

The original documents are located in Box 13, “8/18/75 - Remarks at Iowa State Fair, Des Moines, Iowa” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.

THANK YOU GOVERNOR RAY, MRS. RAY
SENATOR CULVER
REPRESENTATIVE ^{GRASSLEY} [REDACTED] AND REPRESENTATIVE SMITH
MAYOR OLSEN
MR. KLEVE (PRESIDENT OF THE FAIR BOARD)
DISTINGUISHED GUESTS
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

THE FIRST THING I WOULD LIKE TO DO IS ASK THE SECRETARY
OF THE FAIR, KEN FULK, TO STEP FORWARD -- I WOULD LIKE TO THANK
KEN FOR THE FINE JOB HE'S DONE WITH THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FAIR
AND SINCE I DON'T QUALIFY FOR THE "KIDS DAY" FREE ADMISSION,
I WILL GLADLY GIVE KEN MY \$2.00 ADMISSION FEE.

(ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS)

LET ME THANK YOU FOR THAT VERY KIND WELCOME AND LET ME ALSO
REASSURE YOU THAT I WILL MAKE THESE REMARKS SHORT AND TO THE POINT.
IF THERE'S ONE THING IOWA DOESN'T NEED IN AUGUST, IT'S MORE HOT AIR.

IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE HERE. AS I LOOK ABOUT ME -- AT
THE INDUSTRY, THE CREATIVITY, THE ACHIEVEMENT + THE GOOD WILL,
THE GOOD SENSE AND THE GOOD HUMOR OF ALL WHO ARE HERE TODAY --
I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK THAT IN IOWA, HAPPINESS IS CONTAGIOUS.
YOU CATCH IT FROM EACH OTHER.

FLYING OVER MILE AFTER MILE OF THE HEARTLAND OF AMERICA TO GET
HERE, I COULDN'T HELP BUT THINK, TOO, THAT THESE VAST FARMLANDS
ARE PERHAPS OUR NATION'S GREATEST ASSET. . . . THE FARM COMMUNITY --
THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE PART OF IT -- ARE PRIME EXAMPLES OF
AMERICA'S RESOURCEFULNESS AND INDUSTRY, OF ALL THAT IS GOOD IN THIS
GREAT LAND.

WHAT A REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT IT IS THAT LESS THAN
5 PERCENT OF AMERICA'S POPULATION FEEDS THE REMAINING 95 PERCENT --
WITH ENOUGH LEFT OVER TO SIGNIFICANTLY SUPPLEMENT THE FOOD NEEDS
OF MUCH OF THE REST OF THE WORLD.

I CONGRATULATE EACH OF YOU WHO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MIRACLE

OF ABUNDANCE.

YOU SHOULD BE VERY PROUD.

IN OUR NATION TODAY, ONE FARM WORKER PROVIDES FOOD

55

FOR HIMSELF AND FIFTY-FIVE OTHERS.

OUTPUT PER MAN HOUR ON

THE FARM HAS NEARLY TRIPLED IN THE LAST TWO DECADES.

THERE ARE REASONS FOR THIS.

ONE IS HIGH CAPITAL

INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE.

ANOTHER IS HARD WORK BY FARMERS.

AND A THIRD IS INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVE.

AMERICAN FARMERS HAVE

MOVED QUICKLY TO ADOPT NEW TECHNIQUES, NEW MACHINERY AND NEW

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

AS A RESULT, CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN AMERICAN AGRICULTURE HAS

98,000

REACHED MORE THAN 98 THOUSAND DOLLARS PER WORKER -- HIGHEST IN

THE WORLD.

IN CONTRAST, CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN MANUFACTURING

55,000

IN THE UNITED STATES STANDS AT 55 THOUSAND DOLLARS PER WORKER.

THE RESULTS ARE THERE TO SEE. THE PRODUCTIVE GENIUS

OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURE PROVIDES A SHOWCASE FILLED WITH THE BOUNTY
OF THIS NATION'S FARMS.

I AM DELIGHTED THAT FARMERS HAVE RESPONDED ENTHUSIASTICALLY

TO THE DEMANDS OF THE MARKET FOR FULL PRODUCTION.

- 10 -

OF COURSE, I AM CONCERNED ABOUT CROP LOSSES IN IOWA DUE TO DRY

WEATHER THE LAST SEVERAL WEEKS. BUT THE GENERAL ABUNDANCE

OF THE CROP IN THE MIDWEST SHOWS THE GAINS THAT CAN BE MADE

FROM A POLICY OF FULL PRODUCTION.

BE ASSURED THAT THIS ADMINISTRATION'S NATIONAL
FARM POLICY IS -- AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE -- ONE OF FULL
PRODUCTION. IT IS A POLICY OF FAIR PRICES AND DARN GOOD
INCOMES FOR FARMERS THROUGH COMMERCIAL SALES OF THEIR
PRODUCTS.

IT IS A POLICY ~~NOT~~ OF GOVERNMENT HANDOUTS --
BUT OF GOVERNMENT HANDS-OFF.

HOWEVER, LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT
WILL BE INVOLVED WHEN YOUR INTERESTS ARE AT STAKE.

FOR EXAMPLE, CHARGES HAVE BEEN MADE BY FOREIGN BUYERS THAT AMERICAN GRAIN SHIPMENTS ON OCCASION HAVE BEEN OF LESSER QUALITY THAN SPECIFIED BY SHIPPERS/AND WEIGHTS HAVE BEEN UNDER WHAT THEY SHOULD BE.

UNFORTUNATELY, SOME OF THESE CHARGES ARE TRUE -- BUT OUR
FARMERS ARE NOT AT FAULT/NOR WILL THEIR INTEGRITY BE JEOPARDIZED.

I CAN ASSURE ALL FARMERS AND THEIR OVERSEAS CUSTOMERS
THAT WE WILL MOVE VIGOROUSLY TO CLEAN UP THIS PROBLEM. WE
WILL DEMONSTRATE TO THE WORLD THE VALIDITY OF AMERICA'S
REPUTATION AS AN HONEST AND DEPENDABLE SUPPLIER OF HIGH QUALITY
FARM PRODUCTS.

THAT'S THE KIND YOU RAISE IN IOWA -- AND THAT'S THE KIND WE WILL
SHIP FROM OUR PORTS.

IN RECENT WEEKS, A GREAT DEAL OF INTEREST HAS BEEN AROUSED
BY SOVIET PURCHASES OF AMERICAN GRAIN. SO FAR, THESE
PURCHASES TOTAL 9.8 MILLION TONS -- THAT'S 382 MILLION BUSHELS.

AS YOU ALL KNOW, THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT'S
AUGUST CROP FORECAST, WHICH WAS ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK,
CALLS FOR RECORD CROPS OF CORN AND WHEAT AND ABOVE-AVERAGE
CROPS OF OTHER GRAINS.

ESTIMATES OF THE CORN AND WHEAT HARVEST WERE DOWN SLIGHTLY
FROM THE JULY 1 FORECAST BECAUSE OF DRY WEATHER. BUT WE
STILL EXPECT A RECORD CROP. WE ARE GRATEFUL AND THANK
YOU.

LOOKING AHEAD, WE ANTICIPATE FURTHER PURCHASES
OF GRAIN BY THE SOVIET UNION. WHILE OUR CROP LOOKS GOOD
AND WE EXPECT A RECORD HARVEST, IT IS STILL PREMATURE TO
CONFIDENTLY PREDICT OUR FINAL PRODUCTION.

ACCORDINGLY, AS SECRETARY BUTZ ANNOUNCED, WE HAVE ASKED
AMERICAN EXPORTERS TO TEMPORARILY DELAY FURTHER SALES TO
RUSSIA.

ADDITIONAL SALES TO THE SOVIET UNION MUST

BE IN OUR BEST NATIONAL INTEREST -- IN THE INTEREST OF ALL

AMERICANS, FARMERS AND CONSUMERS ALIKE.

WE MUST BE SURE THAT WE HAVE ENOUGH GRAIN TO MEET

OUR NEEDS AND THE NEEDS OF OUR TRADITIONAL CUSTOMERS WHO

HAVE CONSISTENTLY BOUGHT FROM US THROUGH THE YEARS.

YEAR IN AND YEAR OUT, FARM INCOMES ARE DEPENDENT ON A PATTERN
OF EXPANDING EXPORTS TO LONG-TERM CUSTOMERS.

LET ME EMPHASIZE THAT OUR SALES OF GRAIN AND OTHER
FOODSTUFFS TO THE REST OF THE WORLD IS ONE OF THE BRIGHTEST AREAS
IN OUR ECONOMY.

THESE SALES INSURE A FIRM, FAIR PRICE FOR YOUR EFFORTS.
THEY CREATE JOBS-- ON THE FARM AND IN THE FACTORIES OF
MANUFACTURERS AND SUPPLIERS.

THEY HAVE GIVEN US A SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN NUTRITION
THAT IS THE ENVY OF THE WORLD.

LAST YEAR, U.S. FARM EXPORTS SHIPPED TO PURCHASING
NATIONS TOTALED NEARLY 22 BILLION DOLLARS.

SINCE WE IMPORTED LESS THAN 10 BILLION DOLLARS IN AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTS, THIS MEANS WE RECEIVED APPROXIMATELY 12 BILLION
DOLLARS OF NET EARNINGS FROM FARM PRODUCT TRADE. THIS IS
A GREEN HARVEST WE ALL UNDERSTAND.

CONSIDER, FOR A MOMENT, WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THAT
12 BILLION DOLLARS OF POSITIVE FOREIGN EXCHANGE WERE ERASED.
WE WOULD HAVE A HUGE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICIT, OUR DOLLAR
WOULD BE WEAKENED IN FOREIGN MARKETS, AND WE WOULD PAY HIGHER
PRICES FOR THE MANY ITEMS WE IMPORT EVERY DAY.

IN SHORT, OUR NATION'S FARMERS NOT ONLY RAISE
CROPS - BUT OUR STANDARD OF LIVING AS WELL. THE FOODSTUFFS
THAT YOU PRODUCE AND AMERICA EXPORTS ARE A DYNAMIC
CONTRIBUTION TO A STABLE AND ORDERLY WORLD.

AS THE RACE BETWEEN THE STORK AND THE PLOW ACCELERATES,

AMERICAN FARM EXPORTS BECOME MORE AND MORE IMPORTANT.

BY THE YEAR 2000, WORLD POPULATION COULD BE OVER 6.5 BILLION

INSTEAD OF THE 3.8 BILLION IT IS TODAY.

people,

people.

THIS MEANS ABOUT 75 PERCENT MORE PEOPLE TO FEED -- A MASSIVE

CHALLENGE AT A TIME WHEN THERE IS NO NEW WESTERN HEMISPHERE

TO DISCOVER OR NO MORE VIRGIN IOWA SOD TO PLOW.

A SOUND, FULLY PRODUCTIVE AGRICULTURE IS A KEY ELEMENT

OF THIS NATION'S QUEST FOR PEACE.

THE AMERICAN FARMER HAS

BECOME A VITAL PART OF THIS EFFORT.

OUR AGRICULTURAL ABUNDANCE HELPED OPEN THE DOOR

TO 800 MILLION PEOPLE ON THE MAINLAND OF CHINA. IT HELPED

IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS.

IT HELPED TO BUILD

BRIDGES TO THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

IT ENABLED US TO CONTRIBUTE OVER THE PAST 20 YEARS
ABOUT 25 BILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF FOOD TO HUNGRY MOUTHS
THROUGHOUT THE REST OF THE WORLD.

WE TRULY ARE A FORTUNATE PEOPLE -- AND THE AMERICAN
FARMER STANDS 10 FEET TALL IN HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THIS NATION'S
GREATNESS.

MAN'S FUTURE IS VIRTUALLY UNLIMITED IF APPROACHED
WITH A SPIRIT OF OPTIMISM AND OPEN-MINDEDNESS. WE CAN BE
OPTIMISTIC BECAUSE OF THE STRENGTH YOU IN THIS GREAT MIDWEST
GIVE TO THIS NATION / AND THE SUSTENANCE YOU GIVE TO THE WORLD.
ALL AMERICANS, INDEED, ALL PEOPLE, ARE IN YOUR DEBT.
END OF TEXT

REMARKS FOR THE "E" AWARD CEREMONY

BEFORE I LEAVE, I HAVE A VERY PLEASANT ASSIGNMENT
TO PERFORM. GOVERNOR BOB RAY, WOULD YOU PLEASE JOIN
ME AT THE PODIUM?

BOB, THE IOWA DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION HAS BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL IN PROMOTING EXPORT OF GOODS MANUFACTURED IN YOUR STATE. THEY'VE BEEN SO GOOD AT IT, IN FACT, THAT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE IS GIVING ITS "E" AWARD TO THE COMMISSION.

THIS AWARD IS GIVEN FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN PROMOTING EXPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES. ~~AND~~ I WANT TO PRESENT IT TO YOU, BOB, ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

THE "E" AWARD HAS BEEN WELL-EARNED.

IOWA MANUFACTURERS EXPORTED SLIGHTLY OVER 200 MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF GOODS TO OTHER COUNTRIES IN 1960. BY 1972, THIS HAD MORE THAN DOUBLED TO ABOUT 570 MILLION DOLLARS. IN JUST TWO YEARS, THIS JUMPED BY OVER 60 PERCENT, TO MORE THAN ONE BILLION DOLLARS LAST YEAR.

AND, EVEN THOUGH IOWA RANKS 25TH IN POPULATION, THIS STATE RANKS 21ST IN THE EXPORTING OF MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS. WHEN YOU ADD THE AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS I TALKED ABOUT EARLIER TO MANUFACTURING EXPORTS, IOWA RANKS 12TH IN THE NATION.

THAT'S A RECORD TO BE PROUD OF. I CONGRATULATE

YOU FOR ADDING SO MUCH TO THIS COUNTRY'S FAVORABLE BALANCE

OF PAYMENTS AND EQUALLY IMPORTANT / CREATING MANY MORE JOBS

IN IOWA.

END OF TEXT

CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN SECRET

TO: THE PRESIDENT
VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN
FROM: PAUL A. THEIS
SUBJECT: President's remarks at the Iowa State
Fair

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE: _____

4:30 p.m., Monday, August 18, 1975, Des Moines, Iowa

SPEECHWRITER: Rousek/Agriculture

EDITED BY: Theis

BASIC RESEARCH/SPEECH MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY: _____

Dept. of Agriculture, Research

CLEARED BY (Please initial):

- (X) OPERATIONS (Rumsfeld) _____
- (X) CONGRESSIONAL/PUBLIC LIAISON (Marsh) _____
- (X) PRESS (Nessen) _____
- (X) LEGAL (Buchen) PWB - but feels too long + too technical
- (X) ECONOMIC POLICY BOARD (Seidman) RBP
- (X) OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (Lynn) OK'd by RBP
- () DOMESTIC COUNCIL (Cannon) _____
- (X) NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL (Scowcroft) McFarland for
- (X) RESEARCH (Waldron) JRS
- (X) MARGITA WHITE (FYI) JRS
- () ENERGY RESOURCES COUNCIL (Zarb) _____
- (X) COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS (Greenspan) _____
- () OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON (Baroody) _____
- (X) JERRY JONES (FYI) _____
- (X) SECRETARY DUNLOP _____
- (X) SECRETARY BUTZ Butz by RBP
- (X) SECRETARY MORTON RM via Roger Porter

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✓ (X) COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS (Greenspan) P. M. ... (acting Chairman)

() OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON (Baroody) _____

(X) JERRY JONES (FYI) _____

(X) SECRETARY DUNLOP

(X) SECRETARY BUTZ

(X) SECRETARY MORTON

(Past - I could not read)