

the world. We supplement the food needs to nations that do not have the capacity to produce for themselves.

When we first started talking about selling grain to the Russians, it was quite a hot issue here. And I know there was a certain amount of pressure against me to speak out on that issue. But I spoke out, and I said, well, I'm for making our surplus products available to him who has the resources to buy. And furthermore, if our enemies—that being the Russians—were to grow dependent on us for food, I just didn't see any possibility of a nation that would depend on us to help feed their people ever declaring war on us. I thought it was a peace-making issue. Kind of going in the back door.

EIR: On the issue of low-input "sustainable" agriculture: You have mentioned before the nutrients per acre that you can calculate plants need, a certain amount of tonnage per acre of nutrients. If you cut back on that, you are going to cut back on food output.

Irvin: You see, I'm not an agronomist, I'm not a scientist, I'm just a layman. But we can continue to do massive research—which I'm a strong supporter of—for ways in which we can do the job even better. You know, when I was a kid, 8, 10, 12 bushels of corn per acre was a bumper crop. I used to be a school board member, and I'm a past president of the Georgia School Board Association, and had close ties to the Future Farmers of America and 4-H, a lot of our youth groups. I can still remember when we first started trying to get a 100 bushels of corn per acre, then 150, then 200 bushels per acre, and then 250. And scientists tell me today that it's within our reach to produce 500 bushels of corn per acre. But I'm not naive. Today, it may not be the most efficient way to produce that major crop by trying to extract out of the soil the maximum. There may be a plateau, that you can put so much nutrients into the soil, and get so much production, to have sufficient product to fulfill the marketplace and ultimately make it more profitable to the farmers. I'd like to see us to continue to promote that theory. That's what we call a balanced input versus a cost benefit.

EIR: The farm effort during World War II shows that we can set production records if we have to.

Irvin: We can do it again, if need be. But by the same token, let's don't shoot ourselves in the foot by going backward. Let's use some of that modern technology to find a more efficient way to do it when we've got the time. We've got the time frame. There's no pressure on us now. Let's go out and use that modern technology to produce with less input, with hopefully less input.

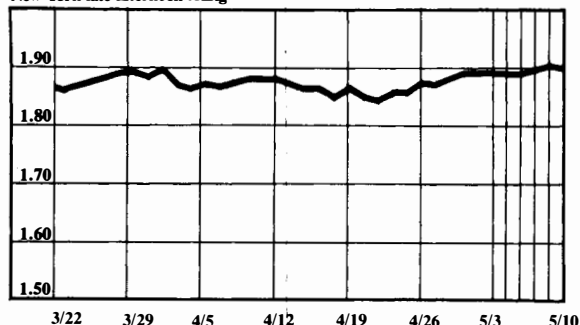
EIR: With modern technology. If we put the Shuttle back up into space, I'm sure we can find a way to deal with these things on Earth.

Irvin: We can. We just have to keep our eye on the big picture.

Currency Rates

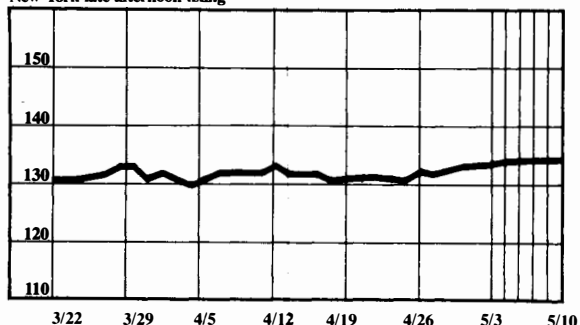
The dollar in deutschmarks

New York late afternoon fixing



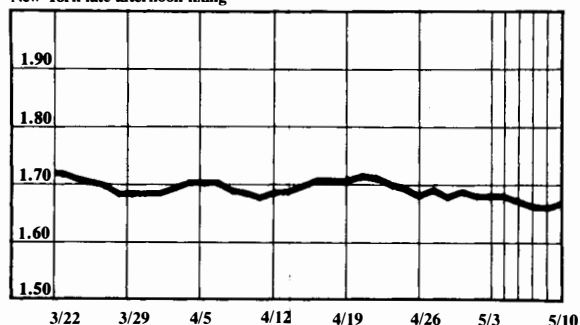
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing

