

010: a space race allegory

CHAPTER SIX

The Group assured us that the almonds would be replaced. The Dose tasted like almonds since it was made from processed almond extract. While global warming had wiped out most of the almond crop NES had special farms in reserve at hidden locations where the almonds were protected. Thank Clem that they found a man made chemical to replace the natural Tranquilline-69. Tranquilline-70 was far superior.

Jones wrote a book called The Untold Truth while he was a fugitive. He had been preaching about Tranquill addiction for years but when NES finally made him an invitation the coward bolted. How he managed to stay one step ahead of them for so long no one knows. He probably had a sort of underground railroad with the Midwife's support! He claimed that T-70 was a myth.

At any rate, his book was even worse than the Gigli screenplay. It should have been obvious that he was a genetic inferior since he claimed that not only was the Dose

addictive but that NES did in fact administer it without disclosing where and when or how they were doing so. If he had been telling the truth and if he was correct that the withdrawal symptoms were fatal then NES would have had to publish an Honesty Paper [HP] on the point. They did no such thing. Jones or "Jo-J" as he came to be called, was convicted of Spreading Hatred for an Identifiable Pharmaceutical [SHIP] and sentenced to Cryogenic Suspension [CS] for three eons. As he was led away, he spoke calmly and said only five words: "the almonds are all gone". I'm not sure why he thought that was such a big deal. Was he unaware of the Mars Project's findings?

I read today that we are all to report to our CVUs at 10 p.m. for a special announcement. I figure it will be another report about the Midwives or an update on the Mars Project. The Mars Project is just about complete so the NES and their families and friends (The Pioneers) will be heading off to reconnoiter the surface. Oddly, Mars with its slightly different gravity renders Tranquilline withdrawal a

follow once it's clear there's no risk. Those poor white trash morons. Even before the vote some said they should not even be allowed on Mars; now it's sure that they won't be going for a long time.

Oh, it's 10 p.m. let's see what's up:

My fellow Namericans,
The Mars project has been delayed
Only the Pioneers will attend (at great personal risk) on the Red Planet at this time

We are in no immediate danger due to the T-70 problem

Not all of the almonds are gone
The Refuse will not attend on Mars at this time

The rest will await further communications

The Midwives will remain with the Refuse

Clem be with us all

(in spirit)

THE END [TE]

breeze.
The rest of us will



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TELEPHONE SCAM (area codes 809, 284, 876)

We actually received a call last week from the **809** area code. The woman said 'Hey, this is Karen. Sorry I missed you--get back to us quickly. I Have something important to tell you.' Then she repeated a phone number beginning with **809**. 'We didn't respond'.

Then this week, we received the following e-mail:

DO NOT DIAL AREA CODES 809, 284, 876

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION PROVIDED TO US BY AT&T.

DON'T DIAL AREA CODE 809

This one is being distributed all over the US. This is pretty scary, especially given the way they try to get you to call.

Be sure you read this and pass it on.

They get you to call by telling you that it is information about a family member who has been ill or to tell you someone has been arrested, died, or to let you know you have won a wonderful prize, etc.

In each case, you are told to call the **809** number right away. Since there are so many new area codes these days, people unknowingly return these calls.

If you call from the US, you will apparently be charged the ridiculous sum of \$2,425 per minute..

Or, you'll get a long recorded message. The point is, they will try to keep you on the phone as long as possible to increase the charges. Unfortunately, when you get your phone bill, you may be charged more than \$24,100.00

WHY IT WORKS: The **809** area code is located in the British Virgin Islands (The Bahamas).

The charges afterwards can become a real nightmare. That's because you did actually make the call. If you complain, both your local phone company and your long distance carrier will not want to get involved and will most likely tell you that they are simply providing the billing for the foreign company. You'll end up dealing with a foreign company that argues they have done nothing wrong. Please forward this entire message to your friends, family and colleagues to help them become aware of this scam Sandi Van Handel AT&T Field Service Manager (920)687-904

Food Fight: Canada vs. Europe We're forcing GMOs on people who fear them.

By Murray Dobbin and Ellen Gould The-Tyee.ca

Challenging Europeans over their right to choose what food they grow and eat seems like a lousy way to make friends across the Atlantic. But this is exactly what Canada has done by giving the European Union a deadline of Feb. 11 to change its policies on genetically modified foods.

Canada wants to open up the European market to imports of Canadian genetically modified products, particularly canola oil. The big stick Canada can wield is a November 2006 World Trade Organization ruling. The WTO decreed in a complaint brought by the U.S., Canada and Argentina that the EU had violated its WTO obligations by creating "undue delays" in the approval of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). If the EU does not comply with the WTO ruling, it could have to pay the price in the form of hundreds of millions of dollars in trade sanctions. Europe has been given what is considered a reasonable period to comply, but time is now running out. Europeans won't be bullied. This is no minor issue in Europe. The European Commission has been surveying attitudes towards GMOs in all member states for 15 years now, and despite intense marketing efforts by international agribusiness, the opposition to GMOs only seems to be growing. The EU's pollsters have discovered a "striking" decline in acceptance of GM foods over recent years even though Europeans are expressing support for other uses of biotechnology. Helen Holder, GMO campaign coordinator at Friends of the Earth Europe, told The Tyee that a triumphalist "We

won!" North American attitude over the WTO decision will not wash in Europe. Holder argued the panel's narrow ruling on technical grounds did not mean Canada and the U.S. could bully Europeans into accepting GM food. She pointed out that the WTO never concluded that GMOs were safe. Holder said that if the spirit of the era was "the market must decide," then the answer seemed clear: the European market had largely decided against GMOs. She pointed to consumer-driven decisions by major European food chains such as Tesco to not stock genetically-modified foods.

Sarkozy sides with Bove
The depth of feeling in Europe over this issue and the strange bedfellows it makes were evident in a surprise move by French President Nicolas Sarkozy on Jan. 10. At the very time EU and North American trade officials were working out how Europe could conform with the WTO decision, Sarkozy's government came up with a new ban on a Monsanto corn variety that had previously been approved for cultivation in France. Trade bureaucrats on both sides of the Atlantic must have felt like they were trying to herd cats.

Remember this is the same Sarkozy -- nicknamed "Sarko the American" -- who came into office as the right wing candidate promising to improve relations with the U.S. Yet there he was, apparently siding with the radical anti-GMO campaigner Jose Bove and throwing gas on the fire of a transatlantic trade dispute.

Sarkozy's decision allowed Bove to end his eight-day hunger strike against cultivation of GM corn in France. It means the only GM crop currently being grown in France is now banned, a tremendous victory for Bove and France's GM-free campaigners.

New studies, more European GM bans

Sarkozy's ban came on the heels of a report by the French government's scientific authority on GMOs. This report cited new scientific evidence that the GM corn might have a negative impact on insects and its pollen could be dispersed further than previously thought. The report also said new studies suggest it is impossible not to have cross-pollination between GM and non-GM fields.

The scientists advising the French government did not all agree with the conclusions the report drew from the new studies. Sarkozy acknowledged this scientific uncertainty but said "with the principle of precaution at stake, I am making a major political decision to carry our country to the forefront of the debate on the environment."

Canada and U.S. trade negotiators working to expand markets for GMOs don't only have a problem with individual European Union states like France. Although they can get a sympathetic ear from European Commission trade officials, the environment commissioner Stavros Dimas is proving to be a major headache for them. On Jan. 21 Dimas was accused of snubbing the U.S. trade representative when he declined to meet with her to discuss the GM dispute.

New science, leaked fears Dimas is the EU's point person in getting individual member states to conform with EU law on GMOs. That means in theory Dimas should be working to overcome existing bans on GM crops in Hungary, Austria, and now France. He seems headed, though, in the opposite direction. Dimas has proposed European-wide bans on two GM corn varieties that the European food safety authority had recommended for approval in 2005.

Dimas, like Sarkozy, is pointing to new science about the risks of GMOs to justify bans. In his leaked recommendations to the Euro-

pean Commission, Dimas refers to studies that suggest potential negative impacts of the GM corn varieties. These include risks for species like Monarch butterflies, problems for stream ecosystems, and variations in toxin concentrations that "may lead to unpredictable interactions with the environment."

The European biotech industry immediately responded to Dimas's recommendations, claiming that the studies he relied on actually favoured GMOs or involved "sloppy" research. Canadians equally opposed.

Despite the relative lack of news coverage of GMOs in Canada, the most recent survey done for the federal government on Canadian attitudes shows they are remarkably similar to those of Europeans. The 2006 Decima survey found: "The main aspect of biotechnology that engenders concern is GM food."

Overall attitudes toward GM food tend to be more negative than positive." But unlike Europeans, Canadians have not had national governments willing to reflect their views in legislation. In sharp contrast with the EU's tough regulations, Canada's labelling standard for GM foods is voluntary, and has proven to be as ineffective as critics warned it would be. This despite the 2003 Decima poll showing 88% of Canadians surveyed wanted mandatory labelling.

As well as the WTO case and other trade action Canada has taken to expand markets for existing GMOs, Canada is notorious internationally for trying to undermine the de facto moratorium on "terminator seeds" in the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. Terminator seeds have been hugely controversial because they are deliberately designed to be sterile after first harvest.