CITIZEN-POWERED MEDIA SOMALI WAR ORPHAN – SCI-FI FILM VERSION DRAFT ONE 12/16/2009

SCRIPT

VIDEO	AUDIO
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FADE IN: SERIES OF QUICK SCENES FROM FEATURE FILMS DEPICTING APOCALYPSE, RIOTS, LOOTING, STARVATION AND **APOCALYPSE**

SCENES CONTINUE (LEGEND, FEAR, MAD MAX, BLACKHAWK DOWN...)

SOUND FROM FEATURE FILM SCENES

MUSIC: SLOWLY CREEPS IN UNDER FILM SOUNDTRACKS – SERIOUS, TRAGIC, OMINOUS

NARRATOR: (VOICE-OVER) What if your family were under attack. People were outside your house, trying to get in, because they're hungry. And they will do whatever they have to do, even kill you, to get what you have?

We're all familiar with these scenes of starvation, resource wars, communities and families under attack. We've seen them in the comfort of our neighborhood cineplex.

For most of us, these are just flights of fancy. Science fiction depictions of an imaginary future that could "never happen" in real life.

(PAUSE, OMINOUS MUSIC TONE)

NARRATOR: Or could it?

Today, more than a billion people in the world go to bed hungry. Some till the soil on small farms. Some live in the slums of

STOCK FOOTAGE: WORLD POVERTY

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	big cities. Each is working as hard as they can, but their labor provides only a fraction of what they need to fill their bellies.
	What changes can cause these people to lose their tenuous grasp on life? What changes could cause more poor people to join their precarious state?
MODERN AMERICAN FAMILY, YOUNGSTER GRABS BACKPACK AND LEAVES THE HOUSE DISSOLVE TO: SAME YOUNGSTER, FILTHY, IN SHREDDED CLOTHES, GOING THROUGH DUMPSTER, GUN HANGING ON SHOULDER	What larger changes could transform <u>your</u> child or grandchild into the equivalent of a Somali war orphan; no parents, no home, getting their food out of a dumpster, and carrying a gun in a militia to keep life in their bodies.
STOCK FOOTAGE: FARMING AND/OR NEWS STORIES/HEADLINES OF AGRICULTURAL DEPLETION	Certainly, if a subsistance farmer's soils deplete or salinize this could happen. If the water table drops this could happen. It could happen if land became more valuable growing crops to make auto fuel. Then land would be purchased from food farmers. They would have the money in their pocket but their decendents would soon be landless in the slums.

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NEWS STORIES AND HEADLINES	This is already happening. Slums are growing. More people are driving cars using crop-based fuel. More expensive fuel makes it more expense to plow, pump water, fertilize, harvest, process and deliver the food.
HUNGER HEADLINES, NEWS STORIES AND GRAPHS FOOD PRICE HEADLINES SUPER: One Billion Die	All this contributes to a growing number of people starving to death. Changes in the price of food will affect more than the weakest billion. Doubling the price of food moves <u>everyone</u> down the wellbeing chain.
MODERN FAMILY HAVING BREAKFAST IN KITCHEN OR LEAVING GROCERY STORE WITH FULL CART DISSOLVE TO: STOCK FOOTAGE STARVING PEOPLE OR COMMUNITIES	Those of us who spend 5% of our income on food would call this belt tightening. But people who've been making two dollars a day and spending 50% on food will now be going to bed hungry.
GAS PUMP PRICES BEING CHANGED FOOD BEING RUNG UP AT REGISTER IN GROCERY STORE	If the cost of fuel – and then food – doubles again, then the second billion will starve to death. The first billion are

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already gone.

REGISTER IN GROCERY STORE

(OR STOCK FOOTAGE FOOD BEING PURCHASED IN STREET

MARKET)

AUDIO

SUPER: 2nd Billion Die

STOCK FOOTAGE: SCENES FROM NATIONS/COMMUNITIES JUST ABOVE TODAY'S STARVATION LEVEL

OR CHART SHOWING RISING STARVATION THRESHOLD AND 2 BILLION DEAD? The third billion (those making 5-6 dollars a day) can see the handwriting on the wall. They will be the next to starve. And since they live in close proximity to those who just starved to death, they know their future.

ABOVE CHART?

REPRISE OF EARLIER STOCK FOOTAGE – STARVING PEOPLE

STOCK FOOTAGE: RIOTING AND LOOTING

CHART SHOWING STARVATION THRESHOLD RISING INTO THIRD BILLION

STOCK FOOTAGE: REFUGEES GETTING ON/OFF BOATS, LINING UP AT AIRPORTS, ETC. The first billion were not happy to starve to death, but were too poor to save themselves. The second billion aren't happy to starve to death, either. While they riot and loot their neighbors, they are "contained" - killed.

But you and I (who don't know too many people living on 5 dollars a day) are probably far enough away to keep out of reach of this riot of the second billion starving people.

The third billion will see the writing on the wall before conditions get really desperate for them. They will try to move to where conditions are better-- as immigrants have since time began. But in this future, no one will take them. It is too dangerous to have a slum near your

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SOCIAL CONFLICT HEADLINES	house, even if it does provide cheap domestic help. The more the third billion cannot migrate, the more social conflict erupts in their home country.
HEADLINE: RISING FOOD OR FUEL PRICES	The lower and middle class (Billion 4 and 5) also respond to scarcity and higher
SURVIVALISTS STAND GUARD AT IRON GATE	prices. They hoard. They band into groups and fortify internal resources and
CANNED GOODS BEING ADDED TO VERY WELL-STOCKED CELLAR SHELVES	protect their supply routes. They make sure resources in distant lands continue
HEADLINE: WEALTHY NATIONS BUYING AGRICULTURAL LAND IN AFRICA	to flow homeward.
HEADLINES: SCARCITY AND PRICE HIKES	These offensive and defensive efforts divert resources from supporting wellbeing – creating more scarcity and
HEADLINES: HUNGER AND STARVATION	higher prices. This lowers everyone's wellbeing. Everyone becomes less
STOCK FOOTAGE: SLUMS	generous. The third billion – trapped at
SUPER: 3 rd Billion Next?	home in slums – is now in for their turn a starvation.
DIRTY, POORLY-CLOTHED	And they are not going quietly into the

And they are not going quietly into the night – as was accepted by the first billion. They had time and resources to prepare. And they cannot be barred from migration like the second.

PERSON, SEEN THROUGH IRON

GATE, WALKS UP TO GATE AND LOOKS BEYOND, EVALUATING

THE OBSTACLE

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STOCK FOOTAGE: RIOTING, LOOTING, GENOCIDE	The third billion storm any barricade between them and food. They have nothing to lose, even if the owners retaliate with a genocidal response. <u>This</u> round of conflict will create a worldwide social conflict that will collapse civilization.
STOCK FOOTAGE: CONFLICT CONTINUES SUPER: 3 rd Billion Die	And if it does not, then the fourth billion will. When civilization collapses, whether in Vancouver or Palm Beach, London or Canberra,
N AMERICA MAP TURNING BLACK	
WORLD MAP TURNING BLACK	
SLOW ZOOM INTO DIRTY, RAGGED CHILD THROUGH IRON GATE, STARING STRAIGHT AHEAD, IN CLINICAL SHOCK	your child or grandchild will be just like a Somali war orphan. Of course, you don't want to go to this
	destination. But what makes you think

we are not going there!!