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Dear Jeffrey,

Many thanks indeed for your letter of November 17 and December 24 1976 received some time ago. I am sorry that I have taken so long to get back to you, but I have been out of town for several weeks and things seem to pile up around here at an amazing rate!

I remember being more than a little intrigued by your first letter, but at the same time I thought to myself, well off we go again, into a sea of probabilities and statistical dust-storms! That is not to say that I didn't think the whole idea interesting but that when you intended to cover such a large area of the state, plus take in such a diverse range of phenomena, how could one ever make a solid claim of the cause and effect type? I mean, UFO's, abnormal weather and electrical failures on one level are all seemingly connected and on another seem so scattered in nature as to make one despair of ever proving anything concrete about it all. Thus, now that you have come back with a description of events from the period of time involved, I find it hard to evaluate.

In particular, I wonder what would happen if you were to seek for such kinds of events in some other randomly chosen area of the U.S.? Would you find a similar scattering of events perhaps?

As far as the drought problem, I don't doubt that the entire state would jump at anything that would help the present situation but I can't quite see a procedure that would persuade "serious" people to get formally involved. On one level, one could simply inform the local weather bureaus of one's intentions with the request that they simply watch for departures from the rainless weather patterns that have been with us for so long. Further, the long-range forecasts indicating that no rain is in sight have been quite accurate to date and so if Owens (or anyone else) could alter radically the predictions of the existing long-range forecasts, then that would be proof enough to allow the subsequent development of a serious project.

What amazes me about all this is that if you are to believe the claims of one J. Trevor Constable - who I believe is in the Los Angeles area - then we shouldn't have to go out of state to find someone capable of doing what you suggest. The fact is however that here we are with a real-life need and suddenly the much touted claims by these people that they can alter the weather "don't work" when they are most wanted. It all tends to make me more than a little sceptical - as if you hadn't noticed already!

I know that Owens in the past has made quite a few claims to paranormal abilities - including that of being "way ahead" of Geller and all that. But, I don't know of any research that has been done on him and so can't evaluate him in any way. Thus, my feeling is that he should either put up or shut up in a very clear and undeniable way. Personally, I'll settle for two weeks straight rain - starting on a specific day and finishing two weeks later, within 24 hours of the fourteenth day. Then it will be time to sit up and take notice!!!

Let me know what happens.

Very best wishes;

Brendan

Brendan O'Regan
Director of Research

