

The Times editorial bitterly complains that Butz is sabotaging the World Food Conference: "Agriculture Secretary Butz, who will lead the United States delegation to the world food conference in Rome next month, has stressed that he does not want this country to 'overcommit' itself there....So far, the United States seems to have developed no major food policy other than to keep a low profile in Rome and to cling to the free market system. While he is out on the political hustings, President Ford is permitting Secretary Butz to lead the Administration toward a major diplomatic fiasco in a field in which the United States is pre-eminently equipped to propose sound policies for an ever more interdependent world."

The Times' real complaint, as the quoted material implies, is that neanderthal Butz has failed to adopt the Rockefeller starvation policies of international food reserves and labor-intensive slave labor agriculture. Whether or not the Rockefeller forces succeed in dumping Butz in the next few weeks, Rockefeller's stooges within the delegation, especially Secretary of State Kissinger, will be calling the shots.

EEC EXPORT CUTS THREATEN EUROPEAN FARMERS, SOVIETS

Oct. 23 (IPS)--Pierre Lardinois, Commissioner of the European Economic Community's Common Agriculture Policy (CAP), has unleashed another round of attacks against farmers and workers. In a move described as aimed to reduce the consumption of grain, Lardinois presented his proposals to Farm Ministers from the nine member nations of the EEC. The proposals, which follow a beef import ban and other provocative measures aimed at reducing high-quality protein food supplies, include a drastic cutback of pig and poultry production and the elimination of all grain exports to developed nations, with special emphasis placed upon the Soviet Union.

A U.S. Request

Lardinois motivated his starvation policies by stating compliance with a U.S. request: "They have asked us to be prudent in our export policy because of shortages. I think we have done what they asked," he said. Lardinois also played upon the Farm Ministers' guilt in getting them to agree to these suicidal measures. Lardinois said that the Common Market must not stand accused of using precious world grain supplies to feed livestock at a time when other parts of the world were in danger of starvation. Within this context, he announced that only famine-stricken countries would receive EEC grain.

This recent EEC action has a dual thrust. It will reduce the diet of the European working class and it follows Rockefeller's lead announcing the end of detente with the Soviet Union by singling out the Soviet Union for harsh cuts. The elimination of grain exports to developed countries will strike a hard blow against the

Eastern European countries, particularly Poland and Czechoslovakia. Cutbacks in pig and poultry exports as a result of reductions in and in some cases elimination of export subsidies to farmers once again will hit the Soviet Union (especially for poultry) and Eastern bloc countries (especially for pig meat). In addition, many underdeveloped nations will find that the primary source for the minimal animal protein imported is now eliminated.

IPS has determined that the economic effects on the EEC countries, particularly those dependent upon meat exports, will be devastating. For example, about 50 per cent of Denmark's pig meat is exported--mainly as canned hams. Belgium and Luxembourg together export about 25 per cent of pig meat produced. For poultry, the situation is even worse. Both the Netherlands and Denmark export nearly two-thirds of their poultry production. With many European livestock farmers already suffering from a 50 per cent reduction in income, the elimination of export subsidies will drive them into bankruptcy.