The War That Won't Go Away

FOOD/POPULATION/WAR

DR. KISSINGER'S GLOOMY VISION

U.S. Secretary of State
Henry Kissinger
THE WAR THAT WON'T GO AWAY
Stepped-up fighting in Indochina is again forcing the United States into agonizing decisions.

NEW ERA DAWNS FOR SUEZ CANAL
Idle for 8 years, the strategic waterway may soon be reopened to shipping.

BUREAU REPORTS
Our bureau chiefs and correspondents examine current trends in their areas.

THE INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL... The Missing Dimension in Knowledge
Third installment in a series detailing the purpose and meaning of human life.

FOOD/POPULATION/WAR
Scientists examine the monumental problems of food and population. What can be done for the world's starving millions?

GARNER TED ARMSTRONG SPEAKS OUT!
How politics reduces leadership to a petty tug-of-war between parties.

ORCHIDS AND ONIONS
The continuing love/hate relationship with our readers.

DR. KISSINGER'S GLOOMY VISION
by Jeff Calkins

The man the Gallup Poll says is the most admired in the world, Henry Kissinger, takes a very dim view of the future. "As a historian," he has said, "you would now have to predict that our kind of society would very probably fail much sooner." The words of the American Secretary of State reflect a dour appraisal of the world's ultimate destiny.

On another occasion, the globe-trotting American Secretary of State told New York Times correspondent James Reston: "History is a tale of efforts that failed, of aspirations that weren't realized, of wishes that were fulfilled and then turned out to be different from what one expected. So, as a historian, one has to live with a sense of the inevitability of tragedy.

It is known that Oswald Spengler's book, Death of the West, has had a profound effect on Kissinger's thinking. In the early 1920's Spengler postulated that civilizations pass through a life cycle, and that by knowing what one was in the cycle, he could predict the shape of the future. Death of the West saw the occidental world as having matured beyond the creative stage into one of material prosperity. The future could bring only irreversible decline.

Kissinger sees the signs of Spenglerian decay becoming more apparent. All Western democracies, he asserts, suffer from a 'crisis of authority,' and therefore cannot act with decisiveness when confronted with hard and complex issues. "Governments aren't willing to make short-term sacrifices," he asserts.

It's a Small, Small World
No other figure is identified as 'a globalist' as much as Henry Kissinger.

During his tenure as foreign policy superstar, the American Secretary of State has had to face an accelerated crescendo of worldwide conusions — food, energy, resources, overpopulation — which have reinforced his historical pessimism. At the same time, the supranational character of these crises has impressed upon him the factor of global interdependency.

Kissinger's attentiveness to world interdependency stems from a fear that the inability of nations to handle crises beyond their immediate national scope, such as population and energy, could precipitate the end of industrialized, urban society. "If we do not get a recognition of our interdependence, the Western civilization that we now have is almost certain to disintegrate, because it will first lead to a series of rivalries in which each region will try to maximize its own special advantages. That inevitably will lead to test of strength of one sort or another. These will magnify domestic crises in many countries, and they will then move more and more to authoritarian models.

But since those hearings in October 1973, what the Germans call Weltanschauung, or world gloom, has obviously made deeper inroads into his thinking. As he told James Reston, "I think of myself as a historian more than a statesman. As a historian, you have to be conscious of the fact that every civilization that has ever existed has ultimately collapsed."
Hard Choices for Washington as South Vietnam Slowly Sinks

The war that will not go away has arisen again to haunt the United States government and its military leaders. In recent weeks, successful sweeping Communist onslaughts against strategic South Vietnamese strongholds have threatened to reopen barely healed wounds in Congress which must now face the course of American reaction.

The disturbing questions in: Will the U.S. allow South Vietnam, after the sacrifice of 35,000 American lives and the outpouring of an awesome $150 billion in aid, to steadily succumb to North Vietnamese aggression? Congress, feeling some lingering responsibility, may yet allow a few hundred million dollars more in aid to go to prop up the Thieu government's flailing defense machine. But it is certain that the new Congress, overwhelmingly Democratic and nearly as overwhelmingly liberal, will never approve another direct United States military involvement in Southeast Asia.

Sensing this mood, the Communists, it is believed, are now striving for greater military advantage, in preparation for a future all-out attack, or, if less than optimum conditions prevail, major political concessions. The most desired concession would be a coalition government which they could in turn sabotage and take over. In all this, the Communists know President Ford cannot afford to let the politically sensitive Vietnam issue spill over into the U.S. election year.

Cease-Fire Farce

The cease-fire signed two years ago was a farce even before the ink was dry. Not one provision has been fulfilled, except that U.S. forces have been withdrawn and no longer are Americans shedding their blood wholesale. As a result, many Americans have felt the Indochina war was fading away.

In reality, in the two years since the cease-fire, over a quarter million Vietnamese on both sides have been killed, wounded or reported missing. Casualties in 1974 nearly equaled losses during the height of the fighting in 1972. An estimated 700,000 refugees have been uprooted by fighting in towns, villages and hamlets since the cease-fire. A dozen district towns, scores of bases and outposts have been captured or overrun by North Vietnamese or Viet Cong forces, including virtually all the outlying territory American forces once controlled.

Breaking every provision of the 1973 treaty, North Vietnam has infiltrated thousands of troops into South Vietnam, tripled its armored strength, and almost doubled its artillery units. Communist fighting strength is estimated over 220,000, compared to around 160,000 at the time of the cease-fire. The Communists have either built or repaired a dozen airfields in South Vietnam. They had no aircraft in the South at all the cease-fire.

The infamous Ho Chi Minh Trail has been converted into a hard-surface, all-weather roadway, paralleled by a major pipeline within 70 miles of Saigon. Another "duplicate" trail has also been built in South Vietnam. Both routes are guarded by enormous concentrations of antiaircraft weapons - automatic weapons and the latest SAM missiles.

Against the new Communist onslaught the South Vietnamese Army has maintained a relatively good showing - considering lack of all support and personnel replacement of weapons and equipment. Due to greatly reduced American aid, ARVN ammunition, aircraft and forces must be used sparingly in mostly defensive rather than offensive actions.

Looking at the map of Communist strongholds in the South, one observer notes, South Vietnam looks "ready for a death of a thousand sand cuts."

Said another Western diplomat: "It doesn't look good. There is an irreconcilable political difference between the two sides. We can only hope the Communist side will stop."

Unfortunately, there is no reason for such optimism. After three decades of fighting, enduring terrific manpower losses and other national sacrifices, it is foolhardy to feel the North Vietnamese will give up now when ultimate "victory" seems more possible than ever before - as long as the United States doesn't intervene directly or with massive aid again.

While the American public, plagued with domestic economic woes, would like to simply forget about Vietnam, U.S. foreign policy makers are coming face-to-face with some hard political realities. The loss of Indochina could not only have an impact upon the strategic defenses and commerce of the Free World, but it would also be a blow to the prestige, integrity and power of the United States regarding its other worldwide commitments.

Will the ugly specter of Vietnam ever be put to rest? Says one diplomat, "The only way the fighting will end is if all Indochina sinks into the South China Sea."

Cambodia: The Tottering Domino

The outer of left-leaning Prince Norodom Sihanouk by General Lon Nol in 1970 marked the opening of the Cambodian theater of the Indochina war. Since then it has caused over $2 billion in damage and destroyed half the country's hospitals, roads, bridges, cars, and trucks.

The present Lon Nol government of Cambodia controls no more than fifteen percent of its own territory. But in that territory live over three quarters of the nation's inhabitants, most of them in the city of Phnom Penh, the capital. Enemy-encircled Cambodian capital that has the indelible 1976 memory of being evacuated by refugees to a population of over four million.

Fighting has been raging around the capital city for over five years, but this big crunch began a little more than a year ago when Communist forces surrounded the city and attempted to bombard it into submission. The Western press carried daily reports of the city's impending fall, exhibiting an almost unprecedented "let's get it over with" attitude toward what appeared to be just another phase in the nettlesome Indochina war. But Phnom Penh obstinately refused to surrender and held on.

Today, the Khmer Rouge, as the Communist insurgents are called, are engaged in a new offensive aimed at choking off the city's life-line, the Mekong River. The stranglehold has severely cut food and fuel shipments, rice and ammunition stocks may not last another month.

To many Americans, the Cambodian war is the distilled essence of the Vietnamese war. The U.S. military incursion into Cambodia in 1970 precipitated the creation of antiwar demonstrations in America. Cambodia was simply the western frontier of the same deadly war.

Like South Vietnam, Cambodia is still sustained by infusions of U.S. aid. President Ford has already asked Congress for over $222 million in military assistance, though the request is very unlikely the full amount will be approved.

The fall of Cambodia can have only the most menacing implications for its larger neighbor. Over twenty-thousand North Vietnamese troops would be freed for action in South Vietnam, possibly hastening the country's demise.

Should the current Khmer Rouge offensive succeed in driving the Lon Nol government and its allies from Phnom Penh, the United States could find itself fighting a two-front Indochina war.

Like South Vietnam, Cambodia is simply the domino that knocks over South Vietnam.
### BUSY SUEZ CANAL ten years ago. Will traffic resume soon? (Photos by Dave Thompson)

### NEW ERA DAWNS FOR SUEZ CANAL

World Shippers Await Reopening

Idiom for nearly eight years, the Suez Canal is expected to be reopened to international traffic sometime this year — if all goes well.

The strategic 103-mile inter-ocean waterway connecting the Red Sea with the Mediterranean has now been cleared of the mines and wreckage which has blocked it since the Six-Day War of 1967.

The task of cleaning up the debris of war began last April and was completed in late December by a combined force of Egyptians, Americans, Soviet, British, and French salvage experts. Fifteen large sunken ships, nearly 100 smaller wrecks, and tens of thousands of explosives ranging from hand grenades to missiles were among the obstacles blocking the waterway.

The cleanup completed, the canal is presently being dredged to scoop away the years of accumulated silt and sand which has filled in the bottom third of the channel. When this work is finished in March or April, the waterway will be fully navigable by ships of up to 60,000 tons.

#### Political Problems

Whether the canal will be opened to international traffic at that time is another question. This will hinge greatly on further progress in Middle East peace negotiations.

Egypts Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmi stated recently that his government would not reopen the sea—line until it was convinced that the waterway is “safe for international shipping.” This is taken to mean that Israeli forces, which Egypt considers a threat to the safe passage of ships, will withdraw further into the Sinai Peninsula. Israeli troops currently occupy western portions of the peninsula only 16 miles from the canal and hold a large shore area guarding the southern entrance to the waterway.

Whether Israeli merchant ships will be allowed navigation rights through the canal along with other international traffic is another question. Egypt’s President Sadat has rephrased his position that as long as there is a state of war between Israel and Egypt such rights will be denied.

(Continued on page 4, col. 1)

#### Fiji Strives to Make Peace With India

Mr. Bhutto has been lauded as a concerned, dedicated, and able leader of the Pakistani people, determined to bring about a reconciliation and regional development. And five years after that — at age 35 in 1963 he became his nations Foreign Minister.

When Mr. Bhutto assumed the reins of government in December 1971, in the wake of widespread anger at the defeat of Gen. Yahya Khan’s army in the 20-week war with India, Pakistan stood dismembered of one-half its area. It had lost East Pakistan. The crushing burden of war had included Indian occupation of more than 5,000 square miles in West Pakistan, approximately 1.5 million persons had been displaced.

Returning from the United Nations in 1971 on his way home to form a new government, Mr. Bhutto said in a news conference, “We are going to have to build a new world again, and a new country again. Many problems face us. It is almost like the first chapter of Genesis.”

In the almost 40 months since Mr. Bhutto took office, Pakistan has not only reached its quarter-of-a century mark as a nation, but has passed from a state of uncertainty and war into one of renewed faith in them:

#### “Cuba SII!”

(Editors Note: The following parody is based on a recent news item about an American company under contract to train Saudi Arabian soldiers to defend their oil fields against armed takeover.)

WASHINGTON — The National Security Council was in executive session when a CIA man rushed in with a cable in his hand.

“The Cubans have just made a big oil strike in the Bay of Pigs. It could be the biggest oil find in the Western Hemisphere.”

“The dirty rats,” someone said.

“Wait a minute,” said a man from the Defense Department.

“That’s no way to talk about the Island Bastion of Freedom in the Caribbean.”

“Are you crazy?” the State Department man said.

“We’re going to have to help them defend themselves,” the Defense Department man said.

“Against whom?” a White House aide asked.

“I’ll probably need destroyers,” Defense said. “We have some new ones being built now with fantastic radar on them. We go going to give them to the U.S. Navy, but the Navy can use them.”

“I wouldn’t be surprised if Castro wanted nuclear submarines. We’ve got an threed station now in the North Atlantic, but we could deliver them in 30 days.”

“I don’t want to cold water a big military sale, but are we sure they’re good enough?”

“No, we can train them, dummy,” Defense said.

“You mean our soldiers and sailors will train the Cubans in weapons that they may use against us?”

“Of course not. Do you think we’re idiots? We’ll contract the training to a private company made up of Green Berets, ex-Marines and Naval Ordinance men.”

“The CIA could deliver them in 30 days.”

“You’re not even sure the Cubans will use them. I mean, they may not use them.”

“Who cares if they do or don’t? We’ll get our money back.”

“Are we going to sell Castro war matériel?”

“Do you want the French to do it?” Defense asked.

“Or the Russians?” his assistant said.

“But we don’t even recognize Castro!”

“What has that got to do with selling them arms?” Defense wanted to know. “They’ve got oil, they’re entitled to buy anything they want from us.”

“Exactly,” said Treasury. “We have to think of our balance of payments.”

“Wait a minute,” said a man in the Defense Department.

“She’s right,” said the White House. “After all, Castro’s a bad guy.”

“Sure he is,” said Defense.

(Continued on page 4, col. 1)

#### Youngest in the House

Mr. Bhutto has many "firsts" to his credit. He is the first Pakistan born in 1953 to start a law practice. He received his university education in 1965. He has been praised for his leadership.

Whatever his motives, since taking over the reins of government in 1953 to start a law practice.

On India, Mr. Bhutto commented, “They don’t make world leaders who can’t work together. They remain among the poorest, most underfed, illiterate, and war-torn nations in the world.”

### ART BUCHWALD

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SUEZ CANAL

(Continued from previous page)

that Israel will be barred from using the canal as an overland connection with its southern territories. Before it was closed in 1967, the canal was bringing Egypt revenue estimated at nearly $250 million a year, which made up for a substantial portion of its annual trade deficit. Egypt now more than ever needs a change to bolster its sagging economy. The Egyptians also hope to rebuild the canal into a more secure waterway for their major foreign trade. The negotiations noted a tougher bargaining line on the part of the Commonwealth nations in the recent wrap-up session of the 18-month negotiations.

BUREAU REPORTS

Common Market Finds Going Tougher With Producer Countries

BRUSSELS: Difficulties experienced between the European Economic Community and 46 developing nations in recent negotiations here underline the new post-oil embargo relationship between Western Europe's industrialized nations and the suppliers of their secondary raw materials.

In spirit of the difficulties experienced in the months of a massive discussion, which expressed the apprehensions of the Commonwealth nations and post-oil embargo world, the agreement reached still leaves the Common Market the world's foremost trading bloc. The United States and other users of raw materials must increasingly take note of this fact.

Henry Sturcke

Australian Unemployment Highest Since Depression

SYDNEY: Australia's Department of Customs and Excise recently released the nation's import figures for December. Registered imports in December were a total of 267,000 workers — a 6% increase on the 1967 figures of Depression of the 1930's.

The index shows the rate of the jobless increase by a massive 30,000. Economists are now predicting unemployment will approach a worrisome 500,000 (8.5% of the workforce) by the middle of this year. It is hoped, however, that the numbers will begin to fall by the end of the year.

In terms of the percentage of the work force unemployed or even of the absolute numbers without a job, the Depression — when an estimated 25% of the work force was thrown out of work — was much worse than the present situation. But in Australia, where full employment is virtually regarded as the norm, the comparison is unavoidable.

Critics of the government blame the unemployment partially on the recent credit squeeze which raised interest rates, reduced liquidity and pushed many firms toward bankruptcy, or at least to the point where they are not investing in new plants.

Just what are the causes of unemployment in a nation that has a tremendous agricultural base and a wealth of minerals is a very complex question.

The government stresses the worldwide nature of the current recession. If Australia's trading partners buy less Australian products — for instance — then unemployment is the logical outcome. Many native economists find it difficult, however, to see why an isolated country like Australia, which largely escaped the effects of increased oil prices, should now be so dramatically affected by conditions of the East. The slump is homegrown, they say.

The measures recently adopted by the government were to increase the size of the Common-wealth super fund and to impose import quotas on textiles, shoes, and a few other manufacturing industries. This is designed to create civil service jobs and help prevent further layoffs due to increased overseas imports. However, as many economists are pointing out, the inflationary effects of the latter measure may be the worse of the two evils in the long term.

So, for the moment at least, Australians are waiting it out, expecting the government hoping that by the middle of the year the employment scene will begin to improve dramatically.

— Gerry de Jager

China "Votes" for Strauss

BONN: Franz Josef Strauss, the controversial Bavarian politician, churned up waves on the German political scene when he became the first German politician ever to be presented to the Chinese."It is Mao Tse­

Dan of the People's Republic of China.

The historic meeting, which took place during a two-week visit to Europe, is indeed the high point of Strauss' long and uncertain political career. The "au­

diences" in China and the Communist monopoly of power made all the more significant in Strauss' eyes the fact that the two non-heads of government have been welcomed personally by China's supreme leader, Premier Chou En-lai.

If the Chinese leader felt free to extend those of Communist China's lead­

ers to those of other nations, Strauss would act as a pow­

erful deterrent to alleged Russian aggression.

There seems to be no doubt what these Chinese would like to see in the future role of Strauss. The leader of Bavaria's conservative Christian Social Union, which is the majority party in the Bavarian diet, has been welcomed personally by China's supreme leader, Premier Chou En-lai. Strauss is currently in China on business to improve understanding and cooperation between the two nations.

Time may be running out for Can­

ada, B.C.'s economy is only a generation ago. Farm­

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Freezing the Dead
Is There Life After the Thaw?
by George Ritter

"Freeze now - live later." Or better yet, "Freeze - wait - reanimate." That's the slogan of the Life Extension Society, whose members are actively involved in trying to cheat man's ultimate enemy - the grave.

Proponents of this "never-say-die" concept known as cryogenics are hoping that sometime in the future science will be able to unravel the mysteries of life and reanimate their frozen corpses. Already several bodies of former cryogenics enthusiasts have been placed "on ice" in specially designed caskets supercooled to several hundred degrees below zero. A number of others have signed up for similar treatment upon their demise.

Some Chilling Obstacles
Living cells subjected to the freezing process normally suffer irreparable damage because of the formation of ice crystals. To eliminate this problem, an "antifreeze" substance must be infused into the organism being frozen. The trouble is that it's almost impossible for the antifreeze to permeate the cells involved in an organism like the human body. Different parts of the body also have different optimum cooling rates. Consequently, proper refrigeration could not take place unless a wide variety of freezing rates were simultaneously employed on the same corpse. But most parts of the body can't be frozen fast enough. The brain cells, for instance, are believed to deteriorate minutes after death. Yet freezing of a normal human body at a controlled rate could take at least an hour.

The thawing-out process is fraught with just as many difficulties. The first cells to be thawed may deteriorate before other more remote cells can be warmed up. Because of such difficulties, not even simple organs have remained functional once they have been subjected to the freeze-thaw cycle. As if this weren't enough, no one has the slightest notion of how to reanimate a cadaver, frozen or otherwise. And somebody would have to figure out a cure for whatever fatal malady caused the person's death before he could survive a return from his sub-zero grave.

The Real Life Giver
But there are medical problems, as formidable as the, don't really get to the crux of man's attempt to conquer death. There is another dimension to human beings that can only be dealt with by his Creator, not by science or by the techniques of cryogenics. It was described in the thirty-second chapter of the book of Job, when one of the patriarchs exclaimed: "There is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding." It takes more than chemicals to generate human life. When God formed Adam's body out of the dust of the ground, Adam did not "become alive" until God had "breathed into his nostrils the breath of life." The spirit and breath of life are God's to give - not man's. And when death occurs, man loses this God-given essence. As Solomon wrote in Ecclesiastes 9:5-6: "There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death...."

And in Ecclesiastes 12:7, Solomon again speaks of what happens at death: "Then shall the dust [body] return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." As far as man is concerned, the state of death is final, and there is no human recourse against it. According to the patriarch Job: "As the cloud is consumed and vanished way, so he that goeth down to the grave shall come up no more" (Job 7:9). And again Solomon in Ecclesiastes 9:5-6: "For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not anything, neither have they any more a reward. . . . Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion for ever in any thing that is done under the sun."

Only God, in the final analysis, can restore the dead to life. And not through cryogenics - but rather through a future resurrection. That resurrection is one of the central themes of the Bible and an integral part of God's plan for mankind. It is described throughout the Bible in places like 1 Corinthians 15, 1 Thessalonians 4, Revelation 20, etc. When that momentous event occurs, then and only then will death finally be conquered.

Ambassador College
At Ambassador College students learn the meaning and purpose of human life. They learn lasting values, values that make life truly happy, fulfilling and worthwhile. As character building institutions, Ambassador Colleges at Pasadena, California and Big Sandy, Texas teach students how to live, as well as how to earn a living.

Major courses of study offered at one or both campuses of Ambassador College are agribusiness, business administration, chemistry, communications arts, computer science, English, general studies, history, home economics, liberal arts, mass communications, physical education, Spanish, speech, theology.

Week Ending March 8, 1975

Ambassador College

Most Admired Woman — Billie Jean King has scored a smashing victory as the "World's Most Admired Woman" in a survey of teen-age girls from all over the U.S. Two out of five girls selected Ms. King from a master list of fifty names, citing not only her skill on the tennis court but also her role in gaining equality for women. Golda Meir ranked second, followed by TV star Mary Tyler Moore.
Part III

Does it make sense to you — when humanity has endowed itself with such tremendous mental power — that more than half of all people on earth should be illiterate, that the vast majority of people live in abject poverty, near starvation, in filth and squatter; that in one country of 36 million people the very 3% who can read and write and per capita income is only $69 per year? Does it make sense to you that human civilization has developed modern science, higher education, the world's religions and its great governments, yet all these are in total ignorance of the way to world peace? None of these can tell us what that purpose is, where we are going or how we got here. Does it make sense to you — when the human endowed with such great powers — that the world should be filled with so much unhappiness, troubles and evil? Did God Almighty the Creator purpose and ordain all of this? We may blame it all on human nature, but, did God create man with this evil in him? It's time to clear up this mystery. It's time we understand. It's time we come to the answer of these supposedly unanswerable questions that seem to baffle all human thought.

Man Has Rejected This

What is the most necessary of all knowledge to know? It is the knowledge of what man is; the knowledge of why he is — the purpose for which humanity was put on earth; the knowledge of the way to the purpose — of the way to world peace, peace between individuals, groups and nations; the knowledge of the cause of all the world's troubles; the knowledge of the solution to all these problems; the knowledge of the true values — what is important and what is unimportant.

That is the missing dimension in knowledge. Look at the situation as it is — our present, pulsating twentieth century. Supposedly this is the day of enlightenment and mass production of knowledge. Both modern science and higher education have rejected the sole source of this basic knowledge — revelation — and no religion has given us this most-needed knowledge, though in its absence the book of Genesis, allegedly supposed to be the source of belief of at least 70% of man, still exists.

Look at the situation as it was more than 1900 years ago. Jesus Christ came from heaven's message was based on God containing this knowledge. But even most of those who believe in God disbelieve revelation and have brought and demanded his crucifixion for declaring it. His apostles went forth proclaiming the good news, but either possible exception, were martyred. Before the end of the first century, Christ's gospel had spread throughout the world. The New Testament was written and circulated in all the major cities of the known world, and today millions of copies of it are studied and believed by people of all backgrounds. It is the only book that has ever had a larger audience than the Bible.

Does it make sense to you that human mind is so capable it can produce the incredible and accomplish the sending of man to the moon and is yet utterly helpless in fact to solve our problems here on earth? But does human life or some other form — either much superior to man, or much inferior — exist on Mars or any other planet? Science does not have the answer. But the many photographs sent back to earth from space speak of flying much nearer Mars, Venus, Jupiter and Saturn than our planet Earth at least indicates that the universe is filled with life on any of these planets — or conditions capable of sustaining life.

All indications are that our planet earth is a life-supporting planet. Others appear to be like our own mind of light, decayed, wasted and empty. Our earth is part of the solar system which is part of a single galaxy called the Milky Way Galaxy and many other galaxies on beyond our Milky Way. They speak of a world of great planets and man? Or did they? There are indeed intriguing questions. Scientists are extremely interested in knowing more about these uncountable gigantic bodies out there in space. Science does not know much about the origin of all these mighty bodies in space. There are many theories, many guesses — many hypotheses — as to how they were formed — but not based on natural fact.

Science generally rejects revelation as a source of knowledge, although a number of scientists have spoken of hundreds of years have been made about the stars in the sky, many devoting their lifetimes to this study through constantly improved telescopes, yet they know nothing about the purpose — or whether there is a purpose.

In Pasadena, California, a short distance from Ambassador College is the world's famous Jet Propulsion Laboratory (known as JPL), operated by California Institute of Technology, devoted primarily to U.S. government and space projects. There, they design and produce unmanned spacecraft to be sent into outer space to photograph and send back pictures of other planets in our solar system. Recently (December 1974) one came comparatively close (36,000 miles) to Jupiter. It sent back photographs that revealed additional knowledge about this largest of our planets. They did not give any proof of existing life or of conditions capable of sustaining life.

More recently (February 9, 1975) astronomers at the University of Arizona claimed to have discovered through a telescope the presence of water on Jupiter. This I consider highly possible.

Of course, the planet Mars has attracted the widest attention. Haven't you wondered what the inhabited — what was the world that might exist there? This very question has supplied the theme for science fiction movies and a television series viewed by millions. On July 4, 1976 — the 200th anniversary of the American colonies as a nation — a space probe, which is planned to happen on Mars. An unmanned spacecraft, named the "Viking," in appearance something like a huge, ungainly lander, is due to land on Mars and send back to earth photographs from the very surface of Mars.

Scientists did not have the answer.
Teaching the World to Read
by Dexter Faulkner

The fact that you can read this page sets you apart dramatically from much of the world's population. It is impossible to determine exactly how many people are illiterate, but conservative U.N. estimates put the present total at around 600 million people over the age of 15.

That means about one third of the world's adult population — or about four times the population of the United States — cannot read or write.

This lack of education condemns those millions to a less-than-human status. The illiterate third world subsistence farmer cannot decipher simple agricultural instructions for his children from disease which a poster plainly explains how to prevent or cure.

Also, argues the report, the education that is offered tends to be irrelevant to developing countries' needs, often ignoring those practical skills which eventually occupy 60% of the work force.

Among the World Bank's specific recommendations were the following:

1. There should be at least a minimum basic education for all, and as soon as possible. One third of elementary-school-aged children are illiterate.

2. The schools' efforts so far "have been insufficient to provide education for more than half of the children and adults in developing countries," it added. It goes on to report that only one third of elementary-school-aged children are actually observers consider necessary.

3. Among the World Bank's specific recommendations were the following:

- That further education and training beyond the basic level should be provided to improve in practical work, economic, social, and other development roles.

- That a national system of education should be viewed as a comprehensive learning system.

- In the interest of both increased productivity and social equity, education opportunities should be equalized, making education available among different geographical, ethnic, social, sex, income and age groups.

- But all developing countries face up to the need for change.

The risks involved in highly innovative action are substantial to the bank, and even more so to the borrowers. The report also predicted that very few countries will attempt to undertake the radical changes which many observers consider necessary.

It is estimated, however, that if trends continue, the number of illiterate will increase to 965 million by 1985.

To echo the words of U Thant: "The complexity of the problem of illiteracy, for the intervention of the most modern of educational technology, and it calls for the mobilization of all available financial resources."

McNamara, in his foreword to the report, writes that "developing countries have greatly expanded their educational systems over the past quarter of a century. But much of the expansion has been misdirected. The results are seen in one of the most disturbing paradoxes of our time: while millions of people from among the educated are unemployed, millions of jobs are waiting to be done because people with the right education, training and skills cannot be found."

The schools' efforts so far "have been insufficient to provide education for more than half of the children and adults in developing countries," it added. It goes on to report that only one third of elementary-school-aged children can...
World grain reserves have plummeted to a 24-day low while the population continues to multiply at an alarming rate.

Sources: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, U.N., and World Bank
The Politics of Desperation

by Keith Stump

In the face of skyrocketing fuel, fertilizer, and food costs, crop failures and bad weather, the nations of the developing world — threatened with bankruptcy and starvation — may be forced to turn to the "politics of desperation" in an attempt to alleviate their acute situation.

John H. Steinhart, Professor of Geology and Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, feels just such a development. Dr. Steinhart was one of several leading scientists participating in a symposium on Science and Foreign Policy: The Food-Energy Relationship at the 141st annual convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held in January in New York City.

"There have never before as many hungry, miserable people in the world," Dr. Steinhart emphasized. Many experts estimate that over a billion people worldwide — one in four — are suffering malnutrition.

Because the underdeveloped nations are not heavily energy intensive in their agriculture but rely primarily on human and animal labor, Dr. Steinhart noted a tendency on the part of some observers to minimize the impact of higher fuel costs on them.

For the underdeveloped countries, the capital outflows for oil have been smaller than for the industrialized nations — only about $24 billion last year. "Yet," stressed Steinhart, "for such industrial development as they have accomplished, and for such fuel needs that they have [fuel for tractors and irrigation pumps, for example], they're at least as dependent on Middle Eastern oil as anyone. More than half of their commercial energy needs are derived from imported oil from the OPEC [Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries] nations. The cost of oil has about tripled for them. With their precarious financial situation, the problem has been disastrous."

Cost of Imported Food Up — Aid Volume Down

On top of all this, surplus food from the industrialized nations has simply become too expensive for the poorer nations to buy to supplement their own inadequate production. According to Dr. Steinhart, "the admittedly poor diet of an Indian peasant would have cost $200 at U.S. market prices in 1972 — a country that has a per capita income of $90. Since the OPEC price increases, this disparity has worsened."

But what about food given away or subsidized by long-term loans? "Industrialized nations," Dr. Steinhart observed, "incurring record balance-of-payments deficits, will have further deficits as they attempt to respond to human misery by subsidizing food shipments to poor nations." He noted that the dollar outflow for the Western industrialized nations for oil alone in 1974 was about $95 billion.

United States "Food for Peace program" shipments dropped to 1/3 of its 1972 level in 1974, Dr. Steinhart noted, adding that the industrialized nations are "between a rock and a hard place" — between their moral and humanitarian inclinations on one side, and the further deficits they would incur should they attempt to respond to human hunger by subsidizing food shipments. A prime example of this is the United States, which registered an 8 billion balance-of-payments loss for 1974.

Even aside from this balance of payments problem, the United States emerged (Continued on page 12, col. 1)

"Lavish Banquet" Feeds the Wealthy in a Hungry World

by Gene H. Hogberg

Few people in the affluent, well-fed nations realize how much of the food on their abundant tables comes from other areas of the world — often at the unintended expense of the poorer, food-short, overpopulated parts of the globe.

At the most important news conference held during the recent American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) convention in New York, noted food authority George Borgstrom zeroed in on this particular aspect of the growing disparity between the world's rich and poor.

Dr. Borgstrom told newsmen at the January 28 news conference that Europe, Japan, the U.S.S.R., and the United States are increasingly dependent on a massive flow of imported foods and feed to maintain their lifestyles, and that such a flow inevitably means less food is available for the poorer developing countries.

As a prime example of this, reported the Michigan State University Professor, four fifths of the ocean catches are moving into the well-to-do nations. Half of the catches during the peak fishing period of 1970-71 moved as fish meals into the animal feeding troughs of the affluent world. The massive fish hauls off the Peruvian coast did not go to solve the problem of hunger in South America. Rather, the catches were sold — and the subsequent fish meal used mostly as protein supplements for the American cattle and poultry industry.

What about the prodigious American soybean harvest? Hasn't it helped alleviate world hunger? Dr. Borgstrom answered: "The soybean crops have long been touted as a major U.S. contribution to alleviating world hunger, yet around 3/4 of the exports went to Europe, 1/5 to Japan, and the remainder was divided up between the two minute countries of Israel and Taiwan. Less than 2 percent ever went to the hungry world. This includes charity shipments through CARE. Meals for Millions, O.W.F.A.M. and similar."

Dr. Borgstrom, author of the book, The Hungry Planet, also added that America's net contribution to the world household is frequently overrated by not recognizing the fact that the United States is top ranking as a buyer of beef as well as of fish and fish products. Its importation of dairy products corresponds in amount of protein to the total milk production of Norway. One need only look at the continually increasing number of foreign cheeses displayed in American grocery stores.

"Ghost Continents" Feed the Affluent

Dr. Borgstrom placed the world food production and distribution imbalance in an interesting dimension.

"Europe is little aware of the two huge 'ghost continents' on which it depends — each corresponding to around 50 million hectares [125 million acres] of highly cultivated land," Borgstrom asserted.

One of these "ghost continents" is the land in other countries used to produce food for export to the affluent nations of Europe. Each year the European nations buy in the world market more (not animal) protein than the whole Indian subcontinent is eating. Europe's other "ghost continent" is the ocean, since it produces fish for "export" to affluent nations.

Similarly, Borgstrom pointed out that "Japan is relying on more than 'six Japan's' via trade — 640% of their tilled acreage with about half that figure coming from the ocean!"

Enter Russia

The world food picture was further distorted in 1972 when the Soviet Union entered heavily into the world grain market. Massive purchases of U.S. feed grains — virtually wiping out the American surpluses — were made, stressed Borgstrom, "not to keep hunger away from the daily Soviet scene but to secure and enhance further the ascending nutritional efficiency of that giant." The Soviet Union has undertaken a massive improvement program.

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Plain Truth editorial staff members

Gene Hogberg, Keith Stump and Robert Gjenskey recently attended key news conferences and symposia at the annual meeting of the American Association for Advancement of Science held this year in New York City. Their reports on these pages analyze the latest — and very troublesome trends in the fields of food and natural food policy as seen by some of the top scientific thinkers in the areas. Coupled with their analyses is an in-depth look at the state of American agriculture, plus an on-the-spot report from food-short, politically explosive India.
“End of Cornucopia” for U.S. Agriculture?

by Catherine Lerza


Early this past summer, Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz confidently predicted that the United States position in the international community would continue to be bolstered by the vast amounts of grain pouring out of the cornucopia of the Midwestern Corn Belt. "Food is power," he told the press as he unveiled the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) predictions of a record 1974 corn crop of 6.4 billion bushels.

That was July. By mid-August, USDA economists, gloomily surveying the sun parched, drought-ridden Midwest, revised their optimistic statistics: a 4.7 billion bushel crop, 12 percent below last year's production levels. Butz told the public that the livestock feed situation was "critical," and that food prices might go up as much as 14 percent over the next year.

The Secretary was consistently right about one thing: Food is power. And if an abundance of food is a mainstay of U.S. preeminence in world affairs, our position is more vulnerable than anyone in the federal government would like to admit.

The vulnerability of the U.S. agricultural system is the result of our ever increasing dependence on energy-intensive agricultural technology, a growing reliance on processed foods, and the development of genetically engineered, "green revolution" hybrid crops which demand vast doses of water, fertilizer and pesticides. The rise of corporate agriculture has encouraged the use of unscientific farming practices which fly in the face of every known "law" of natural systems.

With frightening regularity, scientists are realizing that the U.S. agricultural system uses more energy than it produces. It depends completely on mammoth infusions of petroleum and natural gas in the form of fuel, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides and various drugs and chemicals used to produce livestock. Without a continuing flow of cheap fossil fuels and petroleum-based agro-chemicals, we may discover that the fabled American cornucopia is almost empty.

Farm Revolution — How Beneficial?

Despite this year's poor showing, the USDA proudly hails American agriculture as the most productive in the world. The Department's 1970 Yearbook fairly burst with pride in its description of the transformation of the American, farm scene: "Farmers are now purchasing more products, goods and services, as they must if they are to have today's modern technology... (Forty years ago) they were still providing most of their own production needs — horsepower (and its seed), soil fertility (clover rotation), live-stock feeds, crop seeds and workers. Today's farmer buys prodigious amounts of his production needs — fertilizers, formula feed, hybrid seeds, insecticides, herbicides, tractor fuel,... and employs a myriad of custom services such as machine harvesting, ferti-lizer and pesticide spraying and airplane crop dusting.

Since 1950, while this change was occurring, the number of acres under cultivation in the United States has remained constant, about 325 million acres, but the number of people living and working on these farms has dropped by 50 percent. The number of farms in operation has been reduced by three million (and continues to drop at the rate of 2,000 per week) since the 1940s. But, and this is the USDA's pièce de résistance, farm production has gone up 60 percent.

Massive Energy Expenditure

The scenario sounds unbelievably rosy thus far, but a closer look at the components of this production increase reveals the basic vulnerability of the system. According to the USDA's own figures, fertilizer (usually made from petroleum or natural gas) use has increased 10-fold since 1946, and the use of fossil fuels to power farm equipment has grown 50 percent. And the "use of energy on the farm is only the beginning. Research done by Eric Hirst, now of the Federal Energy Administration (indicates) that food-related energy use grew 3.3 percent between 1960 and 1970 — a rate double that of population growth.

Georg Borgstrom, the noted author of The Hungry Planet and a professor of food science and human nutrition at Michigan State University, has computed that the energy input into an acre of soybeans grown in Iowa was 2.3 to 3.5 times greater than the food energy produced by the soybeans. Even more appalling are his calculations of comparative energy use in food production. "The difference in calorie intake between the U.S. and India is not, as generally assumed, 1,310 calories per day, but rather 9,182," he wrote in a recent issue of the Swedish science journal, Ambio. Borgstrom explained the gap by comparing the amounts of energy consumed in the plants and animals ingested by the average Indian and the average American, as well as the energy used to produce the feed eaten by meat-producing livestock. The average American consumes 10,017 calories worth of primary energy daily, while the average Indian consumes only 773. Borgstrom notes, "If the energy intensive farming of the kind practiced in the United States were applied worldwide, this would require some 35 to 40 percent of the total world energy account."

It appears that there is something seriously wrong with the American agricultural system. Since 1910, United States agricultural efficiency, as measured in energy, has decreased 10-fold. At the turn of the century, according to University of Wisconsin researchers Carol and John Steinhardt, the American farmer used less than one calorie of energy to extract one calorie of food energy from the soil. Their research indicates that farmers now spend close to 10 calories of energy for every one calorie of food energy produced by the soybeans.

Diversity Gives Way to Monoculture

Diversity is the backbone of a healthy ecosystem, serving as nature's insurance against disease, inclement weather and pests. But American agriculture (read agricultural technology), in the past three decades, abandoned diversity and opted instead for homogeneity. Centuries of plant evolution have been preempted by thousands of acres of single crops.

In the days before this genetic uniformity, farmers in different parts of the country planted the seeds right for their climate and soil conditions — a seed that was the end product of thousands of years of genetic development. An ominous portent of the future occurred in 1970 when a blight-carrying virus infected the corn crop of the nation and failed 15 percent of it. Almost every field of corn in the nation was equally vulnerable to the disease, the protection of diversity having been eliminated.

In the days before hybrids and agro-chemicals, farmers grew corn in three-year rotation cycles of corn-oats-clover in order to regenerate soil nutrients. (Clover acts as a nitrogen fixer in the soil.) Farmers used little or no fertilizers and planted about 10,000 seeds per acre, according to USDA statistics. By 1970, farmers had replaced crop rotation with 150-pounds-per-acre applications of nitrogen fertilizer and were planting 25,000 seeds per acre. Yields per acre had jumped to 90 or 100 bushels. But this increase, attributed by the USDA to hybrid seeds alone, actually was the result of extensive fertilization and more efficient planting technology.

Soil Fertility — What's That?

The USDA has consistently failed to tell the public the truth about the effects of this system on the nation's most basic and valuable resource. Although chemical fertilizers have been in existence since 1840's, their widespread use did not begin until the mid-20th century. Their presence has brought about a change in the definition of soil fertility.

Once fertility was a measure of soil structure and nutrient content, the result of years of careful farming and maintenance. The word "fertile" today often refers only to the amount of three important water soluble nutrients in the soil — nitrogen, phosphorus and potas-sium. These nutrients are the ones most commonly found in chemical fertilizers. Forgotten are humus — soil structure, water content, trace minerals and the presence of organic matter (humus) — all ingredients of fertile soil. The importance of these three elements to food production has been so over-rated that the soil itself has often been ignored.

According to Michael Allaby and Floyd Allen in their book Roots Behind the Plow, "Nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium fertilizers became a substitute for land." Allaby and Allen have documented other effects: excessive use of chemical fertilizer has had on the soil. "As the use of artificial fertilizer increased, less

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and less organic matter has been returned to the soil, while reserves of human (organic material in the soil) have been mined away," they write. The amount and kind of organic material in the soil determines soil structure which, in turn, dictates the way in which water moves through it. If the structure of the soil does not allow adequate circulation of water (and the nutrients it contains) plants cannot absorb these nutrients, no matter how abundant they might be. Chemical fertilizers break down soil structure and can actually promote erosion.

Tragic Loss of Topsoil

Fertile topsoil is now a disappearing resource in the United States. Noted ecologist Barry Commoner estimates that the organic content of Midwest soils has declined by about 50 percent in the last century, while a 1970 National Academy of Science report claims that the nation has lost about one third of its topsoil. Where topsoil was once several feet thick in the richest areas of the Corn Belt, it is now only seven inches deep.

As the soil declines in quality, the use of fertilizers increases. Arid areas of California, Texas and Arizona, once free of topsoil degradation, can "make the desert bloom," are now suffering production declines. These "declines" are the result of over-cultivation, over-irrigation and over-fertilization. Farmers are encouraged, however, by the USDA and agricultural producers to use more fertilizers to keep yields high.

In some portions of Texas's Rio Grande Valley, Alley and Allen report, fertilizer application rates have reached 800 pounds an acre. As many critics of corporate farming techniques have pointed out, such high applications of fertilizer make soil unnecessary; crops could just as easily be grown hydroponically (in nutrient-laden water). Soil becomes nothing more than a means by which to prop plants up.

The Efficiency Myth

In the name of efficiency, hybrid grain has replaced traditional seed stocks. This "efficiency" is largely a myth, however. This is particularly true in regard to protein. Hybrid grain is not more efficient; it is deteriorated considerably, showing up in declining protein levels. What do declining levels of protein in hybrid grain do to the rest of the food economy? For one thing, it means that livestock fed this corn must be given diet supplements of protein-rich fish meal and soybean meal. There is nothing "efficient" about feeding protein. (The system is more than inefficient, however: much of our fishmeal has come from the coastal waters of Peru, a country where protein deficiencies are rampant among the population. Some research indicates that the United States imports enough fish protein to alleviate one-half the protein shortage in all of Latin America."

This "efficient" replacement of hybrid for natural seed stocks has resulted in increased dependence on herbicides, fungicides, rodenticides and insecticides. Cotton and corn, in particular, cannot survive without them.

(Continued on page 12, col. 3)

Week ending March 8, 1975

Nuclear Blackmail for Food?

"Lifeboat" Theory Stirs Anger in India

By Norman Cousins

NEW DELHI — A short distance outside New Delhi, I saw a long file of marchers walking slowly in the direction of the capital. Most of them were young adults. They were identified by placards as teachers, students, farmers, shopkeepers and commercial workers. One of the placards said: "Hungry People Are Angry."

Another sign: "Is India Going to be Thrown on the Rubbish Heap?"

I learned that the reason for the march was the increasing discussion in the Indian press over reports that Western nations, including the United States, are getting ready to turn their backs on India's need for mammoth food supplies. The reports suggest that Western policymakers feel there's no way of preventing mass famine and that no amount of aid could solve the basic problem.

The person whose name has been frequently linked with this hard-line approach to the developing nations is Garrett Hardin, professor of biology at the University of California. According to the reports, Prof. Hardin believes that the Western nations should resist efforts to help famine-threatened countries. He uses the lifeboat analogy. If the survival chances of more than one person are on board, everyone will go down.

Prof. Hardin's ideas and the shocked reaction of the young people walking toward New Delhi served to dramatize what is becoming the most important issue before contemporary civilization.

The attitudes of the rich and the poor toward one another are setting the stage for what could become the most decisive showdown in history, Prof. P. H. Melchior, in "An Inquiry into the Human Prospect," Foresees the possibility of atomic blackmail by hungry nations, who could now come into possession of nuclear secrets, if they don't get a larger share of the world's wealth.

That issue is not a misty, distant problem, however. In the United States, the issue is now before the news media. The Associated Press recently quoted University of California agricultural research professor Alan Reid, "It is not difficult to understand that there is such a feeling of aggression in the moral consciousness of the underdeveloped countries."

It wasn't necessary to juxtapose the protest walk against the kind of life being lived in the cities of the Western world. Within India itself all the combustible contrasts were in full view.

The greatest danger with the Hardin approach applies not to India but to the West. For Hardinism can become a wild approach to the reports, Prof. Hardin believes that the Western nations should resist efforts to help famine-threatened countries. He uses the lifeboat analogy. If the survival chances of more than one person are on board, everyone will go down.

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The greatest danger with the Hardin approach applies not to India but to the West. For Hardinism can become a wild infection in the moral consciousness of the underdeveloped countries. It is possible to rationalize letting large numbers of Asians starve, it will be no time at all before we apply the same reasoning to people at home. Once we discover how easy it is to share without flinching at famine in Colombo or Dacca, it should be no trick to go unblinking at the disease-ridden tenements in Harlem or Detroit or the squalor of the shacks in Appalachia.

Food vs. Fodder—Grim Choices Lie Ahead

By Robert Ginskey

In an increasingly hungry world, attention is inevitably focused on animals and their relation to man's food supply.

Agricultural animals consume prodigious amounts of food but return only about a fraction in the form of meat, milk, and eggs. As a result, food experts are quick to point out that animals and animal products are almost always a luxury—"a luxury for which humans, in lean times at least, pay a dear price."

Certain animals actually compete with man for the available food supply. The pig, for example, consumes grain which humans can eat directly. In marked contrast to the pig, however, cattle have a unique ability to digest cellulose, a substance widely available in grass, but non-digestible by man. This food that cattle and other ruminants can produce human food from forage, and yet not compete with man for food, nor in many cases for the land upon which the forage is grown. For this reason, there is a growing call in scientific circles to return cattle to the pasture—where they are most efficient—and drastically scale down feedlot operations in which the animals are fed prodigious amounts of increasingly more expensive feed grains.

"Let 'em eat grass," wrote an agricultural development expert recently in the Christian Science Monitor. He decried the 40 million tons of grain and 5 million tons of soybeans and other high protein concentrates fed to U.S. cattle in 1974.
Politics of Desperation

(Continued from page 9)

plify does not have the massive surpluses available for widespread aid as it had in years past.

In view of all of these factors — and should they worsen still further — the only way out for the developing countries of Asia and Africa, concluded Dr. Steinhart, may be the "politics of desperation."

Within this framework there could be some banding together of producers of primary metals, or perhaps other commodities, in an attempt to duplicate OPEC's success in extracting more money for their resources. Strategic metals such as copper, tin, chromium, and bauxite — the supplies of which are largely found in the developing nations — could very likely be involved in future cartel action.

Another scenario frequently proposed is that of the hungry nations — some of which, like India, are coming into possession of nuclear secrets. In attempting to duplicate the policies of the lifeboat, these nations could be involved in an attempt to duplicate the "politics of desperation."

This concept has provoked great controversy within the United States and throughout the world in general.

Alternatives

What can be done to prevent the undesirable trends from resulting in the "politics of desperation"? A primary necessity is the expansion of food production both in the developed and developing nations.

But, as Dr. Steinhart observed, expansion of land under cultivation in the U.S. in the next 25 years appears unlikely. Additional land brought into agriculture by the year 2000, he explained, will be almost exactly balanced by that lost to urbanization and other development and that lost to erosion and soil depletion. "And improvements in per acre yield have been tapering off in recent years, and future improvements must be weighted against the fact that new lands brought into agriculture in the U.S. are marginal by present standards and the land lost to development includes some of the most productive lands." 

Key: Improving Agriculture in Developing Nations

Some experts believe that the only way the underdeveloped nations can really overcome food shortages in the long run is by producing more themselves. They see several possibilities to increase the quantity of food available.

Roger Revelle, Director of the Center for Population Studies at Harvard University, and another participant at the AAAS symposium, stressed that virtually all cultivable land in the poorer countries is already under cultivation. Though some agriculturalists would take exception with this, all would nevertheless agree that the effort has to be directed primarily toward increasing per acre yield, for which there is great potential, according to farm experts. Revelle, recently returned from India, cited inefficiency, inadequate capital, and lack of basic agricultural education as problems standing in the way of this.

Another critical problem area for consideration, noted by other members of the symposium, is that of tremendous losses of crops in the field, in storage, and in distribution.

"Losses from agricultural crops are fantastic in developing countries," said Dr. Walter Lynn of Cornell University. He cited birds, fungi, insects, bacterial infections, and rats as but a few of the problems. Available food, stressed another panelist, could be increased by as much as 50% by dealing with the problems of pests and storage!

The panelists emphasized that, in their opinion, the global food problem is not as much — if not more — a problem of allocation and distribution as a problem of supply, and urged the implementation of effective distribution and allocation systems.

Can't Overlook Population

Discussions on world hunger always get back to the basic question of world population. Putting the brakes on population growth in the farming-education syndrome is viewed, at least in the industrialized world, as a major necessity in dealing with the world food problem.

"With the basic limits of the world on land and water, I would agree with those who would say that some control of population growth is essential for the long-term well-being of humanity," emphasized food expert Edward E. Lappe, Deputy U.S. Ambassador to last November's World Food Conference in Rome and a participant in the symposium.

Nevertheless, world population is increasing virtually unabated, and the large growth rates in the poorest nations of the world show few if any signs of decreasing. Current estimates put world population growth at 2% annually, or something over 75 million people a year. For many poor countries, there is about 3% India's yearly population growth alone is around 13 million.

Some have proposed that food assistance be tied to population control, giving aid only to those countries which are seriously engaged in family planning and contraception promotion programs.

But at the U.N. World Population Conference in Bucharest last year, programs of family planning received, in general, a cold shoulder from representatives of the developing nations. Some even labeled birth control programs "racial genocide."

Regardless of how it is done, population growth will be slowed, Dr. Steinhart emphasized, adding, "There is no way around this in sight with real people cutting back population, except possibly some of the disasters themselves."
I have never been able to understand politics, nor politicians. Today, the President of the United States comments with a fair measure of sarcasm how truly ironic it seems that he finds it easier to negotiate with the nation’s enemies than with the Congress of the United States.

Though neither an elected official nor a clear choice of the majority, he nevertheless has been forced to shoulder the most awesome and important responsibility on the face of the earth. In the conduct of that responsibility, and most particularly as it concerns foreign policy, one would assume the President would be given every conceivable cooperation, every conceivable loyalty, every conceivable help.

Not so. There are at least five (or is it 17 or 23?) future presidential hopefuls waiting in the wings. Those who aspire to be leaders of the nation take every opportunity to attack President Ford. A trip to Vladivostok to talk to Soviet leaders about future arms limitations? He should have been spending more time “tending the shop” at home.

A needed break from the enormously exhausting duties of the presidency on the ski slopes of Colorado?

He was attacked for wasting time and lampooned and ridiculed in cartoons and editorials alike.

Mr. Ford’s recent attempts to stimulate the economy brought forth particularly vicious attacks from all quarters.

Congress has clearly set itself on a course of stubborn refusal to cooperate with Mr. Ford, most likely no matter what programs or policies he espouses.

While it may seem a dangerous assumption, I have no doubt that had Mr. Ford advocated the immediate rationing of gasoline, the same Congress now attacking his proposed gasoline tax and surcharges would have attacked gasoline rationing just as vigorously.

Was the weekly news magazine correct after all? Do those in high elective office often place personal desire for power and a “place in history” above the most urgent concerns of humankind and of the nation?

Some of the lessons of Watergate are difficult to overlook. Visionary? Discretionary? Filled with wisdom, judgment, and lacking in self-interest — thinking only of the nation and all of humankind? Negative.

Though we may naively assume those in towering positions of incredible power in this nuclear age are endowed with these characteristics, it is painfully instructive to learn that private talks in the offices of the highest officials on earth can resemble those of the lowest list of gossip on the golf course.

I couldn’t help but be impressed by the earlier irony of the famous “kitchen debate” during the Eisenhower administration in which the then Vice-President, Richard M. Nixon, found himself in cheerful repartee, albeit with obviously serious overtones, with party chief Nikita Khrushchev.

The discussion rambled banteringly from Khrushchev’s challenges about American “tail fins” on automobiles, as opposed to Russia’s “bigger rockets,” and Mr. Nixon’s much-publicized defense of American technology.

While it sounded more like two boys arguing over the comparative merits of their respective “bull’s eyes” and “aggies” in a marble-shooting match, this was later hailed as an example of international diplomacy par excellence and one of the oft-cited instances of Mr. Nixon’s alleged experience in foreign policy during the Kennedy-Nixon television debates.

So, while cherished school-boy dreams of yesteryear may lead one to assume the highest elected officials of gigantically powerful nations are men of such sage wisdom, mature judgment and ultimate discretion that their minds and manners truly function on a plane far superior to that of the average layman, both the shocking lessons of recent history and the preceding spectacle of a Congress grasping Gerald Ford’s coattails, with heels dug firmly into the ground and nullish determination to fight him every step of the way, would instruct us otherwise.

Today, the United States of America faces the gravest test in all its history, even as it approaches its bi-centennial anniversary.

With the specter of a deep depression looming just ahead, the energy crisis, global pollution, the population explosion, the arms race, wars all around the world, and the threat of imminent war in the Mideast, soaring joblessness, and an avalanche of crime that reaches into the private lives of every American, one might assume it would be a time for a prayerful Congress, on its knees, to be soliciting divine aid in the conduct of its duties and responsibilities. Though Congress may disagree — and quite conscientiously so — with certain of Gerald Ford’s programs, one would think Congress would be busily pursuing the course most easily negotiable, the most immediately reconcilable, and if not satisfactory to either party, at least the most comfortably compromising under the circumstances.

Instead, it appears the Democrats are determined to fight to the end.

The only trouble is, it may be far more than the end of Gerald Ford’s tenure in the White House.

To me, politics stinks. It will always stink, unless or until one can see the clearest proof of national and humanitarian instincts placed toweringly above that of selfish party-spirit or desire for personal status and attainment.

Personally, I have no optimism that such humanitarian instincts will soon dominate the minds of our next crop of presidential hopefuls.
The INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL...  
(Continued from page 6)

This verse speaks of angels as if the world had been put in subjection to angels; in fact, in many a younger generation's publicized "small, step-by-step" approach, which President Ford and President Sadat, as well as Prime Minister Rabin, have supported in statements made just prior to Mr. Kissinger's departure.

But it is not more probable, with "time passing," as President Sadat said recently and with the opposition party in Israel demanding an election before any concessions are made in Sinai, that Mr. Kissinger is looking for something on a much grander scale - "a permanent solution" - to be achieved by Mr. Kissinger's abandoning of his "small, step-by-step" approach in favor of a Geneva-type conference dictated to and controlled by both the United States and the U.S.S.R.? Is it not significant that Mr. Kissinger and his counterpart, Mr. Gromyko, plan a meeting in Geneva after Mr. Kissinger completes his tour of the Middle East?

When one realizes that the foreign policy of the United States, as designed, orchestrated and implemented by Mr. Kissinger under both Mr. Nixon and Mr. Ford, is designed to prevent the Middle East area from being dominated by the U.S.S.R., by insuring that peace prevails in the area, and to prevent an alliance between the Arab nations and Europe from becoming the third great world power; it is really easy to see why Mr. Kissinger is motivated to maintain the delicate equilibrium between the United States and the U.S.S.R., not only in the Middle Eastern area, but in the entire world. One can also see that the U.S.S.R. would also prefer the status quo.

The U.S.S.R., of course, is not without alternatives, should Mr. Kissinger (and Mr. Gromyko) be unsuccessful. Mr. Gromyko, in fact, has been busy mending fences in Egypt and shoring up the confidence of Syria, while continuing to support the rebels in Ethiopia and South Yemen - all of which poses a grander length the problems of the Middle East and the world not only the United States, but the entire Arab area. Some 4,000 United States aircraft carrier, the Enterprise, has been dispatched into the area. A formal request has been made to the United Kingdom for the sub-leaseing of an important island, with its naval base, off the coast of Oman - an island which controls the passage of the most oil tanker traffic in the world. The United States has delivered to Israel missiles capable of launching nuclear warheads, and a special, little-known installation within territory controlled by Israel has been given particular attention by the Pentagon.

As Mr. Armstrong and I traveled throughout the same countries, we discussed at great length the problems of the Middle East and the world with not only the important leaders of each country, but also with all of the informed and knowledgeable people from the fields of education, industry and culture. They are also concerned about the many problems confronting Mr. Kissinger, and everyone has expressed the hope that he can unblock what appears to be an impeding stalemate and that he will be successful in renewing and maintaining the momentum for peace, because we have all learned that in that explorative area space has produced a series of military attempts to solve the problems of the area, and another such effort might destroy mankind.

Mr. Armstrong is specifically asked over and over again what he foresees for the world in the future, and he has told world leaders and others (just recently in Bombay, Cairo, and Israel) that, until mankind learns its lesson, things will get worse before they get better, but that mankind will not be permitted to destroy itself. As an ambassador for world peace, he, meanwhile, strives mightily to bring to peoples everywhere their heritage - a message of hope and inspiration. He continues to stress that the way of get and of competition between peoples and nations will have to be replaced by the way of love and cooperation.

VIENNA: Bill Tilden once said, when speaking of tennis, "never change a winning game, but always change a losing one." Perhaps Mr. Kissinger has that in mind when he considers the broad strategical concepts that are so dear to him and his carefully architected foreign policy as he commences his latest journey to the Middle East.

Obviously Mr. Kissinger is on an exploration mission, and he has this time deliberately stressed that he is not seeking final answers or conclusions from his personal efforts, although he will be seeking areas of compromise, particularly between the Israelis and the Egyptians, in accordance with his heretofore highly publicized "small, step-by-step" approach, which President Ford and President Sadat, as well as Prime Minister Rabin, have supported in statements made just prior to Mr. Kissinger's departure.

But it is not more probable, with "time passing," as President Sadat said recently and with the opposition party in Israel demanding an election before any concessions are made in Sinai, that Mr. Kissinger is looking for something on a much grander scale - "a permanent solution" - to be achieved by Mr. Kissinger's abandoning of his "small, step-by-step" approach in favor of a Geneva-type conference dictated to and controlled by both the United States and the U.S.S.R.? Is it not significant that Mr. Kissinger and his counterpart, Mr. Gromyko, plan a meeting in Geneva after Mr. Kissinger completes his tour of the Middle East?

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Orchids and Onions: What is it all about?

In two words, it's constructive comment, constructive not only to Plain Truth staff, but also to our six million readers. In this column, we will publish reader feedback, the pros and cons — the orchids and the onions — as well as helpful or interesting commentary on related issues.

You, our readers, are invited to throw your orchids and onions our way (that's where the buck stops) for the actual birth and development of this column. We will publish reader feedback, constructive comment, constructive not only to Plain Truth staff, but also to our six million readers. In this column, we will publish reader feedback, the pros and cons — the orchids and the onions — as well as helpful or interesting commentary on related issues.

The initial reaction has been overwhelmingly spontaneous and constructive, although Plain Truth format changes have evolved the most immediate comment — the vast majesty of spirit immortality. There were some few — one or two cases — where the hypertentilating reader, obviously at the onion himself, sent us an envelope filled with bad breath. These haven't yet discerned the difference between the onion and constructive criticism. Use them. Now.

The article in Plain Truth for the week ending Feb. 8th was so interesting that I wish it had been longer. It was factual, generally unbiased and concerned a most intriguing subject — prophecy. For those religious persons who accept only some parts of the Bible and some of the beliefs of Christianity, prophecy is probably one of the areas of interest and consideration.

You having to categorize certain ideas into broader categories had an unfortunate effect on keen perception of the subject. The article intimates that a woman must be married before she can be fulfilled or liberated. If some would rather get their fulfillment from a career — just as a man has the opportunity to do — does this make her less of a woman? Can't she still fulfill the basic characteristics mentioned in Proverbs 31 as well as qualities of a good Christian without being married?

There seems to be too much pressure in every peer group and society in general to do the opposite. Does this pressure have anything to do with the divorce rate? Are people being "forced" into marriage in order to get a better job, credit, etc.? This applies to men as well. Could it be possible that everyone is not necessarily made to live in the marriage? Was this the apostle Paul out of line when he said, "I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, it is good for them even as I" (1 Cor. 7:8)? Notice verse 38. "So then be he that giveth her in marriage doeth well, but he that giveth her not in marriage doeth better."

Must we categorize people who are not married as lacking in hormones, drive, sex appeal, etc.? Are we that limited in our scope? We are not here to judge each other but rather to be a light and example to the world. Can't a single person fulfill this role? Why don't we let each person decide on their own whether or not they will marry and according to their situation, and insinuations concerning not being married?

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Plain Truth
WEEK ENDING MARCH 8, 1975

The War That Won't Go Away

FOOD/POPULATION/WAR

DR. KISSINGER’S GLOOMY VISION

U.S. Secretary of State
Henry Kissinger

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