

✓ You Robson
✓ Major Vavakis

Sen Mc Carthy
✓ Mondale
✓ Young
Cong Redland

REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

FARMERS UNION GRAIN TERMINAL ASSOCIATION

TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

NOVEMBER 18, 1965

ⓓ Must return tickets to DC

Tom Steecher
major central exchange

President Louie
Bill Thatcher

One hundred years ago Abraham Lincoln said,

"I like to see a person proud of the community in which
he lives. And I also like to see someone living in such
a way that his community is proud of him."

< This can be said today of the Farmers Union GTA
and my friend Bill Thatcher. < For more than fifty years
your organization has led the way toward agricultural
progress. ~~I might add~~ and that, without your help, much
of today's constructive farm legislation never would have
been enacted.

Team together

ⓓ Speak Up

↳ The great advantage of a cooperative such as
GTA is this: Small voices, in a crowd, are seldom
heard. But the voices of men, standing together, are
heard and count for something.

↳ Today our national institutions are large: government,
business, labor, wholesaler, retailer.

↳ Your cooperative -- GTA ^{is large and it must be} stands in the forefront
of the great cooperative institutions not only in America
but throughout the world. ↳ You have improved your
bargaining position because you are able to compete, to
bargain, and to make your presence felt.

Feed manufacturing
Lumber - fast line supply
Soybeans
Flaxseed
Barley
Malt
& Durum
milling

Coop is your shield of strength
and Protection — you cannot
nor should not depend on
Govt — Govt can help
but Govt should not take over!

↳ I have worked for the American agricultural community for many years. ~~For I know the strength~~
~~-- and not just economic strength -- that our nation~~
~~draws from the soil.~~

↳ In many of those years ~~I must say that~~ I have felt ~~a~~ disappointment, and sometimes even discouragement,
~~regarding the result of these efforts, and the efforts of~~
~~so many others.~~

↳ But today the words are not dissappointment and discouragement -- they are optimism, faith and hope. !!

The time is near when, I believe, this nation and the world will both fully utilize -- and fully appreciate -- the positive force for good that lies in our American farmland.

up 2.3
up \$6 Billion in 5 yrs

Times are good. Net farm income is up . . . and on the way up. Net income per American farm this year will be 4,150 dollars -- nearly 40 per cent higher than just five years ago.

~~At the same time, take a look at the skies.~~

Surpluses are down. Grain surpluses are ^{now} near adequate reserve levels for the first time in nearly a decade. - ~~Infact. We must be sure to maintain~~

National Security reserves

Farm exports are up. This fiscal year we will export over 6 billion dollars worth each of wheat, feed grains and soybeans, ^{+ other products} Today one of every five acres of American farm production goes into world markets.

And all the while, the American people continue to enjoy an increasingly better bargain in food. The average family spends less of its income today for food than ever before -- and will spend an even smaller portion in the years ahead.

Good balance of Payments

B.9 News

199 of take-home pay Dollar

↳ Only five years ago, many people felt only an aching frustration when they thought about agriculture.
The prevalent notion was that no solution could be found to the problems of "surplus and subsidy" through farm programs.

That was the beginning of an ^{long} ~~arduous~~ struggle to ^{design} ~~create~~ farm policies which would improve farm income and make better use of our abundance . . . policies which would balance production with use while reducing surpluses and their cost.

↳ It has been a period of trial, a period in which the extremes in farm policy have been gradually cut away. Few people today -- far fewer than in 1960 -- hold the position that farm programs are not needed.

Need farm Programs

There is a growing realization that -- if we are to continue to enjoy the benefits of an abundant agriculture -- then we must insure that it is both productive and prosperous.

On November 3 President Johnson signed the Food and Agriculture Act of 1965, a legislative landmark which reflects the new approach to farm policy which began to develop five years ago.

In the words of the President:

"With this legislation, we reap the wisdom required during more than three decades of trial and effort.

"Our objectives remain what they have been for more than thirty years:

'To let the free American farmer use all his skill and initiative to produce agricultural abundance, in return for a fair reward.

↳ "To bring every American a plentiful supply of food, at the lowest possible cost.

↳ "To avoid accumulating costly surpluses of commodities we do not need."

↳ This new agriculture program recognizes that the marketplace is the best mechanism to determine the flow and pace of commercial farming. Most farm products will no longer move in domestic and world markets at artificially high prices. Instead, they will be guided by conditions of supply and demand.

↳ The income gains made over the past five years will be maintained and strengthened through direct payments to farmers who cooperate in the program.

4/22 ↳ And with a four-year program, the farmer will be able to plan ahead with greater assurance than ever before.

Agric Program - ~~conserv~~ Conserv
water, housing, Educ
health

~~Yes~~ we have turned a corner in our agricultural policies. But we do not delude ourselves into thinking that these policies in themselves will give us all the answers for the future. No, what we have done today is to set our agriculture house in better order so that we may begin to challenge the priorities of tomorrow.

↳ That is why I am particularly pleased to see

① Dr. Sherwood Berg here with us tonight. He has been selected by President Johnson to head the National Advisory Commission on Food and Fiber in an exhaustive study of the future implications of farm policies on the domestic economy and on our world position. This study will be done by thirty of the Nation's outstanding citizens in the fields of agriculture, business, labor consumer interest and education.

*Farm coops
asky represented!*

⑩ *Roy Hendrickson
of. Director Nat Federation
of Grain Coops.*

For the first time, too, a President has established a Cabinet-level committee -- including the Secretaries of Agriculture, State, Commerce and Labor -- to work with the Commission and to advise him on agricultural policy of the future. He has named Secretary Freeman to lead this activity.

Five years ago, a study of this nature would not have been possible, for all our energy and wisdom had to be directed toward immediate crises: ~~The crises of~~ *The emergency of* declining farm income and expanding farm surpluses.

Today we are able to direct our energy and wisdom to approaching needs -- needs of ^a changing American society and a world where population increase threatens to outrun man's capacity to feed himself.

⌊ We have learned from a decade and more of ②
experience that food aid is a creative instrument.

⌊ Our Food for Peace program is today a basic
part of our foreign policy — our Nat. Security

But food aid must and will be improved and
~~expanded.~~ Strengthened

⌊ For it is appalling -- it is an intolerable statistic --
that the diets of two out of three people on this earth
seem more likely to deteriorate than to improve in the
years just ahead.

⌊ And it is equally intolerable that the gap between
the rich and poor of the world widens each year.

⌊ Where men are hungry . . . where men see
themselves surrounded by a world of wealth they do
not share, they are easy prey to prophets of violence
and disorder. Hunger and destitution are the recruiting
agents for Communism.

Men have little time for thought of free institutions
-- as much as they seek those institutions -- while
their families lie starving and weak.

And peace has an uncertain life in an environment
of injustice and hopelessness.

We can and must continue not only to share our
abundance of food and fiber, but also to share *and export our*
abundance of technical and scientific skills.

We must help developing countries *help themselves - Help them to* build fertilizer
plants, dig wells, use modern tools, And we are. We
must help them build rural homes, roads, hospitals and
community facilities. And we are.

(4)

↳ We must encourage them to allocate their resources not just to long-range projects which may one day aid industrialization -- but also to projects which help create a modern, home-grown agricultural economy so that people may be fed now and tomorrow.

↳ We must literally get in and dig and work side-by-side with men seeking a better life in other places.

↳ This great task . . . this enormous challenge . . . faces us today and tomorrow. Its dimensions alone require action -- action born out of concern for children and nations who hunger, rather than fear of failure.

and

The stakes are high: The stakes are peace and the future of mankind.

↳ For a just peace, after all, must be established lest all man's progress be lost to the works of war.

↳ And peace will never be established in a world where two-thirds of mankind literally starves for well-being and a place in the sun.

↳ Nor can we of the rich nations live in good conscience, within the walls of our rich city, while our fellow men desperately seek to break out of poverty.

↳ To preserve the peace -- to be true to ourselves -- we must devote our energies and our productivity to making life happier, freer and more abundant for the whole family of man.!

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REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY BEFORE THE
FARMERS UNION GRAIN TERMINAL ASSOCIATION TWENTY-EIGHTH
ANNUAL CONVENTION, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA, NOVEMBER 18, 1965

One hundred years ago Abraham Lincoln said, "I like to see a person proud of the community in which he lives. And I also like to see someone living in such a way that his community is proud of him."

This can be said today of the Farmers Union GTA and my friend Bill Thatcher. For more than fifty years your organization has led the way toward agricultural progress. I might add that, without your help, much of today's constructive farm legislation never would have been enacted.

I have worked for the American agricultural community for many years. For I know the strength -- and not just economic strength -- that our nation draws from the soil.

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wheat, feed grains and soybeans. Today one of every five acres of American farm production goes into world markets.

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Only five years ago, many people felt only an aching frustration when they thought about agriculture. The prevalent notion was that no solution could be found to the problems of "surplus and subsidy" through farm programs.

That was the beginning of an arduous struggle to devise farm policies which would improve farm income and make better use of our abundance . . . policies which would balance production with use while reducing surpluses and their cost.

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HHH Speeches



Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association

SAINT PAUL 1, MINNESOTA

January 6, 1965

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Dear Mr. Gartner:

I am attaching a draft of the tape recording made of Senator Humphrey's address to our annual banquet on Wednesday evening, November 19.

We have had several requests for copies of this speech. Will you please have this copy edited and returned to us, so that we may prepare copies in final form for distribution, if this is satisfactory to the Vice President Elect.

We are looking forward to our trip to Washington for the Inaugural.

Sincerely yours,

FARMERS UNION GRAIN TERMINAL ASSOCIATION

Veronica Boesel

Veronica L. Boesel
Secretary to Mr. Thatcher

Mr. David Gartner
Assistant to The Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey
Office of the Vice President
Executive Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Address of
HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
To The Annual Meeting of Members
FARMERS UNION GRAIN TERMINAL ASSOCIATION
Saint Paul Auditorium
Saint Paul, Minnesota
November 19, 1964

Reel 1 000 HUBERT H. HUMPHREY: Thank you very much my dear and long time devoted friend, Bill Thatcher. It's very difficult for me to address you as General Manager and these titles. I prefer to think of you, not only in your capacity as a great leader in our state and nation, and a great leader of America's family farms and America's family farmers in the coop movement. I like to think of you just as my friend Bill, and that's what you've always been these many, many years. (Applause)

Well, you've had so many references to the honored guests and participants in this program that possibly it would be redundant on my part to even state the names again, and for those that I do not mention will you please forgive me because you have a big program ahead. But let me just say what a great pleasure it is to share this platform once again with the gentlemen that is making a remarkable name for himself as the Governor of this state. I like Karl Rolvaag because Karl Rolvaag is a man of character, of strength, and of decision, and of good solid community purpose; and

- 026 he's demonstrating that in every day of his public life as Governor

Reel 1 - 027 of this great state of Minnesota. (Applause) And less anybody have any doubt about it, he's a man of great independence. I've been trying to get people to understand that, Karl. I've never been able to tell him what to do, but he tells me what to do, and now he's going to tell Mondale what to do. He told him to go down to Washington and be a United States Senator, and I think it's simply wonderful that our Governor has seen fit to reach into his administration and take one of his trusted allies, one of his most important political officers, elected by the people of this state with an overwhelming vote, and to make him the Senator designate of the state of Minnesota. And I predict for you and to you that Walter Mondale will be a Senator that everybody, regardless of party, can be justly proud of, and I salute him tonight along with his fellow citizens. (Applause)

My neighbor's here, George McGovern. George, we just seem to be having one reception after another. I picked George McGovern as my advance man. Senator McGovern every place I go, there's a reception and there's McGovern. I believe he's taken on a new role, but I want to tell you that this man has made his mark in Congress. And he has already demonstrated those qualities of leadership which endear him to the nation, not only to his state of South Dakota. And I predict next election, George, that the people of South Dakota are going to see to it that you get the biggest majority that any Senator from that state ever had, and the farmers will be there to help you. (Applause)

Reel 1 - 058 Well, there are many here that we should note. My friend the Secretary has already addressed you. We've been talking agriculture on the plane all the way out here. And it was as Orville said, a rather moving and dramatic experience, at least personally, for each of us when we sat there this afternoon in the Cabinet Room at the White House with the President of the United States and discussed the problems that decept this nation and heard the reports of the Cabinet Officers that are responsible for the programs of this nation. I know for me that it was an experience that I shall always cherish. And I couldn't help but say to Orville that it was somewhat like, only much more meaningful of course, than that first time after he'd been elected Governor and we sat together at a football game. I mention this because I remember when I used to work to buy a ticket to get into the game to watch Orville Freeman occasionally play in the game. And there we were both sitting up in the Governor's box. I don't know if the tickets were free, but I got in for nothing. Possibly Orville arranged it. And today there the two of us from Minnesota were in this Cabinet Room of the greatest government in the world with the heaviest responsibility of any government in the world and with the most powerful man in public office than any country in the world, and with truly a great president, our President Lyndon B. Johnson. (Applause)

Bill Thatcher told you that I've been here for sixteen years, and he's right. Bill, I'm going to talk to you from here on out about my

- 097

Reel 1 - 098 vacations and this program because I recall one time when

Mrs. Humphrey and I were in Moscow, that was 1958 after that long bout with Mr. Khrushchev. I'm happy to say that I've lasted a little longer than he has. (Laughter) I wasn't sure after that night, but I recall that we flew all the way home from that far away place. I recall that only two years ago that we were in Mexico City attending a meeting there, and I flew all the way back from the warm climates of Mexico City into a blizzard at Wold Chamberlin Airport. And only yesterday you may have noticed by the pictures in the paper, no doubt, that we were down in the Virgin Islands in the Caribbean and lest any of you want to feel just a little moment of refreshment, as if you're on vacation, the temperature was about 85, the breezes were soft, if any, the skies were blue, the water was warm and the fishing was great. Yesterday we came to Baltimore, the Friendship Airport, last night to our home in Washington, this morning at work. And later on this afternoon Bill Thatcher said come home, Hubert; and I come home. (Applause) Of course he had the Governor also tell me to come home, and I got my orders.

Sixteen years ago, yes I remember very well. Just sixteen years ago we discussed in this very hall the first outlines for the Food For Peace Program, and three years later it became public law. Six years ago we discussed in this hall the Peace Corps, and the possibility of utilizing the great energy and idealism and the no-how and the spirit
- 143 of young Americans for peace in this troubled world of ours, and in 1961

- 144 it became law. We discussed from this platform the possibility one time of a ban on further testing on nuclear weapons. The year was 1959, and in the year 1963 it became a treaty. Many things have been talked about in these meetings. Many resolutions have been adopted just as you've adopted them today during your conference and your convention. And the thoughts and the discussions and the resolutions of people gathered together for only one purpose, to make life more abundant, more meaningful, more richer, more beautiful. Those thoughts and those ideas and those resolutions in due time, with persistence of effort and dedication to purpose, they have become reality. So it is good to get together and to think together, and to plan together and talk together. In fact, there never was a time in the history of this nation when it was more important for people to talk to one another, to express openly their views, to search for answers to ever-growing and changing problems because the answers are not in Washington, the answers are not at the United Nations, the answers are not in the foreign ministries or the chancelleries or the palaces of the world. The answers to our problems are in the minds of men, people all over this world. And we who believe in the Democratic process must find those answers amongst each other. We must find them in the Democratic way, through argument, through debate, through discussion, through conventions, through resolutions, through people's actions.

- 183 So I love to come back here, if only for the purpose of just speaking

- 184 my mind, if only for the purpose of once again after these meetings of hearing you and talking to you, and when I go back to my desk of reading as I have every year that I've been in public life the resolutions and the deliberations of this great GTA. Let me say that your Annual Report has been placed on the desk of President Truman, or going back further than that, of President Roosevelt, President Truman, President Eisenhower, President Kennedy, and now President Johnson. It is almost like a state paper for the Presidents of the United States. (Applause)

Mr. Thatcher, in many ways we are celebrating an anniversary. This is your fiftieth year. Think of it friends, look at him. Fifty years of devoted service to the farm families of the United States of America, that's what Bill Thatcher represents here tonight. (Applause)

350,000 farm families represented by this great organization. I see before me the Board of Directors, and I see my old friend Emil Loriks. Love him like a brother. We've known each other for years and years. I see Mr. Thatcher's strong right arm in this great organization Mr. Dwayne Andreas. I know that this organization has served useful purposes. It isn't just a cooperative in name. It is a cooperative in the true meaning of the word. Bringing people together to cooperate, bringing people together to make themselves better, bringing people together to make America better, and let the record be clear from this moment and from this platform. The Farmers Union GTA has
- 228 on its record only one thing to say, that it has always worked for the

eel 1 = 229 public good and the public interest and the people of the United States of America. (Applause)

I think it should be known as this organization prospers, it doesn't make the board richer. It doesn't make Mr. Thatcher richer. It doesn't make anybody in terms of individual board member or officer richer. All that it means is that the farmer who is a member of a community is just a little better off. And my friends of American business and American Labor, that means that we're all better off because if there's any one thing we've learned it is that we need each other, that we are inter-dependent, that we require one another, and that as each of us prospers, so does the other. That is the lesson of this great organization and it is a lesson that is well learned and well remembered. (Applause)

I've been through much with this organization. We've won together. We've even lost occasionally. We have common purposes, and down through the years we've worked together. I want to say to those that are here in public office that you'll never have to be ashamed of your association with the people that are represented here in this great auditorium. Never will there be a request made of special interest. Never will there be a temptation of corruption. Never will there be a demand made that isn't fair and reasonable for the public good. How good it is in this day and age of pressure and temptation to know that you can be associated with a group and organization and individuals who

- 273 ask just one thing and only one thing. Decent, wholesome, responsible,

Reel 1 - 274 honorable public service. That's all that we've ever been ask
for. (Applause)

We've been dedicated for many years for a fight in the fight for
the fulfillment of our convictions. We've never slackened in
pressing always forward for social justice, for equality of
economic and social opportunity or for the individual dignity.
The fulfillment of the meaning of dignity of man and we have as
people and as organization been unceasing, relentless in the search
for peace and for freedom. And I want to say right now that those
of us that have been associated together in these efforts are not
going to slacken. We shall not waiver, nor shall we in any way
retreat from the efforts of the past or the efforts that need to
be made for tomorrow. (Applause)

I've been given a great privilege and a great honor. I was elected
as the running mate of our great President to be the Vice-President
of the United States. I want you to know that I'm evermindful of
this responsibility, and I've even more mindful of that responsibility
today and equally determined to fully justify the competence of the
people, the competence of the President of the United States. Yes the
competence of the people of this nation, urban and rural, who have by
their votes in this recent election expressed that confidence. And to
the utmost of my ability, I pledge here in the presence of my neighbors
with God's help I shall not fail you in the fulfillment of those responsibilities.

- 326 (Applause)

Reel 1 - 327 We've just gone through a great election. One doesn't need to rehash it, but I do think it is fair to say that it represented a triumph for the processes of Democracy in a world where Democracy is on trial. I do think people found out that there are dangerous forces at work, even in America. And I do believe that we were able to demonstrate to the world that there is a unity of purpose or at least a vast majority of purpose in this American community. Above all, this election was a tremendous vote of confidence in the policies and the programs that have guided this nation throughout the years and a tremendous vote of confidence in President Lyndon Johnson and the manner he has fulfilled his constitutional responsibility to protect the national security and to promote the general welfare. (Applause)

This election was also a forceful rejection of men and women of little faith, who have cast their doubts about the ability of the American system to adapt itself to change and the changing needs of our people. But by the magnitude of its outcome, it should remove for all time any doubt about the rightful role of a government of the people, by the people, and for the people seeking to assert its constructive influence towards the fulfillment of the aspirations of the people for all of the people. (Applause) And no where was this made more evident as the Secretary of Agriculture stated so clearly than throughout rural America.

Every great farming area of this nation, ladies and gentlemen, gave a tremendous vote of confidence to President Lyndon Johnson. The rural
- 385 people of America stood by him. (Applause) Now I don't intend to imply

- 386 that this great out-pouring of rural support was necessarily in endorsement of every policy in every program, past or present. But I do look upon it as a massive repudiation of any thought of outright abandonment of the government's rightful role of extending a helping hand towards seeking greater equality of economic opportunity in rural America, or for that matter, in any other segment of American economic life, not sharing fully in the blessings of our progress and our prosperity. And I can assure this audience tonight, after having spent better than four hours with our president today, that the President of the United States is determined that the people of rural America will share fully and equally in the great society that he envisions all of us building together. (Applause)

Listen to what our President had to say in a message to another great organization just a few days ago, and I want to read from that message. It's dated November 17. He says we seek more than parity income. We seek parity of opportunity for rural America in every aspect of our national life. As I've traveled around the country, everywhere in the Midwest and the South, in the great plains in the far West, I found rural people deeply troubled, not just about farm income but about what is happening to life in rural America, the loss of population, the out migration of young people in the search of economic opportunity, the drying up of rural communities, the vacant stores, the inadequacy of public services and facilities, and the lack of financial resources to support them, the underemployment of the rural population, the hidden

- 435

- 435 pockets of rural poverty, and sometimes accompanying all of this a sense of hopelessness that anything can be done about it. And then our President went on to say this: "And these are the pledges of this administration of which I am a part and of which the Secretary is a part, and which the Senators on this platform tonight will take part in and the Congressmen." Here is our pledge in the words of the President. Let us resolve here and now that something can be done about it. We can create new jobs and new opportunity in rural America. We can attack and overcome the basic causes of rural poverty, and we can see to it that rural communities have an equal chance to have good schools, pure water, and good sanitation, and we can see to it that the federal assistance of all kinds is just as readily available to the rural people as it is to the urban people. The American people elected a Congress that will be, I think, responsive to the urgent needs of rural America. "For my own part," said President Johnson, "I shall make it my business to see that no service of the federal government stops at the city lines. If we have urban and suburban housing programs, we shall have rural housing programs that are equally effective. If urban renewal programs are essential for our cities, then a rural renewal program is just as essential for rural America. Where we have education or training or health or welfare programs they must be adapted for rural as well as urban areas. The credit that is available for urban businessmen and local governmental units must be available for rural areas as well. The disadvantage in educational opportunities which is all too prevalent in rural America must be corrected by the

- 488 combined efforts of state and local school districts, and the nation.

- 488 The President says these are only a few of the things that must be done, and when Congress convenes I shall be making specific recommendations with your help and your leadership, and your dedication to rural America and the farm families, I know the goals that we mutually share can be realized. Ladies and gentlemen that is the commitment of the President of the United States who comes from rural America, who knows of rural America, who has lived in rural America, and who appreciates the importance of rural America being the very best part of America. (Applause) I'm sure you now realize how deeply I feel about the vital importance of agriculture to our economy. And We've discussed it again and again.

The importance of our agricultural abundance as a tremendous national source of national strength, tremendous national asset, economically and strategically, and I want to say that we can and we must make greater use of that valuable asset, to better serve our national objective to peace and prosperity. As we make better use of our productive strength to assure the nation's consumers of abundance in the market place, to strengthen our balance of payments proposition, with expanded export earnings, and to achieve the foreign policy objectives of peace and freedom. The entire nation must and will recognize in turn the moral obligation of providing greater equality of economic opportunity for the minority of our population which is rural. I say this because I believe that the Congress must be brought

- 547 to know that this nation does have a vital stake in what happens in the

Reel 1 - 548 days ahead in rural America and what happens to our farm people.

I ask this audience to ponder tonight what would have been the situation in the coming years if we'd have had no reserve of food and fiber as we face one of the most serious drouths that America has faced in many sections of this nation in one hundred years. What would be the position of the free world today in a nation of over four hundred million people, such as India, if the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Freeman and the President of the United States were not able to say to that government as we have that there is an abundance of wheat, of food and fiber for your fee government to withstand the temptation of Communist infiltration and Communist takeover. Mark my words, were it not for food and fiber today, India would be like Communist China.
Gone (Applause)

I say this because I am of the opinion that we take these blessings for granted. We complain of the cost. We criticize our Secretary. We criticize our farmers, and yet we never seem to realize that it was the wheat producers of this great Mid-west and this very co-operative right here, that scraped the bottom of the bins of their farms and of their warehouses at the end of World War II to keep Europe from starving to death at the end of the war in 1949. (Applause)

Why in the little community of Climax, Minnesota, if I'm not wrong, a small rural community, a great decision was arrived at to save Europe from frustration, to save it from destitution, and to save it from
- 615 Communism. And let me say that a bushel of wheat did more to push back

eel 1 - 615 Communism than all the Birchites put together for a thousand years.
(Applause)

So it it entirely proper that we celebrate or that we dedicate ourselves as a nation to freedom from hunger. Freedom from hunger. The best fed people in the world, privileged to live in the best nation in the world. A people that have been blessed by a divine providence. A soil that has been blessed by unbelievable productivity. A nation that has been blessed by science and technology. This mighty nation, my dear fellow Americans, has a spiritual and moral obligation to wage war on hunger. That's what we're here for. (Applause)

And thank goodness that our President is in the front line of this fight, and he has directed his officers, his Secretary of Agriculture and his Secretary of State and his aid administrator and our old friend here Herb Watters, and Dick Reuter of the Food For Peace administration. He has directed these stalwart soldiers of freedom to wage this war against hunger. We participate in the United Nations, food and agriculture organizations, and we give it real leadership. No nation in history has done more than our America in wiping out hunger in vast areas of the world, and it's right and proper that our farm families feel good about it, and be humbly proud. And might I say yet though we've done all of this that we've barely scratched the surface of meeting the real needs of the vast areas
- 686 of the world.

Reel 1 - 686 Orville Freeman said only recently that if this America seeks to land somebody on the moon, how many hundred thousand miles away, over three hundred thousand. And yet here is the earth with only 25,000 miles in diameter, and we are still trying to find out how to distribute food to the far away places. Any nation that thinks it can land men on the moon in a space capsule and return them to America in the same week ought to be able in the next four years to find a way to get food to hungry people. (Applause.)

Today only one-third of mankind has available and adequate diet. Almost two billion people, two-thirds of the human race, subsist on lean diet, short in proteins, fats and calories. In fact, one-third of the people eat two-thirds of everything that is produced, and I want to say as the great Holy Father, Pope John said, that in a world where there is constant want, there is no peace. Peace is more than treaty and peace is more than military power, important as it is. Peace is more than alliances, and it is more than _____ stations or just enunciation of doctrines. Peace comes when mankind feels that he can live in harmony with his neighbor. And a hungry man is a desperate one and a sick one. And a hungry nation is likewise, desperate, intolerant and aggressive. We have at our hands, my fellow Americans, powerful tools for good. We have science and technology, and wealth and brainpower. We have machines and money. We have power itself. We have food. And above all we have a sense of justice. So

- 774 I say that we must put all of it to work. The truth is that looking only

- 774 five years ahead as I witnessed and examined the report of our own Department of Agriculture on the food needs of the world, that the situation may be well worse than it is today. Food shortages are mankind's problems, not food surpluses. And those food shortages will continue to mount unless we do something about them. And we are doing something about them. And we can close the food gap. If you'll get as excited about closing the food gap as we were about closing the missile gap, we'll close it and we'll do something constructive for humanity. (APPLAUSE)

We can do this as our spokesman for agriculture has said. And Orville I want to commend you for your courage in this area. He's been taking the message of this use of food all over the world. He's been fighting for you, for your exports, for your markets. He fought for you this morning. I was there. To try to see to it that American agriculture is permitted to go to work to do the job that we can do so well to produce and to get its goods into the channels of trade. To help people who want to help themselves. How can we meet this food gap? Well, quickly we can do it by a combination of the skillful use of our own food abundance. It's going to require some modifications of the Food For Peace Law. We can't just depend on accidental surplus. What kind of a military assistance program do you think we have, ladies and gentlemen? What kind of allies do you think we'd have if we just depended upon what we had left over as

- 876 compared to what we really need. There wouldn't be any NATO. There

Reel 1 - 876 wouldn't be any free world today if we just depended upon the old guns that we had left over.

Reel 2 - 000 Now, we planned military production. We look ahead and rightly so. So maybe we ought to have a more skillful use of the potential abundance of this country and we ought to make available and we are doing it but we can do more of it with your help, technical knowhow we know how to do the job, this can be done but not only by government it ought not be done by government, it ought to be done by our cooperatives, it ought to be done by our free trade. I am one of these people who believes that we ought to turn loose upon the whole free world and upon the communist world, if you please. Turn loose upon them American business, American farmers and American teachers. Let our people go and bring the message of this country to the world.

I want to tell you that we have a story to tell that they don't dare listen too. Oh, what a wonderful story we could tell them, those miserable failures in Agriculture behind the Iron Curtain. What one good cooperative could do there, just one but they don't let them have it. What one good grain merchant could do to show them how to conduct some grain business. Let me say right now what is needed in agriculture, in agri business. Let us get it clear, I don't know if anyone is going to like this or not, but we simply must get our farm groups working together and you got to call a halt of the fight between the private and the cooperative, you got to get them working together. Because you are a minority and if you don't work together, somebody is going to work you over and nobody can stop it, so join together now.

Reel 2 - 035 I conclude on this note. When we talk about closing the food gape in the free world, somebody says, "Oh, there he goes again." I know, I hear my critics, they are loud and clear. It is good that you know your critics and it is good that you hear from them because it does keep you on the line and on the beam. And I know that it cost money to operate any program and I am fully mindful of the tremendous burdens of this government. I will be evermore mindful of it them. I served 16 years in the Senate. I served on the Appropriations committee and I can tell you that the Congress of the United States was even more frugal then in the last session of Congress was then the Executive branch itself. And this year we will frugal again. We will do our very best to keep down these costs because people have to pay for them. But people have to asks themselves what does it cost not to take of something. What does it cost to lose your farm, what does it cost to lose your cooperative not what it cost to keep it. We have to ask ourselves these questions and then be reasonable in our answers. But I found out from our Department of Agriculture that the free world nutrition deficit measured in the cost of food products is estimated at about 2 billion hundred million dollars. Now compared to our productive capacity, this gap becomes relatively modest in its dimensions. For example, during the last fiscal year, we exported almost a record of 6 billion dollars in food commodities. The free world deficit of 1970 would be equal to less than half of our total exports. It would be possible for

- 77 American agriculture alone to meet this deficit if we just used one-

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fourth of our agriculture capacity that is now idle. Let that sink in. If the food deficit countries could raise their technical capacity this could also contribute to closing the gap. In a combined way, with the food deficit countries improving their technical efficiency and if we using some of our idle resourses, the free world gap could definitely be closed in less than 6 years. What an achievement that would be for the free world.

So ladies and gentlemen let's make the abolition of hunger the goal of democracy. It can be the crowning glory of our century. Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the Amancipation Proximation. He banished once and for all from this America, at least, by promixation second-class citizenship. It was one hundred years later that the Congress of the United States took legislation action to make the promise of Abraham Lincoln a reality. I have been proud to be the fore leader in the Senate of the United States to carry out the promise of Abraham Lincoln in the 20th century under the leadership of John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson in the civil rights act of 1964. The year 1965 can see, and I think it will, this government to declare to the world a new doctrine of amancipation, the doctrine of 1965, freedom from hunger and we don't intend to wait a 100 years to carry it out. Indeed, we can do something about it, Senator-elect Mondale and Senator McGovern, we can do something about it in 100 days in the first session of the 89th Congress. I say to those assembled here, help us. Help us, by understanding the problems that this nation faces.

Help us by talking to your Congress, about the urgent necessity of the pursued of peace. Help us by asking your Congress to give more attention, if you please, to this war on poverty. Because poverty in the land of the rich is a sin. It is not only economically wasteful it morally unjustifiable and we need to wage war on this sin of our times and hunger in the world of the 20th Century, a hunger that can be satisfied by a little more effort on our part and by a little more application of science technology, hunger and famine that curse the vast sections of human kind. That kind of hunger can not be tolerated and man kind feel that they have lived a moral life.

It seems to me instead of the preachments therefore of morality what we need is to practice human decency. Compassion, yes, charity, yes, but above all, opportunity. I think the world wants but one thing, it wants the privilege of being able to do something for itself. And we are given the privilege of helping people today, to help themselves and what greater blessing can come to a nation or to a generation than to know that we can be the teachers, to know that we can be the doers of good things, to know that we can be the peace-makers, to know that we can be the warriors in the best war that man ever fought. The war against pestilence, the war against poverty, the war against disease and the war against want. I say to this audience, we can win that war, we can win it and we can win it quickly and we can win it decisively and we can have new allies every year if we but have the will to do it. And I come to this audience tonight to tell you that your President has that will and his Vice-President has that will and we the people of America must have that will. WE ask your help. Thank you.

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