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EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS
OF
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ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
DECEMBER 12, 1961

In Europe and the Middle East, throughout Latin America this year, I found statesmen and other leaders everywhere eager to exchange views about farm production in America, about the American ~~economy~~ economy in general, and about the broadening American role in finding the way to a stabler and more peaceful world.

I found that people in the Middle East care very much about what is happening in the ~~Middle~~ middle west of America. And we here in the Middle West must understand what happens in the Middle East, in Middle Europe, in mid-Latin America, means very much to every American farm family.

What happens to our markets in Europe, what happens to that great growing European economy, means everything to farmers in America's great breadbasket.

You heard yesterday from my very good friend Dwayne Andreas about some of the problems in connection with the Common Market -- you know that Secretary Freeman has been negotiating on this front, trying to keep protectionism from blossoming out at the regional level now that ~~there~~ these six European countries have eliminated it at the national level.

When I spoke with the Chancellor of West Germany, with the British Prime Minister, with the leaders of France and Italy and Belgium this fall, I used blunt language about what I felt were the vital stakes of American agriculture in the European market. I told these leaders that the United States does not intend to be closed out of that market for American food and fiber, and I warned that unless the leaders of the new Europe recognized that fact, there could be serious trouble between allies.

I was speaking for the short term -- the transition period. For there is no doubt in my mind that that great area of 300 million people which is rapidly becoming a united Europe will be needing American food and ~~ix~~ fiber in greater and greater abundance.

The announced goal of the Common Market is to triple the living standard of the people of those countries -- meaning not only an increase in the food supply,

but also an increase in the meat use of the average European family.

The present Common Market countries -- with a population roughly that of our own (170 million people) -- have a farm acreage of only one tenth that of the United States. One of the largest of the Common Market countries -- the Federal Republic of Germany -- normally imports half of its food requirements.

So you can see that if we handle matters right -- that is, by not creating the conditions for a trade war by raising our own tariffs and quotas, if we give to the President the necessary power to negotiate broadly with the Common Market, we are going to have an expanding dollar market for American agriculture in Europe that will mean everything to the American farmer.

But I don't want to mislead you into thinking that the Common Market should be looked at narrowly -- just as a future for American markets. The fashioning of Europe into an integrated, solid, prosperous and unified area is perhaps the greatest event in the history of the struggle with the communist world.

If you think the Common Market and the new Europe is important to us -- think of what it means to ~~be~~ the ~~enemy~~ communist leadership.

If I were Krushchev, I would have a mortal fear of the success of these 300 million Western Europeans in integrating their economies and in welding ~~common~~ common political policies. What are his backward and dissatisfied satellites going to do as they see the dynamic growth and the improving living standards of the Western European nations?

Premier Khrushchev complains considerably about military bases, but I think he is more deeply concerned about economic competition. How do you suppose he feels encircled by free nations who are learning to live the good life? Nations which are productive -- where people are beginning to feel a sense of happiness and achievement. Nothing could be more devastating to a dictatorial society than to be so encircled.

Food is the key in ~~this~~ this economic competition between the free world and the Soviets.

~~Maximum~~ We must understand this throughout the Free World: food is power!
Food and Fiber represent real wealth!

Food production by the American farmer is the greatest strategic weapon which the Free World could hope to possess!

Yes, food is ~~the~~ power -- and the lack of food is weakness. And today, this is the great fact that means the difference in power between the Communist World and the non-Communist world.

We have it, and they do not.

We know how to produce it, and they do not.

They are desperate with hunger -- short of food, having to draft and dragoon their workers from the city to go out on ~~the~~ the farms, firing commissars right and left, buying food from anywhere in the world they can get it.

Communist agriculture is the colossal failure of the 20th Century, and American agriculture is freedom's greatest success story -- the beacon of hope that radiates to every village and hamlet in the world.

Food for peace is not a slogan -- it is a reality, it is a solid, rock-solid, reality for people everywhere. This they understand in any language.

And if we Americans don't fully understand this great fact, we may as well cash in our chips right now!

Finally, our leaders here in America must understand that American food is a God-sent blessing -- not just a weapon in the cold war, but a magnificent bounty which we can use for the betterment of men, women and ~~the~~ children everywhere.

That is what I am stressing from the White House to the street corner from one end of America to the other, and in the Presidential offices and Houses of Parliament of every country of the Free World I can reach!

Now I have just returned from Latin America. It was a tremendous experience. One of the highlights of that trip was my meeting with the leaders of the cooperative movement throughout the Americas in Bogata, Columbia.

The cooperative movement is on the move in Latin America. Its leaders are dedicated, eager, and able. We are going to give them all the help we possibly can.

What Latin America needs is exactly what Franklin Roosevelt brought to the United States in the 30's. What Latin American agriculture needs is what North American agriculture developed in the 30's and 40's -- co-ops -- REA's -- credit -- training. Latin America needs the export of America's success story in agriculture. They need our technical assistance. They need our know^how. They must ~~learn~~ learn to raise food and fiber the way North American farmers have learned it and they are going to.

Nothing is more important ~~than~~ that the Alliance for Progress between the United States and our Latin American neighbors than the development of a trained, efficient, productive Latin American agriculture.

This will be the end of Castroism and the end of Communism in Latin America.

And those first steps are being taken. We are moving. I have told the President we are not moving fast enough and I believe that he has listened to me. We are going to move faster. Latin America must move up to the top of the scale of priorities.

And it is to be farmers here in the United States that our President must turn for this great task. Already the most requested technicians for the Peace Corps throughout Latin America (and indeed the world) are American farmers.

Thousands and thousands of trained specialists are needed to satisfy the hunger for knowledge that I found throughout Latin America -- and it is in agriculture that there is the heaviest, most urgent demand.

Yes, American agricultural production and American agricultural know-how are the keys to the strength of the free world -- the key to stability -- they key to the construction of a world in which hunger is banished, in which the base is laid for a higher standard of living, for political maturity, and for a peaceful world for all our children



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