks later	12-15	Sept. to early Nov.
Cauliflower	July 1-14	3-5 weeks later	12-15	Sept. to mid-Nov.
Chinese cabbage	late July	3-5 weeks later	8-10	Oct. to Dec.
Kale	July to Aug.	4-6 weeks later	12	Oct. to Dec.
Kohlrabi	early Aug.	3-4 weeks later	6	late Sept. to early Oct.
Lettuce*	late July to early Aug.	3-5 weeks later	6-8	Oct. to early Dec.
Spinach*	late July to early Aug.	3-5 weeks later	4-6	Oct. to early Dec.
Parsley	June to July	4-6 weeks later	4-6	into mid-Dec.

Swiss chard, Japanese chard, endive, celery cabbage, India mustard, Chinese flowering white cabbage, Chinese mustard, and edible chrysanthemum have also been grown successfully in the fall in Solar Growing Frames. Planting times for these crops will have to be learned through experience. Start the crops listed above in late July or August. If they bolt, try starting them later the next time you plant them. If they fail to mature properly, try planting them earlier. Root crops, including turnips, radishes, beets, and carrots, are generally less successfully grown in solar frames, chiefly because of root maggot damage.

\* Use winter varieties

† Final date may be earlier if hard freeze occurs

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matter of money or materials), not the least of which include the use of grow lights. Experiment. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

### HIGH-YIELD GARDENING: RAISED BEDS

*"...ere long, the most valuable of all arts will be the art of deriving a comfortable subsistence from the smallest area of soil. No community whose every member possesses this art can ever be the victim of oppression in any of its forms."*

— Abraham Lincoln, 1859

rectangular in overall shape, varying in width from 4-5 feet across and whatever length you determine. If the shape of your particular piece of land is more suitable for such, the beds can take on curves or even become circular. The finished beds are elevated above the ground, anywhere from six inches to a foot high.

Why raised beds? Well, for one thing, raised beds can solve a wide range of gardening problems. The chart nearby summarizes the main points to be aware of.

But let's begin with soil preparation because, without that, there won't ultimately be any food for the table.

Spectacular yields depend first on soil conditioning that can readily meet the heavy demands of close planting, carefully timed successions, and a growing season stretched to its absolute limit.

*"Teach us to know and to see all the powers of the Universe, and give to us the knowledge to understand that they are all really One Power."*

— Black Elk

I will assume that most of you putting in your first garden will *not* go to the trouble of having your soil actually "tested". But if you do, keep in mind that most plants thrive in a pH range anywhere between 6.0 and 7.5. A good rule of thumb would be: Assume your soil is very poor and needs amending with nutrients and organic matter. It is essential to have organic material in the soil, such as manure, compost, minerals, or combination amendments which loosen the soil to allow for retention of moisture and healthy root growth.

If you are purchasing manure, be sure it is "aged" for six months to a year—otherwise you'll end up with a lot of weeds and grass

## A SURVEY OF RAISED BEDS

### ROUNDED

**Description:** Curved mound with gradually sloping sides.

**Advantages:** Because of its rounded contour and gently curved sides, which can be planted all the way down, this style of bed offers somewhat more planting space than indicated by its width at ground level and significantly more than beds with straight, angled sides. For example, a 5-foot-wide bed with a rounded top has over 20 percent more planting space than a 5-foot-wide bed with straight sides angled at 45 degrees. It is also relatively easy to shape.

**Disadvantages:** Plants closest to the edges of the bed may sidle or droop over into the walkway, necessitating wider paths. (To prevent this, plant small or narrow, stiffly erect plants at sides of the bed.) Also, lack of any drainage trough means that water may run out of the bed and into surrounding paths, taking planting soil along with it.

**When recommended:** Most feasible for good, well-conditioned soil, rich in organic matter and soil that is porous and able to hold moisture well.

**Advantages:** Flat top and trenches work against water and soil loss from the growing area.

**Disadvantages:** Slanted sides reduce space available for planting and may require extra effort to construct and maintain.

**When recommended:** Good option for soils low in organic matter, for extremely heavy clay soils, and for beginning intensive gardeners.



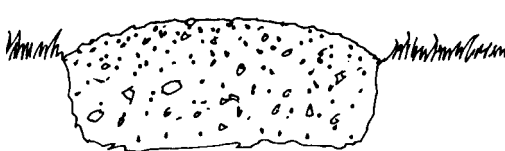
### WALLED-IN FLAT-TOP

**Description:** Level surface surrounded by ridges of soil around the perimeter of the bed. Straight sides slanted at 45-degree angle to horizontal.

**Advantages:** Ridges hold water and soil on top of bed within planted area.

**Disadvantages:** Has the least growing space of any type of raised bed. (To optimize what's there, position larger plants near the sides of the bed so one vertical-half of their upper growth extends out over unplanted sides of the bed.)

**When recommended:** Helpful where water is limited and erosion is a problem, or where capacity of the soil to hold water needs considerable improvement.



### FLAT-TOP

**Description:** Level bed surface with straight sides angled 45 degrees from horizontal, forming an angled drainage ditch on each side of the bed where it merges with the path.

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Once you've identified the location for your garden, then the work really begins. This article will concentrate primarily on raised-bed gardening, which is called by various names.

The beds are generally

seed in the garden. Most bagged manure at nurseries is sterilized and aged. In many rural areas manure is readily available from local ranchers and is generally advertised in the want-ads, and often will be delivered for a fee.

Larger gardens can require quite a few cubic yards of manure and it is considerably less expensive in bulk. However, the danger comes in not knowing if it is “aged”, and that can really make the difference if you end up with a huge pile of grass or weeds in your garden.

*“Creation does not take place where there is a scattering and dissipation of energies. Creation requires a gathering together and focusing of your power within a circle of commitment—like a seed, an egg, a womb, or a marriage. If you would create and not destroy, you must remember always the Sacred Hoop. Consider wisely the ways in which you would use your power and then around those ways draw the sacred circle of commitment. In the warm atmosphere of that circle, the power of Love builds and builds like a storm above the wet*

*summer prairie, until suddenly the circle can hold no more and explodes in the conception of the new.”*

— spoken by White Buffalo Calf Woman, from Ken Carey’s *Return Of The Bird Tribes*

#### PREPARING THE SOIL

Go out to the area you’ve chosen as a garden spot and carefully examine and feel the soil. Much can be deduced just from this simple exercise.

The next intermediate step will be to till the soil. Many gardening purists insist on digging by hand—but I have found over the years that a rototiller can be a good friend indeed. It all depends on the size of your garden plot and how easy or difficult the soil is to work.

There are a variety of excellent books available on the subject of raised-bed gardening, and most go into great detail about double-digging the beds by hand, while adding various soil amendments. The instructions I am providing here are geared for those of you readers who have never planted a garden, aren’t

particularly interested in digging a quarter-acre plot by hand, but would still like to do a good job of preparing the soil for growing food—without killing yourself in the process.

Tilling is best pursued when the soil is somewhat moist but not soaking wet. Many types of tillers are good; I prefer Troy-Bilt [*for a catalog call 1-800-889-9600*]. Very dry soil is difficult to break up and the tiller will tend to “buck”. If you are starting your soil preparation during the summer months, you may have to heavily water the garden area over a period of several days, and then wait for it to partially dry before beginning the tilling process.

Once you’ve tilled the soil so that the top foot or more is loose, then you are ready to begin adding the necessary soil amendments to properly build up the soil. I have included with this article some charts and other fertilizing guides for your assistance in choosing soil amendments.

Depending on where you live, your local nursery can provide you with a wealth of information. Different nurseries have different soil amendments. There are many excellent “soil building” products on the market—some organic, some not.

Don’t get too focused upon a strictly organic approach, but you certainly do want some organic matter mixed into the soil for healthy root production for your crops. What you elect to use may very well be determined by what is available in your area—that helps supply what your particular soil may need.

*“It is a fundamental error to suppose that farming is neither a business nor a profession. It is a business which requires the highest business talent; it is a profession which requires the best technical skill.... No other profession requires such a variety of learning, such an insight into Nature, such skill of a technical kind, in order to be successful, as the profession of farming.”*

— Harvey W. Wiley from *The Lure Of The Land*

Once you’ve purchased and spread your soil amendments (which can include manure, organic compost, minerals, and other materials) across the entire surface area of your garden spot, then once again till the soil with the rototiller—or dig by hand if you are so inclined.

Fertilizer, whether organic or commercial, should be spread across the top of the completed beds and then lightly worked into the top several inches of the soil. Therefore, when spreading amendments for tilling into the soil, hold any actual fertilizer aside for the final step *after* the beds have been constructed.

#### BED CONSTRUCTION

Once you’ve spread the soil amendments over your garden area and have rototilled it thoroughly,

#### NITROGEN (N), PHOSPHORUS (P) AND POTASH (K)

Pounds of fertilizer to add per 100 square feet. Pounds of pure nutriment added given in parentheses.

Test Rating	Nitrogen (N)	Phosphorus (P)	Potash (K)
<b>Very High*</b>	<b>(.1)</b> .75 lb. blood meal or 1 lb. fish meal or 2 lbs. cottonseed meal or .75 lb. hoof and horn	<b>(.2)</b> 1 lb. bone or 2 lb. phosphate rock or soft phosphate	<b>(.15)</b> 1 lb. kelp meal** or 2 lb. greensand or 3 lb. crushed granite
<b>High*</b>	<b>(.2)</b> 1.5 lbs. blood meal or 2 lbs. fish meal or 4 lbs. cottonseed meal or 1.5 lbs. hoof and horn meal	<b>(.3)</b> 1.5 lb. bone or 3 lbs. phosphate rock	<b>(.2)</b> 1 lb. kelp plus .66 lb. greensand or 1 lb. granite; or 2.66 lb. greensand; or 4 lbs. granite
<b>Medium High</b>	<b>(.25)</b> 2 lbs. blood meal or 2.5 lbs. fish meal or 5 lbs. cottonseed meal or 2 lbs. hoof and horn meal	<b>(.35)</b> 1.75 lbs. bone or 3.5 lbs. phosphate rock	<b>(.25)</b> 1 lb. kelp plus 1.33 lb. greensand or 2 lb. granite; or 3.33 lbs. greensand; or 5 lbs. granite
<b>Medium</b>	<b>(.3)</b> 2.25 lbs. blood meal or 3 lbs. fish meal or 6 lbs. cottonseed meal or 2.25 lbs. hoof and horn meal	<b>(.4)</b> 2 lbs. bone or 4 lbs. phosphate rock	<b>(.3)</b> 1 lb. kelp plus 2 lbs. greensand or 3 lbs. granite; or 4 lbs. greensand; or 6 lbs. granite
<b>Medium Low</b>	<b>(.35)</b> 2.75 lbs. blood meal or 3.5 lbs. fish meal or 7 lbs. cottonseed meal or 2.75 lbs. hoof and horn meal	<b>(.45)</b> 2.25 lbs. bone or 4.5 lbs. phosphate rock	<b>(.35)</b> 1 lb. kelp plus 2.66 lbs. greensand or 4 lbs. granite; or 4.66 lbs. greensand; or 7 lbs. granite
<b>Low</b>	<b>(.4)</b> 3 lbs. blood meal or 4 lbs. fish meal or 8 lbs. cottonseed meal or 3 lbs. hoof and horn meal	<b>(.5)</b> 2.5 lbs. bone or 5 lbs. phosphate rock	<b>(.4)</b> 1 lb. kelp plus 3.33 lbs. greensand or 5 lbs. granite; or 5.33 lbs. greensand; or 8 lbs. granite
<b>Very Low</b>	<b>(.3)</b> 4 lbs. blood meal or 5 lbs. fish meal or 10 lbs. cottonseed meal or 4 lbs. hoof and horn meal	<b>(.6)</b> 3 lbs. bone or 6 lbs. phosphate rock	<b>(.5)</b> 1 lb. kelp plus 4 lbs. greensand or 6 lbs. granite; or 6.66 lbs. greensand; or 10 lbs. granite

\* Addition of nutriment at these levels is optimal.

\*\* Because of the growth hormones kelp meal contains, do not add more than 1 pound per 100 square feet per year.



next comes the hard part (physically). For the sake of discussion, let's say your garden area (plot) is 20 x 80 feet. At this point you'll be needing a flat, square-end shovel with a short handle. Beginning at one end, shovel an outer pathway along the 80 foot side. The pathway will be approximately 18 inches wide. As you shovel (deeply) the soft, tilled soil, throw each shovelful right next to you as you go—on what will be your first bed. The beds will be, on the average, about 4 feet across. You could, theoretically, have a bed which would, in this case, measure 4 feet by 80 feet. (It is nice to break up these long beds with cross pathways for ease of moving around in the garden.)

When you have finished shoveling your first outer pathway by placing the excess dirt onto your first bed—then measure 4 feet across and mark it with occasional stakes or with stakes and a long string.

Then, beginning at one end along the 20-foot side, 4 feet in from the 80-foot outer edge, begin shoveling an inner pathway. The pathway should be whatever width you are comfortable with—don't crowd yourself—18 inches is a good standard (less if space is limited). With the first shovel of dirt, throw it immediately to your left. With the next shovel, to your right—left then right, left then right, until you are all the way across the 80-foot length of land. You now have an outer path, one 4-foot very rough looking bed, another path, and then the rest of the plot. Repeat the process. In the end you will have 4 raised beds, approximately 4 feet across and 80 feet long.

### SHAPING THE BEDS

Now, using a long-handled (preferably wide) rake, you will begin to shape and even out the beds. The beds should be, for all intents and purposes, flat on top.

When there is a lot of organic matter in the soil, the beds can be shaped as rounded mounds. But for purposes here, I'll generically describe them as "flat-surfaced". You'll be able to tell by the texture of your specific soil what is the most appropriate shape for your own garden. A flat surface tends to be the easiest to work with.

With the flat-surfaced beds, sides should be at a 45-degree angle to the horizontal. In other words, a moderate slope upward should be fashioned around the edges. As you work with the dirt, you will develop a "feel" for it.

Once you've completed the general shaping of each of the beds, you should be pretty tired, so, take a break and have some lemonade.

After your rest break, sprinkle that chemical or organic fertilizer evenly across the top of each bed. Then gently work the fertilizer into the top several inches of the beds with a rake. When done, smooth the entire top of each bed to a flat surface.

Then take a piece of plywood, say 2.5 feet

x 4 feet, and place it across the far end of the first bed. Stand on top of the board and gently jump up and down—you will flatten the surface of the beds to the extent that they will keep their shape in all weather conditions. Step off the board, move it a bit, and repeat the process until the entire surface is gently flattened. Do this to all of the beds. Maybe it's time for another glass of lemonade now, while you admire your handiwork.

I would then recommend, with the beds now complete, that you drive wooden stakes into the ground at key spots around the edges of each bed—say, the four corners and then every six to ten feet—right up to the outer edge of the bed. These stakes—say, four inches wide, 1 inch thick, by 1 foot long—will serve as "hose guides". As you move watering hoses around your garden, this will prevent the hose from running up the sides of your beds and sliding over and breaking your plants (which can often happen in just a moment). There are also commercially available plastic and metal hose guides in garden centers of many stores (like Walmart and Kmart and elsewhere) which operate a bit more cleverly than wooden stakes

in terms of rollers and curved guides to prevent hoses from jumping over corners.

### FENCING

Prior to planting, and depending upon where you live, you may want to consider putting up a wire fence to keep out dogs and cats and wild animals (like rabbits and deer) who may view your garden as theirs. Just one animal can do a great deal of damage to the completed beds. Cats will often use the soft dirt in a freshly prepared garden bed as a "litter box". Generally speaking, fencing around your garden is often a good idea.

### PLANTING

Using the raised-bed method of gardening, due to the loose soil structure, you are able to plant the rows closer together because the roots themselves grow straight down, rather than flattening out, as happens with harder soil. You are also able to plant closer together within rows. Therefore, the overall yield is higher in a smaller space. Due to the high percentage of organic

## ANALYSIS OF RECOMMENDED ORGANIC SOIL AMENDMENTS

N, P, and K refer to the three main nutrients plants need: NITROGEN for green growth and in compost piles to speed decomposition; PHOSPHORUS for root growth, disease resistance, and production of good fruits, vegetables, and flowers; and POTASH for strong stems, vigorous roots and increased disease resistance. Plants also need HUMUS which is provided by decomposed organic matter such as compost and manure.

### NITROGEN

#### Cottonseed Meal

3-5% N, 2% P, 1% K. Lasts 4-6 months. Use up to 10 lbs./100 sq. ft. Fair source of nitrogen. Especially good for citrus and azaleas because it has an acidifying effect on soil.

#### Blood Meal

12.5% N, 1.3% P, 0.7% K. Lasts 3-4 months. Use up to 5 lbs./100 sq. ft. A quick acting source of nitrogen, good for slow compost piles. Can burn plants if using more than 3 lbs. per 100 square feet. If using higher amounts, wait 2 weeks to plant.

#### Hoof & Horn Meal

14% N, 2% P, 0% K. Lasts 12 months. Use up to 4 lbs./100 sq. ft. Highest nitrogen source. Slow releasing: no noticeable results for 4-6 weeks.

#### Fish Meal

10.5% N, 6% P, 0% K. Lasts 6-8 months. Use up to 5 lbs./100 sq. ft. Good combined nitrogen and phosphorus source.

### PHOSPHORUS

#### Bone Meal

3% N, 20% P, 0% K. Lasts 6 months to 1 year. Use up to 5 lbs./100 sq. ft. Excellent source of phosphorus. Especially good on roses, around bulbs, and around fruit trees and flower beds.

#### Phosphate Rock

33% P. Lasts 3-5 years. Use up to 10 lbs./100 sq. ft. Very slow releasing.

#### Soft Phosphate

18% P. Lasts 2-3 years. Use up to 10 lbs./100 sq. ft. Clay base makes it more available to plants than the phosphorus in phosphate rock, though the two are used interchangeably.

### POTASH

#### Kelp Meal (Seaweed)

1% N, 0% P, 12% K, 33% trace minerals. Lasts 6 months to 1 year. Excellent source of potash, iron, and other minerals. Reportedly, the proper amount of trace minerals in the soil may mean only one-half the fertilizers will be needed for the same growth and yield! Kelp meal is also a natural fungicide. Use sparingly (up to 1 pound per 100 square feet per year) because it contains growth hormones.

#### Wood Ashes

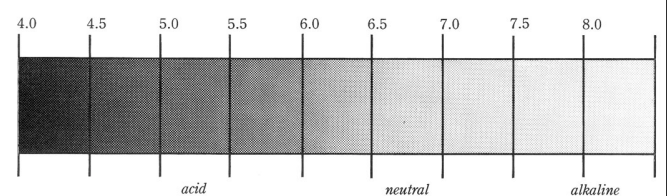
1-10% K. Lasts 6 months. Use up to 1-2 lbs./100 sq. ft. Ashes from wood are high in potash and help repel root maggots. Ashes also have an alkaline effect of the soil, so use them with care if your soil is already alkaline. Black wood ash is best.

#### Crushed Granite

3-5% K. Lasts up to 10 years. Use up to 10 lbs./100 sq. ft. Good slow-releasing source of potash and trace minerals.

#### Greensand

0% N, 1.5% P, 6.7% K. Use interchangeably with crushed granite.



### SOIL pH SCALE

A pH reading tells you the relative acidity/alkalinity of the soil. Most vegetables will grow well in a range from 6.0 to 7.5. 6.5 is probably the best all-round pH. In extremely acid or extremely alkaline soils valuable nutrients are tied up and thus unavailable to the plants. An acid soil can be sweetened by the addition of dolomite lime. An alkaline soil can be brought closer to neutral by compost or manure. Compost has a buffering effect on soil, correcting both acid and alkaline conditions.

### SOIL MODIFIERS

#### Dolomitic Lime

A good source of calcium and magnesium to be used in acid soils. Do not use lime to "sweeten" the compost pile; it results in a serious loss of nitrogen. You can discourage flies and odors with a layer of soil.

#### Gypsum

Gypsum is not needed by organic gardeners. It is normally used commercially in soils made impermeable by excess exchangeable sodium. "Clodbuster"

15% Humic Acid, 5.5 pH. Lasts 1 year. It is crushed "rock" deposits made up of ancient plant and animal remains. Helps make soil less alkaline and releases nutrients tied up in the soil. Use up to 1 lb./100 sq. ft.

#### Crushed Eggshells

High in calcium. Especially good for cabbage family crops. Help break up clay and release nutrients tied up in alkaline soils. Use up to 2 lbs./100 sq. ft.

#### Manure

A good source of humus in the garden. Nutrient levels depend on proper handling and the amount of straw or sawdust present. Large amounts of bedding may add up to 2 years to the decomposition time.

material in well-prepared soil, by using the raised-bed method the plant's root structure develops more fully and is, overall, healthier. A healthy root structure equates to hardier plants, more resistant to pests and diseases, and thus greater yield of food production. The old saying, "Everything is connected to everything" really applies to gardening!

A good recommendation, even though slightly more costly, is to "sow heavy". That means be generous when sowing seed within the rows while you are planting, and then "thin out" the plants later if they're crowding. This will make bald spots or open spots within the rows unlikely.

Again, a common mistake for new gardeners is to plant some seeds too deep. Try to avoid this well-meaning but counterproductive tendency by paying attention to the seed size as a clue to planting depth—the smaller the seed, the more shallow the depth.

You want to plant (and later thin) in such a way as to have the mature leaves of the plants touching one another row-to-row. This creates a "mini-greenhouse effect" or a "living mulch" effect which softens the taxing effects of hot, midday Sun. After all, Sun-scorched plants must first repair damage before devoting energy to further growth development. Planting in this manner also shades the topsoil, thus preventing excessive water loss due to evaporation, and it also discourages weed growth.

The raised-bed method of gardening is really the very best of many approaches. And, by the way, with raised beds you don't have to lean over as far to harvest or pull weeds throughout the season. I believe this is why the Irish refer to raised beds as lazy beds.

While it may at first seem to be off the subject of produce gardening, you will probably want to plant some flowers throughout your garden. They add wonderful colors and

attract beneficial insects. Plant flowers that you'd like to see and use for dinnertime table decorations. Mix it up a bit. And for those of you who are daring about exploring edible flowers, maybe some of those pretty blooms will end up decorating (and being part of the contents of) the salad bowl, rather than simply ending up in a dinner table vase.

Remember to not plant all of any given crop at the same time—particularly with something like lettuce. Stagger your plantings. Plant a few rows, then leave some open space for a second-rotation planting later on. That way you always have fresh lettuce when the old lettuce has *bolted*, or gone to seed—which tends to happen in hot weather. Consult the planting guides and related charts I have included herein (as well as the seed packet instructions) for more information about the growing habits of your favorite garden varieties.

## WATERING YOUR GARDEN

atmosphere, and some, such as Sun-thriving marigolds, deter some pesky insects and animals. Others help to

Once again, don't be a slave to your garden. We live in a modern age—one in which there are digital, battery-operated automatic timers which you can attach directly to your faucet and garden-hose sprinkling system. It is possible to program several waterings per day with a quality

## VEGETABLE PLANTING GUIDE

	MINIMUM SOIL TEMP. <sup>e</sup>	SOIL pH	FROST TOLERANCE	SPACING PLANTS IN BEDS	SPACING BETWEEN ROWS	SPACING PLANTS IN ROWS	PLANTING DEPTH
ARUGOLA	40°F.	6.0-7.0	Good	4"	12-24"	2-6"	1/4"
ASPARAGUS	60°F.	6.0-7.5	Good	12"	48"	9-15"	1/2"
BEAN	60°F.	6.5-7.5	None	6"	18-36"	3-8"	1"
BEET	60°F.	6.5-7.5	Good	3"	12-24"	4"	1/2"
BROCCOLI	60°F.	6.5-7.5	Good <sup>d</sup>	18"	24"	12-24"	1/4"
BRUSSELS SPROUTS	60°F.	6.0-6.7	Good	18"	30"	18"	1/4"
CABBAGE	60°F.	6.5-7.5	Good <sup>d</sup>	15-18"	30"	18"	1/4"
CHINESE CABBAGE	45°F.	6.5-7.5	Good	16"	30"	12-18"	1/4"
CARROT	60°F.	5.5-6.7	Good	2"	18-24"	1-3"	1/2"
CAULIFLOWER	60°F.	6.5-7.5	Good <sup>d</sup>	15"	24"	12-24"	1/4"
CORN	65°F.	6.5-7.0	None	8-12"	24-36"	12"	1"
CUCUMBER	70°F.	6.0-7.0	None	12"	36"	8-12"	1"
FAVA BEAN	40°F.	6.5-7.5	Good	8"	24"	8"	1"
KALE	40°F.	6.0-7.0	Good	16"	24-36"	18-24"	1/4"
LEEK	50°F.	6.5-7.5	Good	3-4"	24"	4"	1/4"
LETTUCE	40°F.	6.5-7.5	Good	8-12"	12-24"	8-12"	1/4"
BUNCHING ONION	50°F.	6.5-7.5	Good	1-3"	18-24"	2-4"	1/4"
PAC CHOI	40°F.	6.5-7.5	Good	10"	18-30"	10-18"	1/4"
PARSNIP	40°F.	6.5-7.5	Good	3"	18-24"	2-4"	1/2"
PEA	40°F.	6.5-8.0	Good	3-4"	24-36"	3"	1/2"
PEPPER	70°F.	6.0-7.0	None	12-16"	24-36"	12-24"	1/4"
RADICCHIO	40°F.	5.5-6.8	Good	12"	36"	8-12"	1/2"
RADISH	40°F.	6.0-7.0	Good	2-3"	8-16"	2-3"	1/2"
SPINACH	40°F.	6.5-7.5	Good	4"	12-24"	2-6"	1/2"
SUMMER SQUASH	70°F.	6.5-7.5	None	16"	24-36"	18-24"	1"
WINTER SQUASH	70°F.	6.5-7.5	None	32"	24-36"	24-36"	1"
SWISS CHARD	50°F.	6.5-7.5	Fair	10-12"	24"	8-12"	1/2"
TOMATO	70°F.	6.0-7.0	None	18-24"	36-48"	12-24"	1/2"
TURNIP	50°F.	6.0-7.0	Good	3-4"	12-24"	2-5"	1/2"

CODES: d = Frost will harm young transplants. Frost tolerant once established. e = Minimum soil temp. for direct seeding to insure timely germination.

## SATISFACTORY (AND OPTIMAL) PLANT GROWING TEMPERATURE RANGES\*

Determine Planting Range Calendar For Your Own Area

Crop Season	Temp. Range	Optimal Temp. Range	Plant
<i>Cool Season Crops</i>	30 °F.		Asparagus • Rhubarb
	45-85 °F.	(55-75 °F.)	Chicory • Chive • Garlic • Leek Onion • Salsify • Shallot
	40-75 °F.	(60-65 °F.)	Beet • Broad Bean • Broccoli Brussels Sprouts • Cabbage • Chard Collard • Horseradish • Kale • Kohlrabi Parsnip • Radish • Rutabaga • Sorrel Spinach • Turnip
<i>Warm Season Crops</i>	45-75 °F.	(60-65 °F.)	Artichoke • Carrot • Cauliflower • Celery • Chicory • Chinese Cabbage • Endive • Florence Fennel Lettuce • Mustard • Parsley • Pea Potato
	50-80 °F.	(60-70 °F.)	Bean • Lima Bean
	50-95 °F.	(60-75 °F.)	Corn • Cowpea • New Zealand Spinach
<i>Hot Season Crops</i>	50-90 °F.	(65-75 °F.)	Pumpkin • Squash
	60-90 °F.	(65-75 °F.)	Cucumber • Muskmelon
	65-80 °F.	(70-75 °F.)	Sweet Pepper • Tomato
	65-95 °F.	(70-85 °F.)	Eggplant • Hot Pepper • Okra • Sweet Potato • Watermelon

\* From James Edward Knott, *Handbook For Vegetable Growers*, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1957, pp. 6-7.

timer, which may be well worth the expense in the time it saves you. Keep in mind that, while the timer and sprinklers water the garden, you can be somewhere else and not married to a routine.

Just a few tips: While it is true that overwatering can create a real problem, especially in soils which do not drain easily, underwatering is a serious mistake—particularly in the very early stages of germination. **DO NOT LET THOSE NEWLY PLANTED SEEDS DRY OUT! EVER! SAME FOR THE NEWLY SPROUTING SEEDLINGS.**

If you are watering several times per day *by hand*, you will literally be able to tell when enough is enough. If you are using a timer, which I DO recommend for convenience, you'll just have to play with it a bit to get it "just right".

But under no circumstances let the seeds dry out. I cannot emphasize this enough: It is better to overwater, if you must, than to underwater, in the beginning. Besides, the raised-bed method of gardening will be more forgiving of a bit of overwatering than will a regular, hardpack farming method.

"But what kind of sprinkler should I use?" you may ask. An OSCILLATING sprinkler is, in my opinion, the most practical—assuming the geometry of your garden is rectangular.

Also, Y-adaptors are available among the garden hose plumbing accessories to allow for two (or more) hoses, and thus multiple sprinklers running off the same timer-regulated main water line.

Keep in mind that I'm providing instructions here for a *low-maintenance* garden that will grow quality food. My point here is that overwork isn't necessary to get results that you'll be delighted with.

WHAT NOW?

If you have followed the instructions to this point, YOU'RE THERE! You'll start to see the results of all the important preparations made earlier.

As the vegetables begin to grow, thin them carefully. I always recommend using a sharp

**GENERAL FERTILIZER PROGRAM PER CROP PER 100 SQUARE FEET**

Assuming no soil test is performed

Functions	Sources	1st & 2nd yr. Assuming poor soil	3rd & 4th yr. Or 1st & 2nd yr. in average soil	5th yr. Or 1st year in good soil	Maintenance Every year thereafter†	Add to Soil before or after Double-Dig
Nitrogen	Cottonseed Meal	10 lbs.	6 lbs.	3 lbs.	-	After
	(or Fish Meal)	(5 lbs.)	(3 lbs.)	(1-2 lbs.)	-	
	(or Blood Meal)*	(5 lbs.)	(3 lbs.)	(1-2 lbs.)	-	
	(or Hoof & Horn Meal)	(4 lbs.)	(2 lbs.)	(1 lb.)	-	
Phosphorus	Bone Meal	4-5 lbs.	2 lbs.	2 lbs.	2 lbs.	After
	(or Phosphate Rock)	(10 lbs.)	(5 lbs.)	(3 lbs.)	-	
	(or Soft Phosphate)	(10 lbs.)	(5 lbs.)	(3 lbs.)	-	
Potash and Trace Minerals	Kelp Meal	1 lb.	1 lb.	1 lb.	1/4 lb.‡	After
	and Wood Ash	2 lbs.	1 lb.	1 lb.	1 lb.	
	(or Granite)	(10 lbs.)	(5 lbs.)	(3 lbs.)	-	
	(or Greensand)	(10 lbs.)	(5 lbs.)	(3 lbs.)	-	
Texturizer	Manure	2 cu. ft.	2 cu. ft.	2 cu. ft.	2 cu. ft.	After
		Microbiotic Life, Humus	Compost	Up to 1 cu. yd. (1st crop)	8 cu. ft.	8 cu. ft.
Multiple Nutriments		8 cu. ft. (ea. addit. crop)**				
Calcium	Eggshells	2 lbs.	1 lb.	as available up to 1/2 lb.		After
Humic Acid	"Clodbuster"	1 lb.	-	-	-	After

\* Do not plant for 2 weeks if using more than 3 pounds blood meal per 100 sq. ft. It can burn the plants during this time since it releases nitrogen rapidly at first.

\*\*1 cubic yard equals 27 cubic feet. 1 cubic yard will cover 100 sq. ft. 3" deep. 8 cubic feet will cover 100 sq. ft. 1" deep. 2 cubic feet will cover 100 sq. ft. 1/4" deep. You can substitute manure for compost the first year if you do not have a ready supply of compost.

† Beginning the sixth year your legumes, cover crops, and recycled plant materials (in the form of compost) can provide most of your nitrogen, phosphorous, and potash. Double-check this periodically with a soil test.

‡ For trace minerals: kelp meal is 33% trace minerals.

Reprinted from: *How To Grow More Vegetables...*, by J. Jeavons

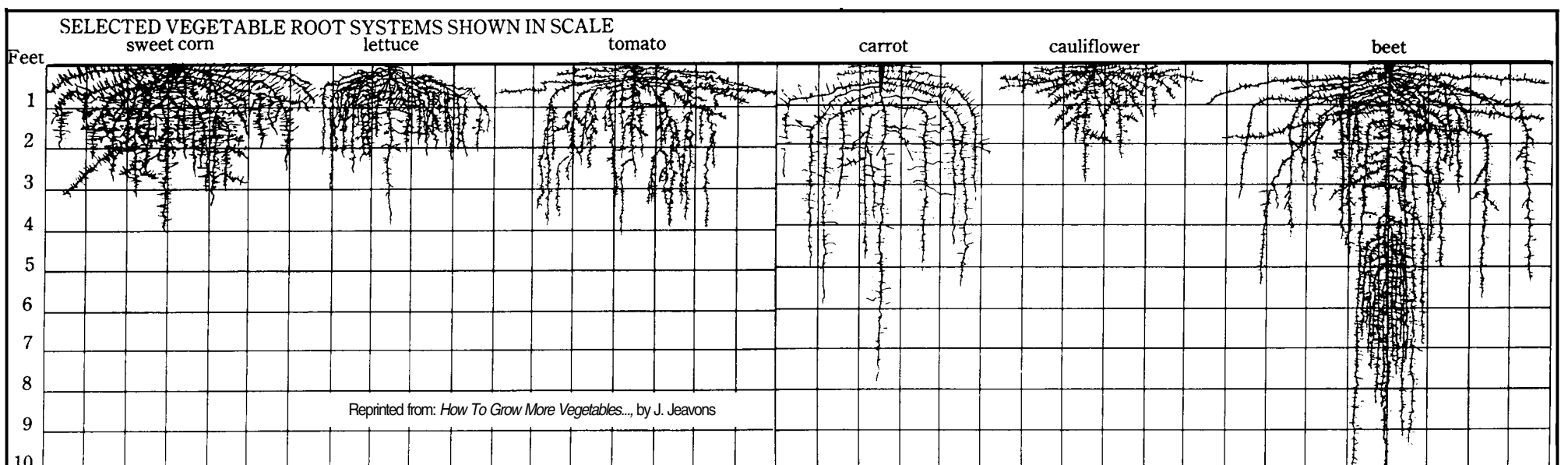
☐ Except for first double-dig, when it is added before.

knife when harvesting. For example, when harvesting lettuce, I like to cut away the outer leaves while letting the plant continue its growth. Lettuce plants will continue to provide you with salad goodies until it gets too hot and the plants may bolt. Then wait till things cool down a bit and start new seeds.

You will be amazed by what is unfolding before your eyes as each new day brings your garden into another stage of development. There

is so much for you to learn and enjoy and experiment with!

I believe you will find that growing a garden is an extremely rewarding experience—not to mention the *quality* of the food you'll soon be eating and sharing with others. If it is done right, it can be a profoundly satisfying experience and affords a direct avenue for getting close to Mother Nature. Learning about gardening is a lot like life—it takes time and just goes on and





on and on. The secret is in taking the plunge and *beginning!*

If you've completed the garden, you've accomplished a great thing. A garden at home is worth a lot more than many other kinds of insurance policies.

When all is said and done, you can now go out into your own back yard and pick your next

HEALTHY meal. And how do you measure the health benefits of getting your hands dirty in that rich soil? How much is it worth to you to lower your blood pressure 20-30 points or more? Is it more fun puttering in your garden or lying on your back in a hospital bed? And what about the expense of medical care today? Along with our pets, and a sense of humor, a

garden is just plain good medicine!

So what's stopping YOU? No excuses now. Get busy! Before you know it, you'll have created the miracle of a garden.

*"We are gardeners, you and I, in the Garden of the Conscious Presence. We draw the substance of the past into conceptions of the future. I am the source of the garden's design and I return to the garden through you. Together we tend the fields of possibility, drawing forth the inexhaustible beauties of structure, objectifying wonders, and manifesting new orders.*

*As each universal context spirals outward toward maturation, it gives birth to new and more intricate contexts within itself, revolutionizing former understandings of scale and revealing a host of new worlds to explore, inhabit, and enjoy. Each successive order of manifestation becomes the basis of yet another order, and then of still another. So new creatures coalesce from the fields of possibility, populating every desirable realm, as Infinite Potential eternally uncoils from the heart of God."*

— Ken Carey from *Starseed, The Third Millennium: Living In The Posthistoric World*

## COMPOSTING

If you are just beginning a garden, you may be too overwhelmed in the moment to even consider composting. But let me **strongly** advise you to **include** composting as part of your gardening experience. This is useful for many reasons, not the least of which is that it is a tremendous way to recycle the large quantity of excess greens that will be a byproduct of the garden as you move through the seasons.

Why compost? Well, it's no accident that gardeners with the best yields tend to be fervent composters. Compost serves several functions. It improves the structure of the soil, which allows for easier working of the soil, and it increases aeration and water retention. Additionally, it returns much-needed nutrients to the soil, including nitrogen.

Improved texture, structure, and nourishment lead to healthy soil. Healthy soil supports a wide array of little organisms—not just worms—which in turn help plants to thrive, especially through supporting healthy root systems. Healthy soil ultimately allows, then, for higher and better quality yields of produce.

"Ok, but how do I do it?" you ask. Well, there are as many ways to start a compost pile as there are ways to plant a garden. I will present here one of the cheapest, easiest, and most effective ways that I have found. And there are also as many books on composting as there are on gardening, so you can read in

## COMPOSTING MATERIALS

Material	Source	Comments
Bone meal**	Garden centers	Very high P* source
Coffee grounds	Restaurants, offices	Good N* source
Corncobs and stalks	Farms, canneries, garden refuse	Best when ground or used as a soil texturizer or mulch; high in C*
Cottonseed**	Garden centers, gins	High in N and P
Cowpeas (green stalks)	Farms, gardens	N and K* source
Eggshells	Egg farms, restaurants	Supplies calcium and N
Fish scraps and shellfish wastes	Canneries, fisheries, fish markets, restaurants	High in N and trace minerals, but odoriferous
Fruit wastes	Canneries, restaurants, market dumps, restaurants	Banana peels are rich in K
Grass clippings	Lawn mowing, lawn services, neighbors' bags set at curbside	Use only clippings from herbicide-free lawns; very high in N; decompose rapidly and help create necessary heat to break down other materials in pile; odoriferous unless blended well with C-rich materials
Hair (animal and human)	Barber and beauty shops, pet groomers	Good N source, but slow to break down; avoid human hair that's been dyed
Hay	Farms	Bulky, high in C; alfalfa highest in N
Hoof and horn meal**	Slaughterhouses, garden centers	High in N; slow to break down
Hops (spent)	Breweries	Wet and hard to manage; rich in N; odoriferous
Leather wastes	Tanneries, manufacturers	Good N source, but slow to break down
Leaves	Woods, dumpings in parks or at curbsides	When decomposed to the form of leaf mold, make an excellent soil texturizer; contain growth inhibitors if not first composted; shred before adding to pile
Manure	Farms, stables, poultry houses, circuses, feed lots	Listed from high to low N: pigeon, chicken, duck, horse, rabbit, pig, cow, sheep, goat
Peanut shells	Farms, gardens, peanut butter processors	Good soil texturizer with moderate humus potential; slow to break down; high in C and K
Pine needles	Woods, evergreen plantings	Highly acid N source; use on acid-loving crops or with neutralizer
Sawdust, shavings, wood chips	Lumberyards, tree surgeons, sawmills, carpentry shops, furniture makers, utility crews for chips	High in N, P, and C; exceedingly slow to break down; never add fresh sawdust directly to soil
Seaweed	Beaches	High in N and K, but odoriferous
Soy meal, soy pulp, and other oil-pressing wastes	Garden stores for meal; oil processors of tung nuts, castor beans, sunflowers, rapeseed, linseed, and so on for other materials	High in N, but often hard to find
Spice waste	Spice makers	Mustard seeds are high in N
Stable bedding, sweepings	Stables, farms	Better nutrient balance than manure alone
Sugarcane and sugar beet waste	Refineries	N source, but hard to work with
Vegetable waste	Canneries, restaurants (especially vegetarian ones), sorted garbage, food stores, farm markets	Pea pods are especially high in N
Weeds	Gardens, fields, road sides, pond dredgings	Cut before seeds set, or use in hot compost pile; purslane is very high in N
Wheat straw, oat straw	Farms	High in C; slow to break down
Wood ash	Fireplaces, wood stoves, wood furnaces, bonfires	K and P but no N; strongly alkaline; don't use ashes from fires started with charcoal
Wool wastes	Mills	High in N but low humus potential; slow to break down
Worm culture soil**	Wholesale worm farms, fishing worm dealers	Rich in N from castings

Reprinted from: High Yield Gardening, by Hunt & Boritz

\* N = nitrogen, P = phosphorus, K = potassium, C = carbon

\*\* Unless they're bought in bulk, these materials can be expensive. Most gardeners prefer to add them directly to the garden soil rather than fortify the compost pile with them.

greater detail independently as you move along further into the gardening experience.

In the meantime, using 4-foot fencing wire (“chicken wire” will do), roll out enough fencing to produce a circle approximately six feet in diameter. Then, with the wire laying on the ground, cut 2x4s into four-foot lengths and nail the fencing to the 2x4s at about four-foot intervals.

Pick a space to the side of your garden, one which is out of the way, yet with convenient access to the actual garden area. Also, your compost pile must be within reach of water. Once you’ve chosen a (permanent) spot for your compost pile, using a shovel, dig down one or two feet and turn over the soil in a circle approximately six feet in diameter.

Once the soil is “broken up”, place kindling, twigs, a wooden pallet, shrub materials, or anything which will create an air pocket a foot high above the soil line. Now, take your fencing with 2x4s nailed to it, and lift the assembly up so the fencing and posts are vertical. Then join the unconnected ends so that you now have a circle six feet across and four feet high. Now move the fencing circle over your hole. [See illustration nearby.]

You now are ready to *begin* building your compost pile, much like a layer cake. A good general recipe for composting is, by weight: 1/3 dry vegetation, 1/3 green vegetation and kitchen wastes, and 1/3 soil.

Some important things to remember, however: DO NOT add to your compost, under any circumstances, ever, the following: pine needles, fruit/fruit peels, meat of any kind. As you move along, you might want to add some humic acid to the pile to increase the availability of nutrients for plants later on. It is also very important to know that you must add soil to your compost pile—in fact, soil will keep down flies and odors.

Once you have your fencing up and you are ready to begin, you may well wish to create several large separate piles, in the immediate vicinity of the compost pile, comprised of: manure, dirt, straw, grass clippings. Don’t start your compost pile by just throwing some garbage down and thinking you have the makings of compost—you don’t!

Always think in terms of a layer cake. Once you lay down, say, a one- to two-foot layer of grass clippings, then take your shovel and throw onto it a layer of manure or a layer of dirt. Then repeat the process—a green layer or a wet layer, and a dry layer.

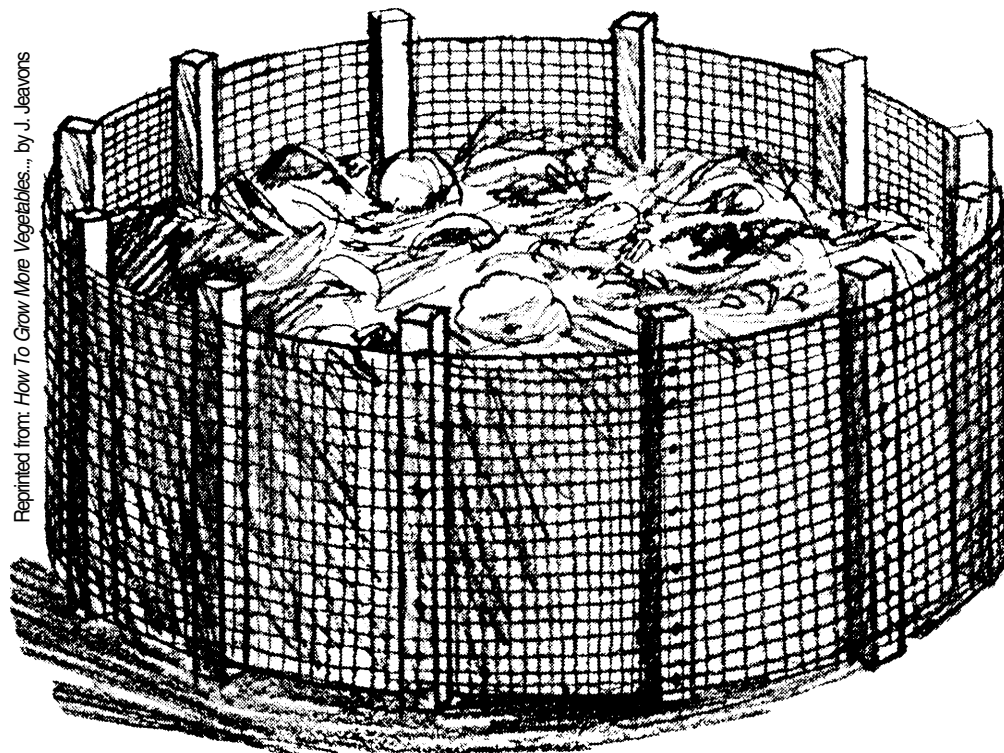
To BEGIN the pile, try to build up the compost to at least three feet high. Another combination would be: a layer of straw, a layer of green materials, a layer or manure and/or dirt.

When you’ve completed this step, get the hose and water the compost just like it is your garden. The compost should be **moist** at all times. That means whenever you water the garden, water the compost. You want to generate enough heat within that pile to allow the microorganisms to break down the materials into a very nitrogen-rich mixture which will be added back to the garden later on—and thus save you money!

This method that I am recommending is relatively low maintenance, although you DO need access to dirt and/or manure to maintain the compost pile properly. When you are throwing kitchen scraps on the pile, be sure not to throw meats onto it. But when you do throw wet waste on the pile, always follow that up with a covering of dirt. This makes the process of composting much more aromatically pleasant. (Trust me on this one.)

Bottom line? Every time I’ve planted a garden and haven’t started a compost pile at the same time, I’ve regretted it. You will be AMAZED by how much excess greenery comes from a garden over the course of a season. And besides, why pay for nitrogen-rich materials to add to your garden when you can create the best as you go?

Many people say you must constantly turn the compost pile. This method that I am suggesting does not require this laborious step. One way to observe whether it is “working” is the following: if you notice that the compost pile suddenly drops down a foot or two, you have



Reprinted from: How To Grow More Vegetables... by J. Jeavons

Large wire-fabric-type compost bin.

**NUTRIENT PROFILES OF COMMON ORGANIC AMENDMENTS**

Organic Material	Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Potassium	Rate of Release
Activated sludge	5.0	3.0	0	Medium
Alfalfa hay	2.5	0.5	2.1	-
Animal tankage	8.0	20.0	0	Medium
Apple leaves	1.0	0.2	0.4	-
Basic slag	0	0.8	0	Rapid
Bloodmeal	15.0	1.3	0.7	-
Bone meal (steamed)	4.0	21.0	0.2	Slow
Brewers grains (wet)	0.9	0.5	0.1	-
Castor pomace	5.5	1.5	1.3	Slow
Cattle manure (dried)	2.0	1.8	2.2	Medium
Cattle manure (fresh)	0.3	0.2	0.4	Medium
Cocoa shell dust	1.0	1.5	2.7	Slow
Coffee grounds (dried)	2.0	0.4	0.7	-
Colloidal phosphate	0	18-24	0	Slow
Cornstalks	0.8	0.4	0.9	-
Cottonseed	3.2	1.3	1.2	-
Cottonseed meal	7.0	2.5	1.5	Slow-Medium
Dried blood	12-15	3.0	0	Medium-rapid
Fish emulsion	5.0	2.0	2.0	Medium-rapid
Fish meal	10.0	4.0	0	Slow
Fish scrap	7.8	13.0	3.8	Slow
Granite dust	0	0	5.0	Slow
Greensand	0	1.5	5.0	Very slow
Guano	12.0	8.0	3.0	Medium
Hoof meal and horn dust	12.5	1.8	0	Slow
Home manure (composted)	0.7	0.3	0.6	Medium
Morse manure (fresh)	0.4	0.2	0.4	Medium
Leaf mold (composted)	0.6	0.2	0.4	Medium
Mushroom compost	0.4-0.7	57-62	0.5-1.5	Slow
Oak leaves	0.8	0.4	0.2	Rapid
Peach leaves	0.9	0.2	0.6	-
Phosphate rock	0	30-32	0	Very slow
Pig manure (fresh)	0.6	0.4	0.1	Medium
Pine needles	0.5	0.1	0	-
Poultry manure (fresh)	2.0	1.9	1.9	Medium-rapid
Rabbit manure (fresh)	2.4	0.6	0.1	Medium
Roses (flower)	0.3	0.1	0.4	-
Sawdust	4.0	2.0	4.0	Very slow
Seaweed	1.7	0.8	5.0	Slow-medium
Sheep manure (fresh)	0.6	0.3	0.2	Medium
Soybean meal	6.7	1.6	2.3	Slow-medium
Tankage	6.0	8.0	0	-
Tobacco stems	2.0	0	7.0	Slow
Wood ashes	0	1.5	7.0	Rapid

Reprinted from: High Yield Gardening, by Hunt & Bortz

successful composting in action. Congratulations! Happy composting! And happy gardening in a way that completes an entire cycle of life!

### RECOMMENDED READING


Here's a list of some books which are extremely well done, some of which are out of print. Check your local library. Some of these books may be available from the seed companies listed earlier in this article:

1. *How To Grow More Vegetables Than You Ever Thought Possible, On Less Land Than You Can Imagine*, by John Jeavons.
2. *The Backyard Homestead Mini-Farm & Garden Log Book*, by John Jeavons, J. Mogador Griffin & Robin Leler.
3. *Square Foot Gardening*, by Mel Bartholomew.
4. *The New Seed-Starter's Handbook*, by Nancy Bubel.
5. *How To Save Your Own Vegetable Seeds*, by the Heritage Seed Program, Ontario, Canada.
6. *The One Straw Revolution*, by Masanobu Fukuoka.
7. *Bio-Dynamic Agriculture: An Introduction*, by Herbert H. Koepf.
8. *Intensive Gardening*, by Faber & Faber.
9. *High-Yield Gardening*, by Majorie B. Hunt and Brenda Bortz.
10. *The Expert's Book Of Garden Hints*.
11. *The Heirloom Garden*, by Jo Ann Gardner.
12. *The New Organic Grower*, by Eliot Coleman.
13. *Lewellyn's Organic Gardening Almanac*.
14. *The Bio-Dynamic Farm*, by Herbert H. Koepf.
15. *Home Grower's Guide To Seed Saving*, by Vivecca Price.
16. *Vegetable And Herb Seed Growing*, by Douglas C. Miller.
17. *Carrots Love Tomatoes: Secrets Of Companion Planting For Successful Gardening*, by Louise Riotte.

\* \* \*

*Editor's postscript: Due to the widespread dangers of Mad Cow Disease and other health-compromising conditions affecting animals, such longtime fertilizing items as bone meal, blood meal, etc., derived from ANIMALS, are falling under greater and greater suspicion. And rightly so if just the anecdotal evidence is correct—where people may catch nasty illnesses from just handling (like inhaling the dust of) such products, say when sprinkling them around their rose bushes. Thus it would seem prudent to utilize the products from the various fertilizer charts herein which are derived from VEGETABLE matter—and completely avoid the animal-derived products at this time.*

*This vegetation-intensive focus is also the dominant philosophy among those practicing "organic" gardening techniques. Recent data suggest that the organic approach to soil conditioning, especially employing composting, is far better in the long run, as such nourishes (rather than killing off) a wide array of soil organisms. These organisms help the entire soil ecosystem to thrive and, in turn, such healthy soil allows for a more complete nourishing of the root systems of plants. (Looks like God knew what He was doing after all, much to the dismay of the chemical fertilizer industry.)*

*Harkening back to Rick Martin's front-page feature interview for this "green" issue of The SPECTRUM, let me here repeat that an absolutely superb source of all kinds of information covering this entire subject is a longtime magazine called Organic Gardening, which is available from many newsstands, or you can contact them through the following different avenues: try their very informative www.organicgardening.com website; call 1-800-666-2206; write to Organic Gardening, 33 E. Minor Street, Emmaus PA 18098. If ever there was a publication that deserves praise for consistently maintaining the highest standards and commitment to helping people have fun in the garden, while at the same time being thoughtful toward Mother Earth, this publication has earned such praise over many years of presenting the finest articles of interest to gardening enthusiasts. *

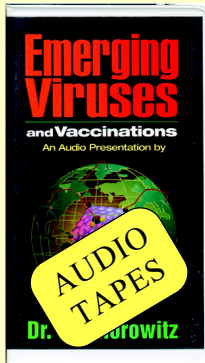
### TRADITIONAL COMPANIONS

<u>Crop</u>	<u>Traditional Friends (enhance growth)</u>	<u>Traditional Enemies (hinder growth)</u>	<u>Research Findings</u>
Asparagus	Tomatoes repel asparagus beetles; parsley and basil help growth.	Onion family	No data is available to confirm the traditions.
Beans	Potatoes repel Mexican bean beetles; corn improves growth; rosemary repels insects; catnip repels flea beetles; celery helps growth.	Fennel, gladiolus, onion family	Marigolds and potatoes were shown by certain studies to reduce bean beetles.
Beets	Onion family repels insects.	Beans (pole)	No evidence is available to confirm the traditions.
Cabbage family (broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, collards, kale, kohlrabi)	Celery repels cabbage worms; onion family deters maggots; rosemary, sage, and thyme repel insects.	Beans (pole), strawberries, tomatoes	In some studies, supposed enemies tomatoes were shown to keep whiteflies and diamond-back moths away from cabbages.
Carrots	Peas add nutrients; onion family repels carrot flies; rosemary and sage repel insects.	Dill	No conclusive results are available on the traditional pairings.
Celery	Cabbage repels insects.	Carrots, parsnips	No evidence confirms the status of friends or enemies.
Com	Beans and peas add nutrients; potatoes repel insects; soybeans deter chinch bugs.	Tomatoes	In various studies, bean inter-plants reduced numbers of fall army worms. Alfalfa cover crops, grown yearly, have reduced wireworm populations.
Cucumbers	Radishes deter cucumber beetles; beans add nutrients.	Potatoes, sage	Corn or broccoli companions have reduced striped cucumber beetle populations. Radishes have been proved to deter the same beetles.
Eggplants	Green beans deter Colorado potato beetles; potatoes can be used as trap plant.	None	No data is available to confirm the traditional friends.
Lettuce	Carrots, radishes	None	No evidence is available on the status of traditional companions.
Melons	Corn; nasturtiums and radishes repel cucumber beetles.	None	Research hasn't been able to confirm the benefits of pairing melons with nasturtiums.
Onion family (bulb onions, garlic, leeks, scallions, shallots)	Beets, carrots	Beans, peas	No evidence confirms the status of friends or enemies.
Peas	Carrots, turnips	Gladiolus, onion family	No evidence confirms the traditions. But in one study, tomato/pea intercropping brought higher pea yields. Cole crop companions deter pea root rot.
Peppers	Carrots	Fennel, kohlrabi	No research is available to confirm the traditions.
Potatoes	Beans and corn repel insects; use eggplant as trap plant.	Apples, pumpkins, raspberries, tomatoes	None of the traditional friends have been confirmed. But toxic jimsonweed and deadly nightshade lure egg-laying potato beetles and poison the larvae.
Pumpkins	Com	Potatoes	No evidence confirms the roles of traditional friends and enemies.
Radishes	Cucumbers repel insects; lettuce.	Hyssop	No research is available on the status of traditional companions.
Spinach	Strawberries	Potatoes	No research confirms the roles of friends and enemies.
Squash	Com	Potatoes	No data is available to confirm the traditions.
Swiss chard	Onion family	Beans (pole)	No research is available on traditional companions.
Tomatoes	Asparagus and basil repel insects; parsley helps growth.	Corn, dill, kohlrabi, potatoes	No research confirms the roles of friends and enemies.
Turnips	Peas help growth.	Potatoes	No research is available on the status of traditional companions.

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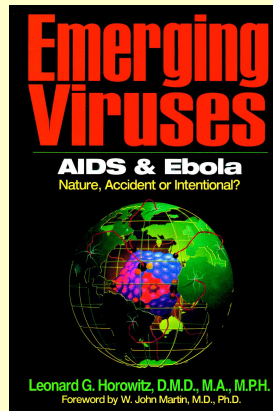


## Emerging Viruses - AIDS & Ebola



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## The Indigo Children

### The New Kids Have Arrived

### by Lee Carroll & Jan Tober

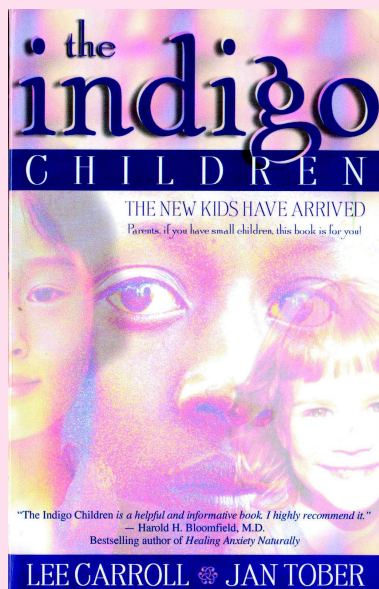
(Featured interview in the March 2000 issue of *The SPECTRUM*.)

The "Indigo Child" is a boy or girl who displays a new and unusual set of psychological attributes, revealing a pattern of behavior generally undocumented before. This pattern has singularly unique factors that call for parents and teachers to change their treatment and upbringing of these kids to assist them in achieving balance and harmony in their lives, and to help them avoid frustration.

In this groundbreaking book, international authors and lecturers Lee Carroll and Jan Tober answer many of the often-puzzling questions surrounding Indigo Children, such as:

- Can we really be seeing human evolution in kids today?
- Are these kids smarter than we were at their age?
- How come a lot of our children today seem to be "system busters"?
- Why are so many of our brightest kids being diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)?
- Are there proven, working alternatives to Ritalin?

Throughout this work, Carroll and Tober bring together some very fine minds (doctors, educators, psychologists, and more) who shed light on the Indigo Child phenomenon. These children are truly special, representing a great percentage of all the kids being born today on a worldwide basis. They come in "knowing" who they are—so they must be recognized, appreciated for their exceptional qualities, and guided with love and care.

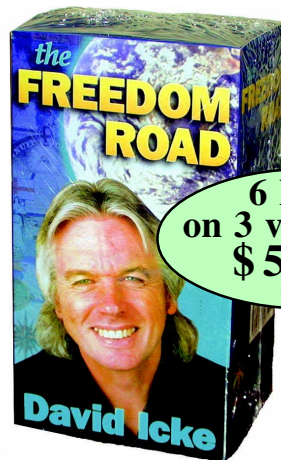


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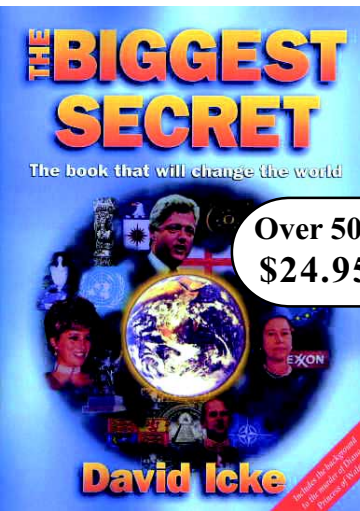


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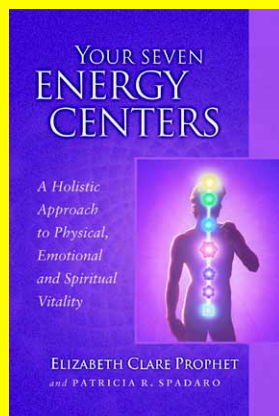
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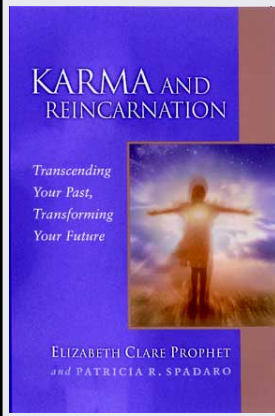
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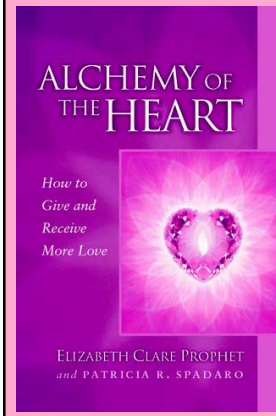
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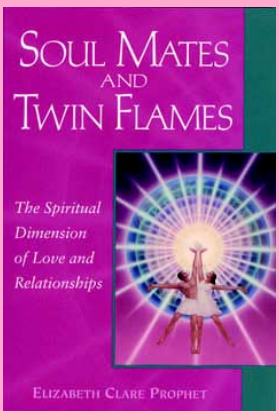
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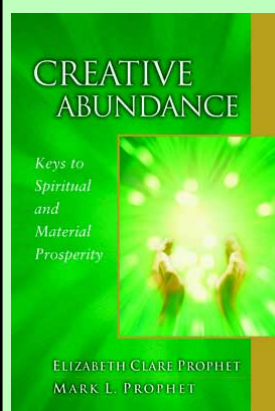
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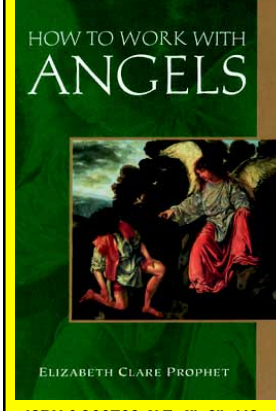
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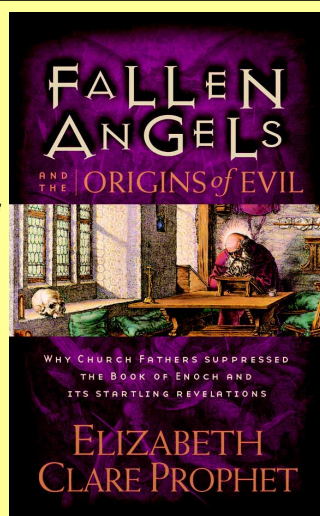
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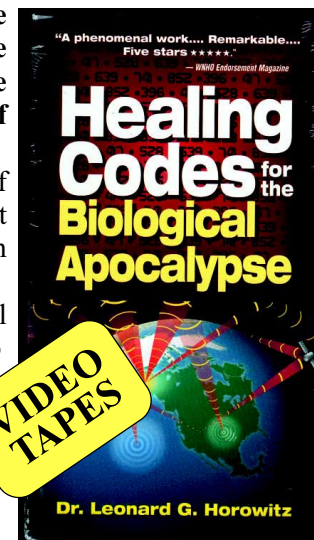
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