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① Sen. Talmadge - Sen. Hambrick

FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS I'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT

POTENTIAL WORLD FOOD SHORTAGES.

AND MANY OF MY ~~COLLEAGUES~~ <sup>Mr. Henderson</sup> ~~COLLEAGUES~~, LOOKING BACK ON 20 YEARS OF

UNPRECEDENTED ABUNDANCE IN THIS COUNTRY, HAVE FOUND IT

DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND THE URGENCY OF MY CONCERN.

WELL THIS PAST YEAR IT FINALLY CAME HOME!

THE HOUSEWIFE WENT TO THE SUPERMARKET AND FOUND THAT

THERE JUST WASN'T ANY MEAT ON THE SHELVES <sup>or if there was</sup> ~~any~~ the price was SKY high.

THE POULTRY FARMER CALLED HIS FEED SUPPLIER TO FIND

THAT THE FEED COSTS HAD REACHED A POINT WHERE IT COST MORE

TO KEEP HIS CHICKENS THAN HE COULD GET FOR THEM. THE EGG

BUSINESS HAS GONE FROM AWFUL TO DISASTROUS.

L AND JUST WHEN WE WERE SINGING THE PRAISES OF RECORD  
FARM EXPORTS, WE FOUND OURSELVES SUDDENLY SHIFTING OUR  
POLICIES TO CONTROL THE SALES OF U.S. COMMODITIES ABROAD.

*Soybean  
Embargo*

L MARKETS HAVE BEEN DISRUPTED -- OUR REPUTATION AS A  
DEPENDABLE SUPPLIER, INJURED.

L ALL OF A SUDDEN THE CORNUCOPIA ~~RAN DRY~~ <sup>wasnt so full</sup> AND FOOD AND  
COMMODITY PRICES WENT THROUGH THE CEILING.

L THE ABUNDANCE THAT WAS TAKEN FOR GRANTED A FEW SHORT  
MONTHS AGO, HAS NOW BECOME A FOOD ~~SITUATION~~ <sup>scarcity</sup> THAT IS A MAJOR

PUBLIC POLICY QUESTION AROUND THE WORLD.

L OUR CITY FRIENDS HAVE EVEN REDISCOVERED THE FARMER. <sup>and</sup>  
*there is no more talk about farm  
subsidies and "burdensome  
surpluses"*

How DID THIS SUDDEN SHIFT COME ABOUT, AND WHAT DOES IT  
MEAN IN TERMS OF THE NEED FOR TRADE, <sup>reform</sup> AND AGRICULTURAL Policy.

It WOULD BE ALL TOO EASY TO WRITE OFF THE SHORTAGES  
~~WE ENCOUNTERED~~ THIS YEAR MERELY TO THE DROUGHTS AND OTHER

CALAMITIES WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS.

BUT, IT WOULD BE IRRESPONSIBLE TO DO SO!

A STUDY OF RECENT TRENDS IN THE WORLD FOOD SITUATION

REVEALS SOME DISTURBING TRENDS WITH ROOTS DEEP IN THE PAST.

<sup>first,</sup>  
The DEMAND FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS HAS GROWN FASTER

THAN THE GROWTH IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. In the PAST YEAR,

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, INSTEAD OF INCREASING, ACTUALLY

DECLINED BY ONE PERCENT ON A WORLD-WIDE BASIS.

*second*  
~~IT IS ALSO CONCERNED TO NOTE THAT THE~~ WHEAT STOCKS IN THE  
EXPORTING COUNTRIES HAVE FALLEN TO THEIR LOWEST LEVEL IN 20  
YEARS -- 20 YEARS <sup>in</sup> ~~over~~ WHICH THE WORLD'S POPULATION HAS  
GROWN BY OVER 50 PERCENT.

IT HAS BECOME CLEAR THAT EVEN THE LOWEST FORESEEABLE  
GRAIN REQUIREMENTS OVER THE NEXT YEAR CANNOT BE COVERED BY  
THIS YEAR'S PRODUCTION, THIS MEANS STOCKS WILL HAVE TO BE  
REDUCED EVEN FURTHER.

*During*  
OVER THE COMING YEAR, FOOD EXPERTS PREDICT THAT THE WORLD  
WILL SUFFER A 6 TO 9 MILLION TON SHORTFALL IN GRAIN SUPPLIES.

UNLESS WE BEGIN TAKING ACTION NOW, THE CURRENT SHORTAGES  
WILL BECOME INCREASINGLY MORE SERIOUS, AND EACH *year we*

WILL BE WISHING WE HAD DONE A LITTLE BETTER PLANNING.

*so what to do?*

WE MUST IMMEDIATELY CONVENE A WORLD CONFERENCE TO DEAL WITH THE  
PROBLEMS THREATENING THE WORLD FOOD SUPPLY.

< I HAVE URGED THE PRESIDENT TO INITIATE SUCH A CONFERENCE  
TO STUDY AND REPORT ON SUCH ISSUES AS THE BARRIERS TO  
INCREASED WORLD PRODUCTION, THE WORLD AVAILABILITY OF  
AGRICULTURAL INPUTS SUCH AS FUEL AND FERTILIZER, AND THE  
REQUIREMENTS FOR HUMANITARIAN FOOD ASSISTANCE OVER THE COMING  
DECADE.

~~I am~~ *I shall offer an*  
~~amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1973 calling for such a~~  
CONFERENCE. ~~SOMETIME IN THE NEXT YEAR.~~

THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD MUST PLACE IMMEDIATE EMPHASIS

ON WHAT WE COLLECTIVELY AND INDIVIDUALLY CAN DO TO

RATIONALIZE DOMESTIC FARM POLICIES WITH INTERNATIONAL FOOD

DEMANDS.

↳ EACH COUNTRY MUST EXAMINE ITS AGRICULTURAL POLICIES IN  
A WORLD CONTEXT.

IT IS NOT DIFFICULT TO REALIZE THAT THE IMPACT OF  
A COUNTRY'S AGRICULTURAL POLICIES IS FELT THROUGHOUT THE  
WORLD. YET NATIONAL FARM POLICIES RARELY REFLECT A GLOBAL  
PERSPECTIVE.

L WITHIN THIS OBJECTIVE, THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD MUST

*make a*  
~~make a~~ CAREFUL EXAMINATION OF ALL NATIONAL POLICIES AFFECTING

FOOD PRODUCTION, INCLUDING THE ROLE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUEL

AND ENERGY, TRANSPORTATION, FERTILIZER, CREDIT, RESEARCH, *and*

AND FOREIGN *economic policy.*

THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD MUST GIVE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY  
TO INCREASING THE REAL VALUE AND VOLUME OF FARM OUTPUT FOR  
THE WORLD INSTEAD OF DIRECTING THEIR ATTENTION TO WAYS TO  
RESTRICT MARKETS BY TRADE BARRIERS AND HIGH CONSUMER PRICES.

INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES CAN NO LONGER AFFORD TO MAINTAIN  
NATIONAL POLICIES WHICH ACT AS A DISINCENTIVE TO AGRICULTURAL  
PRODUCTION AND WHICH SHIFT THE BURDEN OF ADJUSTMENTS TO OTHER  
COUNTRIES.



↳ THERE MUST BE IMMEDIATE CONSULTATION AMONG THE EXPORTING  
AND IMPORTING NATIONS OF THE WORLD ON THE QUESTION OF ACCESS  
AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF AVAILABLE WORLD SUPPLIES OF  
COMMODITIES IN SHORT SUPPLY. !!

↳ IT WOULD BE UNCONSCIONABLE FOR THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO  
FORGET THE CRUCIAL FOOD REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

~~WHEN WE ENCOUNTER PERIODS OF TEMPORARY SHORTAGES~~ TIGHT

SUPPLIES MAY MEAN SPOT SHORTAGES AND RISING PRICES IN THIS  
COUNTRY, BUT WE SHOULD BE AWARE THAT IN MANY COUNTRIES OF  
THE DEVELOPING WORLD, THE AVAILABILITY OF FOOD MEANS THE

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE OR DEATH.

*What to us  
is an inconvenience, to the  
developing countries can be a  
Tragedy.*

WE MUST ALSO ASSIST THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THEIR

EFFORTS TO MEET THEIR <sup>own</sup> FOOD NEEDS BY EXPANDING THEIR OWN

PRODUCTION. <sup>New</sup> THE MAJOR THRUST OF THE ~~FOREIGN AID BILL~~, WHICH

I WILL MANAGE ON THE SENATE FLOOR NEXT WEEK, IS ~~directed toward~~

INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THROUGH

SHARING <sup>our</sup> THE AGRICULTURAL KNOW-HOW, <sup>and aiding the</sup> ~~which has made~~  
rural areas with loans and credit facilities.  
~~THE AMERICAN FARMER THE MOST PRODUCTIVE IN THE WORLD.~~

<sup>remove</sup>  
WE MUST ALSO PROVIDE FOR A SYSTEM THAT OFFERS THE

CONSUMERS OF THE WORLD AT LEAST A MINIMUM LEVEL OF FOOD

SECURITY AND REASONABLY STABLE PRICES.

Yes a world Food Bank.

WHAT WE ARE FACING IS AN INCREASING UNCERTAINTY CREATED  
BY RAPIDLY GROWING DEMANDS ON WORLD FOOD SUPPLIES.

THE SWINGS IN FARM PRODUCTION FROM YEAR TO YEAR ARE EVEN MORE SIGNIFICANT.

AND, UNLESS WE CAN FIND WAYS TO INSULATE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION FROM THE EFFECTS OF WEATHER OR UNLESS THE WORLD DEVELOPS A SYSTEM WHICH INSURES THE AVAILABILITY OF STORED RESERVES LARGE ENOUGH TO OFFSET THE PRODUCTION SWINGS, CONSEQUENCES FOR THE FARMERS AND CONSUMERS OF THE WORLD WILL BECOME INCREASINGLY DISASTROUS.

X X { WE MUST BEGIN BY ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM OF DOMESTIC RESERVES TO PROTECT THE <sup>american</sup> CONSUMER FROM WILD PRICE ESCALATION, TO ASSURE A STABLE INCOME TO THE AMERICAN FARMER, AND TO MAINTAIN OUR CREDIBILITY IN THE WORLD AS A DEPENDABLE SUPPLIER OF FOOD AND FIBER.

← CURRENTLY PENDING BEFORE THE SENATE IS A BILL ~~↓~~ ~~THE~~ PROPOSED

THAT WOULD PROVIDE FOR AN ADEQUATE LEVEL OF DOMESTIC RESERVES OF

*Wheat, Corn, & Soybeans*

~~AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES~~. IT NEEDS IMMEDIATE ATTENTION! *!*

← THE SHORTAGES ~~ON BASIC FEEDSTUFFS~~ IN THE FEEDSTUFFS

REQUIRED BY OUR LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS TO PRODUCE THE PORK CHOPS,

*dairy products*  
BEEF STEAKS, TURKEYS, CHICKENS AND ~~MILK~~ WE CONSUME, ~~IN THIS~~

~~COUNTRY~~ SHOULD PROVIDE AMPLE EVIDENCE FOR THE NEED TO *ensure* ~~PROTECT~~

THE AVAILABILITY OF BASIC FEED COMMODITIES. THE SKYROCKETING

FOOD PRICES WHICH THE HOUSEWIFE HAS WATCHED IN *fear and worry* ~~WORTH~~

*these* PAST YEAR SHOULD POINT TO THE NEED TO PROVIDE SOME STABILITY

IN THE PRICES OF ESSENTIAL FOOD ITEMS.

*One again, I appeal to you to ask*  
~~IT IS ONLY PRUDENT THAT~~ THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS

*to*  
~~SUBJECT~~ SUPPORT THE ~~ADDITION OF~~ MY CONSUMER AND MARKETING

*mode*  
RESERVE LEGISLATION TO AVOID A REPEAT OF THE CURRENT CRISIS.

*L* WE MUST ALSO CALL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL

SYSTEM OF STRATEGIC FOOD RESERVES -- A "WORLD FOOD BANK." *<* IN

AN AMENDMENT I HAVE PROPOSED FOR THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT

OF 1973, I HAVE INCLUDED A PROVISION THAT WOULD REQUEST THE

PRESIDENT TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH THE OTHER NATIONS OF THE WORLD

TO ESTABLISH AN INTERNATIONAL FOOD RESERVE *|* THIS IS SOMETHING

THAT I HAVE BEEN CALLING FOR IN THE SENATE BY RESOLUTION AND

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL FOR NEARLY 20 YEARS. PERHAPS ITS DAY

HAS FINALLY COME. *!*

L SUCH A RESERVE WOULD PROVIDE A MINIMUM LEVEL OF SECURITY  
FOR THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD FROM THE RAVAGES OF  
HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION. <sup>o</sup>

L THERE MUST BE ~~AN EQUITABLE~~ <sup>a</sup> SHARING OF THE COST OF  
MAINTAINING SUCH A SYSTEM BETWEEN BOTH THE PRODUCER AND

CONSUMER NATIONS, AND RESERVES SHOULD BE PHYSICALLY LOCATED

IN THOSE AREAS OF THE WORLD MOST LIKELY TO

need them.

L The argument for the Reserves is fraudulent  
SUCH A SYSTEM WOULD BEEN ~~NECESSARY~~ <sup>difficult</sup> IN VIEW OF THE SERIOUS  
AND WIDESPREAD STARVATION EXPERIENCED IN AFRICA AND ASIA

THIS PAST YEAR.

Food is Power

FINALLY, WE MUST TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE UPCOMING  
ROUND OF TRADE NEGOTIATIONS TO TAILOR WORLD AGRICULTURAL POLICIES  
TOWARD INCREASING WORLD FARM OUTPUT AND EXPANDING  
INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL TRADE.

L LIBERALIZATION OF TRADE OVER RECENT YEARS HAS NOT  
COVERED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES TO ANY SIGNIFICANT DEGREE.

L THE INTERNATIONAL RULES GUIDING AGRICULTURAL TRADE ARE  
LESS STRICT, MORE AMBIGUOUS, AND LESS COMPREHENSIVE THAN THOSE  
GOVERNING INDUSTRIAL TRADE.

L WITHOUT GENERALLY ACCEPTED RULES TO GUIDE NATIONAL FARM  
POLICIES, ~~WE FORCE~~ <sup>Seek to</sup> GOVERNMENTS ~~TO~~ SOLVE THEIR AGRICULTURAL  
PROBLEMS WITHOUT REGARD TO THEIR EXTERNAL EFFECTS.

L IN MANY CASES, COUNTRIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO PASS ON  
ADJUSTMENTS TO FARMERS AND TRADERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

L WE ARE NOW ON THE VERGE OF A NEW ROUND OF MULTILATERAL  
TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.

DESPIITE HIGH SOUNDING PROMISES REGARDING AGRICULTURE  
IN THE BEGINNING OF THE KENNEDY ROUND, THE RESULTS WERE A  
MAJOR DISAPPOINTMENT TO ~~THE~~ AMERICAN FARMERS.

WHAT IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY OBVIOUS IS THE FACT THAT  
AGRICULTURAL TRADE MUST BE GIVEN SPECIAL ATTENTION. THE  
FORCES AND CONSTRAINTS ON AGRICULTURAL TRADE ARE MUCH MORE  
COMPLEX AND SENSITIVE THAN FOR ANY OTHER ECONOMIC SECTOR.

THE BARRIERS TO AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND THE POLITICAL AND  
SOCIAL OBSTACLES AGAINST LIBERALIZATION ARE IN MANY  
WAYS UNIQUE.



UNLESS WE CAN OBTAIN GENERAL AGREEMENT AMONG THE NEGOTIATING  
PARTIES THAT AGRICULTURAL TRADE IS FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT  
FROM INDUSTRIAL TRADE, AND THAT AGRICULTURAL TRADE DESERVES  
SPECIAL CONSIDERATION, AND UNLESS WE CAN ESTABLISH SOME  
GUIDELINES, COUNTRIES WILL CONTINUE TO ESTABLISH AGRICULTURAL  
POLICIES WITHOUT REGARD TO THEIR GLOBAL EFFECTS.

THE UNITED STATES HAS MUCH AT STAKE IN THE EXPANSION OF  
WORLD AGRICULTURAL TRADE, AND THEREFORE, IN SPECIAL HANDLING  
OF IT DURING THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.

AGRICULTURE, IN FACT, COULD EASILY BECOME ONE OF  
AMERICA'S BIGGEST GROWTH INDUSTRIES OVER THE COMING DECADE.

BUT TO ASSURE A SECURE AND STABLE CONDITION FOR AMERICAN  
AND WORLD AGRICULTURE TO EXPAND, WE MUST MEET THE ISSUES  
CONFRONTING WORLD AGRICULTURE HEAD ON.

WE ~~must not~~ WAIT FOR A NEW CRISIS TO HIT US BEFORE WE BEGIN  
TO REVIEW THE NEEDS FOR CHANGES IN OUR POLICIES. WE MUST  
BEGIN NOW TO BUILD A SOUND BASE FOR THE FUTURE EXPANSION OF  
AGRICULTURE AND TRADE.

I HAVE SHARED ~~some~~ <sup>with you some</sup> OF THE THINGS I THINK WE MUST DO TO  
PLAN FOR THE FOOD NEEDS OF THE SEVENTIES AND EIGHTIES.  
WOULD LIKE TO REPEAT THEM ONCE MORE.

1. WE MUST CALL FOR A MAJOR CONFERENCE OF THE PRODUCING  
AND CONSUMING NATIONS OF THE WORLD TO BEGIN PLANNING FOR WORLD  
FOOD DEMANDS AND PRODUCTION PROBLEMS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. WE MUST MAKE SURE THAT THE PROBLEMS OF AGRICULTURAL  
TRADE RECEIVE APPROPRIATE ATTENTION IN THE NEXT ROUND OF  
TRADE NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

ESTABLISH A SET OF GUIDELINES OR PRINCIPLES

*designed to*

*expand* *food*  
WORLD PRODUCTION AND TRADE.

3. WE MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO ESTABLISH A SYSTEM  
OF DOMESTIC CONSUMER AND MARKETING RESERVES TO PROTECT BOTH  
THE CONSUMER AND THE FARMERS.

4. WE MUST ESTABLISH AN INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM OF FOOD  
*a World Food Bank -*  
RESERVES<sup>1</sup> TO PROVIDE A MINIMUM LEVEL OF FOOD SECURITY FOR THE  
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS WELL AS A STABILIZING INFLUENCE ON  
VOLATILE INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY MARKETS. AND,

5. WE MUST ASSIST THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THEIR

EFFORTS TO EXPAND THEIR OWN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN ORDER

*to help*  
MEET THE FOOD NEEDS OF THEIR PEOPLE.

THESE ARE *Some of the* ~~THE~~ ISSUES WHICH MUST BE ADDRESSED IF THE

WORLD IS TO ENJOY A MINIMUM LEVEL OF FOOD SECURITY OVER

THE COMING DECADES.

THE STAKES ARE TOO HIGH TO LET POLICIES BE ESTABLISHED  
IN THE EMERGENCY ATMOSPHERE AFTER THE CRISES ARE UPON US.

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS OF  
THE WORLD ARE JUST TOO GREAT.

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