

U.S. reaffirms commitment as food supplier

ROME, Italy — The United States will remain a dependable supplier of food and agricultural products to both developing and developed nations, delegates to the 21st session of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations were told here last Tuesday.

"We will conserve and replenish our productive agricultural resources so we can continue to respond to world food needs on both a commercial and assistance basis," Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Richard Lyng told representatives of 147 nations.

Lyng, who is leading the U.S. delegation here, delivered the address on behalf of Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block.

In his address, Lyng said the long-standing interest by the United States in helping combat hunger and malnutrition throughout the world "is deeply rooted in the hearts of the American people." The United States has contributed almost \$40 billion in food aid to developing nations since Public Law 480 - the Food for Peace program - was enacted in 1954.

Developing countries themselves have primary responsibility for increasing their food production capability, Lyng said. "The development of greater self-reliance is the single most important factor in creating vigorous national economies and improving the standard of living in a developing country," he said. Newly-wealthy and more advanced developing nations also must share in assistance efforts, he said.

The United States imported more - than \$17 billion in agricultural commodities in 1980, two-thirds of which came from developing countries. These imports help developing nations

strengthen their economies, Lyng said.

He said he expects world food security will improve as individual nations set aside reserve stocks to help cushion periodic downturns in food production. Efforts at international agreements on world food security are unrealistic until national reserve programs are in place, he said.

The U.S. food security reserve of 4 million tons of wheat will continue to back up the U.S. food aid commitment, he said, because it includes 300,000 tons of wheat that can be used for emergency relief if needed.

The U.S. commitment includes efforts to continue expansion of cooperative international research programs as well as the exchange of scientific information.

"All nations and their people benefit from these research activities and exchanges," Lyng said.

In carrying out its role in providing assistance to developing nations, Lyng said the United States will:

- seek more effective uses of available resources;
- share appropriate U.S. production technology with low- and middle-income countries;
- continue to extend the benefits of agricultural research to other countries;
- do its share to improve world food security;
- support efforts to reduce barriers to trade;
- implement President Reagan's proposal to assist developing nations with their agricultural problems; and
- continue to support the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Bank and other international organizations involved in providing assistance to low-income, developing countries.



Todd Durboraw, Gettysburg; Bill Weller, Arendtsville; Cindy Myers, Abbottstown; and Tina Wassel, Littlestown were awarded the national "I Dare You" Award by the Adams County 4-H program. The recipients were

selected for the award in recognition of excellence in character and well-balanced personal development as well as leadership potential.

Adams 4-H'ers earn recognition

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recognition received, the award provides the recipients with a copy of William H. Danforth's book I DARE YOU and a personalized

certificate. Danforth wrote the book out of his own experience. He dedicated much of his time and philanthropy to youth work. In the book, he challenges the readers to

aspire to their highest potential, to attain constructive lives of service and citizenship and to be committed to excellence.

Gary Flicking, John Clowney, Dawn Ridinger, Anne Marie Meyerhoffer, Roxanne Kump, Roxanne Kump, Laurie Roth, Roger King and Amy Breighner were honored for completing their tenth year in 4-H. Daniel Baral, Heidlersburg and Joyce Zepp, New Oxford were honored for completing their eleventh year in 4-H.

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