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THE MERCHANTS OF CHARITY

by

Fassil Demissie

Tell me
What is the situation in Ethiopia?
famine, starvation
and relief work?

Well, things have not improved much
We have our people in the bush
flying mercy missions
doing feasibility studies
the whole works on development
you know!

Just see
Look
This is our annual report
tax-exemptions and the like
All approved by the Feds

We need your contributions
tax-deductible donations
this is the year of giving
giving
giving
taking and keeping

This is not the year of spending
all that money in B of A
collecting interest
to defray our costs of
being in the famine business

When are you going to spend it?
All this money you have collected
for Ethiopia?
Africa?

I feel a lot of money is going there
you know
we spend it staying at Hilton
eating Ethiopian gourmet food
wining and dining with relief bureaucrats
this is how it will trickle down
trickle down
trickle down
trickle around