

A WORLD FOOD ACTION PROGRAM

ADDRESS BY HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
BEFORE THE RENSSELAER MEETING
ON THE WORLD FOOD AND ENERGY CRISIS

THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK, NEW YORK
MAY 9, 1974

- Mr Secretary General - Waldheim
- Dr Boerma
- Dr Gardner
- Madame Pandit
- Mr Khene (Kahn)

↳ WE HAVE BEEN WAGING A BATTLE TO IMPROVE THE
QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD FOR 25 YEARS.

But TODAY THIS BATTLE AGAINST GLOBAL POVERTY AND DISEASE
IS ~~BEING~~ *in serious danger of being lost.*

↳ AS THE WORLD'S MILITARY POWERS SEEK ACCOMMODA-
TION TO REDUCE THE RISKS OF NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST,
NEW DANGERS TO POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STABILITY
HAVE ARISEN.

↳ THE THREAT OF WIDESPREAD FAMINE IS ON THE
INCREASE. ↳ FERTILIZER SHORTAGES ARE GROWING AND
THE AFFLUENT ^{nations} CONTINUE TO CONSUME A DISPORPORTIONATE
AMOUNT OF THE WORLD'S FOOD RESOURCES.

WORLDWIDE INFLATION CONTINUES TO TAKE A HEAVY
TOLL ON THE DEVELOPING AND THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
ALIKE. ~~THIS~~ *eroding* POLITICAL STABILITY AND
DEPLETES ~~WHAT LITTLE HARD CURRENCY THE POOR NATIONS~~
in the limited hard currency
reserves of the poor nations.
~~HAVE AMASSED.~~

THE RICH AND POOR NATIONS ARE IN DANGER OF
ENTERING A NEW ERA OF CONFRONTATION FUELED BY
ECONOMIC DESPERATION. ALL REALIZE THAT THEY ARE
VULNERABLE TO ECONOMIC BLACKMAIL. THIS SITUATION
IS CAUSING A BREAKDOWN OF THE TRADITIONAL RULES
~~GOVERNING~~ ACCESS TO SUPPLIES AND RAW
MATERIALS.

WE ARE TODAY AT A CROSSROADS OF HISTORY COM-
PARABLE TO THE YEARS FOLLOWING THE END OF THE
SECOND WORLD WAR. !

TODAY, AS BEFORE, OUR NATION, FACE A CRISIS
OF MAINTAINING ^{their} ~~our~~ GROWTH IN RELATIVE AFFLUENCE
WHILE OTHERS FACE A CRISIS OF SHEER SURVIVAL.

TODAY, AS BEFORE, WE MUST FASHION AN ADEQUATE
RESPONSE TO THE PLIGHT OF A GREAT MASS OF PEOPLE
OVER ONE BILLION PEOPLE IN MORE THAN 30 COUNTRIES
WHO ARE THE WORST VICTIMS OF THE DOUBLING AND
TREBLING OF WORLD FOOD, FUEL AND FERTILIZER
PRICES. THESE ~~THESE~~ SEVERELY AFFECTED COUNTRIES *can well*
~~BE~~ DESCRIBED AS A NEW FOURTH WORLD.

increased costs to

THE ~~THE~~ THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ~~THE~~
in petroleum alone is
~~WHOLE MUST PAY THE PRICE OF PETROLEUM PRICES IS~~

AN ESTIMATED \$10 BILLION. *FOOD AND FERTILIZER*

PRICE RISES ARE EXPECTED TO ADD AN ADDITIONAL \$5
BILLION.

Such dramatic and burdensome price increases have destroyed the
or impaired

AND TODAY, AS BEFORE, THE AMERICAN RESPONSE
TO THESE GLOBAL PROBLEMS MUST DRAW UPON WHAT IS
BEST IN OUR PEOPLE. WE MUST RECOGNIZE THE INTER-
DEPENDENCE OF OUR SECURITY WITH THE WELL-BEING OF
ALL MANKIND. AND THE PROGRESS OF AMERICANS CAN
FLOW FROM THE PROGRESS OF OTHERS, AS IT HAS WITH
THE IMPRESSIVE POSTWAR IMPROVEMENT IN EUROPE.

Pope John: In a world of constant wars there is no place for

*the constructive impact of economic assistance
and from the world bank, from all forms of
outside assistance for economic development
of the world bank*

ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR

ECONOMIC PROGRESS IS DENIED ONE FOURTH OF THE

HUMAN RACE, NO INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE, NO CON-

CEPT OF WORLD ORDER, NO "STRUCTURE OF PEACE" CAN

LONG SURVIVE.

*John F. Kennedy: "In a world of constant
war, there is no peace."
In a world of constant war there is no peace*

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT OUR LEADERS RECOGNIZE

THIS ESSENTIAL FACT OF LIFE.

PRESIDENT NIXON HAS RECENTLY SUBMITTED *to the Congress*
EXPANDED FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. *It faces determined
opposition.*

AT THE RECENT U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL
SESSION ON RAW MATERIALS AND DEVELOPMENT, SECRETARY
KISSINGER ANNOUNCED OUR INTENTION TO PROVIDE EMER-
GENCY ASSISTANCE, IN A COOPERATIVE FRAMEWORK, TO
THE STRICKEN FOURTH WORLD.

MOST RECENTLY, WE OFFERED AN EMERGENCY
PROPOSAL AT THE U.N. URGING THE CREATION OF A \$4 Billion

~~FOR~~ A SPECIAL FUND TO WHICH THE U.S. WOULD

CONTRIBUTE ITS "FAIR SHARE." ~~THIS FUND WOULD~~

SUPPLY ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE TO THE MOST SEVERELY

AFFECTED TO ENABLE THEM TO BUY FUEL, FERTILIZER

AND OTHER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES.

↳ THOUGH WELL-INTENTIONED, AMERICAN EFFORTS ~~THE~~ lacked

~~FAR~~ LACK SPECIFIC FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS WHICH THE

FOURTH WORLD EXPECTS AND NEEDS.

I HAVE COME HERE TODAY TO DISCUSS A SPECIFIC
PROPOSAL ~~---A PROPOSAL---~~ WHICH I BELIEVE COULD PREVENT
CHAOS AND SUFFERING, ^{alleviate} IT WILL ALLOW OUR NATION
TO FULFILL ITS HUMANITARIAN OBLIGATION TO THE
WORLD COMMUNITY.

IT WILL RESPOND TO AN URGENT REQUEST OF THE
RECENT U.N. SESSION FOR "AN EMERGENCY RELIEF
OPERATION TO PROVIDE TIMELY RELIEF TO THE MOST
SERIOUSLY AFFECTED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES."

IT IS NOT A PROGRAM OF CHARITY, FOR CHARITY ^{alone}
IS NOT THE WAY TO DEVELOP HUMAN POTENTIAL AND
FOSTER A VIABLE WORLD ORDER.

It is a PROGRAM DESIGNED TO LEAD

THE WORLD BACK FROM THE PRECIPICE OF FAMINE. and to

assure millions of people
~~THE OPPORTUNITY TO GO~~ THE OPPORTUNITY TO GO

BEYOND MERE SURVIVAL AND DEVELOP THE POTENTIAL

OF THEIR ECONOMIES AND THEIR LIVES. ~~IT IS ALSO~~

It
~~A PROGRAM WHICH~~ RECOGNIZES THE URGENT NEED TO

DEVELOP NEW STANDARDS AND INSTITUTIONS TO ENSURE

ACCESS TO SUPPLIES OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES TO

ALL NATIONS, RICH AND POOR.

Today I AM PROPOSING A WORLD FOOD ACTION

PROGRAM WHICH INVOLVES IMPORTANT INITIATIVES FOR

THE UNITED STATES ON FOUR BROAD FRONTS: EXPANDED

FOOD AID; A PROGRAM OF FOOD RESERVES; AN IMPROVED

SYSTEM OF FERTILIZER DISTRIBUTION ^{and} PRODUCTION;

AND AN INCREASED EMPHASIS ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOP-

MENT.

THE UNITED STATES IS ~~A COUNTRY~~ BLESSED WITH

GREAT INDUSTRIAL AND MILITARY POWER. BUT THIS

POWER SHRINKS IN MAGNITUDE COMPARED TO THE POWER

OF FOOD. WE ARE THE WORLD'S BREDBASKET. OUR

NATURAL TENDENCY TO PRODUCE FOOD IN ABUNDANCE

GIVES US TODAY ENORMOUS POWER OVER THE LIVES AND

FORTUNES OF A MAJORITY OF THE WORLD'S PEOPLE.

U-S
Canada
Australia

L USED WISELY, ~~AMERICA'S~~ ^{THIS} FOOD POWER CAN BE A
 FORCE FOR ENLIGHTENED ~~AND~~ COMPASSIONATE ~~AND~~ CONSTRUCTIVE
 PURPOSE

USED ONLY FOR NARROW, SHORT-TERM ADVANTAGE, IT

BECOMES A PRECIOUS RESOURCE SQUANDERED IN THE

FACE OF GREAT HUMAN SUFFERING.

Gandhi's "to the millions who
 have to go to bed hungry,
 the only acceptable form in which God dares speak
 is food" in helping to alleviate

I BELIEVE OUR CONTRIBUTION ~~TO THE GROWING~~

the ECONOMIC CRISIS IN THE FOURTH WORLD SHOULD BE

PRIMARILY IN THE FORM OF FOOD AND THE MEANS AND

TECHNOLOGY TO PRODUCE IT. I PROPOSE A FOOD ACTION

PLAN IN THE HOPE THAT IT WILL SERVE AS A MODEL FOR

INITIATIVES BY OTHER NATIONS WHO CAN AFFORD TO BE

GENEROUS AT A MOMENT OF GROWING NEED.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO EUROPE WAS THREATENED WITH ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DISINTEGRATION. THE UNITED STATES RESPONDED STRONGLY AND GENEROUSLY IN THE FACE OF CRISIS AND DESPAIR. THE MARSHALL PLAN CAN AGAIN SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE OF EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE TO THOSE IN DISTRESS.

TODAY, WHEN THE LIVES AND WELL BEING OF HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS IN AFRICA, ASIA, AND LATIN AMERICA ARE AT STAKE, WE CAN DO NO LESS. WE NEED TO RESPOND IN THE SAME BOLD AND GENEROUS MANNER.

2 WE CANNOT WAIT FOR THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE

IN NOVEMBER. TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR MILLIONS.

Twenty centuries ago, the Roman Philosopher Seneca observed that "a hungry people listens not to reason, nor cares for justice."

L MY FOUR POINT ACTION PROGRAM INCLUDES THE

FOLLOWING PROVISIONS:

1 FIRST, FOOD AID MUST BE EXPANDED.

yet AT A TIME WHEN WORLD *food* NEEDS HAVE REACHED

CRISIS PROPORTIONS, OUR FOOD AID SHIPMENTS HAVE

BEEN SLASHED SEVERELY. AND A SIGNIFICANT PART

OF OUR AVAILABILITIES *have some* ~~is~~ FOR SECURITY RELATED

PROGRAMS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

To be sure

ALL NATIONS MUST IMMEDIATELY TAKE STEPS TO
EXPAND THEIR FOOD PRODUCTION / BUT THIS SIMPLY IS
NOT ENOUGH. / THE FOOD SURPLUS NATIONS MUST ALSO
SET ASIDE A PORTION OF THEIR INCREASINGLY PROFIT-
ABLE FOOD EXPORTS FOR TRANSFER TO THE POOREST
NATIONS / AND THE TRANSFER MUST BE ON TERMS
POOR NATIONS CAN AFFORD / PRESENT WORLD FOOD
PRICES ARE SIMPLY BEYOND THE FINANCIAL MEANS OF
THE POOREST NATIONS.

↳ --THIS AMERICAN PROPOSAL SHOULD BE CONDITIONED
ON A COMPARABLE OFFER FROM OTHER NATIONS WITH A
MAJOR FOOD SURPLUS--NOTABLY THE CANADIANS AND
AUSTRALIANS. / THEIR FAIR SHARE OF THE TOTAL AID
EFFORT WOULD BE PROPORTIONATE TO THEIR SHARE OF
WORLD GRAIN EXPORTS IN RECENT YEARS--ABOUT 70%
FROM THE U. S., 20% FROM CANADA AND 10% FROM
AUSTRALIA.

↳ --I BELIEVE THIS NEW PROGRAM OF EXPANDED FOOD
AID SHOULD BE MATCHED IMMEDIATELY BY RECIPROCAL
ASSISTANCE MEASURES ON THE PART OF THE OIL EXPORT-
ING NATIONS.

--THE PL 480 FOOD GRANTS FOR THE NUTRITIONALLY
VULNERABLE AND FOR FOOD-FOR-WORK PROGRAMS HAVE
ALSO BEEN CUT DRAMATICALLY. APPROXIMATELY 20
MILLION PEOPLE HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM THESE IM-
PORTANT PROGRAMS. WE MUST MOVE TO EXPAND THIS
GRANT FOOD AID PROGRAM.

--OUR MUCH DIMINISHED PL 480 PROGRAM MUST BE
RESTORED AT LEAST TO THE 1972 COMMODITY LEVELS.

THE UNITED STATES IS A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR
TO THE INTERNATIONAL WORLD FOOD PROGRAM UNDER THE
DIRECTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THIS PROGRAM
CARRIES OUT VITAL EMERGENCY RELIEF AND NUTRITION
ACTIVITIES.

↳ --SHARP FOOD PRICE INCREASES HAVE REDUCED THE
AVAILABILITY OF FOOD FOR THIS INTERNATIONAL

EFFORT. ↳ MANY WORTHWHILE NEW PROJECTS HAVE BEEN

ABANDONED. ↳ THE UNITED STATES, WHICH HAS PRESENTLY

PLEGGED TO PROVIDE \$140 MILLION IN FOOD AND CASH

IN 1975-76, ^{should} ~~MUST~~ INCREASE ITS OWN PLEDGE TO AT

LEAST \$200 MILLION. ↳ WE MUST ENCOURAGE OTHER

NATIONS TO INCREASE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS SO THAT

THE COMMODITY LEVEL CAN BE RESTORED TO THE 1972

LEVEL.

↳ AGAIN, THIS SHOULD BE LOOKED UPON AS ONLY A

MINIMUM EFFORT TO DEAL WITH AN EMERGENCY.

↳ PEOPLE MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THE SEVERE
WORLD FOOD CRISIS WILL NOT MIRACULOUSLY DISAPPEAR
EVEN IF WE HAVE THE BUMPER HARVESTS ANTICIPATED
FOR THIS YEAR. ↳ LAST YEAR WE HAD RECORD CROPS.

↳ DESPITE THIS FACT, WORLD FOOD RESERVES ARE TODAY
DANGEROUSLY LOW. ↳ THEY ARE APPROACHING A LEVEL OF
SUPPLY WHICH COULD LAST ONLY THREE WEEKS.

#2 SECOND, WE MUST ESTABLISH A FOOD RESERVE PROGRAM.

↳ WE HAVE A MORAL OBLIGATION TO ESTABLISH A
BUFFER AGAINST THE THREAT OF MASS STARVATION. WE
SIMPLY CANNOT RELY ON IDEAL WEATHER AND NO MAJOR
CROP DISEASES TO ASSURE A SAFE SUPPLY OF FOOD.

L THE WORLD'S LEADING FOOD PRODUCER AND EXPORTER--THE UNITED STATES--HAS NO NATIONAL FOOD RESERVE POLICY L WE BLITHELY ASSUME ALL WILL WORK OUT FOR THE BEST.

L GRAIN RESERVES PROVIDE AN IMPORTANT MEASURE OF STABILITY IN THE WORLD FOOD ECONOMY L THEY ALSO ENSURE THE CAPABILITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO RESPOND WHEN DROUGHTS OR CROP FAILURES OCCUR.

L IT IS ESSENTIAL, THEN, THAT THE U. S. CONGRESS ACT QUICKLY TO PASS THE LEGISLATION B

~~HAVE PROPOSED~~ ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL FOOD

RESERVE POLICY.

I have introduced such a proposal.

↳ CLOSELY RELATED TO A RESERVE POLICY IS THE
NEED TO ASSURE FAIR PRICES TO FARMERS FOR
THEIR PRODUCTS. (IT IS A FAIR PRICE WHICH IS THE
INCENTIVE FOR PRODUCTION) THE EXISTENCE OF
SIZEABLE RESERVE STOCKS MUST NOT BE USED TO DENY
FARMERS OF A REASONABLE RETURN ON THEIR INVEST-
MENTS AND EFFORTS.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST ALSO

ESTABLISH A NEW GLOBAL FOOD RESERVE SYSTEM FAO

DIRECTOR-GENERAL ^{Mr} BOERMA'S PLAN FOR THE INTERNA-

TIONAL COORDINATION OF NATIONAL FOOD RESERVE

POLICIES MUST BE GIVEN CONCRETE FORM AT THE WORLD

FOOD CONFERENCE, AND THEN IMPLEMENTED WITHOUT

DELAY.

#3 THIRD, WORLD FERTILIZER PRODUCTION MUST BE

EXPANDED.

L THE GLOBAL SHORTAGE OF CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS

IS ALREADY CAUSING DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES IN

THE DEVELOPING WORLD. / THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE

IN SOUTH ASIA. L NOT ONLY HAVE PRICES SOARED, BUT MANY

POOR COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO PURCHASE RE-

QUIRED AMOUNTS AT ANY PRICE. ! / JAPAN, THE UNITED

STATES, ^{the} AND EUROPEAN NATIONS HAVE REDUCED THEIR

FERTILIZER EXPORTS BECAUSE OF THEIR DOMESTIC

NEEDS.

But, EVERY DOLLAR'S WORTH OF FERTILIZER DENIED A
COUNTRY SUCH AS INDIA NOW MAY WELL FORCE IT TO
IMPORT FIVE DOLLAR'S WORTH OF FOOD NEXT WINTER,

THIS IS AN ECONOMIC LOSS THAT THESE NATIONS AND
THE WORLD CAN ILL AFFORD.

THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER FERTILIZER
EXPORTING NATIONS MUST TAKE STEPS TO ENSURE THAT
CRITICAL FERTILIZER NEEDS IN THE DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES ARE MET WITHOUT ENDANGERING DOMESTIC
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION.

WE MUST RESTORE OUR FERTILIZER EXPORTS TO
REASONABLE LEVELS, BOTH THROUGH COMMERCIAL
CHANNELS AND OUR AID PROGRAM.

But, THIS WILL REQUIRE EXPANSION OF FERTILIZER
 PRODUCTION FACILITIES. IF NECESSARY TO INSURE
 THIS EXPANSION, THE *U.S.* GOVERNMENT SHOULD STAND READY
 TO OFFER CREDITS AND TAX INCENTIVES.

~~MORE FERTILIZER NEEDS TO BE SENT TO DEVELOPING
 COUNTRIES THIS SUMMER AND FALL.~~ THE INDUSTRIAL
 COUNTRIES NEED TO CONSULT *immediately* URGENTLY ON THE MEANS

FOR DOING SO. *If necessary to insure this expansion we should be ready to offer credits + tax incentives ahead at home*
and WE MUST ASK THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO REDUCE THE
 NON-CRITICAL AND NON-FARM USES OF FERTILIZER WHICH
 NOW TOTAL NEARLY 3 MILLION TONS OF NUTRIENT--WELL
 ABOVE THE ANTICIPATED FERTILIZER DEFICIT IN ASIA
 THIS YEAR.

↳ A MAJOR COOPERATIVE EFFORT IS NEEDED TO IN-
CREASE THE EFFICIENCY OF PRODUCTION IN EXISTING
DEVELOPING-COUNTRY NITROGEN FERTILIZER PLANTS

↳ MANY ARE NOW PRODUCING AT BELOW TWO-THIRDS THEIR
CAPACITY. ↳ ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND
SPARE PARTS WILL BE NECESSARY FROM THE UNITED STATES
AND OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS.

↳ IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT THE COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE
IN NITROGEN FERTILIZER PRODUCTION LIES WITH THOSE
NATIONS WITH ABUNDANT ENERGY SUPPLIES THE UNITED
STATES AND OTHER INDUSTRIAL NATIONS SHOULD ASSURE
THE OIL EXPORTING NATIONS--WHICH ARE BLESSED WITH
NATURAL GAS, THE FEEDSTOCK OF NITROGEN FERTILIZER--
THAT WE WILL SHARE WITH THEM OUR TECHNOLOGIES TO
OPEN NEW SUPPLIES OF FERTILIZER.

↳ THE WORLD BANK COULD TAKE THE LEAD IN COOR-
DINATING THIS EFFORT. *The truth is*

↳ THE BATTLE AGAINST GLOBAL HUNGER CANNOT BE
WON WITHOUT ABUNDANT SUPPLIES OF FERTILIZER AT
REASONABLE COSTS.

#4

FOURTH, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN THE FOOD

DEFICIT NATIONS MUST BE INCREASED.

THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CONSTITUTE THE WORLD'S
GREATEST RESERVOIR OF UNTAPPED FOOD PRODUCTION
POTENTIAL. VAST INCREASES IN FOOD PRODUCTION ARE
POSSIBLE IN THESE NATIONS. THESE INCREASES CAN BE
ACHIEVED AT A FAR LOWER COST IN THE USE OF ENERGY
AND FERTILIZER THAN IN THE AGRICULTURALLY ADVANCED
NATIONS.

THE REALIZATION OF THIS POTENTIAL IS CRUCIAL
IF THE WORLD'S FOOD SUPPLY IS TO GROW RAPIDLY
ENOUGH TO MEET THE NEEDS OF POPULATION GROWTH AND
RISING AFFLUENCE.

↳ SPECIAL EMPHASIS NEEDS TO BE PLACED ON EFFECTIVELY INVOLVING THE WORLD'S SMALL FARMERS IN THE EFFORT. ↳ A GENERATION OF EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT US THE BENEFIT OF INTENSIVELY CULTIVATED SMALL FARMS.

↳ THEY MORE THAN HOLD THEIR OWN IN COMPARISON WITH LARGE FARMS IN OUTPUT. ↳ THEY ALSO SUPPLY JOBS FOR THE GROWING LEGIONS OF THE UNEMPLOYED IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

↳ THIS APPROACH TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTES GREATLY TO THE MOTIVATION OF SMALLER FAMILIES THAT IS THE PREREQUISITE OF A MAJOR REDUCTION IN BIRTH RATES.

↳ ~~16~~
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT WILL NOT COME EASILY.

↳ --IT WILL REQUIRE SUPPLYING FARMERS WITH
EDUCATION, CREDIT, EXTENSION SERVICES, FERTILIZERS,
IMPROVED SEEDS, APPROPRIATE MACHINERY, AND WATER
SUPPLIES.

↳ --IT WILL REQUIRE EXPANDED MULTILATERAL AND
BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

↳ --IT WILL REQUIRE EXPANDED WORLD RESEARCH
EFFORTS TO DISCOVER EVEN MORE PRODUCTIVE SEED
VARIETIES.

L IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE U. S. CONGRESS ACT
QUICKLY TO APPROVE THE U. S. REPLENISHMENT OF FUNDS
FOR THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION. THE
WORLD BANK, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF ROBERT McNAMARA,
IS INCREASINGLY FOCUSING ITS EFFORTS ON THIS AREA
OF GREATEST NEED--RURAL AND SMALL FARM DEVELOPMENT,
Shun to - SPECIAL ATTENTION IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
MUST BE GIVEN TO THE PROBLEMS OF FOOD SPOILAGE AND
WASTE. *1* POOR STORAGE, INEFFICIENT MARKETING PRACTICES
AND INADEQUATE FACILITIES RESULT IN MASSIVE LOSSES
OF FOOD AND FIBER. *h* A SPECIAL EFFORT, PERHAPS LED
BY THE FAO, TO REDUCE GLOBAL FOOD LOSSES IS VITAL.

↳ AT THE SAME TIME, WE CANNOT IGNORE THE DIFFERENT
BUT VERY REAL FORM OF WASTE OCCURRING IN THE MORE
AFFLUENT NATIONS. ↳ EACH DAY, ENOUGH UNEATEN FOOD IS
SCRAPED FROM RESTAURANT AND HOME DINING ROOM PLATES
TO SUSTAIN MILLIONS.

↳ THE FOOD ACTION PROGRAM WHICH I HAVE OUTLINED
WOULD BEGIN TO MEET THE URGENT NEED FOR IMMEDIATE
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO AVERT FAMINE.

↳ IT WOULD ALSO DO MUCH MORE. ↳ IT COULD ESTAB-
LISH NEW STANDARDS BY WHICH NATIONS DEAL WITH GLOBAL

RESOURCE SCARCITIES. ↳ MANY OF THE FUNDAMENTAL
QUESTIONS RAISED BY THESE SHORTAGES ARE PRESENT
ALSO IN THE CASE OF FOOD.

↳ WE SHOULD USE AMERICAN FOOD TO SET A NEW
STANDARD FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CONDUCT. ↳ WE HAVE
TOO MUCH AT STAKE TO MISS THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE
THAT THERE ARE RULES GUARANTEEING ACCESS TO SUPPLIES
AND MARKETS FOR ALL COUNTRIES.

↳ ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT COMPONENTS OF THE
FOOD ACTION PROGRAM I HAVE OUTLINED--EXPANDED FOOD
AID--COULD BE IMPLEMENTED IN A MATTER OF WEEKS.

↳ THE LEGISLATION GIVING THE PRESIDENT THE
AUTHORITY TO ACT ALREADY EXISTS IN OUR PL 480 LEGIS-
LATION.

↳ ALTHOUGH CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL IS NOT NECESSARY, CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATION IS IMPERATIVE.

↳ IN THE COMING DAYS I WILL INTRODUCE A WORLD FOOD ACTION RESOLUTION WITH MY COLLEAGUES. THIS RESOLUTION WILL URGE THE PRESIDENT TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION IN EXPANDING OUR FOOD ASSISTANCE TO MEET THE GROWING CRISIS OF HUMAN SUFFERING IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

↳ SOME HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL NOT SUPPORT AN EXPANDED FOOD AID PROGRAM.

THIS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED BY LIMITING OUR SALES
ON THE ^{regular} COMMERCIAL MARKET ~~AND~~ ^{and} ~~THE~~ ^{ing} MOST RESERVE PART

OF OUR SUPPLIES FOR SALES TO THE POOREST COUNTRIES

THREATENED BY FAMINE ON CASH AND CREDIT TERMS THAT

THEY CAN AFFORD TO PAY. THIS FOOD PROGRAM--TO

SAVE LIVES AND CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT CONDUCTIVE TO

PEACE--WILL COST LESS THAN THREE TRIDENT SUBMARINES.

IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, A FUNDAMENTAL MORAL

CHOICE CANNOT BE EVADED. CAN A NATION WHOSE

NUTRITIONISTS PROCLAIM OBESITY TO BE A LEADING

HEALTH PROBLEM SHARE ITS BOUNTIFUL FOOD RESOURCES

WITH THOSE WHOSE VERY SURVIVAL IS AT STAKE?

*FYI = one Trident = \$1.3 billion

L WHEN OUR OWN LIFE STYLES AFFECT THE BASIC
WELL-BEING OF OTHERS, CAN WE AVOID MAKING THE
NECESSARY MINOR ADJUSTMENTS?

L A DECISION BY AMERICANS TO EAT ONE LESS HAM-
BURGER A WEEK WOULD MAKE SOME 10 MILLION TONS OF
GRAIN AVAILABLE FOR FOOD ASSISTANCE.

get this!

L IT IS ALSO IN THE SELF INTEREST OF THE
UNITED STATES TO TAKE THE LEAD IN DEVELOPING
THIS PROGRAM. STARVATION AND HUNGER ARE THE
BREEDING GROUNDS FOR POLITICAL INSTABILITY AND EC-

ONOMIC CHAOS. *Page John: "In a world
of constant want there is no place"*

AMERICANS DO HAVE A STAKE AND A VITAL INTEREST
IN SOCIAL PROGRESS. AS POPE JOHN SAID: "DEVELOP-
MENT IS THE NEW NAME FOR PEACE."

THE COUNTRIES WE WOULD BE HELPING PROVIDE VITALLY
NEEDED RESOURCES FOR ALL NATIONS--PARTICULARLY THE
INDUSTRIALIZED AND MORE AFFLUENT NATIONS.

↳ WHILE I URGE MY COUNTRY TO TAKE THE LEAD IN
THIS EFFORT, I WOULD EXPECT OTHERS TO FOLLOW.

↳ THE UNITED NATIONS HAS ALREADY SET THE STAGE
FOR A COOPERATIVE EFFORT IN MEETING THE CRISIS OF
THE FOURTH WORLD.

2 IF THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD CONFRONT THE GLOBAL
FOOD CRISIS HEAD ON, WE SHALL BE TAKING A STEP
TOWARD SAVING MILLIONS OF LIVES IN PERIL.

L BY UNDERTAKING THIS FOOD ACTION PROGRAM, THE
HUMAN COMMUNITY SHALL BE REAFFIRMING ITS ABILITY TO
COPE WITH A WORLD CRISIS.

L IF WE DO NOT TAKE THE INITIATIVE NOW AND BEGIN
DEFINING OUR FUTURE, WE SHOULD NOT BE SURPRISED
WHEN TRAGIC EVENTS DEFINE IT FOR US.

* * * *



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