
Conference Report

President Reagan is being sold a plan to wreck American agriculture

by Lawrence Freeman

Between Dec. 3 and 6, officials from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the infamous grain cartels, and numerous odd-looking but dangerous creatures from the world of academia descended on the Washington, D.C. area in two nearly identical and overlapping conferences to formulate the Reagan administration's 1985 farm bill. The key points religiously repeated by every speaker were:

- 1) We must reduce surpluses since we are producing too much food;
- 2) We must lower loan support programs (which will increase the loss of family farms);
- 3) We must launch aggressive trade wars against our European allies for a larger share of the world export market.

While these proposals were carefully wrapped in the jargon of "free trade," the combined result will only benefit the Soviet Union. The Soviets will be quite pleased as they watch us aid their decoupling plans by fighting our allies in the Western alliance and voluntarily destroying our own agriculture industry.

The "Annual Agricultural Outlook Conference" sponsored by the USDA met in Washington on Dec. 3-5, while its twin conference, "Food Agriculture and Resources: Policy Choices for 1985," met across the Potomac in Roslyn, Virginia, on Dec. 4-6. The most infamous Malthusian zero-growth policy planners shuttled back and forth to promulgate their plans for the continued destruction of agriculture and the further contraction of food production.

At the USDA event Secretary of Agriculture John Block outlined several objectives to be included in the new farm bill. These centered on the need for farmers to make themselves "competitive" in the world market, requiring "lowering loans to market-clearing levels." Block called for a five-year transition to phase out obsolete commodity programs and "phase in the market-oriented provisions." He raised the battle cry against our allies by stating: "It is the federal government's responsibility to challenge our competitors rather than unthinkingly aid and abet them."

Joining Block at the conference were Undersecretary of Agriculture Daniel Amstutz, a former employee of the Cargill Grain Co. for 25 years; Ed Schuh, director of Agriculture and Rural Development at the World Bank and formerly at the Humphrey Institute and University of Minnesota; Dan

Paarlberg, Purdue University, a member of Orville Freeman's inner circle; Lester Thurow of MIT; Carol Tucker, Foreman Center for National Policy; Thomas Saylor, Garnoe Grain Co., a subsidiary of the André grain cartel; Earl Butz, Purdue University; and Sherman Rice, Continental Grain Co.

Ed Schuh, who was exposed publicly by this author for committing genocide worse than Adolf Hitler for his policies of global starvation, generally agreed with the litany presented, but offered a solution more befitting his reputation. Schuh said we have to go beyond domestic programs, we need to utilize the International Monetary Fund to provide a strong global control of our food policies. He said that the next item on his list is to broaden the powers of GATT.

Enter the Heritage Foundation

The Heritage Foundation kept a low profile at the USDA conference but its previously published pamphlet "Mandate for Leadership II, Continuing the Conservative Revolution," with a chapter on agriculture written by George Dunlap, provides the most detailed policy outline of the presentations. Although the Heritage Foundation has been exposed by *EIR* for harboring KGB moles, it is still spearheading the "free market" budget cutters' assault on the Reagan administration's agricultural policy.

Belying the history of our country, Dunlap argues against the American System of economy in favor of the British free-trade colonialist method and childishly reports that loan rates, target price, and farmer-held reserve programs are distorting the market. The cited proof that "these three elements are out of balance" is the global overproduction of food. This "problem" of overproduction, according to Dunlap, must be corrected by utilizing the strength of the market. The report recommends:

- 1) *Lower floor prices* to 70-85% of the average market price for the last five years. The intended effect is floor prices below the world market price. Government floor prices now are between 50-60% of parity. With market prices artificially depressed by the grain cartels at such low levels, this program would lower prices paid to farmers by an additional 10-15%.

- 2) *Eliminate target prices*. After the loan rates have been lowered, they want to bring down target prices to this lower level and then get rid of them altogether.

3) *Reduce FmHA lending by tightening eligibility.* With FmHA as the lender of last resort, the report recommends farmers get credit elsewhere which is becoming more and more difficult due to the reduced value of land and equipment needed for collateral for new loans. The report suggests that farmers who do not have a reasonable chance for success should not be "subsidized."

Complementing these attacks on farm programs is the Heritage Foundation's support for stricter enforcement of conservation policy. The heavy emphasis on conservation with its reluctant acceptance by the administration is a new foot in the door by the environmental alliance of conservatives and liberals.

The second main feature of the Heritage Foundation's farm recommendations follows from the first. If we are going to put the American farmer through the wringer, then we must gain greater access to foreign markets. It is well known what this really means—smash the European Economic Community agricultural program. Let them speak for themselves.

"If the new administration is not prepared to invoke a full range of measures to force predator nations to end their massive subsidies to agricultural exports, it can hardly ask U.S. farmers to move toward a market-oriented system and be underbid by subsidized West European agriculture. To date U.S. response to this has been far too measured."

The list of co-sponsoring organizations of the Roslyn conference includes the American Farmland Trust, Center for National Policy, the Curry Foundation, the National Audubon Society, the National Wildlife Federation, the Wildlife Management Institute, the Conservation Foundation, and more.

Under their academic veneer, the sponsoring institutions and their speakers represent the most concentrated collection of hard-core, evil genocidalists. These two-legged animals *hate* modern, high-technology farming, they want *less food* produced in the world as a tool to *reduce* the world population to protect the pure environment from the human species.

A broad look at the pedigree of the chief co-sponsoring organization, the National Center for Food and Agricultural Policy, directed by Dr. Kenneth Farrell is quite revealing. Its Advisory Committee includes Robert O. Anderson, Chairman of the Board of ARCO (Atlantic Richfield Company), and Orville Freeman, former Secretary of Agriculture and leader of an inner circle of former USDA officials and grain cartel employees who have been shaping U.S. agriculture policy for the last 25 years.

The National Center was established earlier this year by Resources for the Future. Resources for the Future is itself a mere face-lift for the older, pro-Nazi Conservation Foundation. The Conservation Foundation was founded in the 1940s by the Swiss League for the Protection of Nature, and on the U.S. side, by the Eugenics Society led by the Harriman family, who were early supporters of Adolf Hitler's Third Reich. Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, the Conservation

Foundation, run by British intelligence and the Fabian socialist movement, spearheaded the campaigns for sterilization to stop population growth.

Documentation

Trade war on the agenda

Statements at the "Annual Agricultural Outlook Conference," USDA, Washington, D.C., Dec. 3-5.

Don Paarlberg, Purdue University: The Chinese have a saying: "He who would ride the tiger should have plans for dismounting." What I next outline is a five-part plan for dismounting. . . .

1) Reduce Loan Levels

Loan levels are such as to stimulate production and choke off markets. They should be reduced. They should be related neither to parity, which is outmoded, nor to production costs, a flawed concept, but to a percentage of a moving average of farm prices. . . .

2) Reduce Target Prices

The unacceptable cost of these programs can most readily be cut by reducing the target prices. . . .

Edward Schuh, director of agriculture, World Bank: We desperately need to begin the process of reforming and strengthening our international institutions so a more sensible international economy can evolve. Unfortunately, as a nation we have become disillusioned with international institutions at precisely the time in which they have become increasingly important to us. We cannot long stay this disillusionment. We need to get on with the world as it is, not as we would like it to be.

High on our agenda for reform should be our international monetary arrangements. We should seek to phase the U.S. out as central banker for the world and strengthen the IMF in the role originally conceived for it.

Excerpts from "Mandate for Leadership II: Continuing the Conservative Revolution," Heritage Foundation.

The new Administration should:

1) Develop a Cabinet consensus that the use of predatory export subsidies and other unfair trade practices in agriculture is intolerable for the U.S.

2) Make it clear to foreign countries that the U.S. will no longer accept subsidized attacks on its export markets and that, as a last resort, it will impose countermeasures in carefully calibrated steps against the offending nations.

3) Call for a new round of multilateral trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to draw up new rules of free trade. If—and only if—an acceptable agreement is forthcoming, it should pursue vigorously a market orientation for U.S. farm commodity programs.