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NEW FRONTIERS IN AGRICULTURE



**Agency for International Development
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NEW FRONTIERS IN AGRICULTURE

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THE CONCLAVE ANNIVERSARIES BANQUET
THE FRATERNITY OF ALPHA ZETA
AUGUST 8, 1976

THESE ARE EXCITING HOURS FOR YOU, FOR YOU EASILY HOLD NOT ONLY YOUR OWN FUTURE IN YOUR HANDS BUT A SIGNIFICANT SHARE OF THE FUTURE OF THE WORLD.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE UNITED STATES IN THE NEXT TWO DECADES, WHAT HAPPENS IN AMERICAN AGRICULTURE, GOOD OR BAD, WILL SURELY INFLUENCE THE REST OF THE WORLD. NO GROUP OF PEOPLE IN ALL OF HISTORY HAD A BETTER OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THEIR FELLOW MAN HERE AND ABROAD THAN THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY.

THIS IS AN EXCITING AGE TO LIVE IN, NEW FRONTIERS ARE OPENING ALL AROUND US.

MY FATHER RODE IN ONE OF THE FIRST CARS AND LIVES TODAY TO WATCH NEIL ARMSTRONG WALK ON THE MOON AND SEE THE OLYMPICS LIVE FROM MONTREAL.

THE FAR EAST IS NO LONGER FAR. YOU CAN GET THERE IN ONE DAY.

MY CHILDHOOD WAS FILLED WITH BUCK ROGERS FANTASIES ABOUT THE PLANET MARS - MILES AWAY. ASTRONOMERS COULD ONLY IMAGINE WHAT THOSE STRAIGHT, CANAL-LIKE LINES ON MARS WERE. TODAY, THE VIKING IS PHOTOGRAPHING AND EXPLORING MARS, WE CAN SEE THE SURFACE OF MARS, JUST AS CLEARLY AS IF IT WERE OUTSIDE YOUR LIVING ROOM WINDOW - AND IN COLOR TOO.

IN YOUR LIFETIME, MAN MAY FORM COLONIES IN SPACE. THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE MAY LIVE ON MAN-MADE WORLDS, EXTRACTING ENERGY FROM THE SUN AND TAKING MINERALS FROM THE MOON TO SOLVE MAN'S PROBLEMS.

WE HAVE NOT YET REACHED THE LAST FRONTIER. WE HAVE ONLY BEGUN TO REACH NEW AND MORE EXCITING FRONTIERS.

THE WORLD IS CHANGING

THE WORLD IS CHANGING RAPIDLY. YOU YOUNG PEOPLE MUST BE ABLE TO CHANGE WITH IT.

OUR BUSINESS WORLD IS CHANGING.

THE UNITED STATES USED TO MAKE 76% OF THE WORLD'S AUTOMOBILES, NOW IT'S 33%.

WE PRODUCED 47% OF THE WORLD'S STEEL. NOW, 10%.

FOLLOWING WORLD WAR II, WE BUILT MOST OF THE WORLD'S MERCHANT SHIPS. NOW, ONLY 2%.

FORTY PERCENT OF AMERICANS WALK IN IMPORTED SHOES.

BUT THESE STATISTICS REPRESENT CHANGE ONLY, NOT CAUSE FOR DESPAIR. MAN WAS NOT MEANT TO DESPAIR OVER PROBLEMS. HE WAS MEANT TO SOLVE THEM.

AGRICULTURE IS CHANGING

LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN AGRICULTURE. ONLY A FEW YEARS AGO, THE UNITED STATES PURPOSELY IDLED LAND AND BOUGHT AND STORED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS TO KEEP THE PRICES FROM DROPPING. SURPLUSES OF FOOD PLAGUED AMERICANS.

IN JUST THESE PAST FEW YEARS, THAT CONCEPT HAS VANISHED. WE SEE THE WORLD IS SHORT OF FOOD. IN THREE YEARS, U.S. GRAIN ACREAGE WAS INCREASED FROM 156 MILLION ACRES TO 174 MILLION ACRES. THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF HEALTH IN THE U.S. AGRICULTURAL SECTOR.

WHILE WE CAN'T RELAX AND WHILE WE FIGHT HIGH COSTS, WE CAN ALSO POINT TO INCREASED NET FARM INCOME DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS. INSTEAD OF BECOMING THE DYING INDUSTRY, AS PREDICTED JUST A FEW YEARS AGO, WE FIND AGRICULTURE IN A MORE FAVORABLE POSITION THAN EVER BEFORE.

TODAY, THE FOOD INDUSTRY ACCOUNTS FOR ABOUT ONE-SIXTH OF THE NATION'S GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT, ONE-FIFTH OF THE TOTAL EMPLOYMENT, AND CLOSE TO 25% OF OUR TOTAL EXPORT EARNINGS. IN 1930'S, FARM EXPORTS FROM NORTH AMERICA WERE 5 MILLION METRIC TONS OF FOOD. TODAY IT'S 20 TIMES THAT VOLUME. WE SELL IN OVER 150 NATIONS.

THE CHANGING WORLD FOOD SITUATION

AS ENCOURAGING AS THE U.S. AGRICULTURAL PICTURE LOOKS TODAY, THE WORLD FOOD PICTURE IS NOT NEARLY SO ENCOURAGING. THE U.S. EMERGED AS THE PRINCIPLE SUPPLIER OF FOOD FOR THE REST OF THE WORLD WHILE THESE OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE DEVELOPED SERIOUS DEFICITS.

WHY IS THIS SO?

PART OF THE REASON LIES WITH THE AMERICAN FARMER AND THE SUPERIOR TRAINING AND TECHNOLOGY WHICH HE ENJOYS. THIS NATION WAS FOUNDED BY FARMERS. FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, FARMING WAS HELD IN HIGH ESTEEM BY THE REAL LEADERS OF AMERICA. OUR FIRST PRESIDENT WAS A FARMER.

WEBSTER WROTE, "LET US NEVER FORGET THAT THE CULTIVATION OF THE EARTH IS THE MOST IMPORTANT LABOR OF MAN. WHEN TILLAGE BEGINS, OTHER ARTS FOLLOW."

OTHER NATIONS HAVE VIRTUALLY THE SAME TRACTORS AND COMBINES WE HAVE IN OUR FIELDS. BUT THEIR LEADERS AND THEIR FARMERS DO NOT NECESSARILY HAVE THE SAME REVERENCE FOR AGRICULTURE, NOR DO THEY HAVE THE SAME INCENTIVES.

PRESIDENT FORD SAID RECENTLY, "THEY LACK THE GREATEST PIECE OF FARM MACHINERY EVER BUILT: FREE ENTERPRISE." AND I WILL ADD, THE GREATEST FERTILIZER OF ALL...THE FOOTPRINTS OF THE OWNER.

THE WORLD POPULATION PROBLEM

ASIA, AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA HAVE DEVELOPED FOOD DEFICITS PARTLY BECAUSE THEY HAVE VERY REAL AND PERSISTENT POPULATION PROBLEMS. CONSIDER THESE FACTS:

FROM THE BEGINNING OF MAN'S EXISTENCE UNTIL 1960 - A PERIOD SPANNING THOUSANDS OF YEARS - THE TOTAL WORLD POPULATION REACHED 3 BILLION. BUT DURING THE NEXT 15 YEARS THE EARTH'S POPULATION INCREASED PAST 4 BILLION. IF THE PRESENT POPULATION GROWTH CONTINUES THE POPULATION WILL DOUBLE TO 8 BILLION IN THE NEXT 35 YEARS.

COUNTRIES LIKE MEXICO, VENEZUELA, PERU AND BRAZIL HAVE ANNUAL POPULATION GROWTH RATES OF 3%. DOES THAT SOUND SMALL? IT MEANS THAT WITHIN ONE CENTURY, THESE COUNTRIES' POPULATIONS WILL INCREASE 19 TIMES.

THERE IS A REAL NEED FOR THE WORLD TO CURTAIL POPULATION GROWTH, BECAUSE THERE IS A REAL LIMIT TO THE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE THE TOTAL LAND OF THE EARTH WILL SUPPORT.

U.S., OTHER COUNTRIES, NOW INTERDEPENDENT

DURING MOST OF U.S. HISTORY, THESE PAST 200 YEARS, WE HAVE ENJOYED THE PRIVILEGE OF BEING LARGELY SELFSUFFICIENT. WE COULD, FOR THE MOST PART, GROW OR MAKE MOST OF WHAT WE NEEDED.

TODAY, THIS IS NO LONGER TRUE. WE ARE DEPENDENT ON OTHER NATIONS, AND THEY ARE DEPENDENT ON US.

BUT MORE IMPORTANT, THOSE PLACES WITH STRANGE SOUNDING NAMES ARE IMPORTANT PARTS OF OUR NATIONAL WELFARE. DACCA, ISLAMABAD AND JAKARTA ARE PLACES WHERE THE U.S. FARMER DOES BUSINESS. 35% OF ALL U.S. EXPORTS GO TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

40% OF OUR STRATEGIC MATERIALS SUCH AS TIN AND ALUMINUM, NOW COME FROM THE DEVELOPING WORLD. FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WE IMPORT 97% OF OUR COLUMBIUM, 50% OF OUR COBALT, 48% OF OUR MANGANESE, 29% OF OUR CHROMIUM, 63% OF OUR ALUMINUM, 38% OF OUR MERCURY, 73% OF OUR TIN AND 67% OF OUR FLUORSPAR.

50% OF OUR OIL NEEDS WILL COME FROM THESE NATIONS BY 1985.

IN SHORT, THE ERA IS LONG PAST WHEN ONE NATION, EVEN A GREAT NATION, CAN FUNCTION IN THE WORLD BY ITSELF.

PRESIDENT FORD DESCRIBES AMERICA'S SITUATION ON ITS 200TH BIRTHDAY VERY WELL: "AT NO TIME IN OUR PEACETIME HISTORY," HE SAYS, "HAS THE STATE OF THE NATION DEPENDED MORE HEAVILY ON THE STATE OF THE WORLD; AND SELDOM IF EVER, HAS THE STATE OF THE WORLD DEPENDED MORE HEAVILY ON THE STATE OF OUR NATION."

AGRICULTURE IMPORTANT TO FOREIGN POLICY

THE ROLE OF AGRICULTURE IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY HAS GROWN MUCH LARGER THAN MOST AMERICANS REALIZE. HALF THE FOOD THAT MOVES INTERNATIONALLY IS AMERICAN FOOD. WHERE IT MOVES AND UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS IS OF PARAMOUNT FOREIGN POLICY INTEREST.

YOUNG AMERICANS BECOME INVOLVED

I HAVE THE PLEASURE OF BEING COORDINATOR FOR THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT'S FOOD FOR PEACE PROGRAM. I SPENT MY BOYHOOD ON A FARM AND THE REST OF MY LIFE IN AGRIBUSINESS. NOW I AM CONCERNED WITH AN IMPORTANT SEGMENT OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S FOREIGN POLICY AS IT RELATES TO FOOD. MY ACADEMIC AND BUSINESS BACKGROUND HAS ASSISTED ME IMMENSELY IN CARRYING OUT THIS RESPONSIBILITY.

WE NEED MORE AGRICULTURISTS IN GOVERNMENT, TO CORRESPOND WITH THE NEW IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURE TO THE NATION'S WELL-BEING AND THE WELL-BEING OF THE REST OF THE WORLD.

WE ALSO NEED MORE AGRICULTURISTS IN THE U.S. CONCERNED NOT ONLY ABOUT THE PRICE OF WHEAT IN KANSAS, BUT ABOUT THE PRICE OF WHEAT IN PAKISTAN.

MOST OF ALL WE NEED YOUNG PEOPLE TO ADJUST THEIR SIGHTS AND SEE AGRICULTURE, NOT AS A LOCAL OR EVEN A NATIONAL MATTER, BUT AS A MATTER OF WORLDWIDE INTEREST.

WHERE CAN YOU SERVE? THE CHOICES ARE IMPRESSIVE.

YOU CAN SERVE THE CAUSE OF THIS NEW WORLD AGRICULTURE RIGHT ON THE FARM, MAKING INTELLIGENT DECISIONS ABOUT WHAT

TO GROW AND IN WHAT QUANTITY AS IT RELATES TO THE TOTAL WORLD PROBLEM.

YOU CAN SERVE BY INVOLVING YOURSELF WITH YOUR OWN GOVERNMENT. DECISIONS ARE MADE IN WASHINGTON WHICH NEED THE BEST THOUGHTS OF THE U.S. AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY TO ASSURE THAT THE DECISIONS ARE RIGHT. YOUR CONGRESSMAN NEEDS TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK.

YOU CAN SERVE IN GOVERNMENT ITSELF, MAKING DECISIONS ABOUT AGRICULTURE WHICH SHOULD BE MADE BY AGRICULTURISTS. WHERE? THE DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE, STATE, COMMERCE, TREASURY, AND YES, IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS.

BUT YOU NEED TO KNOW A LOT TO OPERATE INTELLIGENTLY IN THIS INTERNATIONAL ATMOSPHERE. YOU MUST KNOW LANGUAGES, NOT JUST TO READ TECHNICAL MATERIALS, BUT TO TALK WITH FOREIGN NATIONALS. YOU NEED A BACKGROUND IN WORLD ECONOMICS, FOREIGN TRADE, LAW, DIPLOMACY AND GEOGRAPHY.

THESE NEW INTERNATIONAL NEEDS FOR AMERICAN FARMERS SHOULD BE AN EVEN GREATER CONCERN OF OUR AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES. THE END PRODUCT OF AN "AGRICULTURAL" EDUCATION SHOULD BE A PERSON WHO IS ATTUNED TO A MUCH WIDER VIEW OF THE WORLD THAN BEFORE. EVEN THE UNDERGRAD SHOULD LOOK TO BROADENING, MULTIDICIPLINE SUBJECTS AND EXPERIENCES.

SOME YEARS AGO, AMERICAN INDUSTRY REALIZED THAT EXECUTIVES NEEDED TO BE BROADER MEN INTELLECTUALLY. THEY NEED TO KNOW NOT ONLY THEIR TECHNICAL SPECIALTY, BUT THEY NEED TO UNDERSTAND MANAGEMENT, HUMAN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS, AND BE EXPOSED REGULARLY TO A WHOLE RANGE OF LIBERAL ARTS.

TOMORROW'S AGRICULTURALIST MUST BE A MANY-FACETED PERSON; EQUALLY CONVERSANT WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR RAISING CATTLE IN SENEGAL AS HE IS WITH RAISING CATTLE IN KANSAS. TOMORROW'S INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURE OFFERS EXCITING PROSPECTS FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE WILLING TO PREPARE YOURSELVES.

HOW THE FOOD FOR PEACE PROGRAM RELATES TO YOU

I COORDINATE FOOD FOR PEACE PROGRAM WHICH BEGAN 22 YEARS AGO AS A PROGRAM TO PROVIDE SURPLUS FOOD TO HUNGRY PEOPLE.

TODAY, THE FOOD FOR PEACE PROGRAM STILL FEEDS HUNGRY PEOPLE. BUT TODAY, WE KNOW THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS SURPLUS FOOD. THERE IS IN FACT A SHORTAGE OF FOOD WORLDWIDE.

AND TODAY, MOST OF OUR FOOD IS NOT GIVEN AWAY, 75% OF IT IS SOLD ON CONCESSIONAL LOANS TO NATIONS WHICH NEED IT. THIS IS A 1.6 BILLION DOLLAR PROGRAM ANNUALLY.

IN THE WORDS OF PRESIDENT FORD, "IT REMAINS A KEY ELEMENT OF OUR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND A VITAL LINK IN IMPROVING ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THIS COUNTRY AND THE DEVELOPING WORLD."

THE PROGRAM HAS FOUR GOALS:

1. HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE: FOOD FOR PEACE IS ON THE SCENE WHEN THERE IS A MAJOR FLOOD IN BANGLADESH OR AN EARTHQUAKE IN GUATEMALA. IT PROVIDES EXTRA NOURISHMENT FOR MILLIONS OF MOTHERS AND CHILDREN OVER THE WORLD.

2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: NATIONS WHO BUY FOOD FOR PEACE RECEIVE FAVORABLE TERMS WITH WHICH TO PAY FOR THEM. IN RETURN, THEY AGREE TO MAKE SPECIFIC IMPROVEMENTS TO AID THEIR OWN FARMERS WHO, IN TURN, WILL SOMEDAY GROW ENOUGH FOOD TO SOLVE AT LEAST PART OF THEIR PROBLEM; OR TO GAIN ENOUGH ECONOMIC PROGRESS TO ENJOY A BIT OF MEAT OR THE LUXURY OF MILK.

3. FOOD FOR PEACE DEVELOPS MARKETS FOR U.S. PRODUCTS. SOME OF OUR BEST CUSTOMERS TODAY ARE COUNTRIES WHOM WE HELPED AFTER WORLD WAR II. A LITTLE ASSIST TO A COUNTRY WHICH IS UNABLE TO BUY OUR FOOD ON THE OPEN MARKET, GIVES PEOPLE THE BOOST WHICH WILL MAKE THEM LOYAL CUSTOMERS IN LATER YEARS.

JAPAN, WHOM WE HELPED ON ITS FEET AFTER WORLD WAR II, BOUGHT \$3 BILLION OF OUR FARM PRODUCTS LAST YEAR!

THE GROSS NATIONAL INCOME IN TAIWAN WAS \$70 PER PERSON IN 1948. TODAY IT IS \$700. THEY RECEIVED OUR AID AND PUT IT TO WORK. TODAY THEY DO \$14 BILLION ANNUALLY IN FOREIGN COMMERCE, MORE THAN RED CHINA AND INDIA COMBINED.

4. FOOD FOR PEACE FURTHERS U.S. FOREIGN POLICY INTERESTS. THE SECRETARY OF STATE, DR. KISSINGER, HELPED BRING ABOUT A NEW RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL. ONE OF THE TOOLS OF HIS DIPLOMACY WAS FOOD FOR PEACE. EGYPT NOW RECEIVES BADLY NEEDED FOOD THROUGH OUR PROGRAM.

FOR EVERY TON OF FOOD SOLD THROUGH FOOD FOR PEACE ON CONCESSIONAL LOANS OR GIVEN AWAY, 20 TONS OF U.S. AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES ARE SOLD ON HARD TERMS. AID TO DISASTER VICTIMS AND CERTAIN POORER ELEMENTS OF

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, IS GIVEN AWAY. THIS HUMANITARIAN AID IS MADE POSSIBLE BY YOU AMERICANS. THROUGH YOUR TAXES.

IN BANGLADESH, WE AND THE WORLD FOOD ORGANIZATION INVESTED 164,000 TONS OF FOOD IN A LAND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. WORKERS WERE PAID WITH THIS FOOD TO DEVELOP FARM LAND. THAT SAME LAND PRODUCES 1.4 MILLION TONS OF RICE NOW FOR THE FOOD-SHORT PEOPLE OF THAT COUNTRY.

IN INDIA, AN INVESTMENT OF 300 TONS OF OUR FOOD HAS PRODUCED AN ANNUAL RETURN OF 3,000 TONS OF FOOD.

THESE ARE EXAMPLES OF HOW PROPER USE OF FOOD FOR PEACE NOT ONLY FEEDS THE HUNGARY, AND PROVIDES JOBS FOR THE JOBLESS, BUT AIDS PEOPLE IN PRODUCING THEIR OWN FOOD.

ARE PEOPLE REALLY HUNGRY? THEY ARE INDEED. I RECENTLY VISITED SEVERAL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING BANGLADESH. THOSE PEOPLE HAVE NOT HAD ENOUGH FOOD TO EAT IN YEARS.

WHAT DO PEOPLE DO WHEN THERE IS NOT ENOUGH FOOD IN THE COUNTRY TO FEED THEM? THEY STAY HUNGRY. THEY EAT WHATEVER THEY CAN FIND, INCLUDING WEEDS, AND IN SOME CASES, OTHER PEOPLES' GARBAGE. IN CALCUTTA, THERE WASN'T MUCH GARBAGE LEFT WHEN SCAVENGERS FINISHED WITH IT.

THE U.S., THROUGH ITS FOREIGN AID PROGRAMS, IS CONCENTRATING ON FOOD PRODUCTION IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

ONE OF THE EXCITING NEW DIRECTIONS RECOGNIZES THE VAST RESERVES OF TECHNOLOGY WHICH AMERICA'S LAND GRANT COLLEGES POSSESS AND WHICH ARE IN CRITICALLY SHORT SUPPLY IN DEVELOPING NATIONS.

TITLE TWELVE OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOOD ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1975, CALLS ON LAND GRANT COLLEGES TO USE THEIR CONSIDERABLE TALENTS TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION AND TO SEEK SCIENTIFIC SOLUTIONS TO FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL PROBLEMS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

THE TECHNOLOGICAL RICHES OF LAND GRANT COLLEGES HAVE HELPED MAKE THIS NATION'S AGRICULTURE THE ENVY OF THE WORLD. PROPERLY SHARED WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, IT CAN MAKE A SINGULAR CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS BRINGING FOOD-SHORT NATIONS INTO GREATER PRODUCTIVITY.

WORKING TOGETHER WILL UNIFY AMERICANS

THE WORLD AHEAD OF YOU IS A WORLD FILLED WITH EXCITING CHALLENGES. YOUR CHOICE IS NOT WHETHER TO CONCERN YOURSELF WITH BUSINESS AFFAIRS ALONE OR WITH HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS. YOUR CHALLENGE IS TO DO BOTH. FOR BOTH ARE NECESSARY IN THIS LITTLE WORLD WE LIVE IN. THE MOUTH YOU FEED TODAY BECOMES TOMORROW'S CUSTOMER. NO NEED TO DESPAIR OVER TODAY'S PROBLEMS. BE GLAD YOU'RE PART OF THEM AND THAT YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR SOLUTION.

SOME YEARS BEFORE MANY OF YOU WERE BORN, THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES JOINED TOGETHER IN A GIANT EFFORT TO DEFEAT HITLER'S GERMANY AND JAPAN IN A WAR THAT WAS TRULY WORLDWIDE. YOUNG AMERICANS LIKE YOU FOUGHT – AND DIED – IN FARAWAY PLACES LIKE SAIPAN AND IWO JIMA AND IN THE AIR BATTLES OVER FRANCE AND GERMANY. THEY FOUGHT IN ASIA, AFRICA, AND EUROPE.

THOSE WERE TERRIBLE TIMES. BUT AMERICANS WERE UNITED, WORKING FOR A COMMON GOAL. WE HAVE PROBABLY NOT BEEN ALL PULLING TOGETHER SO WELL SINCE THAT WAR. TODAY, I THINK

AMERICANS LONG FOR AND NEED A COMMON, IMPORTANT CAUSE. WE NEED A PROBLEM BIG ENOUGH TO REQUIRE THE BEST EFFORTS OF ALL OF US TO SOLVE.

THAT PROBLEM IS HERE. IT IS NOT WORLD WAR BUT WORLD HUNGER AND A SEARCH FOR TRUE PEACE THAT HAUNTS THIS EARTH TODAY. IT IS A PROBLEM OF HUGE PROPORTIONS: ONE BIG ENOUGH AND URGENT ENOUGH TO CAPTURE THE IMAGINATION OF EVERY AMERICAN. YOU CAN HELP PRECIPITATE AMERICANS INTO ACTION. ALL OF US CAN JOIN, IF WE WILL, IN A SOLUTION WHICH WILL MAKE US ALL PROUD OF OURSELVES AND EACH OTHER.

AS WE WORK TOGETHER TO DEAL WITH THE WORLD FOOD PROBLEM, WE WILL FIND THAT WORKING TOGETHER WILL BRING US ALL CLOSER TOGETHER, CLOSER THAN AMERICANS HAVE BEEN IN YOUR LIFETIME.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURE HAS BECOME AN INTEGRAL PART OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY. AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ARE SUPPLYING A LARGE PART OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD WITH THE VERY ESSENCE OF EXISTENCE, THE FOOD THAT THEY EAT.

THE NEED TO DO MORE IS THERE. THE PEOPLE WHO WILL DO MORE ARE YOU YOUNG PEOPLE. WHETHER THE WORLD LIVES IN PEACE WITH ITS PEOPLE SATISFIED AND WELL-FED, DEPENDS IN A GREAT MEASURE ON HOW YOUR GENERATION ACCEPTS ITS WORLD RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE COMING YEAR.

NO LONGER DOES THE AMERICAN FARMER'S INTEREST STOP AT THE PASTURE FENCE, THE END OF THE ROW OR AT THE TRUCK SCALE AT THE ELEVATOR OR THE COUNTRY BOARD MEETING. TODAY, THE AMERICAN FARMERS' INTERESTS EXTEND TO THE RICE PADDY IN INDONESIA; TO THE PASTURELAND OF WEST AFRICA; AND TO THE CANE FIELDS OF SOUTH AMERICA, AND TO THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE HEADQUARTERS IN ROME.

TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WAS EMERGING. IT WAS A SMALL, INSIGNIFICANT NATION, NOT KNOWN FOR ITS GREATNESS NOR FOR ITS POWER, BUT MORE FOR THE COURAGE AND AUDACITY OF ITS PEOPLE.

TODAY, AS THE UNITED STATES ENTERS ITS THIRD CENTURY, YOU, THE YOUNG, ARE INHERITING THE MOST POWERFUL AND INFLUENTIAL NATION IN THE WORLD. WHAT YOU MUST CONTRIBUTE TO IT IS A RENEWED SENSE OF COURAGE TO DO WHAT MUST BE DONE AND THE AUDACITY TO THINK THOSE THOUGHTS THAT MUST BE THOUGHT.

FOR YOU ARE TAKING YOUR NATIVE COUNTRY INTO THE THIRD CENTURY. WHETHER OR NOT AMERICANS WILL LOOK BACK ON THE TRICENTENNIAL WITH PRIDE AND SATISFACTION DEPENDS UPON YOU.

YOUR WORLD IS THE WHOLE WORLD. YOU ARE A LUCKY GENERATION. BE ALERT. SEE THAT YOU DO NOT MISS A SINGLE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY YOUR ROLE IN THE MOST IMPORTANT SINGLE EVENT ON EARTH THE ANNUAL HARVEST.

THANK YOU.