

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

EAST JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Richfield, Minnesota

May 19, 1975

It is a pleasure to be here with you today in order to examine the world hunger problem.

Your theme, "It's Up to Us," is most appropriate. My response to the world food problem is that there is no easy answer. But it is up to all of us throughout the world to do what we can to solve this problem.

It is really a complex set of problems, and we could spend a great deal of time today looking at a series of issues such as fertilizer supplies, food aid, population growth, and food reserves.

My concern is that we be neither too optimistic nor pessimistic about dealing with the food problem. But at the same time, we need to look at the various aspects of the problem, learn more about it, and develop a plan or a strategy.

At the outset, we need to recognize that the food problem is quite different from region to region throughout the world. Most Americans have had an abundance of food for many years, and at reasonable prices, and are not as likely to face starvation or even malnutrition. Most of you have had very little first-hand experience with those who are continually hungry.

But we do have over 37 million poor people in the United States. And these are the families that, in the face of rising food costs, cut back on their consumption. These are families whose children will suffer from malnutrition, increased disease levels, reduced motivation and poorer educational performance.

People in the food deficit countries regularly face hunger. The energy crisis has hurt these countries by increasing the cost of their petroleum products, and they have been unable to buy all of the fertilizer which they need to grow crops. As you are aware, natural gas is the feedstock which is used in producing nitrogen fertilizer.

To compound the problem, we do not know precisely how many people are hungry or suffer from malnutrition. Poor people often are not counted, and governments find it embarrassing to admit they have starving people.

However, it is estimated that today some 500 million people suffer from starvation or malnutrition throughout the world. And it also is estimated that about 10 percent of the American people face malnutrition or starvation.

There was a record world production of 1.1 billion metric tons of cereal grain in 1971. Dr. Norman Borlaug has said that this would amount to a highway of cereal grains 55 feet wide and 6 feet deep, built around the world at the Equator. And this production was required to feed current world populations.

However, just to keep pace with population growth -- some 76 million more people each year -- without doing anything to

improve peoples' diets, we must add another 24 million metric tons of cereal grain annually to this record production of 1971. Meanwhile, there can be no decline in present food production, as there was last year, resulting in a world food crisis.

In other words, just to keep even, we must build another Trans-Global Highway of cereal grains at the rate of 580 miles every year, according to Dr. Borlaug.

But meanwhile, each year we have to rebuild completely the first highway.

Harsh statistics like these should shame our conscience and inspire us to act without delay out of a simple, deep sense of compassion.

As the world's chief food surplus nation -- supplying about half of the food moving in international channels -- the United States cannot hang back and wait for others to act.

At the World Food Conference held in Rome in November, 1974, I indicated my belief that the United States and other countries needed to develop both a short and a long-term strategy to deal with the food problem.

I indicated that the United States -- which has been extremely generous in providing over 25 billion dollars in food assistance in the last 20 years -- should take the lead with others in increasing its food aid.

The Administration had been reluctant to make a final decision on its food aid levels for the current year.

But in early February our government did announce an increase in its food aid levels, and we will be providing approximately 5.5 million tons during this fiscal year.

The food conference outlined some of the most important steps which must be taken in the years ahead to help increase food security throughout the world.

One of the proposals which I had a hand in developing was an improved agricultural information system. At a time of food scarcity, we need to have better information on the weather outlook, and current food projections.

And, of course, we have to know how much food we have on hand right now.

This effort will require considerable cooperation on the part of the major users, including the Soviet Union and the Peoples' Republic of China. In spite of the work involved, I feel that we must make every effort to establish an effective information system.

Another major recommendation of the food conference was to establish an international food reserve which would be held by individual nations.

Negotiations have already been going on regarding this proposal. It will be a serious test of our statesmanship and the cooperation of other nations in devising a system which is fair and equitable. Clearly defined rules will be required to deal with how reserves are to be both established and utilized.

Food reserves have decreased sharply in the last two years to a level of around 27 days. This has placed a great deal of pressure on existing food supplies and put the poorer nations in a position of competing for scarce supplies on the international market.

A food reserve would help cushion the years of short supply and enable farmers to receive a more equitable return in years when there is some surplus production.

I have indicated that it makes little sense -- at a time when world food supplies are low -- to have our farmers facing the possibility of ruin and bankruptcy. We should make every effort to encourage our farmers to produce to the limit and have the government share at least some of the risks involved.

One of the main conclusions at the World Food Conference was that priority attention should be given to increasing agricultural production in the food deficit countries.

A key feature of this effort is to increase the productivity of the small farmer. But to date, most investment and research has been designed to benefit the large-scale farmer.

The small farmer has not been able to afford the new high yield seeds, fertilizer and irrigation to increase his production.

And a related problem has been that governments have not been responsive to the needs of small farmers. It is always easier to provide services for a few established farmers than a multitude of small, struggling peasants.

The existing network of international agricultural research centers around the world need to relate their programs to the needs and realities of the small farmer, whether it be in potatoes, rice, corn or wheat. Approaches must be developed which involve minimal investment and limited risk for the small farmer.

This is certainly one of the most difficult problems which we will be facing in the years ahead.

Beyond the need to increase food production, we will need to look at issues such as consumption levels, and population growth rates.

In the year 1793, Thomas Malthus predicted that man would breed himself into a corner of misery by increasing his numbers beyond his ability to feed himself.

Interest in his theories has been revived with growing food shortages and increasing population levels.

We need to become less wasteful as a people. And while it may come as a shock to some of us, we, along with the other more affluent and developed nations of the world, are increasingly guilty of depleting the world's scarce resources.

The United States, for instance, with 6 percent of the world's population, accounts for about 40 percent of the world's annual consumption of natural resources.

The developed countries have population growth rates which are often below 1 percent per year, while the developing nations face population increases of 2.5 to 3 percent per year.

This will mean a doubling of the populations in many of the poorest countries within 25 years.

Consumption levels also differ greatly between the developed and developing countries. In the United States and Canada, per capita consumption of cereal grains is now approaching nearly 2,000 pounds per year, most of which is converted into meat, milk, and eggs.

In poor countries, the availability of grain per person averages only 400 pounds per year, or about one pound per day.

This poses the issue rather starkly in terms of the challenge to expand food production and further development in the needy nations.

For the developed countries, the objective will be to expand production while conserving the earth's scarce resources.

There are, in addition, a number of other areas which we will need to explore carefully in the years ahead. Among these will be the development of new food products, reducing waste both at home and abroad, opening up new agricultural lands, and expanding fish farming on a large scale.

The potential in terms of increasing food supplies is almost limitless. But we must be prepared to expand our investment, and we must also increase our understanding of the problem so that we make the right policy choices.

In remarks before the World Food Conference, Secretary of State Kissinger stated, "(The United States) regards our good fortune and strength in the field of food production as a global trust. We recognize the responsibilities we bear by virtue of our extraordinary productivity, our advanced technology, and our tradition of assistance."

The United States is in a unique position in the food and agriculture area. How we respond to this challenge may well mean life or death for millions of people around the world.

I urge you to lend your support in meeting this awesome and complex challenge which lies before us.

# # # # #

Recycling

Harry Strobel (Band Director)

Mayor Saw

Mr Anderson

Box Wheeler

- Supt Lytle -

Mr. Wrote (Principal)

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

The Bd. John Hamilton

EAST JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA

MAY 19, 1975

Tom Johnson, wrote to me last Dec.

ⓧ Carrall Waller - Teacher

St. Richards ~~Parish~~ Catholic Church  
(May 18th) food cong.

IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE HERE WITH YOU TODAY IN ORDER TO  
EXAMINE THE WORLD HUNGER PROBLEM,

↳ YOUR THEME, "IT'S UP TO US," IS MOST APPROPRIATE. MY  
RESPONSE TO THE WORLD FOOD PROBLEM IS THAT THERE IS NO EASY  
ANSWER, BUT IT IS UP TO ALL OF US THROUGHOUT THE WORLD TO DO  
WHAT WE CAN TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM,

↳ IT IS REALLY A COMPLEX SET OF PROBLEMS, AND WE COULD SPEND  
A GREAT DEAL OF TIME TODAY LOOKING AT A SERIES OF ISSUES SUCH  
AS FERTILIZER SUPPLIES, FOOD AID, POPULATION GROWTH, AND FOOD  
RESERVES,

↳ MY CONCERN IS THAT WE BE NEITHER TOO OPTIMISTIC NOR  
PESSIMISTIC ABOUT DEALING WITH THE FOOD PROBLEM. BUT, AT THE  
SAME TIME, WE NEED TO LOOK AT THE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE  
PROBLEM, LEARN MORE ABOUT IT, AND DEVELOP A PLAN OR A STRATEGY.

AT THE OUTSET; WE NEED TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE FOOD PROBLEM  
IS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM REGION TO REGION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

MOST AMERICANS HAVE HAD AN ABUNDANCE OF FOOD FOR MANY YEARS,  
AND AT REASONABLE PRICES; ~~AND ARE NOT AS LIKELY TO FACE~~

~~STARVATION OR EVEN MALNUTRITION. MOST OF YOU HAVE HAD VERY~~

~~LITTLE FIRST HAND EXPERIENCE WITH THOSE WHO ARE CONTINUALLY~~

~~HUNGRY.~~

BUT WE DO HAVE OVER 37 MILLION POOR PEOPLE IN THE UNITED  
STATES. AND THESE ARE THE FAMILIES THAT, IN THE FACE OF RISING

FOOD COSTS, CUT BACK ON THEIR CONSUMPTION. THESE ARE FAMILIES

WHOSE CHILDREN WILL SUFFER FROM MALNUTRITION, INCREASED

DISEASE LEVELS, REDUCED MOTIVATION AND POORER EDUCATIONAL

PERFORMANCE *unless we act to help them.*

*Food Stamps, Supplemental feeding, WIC  
meat on wheels, school lunches, Summer Feeding*

↳ PEOPLE IN THE FOOD DEFICIT COUNTRIES REGULARLY FACE HUNGER, ↳ THE ENERGY CRISIS HAS HURT THESE COUNTRIES BY INCREASING THE COST OF THEIR PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, AND THEY HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO BUY ALL OF THE FERTILIZER WHICH THEY NEED TO GROW CROPS.

↳ AS YOU ARE AWARE, NATURAL GAS IS THE FEEDSTOCK WHICH IS USED IN PRODUCING NITROGEN FERTILIZER.

↳ TO COMPOUND THE PROBLEM, WE DO NOT KNOW PRECISELY HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE HUNGRY OR SUFFER FROM MALNUTRITION. ↳ POOR PEOPLE OFTEN ARE NOT COUNTED, AND GOVERNMENTS FIND IT EMBARRASSING TO ADMIT THEY HAVE STARVING PEOPLE.

HOWEVER, IT IS ESTIMATED THAT TODAY SOME 500 MILLION  
PEOPLE SUFFER FROM STARVATION OR MALNUTRITION THROUGHOUT

THE WORLD, AND IT ALSO IS ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT 10 PERCENT OF

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FACE MALNUTRITION OR STARVATION. *serious food shortage.*

THERE WAS A RECORD WORLD PRODUCTION OF 1.1 BILLION  
METRIC TONS OF CEREAL GRAIN IN 1971 DR. NORMAN BORLAUG HAS

SAID THAT THIS WOULD AMOUNT TO A HIGHWAY OF CEREAL GRAINS

55 FEET WIDE AND 6 FEET DEEP, BUILT AROUND THE WORLD AT THE

EQUATOR. AND THIS PRODUCTION WAS REQUIRED TO FEED CURRENT WORLD

POPULATIONS.

HOWEVER, JUST TO KEEP PACE WITH POPULATION GROWTH -- SOME  
76 MILLION MORE PEOPLE EACH YEAR -- WITHOUT DOING ANYTHING TO  
IMPROVE PEOPLES' DIETS, WE MUST ADD ANOTHER 24 MILLION METRIC  
TONS OF CEREAL GRAIN ANNUALLY TO THIS RECORD PRODUCTION OF 1971,

MEANWHILE, THERE CAN BE NO DECLINE IN PRESENT FOOD PRODUCTION,  
AS THERE WAS LAST YEAR, RESULTING IN A WORLD FOOD CRISIS.

IN OTHER WORDS, JUST TO KEEP EVEN, WE MUST BUILD ANOTHER  
55 feet wide, 6 feet deep  
TRANS-GLOBAL HIGHWAY OF CEREAL GRAINS AT THE RATE OF 580 MILES

EVERY YEAR, ACCORDING TO DR. BORLAUG.

BUT MEANWHILE, EACH YEAR WE HAVE TO REBUILD COMPLETELY  
THE FIRST HIGHWAY.

↳ HARSH STATISTICS LIKE THESE SHOULD SHAME OUR CONSCIENCE  
AND INSPIRE US TO ACT WITHOUT DELAY OUT OF A SIMPLE, DEEP SENSE  
OF COMPASSION.

↳ AS THE WORLD'S CHIEF FOOD SURPLUS NATION -- SUPPLYING  
ABOUT HALF OF THE FOOD MOVING IN INTERNATIONAL CHANNELS -- THE

UNITED STATES CANNOT HANG BACK AND WAIT FOR OTHERS TO ACT. ~~We must~~  
~~lead the way, our own nat food policy.~~

↳ AT THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE HELD IN ROME IN NOVEMBER, 1974,  
I INDICATED MY BELIEF THAT THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER COUNTRIES  
NEEDED TO DEVELOP BOTH A SHORT AND A LONG-TERM STRATEGY TO DEAL  
WITH THE FOOD PROBLEM. - our own nat food

Policy Production, Credit, Fertilizer  
+ Seed, Research, Storage + Reserves,  
Export + Emergency Supplies  
also Conservative Policies

I INDICATED THAT THE UNITED STATES -- WHICH HAS BEEN  
 EXTREMELY GENEROUS IN PROVIDING OVER 25 BILLION DOLLARS IN  
 FOOD ASSISTANCE IN THE LAST 20 YEARS -- SHOULD TAKE THE LEAD  
 WITH OTHERS IN INCREASING ITS FOOD AID.

<sup>our government</sup>  
~~THE ADMINISTRATION~~ HAD BEEN RELUCTANT TO MAKE A FINAL  
 DECISION ON ITS FOOD AID LEVELS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

Budget  
 +  
 Supply

BUT IN EARLY FEBRUARY OUR GOVERNMENT DID ANNOUNCE AN  
 INCREASE IN ITS FOOD AID LEVELS, AND WE WILL BE PROVIDING  
 APPROXIMATELY 5.5 MILLION TONS DURING THIS FISCAL YEAR.

THE FOOD CONFERENCE OUTLINED SOME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT  
 STEPS WHICH MUST BE TAKEN IN THE YEARS AHEAD TO HELP INCREASE  
FOOD SECURITY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

- need of  
 10 million tons Emergency

ONE OF THE PROPOSALS WHICH I HAD A HAND IN DEVELOPING WAS  
AN IMPROVED AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION SYSTEM AT A TIME OF  
FOOD SCARCITY, WE NEED TO HAVE BETTER INFORMATION ON THE  
WEATHER OUTLOOK, AND CURRENT FOOD PROJECTIONS.

AND, OF COURSE, WE HAVE TO KNOW HOW MUCH FOOD WE HAVE  
ON HAND RIGHT NOW. (*world-wide*)

THIS EFFORT WILL REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE COOPERATION ON THE  
PART OF THE MAJOR USERS, INCLUDING THE SOVIET UNION AND THE  
PEOPLES' REPUBLIC OF CHINA. IN SPITE OF THE WORK INVOLVED, I  
FEEL THAT WE MUST MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE  
INFORMATION SYSTEM.

10 Million Tons Emergency Food  
Reserve

-9-

↳ ANOTHER MAJOR RECOMMENDATION OF THE FOOD CONFERENCE WAS  
TO ESTABLISH AN INTERNATIONAL FOOD RESERVE WHICH WOULD BE HELD  
BY INDIVIDUAL NATIONS.

London May 29 -

↳ NEGOTIATIONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN GOING ON REGARDING THIS  
PROPOSAL. IT WILL BE A SERIOUS TEST OF OUR STATESMANSHIP AND  
THE COOPERATION OF OTHER NATIONS IN DEVISING A SYSTEM WHICH IS  
FAIR AND EQUITABLE, CLEARLY DEFINED RULES WILL BE REQUIRED TO  
DEAL WITH HOW RESERVES ARE TO BE BOTH ESTABLISHED AND UTILIZED,  
↳ FOOD RESERVES HAVE DECREASED SHARPLY IN THE LAST TWO YEARS  
TO A LEVEL OF AROUND 27 DAYS. THIS HAS PLACED A GREAT DEAL OF  
PRESSURE ON EXISTING FOOD SUPPLIES AND PUT THE POORER NATIONS IN  
A POSITION OF COMPETING FOR SCARCE SUPPLIES ON THE INTERNATIONAL  
MARKET.

L A FOOD RESERVE WOULD HELP CUSHION THE YEARS OF SHORT  
SUPPLY AND ENABLE FARMERS TO RECEIVE A MORE EQUITABLE RETURN  
IN YEARS WHEN THERE IS SOME SURPLUS PRODUCTION.

L I HAVE INDICATED THAT IT MAKES LITTLE SENSE -- AT A TIME  
WHEN WORLD FOOD SUPPLIES ARE LOW -- TO HAVE OUR FARMERS FACING  
THE POSSIBILITY OF RUIN AND BANKRUPTCY. WE SHOULD MAKE EVERY  
EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE OUR FARMERS TO PRODUCE TO THE LIMIT AND  
HAVE THE GOVERNMENT SHARE AT LEAST SOME OF THE RISKS INVOLVED.

\*  
L ONE OF THE MAIN CONCLUSIONS AT THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE  
WAS THAT PRIORITY ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO INCREASING  
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN THE FOOD DEFICIT COUNTRIES.

↳ A KEY FEATURE OF THIS EFFORT IS TO INCREASE THE PRODUCTIVITY  
OF THE SMALL FARMER. ( BUT TO DATE, MOST INVESTMENT AND RESEARCH  
HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO BENEFIT THE LARGE-SCALE FARMER.

↳ THE SMALL FARMER HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO AFFORD THE NEW HIGH  
YIELD SEEDS, FERTILIZER AND IRRIGATION TO INCREASE HIS  
PRODUCTION.

↳ AND A RELATED PROBLEM HAS BEEN THAT GOVERNMENTS HAVE NOT  
BEEN RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF SMALL FARMERS. IT IS ALWAYS  
EASIER TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR A FEW ESTABLISHED FARMERS THAN  
A MULTITUDE OF SMALL, STRUGGLING PEASANTS.

↳ THE EXISTING NETWORK OF INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL  
RESEARCH CENTERS AROUND THE WORLD NEED TO RELATE THEIR PROGRAMS  
TO THE NEEDS AND REALITIES OF THE SMALL FARMER, WHETHER IT BE  
IN POTATOES, RICE, CORN OR WHEAT. APPROACHES MUST BE DEVELOPED  
WHICH INVOLVE MINIMAL INVESTMENT AND LIMITED RISK FOR THE SMALL  
FARMER.

↳ THIS IS CERTAINLY ONE OF THE MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEMS  
WHICH WE WILL BE FACING IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

↳ BEYOND THE NEED TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION, WE WILL NEED  
TO LOOK AT ISSUES SUCH AS CONSUMPTION LEVELS, AND POPULATION  
GROWTH RATES.

IN THE YEAR 1793, THOMAS MALTHUS PREDICTED THAT MAN  
WOULD BREED HIMSELF INTO A CORNER OF MISERY BY INCREASING  
HIS NUMBERS BEYOND HIS ABILITY TO FEED HIMSELF.

INTEREST IN HIS THEORIES HAS BEEN REVIVED WITH GROWING  
FOOD SHORTAGES AND INCREASING POPULATION LEVELS.

WE WILL NEED TO BECOME LESS WASTEFUL AS A PEOPLE,

AND WHILE IT MAY COME AS A SHOCK TO SOME OF US,

WE, ALONG WITH THE OTHER MORE <sup>prosperous</sup> ~~affluent~~ AND DEVELOPED NATIONS  
OF THE WORLD, ARE INCREASINGLY GUILTY OF DEPLETING THE  
WORLD'S SCARCE RESOURCES.

THE UNITED STATES, FOR INSTANCE, WITH 6 PERCENT OF  
THE WORLD'S POPULATION, ACCOUNTS FOR ABOUT 40 PERCENT OF  
THE WORLD'S ANNUAL CONSUMPTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAVE POPULATION GROWTH RATES  
WHICH ARE OFTEN BELOW 1 PERCENT PER YEAR, WHILE THE DEVELOPING  
NATIONS FACE POPULATION INCREASES OF 2.5 TO 3 PERCENT PER YEAR.

THIS WILL MEAN A DOUBLING OF THE POPULATIONS IN MANY OF  
THE POOREST COUNTRIES WITHIN 25 YEARS.

CONSUMPTION LEVELS ALSO DIFFER GREATLY BETWEEN THE  
DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE UNITED STATES AND  
CANADA, PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF CEREAL GRAINS IS NOW  
APPROACHING NEARLY 2,000 POUNDS PER YEAR, MOST OF WHICH IS  
CONVERTED INTO MEAT, MILK, AND EGGS.

↳ IN POOR COUNTRIES, THE AVAILABILITY OF GRAIN PER  
PERSON AVERAGES ONLY 400 POUNDS PER YEAR, OR ABOUT ONE POUND  
PER DAY.

↳ THIS POSES THE ISSUE RATHER STARKLY IN TERMS OF THE  
CHALLENGE TO EXPAND FOOD PRODUCTION AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT  
IN THE NEEDY NATIONS.

↳ FOR THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, THE OBJECTIVE WILL BE TO  
EXPAND PRODUCTION WHILE CONSERVING THE EARTH'S SCARCE  
RESOURCES.

↳ THERE ARE, IN ADDITION, A NUMBER OF OTHER AREAS WHICH  
WE WILL NEED TO EXPLORE CAREFULLY IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

Ocean agriculture

AMONG THESE WILL BE THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW FOOD PRODUCTS; <sup>h</sup>

Storage  
REDUCING WASTE BOTH AT HOME AND ABROAD; OPENING UP NEW

Research  
AGRICULTURAL LANDS; AND EXPANDING FISH FARMING ON A LARGE SCALE.

↳ THE POTENTIAL IN TERMS OF INCREASING FOOD SUPPLIES IS  
ALMOST LIMITLESS. BUT WE MUST BE PREPARED TO EXPAND OUR  
INVESTMENT, AND WE MUST ALSO INCREASE OUR UNDERSTANDING OF  
THE PROBLEM SO THAT WE MAKE THE RIGHT POLICY CHOICES.

↳ IN REMARKS BEFORE THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE, SECRETARY  
OF STATE KISSINGER STATED, "(THE UNITED STATES) REGARDS OUR  
GOOD FORTUNE AND STRENGTH IN THE FIELD OF FOOD PRODUCTION AS  
A GLOBAL TRUST. WE RECOGNIZE THE RESPONSIBILITIES WE BEAR BY  
VIRTUE OF OUR EXTRAORDINARY PRODUCTIVITY, OUR ADVANCED  
TECHNOLOGY, AND OUR TRADITION OF ASSISTANCE."

THE UNITED STATES IS IN A UNIQUE POSITION IN THE FOOD  
AND AGRICULTURE AREA. HOW WE RESPOND TO THIS CHALLENGE MAY  
WELL MEAN LIFE OR DEATH FOR MILLIONS OF PEOPLE AROUND THE  
WORLD.

I URGE YOU TO LEND YOUR SUPPORT IN MEETING THIS AWESOME  
AND COMPLEX CHALLENGE WHICH LIES BEFORE US.

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