

U.S. trade deficit at \$30 billion despite farm exports of \$24 billion

MILLEN, Ga. - Meeting with farmers in this rural Georgia community on Dec. 15, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland said, "In spite of the fact that agricultural exports were a record \$24 billion this past year, the United States

is going to have a \$30 billion trade deficit. We can't go on sustaining deficits of this magnitude forever. It is urgent that everything be done to expand agricultural exports."

The focal point of the plan that the Secretary discussed

is the food and feed grains reserve of 30-35 million metric tons, "to insure that the United States will be a dependable supplier of high-quality food at all times."

"When I was in Japan in June, the one question that came back to me time and

time again was about embargoes. I assured Japan's leaders that the Carter Administration would not embargo grain or soybeans in circumstances short of war. We have built a multi-billion dollar lifeline of food sales to countries around the world. For most countries, it's not a matter of convenience; it's a matter of life and death. If they can't count on the United States, if they can't depend on us, they'll go to another country," the Secretary said.

"When that happens - and we all remember a few years ago - farmers suffer and the whole economy of the United States suffers. We won't allow that to happen again," according to Secretary Bergland.

The Secretary also discussed the doubling of Commodity Credit Corporation export credits to finance the sale of grain and other commodities from the United States. "The President has authorized \$1.5 billion to help foreign customers buy U.S. grains. And just last month, soybeans and soybean products were added as commodities that can be financed within this program. This should strengthen soybean exports," said Secretary Bergland.

"We're also re-examining our entire credit program to

determine how we can be more competitive with countries like Canada. Our goal is to do everything that we can to make U.S. - farm produced products more attractive to foreign countries.

"We have also adopted the philosophy that Public Law 480 should be used as a developmental tool, not as a program to get rid of American grain surpluses. The right to eat is a basic human right worldwide, and it is our intention to use food aid as a center-piece in foreign policy. This can literally be a Food for Peace program."

Secretary Bergland also urged farmers to participate in the set-aside programs - 20 per cent on wheat acreage in 1978 and a 10 per cent conditional set-aside on feed grains. The set-asides are important to farmers, ac-

ording to the Secretary, because they will "keep the United States from becoming the granary for the world."

"We have enough feed grains and wheat on hand to meet every conceivable demand. We can't stand another 6.3 billion bushel corn crop. It would have severe price implications for all farmers. Fence row-to-fence row plantings will only hurt farmers. Diverting your least productive land back to grass or another approved cover just makes good sense," Secretary Bergland added.

"I urge you to use the loan program, the reserve program, and the set-asides to get some control over your own destiny, rather than to leave our economic future to the vagaries of factors over which you have no control," the Secretary concluded.

Bergland forecasts higher prices

BATESVILLE, Miss. - American farmers now have the tools and the potential power to increase farm prices if they use the new authorities given them in the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977, Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland said here last week.

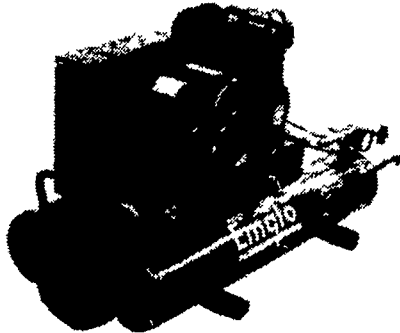
Speaking at a meeting of farmers and rural people, Secretary Bergland pointed out that "by raising the loan rate to \$2.00, corn prices have risen 40 cents a bushel within the last six weeks."

"The combination of this loan level and an on-the-

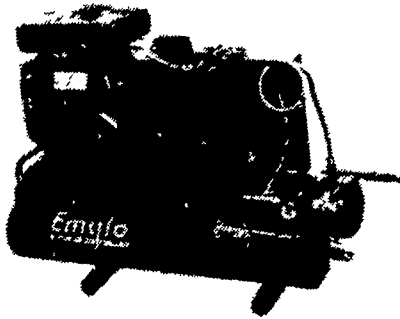
farm storage program gives farmers an effective bargaining tool for higher wheat and feed grain prices," he said. "The big commodity markets realized this and they were forced to raise the cash and future market prices in order to get that grain on the market, and out of farm storage."

"I suggest that farmers continue this orderly withholding action," Secretary Bergland emphasized, "because all signs now point to a stronger market for these commodities."

COMPRESSORS



MODEL K15A - 8P
\$451.20



MODEL K5WGA - 8P
\$500.00

BOLT SPECIALS
FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER
75¢ Per Lb.
IN 5 LB. MINIMUM QUANTITY

GRADE 2 CAP SCREWS
CARRIAGE BOLTS,
MACHINE BOLTS AND
LAG BOLTS
SOME SIZES IN LIMITED QUANTITY

BLUE BALL MACHINE WORKS

RT. 322 E. BOX 176 BLUE BALL, PA 17506
PHONE: 717-354-4478



WINTER DISCOUNTS



WINTER DISCOUNTS NOW IN EFFECT

IF YOU HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING A NEW BUILDING, NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY. MORTON BUILDINGS OFFER YOU WINTER DISCOUNTS ON . . .

MACHINE SHEDS CATTLE BARNs HORSE BARNs
HOG CONFINEMENT GARAGES AND SHOPS



ORDER A MORTON BUILDING NOW FOR SPRING ERECTION AND SAVE. PRICES WILL NEVER BE LOWER THAN NOW.



TO FIND OUT . . . WRITE OR CALL TODAY!

MORTON BUILDINGS
NO. 1 CHOICE OF FARMERS

RD 4 BOX 34A
GETTYSBURG, PA 17325

Mail This Coupon or Call
(717) 334-2168

Send information on MORTON BUILDINGS
Have your salesman phone me for an appointment
Garages - Shops Hog Confinement
Machine Sheds Cattle Confinement
Horse Barns Free Stall Barns & Silo Feed Rooms
Grain Storage Livestock Barns

LF.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
Telephone No _____

WARMEST OF YULETIDE

Greetings



We wish to you and yours the joy and peace of Christmas.

THE FARMERS NATIONAL BANK OF QUARRYVILLE

Two Convenient Southern Lancaster County Locations
QUARRYVILLE, PA PENN HILL, PA.