

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

MIDWEST GOVERNORS PANEL DISCUSSION

"FOOD POWER"

Minneapolis, Minnesota

July 30, 1974

INTRODUCTION

It is a privilege and an honor to appear as moderator of this distinguished panel.

The subject which we are to examine, "Food Power" is a matter of growing importance for all people.

My role in this inquiry, as I understand it, is to serve as moderator and also attempt to lay out some of the areas which need to be examined.

To get started, we must try to develop a better picture of today's food situation. Are we faced with the prospect of famine or at least tight food supplies in the near future? What can be done to increase agricultural production and without too high a price on our ecosystem?

UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEM

These questions clearly put our inquiry on a world-wide basis, and this is appropriate since food has become a topic of international concern.

It is clear that the food picture has changed drastically in the last two years. And food scarcity has become accepted as the new reality.

This changed situation resulted in part from crop failure but also from a changed demand on the part of consumers in the developed world.

In the future, the competition for precious food will involve not only the traditional population and agricultural production equation. It will also be heavily influenced by the level of demand in the developed countries where consumers have begun to demand more protein in the form of meat, milk and eggs.

The new scarcity in food has meant that prices have gone up, and the poorer nations have had to cut consumption and deplete their limited foreign exchange holdings.

The adjustment to increased food costs and reduced supplies has come about at the same time the world was reeling from the impact of the energy crisis. In fact, these two areas are intimately related and especially as a foreign exchange requirement for the poorer countries.

Under these circumstances world food reserves have declined to around 27 days, their lowest point in over two decades.

Famine has already hit large parts of Africa, and Southeast Asia is near the danger point. Food reserves in India have declined to the danger point, and a further delay in monsoon rains, already over three weeks late, could spell disaster.

The United States is thrown into a critical role under these circumstances because it holds the key as the world's major food surplus nation.

Export levels for the United States have recently reached 70 million tons, compared to 18 million tons for Canada, and 7 million tons for Australia.

Other areas such as Latin America had surplus production in the 1930's, but now are net importers. The deficit areas of the world include Asia -- 39 million tons; the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe -- 27 million tons; Western Europe -- 21 million tons; and Latin America -- 4 million tons.

While the world's population has been increasing at slightly above 2 percent per year, world food production has risen by 2.5 percent per year. Unfortunately, however, much of the increased food production has occurred in the developed countries thereby making the poor countries more dependent on the richer nations for their food.

The results of a computer analysis by a group of Case Western Reserve University Professors shows quite clearly that the grip of the food crisis in South Asia will increase after reaching already unbearable proportions. Specifically, by the year 2025 the protein deficit may exceed more than 50 million tons annually; and this will happen in spite of all advancements that can presently be predicted, including permanent cultivation of all possible arable land in the entire region.

With the threat of ever greater food scarcities ahead, we need to work together with other nations before the situation becomes even more serious.

THE ROLE OF THE DEVELOPING NATIONS

Clearly the developing countries must place greater emphasis and investment in food production.

We are reaching the point of diminishing returns in terms of expanding production in the developed countries. Additional investments of fertilizer or energy will bring a far greater return in the developing countries than in the developed countries where fertilizer is already heavily used.

As Lester Brown and Eric Eckholm state in their forthcoming book, BY BREAD ALONE:

"The world's principal unrealized potential for expanding food production is now concentrated in the developing countries. Soils in Bangladesh are fully equivalent of those in Japan, yet rice yields are only one-third of those in Japan. India's area of cropland is roughly comparable to that of the United States, but it harvests only 105 million tons of grain while the United States harvests 250 million tons."

The policies of the developing nations should be shaped to encourage farmers to increase agricultural production. The small farmer needs water, improved seeds, fertilizer, improved transportation and storage, credit, technical assistance and above all a fair return for his produce.

Should less developed nations follow a policy oriented toward maintaining cheap food for the urban centers, increased food production will be discouraged, and the migration of people to the illusory opportunities of the cities will continue.

Work must go on in developing further improvements in seed varieties so that further production increases can be made and nutritional levels improved. The Green Revolution has only begun, and its momentum must be increased.

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

The wealthy, developed countries, and particularly the United States, will play a key role both in assisting the developing countries and formulating sensible national agricultural strategies.

The developed countries have the critical manpower and the resources which are required to provide technical assistance in areas such as agricultural credit, water and land management, fertilizer production, agricultural economics and research.

It is encouraging that the World Bank has changed its policies in recent years to place greater emphasis on agricultural production and the small farmer. The United States should do everything in its power to support and further this trend, not only in The World Bank but other international agencies as well.

The United States with its satellite technology is in a unique position to learn more about the world's weather patterns and its implications for agricultural production.

With experts such as Reid Bryson of the University of Wisconsin warning of changing weather patterns, this new technology can be of vital importance in understanding the changes and dealing with them.

Another critical area in terms of agricultural production is energy. The developed countries, with their superior technology, are usually in an advantageous position over the developing countries in terms of getting a share of fertilizer and petroleum products.

As James Grant, President of the Overseas Development Council points out, this is a very serious moral question for the United States and the developed nations.

A major effort must be undertaken not only to develop new sources of energy, but also to conserve energy and maximize the agricultural output per unit of energy utilized.

Another key area where the United States can play an important role is in soybean research. As a means of increasing protein output and conserving fertilizer, discovering the secret of nitrogen fixation, as it occurs in the soybean plant, would be of major significance.

I have joined with other Senators in having the Senate make a major increase in funding for soybean research.

A final area where the United States can make a major contribution to increasing agricultural production is in improving its own agricultural policies.

I have long argued for the need for a national food policy, and the time for decision on this issue is long overdue.

A national food policy must look beyond our level of production and commercial demand. We must also take into account our humanitarian needs.

A sound national food policy must look to the total agricultural picture from the farmer to the ultimate consumer. This involves transportation; adequate supplies of fuel and fertilizer; new seeds; expanded agricultural research; and storage, processing and distribution facilities.

A national food policy must also include an understanding of the relationship between the terms and availability of agricultural credit and farm production.

A food reserve program is also an integral part of a sound food policy to provide reliable supplies of food at reasonable prices, enable us to be a reliable exporter and meet disaster requirements.

These are some of the major inputs which must go into a sound national food policy.

We should also keep in mind that fluctuating agricultural prices also hurt the farmers in the developing countries. Some expectation of stable prices and a reasonable return will serve to encourage agricultural production in all countries.

This is an area of leadership which could lead to important dividends, but the Administration seems unwilling to recognize its importance.

THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE

I am hopeful that the World Food Conference can play a useful role in bringing together these important concerns. I was privileged to play a direct role last year in making the original recommendation that this conference be held. And I have stated firmly my expectation that this Conference must develop an effective action program to address the world food crisis.

This past week the Senate Foreign Relations Committee adopted the World Food Resolution, Senate Resolution 329, which I helped originate. It provides Senate guidance for our participation in the World Food Conference as follows:

(1) the contribution by the United States to the growing economic and human crisis in the developing world should be primarily in the form of food and the means and technology to produce it;

(2) the President, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of Agriculture and their advisors should (a) give the highest priority to the immediate expansion of American food assistance through the existing authority of the Public Law 480 legislation restoring title I sales and title II grants to at least the 1972 commodity levels and (b) take such additional steps as might be necessary to expedite the transfer of American food commodities on concessional and donation terms to those nations most severely affected;

(3) the President and the Secretary of State should (a) negotiate with other major food exporting nations to seek to obtain their participation in this emergency effort proportionate to their share of world food exports; and (b)

strongly encourage oil exporting nations to contribute a fair share to these efforts to assist the most severely affected nations;

(4) the United States should announce its desire to work with the oil exporting and other nations in a major effort to increase world fertilizer production with the possibility of including the offer of American technology and capital;

(5) the President should encourage the American people to reduce the noncritical, non-food-producing uses of fertilizer which now total nearly three million tons of nutrient a year, to make available increased fertilizer supplies for raising food production at home and in the developing world.

There are important additional issues to be considered by the Conference, such as population growth, and an international food reserve.

The session we are holding here today, also can play an important part in developing the key food issues, and I commend Governor Exon for his leadership in calling together such a distinguished group of participants.

THE SPECIAL ROLE OF THE UNITED STATES

We also owe tribute to the great productiveness of American agriculture. I know that our farmers will again respond to the challenge at hand.

Our Government can help by encouraging farmers to produce more food. This can be accomplished by establishing programs to provide fair and stable crop prices. We should also give higher priority attention to inputs such as fertilizer, petrochemicals, boxcars, twine, credit and baling wire which have been in short supply and increasingly expensive.

Assistance to the developing nations is another area where leadership is sorely needed. This important area has been too long neglected and misunderstood.

I know that the American people will respond to this crisis if the problem is forthrightly presented and reasonable programs are outlined.

Our task today is to urge the Government to provide leadership and take the right steps. Let's get on with it.

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"FOOD POWER"

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

JULY 30, 1974

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Midwest Governors Conference Panel.
mgs. 1/30/74
discuss
"Food Power"

THE HONORABLE PAUL FINDLEY, A U.S.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE SERVING ILLINOIS
SINCE 1960, IS A MEMBER OF HOUSE COMMITTEES
ON AGRICULTURE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND
SERVED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON WESTERN ALLIANCES. CONGRESSMAN FINDLEY
HAS BEEN A DELEGATE TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC
ASSEMBLY IN BRUSSELS AND TO THE 11TH and
12TH NATO PARLIAMENTARIAN CONFERENCE.

HE IS THE AUTHOR OF THE FEDERAL FARM
EABLE AND HAS AN IMPRESSIVE LIST OF HONORS
AND SERVICE TO VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

{ Recommendations - amend to P.L. 96-80 Farmino Relief
with authority to select to acquire by
purchase the stocks necessary. ▽

Challenges From Reserve bill -

✓ Eat Less meat

✓ Don Paulburg Statement to the House Comm
on Agric.

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LESTER R. BROWN IS A SENIOR FELLOW IN THE OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL. HE IS AN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIST. HE WAS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICE FOR THE USDA. HE WAS SELECTED ONE OF TEN OUTSTANDING YOUNG MEN OF AMERICA BY THE U.S. JAYCEES IN 1965. LESTER BROWN HAS BEEN OUTSTANDING IN AREAS OF INCREASED FOOD PRODUCTION. HIS WORK IN THE AREA OF FOOD CRISIS IN INDIA WAS WIDELY RECOGNIZED. HE IS AN AUTHOR AND SOME OF HIS WORKS ARE: IN THE HUMAN INTEREST, WORLD WITHOUT BORDERS, SEEDS-OF-CHANGE AND MAN, LAND AND FOOD. IN ADDITION, HE HAS WRITTEN NUMEROUS ARTICLES FOR PROFESSIONAL JOURNALS AND MAGAZINES.

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TONY T. DECHANT - PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL FARMERS UNION.

DECHANT OFTEN IS REFERRED TO AS ONE OF THE MOST AGGRESSIVE SPOKESMEN FOR AGRICULTURE AND ONE OF THE STRONGEST PROPONENTS FOR THE FAMILY FARM.

AMONG THE MANY TITLES OF NATIONAL LEADERSHIP, MR. DECHANT HAS PROBABLY RECEIVED THE MOST SATISFACTION FROM BEING PRESIDENT OF GREEN THUMB, INC., A PROGRAM WHERE, IN COOPERATION WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, EMPLOYMENT IS PROVIDED THOUSANDS OF SENIOR CITIZENS IN BEAUTIFICATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS IN 25 STATES.

mv DECHANT IS ALSO VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS AND CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT. IT IS GREAT TO HAVE YOU WITH US TODAY, TONY DECHANT.

INTRODUCTION

IT IS A PRIVILEGE AND AN HONOR TO APPEAR AS MODERATOR OF
THIS DISTINGUISHED PANEL.

THE SUBJECT WHICH WE ARE TO EXAMINE, "FOOD POWER" IS A
Food the new Power - new Currency
MATTER OF GROWING IMPORTANCE FOR ALL PEOPLE.

L MY ROLE IN THIS INQUIRY, ~~AS I UNDERSTAND IT~~, IS TO SERVE
AS MODERATOR AND ALSO ATTEMPT TO LAY OUT SOME OF THE AREAS
WHICH NEED TO BE EXAMINED.

L TO GET STARTED, WE MUST TRY TO DEVELOP A BETTER PICTURE
OF TODAY'S FOOD SITUATION; *Domestic & world wide -* ARE WE FACED WITH THE PROSPECT OF

in some areas of the world
FAMINE OR AT LEAST TIGHT FOOD SUPPLIES IN THE NEAR FUTURE?

If so, what can be done to meet the emergency needs?

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO INCREASE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND *in the*

Food deficit areas and in the food
~~WITHOUT TOO HIGH A PRICE ON OUR ECOSYSTEM?~~

*Reserve Countries
like our own.*

UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEM

and others

THESE QUESTIONS CLEARLY PUT OUR INQUIRY ON A WORLD-WIDE BASIS, AND THIS IS APPROPRIATE SINCE FOOD HAS BECOME A TOPIC OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN.

~~IT IS CLEAR THAT~~ THE FOOD PICTURE HAS CHANGED DRASTICALLY IN THE LAST TWO YEARS. AND FOOD SCARCITY HAS BECOME ACCEPTED AS THE NEW REALITY.

*our own Reserves Lowest for 25 years
world food Reserves down to 27 days*

THIS CHANGED SITUATION RESULTED IN PART FROM *changing weather patterns and crop, Population increase,* FAILURE, BUT ALSO FROM A CHANGED DEMAND ON THE PART OF CONSUMERS IN THE DEVELOPED WORLD.

IN THE FUTURE, THE COMPETITION FOR PRECIOUS FOOD WILL INVOLVE NOT ONLY THE TRADITIONAL POPULATION AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION EQUATION. IT WILL ALSO BE HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY

THE LEVEL OF DEMAND IN THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WHERE CONSUMERS HAVE BEGUN TO DEMAND MORE PROTEIN IN THE FORM OF MEAT, MILK AND EGGS.

L THE NEW SCARCITY IN FOOD HAS MEANT THAT PRICES HAVE

GONE UP, AND THE POORER NATIONS HAVE HAD TO CUT CONSUMPTION
AND DEplete THEIR LIMITED FOREIGN EXCHANGE HOLDINGS.

L THE ADJUSTMENT TO INCREASED FOOD COSTS AND REDUCED SUPPLIES
HAS COME ABOUT AT THE SAME TIME THE WORLD WAS REELING FROM
THE IMPACT OF THE ENERGY CRISIS. L IN FACT, THESE TWO AREAS ARE
INTIMATELY RELATED, ~~AND ESPECIALLY AS A FOREIGN EXCHANGE~~
~~REQUIREMENT FOR THE POORER COUNTRIES.~~

L UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WORLD FOOD RESERVES HAVE
DECLINED TO AROUND 27 DAYS; THEIR LOWEST POINT IN OVER TWO
DECADES.

L FAMINE HAS ALREADY HIT LARGE PARTS OF AFRICA, AND SOUTHEAST
ASIA IS NEAR THE DANGER POINT. L FOOD RESERVES IN INDIA HAVE
DECLINED TO THE DANGER POINT, AND A FURTHER DELAY IN MONSOON RAINS,
ALREADY OVER THREE WEEKS LATE, COULD SPELL DISASTER.

THE UNITED STATES ~~IS BECOMING~~ ^{occupies} A CRITICAL ROLE UNDER

THESE CIRCUMSTANCES BECAUSE IT HOLDS THE KEY AS THE

WORLD'S MAJOR FOOD ~~SURPLUS~~ ^{reserve} NATION.

^{grain} EXPORT LEVELS FOR THE UNITED STATES HAVE RECENTLY REACHED

70 MILLION TONS, COMPARED TO 18 MILLION TONS FOR CANADA, AND

7 MILLION TONS FOR AUSTRALIA.

OTHER AREAS SUCH AS LATIN AMERICA HAD SURPLUS PRODUCTION
IN THE 1930'S, BUT NOW ARE NET IMPORTERS. THE DEFICIT AREAS

OF THE WORLD INCLUDE ASIA -- 39 MILLION TONS; THE SOVIET UNION

AND EASTERN EUROPE -- 27 MILLION TONS; WESTERN EUROPE -- 21

MILLION TONS; AND LATIN AMERICA -- 4 MILLION TONS.

out

L WHILE THE WORLD'S POPULATION HAS BEEN INCREASING AT SLIGHTLY ABOVE 2 PERCENT PER YEAR, WORLD FOOD PRODUCTION HAS RISEN BY 2.5 PERCENT PER YEAR. L UNFORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, MUCH OF THE INCREASED FOOD PRODUCTION HAS OCCURRED IN THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES THEREBY MAKING THE POOR COUNTRIES MORE DEPENDENT ON THE RICHER NATIONS FOR THEIR FOOD.

THE RESULTS OF A COMPUTER ANALYSIS BY A GROUP OF CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS SHOWS QUITE CLEARLY THAT THE GRIP OF THE FOOD CRISIS IN SOUTH ASIA WILL INCREASE AFTER REACHING ALREADY UNBEARABLE PROPORTIONS. SPECIFICALLY, BY THE YEAR 2025 THE PROTEIN DEFICIT MAY EXCEED MORE THAN 50 MILLION TONS ANNUALLY; AND THIS WILL HAPPEN IN SPITE OF ALL ADVANCEMENTS THAT CAN PRESENTLY BE PREDICTED, INCLUDING PERMANENT CULTIVATION OF ALL POSSIBLE ARABLE LAND IN THE ENTIRE REGION.

WITH THE THREAT OF EVER GREATER FOOD SCARCITIES AHEAD,
WE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER WITH OTHER NATIONS BEFORE THE
SITUATION BECOMES EVEN MORE SERIOUS.

THE ROLE OF THE DEVELOPING NATIONS

CLEARLY THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES MUST PLACE GREATER
EMPHASIS AND INVESTMENT IN FOOD PRODUCTION.

WE ARE REACHING THE POINT OF DIMINISHING RETURNS IN TERMS
OF EXPANDING PRODUCTION IN THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, / ADDITIONAL
INVESTMENTS OF FERTILIZER OR ENERGY WILL BRING A FAR GREATER
RETURN IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THAN IN THE DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES WHERE FERTILIZER IS ALREADY HEAVILY USED.

AS LESTER BROWN AND ERIC ECKHOLM STATE IN THEIR
FORTHCOMING BOOK, BY BREAD ALONE:

"THE WORLD'S PRINCIPAL UNREALIZED POTENTIAL FOR EXPANDING FOOD PRODUCTION IS NOW CONCENTRATED IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. SOILS IN BANGLADESH ARE FULLY EQUIVALENT OF THOSE IN JAPAN, YET RICE YIELDS ARE ONLY ONE-THIRD OF THOSE IN JAPAN. INDIA'S AREA OF CROPLAND IS ROUGHLY COMPARABLE TO THAT OF THE UNITED STATES, BUT IT HARVESTS ONLY 105 MILLION TONS OF GRAIN WHILE THE UNITED STATES HARVESTS 250 MILLION TONS."

L THE POLICIES OF THE DEVELOPING NATIONS SHOULD BE SHAPED

TO ENCOURAGE FARMERS TO INCREASE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION,

L THE SMALL FARMER NEEDS WATER, IMPROVED SEEDS, ^{fuel,} FERTILIZER, IMPROVED

TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE, CREDIT, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND

ABOVE ALL A FAIR RETURN FOR HIS PRODUCE.

It is in these areas

*that Foreign Aid - Bi. Lateral + Multinational
must be emphasized.*

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~~SHOULD LESS DEVELOPED NATIONS FOLLOW A POLICY ORIENTED
TOWARD MAINTAINING CHEAP FOOD FOR THE URBAN CENTERS, INCREASED
FOOD PRODUCTION, WILL BE DISCOURAGED, AND THE MIGRATION OF
PEOPLE TO THE ILLUSORY OPPORTUNITIES OF THE CITIES WILL CONTINUE.~~

L
~~WORK MUST GO ON IN DEVELOPING ~~FURTHER~~ IMPROVEMENTS IN SEED
VARIETIES SO THAT FURTHER PRODUCTION INCREASES CAN BE MADE
AND NUTRITIONAL LEVELS IMPROVED. THE GREEN REVOLUTION HAS
ONLY BEGUN, AND ITS MOMENTUM MUST BE INCREASED.~~

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

industrialized
L THE WEALTHY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, AND PARTICULARLY THE
UNITED STATES, WILL PLAY A KEY ROLE BOTH IN ASSISTING THE
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND FORMULATING SENSIBLE NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL STRATEGIES.

L THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAVE THE CRITICAL MANPOWER AND

THE RESOURCES WHICH ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE ~~TECHNICAL~~

ASSISTANCE IN AREAS SUCH AS AGRICULTURAL CREDIT, WATER AND

LAND MANAGEMENT, FERTILIZER PRODUCTION, ^{Storage and distribution,} AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

AND RESEARCH.

L IT IS ENCOURAGING THAT THE WORLD BANK HAS CHANGED ITS

POLICIES IN RECENT YEARS TO PLACE GREATER EMPHASIS ON

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND THE SMALL FARMER. L THE UNITED

STATES SHOULD DO EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER TO SUPPORT AND FURTHER

THIS TREND, NOT ONLY IN THE WORLD BANK BUT OTHER INTERNATIONAL

AGENCIES AS WELL. - *for example* -

L THE UNITED STATES WITH ITS SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY IS IN

A UNIQUE POSITION TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WORLD'S WEATHER

PATTERNS AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION.

WITH EXPERTS SUCH AS REID BRYSON OF THE UNIVERSITY
OF WISCONSIN WARNING OF CHANGING WEATHER PATTERNS, THIS NEW
TECHNOLOGY CAN BE OF VITAL IMPORTANCE IN UNDERSTANDING THE CHANGES
AND DEALING WITH THEM.

L ANOTHER CRITICAL AREA IN TERMS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION
IS ENERGY. THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, WITH THEIR SUPERIOR
TECHNOLOGY, ARE USUALLY IN AN ADVANTAGEOUS POSITION OVER THE
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN TERMS OF GETTING A SHARE OF FERTILIZER
AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS.

L AS JAMES GRANT, PRESIDENT OF THE OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL POINTS OUT, THIS IS A VERY SERIOUS MORAL QUESTION
FOR THE UNITED STATES AND THE DEVELOPED NATIONS.

A MAJOR EFFORT MUST BE UNDERTAKEN NOT ONLY TO DEVELOP
NEW SOURCES OF ENERGY, BUT ALSO TO CONSERVE ENERGY AND
MAXIMIZE THE AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT PER UNIT OF ENERGY UTILIZED.

L ANOTHER KEY AREA WHERE THE UNITED STATES CAN PLAY AN
IMPORTANT ROLE IS IN SOYBEAN RESEARCH. L AS A MEANS OF INCREASING
PROTEIN OUTPUT AND CONSERVING FERTILIZER, DISCOVERING THE
SECRET OF NITROGEN FIXATION, AS IT OCCURS IN THE SOYBEAN PLANT,
WOULD BE OF MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE.

L I HAVE JOINED WITH OTHER SENATORS IN HAVING THE ~~SENATE~~ ^{Here} ~~Congress~~ X

^{approval} L A MAJOR INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR SOYBEAN RESEARCH.

L ^{another} ~~FINAL~~ AREA WHERE THE UNITED STATES CAN MAKE A MAJOR
CONTRIBUTION TO INCREASING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IS IN
IMPROVING ITS OWN AGRICULTURAL POLICIES.

I HAVE LONG ARGUED FOR ~~THE NEED FOR~~ A NATIONAL FOOD
POLICY, ~~AND THE~~ TIME FOR DECISION ON THIS ISSUE IS LONG
OVERDUE.

L A NATIONAL FOOD POLICY MUST LOOK BEYOND OUR LEVEL
OF PRODUCTION AND COMMERCIAL DEMAND. WE MUST ALSO TAKE
INTO ACCOUNT OUR HUMANITARIAN NEEDS *at home and abroad.*

L A SOUND NATIONAL FOOD POLICY MUST LOOK TO THE "TOTAL
AGRICULTURAL PICTURE FROM THE FARMER TO THE ULTIMATE
CONSUMER. THIS INVOLVES TRANSPORTATION; ADEQUATE SUPPLIES
OF FUEL AND FERTILIZER; NEW SEEDS; EXPANDED AGRICULTURAL
RESEARCH; AND STORAGE, PROCESSING AND DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES.

Price-Target Prices!

*Imports of Agric commodities
that injure Amer Producers*

L A NATIONAL FOOD POLICY MUST ALSO INCLUDE AN UNDERSTANDING
OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TERMS AND AVAILABILITY
OF AGRICULTURAL CREDIT AND FARM PRODUCTION.

Review
L ^{*national*} A FOOD RESERVE PROGRAM IS ALSO AN INTEGRAL PART OF
consumers adjust
A SOUND FOOD POLICY TO PROVIDE RELIABLE SUPPLIES OF FOOD
AT REASONABLE PRICES, ENABLE US TO BE A RELIABLE EXPORTER
AND MEET DISASTER REQUIREMENTS.

L THESE ARE SOME OF THE MAJOR INPUTS WHICH MUST GO
INTO A SOUND NATIONAL FOOD POLICY.

T WE SHOULD ALSO KEEP IN MIND THAT FLUCTUATING

impair agricultural production
AGRICULTURAL PRICES ALSO ~~IMPACT THE EARNERS IN THE~~

in DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

SOME EXPECTATION OF STABLE PRICES
AND A REASONABLE RETURN ^{would} ~~==~~ SERVE TO ENCOURAGE
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN ALL COUNTRIES.

~~THIS IS AN AREA OF LEADERSHIP WHICH COULD LEAD TO
IMPORTANT DIVIDENDS, BUT THE ADMINISTRATION SEEMS
UNWILLING TO RECOGNIZE ITS IMPORTANCE.~~

THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE

⚡ I AM HOPEFUL THAT THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE CAN PLAY
A USEFUL ROLE IN BRINGING TOGETHER THESE IMPORTANT CONCERNS.
I WAS PRIVILEGED TO PLAY A DIRECT ROLE LAST YEAR IN MAKING
THE ORIGINAL RECOMMENDATION THAT THIS CONFERENCE BE HELD.

AND I HAVE STATED FIRMLY MY EXPECTATION THAT THIS CONFERENCE
MUST DEVELOP AN EFFECTIVE ACTION PROGRAM TO ADDRESS THE
WORLD FOOD CRISIS.

THIS PAST WEEK THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE
ADOPTED THE WORLD FOOD RESOLUTION, SENATE RESOLUTION 329,
WHICH ~~! sponsored /~~ ~~HELPED ORIGINATE~~ IT PROVIDES ~~SENATE~~ GUIDANCE FOR
OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE AS FOLLOWS:

(1) THE CONTRIBUTION BY THE UNITED STATES TO THE
GROWING ECONOMIC AND HUMAN CRISIS IN THE DEVELOPING
~~WORLD~~ SHOULD BE PRIMARILY IN THE FORM OF FOOD AND THE
~~MEANS AND TECHNOLOGY TO PRODUCE IT;~~

(3) THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHOULD

(A) NEGOTIATE WITH OTHER MAJOR FOOD EXPORTING NATIONS TO
SEEK TO OBTAIN THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THIS EMERGENCY EFFORT
PROPORTIONATE TO THEIR SHARE OF WORLD FOOD EXPORTS; AND (B)
STRONGLY ENCOURAGE OIL EXPORTING NATIONS TO CONTRIBUTE A
FAIR SHARE TO THESE EFFORTS TO ASSIST THE MOST SEVERELY
AFFECTED NATIONS;

(4) THE UNITED STATES SHOULD ANNOUNCE ITS DESIRE
TO WORK WITH THE OIL EXPORTING AND OTHER NATIONS IN A
MAJOR EFFORT TO INCREASE WORLD FERTILIZER PRODUCTION
WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF INCLUDING THE OFFER OF AMERICAN
TECHNOLOGY AND CAPITAL;

(5) THE PRESIDENT SHOULD ENCOURAGE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO REDUCE THE NONCRITICAL, NON-FOOD-PRODUCING USES OF FERTILIZER WHICH NOW TOTAL NEARLY THREE MILLION TONS OF NUTRIENT A YEAR, TO MAKE AVAILABLE INCREASED FERTILIZER SUPPLIES FOR RAISING FOOD PRODUCTION AT HOME AND IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

L THERE ARE IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CONFERENCE, SUCH AS POPULATION GROWTH, AND AN INTERNATIONAL FOOD RESERVE.

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THE SESSION WE ARE HOLDING HERE TODAY, ALSO CAN PLAY
AN IMPORTANT PART IN DEVELOPING THE KEY FOOD ISSUES, AND
I COMMEND GOVERNOR EXON FOR HIS LEADERSHIP IN CALLING
TOGETHER SUCH A DISTINGUISHED GROUP OF PARTICIPANTS.

THE SPECIAL ROLE OF THE UNITED STATES

an expression of gratitude
WE ALSO ~~ONE~~ TRIBUTE TO THE GREAT PRODUCTIVENESS OF

AMERICAN AGRICULTURE. I KNOW THAT OUR FARMERS WILL ~~AGREE~~

to the
RESPOND ~~TO THE CHALLENGE AT HAND.~~

OUR GOVERNMENT CAN HELP BY ENCOURAGING FARMERS TO PRODUCE MORE FOOD. THIS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED BY ESTABLISHING PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE FAIR AND STABLE CROP PRICES. WE SHOULD ~~AND~~ GIVE HIGHER PRIORITY ATTENTION TO INPUTS SUCH AS FERTILIZER, PETROCHEMICALS, BOXCARS, TWINE, CREDIT AND BALING WIRE WHICH HAVE BEEN IN SHORT SUPPLY AND INCREASINGLY EXPENSIVE.

ASSISTANCE TO THE DEVELOPING NATIONS IS ANOTHER AREA WHERE LEADERSHIP IS SORELY NEEDED. THIS IMPORTANT AREA HAS BEEN TOO LONG NEGLECTED AND MISUNDERSTOOD.

I KNOW THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL RESPOND TO THIS CRISIS
IF THE PROBLEM IS FORTHRIGHTLY PRESENTED AND REASONABLE
PROGRAMS ARE OUTLINED.

OUR TASK TODAY IS TO URGE THE GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE
LEADERSHIP AND TAKE THE RIGHT STEPS. LET'S GET ON WITH IT.

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Minnesota Historical Society

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