

EIR Feature

World food needs show 'set-aside' is genocide

by Chris White and Marcia Merry

Among the recent round of media doublespeak reports on how food “surpluses” are at record lows came a March 12 syndicated column by Hobart Rowen, warning that a “Food Shock” was near at hand. Rowen spoke politely of severe grain “shortages and soaring prices.”

The truth is that the food shock has already hit. The shock wave impact around the globe can be measured in growing hunger, disease, and numbers of dead. *Every day, 1.5 million people die from the shrinking food output as more land is taken out of production.* This horrifying death rate means that in the first 75 days of 1989, 113 million people were condemned to die.

The dimensions of the catastrophe are being deliberately hushed up to lull the public in key policymaking nations into ignoring the conditions of genocide—until it is too late. To put this most graphically, by tolerating the underplanting and lack of food output in the United States, every American is contributing to the death of another person, either at home or abroad, every day.

A comprehensive analysis by this news service's economics staff of the level of food production and diets as of the mid-1980s, compared to the present, quantifies the death scenario. As the *EIR* study shows, the fall-off in grain land cultivated and tons of output is so great that the projected drop in grain acreage to be planted in 1989 alone—compared to what planting should be this year in order to merely maintain calorie levels of five years ago—will condemn between 384 million and 870 million people to a process of severe malnourishment and death (see table on the next page).

The numbers are not made up out of thin air. They are a cross-gridding of the official U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization data series on production, trade, and supply by use, with per capita consumption (in calories and tons) and per hectare yields. The official series has the merit of consistency, if not accuracy. The series also significantly understates the magnitude of the crisis.

Current harvests for Southern Hemisphere major producers are already known,

Worst case: 870 million could die because of 1989 land set-aside

(relative to 1984 diets)

Exporting nation	Tons of grain not produced for export (millions)	Numbers of people affected (millions)	People per hectare
U.S.A.	100.19	300	20
Canada	25.40	76	11
France	24.6	74	5.8
Australia	14.4	43	6
WORLD	233	870	12

Deliberate government policies will set aside 30 million hectares of crop land in the U.S. and Europe in 1989. Grain-exporting nations this year will plant 138 million hectares, a drop of 16 million from 1984 levels. At minimum, to meet the calorie levels of 1984, some 209 million hectares have to be planted to grain in 1989 in exporting nations. Figures for Thailand and Argentina are not shown here.

Case 2: 384 million could die because of 1989 land set-aside

(relative to 1984 diets)

Factors affecting 1989 world grain supply*	Tons (millions)
Required for world, minus East bloc:	2,496
Shortfall from reduced prospective planting in major exporting nations	-233
Reduced supply for 1989	2,263
Food component (27.5%) of total tons required	687
Reduction in proportion of food to supply	64
Reduced food available (details below)	623

Exporting nation	Numbers of people affected (millions)	People per hectare
U.S.A.	166	10
Canada	40	6
France	40	3
Australia	24	3
WORLD	384	0.38

*Includes food, feed, seed, stocks, other uses and waste.

Source: EIR analysis based on U.N. FAO data, based on 1984 patterns of grain production, exports and use.

and the orders have gone out as to how much Northern Hemisphere farmers will be allowed to produce. In the six major grain-exporting nations alone—the United States, Canada, France, Thailand, Australia, and Argentina, prospective grain land plantings this year will total an estimated 138 million hectares, compared to 144 million hectares of grain planted in the same nations in 1984. To meet the calorie levels that prevailed in 1984, as a minimum standard for 1989, requires 209 million hectares to be planted to grain in these exporting areas, taking into account population growth. This level would barely keep Africa alive.

Other parts of the world have not made up for this underplanting, neither in alternative foodstuffs (root crops or legumes), nor in improved productivity, nor in inputs per hectare. In the last two years, world total grain production has been below world consumption levels, and the record draw-down of world grain stocks has left the world with technically a little more than a month's supply.

The overall area cultivated worldwide for cereals grain in the past five years has fallen from 726 million hectares in 1984, to 692 million last year. The EIR estimate for the 1989 crop calendar year of up to 710 million hectares is way below the actual needs.

The grain underplanting in the six major exporters alone

will result in a guaranteed absence of 233 million tons of grains this year, which will mean that millions of people in import-dependent nations will have access to nothing—no matter whether or not they could afford the price. In addition, at least another 45 million tons of grain from the six exporting nations is being taken up by the Soviet Union, now on an import binge while its own agriculture infrastructure and that of Eastern Europe disintegrates. The Soviets are expected to buy more this year from the Western exporters than in any previous trade year ever.

In this context of severe food decline and scarcity, land set-aside means genocide. The above table shows two projections of the possible dimensions of the loss of 233 million tons of grain this year for food-importing nations. The worst case prospect is that the 233 million tons of grains *not produced* can be taken as the cereal grains unavailable to nourish more than 800 million people, figuring an average of just 4 people per ton, or an average of 12 people per hectare of grain. However the grain is distributed, without it millions will die.

The second case prospect—projecting minimum numbers of malnourished—begins with the overall calculation of the total grain output needed worldwide in 1989 to “hold the line” at the prevailing 1984 level of calories per capita, which

would be 2,970 million tons. Taking out the amount used in the East bloc, and taking out the prospective lack of 233 million tons from the underplanting by exporting nations, and then the subtracting the Soviets' 45-million-ton import order, there remains a reduced supply for this year of 2,263 million tons.

TABLE 1
Food import dependency of selected nations and regions in terms of the ratios of food production over supply, and food and feed over supply (1984)

	(percent)		
	Production over supply	Food over supply	Feed over supply
WORLD	100.51	23.33	28.40
North America	112.86	17.57	39.43
United States	112.29	17.76	38.88
Ibero-America	103.16	14.52	21.39
Mexico	95.22	23.18	22.18
Andean Pact	97.48	23.34	7.31
Southern Cone	105.67	11.64	28.85
Brazil	102.83	13.06	9.81
Argentina	110.74	7.50	63.35
Western Europe	98.48	20.72	31.88
Western Central Europe	98.29	17.70	33.70
Germany Fed Republic	96.60	15.36	49.55
France	112.49	19.48	20.06
West Communist Europe	99.79	10.98	47.62
Byzantine Comm Europe	102.14	16.73	33.26
USSR + Afghanistan	96.32	13.71	51.33
Africa	94.73	34.09	14.74
Maghreb	75.35	39.65	12.50
Egypt	92.16	20.63	56.28
Sudan	101.81	41.21	3.75
Sahel	105.64	54.18	3.15
Western West Africa	92.44	48.85	3.13
Central Africa	98.19	45.75	1.18
Southern Africa	96.74	28.22	8.80
Asia: Subcontinent	100.21	34.10	13.19
India	100.62	33.71	15.40
South East Asia	106.70	30.81	4.78
Thailand	118.62	19.54	4.14
Malaysia	114.66	33.13	13.64
China	100.24	42.59	10.48
Australia	145.99	16.97	17.61
New Zealand	102.81	2.99	7.80

Source: U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization, 1986

Considering only the direct food component of available grains—cereals for human consumption—there will nevertheless be 384 million people without food as a result of merely the underproduction of the four major exporters alone—United States, Canada, France, and Australia.

In the United States and the European Community this year, a total of at least 20 million hectares will be out of production because of deliberate government policies of set-aside—either for bogus “conservation” reasons, or for bogus farm price “stabilization” reasons. This tillable land area deliberately put into non-food use is almost equal to the overall total land area of the United Kingdom. In addition, more millions of hectares are either not cultivated or tilled poorly, due to the mass dispossession of farmers by such government policy arms as the Farmers Home Administration, which is now moving to bankrupt 83,000 farm borrowers who are behind on their loans. In West Germany in recent months, an average of 75 farmers have ceased operating per day.

Simultaneously, the malthusian policymakers in Washington, D.C., and Brussels are moving to promote “organic,” or “low input sustainable” agriculture as a means to force remaining farmers to accept primitive methods, as the final phase before neo-feudalist agriculture, and the corresponding full-scale famine.

Farmers with a secure, parity-level income and access to scientific information have the know-how to improve land and expand output. To bring all the world's people up to a decent level of 2,500 calories per capita per day, with no austerity cutbacks in the nations already at or above that level, would require an increase of grain output from present levels of under 2 billion tons a year to more than 5 billion tons. Just to “hold the line” would require an increase of 3 billion tons. The following summary of the scale of the world food catastrophe has been assembled to help make that happen.

The ‘food shock’ has hit

The cover photo on this issue shows children dying in Ethiopia in 1984. At that time, this news service and a few others internationally portrayed the misery and increasing starvation rates wracking the continent. *EIR* contributing editor Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. warned of the genocide to come. “The immediate problem worldwide is that levels of food production are dropping rapidly below levels at the beginning of the 1970s,” he wrote in a 1984 pamphlet on the world food crisis.

In fall 1986, NBC-TV chose to make an “issue” of mass starvation in Africa. Since that time, the “issue” faded in the media—as the situation deteriorated.

Today, the reality is that entire nations in Africa face the extermination of their peoples as a result of a combination of starvation and disease, especially AIDS. The last section of this *Feature* presents the death toll worldwide. Today, in

addition to genocide on the African continent, "Africanized" conditions are now to be found on every continent.

Earlier this month in Mexico, a scandal was created in the media when a report described conditions in the states of Puebla and Morelia as "Africanized," because of the scenes of infants with distended bellies, and other marks of death.

TABLE 2
Grain import dependency of selected nations and regions in terms of the ratios of food production over supply, and food and feed over supply (1984)

	percent		
	Production over supply	Food over supply	Feed over supply
WORLD	101.57	25.58	27.41
North America	148.82	6.16	58.33
United States	145.95	6.17	57.95
Ibero-America	99.01	26.73	29.55
Mexico	86.21	26.23	30.85
Andean Pact	74.78	33.00	21.23
Southern Cone	117.21	23.83	33.06
Brazil	90.56	24.93	31.87
Argentina	212.23	18.00	39.82
Western Europe	106.10	14.40	47.60
Western Central Europe	111.32	13.13	49.68
Germany Fed Republic	97.86	12.65	50.99
France	173.53	10.97	54.62
West Communist Europe	96.27	11.58	58.94
Byzantine Comm Europe	103.74	14.34	49.17
USSR + Afghanistan	83.52	14.77	46.92
Africa	78.00	37.53	11.67
Maghreb	66.09	34.91	16.52
Egypt	68.82	37.45	17.09
Sudan	85.47	43.39	5.82
Sahel	82.45	42.28	4.21
Western West Africa	80.48	43.69	4.97
Central Africa	85.59	40.63	4.05
Southern Africa	75.62	31.33	21.77
Asia: Subcontinent	100.59	37.99	4.26
India	101.61	38.03	4.28
South East Asia	103.44	32.89	8.14
Thailand	124.90	22.94	11.66
Malaysia	60.44	33.11	25.58
China	99.16	33.80	13.02
Australia	288.40	11.76	43.01
New Zealand	102.29	12.58	33.77

Source: U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization, 1986.

In the United States, so-called Third World rates of malnutrition and of tuberculosis, measles, and other diseases now prevail in the slum pockets of many major cities.

The *EIR* economics study was undertaken to assemble the facts behind these scenes. Other agencies, like the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization and Worldwatch, have been decrying the current world food shortages, but they have systematically minimized the genocidal rates of malnourishment, while calling for population reduction as the "solution."

Worldwatch President Lester Brown, a former U.S. Department of Agriculture functionary, has cited such causes for the world food crisis as farmers' "overploughing and overfarming."

The *EIR* study began with the food situation five years ago in order to have a recent base-period to use for evaluating the current plunge of food output and diet levels. The United Nations FAO world food database for 1984 was used in the *EIR* study, taking 2,500 calories a day as the desired *minimum* daily food supply. This caloric level was chosen because it ensures adequate supplies of energy and micronutrients to meet the needs of men, women, and children. Age pyramids were not used for each of the 135 countries whose food and farm data are included in the study, because the average of 2,500 calories tends to hold quite well over diverse populations. The lower total caloric intake of growing infants is balanced by the requirements of manual laborers and pregnant and lactating mothers.

Tables 1 and 2 show the patterns of diet and food availability, and of import dependency for the world's nations in 1984. In 38 out of 135 nations, there were not even 2,500 calories a day per capita food consumption levels in the FAO data series. Most of these nations are in Africa. The trend in 1984 toward degradation of the diet in other parts of the world is shown in Table 3, which compares the 1984 per capita levels as a percentage of those in 1967. Argentina and Brazil both show declining calories per capita.

Tables 1 and 2 analyze the nations and regions of the world in terms of their dependency on imports for food supply in general and for grains in particular. In Table 2, the first column gives the annual production of food as a percentage of total supplies, including all types of commodities for all uses—seed, food, feed, waste, reserve, etc. The Maghreb, Egypt, and western West Africa stand out as especially import dependent among many food-dependent parts of Africa, which as an entire continent is import dependent. The other comparisons are similar, with the nation of New Zealand outstanding for its food and livestock feed self-sufficiency, making its role as a food exporter obvious.

Table 2 presents the same comparisons in terms of grain in particular. The six largest world grain exporters stand out: United States, France, Thailand, Australia, and Argentina (also Canada, which is not shown).

Table 3 presents the components of the average daily calories for the nations and regions shown. A healthy diet should get approximately 50% of its daily calories from carbohydrates (grains, vegetables, and fruits), 20% from proteins (with animal and fish sources for full protein constituents), and 30% from fats. The table is designed to show the grain component of the diet, not a total dietary picture. The very high grain components—over 60%—are to be seen in China (72% of the daily calories), India (64%), Egypt (61%), and certain others. Although not shown, large parts of Africa are dependent on a low-nutrition, high-bulk diet of roots and tubers. This brings the overall grain part of the African diet down to 48%.

Meeting today's real needs

The *EIR* study used the FAO data to determine the relative shares of the world annual grain trade held by grain-importing nations and grain-exporting nations and the relative ranking of production of grains and tonnage of all food in 1984. This analysis was then used as a pattern for what the minimum level of grain output should be today, just to maintain the diet patterns of 1984 for the growing populations. The assumption that the production and trading patterns of 1984 would still hold today is of course not accurate. It is true that the top six exporting nations account for about 75% of total grain traded, and that the United States and Canada account for more than half. But in the import-dependent nations, indig-

TABLE 3

Average calories per capita in 1984, compared to 1967, and constituent share of 1984 average calories per capita from grain, meat, and fish, for selected nations and regions

	Calories per capita 1984	Per capita calories 1984 as % of 1967	Constituent percent of average daily calories (1984)		
			Grain	Animal Products	Fish
WORLD	3009.50	113.51	51.78	15.26	0.92
NORTH AMERICA	4067.05	109.75	17.95	34.99	0.73
United States	4087.01	110.10	17.92	34.75	0.73
Canada	3879.20	106.37	18.20	37.41	0.76
IBERO AMERICA	2823.30	105.29	41.78	15.85	0.60
Mexico	3237.95	115.83	49.29	13.02	0.60
ANDEAN PACT	2566.43	109.59	37.58	16.12	0.99
Venezuela	2862.28	111.80	36.07	20.89	1.02
SOUTHERN CONE	2811.33	98.02	39.50	17.47	0.45
Brazil	2658.46	99.33	41.10	13.24	0.45
Argentina	3469.49	97.63	32.45	31.11	0.23
WESTERN EUROPE	3682.41	107.12	27.25	31.89	0.93
Western Central Europe	3848.45	107.11	23.72	36.57	0.81
France	3884.03	105.21	21.60	40.01	1.01
West Communist Europe	3832.80	105.67	32.03	32.95	0.88
Byzantine Comm Europe	3846.70	108.61	43.98	23.00	0.46
USSR	3808.24	106.54	37.00	26.92	1.82
AFRICA	2964.35	107.95	48.43	7.80	0.59
Egypt	3394.87	128.72	61.21	7.46	0.33
ASIA	2509.32	148.84	54.01	12.69	0.22
ASIA: SUBCONTINENT	2332.56	117.33	65.87	5.83	0.32
India	2370.02	120.32	64.35	5.44	0.27
SOUTH EAST ASIA	2626.49	127.40	65.81	5.20	1.58
Thailand	2531.73	108.60	58.28	6.22	1.53
Japan	3143.27	106.35	42.80	21.31	7.11
China	3078.47	132.77	71.84	7.08	0.43
Australia	3720.73	106.62	24.15	33.40	0.72
New Zealand	3912.08	103.81	21.10	47.37	0.40

Source: U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization, 1986.

enous production would have deteriorated in the meantime, often from levels that were alarming enough five years ago, and import volumes would have shifted. The numbers are thus illustrative of a crisis that is yet worse than it appears here.

Three variants of projections for grain output and land requirements for 1989 and 1990 were made. The first, calculated on the basis of maintaining 1984 diet levels, is shown in terms of production and land requirements, along with the increase over 1984, in **Table 5**.

The other two are not shown in tables. The first projection calculated what grain output levels had to be, prorated among all nations, to merely "hold the line." For simplicity of comparison, it was assumed that the 1984 yields per hectare and trade patterns would remain the same today. Therefore, the number of hectares per nation could be calculated and used as a basis of judging what planting levels should be today. This is shown below for the United States and for the European Community group of 12.

A second projection calculated the increase in grain tonnage, and corresponding hectares to be cultivated at varying national average rates, in order to produce what would be required to hold the line in the so-called advanced sector nations, with no austerity in the food supply, and to bring every deficit nation's people up to at least 2,500 calories per day. This level, at which the world would not be wracked by hunger and starvation, is more than 5 billion tons of grain production per year. It would require the cultivation of more than 2.3 billion hectares around the world. Yet obviously every country cannot simply expand its output in the propor-

tions indicated.

A third projection calculated what would be required of the current six food-exporting nations if they were to produce all or most of the grain output increment to meet the 2,500 calories per day goal. In this variant, the United States alone is required to produce more than 1 billion tons on .25 billion hectares. Clearly this will not work either. Bear in mind then, the next time you hear someone talking about agricultural overproduction, "gluts" in agricultural commodities, and farm "surpluses," that no such thing exists until grain production gets up to the level of 5 billion tons per year. Anything else is a rearguard effort to hold the line.

The shortfall in grain output required just to maintain the inadequate 1984 levels will be more than 1,000 million tons this year. The grain hectares "missing" from cultivation will be at least 300 to 400 million, depending on yields at different locations.

This shortfall has been building month by month and year by year this decade, as the crop seasons change around the globe. As measured against these criteria of subminimal dietary need, the United Nations FAO calls for a 13% grain output increase this year (about 230 million tons), a number that does not consider the growth needed to support population growth. The FAO-demanded increase means a reduction of 5% to 10% in everybody's diet.

Huge cropland set-asides

The world's most extensive, high-yield-per-acre agriculture has been developed in North America and Western Europe—an achievement of thousands of years of human prac-

TABLE 4
1989 grain land plantings by six exporting nations project a decline of 233 million tons relative to needs (1984 calorie levels)

Nation	Planting required for 1984 world diet level in 1989	Prospective 1989 grain planting (millions of hectares)	Grain not to be produced (millions of tons)	Numbers of persons with less food** (millions)
U.S.	88	72.947	66	198
Canada	28	21.337	14	42
Australia	22	14.547	12	35
Thailand	30*	12.1	39	118
Argentina	19	9.1	26	79
France	22*	8.91	76	229
TOTAL	209	139	233	700
WORLD	999	709	N.A.	N.A.

*These figures are far more than the arable land in the respective nations (17.7 million hectares in Thailand, and 17.468 million hectares in France). They reflect a calculation made on the basis of the two nations' increasing in output in order to keep the export market share they held in 1984. The total land planting of 209 million hectares spread across all the six exporting nations is within their total arable area of 343 million hectares.

**This calculation is based on a rough factor of 3 people per ton of grains.

Source: U.N. FAO, USDA "World Agriculture Production" January 1989, and *EIR*.

tice and science. Yet, the nations of this North Atlantic region are now instituting unprecedented government programs to remove millions of hectares of land from farm use, putting it into strictly “non-food” ground cover crops or trees.

This process bears the euphemism “set-aside” and has been rationalized by the governments involved as helping to “conserve nature” or to “stabilize prices.” Both are just propaganda concocted by agencies in service to the food cartel companies—and to the private interests behind them—who simply want to eliminate the independent, high-technology family farm and return to a neo-feudal world. The agencies who “wrote the script” for the set-aside laws include such advocates of neo-feudalism as the Washington-based Conservation Foundation/Wildlife Foundation.

TABLE 5
Production and land area needed for 1989
(base year = 1984)

	Grain production needed 1989 metric tons	Land area needed 1989 hectares	Percent 1984
World	2,969,951,711.81	999,274,433.47	110.61
North America	452,228,330.30	116,135,591.34	104.59
United States	401,688,887.39	87,970,007.15	104.57
Canada	50,555,629.43	28,204,809.43	104.81
Ibero-America	177,628,713.35	240,157,553.16	112.35
Mexico	42,490,147.40	53,989,782.86	113.43
Andean Pact	18,103,952.79	59,772,419.48	112.86
Southern Cone	103,735,931.58	118,582,246.32	111.79
Brazil	55,968,685.66	87,560,153.03	112.97
Argentina	39,720,361.61	19,298,512.45	107.90
Western Europe	286,255,401.24	107,201,749.44	102.30
West. Cent. Europe	154,663,911.73	51,665,666.48	100.54
Fed. Rep. Germany	34,860,957.20	11,275,205.29	98.33
France	69,664,814.33	21,667,484.74	101.77
USSR + Afghanistan	233,831,247.71	258,462,633.84	104.80
Africa	172,430,278.04	243,165,914.23	141.28
Maghreb	1,911,1315.38	24,890,370.47	114.49
Sudan	3,492,583.15	8,911,904.05	115.61
Sahel	7,717,181.97	39,144,353.66	114.23
Western West Africa	5,030,392.36	11,475,482.67	116.42
Central Africa	3,998,220.37	6,025,573.45	115.63
Southern Africa	24,790,597.90	31,592,793.30	116.45
India	320,360,211.70	116,581,156.39	110.89
Thailand	40,234,106.78	30,240,621.13	108.66
Japan	40,106,589.11	2,760,030.16	102.68
China	639,478,488.73	163,578,528.40	103.93
Australia	32,845,947.50	21,746,788.68	105.17
New Zealand	2,095,774.58	257,217.03	105.08

A huge amount of acreage has been taken out of food cultivation in the United States in the last three years. Given the world need for food, the loss of the output of this acreage translates directly into a death sentence for millions of people. The expected cropland planting this year in the United States is bound to be down by at least 40 million acres, (16.5 million hectares) due to the official set-aside programs in effect. An additional number of millions of acres will be idled because of the financial constraints on farmers.

In 1985, the base grain crop area (the average use over the past five years as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture) in the United States was 221 million acres, or 89.5 million hectares. That same year, the “National Food Security Act”—the five-year farm law, was passed, authorizing an unprecedented program called the Conservation Reserve Program or CRP. The new law set a goal of removing 45 million acres from food production by 1991. Under the plan, farmers are induced to commit their cropland to remain out of food production for at least 10 years, in exchange for some level of government compensation per acre. In other words, the USDA will pay you so it can kill people.

As of February 1989, a total of 28.1 million acres had been frozen in this CRP plan, and the USDA is now on a drive to sign up more farmers to remove millions more acres this year.

On top of the CRP program is the annual federal crop acreage set-aside mandated each year at the discretion of the USDA in the name of preventing alleged “surpluses” and low prices. Farmers who choose to sign up for the year in some form of government price support program agree to remove the USDA-demanded amount of crop acreage from production for that year. Last year, for example, the requirement ranged from 20% to 27.5% depending on the crop. This year, the USDA has relaxed the requirement to around 10%, but that still will translate into at least 12.72 million acres taken out of food cultivation—equivalent to about one-third of all the grain crop acreage in the European Community.

The required crop area for 1989, according to the *EIR* study, are shown in Table 5. These will end up being more or less for certain crops, depending on the final decisions of farmers and mobilization of the public.

Set-aside in Europe

This year marks the first-ever set-aside program in the European Community. An overall goal of 1.2 million hectares was determined last year by the European Commission in Brussels, contingent only on the final arrangements to be made by the governments of the member nations. Provisions of the program differ from country to country, but the land is to remain out of food production for at least five years. The goal of 1.2 million hectares represents about 3% of the area planted to field crops in 1988.

As of January 1989, some 550,000 hectares were already pledged to be set-aside, with more to be worked out before

TABLE 6

Who eats and who dies, under 1989 world cropland set-aside

(ranked by number of people condemned by region)*

Import dependent regions	Number of persons condemned to die	Persons condemned as % of total regional population	Grain as a % of total food
East Asia	207,029,602	12	67.6
Africa	86,058,754	14	48.4
Ibero-America	43,969,409	9.9	41.8
Eastern West Africa	23,601,248	15.1	39.7
Nile Region	20,116,451	14.8	60.6
Asia: Middle East	18,180,066	12.1	54.0
Bangladesh	15,299,089	13.6	85.3
Gulf	11,685,209	12.2	56.4
Andean Pact	11,067,360	12.2	37.6
East Africa	10,199,356	13.9	42.8
Indo-China	10,009,481	12.9	74.9
Southern Africa	9,618,616	11.7	50.8
Mexico	8,587,302	9.7	49.3
Maghreb	8,127,946	13.0	57.7
Central Africa	7,948,917	14.1	16.5
Mediterranean Asia	6,172,371	11.2	42.9
Sahel	4,891,165	15.7	65.2
Central America	4,119,850	14.1	50.2
Western West Africa	3,654,839	16.2	55.9
TOTAL OF REGIONS	510,337,040	10.8	51.8

*The calculation for the number of persons denied food in these regions according to an apportionment of deprivation, based on mid-1980s import patterns, if this year there is a drop of 233 million tons of grains in the six major exporting nations, and if the Soviet Union imports 45 millions of tons of scarce grains, as they are now doing. The world population for 1989 is set at 5.160 billion people, which is 4.717 billion without the East bloc. (Estimate from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.)

the planting season. Only Portugal is exempted, until 1994. Even Belgium/Luxembourg is required to reduce acreage.

The USDA, in its January Foreign Agriculture Service report, "World Agriculture Production," laments the slow progress of set-aside in Western Europe, and gives the following summary of the stages of implementation by country.

West Germany: About 170,000 hectares have been set aside. Inducements are being offered to farmers of between 300 to 600 European Currency Units (ECUs) per hectare. This is below the cost to the German farmer of merely maintaining the land. For reference, wheat and coarse grains were planted on an estimated 4.74 million hectares in 1988.

United Kingdom: About 60,000 hectares have been set aside. Wheat and coarse grains were planted on an estimated 3.93 million hectares in 1988.

The Netherlands: About 500 hectares have been set aside. Wheat and coarse grains were planted on an estimated 197,000 hectares in 1988.

Spain: It is expected that about 200,000 hectares will be signed up by 1989, according to the final national plan announced Dec. 3, 1988. Wheat and coarse grains were grown on an estimated 7.67 million hectares in 1988.

France: The national plan was announced in mid-November 1988, but no figures were released as of year end. The EC has pressured to have a large set-aside in France—the principal grain producer and exporter of Western Europe. Of the overall goal of 1 to 1.2 million hectares to be set aside across the EC, a national target of 370,000 hectares may be imposed on France.

The other EC member nations had national set-aside programs in various stages of preparation as of year end, with premiums to farmers to induce them to sign up, ranging from 130 to 420 ECUs per hectare.

In 1988, a stream of European agriculture ministers came to the United States to visit farm belt states to survey how land set-aside was implemented here, and to make plans for Europe. In fact, these were publicity stunts. The details of the programs have been worked out in advance, and the commotion about "how to" is just to fool the farmers and the public into compliance with this deadly swindle.

The need to "downscale" agriculture in the United States and Western Europe was discussed in a 1985 report on "restructuring" farming, sponsored by the Trilateral Commission. At the same time, the Conservation Foundation in Washington served as the author of the provisions of the 1985 U.S. farm bill that established the new conservation set-aside. This outfit is committed to massive population reduction in the name of restoring much of the world to a "wilderness" state, and is backed by the financial and family interests of the famous-name food cartel companies that see food scarcity as desirable—Cargill, Continental, Bunge, Louis Dreyfus, Archer Daniels Midland/Toepfer, Garnac/André, and the rest.

The Conservation Foundation was founded in the 1940s in Washington, D.C., after its predecessor organization, the Nature Conservancy Society of Europe, was disgraced in the 1920s and 1930s because of its advocacy of breeding experiments for a "master race." The new head of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is William K. Reilly, who was president of the Conservation Foundation and the World Wildlife Fund.

Another provision of the 1985 U.S. farm bill authored by the Conservation Foundation requires all farmers in the United States to have a conservation plan for their farm—to be accepted or rejected by the USDA by 1991—or they will no longer be eligible for any federal income support or other program.

Soon to be introduced in Congress is an even more far-reaching bill, prepared by the Conservation Foundation cir-

cles and sponsored by Sen. Wyche Fowler from Georgia. Called the Farm Conservation and Water Protection Act, this bill has dozens of provisions to save swamps, preserve deserts, and penalize and dispossess farmers for trying to produce food.

Similarly in Brussels, the European Commission is preparing sweeping plans to designate up to one third of the entire 35 million hectares of field cropland in the EC nations as "water protection zones." At the same time, they are setting rules by which farmers will be heavily penalized for

attempting to produce food.

Farmers on both sides of the Atlantic have begun to revolt against this government onslaught—against both the environmentalist constraints and the production and income constraints. In Kiel, West Germany, March 17, at least 10,000 farmers demonstrated to save family farms and to increase output. Earlier in the month, more than 1,000 farmers staged a tractorcade, and a demonstration at the Hague against the low prices they are receiving and the actions of the EC bureaucracy to constrain farmers from "overproducing."

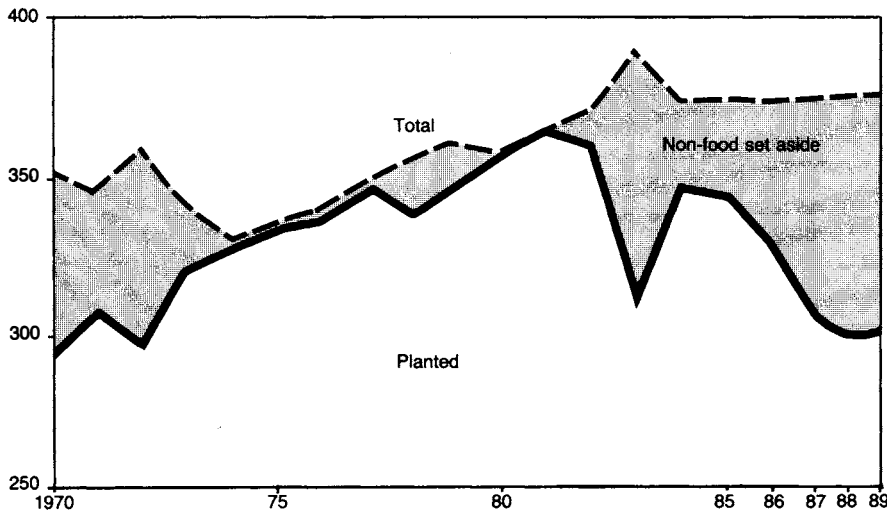
TABLE 7
Who eats and who dies, under 1989 world cropland set-aside
(ranked by nation, by the number of people condemned)*

Nations as selected from 85 import food dependent nations	Number of persons condemned to die	Persons condemned as a		Nations as selected from 85 import food dependent nations	Number of persons condemned to die	Persons condemned as a	
		% of total national population	Grain as % of total food			% of total national population	Grain as % of total food
Nations with large numbers of people condemned:				Nations with a large percentage of people condemned:			
Nigeria	17,359,257	15.08	40.42	Ivory Coast	1,861,289	15.78	40.03
Brazil	14,266,611	9.26	41.10	Angola	1,619,374	18.05	34.34
Viet Nam	8,630,086	12.94	73.58	Mali	1,505,280	17.79	74.86
Ethiopia	7,721,216	16.18	71.35	Senegal	1,337,096	17.36	66.30
Philippines	7,680,554	12.40	60.20	Burkina Faso	1,260,795	16.37	69.55
Egypt	7,624,258	13.92	61.21	Malawi	1,236,186	15.33	66.32
Iran	7,103,454	13.93	59.52	North Yemen	1,216,857	17.54	64.07
Syria	6,449,241	13.52	49.25	Guinea	1,059,716	17.16	42.13
Zaire	5,217,735	15.35	15.52	Haiti	981,159	15.79	40.74
Colombia	4,386,563	13.79	33.39	Papua New Guinea	853,576	23.62	22.11
Sudan	4,033,008	16.13	40.14	El Salvador	840,634	15.15	57.13
South Africa Republic	3,730,593	10.47	53.51	Congo	537,280	26.45	21.02
Kenya	3,574,860	15.07	53.98	Central African Rep	515,656	17.20	20.09
Algeria	3,333,228	13.30	57.76	South Yemen	452,945	18.20	65.41
Morocco	3,319,565	13.08	62.62	Mauritania	419,834	23.27	56.34
Tanzania	3,130,043	12.65	39.84	Liberia	407,225	16.01	42.98
Peru	2,757,627	12.65	45.82	Lesotho	308,811	18.37	73.64
Sri Lanka	2,573,727	14.67	59.24	Botswana	279,555	22.92	54.62
Mozambique	2,547,821	16.70	33.98	Gabon	177,768	16.01	15.56
Iraq	2,410,965	13.69	59.65	Gambia	157,583	18.77	59.33
Ghana	2,369,159	16.02	34.23	Guinea-Bissau	142,122	15.30	67.22
Communist Asia NE	2,333,355	9.70	68.03	Bahamas	74,475	30.12	27.69
Uganda	2,188,950	13.02	24.77	French Guiana	17,581	17.85	35.62
Korea, DPR	2,111,082	9.61	68.96				
Malaysia	2,080,045	12.31	52.14				
Venezuela	1,869,069	9.71	36.07				

*The calculation for the number of persons denied food in these regions according to an apportionment of deprivation, based on mid-1980s import patterns, if this year there is a drop of 233 million tons of grains in the six major exporting nations, and if the Soviet Union imports 45 millions of tons of scarce grains, as they are now doing. The world population for 1989 is set at 5.160 billion people, which is 4.717 billion without the East Bloc. (Estimate from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.)

FIGURE 1
**U.S. cropland set aside for non-food use
 1970-89**

Million acres



The hatched area shows the millions of acres of field crop land that is set aside each year into non-food use. The set-aside area has dramatically grown since 1985, when the new five-year farm law mandated a "Conservation Reserve Program" to set aside, by the early 1990s, 45 million crop acres for at least 10 years. There is also an annual USDA set-aside program to prevent "over-production."

Maximum planting needed

Tables 4, 6, and 7 show the impact that not planting food has on people—namely, death. The point has long passed at which quantitative variations in national and world planting hypothetically affected only swings in stock levels. Now, whether or not a hectare is planted determines whether there will be food for 12 people—or, whether that many will live or die.

Table 4 shows the prospective 1989 grain land plantings for the six major exporting nations—the United States, Canada, France, Thailand, Australia, and Argentina. The total hectares number 139 million. The minimum planting required, however, for these same nations to maintain 1984 world per capita calorie levels, is 209 million hectares. This shortfall in planting will result in approximately 233 million tons of grain that will not be produced in these countries alone, which translates into no food for 700 million people.

Depending on the annual decline or increase in planted area and the food output in other regions of the world, food will be lacking for additional millions.

Table 6 spells out by geographical region who eats and who dies from the underplanting and shortfalls in food output, compared to minimum 1984 patterns of food output and calorie levels. This shortfall is the result of the 233 million tons of grain that will not be produced from the major exporting countries and therefore will not be available for export. It is also based on other current factors, such as the expected rate of imports by the Soviet Union this year of 45 million tons.

In the food-importing nations alone, at least 510 million people are condemned to go with less and less food, and die.

Areas like the Sahel, Central Africa, all of Western Africa, and the Nile region, as shown in the food import-dependency rates in Table 2, face the elimination of 15% or more of their entire population. A total of 86 million people across the continent of Africa are condemned. In the more densely populated area such as East Asia, the total number to die is 20.7 million.

Apart from Africa and East Asia, the precarious levels of diet in Ibero-America as of 1984, plus food import dependency, mean that 43.969 million people in Ibero-America are now facing what has been reported in Mexico as "Africanization"—in other words, genocide.

Table 7 shows a more refined picture of the death toll, nation by nation. A list of selected nations is shown out of the total number of 85 import-dependent nations, based on the 1984 import patterns. Through lack of world food output, Nigeria, whose total population of more than 100 million accounts for almost a quarter of Africa's people, is slated to lose 17.360 million people. Brazil, whose economy has been forced by the International Monetary Fund to be "restructured" to export soybeans and other commodities to pay usurious debt, can lose 14.267 million people.

In the second half of Table 7, certain African nations, including Botswana, Angola, and the Congo are shown to have at least 20% of their populations condemned to go without food. The irony of Angola is that its area boasts some of the world's potentially most fertile cropland.