

labor-intensive Third World agricultural development schemes to produce the minimal food needed to maintain slave laborers on starvation rations.

Third World Beggars

IPS inquiries have revealed that many of the more desperate Third World countries already facing starvation deaths--such as Bangladesh and Sri Lanka--are going to the conference with the attitude of beggars. "We will take anything we can get," spokesmen for the Sri Lanka UN delegation told IPS, indicating they are prepared psychologically to capitulate to Rockefeller.

The ELC-Unity for Socialism group plans to cut through this controlled environment where countries are told to accept food control or starve. The ELC will present its own proposal calling for the massive expansion of food production based on reindustrialization and the development of nuclear fusion power as an energy source. A key feature of the ELC program is increased East-West trade, in which Western European capital goods are applied to the development of the Soviets' agricultural potential.

IPS plans to provide first-hand coverage of the Food Conference on tape cassettes, including exclusive interviews with conference participants. Cassette copies will be made available to farm organizations and press. For information, contact IPS.

STATE DEPARTMENT MOVES ON BUTZ

WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 31 (IPS)--As of this writing, the U.S. government still has no official position on the World Food Conference. Frantic lobbying is now going on at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), as State Department officials attempt to soften up Earl Butz, USDA head and official leader of the U.S. delegation to the UN conference. Butz recently stood up to Rockefeller agent Lester Brown in a televised debate where Butz publicly voiced his opposition to "world food reserves" and Zero-Growth policies generally. The vice-chairman of the U.S. delegation is State Department man Edwin N. Martin--hence, the faction fight.

Sources inside the USDA, however, indicate that Butz will settle for a compromise, whereby he will support government stockpiling while continuing to cover this sell-out with empty calls for increasing farm production and aid to U.S. farmers. To further counteract Butz' influence, Henry Kissinger will make an emergency stop in Rome. Kissinger, who initiated the idea for the food conference, will speak in favor of a reserve system similar to that proposed by the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization director Boerma.

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