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NEWS RELEASE

from the Desk of SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

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FARM ABUNDANCE PLAYS VITAL ROLE IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY SENATOR HUMPHREY SAYS

Agriculture is the "Achilles Heel of the Soviet Empire", Senator Hubert H. Humphrey (D., Minn.) declared last night in addressing a Cottonwood County Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner meeting at Windom, Minnesota.

By contrast, he declared, America's ability to produce in abundance occupies "a vital role in our foreign policy".

The one realm in which we have the Communists hopelessly outclassed is in our agriculture -- and they know it," He declared.

"They can not produce enough food for themselves, let alone enough to help anyone else."

Failure of Soviet agriculture is a "weak chink" in its armour, Senator Humphrey said, because of the importance of agriculture in areas of the world still hanging in the balance between western powers and the Kremlin.

"Of all the problems confronting underdeveloped areas of the world, none are greater than the problems of their people in relation to the land," he declared. "They have not enough food. They have not developed methods and institutions that enable the man working the soil to share properly in the production from his toil. They are still mainly agricultural nations, and can not solve their political destiny without solving agricultural problems.

"Let us not forget this. The greatest hope we have to offer these people in underdeveloped areas is the success of American agriculture, and evidence of our willingness to share not only our abundance but our know-how.

"As a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, I call tell you with assurance that the most successful programs we have conducted overseas have been our agricultural technical assistance programs, and our sharing of food with people who need it. And I can tell you that the most damaging effect on our international relations has been from some of the impressions created around the world that we in America are willing to let others go hungry, while we complain about our abundance:"

In commenting on the importance of American agriculture to our leadership in foreign policy, Senator Humphrey added:

"To hold that leadership, we must take care of our agriculture -- and make wiser use of the abundance we possess. That is why I have prefaced my remarks about agriculture with a review of the world problems of peace. They are closely related. They cannot be entirely separated.

"It is understandable, therefore, that many of us deeply concerned about preserving peace in the world want to make the most of this valuable American asset -- and want to see it protected."



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