

In the 1980s, at its height, Haiti's chicken farmers produced poultry meat from 6 million eggs a year and produced thousands of tons of locally grown corn (maize) and other grains.

USA complained about the Haiti import tariffs so Haiti removed them and their quotas, and subsidies. For doing so, USA offered their soldiers to guarantee Haiti's security. I don't know what from, except from USA!

USA has still not reduced their own subsidies at all. Their companies then sold Haiti more than \$17 million worth of their own cheap subsidised poultry in one year. Haiti's chicken industry went bankrupt with a lot of farmers and rural businesses.

"Directly and indirectly, when the chicken industry shut down, we lost 10,000 jobs," said a member of Haiti's now-defunct Agricultural Producers Association, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

USA also dumped their heavily subsidised rice into that poor little country, breaking their rice farmers, and later did the same to Haiti's sugar growers. Rural people lost their jobs and moved to the cities.

Haiti, once the world's largest exporter of sugar and other tropical produce to Europe, had their farmers put out of work by subsidised dumped products from USA into Haiti. Doing this made the EU market available for USA.

Haiti is now the poorest country in the Northern Hemisphere, with most people living on less than \$1 a day. It is the Northern hemisphere's most open market with no more than a 5% import tariff.

In USA there are three different subsidies for their rice growers, tariff barriers of up to 24%, which are the same ones that USA and the IMF required Haiti to remove between 1980 and 1990.

USA protection for their rice farmers goes even further. A 2006 story in the Washington Post found that their federal government has paid at least \$1.3 billion in subsidies for rice and other crops since 2000, to individuals who buy land and do no farming on it at all, so it stops rice over-production, including \$490,000 to one Houston surgeon who bought land near Houston, that once grew rice.

The infuriating thing is that USA farmers don't comply with the rules their country enforces on others, including New Zealand re organics, forcing some New Zealand organic farmers out of business.

When New Zealand promoted 'pasture-fed' in USA, they brought in a rule that said as long as an animal confinement barn door was open, their meat and milk could be sold as pasture-fed. Their grass, most of which is not clover-based highly palatable **pasture** as we know it, is so bad, and their grain based Total Mixed Rations (TMR) is made so appetising, that animals keep eating it, rather than their unpalatable rank dry grasses.

A USA official when in New Zealand in 1995 told our agricultural journalists that USA would eliminate all subsidies within seven years. However, their total subsidy figure is now higher than ever, at about 50% on most agricultural products. Since 1987 (when we bought a 107 hectare bankrupt maize growing farm near Hamilton, caused by USA 50% subsidised dumped maize coming into New Zealand tariff-free, reducing the price our maize growers got. To be honest and fair to our farmers, our weak governments should apply a simple policy of putting tariffs on all imported items at the same level as their subsidy rate. All trade agreements should include this clause.

From about 1990 USA dairy farmers aimed to wreck New Zealand dairying by dumping (selling below their cost of production) their subsidised milk into our markets, and telling their government to tell the NZ government that the NZ Dairy Board was a govt aided department with a monopoly, so needed closing and a new organisation opened in such a way that it could not favour the NZ dairy industry. USA wrote the Fonterra rules that had to sell to competing companies, which now is China.

The Chinese started by buying our dairy farms, but are now selling some and building four large milk factories because producing milk is a dead loss and they can buy cheaper loss making milk from Fonterra more cheaply than they can produce it.

TPP is a USA campaign to wreck small countries for USA's benefit. Read about Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) in the Politics chapter.

History of Haiti

The ancestors of the black people in Haiti were captured and taken by USA from North West Africa as slaves.

Population 8 million.

Life expectancy 54 years.
Literacy 53%.
GDP Growth 0.
Inflation 20%.
Unemployment 25%.
Imports \$348 million.
Exports \$169 million.
External debt \$838 million.
Industrial growth rate 0.

USA caused Haiti to go from one of the most comfortably off, to the poorest country in the Northern Hemisphere, with most people living on less than \$1 a day, because the USA enforced crippling trade policies that help USA farmers enjoy extreme wealth, because both USA political parties want the farmers' votes.

USA rice subsidies are predicted to average over \$700 million a year through to 2015, causing tens of millions of rice growers in poor countries being in poverty.

One might wonder why America backed off a 'Free Trade' agreement with New Zealand in 2009. It is likely to be because once their farmers heard about it, they got into gear and stopped it. Anyone who knows anything about USA, knows that their farming lobby has control over their government, which was a reason for the 17 lamb tariff placed on ours a few years ago, and is a reason for the 50% subsidies to many of their farmers. The highest subsidy to our farmers was only 7% in 1985 when all were removed with a reduction in government agricultural research. NZ Dairy farmers have to pay all the DairyNZ research bureaucracy costs of \$10 billion a year.

USA's dominating power in the proposed TPP will ruin many countries which has been their aim for years. In about 1980 a dairy farmer in Wisconsin emailed an NZ discussion group that USA should nuke New Zealand because we sold so much milk into USA.

USA pledged \$200 million for worldwide hunger relief, but did it in such a way that only half reached the hungry people. It processed and bagged it in USA and shipped on USA vessels, which used up 50% of the money allocated.

USA has the audacity to blame other countries for being ones of mass destruction, when their subsidies are starving and destroying many countries and families.

As for their farming, ten percent of America's largest and richest farmers collect almost 75% of federal farm subsidies that too often promote harmful environmental practices.

The USA dairy industry, unlike many other industries, has had very strong protection against outside competition but they still fail because of their high cost farming confinement system.

Some USA dairy farmers accused the NZ Dairy Board of incredible things and wanted to impose higher import tariffs on the little dairy produce going in, and use the income for promoting their own dairy exports. No NZ cheese is allowed into USA.

No New Zealand dairy products are allowed into Canada.

France told us that if we promoted pasture-fed dairy products, they would prohibit New Zealand imports.

End

The following was in The Sunday Standard (Botswana) of 24.01.10.

Haiti and the blacks! 24.01.2010.

By Loose Canon, one of their own who contributes regularly to newspapers.

I hope black people will learn a lesson from the earthquake that hit Haiti. If they don't learn anything from it, then I throw up my hands in despair and give up. Let's start with a few basic facts. Until the earthquake, I never knew there was a place called Haiti. I was taught geography at school but I cannot remember a time when the mistress told us about Haiti. It must have been one of those insignificant countries that we had no reason to know about. I was fairly good at geography because I knew which country was on which continent. I also knew many capital cities. But as for Haiti I was clueless. Now the whole world, including myself, knows about Haiti. I heard news of the earthquake on

the radio. I wondered where Haiti was and what sort of people lived there.

Finally, when I switched on the television, I was informed that Haiti is an island out in the Caribbean. Television pictures revealed a place populated by black people. From the non-stop television coverage of the earthquake, I got to learn about the history of Haiti. It was not a good history lesson. It would seem throughout its existence Haiti has suffered a series of natural calamities. In the process it has sunk even deeper into poverty and deprivation. Like all places populated by black people, Haiti is poor. As I watched the television images, I felt very sorry for that forsaken place. Then I was hit by a thunderbolt. I wondered what if there were no white people. You see, when the earthquake hit Haiti somebody had to come to its assistance. There had to be a rescue effort. The Haitians who survived of course did their fair bit by digging out their families from the collapsed ramshackle buildings. But such was the scale of the devastation and the loss of human life that a bigger effort was needed. For that sort of work, you need heavy lifting gear and other sophisticated rescue equipment.

I have been following the story of the earthquake keenly. I can attest to the fact that the first people to arrive with sniffer dogs were white crews from all over the world. The aeroplanes that set off carrying water and food were from white countries. Not only that, the teams of volunteer doctors that I saw on television comprised white people from across the world. As the sniffer dogs went into action, the organised rescue teams that carried the stretchers were made up of white people. It was announced that a mobile hospital was on the way. It was coming from a white country. For all intents and purposes in the aftermath of the earthquake, Haiti was literally swarming with white people. They had all arrived to save the poor blacks, and the locals were so happy to see them. Granted there were teams from the Orient such as the Chinese and Japanese. They too had quickly left their homes and families to go and assist the stricken people of Haiti. It is obvious to everyone that this was a devastating earthquake and the work to repair Haiti and return it to a modicum of normalcy will take many years. Somebody had to commit funds to this effort. Most of the countries that have committed funds to aid the recovery are white. In fact, it would seem the whites are running the show in Haiti.

What is my point? It is that ever since Haiti was hit by the earthquake I have not seen any of my folks from Africa. Unless the television cameras deliberately ignored them, I never saw a rescue team from my motherland. Nor did I see any sniffer dogs from down here. Heck, I never saw a single traditional doctor busy divining where to find people buried under the rubble. Haiti is a land of black people. I would have expected the place to be swarming with black people helping their own. They were nowhere to be seen. I never saw any ships from black countries pulling into the harbour. As the air traffic circled above the small airport, none of the planes was reported as coming from Africa. The blacks were nowhere to be found.

They issued tepid statements of condolence to the people of Haiti and a few of the African countries donated small amounts of cash. Granted that was better than nothing. But I must say I was disappointed. I was sad because the blacks did not behave as I had expected. You see, for far too long black countries have been insolent to the point of being abusive. They have a tendency of insulting the white man and telling him to keep out of their countries. In Fact, black people have the temerity to tell white people they can perfectly survive on their own. So I had expected the black countries to be consistent and behave true to form. Why didn't black countries tell white countries to stay away from Haiti because we were quite capable of leading the rescue effort? We should have insulted them as we often do at international forums. There, our countries insult white countries and accuse them of imperialism and neo-colonialism. I was extremely disappointed when our countries failed to accuse white people of practicing imperialism and neo-colonialism by coming to rescue the blacks of Haiti. We should have told them we have better sniffer dogs that have been taught only to rescue black people. We should have told their ships to stay away and their planes not to overfly Haiti because we were up to the job with our own ships and aeroplanes. We should have brought in our traditional food instead of the strange rations the Haitians are not accustomed to.

I am so disappointed by the black leaders that I hope never to hear them again bleating about how bad white people are. The earthquake in Haiti was the most opportune time to show the whites, once and for all, that we don't need them. From now onwards, I want black leaders to shut up and never accuse white people of being bad. I am sick and tired of big words such as imperialism and neo-colonialism which are unable to rescue victims of the earthquake. I hope this is not the last earthquake that hits a black country. I want the next one to specifically hit the residence of the wealthy man in Harare. Then we will see if he will abuse the white crew coming to rescue him and Pretty Face, his girl

friend!

Vaughan Jones, ONZM Queen's honour 2013, for services to the farming industry.
Dairying 99% Honours Award 1948. Waikato Most Improved Dairy Farm Award 1959. M.Mkt.I.
International Agricultural Consultant, Journalist, Author of 260 chapter GrazingInfo eBook.
Managing Director of GrazingInfo Ltd with information compiled since 1970.