

Correspondence - 8/76

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154 Philadelphia St.
Buffalo , N.Y. 14207
August 9 , 1976

Dear Gov. Carter:

I am, as a social service planner , intrigued by your proposal for examination and over-hall of the Federal bureaucracy, in general , and the Department of Health , Education and Welfare , in specific. I feel that the use of goal justification and zero base budgeting will facilitate the immediate task of bringing the Department under tighter control. I would like to suggest a mechanism which I believe can be used to help ensure continued vitality within the Department. This mechanism is citizen participation.

Citizen participation in the current administration consists of Blue Ribbon Commissions , Advisory Councils , and White House Conferences. These devices do not contain two essential elements of a valid citizen participation mechanism: 1) the participation of persons other than recognized experts, 2) the means for continuing citizen input to the decision making process. In short , these conferences , etc. , provide very limited input for a very few people.

I believe that strong citizen input into government could have these major results: 1) it will force departments to, a rationale for their policies and programs on an ongoing basis , 2) it will enable citizens to have direct input to the decision making process, 3) it will give the citizens a sense of greater participation in the governmental process.

I envision this mechanism to be three-tiered with advisory councils existing on the local , state , and national levels. Each advisory board should have in attendance not only experts , but other practitioners , interested citizens , and perhaps clients as well. The development of this advisory structure will be an enormously complex task , yet one, if completed, that will provide benefits far out-weighing the costs.

I do not believe that any previous president has shown a true commitment to citizen participation. I feel with that commitment, with a viable organizational structure, and with a skilled and dedicated staff that ^{great} achievements in bringing together citizens and government can be realized.

Finally, it would be a great privilege for me to discuss this idea in detail with your staff. I am available at their convenience. With best wishes for a successful campaign, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Robert C. Boneberg M.S.W.

ISSUES
Dept

Dr. Titus Podca
817 Fifth Avenue
New York 21, N.Y.

August 10th, 1976

Hon. Governor J. Carter
Plains, Georgia 31780

Dear Governor Carter:

I am writing you in reply to your letter of May 28, 1976. Forgive me for being, perhaps, a little straightforward but I am enclosing copies of our correspondence in order to more easily maintain our liason.

I am disturbed that the charts did not arrive with the previous letter. I am sending another set herewith.

May I underline the essential features of this system of indicators. As referred to in my earlier letter, Charts 7 and 17 warn of our making decisions which carry us around in circles. They further stress the need for a "central coordinator". Chart 8 shows that certain feedbacks have dilatorious effect and downgrade the decision chain.

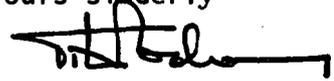
There are nine critical points (Chart 16) at which the decision chains become irreversible (Chart 20) and at which the transformations go into a creative, ascending path (Chart 19) and trigger multipliers of enduring value. The opposite is also revealed by an early warning configuration in the charts (Chart 18). Models of course are teaching devices which help in recognizing, understanding and making explicit that which is ambiguous and hidden in complexity.

In uniquely spiritual situations our sureness of the Inner voice lifts us to "another kind" of knowing - and for the moment we "see life clearly and we see it whole". In such moments the continuing reality of that "spiritual self" which comes thru brings as a sure part of its message that the "that of God" in each of us will give us that other kind of knowing for every situation with which life can present us and thus, that - for the one who is "twice born" - for all occasions - called or not called, God is present - at the point of irreversibility, at the point of commitment. The charts suggest the path toward such "other kind of knowing" which I have found valid for and in my own life. Knowing that we both seek the inner "high way" I send them to you and share them with you.

I will gladly sit down with you or with your staff in

a round of exchange and give a comprehensive interpretation of the use of the enclosed charts. Let me know if you have the time and if you would like to see me in Plains. I will gladly come.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Titus Podea', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Titus Podea
212 838-3468
516 668-2402

August 30, 1976

Mark S. Pash
22909 Sylvan St.
Woodland Hills,
Calif. 91367

Mr. Jimmy Carter
Carter Headquarters
Plains, Georgia

Dear Mr. Carter:

I am writing you in order to communicate what I believe is a fundamental issue in improving our economic condition. More than an issue--it is the ability to effectively communicate an understanding of our economic environment. Since I am not an economist involved in heavy theory, I believe our economic environment can be described and communicated to the people in a simple and general manner. This communication is an economic benefit in itself.

I personally feel that a vast majority of people are perplexed and have doubts about our economic system as a result of our past years of recession and high inflation. These doubts are nourished by the lack of understanding of the interrelated parts of our economic environment. Government has not improved this situation by hapazardly communicating only various economic conditions and policies without reference to an overall picture.

An example of this vague economic understanding can be seen where terms like inflation, spending, labor, government and business have very negative connotations. But generally and actually these terms should be positive in nature. They are all necessary and interrelated part of continual economic growth.

The following is a very brief explanation of these terms which should be expressed within a total communication of our economic environment:

1. Inflation - Since the beginning of trade with currency, the natural phenomenon of inflation is synonymous with growth as deflation is with recession. Our pricing environment is not bound to the supply and demand theory as witnessed by higher prices with recessive demand. (Attached is an earlier paper giving some thoughts on our excessive inflationary experience.)
2. Spending - The word spending is another term synonymous with growth as the lack of spending is with recession. If expenditures are generally carried out efficiently and financed properly, they will have no ill affects on the economy whether by consumers, business or government.
3. Government - Government has been really under attack especially for its spending policies. But in reality, Government provides capital for goods and services which private capital and consumerism can not handle such as education, defense, research etc. Where debate should enter in, is on priorities, spending efficencies and how adequately it is financed. These government expenditures do not necessarily mean additional bureaucracies because they can be contracted out to private enterprise.
4. Labor - The labor movement provides a value on human resources within the market place. This creates a volume spending base for goods and services of business and government. Of course Unionism has many areas for improvement, but the general function of spreading purchasing power is absolutely necessary for gradual and continual growth of our economic environment.
5. Business - Business is a vital function of providing goods and services to the people. It is a term synonymous with productivity and growth. Business is mainly criticised for their inadequate managerial practices of excessive greed in the short run that reduces overall profits and productivity in the long run. Therefore, it is necessary to control the excessive greed emotion through competition, consumerism, conservationism and government leadership.

An effective economic explanation will have many positive effects just from the many pyschological factors involved. It will also improve the implementation of economic polices. Policies should be formed and introduced in an already established context from which the people can relate. Thus the policy implementation will more readily improve the actual economic conditions.

I realize that I have quickly and loosely expounded on some redundant ideas. The preceding explanations are just a brief attempt to simply illustrate important economic terms which the people do not fully comprehend. But what's important is that a president has the staff to expertly generalize a communication of our economic environment involving other noneconomic factors and goals of our system.

I have tried to condense my feelings in this matter and I am sure you do not need my novice advice on handling specific economic issues during your campaign. So, I will say only one thing because I feel it is very important that you are elected. An incumbent Republican President can bolster the economic condition in the short run which is inherent in their "recessive-boom" cycle philosophy. But in the long run, this type of economic manipulation has failed for the past 100 years. This advantage in the short run can take away a major issue in your campaign.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark S. Pash". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Mark S. Pash

THE CURE FOR EXCESS INFLATION

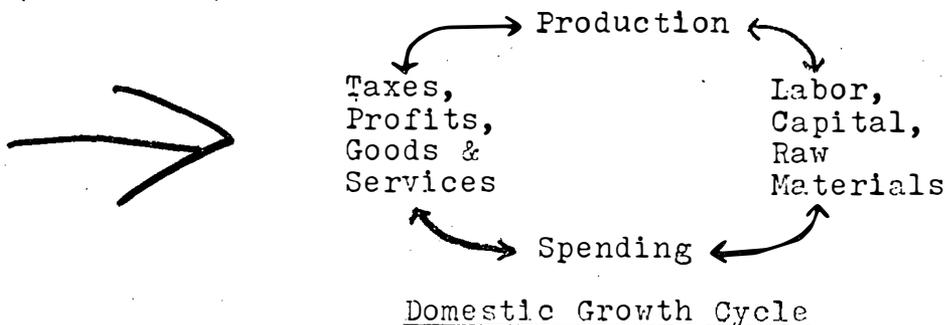
by Mark S. Pash

Since I have not heard a complete or a decisive cause or solution from either an economist or politician, it prompted me to write what I think is a very simple and realistic solution to this excess inflation condition. You notice I say EXCESS inflation - not just inflation. Everyone asks how to cure inflation, what do we do about inflation, inflation is bad. The fact is that inflation is good and is very necessary for a solid growth economy and no leader is clearly explaining that to the American people. What is not good is excess or runaway inflation. I hate to put a figure on what is considered excess inflation, lets call it anything over 6%.

Everyone seems to be trying to introduce deflationary measures to control excess inflation. Thus, risking high unemployment, political reversals, business slowdowns and a severe recession which could domino into a catastrophic depression.

The assumption for using deflationary measures is that excessive spending (demand over supply) is the major cause for the entire inflation problem. This is not even close to being correct. It probably is just a small fraction contributing to excess inflation. A majority of our economic pricing is just not responsive to the simple demand and supply conditions.

Any type of domestic spending whether labeled as government, private, consumer, business, savings or investments shares equally in their effect on the growth inflation rate (less than 6%) of the domestic growth cycle. (See Chart)



This growth inflation (less than 6%) is caused by the natural shifts or adjustments within the domestic growth cycle. Excess inflation is caused by immoderately breaking this domestic growth cycle through artificial means. In other words, there has been improper decision making in the government and private sectors. Some of these artificial causes are:

- (1) An imbalance of U.S. international commerce (governmental & private) with too much and the wrong kind of aid and capital outflows. In other words, too much is being improperly invested in the short run to accomplish long run objectives.
- (2) The Russian wheat deal sparking inflation in food.
- (3) The Arab oil embargo sparking excess inflation in petroleum.
- (4) Recessive deflationary measures causing a rise in prices to overcome the cost of tight money.
- (5) The psychological effect on the people which manifests itself in many ways but especially in the faulty fears that the U.S. has shortages of raw materials. (This does not mean we should not conserve our resources and find alternatives for them or that the world has problems in developing and supplying them.)

Decision making at the government level should be aimed at controlling these excess inflationary conditions with anti-excess-inflationary programs, not controlling growth inflation with deflationary measures. These measures have created a recessive period with major decreases in consumer purchasing power (demand) and still an increasing excess inflation rate.

Anti-excess-inflationary measures are decisions on spending which are not as inflationary as those already being implemented. In other words, change some of the spending decisions for alternatives which break the Domestic Growth Cycle the least. The following is a general priority list of expenditures starting with the least excessive inflationary spending:

- (1) Domestic Spending by Domestic Capital*
(Consumer, business and government spending on goods, services, savings or investments)
- (2) Domestic Spending by Foreign Capital
(Exports, foreign loans or capital inflows)
- (3) Domestic Aid by Government Capital (Welfare)
(Public service jobs created to solve high unemployment which does not result in viable goods and services is almost as excess inflationary as welfare)

- (4) Foreign Spending by Domestic Capital
(Imports, foreign investments)
- (5) Government Foreign Spending for Goods and Services
- (6) Government Foreign Aid of Domestic Goods and Services
- (7) Government Foreign Aid of Domestic Capital
- (8) Government excessive deficit spending and improper financial credit (excessive bad debts) also breaks the cycle and causes excess inflation. This should be applied to the above list but is very difficult to allocate specifically and has to be controlled generally.

* All savings or investments spent on such things as homes, equipment, land and businesses, through their financial intermediaries have the same growth inflationary effect as consumer or government spending (which also provide savings through the generation of profits and cash inflows).

The following is a list of 8 general decision making areas which can be developed into an executive program and be activated at various realistic degrees depending on the time frame and the amount of excess inflation to be cured. They are based on anti-excess-inflationary measures which take into account the above spending list where government can initiate moderate movement up the list and relax the deflationary measures to control this excess inflation.

I. Improve the Psychology of the People

It is time to unite the American people in a basic and simple understanding of our economic system and a program to cure excess inflation. Since people are polarized and unknowledgeable about our economic system and faced with the uncertainty of a cure, this creates a psychological factor which causes excess inflation by the nature of its instability.

Any government program to solve our excessive inflation problem has to attack the psychological conditions with a strong and communicative marketing effort. Any program which advocates strong, recessive deflationary measures as the cure for excess inflation will have great difficulty just overcoming the resulting negative psychological effects.

The following seven decision making solutions do not add to this psychological burden, but in themselves help thwart these negative psychological conditions.

II. Relocation Adjustment of Government Spending

Excess expenditures by government outside the country without any immediate return of goods, services and capital results in an economic imbalance in the domestic growth cycle. This aggravates the excess inflation rate, especially in the short run. This direct outflow of capital without any immediate return also means that our economy is not being stimulated which results as a recessive pressure.

This imbalance can be reduced by moderate governmental adjustment decisions. Since it is very unrealistic to cut the federal budget because of our political system and because it is a deflationary measure, it is better to relocate these expenditures into less inflationary expenditures which obtain the same results. The following are three examples of anti-excess-inflationary actions which could be considered in governmental decisions: (The specific examples stated in this paper are only intended to be illustrative and give a clear concept of the thought behind this decision making process.)

- (1) Defense spending is very inflationary in the short run, especially direct overseas aid which results in capital outflow and stimulation of a foreign economy without any short run benefit. Of course all defense spending in the long run creates stability which is anti-inflationary, but the spending decision making should also be examined in terms of excessive short run inflation.

For example, a reduction in the American military occupation of Germany can be accomplished by a relocation of two divisions into Maine and Florida. These divisions would be transformed into airborne units with the capability of achieving the same security mission by reaching Europe in a matter of hours (might even provide better security). This adjustment decision without a reduction in the defense budget would be very anti-excess-inflationary by stimulating our economy and not a strong German one and by reducing our outflow of capital.

- (2) Government domestic aid where it breaks the domestic growth cycle by not stimulating productivity has an excess inflationary affect. Public service jobs which have been mentioned as a solution to high unemployment also have an excess inflationary affect if there is no viable stimulation of the complete domestic growth cycle. It is up to government to insure that more of its expenditures in this area ¹⁸⁰ result of a productive result which will assist in the reduction of excess inflation.
- (3) Direct capital gifts of foreign aid is the most excessive inflationary expenditure of them all. They break the domestic growth cycle in all places. Foreign aid expenditures can be adjusted to include more domestically produced goods and services, more American advisors, and more research and development of natural resources.

Any international decisions to reduce excess inflation can be made as a number of minor adjustments and in various degrees within the framework of goodwill and without turbulence. Also from an international standpoint a strong U.S. economy will create stronger economic allies and allow the U.S. to help her allies more fully in the development of their raw materials (scarcity) once she is under control.

III. Relocation Adjustment of Private Spending in Foreign Sources (Balance of Payments)

A minor and moderate position can also be applied to adjustments in our private spending in the international market place. U.S. corporate and private foreign spending is more inflationary than domestic spending. Adjustments can be made to bring more balance to our international position.

The U.S. should start competing a little more effectively and not let international affairs completely dominate economic decision making. We have to recognize foreign economic effects especially in terms of short run excess inflation.

This can be accomplished by proper tariff management to insure fair competition with other nations and to postpone extremely excessive inflationary deals. One example would be the Russian natural gas deal which gives away cheap capital for very long range and uncertain benefits. There can also be a change in our foreign investment tax credit policy in order to encourage a reduction of private capital outflows which would

increase domestic investment and reduce our excess inflation rate.

IV. Increase the Supply of Raw Materials

Certain commodity types of raw materials are still subject to the simple supply and demand relationships for their price fluctuations. But to say that the U.S. has a severe scarcity problem that is causing this excess inflation is just not true. Scarce items like food and oil which have been artificially limited have stimulated psychological fears of the people and has the country scrambling to shift to different amounts and types of raw materials. This overreaction has contributed to this excess inflation condition.

We have a very sophisticated technological society with the ability to develop, produce and discover alternatives for basic raw materials. It is up to government to guide and stimulate these functions and to insure their proper utilization and conservation. This would insure stability by avoiding the present short run scrambling situation and future scarcity problems.

The following are just some prudent management examples that government can use to stimulate productivity and increase supplies. These types of programs will calm the psychological fears, the short run scrambling for resources and develop a long range program to insure future resource development:

- (1) Proper agriculture management by allowing farmers and ranches to economically produce more.
- (2) Release of some government lumber lands when lumber scarcity was a very strong push on excess inflation.
- (3) Research and Development Programs which:
 - a. increases productivity - like agriculture and labor R & D.
 - b. allows for efficient consumption - like the oil conservation measures.
 - c. develop efficient alternatives for forecasted depletions - like solar power for oil power.

Of course these are only a few examples, but the fact still remains that the U.S. has a very strong bed of natural resources and if the government takes these types of oversee actions, it will greatly help our inflationary problems.

V. Lower the Interest Rates

Excess inflation has been greatly aggravated by the scarcity and high cost of a very important raw material called capital. This subject has been highly debated, but basically it is a recessive deflationary measure which does to some degree reduce the growth inflation rate (under 6%). But, in actuality it is one of the major causes of excess inflation.

Since a majority of the major goods and services are produced and controlled by a very few sellers, they have almost total control of their pricing policies which usually reflect costs. The three cost factors which make up prices are (1) raw materials, (2) labor and (3) capital.

The cost of capital whether depicted as interest rates (debt financing), profits (equity financing), or rate of return (retained earnings financing) is a major factor in the establishment of prices. Since the prime rate has gone up 100% in the last 6 years, it is an excellent indicator of an excessive inflationary cost through which other cost of capital determinates are guided. Thus, a lowering of interest rates would result in a substantial decrease in the excess inflation rate and an upsurge in productivity and psychological climate.

VI. Less Restrictive Monetary Policy

Since the Federal Reserve Board decided that they issued too much money which resulted in too much spending, they decided to overly restrict the money supply. This recessive, deflationary measure did nothing to the excess inflation rate because the cost of capital was increased and transmitted to prices.

Since this restriction was so tight, it rapidly slowed productivity which only affected the solid growth inflation rate (below 6%). An immediate loosening of the monetary supply into an effective balance of properly financed productivity would reduce the excess inflation rate.

VII. Reduce the Government Deficit

Of course excessive deficit spending has an excess inflationary effect and to cut the spending side of government is difficult as well as a recessive deflationary move. A reduction of the deficit can more easily be accomplished on the revenue side as an anti-excess-inflationary move rather than a deflationary move. Some revenue increasing measures are:

- (1) Eliminate tax loopholes for the wealthy.
- (2) Tax more heavily the wealthier institutions such as insurance, religious, or foundation groups.
- (3) Possibly initiate a small one year tax surcharge on excess incomes or profits for an initial punch to any anti-excess-inflation program.
- (4) Proper managerial and cost efficiencies on the spending side of government will also gain revenues and reduce the budget deficit.

VIII. Executive Persuasion to Reduce Excessive Price and Wage Demands

In addition to the distorting factors of the existing excess inflation, any program to fight inflation will also bring uncertainty to the pricing policies of private enterprises. The executive branch will have to provide some form of persuasion to hinder the resulting excessive price demands.

Although wages are always lagging behind inflation, there can be certain executive branch influences to limit rapid or radical wage requests which will also assist in bringing excess inflation under control.

Conclusion

This exposition states that each spending item has different amounts of inflationary effect and to hold down excess inflation, spending will have to be shifted. This type of ranking should always be considered in all government decisions to eliminate excess inflation in the short run while accomplishing long range objectives. It also states that certain causes of excess inflation have been over zealous deflationary decisions which should be relaxed.

These basic concepts are far from being inclusive and in detail. I am sure the staffs of government economists and consultants can find many alternatives in each of these areas to solve our excess inflationary problems. It does give a framework for decision making in the development of a realistic program which if approached with vigor would solve our excess inflation problems without sacrificing any faction of society by entering into a deeper recessive state.

Mr. Jimmy Carter
Our next President, we hope,
Plains, Georgia

Input

Dear Mr. Carter:

When you are elected, will you please authorize the spending of funds to prevent the dumping of trash, garbage or oil in the ocean. Someday, if something is not done, we will kill our next food resources of the earth.

We may find other resources of food but we will probably not use it wisely and kill it, too. We want alot of signatures and support to get a law passed. I am sure that over three quarters of the people on the earth will agree with us. So please help by giving your support.

None of the people on this petition have ever seen you in person, so maybe some time you could take time off to come see us at Kirklane Elementary School, 1000 Purdy Lane, Palm Springs, Florida. The first day of school next year is September 1, 1976.

Our Sponsor

Clifford O. Johnson
Our Glorious Principal

and all the people who wrote the petition:

*Lori Robertson
Patricia Bastidas
Lisa Knight
Annette Thomas*

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KIRKLANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 1000 Purdy Lane
 Palm Springs, Florida 33460

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- 29. Felicia Walker
- 30. Bryan Hunt
- 31. Brian Shea
- 32. Betty Robinson
- 33. Brett Howard
- 34. Gaynelle Benedict
- 35. Suzanne Goodnick
- 36. Peggy Robertson
- 37. Murray Seamon
- 38. Felicia Barnes
- 39. Rhonda White
- 40. Lisa Schmitt
- 41. Amy Crouch
- 42. Ricky Sloan
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- 44. Kathy Call
- 45. Mary Jarmatawicz
- 46. Garry Austin
- 47. Teresa Tillman
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- 49. Wayne Mugaer
- 50. Carole Widdoes
- 51. Joey Kirby
- 52. Christina Constantine
- 53. Mrs. Miller
- 54. Kenny Dexter

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- Andrew Bire
- Edward Lloyd
- Evelyn Williams
- Fergent Spruill
- Sam Crenshaw
- Anthony Graham
- Deane Russell
- Erin McCoal
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1000 Purdy Lane
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Ortha Perkins
Steve Brown
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1	Francisco Bastidas	Dennis Bart
2	Jing Fisher	Mark Craikford
3	Joey Verdane	Angela Rose
4	Jeff Cassal	Ron Jones
5	Man Lock	Roderick Crenshaw
6	Gary Barnes	Lisa M. Varnadore
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8	Eddie Harrison	Bobby Kulp
9	Eddie Hous	David Conklin
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11	John Bravelot	Mark Hardman
12	Harold King	Scott Atchley
13	Pam Beiter	Melissa Bynes
14	Kim Bartlett	Kristi Maharrey
15	Sharon Roller	Lina Andrews
16	Mark Dabo	J. McMullan
17	Loney Eberk	Peter Preston
18	Domy Jackson	Wendy Croteau
19	Cynthia Cole	Philip Konegny
20	Kathy Garmakowicz	Karen woelke
21	John Kanel	Kathy Kirkpatrick
22	Dawn De Hoff	Randy Richmond
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1101 State Road
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
(609) 924-0004

August 31, 1976

The Honorable Jimmy Carter
Plains, Georgia 31780

Dear Mr. Carter:

I am one of the millions of people who are relieved about, excited over and encouraged by your Presidential Candidacy! I have followed your campaign with enthusiasm and hope. A galaxy of feelings roam my head at this time in our history and in this election year. For example, by your selection of the Party's nominee, it is the first time in my life when I could affirm the fact that it is not punitive nationally to be a Southerner; that the nation now has to reckon with Northern provinciality openly and honestly and that a Southerner can lead, must lead to benefit a nation with leadership that cares about mercy and justice because it is in his bones, not just in his mind! Thank you for being the one who incarnated all that and gives it all room to breathe.

Needless to say, it is presumptuous to have enclosed one of "my" speeches. However, I know the issue of amnesty/pardon is one that concerns you, as rightly it should. However, amnesty is a matter so easily misunderstood and issues so clouded. Your statement that "amnesty implies what was done was correct" is an interpretation that is very misleading. The enclosure was a speech delivered at Massanetta Springs Conference Center in Virginia in 1973. The audience of four hundred people was as wide a cross section as one could imagine (yea, verily, dare imagine!). There were twelve gold star parents there. It was the most difficult speech I have ever made but it was received positively because apparently they sensed I was not naming heroes or searching for demons. I would hope some of the data provided therein will be helpful to you. I wrestled with the decision to send it to you, not knowing whether you would ever see it - but - here 'tis!

Every best wish to you at this important juncture of your life and at this vital cross roads in our country's history/future. We look forward to your returning to New Jersey. I hope sometime we will meet. We have many mutual friends in Atlanta (Joe Roberts, Jim Laney, Randy Taylor, Bennie Mays) and your have refurbished my hope for not only my future but for the future of our sons.

The Church in our home sends affectionate greetings to the Church in yours.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rob".

W. Robert Martin, Jr.

WRM:bz

Enclosure

AMNESTY.....A PAINFUL RISK FOR SOME, DEEP NEED FOR
MANY, AN IMPERATIVE ISSUE FOR ALL OF
US TO CONSIDER

--W. Robert Martin, Jr.

AMNESTY.....A PAINFUL RISK FOR SOME; DEEP NEED FOR MANY;
AN IMPERATIVE ISSUE FOR ALL OF US TO CONSIDER

"If he puts his foot in this house again, I'll shoot the hippie traitor."

That is a comment from a corporation executive who has a son who moved to Canada to avoid the draft. He is a Church officer.

"I am ashamed of the day I took my son to that airplane and put him on it. I'm ashamed of any pride that I had when Taps were played at his graveside. To take that lovely boy and to tell him he was fighting for his country rather than admitting to him that he was merely assisting his country in trying to convince itself that it could still be strong wherever it wanted to be was terrible deceit."

Those were words spoken by a mother testifying at the trial of her one son who had burned draft cards, referring to another son killed in Viet Nam. She added:

"You now propose to send my son to prison for up to fifteen years and yet the Acting Director of the FBI burned files of deceit in order to cover up lies and intrigue. My son burned files to attempt to keep other young men like his brother from having to die in a war that was never even declared. He is the patriot for his actions, not the Director of the FBI."

"How can any general amnesty be explained to these men? How can amnesty be explained to parents, wives, children....all those who have lost a son, husband or a father in their country's service? How can we excuse ourselves to the prisoners of war still unaccounted for, the missing or to their suffering families by offering amnesty?"

These are the words of the National Commander of the American Legion spoken as testimony before the Senate Subcommittee hearings on amnesty.

"America needs a new beginning. I cannot believe that a president who made a great journey to Peking in an effort to wipe out all past misunderstanding

and the embark on a new beginning; that a president who traveled to Moscow to reunite the East and the West; that a president who sends Dr. Kissinger to Hanoi to seek ways to help the people who were fighting our armies only recently, cannot find the way for us to be reconciled with our own sons."

These are the words of Robert Moss, President of the United Church of Christ, father of a son who received a very serious wound while serving in Viet Nam.

The quotations, the stories of contrast and illustrations of differing positions could go on and on. The issue of amnesty stands before us as the subject for this morning's consideration. Amnesty is one of the most controversial questions before us as individuals and as a national people. It drives its consequences into the mid-section of many a social evening's discussion, discussions really intended to be nothing more than sophisticated yet charming chit-chat. It is an issue that now divides families, explodes amid meetings of Church gatherings, intimidates politicians and illumines, as does a flare flash, the multiple wounds that our nation carries in its soul from the war in Indochina. It was a war, at best, with confused purposes, vague bids to gallantry and, with continuous agony, seeks after righteous justification and a brave *raison d'etre*.

When Phil Roberts asked me if I would consider speaking on the subject of amnesty, I said I would. I do for three reasons. First, amnesty is a central issue for the healing desperately needed in this land now that our involvement in at least ground hostilities in Indochina have been ended. Secondly, I take very seriously Bonhoffer's commission that one of the highest callings of any Christian man or woman is to create the free space for the younger generation to emerge into hopefulness and glad promise. Amnesty stands as a central issue if we are to begin to forge a future in genuine, reconciled wholeness. Thirdly, the Presbyterian Church in the United States, to which most of us here belong, in its Assembly meeting in Fort Worth, to which I went as Commissioner, asks us all now to study carefully the meaning and the need for amnesty for those who resisted, deserted and/or became involved in legal entanglements while serving in the military in Viet Nam. Therefore, it is appropriate that we, this morning, roll up our sleeves, go to the mat with our own feelings -- (some mixed, some clear) -- struggle with our own prejudices, and get an arm lock on our own undisciplined ignorances concerning the meaning, history and appropriateness of amnesty.

I will attempt, as best I can, to give some insight into that meaning, into that history, into both sides of the argument and

to, in fact, plead with all here assembled to begin to work for a merciful, healing and reconciling stand toward all those who stand as victims of the war, particularly toward those who in conscience could not or could no longer serve in the military during that highly divisive and controversial conflict.

Since this is a Bible Conference, I am willing to put myself out before you, knowing there will probably not be overwhelming agreement with all that I advance. But I do it nonetheless in the glad assurance that the Lord will quickly erase from your minds those things said that are improper and drive into our consciences and actions those things that the Almighty has no intention of allowing you or me to step over casually or finally ignore, particularly if we are serious about being ambassadors of peace and reconcilers in His Name.

What Is Amnesty?

The word 'amnesty' comes from the Greek word 'amnestia'. It means 'not remembering, oblivion, intentional overlooking'. The medical term 'amnesia' comes directly from this meaning... 'the inability to recall.'

Amnesty, therefore, is not pardon or forgiveness. It carries no judgement of right and wrong. It does not attempt or propose to pardon a person. Rather, it involves a whole class of legal offenders rather than dealing with one or a few persons. The Supreme Court makes this distinction:

"A pardon relieves an offender from the consequences of an offense for which he has been convicted, while amnesty obliterates an offense before or after conviction; and in such case the person is related to that law as though he had committed no offense whatsoever."

Amnesty is a legal term. It is, as one judge states:

"that blessed act of oblivion."

What is at stake here in the call for general amnesty is not forgiveness to be extended toward those in question for their actions. Rather it is a call in the legal sense to "forget to prosecute for such offenses" which were actions taken under the dictate of conscience. What is asked for is indeed, a 'blessed act of oblivion!'

What Is The History Of Amnesty In The U.S.?

The declaration of amnesty has seldom occurred. In order not

to be confusing, let me state that the history I will now trace will be dealing with Executive "pardons" more than "amnesty". Often times, the pardons were given thinking the action was, in fact, an amnesty.

On July 4, 1796 Washington granted 'pardons' to all who participated in the "Whiskey Rebellion." In 1800, Adams gave a general 'pardon' to "the late, wicked and treasonable insurrection against the just authority of the United States of sundry persons in the counties of Northampton, Montgomery and Bucks in the State of Pennsylvania" following the so-called 'House Tax Insurrection of 1798.'

The Civil War was a period marked by extensive and highly controversial amnesties, even for treason. The issue of amnesty created deep conflict between Congressional and Presidential powers. Presidents Lincoln and Johnson were much quicker to grant amnesty to the insurgents than was the Congress. In the Confiscation Law of 1862, Congress gave the President the power to 'pardon and amnesty' those participating in the Rebellion. Lincoln acted twice. Johnson acted four times. In 1876, Congress passed a complete and all-inclusive amnesty for all those who fought against the government of the United States.

There have been no general amnesties in this century, none in our lifetime, though we have had wars aplenty. Wilson pardoned a list of political opponents to World War I. Coolidge returned citizenship and civil rights to men who deserted the armed forces between the ending of World War I hostilities and the formal termination of the War. Roosevelt granted 'full pardon' on Christmas 1933 to all violators of the World War I draft laws and the 1917 Espionage Law.

Christmas 1945, saw Truman granting a full pardon for all Federal non-military crimes to every World War II honorably discharged veteran, stating he was considering a 'general amnesty.' A Committee of Amnesty was formed. It was composed of outstanding persons, including such people as Pearl Buck, Thomas Mann, Thornton Wilder, Harry Emerson Fosdick and Thurgood Marshall. Though it intended to be an 'amnesty' Board, it turned out to be a pardoning, parole board. It dealt with individuals, case by case. Ultimately, it reached the conclusion that 1,523 persons had been dealt with unjustly out of 20,000 cases.

Once again, during the Eisenhower Administration, there was a move toward amnesty but nothing ever came of it. Not even any general pardons have occurred since.

In a very moving article by Frank Wright, Washington correspondent for the Minneapolis Tribune, entitled, "Needed, A Miracle," the posture of President Nixon is made very clear. The President has stated:

"I would say I can think of no greater insult to the memories of those who have fought and died, to the memories of those who have served and also to our POW's, to say to them that we are now going to provide amnesty for those who deserted the country or refused to serve. We are not going to do so, and I do not intend to change my position."

"Amnesty means forgiveness. We cannot provide forgiveness for them. Those who have served paid their price. Those who deserted must pay their price, and the price is not a junket in the Peace Corps or something like that, as some have suggested. The price is a criminal penalty for disobeying the laws of the United States."

Harrop Freeman, an authority on Constitutional Law, calls a very important fact to focus at this point. It is even more important that we pay attention to his words having just been reminded of President Nixon's stand on and his misunderstanding of amnesty.

"Although the original Constitution nowhere placed the amnesty power specifically, it followed the same general rule as in the British System, that is, that it belongs to Parliament or the people, (a fact confirmed by Amendments IX and X of the Constitution) Congress would then exercise amnesty in the 'name of the people.' Amendment XIV, Section 3, adopted after the Presidential-Congressional conflict of the Civil War assures the power of amnesty to be vested in the Congress."

Therefore, it is not only reasonable but it is highly constitutional for the Congress to be addressing itself to the issue of amnesty in these times. It is equally appropriate for us as citizens to be making our feelings and desires known to those Congressional leaders regarding the matter and importance of amnesty at this juncture of our national life.

What Kinds Of Amnesty Are There?

There are two sources from which amnesty can come and two types of amnesty that could be enacted. First, let's acknowledge the two sources from which amnesty can occur. There is Presidential amnesty, initiated and administered by the Executive branch of the government. Secondly, there is Congressional amnesty. It would seek through legislation to enable Congress to be the grantor of the amnesty. Current amnesty discussion focuses on legislative amnesty more than executive-Presidential amnesty.

There are two types of amnesty under consideration. First, there is 'conditional amnesty.' It calls for various forms of civilian service in the national interest for a period of two or three years, for all resisters. Perhaps a requirement of an oath of allegiance would be imposed. Amnesty for military deserters would be considered on a case by case basis. An important thing to note here is the favoritism shown to resisters or dissenters over against deserters. The vast number of military deserters are from minority or low economic-educational groups, incapable of meeting the requirements of high verbal and written articulation to state their case in political, philosophical terms. Resisters and/or dissenters acted before the fact of induction. Deserters acted after the fact, impacted by the deep ambiguities, if not the blatant horrors they witnessed. They acted out of a discovery of conflict of conscience. They desperately need our attention, concern and compassion.

Secondly, there is 'unconditional amnesty.' It would give amnesty to all those who (1) left the United States, allowing them to return permanently and/or visit at will, (2) release all war resisters held in civilian or military prisons, (3) drop pending and potential legal action against resisters, and (4) restore civil and voting rights to all those who have completed prison sentences, received less than honorable discharges and/or administrative discharges for the military who have otherwise lost rights of citizenship due to their opposition to the war or for the attending difficulties into which they got themselves while involved with and implicated in military service.

What Are The Arguments Against Amnesty...Particularly Unconditional Amnesty?

Let me list seven.

1. Amnesty would undermine any future system of military draft or subscription, allowing a situation to develop whereby many would refuse induction, confident that they could expect to be amnestied.

2. It would be a cold affront to the memory of the more than 55,000 Americans who died in Vietnam as well as to their families and to the many thousands of wounded and disabled veterans.

3. It would weaken our democracy and would be an injustice to those who now serve and formerly served in the Armed Forces.

4. No amnesties were granted after World War I, World War II and Korea and, therefore, there is not only no precedent but no need for such action now.

5. A national government cannot survive if individual citizens decided what laws they will obey or what wars they will support.

6. The government can appreciate the courage and convictions of resisters and deserters, but that does not pardon them from the consequences of illegal acts.

7. The possibility of a vindictive or hostile attitude toward the unpunished may endanger the prospects for their employment or social acceptance, creating further divisions.

What Are The Arguments For Amnesty...Unconditional Amnesty In Particular?

I, in order to be fair, will advance seven reasons here, as well.

1. Well over a hundred thousand have already suffered for their particular convictions about the war. Jail, exile or living in the hassel of the underground is not a casual or pleasant past time. Whether they were right or wrong, it is time to call a halt to their suffering. It is a time even to confess to them, no longer attempting to confess only for them.

2. Several presidents have granted limited amnesty and general pardon in wars that had the almost undivided support of the American people. Congress granted a general amnesty following the Civil War from which practically all of my relatives benefited and I expect most of yours. How right it would be for amnesty to be granted after a war that divided the nation and dug at the very depths of its soul, for which the formal consent of the Congress was never sought, a conflict that recently saw the Congress deny funds for bombing Cambodia that will go into effect at midnight tonight.

3. There is no evidence, historically, that the granting of amnesty leads logically to anarchy. On the contrary, the universal and unconditional amnesty granted to Confederate soldiers after the Civil War, made less difficult the healing of the gashed wounds dealt by that national tragedy. I am reminded that amnesty was given to our fellow Confederates who were willing to kill their own countrymen in order to defend their right to hold brothers and sisters of different color as slaves! How much more appropriate unconditional amnesty for those who refused to fight, or continue to kill in the midst of another nation's civil war 10,000 miles away from our own land.

4. Many young people have experienced this nation only as a powerful war making land and have never known it to act out

of humane and selfless principle. Amnesty would illustrate beyond a shadow of doubt this nation's capacity to be deeply sensitive and redemptively alert to the passionate concerns for peace and justice, healing and wholeness.

5. Unconditional amnesty would alleviate racial and social class discrimination that has existed through this conflict beyond our imagining. By and large, white, middle-class, educated males were spared from military service. There was shelter in the reserves, in college deferments and in conscientious objection. The burden of warring fell upon the shoulders of the poor, the less educated, the black, brown and red peoples of this land. It was the poor, the less educated, members of minority groups who constitute the massive percentage of those who deserted. They became aware, not through books or liberal talk at the dinner table, but through the exposure to strange dealings, "destroying in order to save", cruelties and the amazing irrationalities of this war. They stumbled over a new being and a new conscience on a patrol, or on a 'search and destroy' mission or through the deathly loneliness of their own thoughts in an advanced outpost amid an internal conflict of Asian peoples. They, too, are the ones having the largest number of dishonorable discharges or administrative releases, disenfranchised from civil privileges and in essence, already beyond the boundaries of employment or education.

6. It is grossly unfair to put those who resisted or deserted over against those who served in it. The painful and haunting, ever haunting questions, "Why did my son have to die?" and/or "Why did this all have to happen to us, he is so different now?", are not questions that should be addressed to an eighteen year old in Vancouver or a twenty-two year old Black and his wife in Sweden. They should be addressed to the administrations which sent them, not to the men who refused to go. They are not the Prodicals -- it is the nation itself!

7. Probably the most provocative of all is that amnesty will allow us to come to terms with those who were, in fact, early on, right about that war. Their greatest offense is that they were 'prematurely correct' about a tragic involvement of this nation in a particular military conflict. They broke laws in a variety of ways. God knows this nation was founded by those who did just that. It was the only course of action available to them. To take the legal consequences would say the law was right and they were wrong. If they choose Canada or Sweden, by choice after amnesty, that is their right. But, I am selfish enough for what they mean and who they are to not want those nations to have our sons by default. For those who have known prison and less than honorable discharges, I am selfish enough to want the restora-

tion of their civil rights in order that they join us in the deliberative arenas at this juncture of our history. I ache for them to be engaged with us in the determinative decisions in the market places of our private and corporate habitations regarding not what events have been but what now life together can be.

What Are Some Biblical And Theological Basis For Consideration Of Amnesty?

The Biblical witness for amnesty is much stronger than our political tradition embodies. The progression of the faithful communities' understanding of what God requires of it moves from an Old Testament notion of a Creating God who enjoins revenge to a God of love and unnerving grace. The claim of God upon us for obedience is heightened in the reality of what He intends for us in the revelation of Jesus Christ. The picture of a God who requires the destruction of those who oppose Israel changes by the time of Isaiah. And we read:

"I am He who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins."

Among the arguments against amnesty, the one that should concern us the most is that the principles of law and obedience to the law are undermined and flaunted. The argument is advanced that we should all remember Jesus' injunction to render unto Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things of God. Paul teaches in Romans 13 that Christians should be subject to the governing authorities for they are ordained of God.

In context, Jesus' teaching must always be seen as a response to an attempt to trap him, part of a continual effort to find a justifiable reason to bring the death penalty to him. Jesus carefully replies that the claim of obedience is limited. The emperor has right to his monetary and tax-gathering roles but the claim that Caesar Augustus was making, that the emperor was divine, was clearly and finally ejected by Jesus, with all of the moral pretentiousness of the idolatrous government put in its rightful place once and for all. In his letter to Rome, Paul makes clear that Jesus is Lord. He subjected principalities and powers and placed them in subordinate rank. Government is ordained of God as necessary for corporate life but serves faithfully in its limited and just activity within that society. Jesus alone is the real King, the Lord, the Kyrios.

One of the great visions of the Old Testament is the Year of the Jubilee. Every seventh year was to be a year of rest for the

land, a Sabbath. At seven-times-seven, plus one, the fifteenth year, there was to be a Jubilee Year. Lands were to be restored to their former owners and debts forgiven. There was to be a total amnesty for everybody. It was to be a time of resurrection.

The Beatitudes throb with the power of restoration. I remind you that I have not rearranged them to make my point. They read as they are recorded:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so men persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Hebrews rings:

"Strive for peace with all men and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. (12:14).

Finally, there is that great benediction in Revelations. In essence, it is a final declaration of amnesty for the hurts that probe, the fear that tears and the anxiousness that paralyzes:

"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away and the sea was no more. And I saw the Holy City, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband; and I heard a great voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling of God is with men. He will dwell with them and they shall be His people and God himself will be with them. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. And He who sat upon the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." Also, He said, "Write this down for these words are trustworthy and true. I am Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End."

A Closing Vignette

I have tried to be fair in this presentation. I have no intention of trying to put down the experiences of those who have served in other wars or who served in Viet Nam. I have no desire to negate the loneliness, the fear and heroism of those persons nor of those who loved them and worried for their safety in absence from them. In trying to be fair, I cannot at the same time be neutral. As a citizen of this great land, left to my own devices, I might well have quite different feelings. But as a person who takes his citizenship very seriously, I also stand within the mandates and obedience called for by God in Jesus Christ. As much as I might prefer it otherwise, that God of Grace and God of Glory beckons me to quite different responses in my glad awareness that I have been amnestied in His love and through his mercy. Can I do less for those who are now separated from us geographically or separated from us by having been permanently stripped of their rights to citizenship from having refused to participate or to continue participation in what I can see to be nothing other than a tragically immoral war? We have allowed Cuba to exist in the shadow of Miami Beach and the Florida White House without war. We did not feel constrained to war when clear aggression occurred as Russian tanks rumbled through the streets of Budapest. We chose only to supply food and clothing, not bombings and destruction when the peoples of Berlin were sealed off from the world and a country split in two. Therefore, our gallant declaration "to insure small nations the right of self-determination" rings with a deathly hollowness. We speak not of the enemy but of our own sons. They are not the Prodical.

It is our nation that went into a far country and spent itself

in riotious life. We need to be the father who did not wait to hear his son's confession or to see if he met all the conditions of the ol' man. Once catching even the haziest glimpse of that boy on the road, he killed the fatted calf. All he cared about was the fact that his son was coming home to him! God help us if we do less! God forgive us if we stand as the resentful elder brother! God grant us the courage, the compassion and the wisdom to be the "restorers of the breach", "ambassadors of reconciliation" who provide the Jubilee for a weary, troubled and wounded land. We cannot bring back the dead. We cannot restore wholeness to the maimed. But we can be guarantors of fullness of life for the living and futures for the deprived. I will believe that when history is written about us in this time we will be those people who saw to it in this Century that the "blessed act of oblivion" will have been carried out and our sons restored to tabernacle with us and we with them.

If I have been offensive, I ask your pardon. But I do not want you to give me amnesty here, because, on behalf of those about whom I have been speaking, I do not want you to forget what this day I have attempted to say.

San José, Costa Rica

August 31, 1976

Mr. Jimmy Carter
Plains, Ga. 31780
U. S. A.

Dear Jimmy,

The enclosed envelope is marked "For Mr. Carter's eyes only" for reasons which I'm sure you'll understand when you read its contents.

The letter, which is a long and difficult one, deals with a subject that serves no useful purpose being injected into your present campaign, though it may well be of considerable interest to you after you win the Presidency.

It presents an idea whose time is not yet ripe, but which one day must be brought to fruition; it warns of a specter which has not raised its ugly head, but which someday will; and it envisions a dream and solution which is far from being fulfilled, but which, with God's help, can be realized before it's forever too late to do anything about the specter.

I feel constrained to offer you a guide to this complex letter, as follows:

The need -- pages 3 to 8.

Carter-Stevenson/COVERING LETTER/2

The mechanics -- pages 8 to 15.

The potential -- pages 15 to 25.

The costs -- pages 25 to 37.

Offsets to costs (income) -- pages 38 to 41.

Environmental costs -- pages 41 to 43.

Shortages -- pages 43 to 44.

The role of government -- pages 44 to 49.

Your friend,

Bill Stevenson

E. W. Stevenson, Jr.

c/d Julia Masís B.

Urbanización Montealegre

Zapote, San José

Costa Rica, C.A.

Costs of Government -- based on the
assumption that the
government will be
run by the state.
E. M. Stevenson, Jr.

LONG TERM

The role of government -- based on the
assumption that the
government will be
run by the state (income) -- based on the
assumption that the
government will be
run by the state -- based on the
assumption that the
government will be
run by the state.

San José, Costa Rica

August 30, 1976

Mr. Jimmy Carter
Plains, Ga. 31780
U. S. A.

Dear Jimmy,

As I promised you in my letter of July 21, 1976, what follows is a discussion in considerable detail of the so-called High Plains Project. In setting this forth without undue repetition, I must refer you from time to time to my letter of June 21, 1976, for the instant project is based in large measure on the Acua-gas mechanisms, methods and concepts developed in that particular letter.

I would ask you also to keep in mind, as you read the following figures, all of which are staggering in their scope, that I am presenting situations and possible solutions to them that are set far into the future. And though no great gifts of imagination are required for envisioning the situations in which we may eventually find ourselves -- perhaps even sooner than we expect -- the possible solutions, all of them requiring a great amount of experimentation, analysis, and planning (and, therefore, years of lead time), are such as to demand that they be initiated as soon as possible, at least on a small scale. These are dreams at the moment: the long-range Acua-gas

solution to the U.S. energy crisis, the admittedly grandiose scheme soon to be outlined, the Seafarm Concept, the weapons systems which I feel must be outlawed at their very inception.

If I am right in the inferences I have drawn from these ideas, it stands to reason that that fact should be highly useful for the United States to know and to try to do something about. If I am wrong, that, too, is useful knowledge, however depressing it will be to realize that we are faced with problems for which no immediate or practicable solutions may ever be found.

But the matter needs resolution, one way or the other. And, by the very nature of both the problems and the solutions I am proposing for them, it can only be you, in your future position (let us hope) as President of the United States, who will be able to provide the impetus and direction necessary to determine whether these ideas deserve to remain mere dreams or whether they merit at least an attempt to bring them into some form of realization.

Having said all this, I must now proceed, with a sense of apology, to place in your hands the "hottest potato" of all: the controversial hope of bringing water to portions of the American and Mexican desert. Given certain conditions, the hope can be realized. What will turn out to make it controversial is the extent to which the plan should be realized. It also entails an unprecedented amount (and degree) of cooperation between the two countries, involving such things as free movement of agricultural populations and technologies; a common

U.S.-Mexican market for water, fertilizers, forms of energy, basic minerals (whether mined from land or extracted from the sea), metals, machinery, vehicles, construction materials, and, especially, agricultural products; the allocation of zones off the coasts of both countries for energy, mineral and fishery production; and, most essentially, the participation of the two governments in initial funding, social planning, environmental studies and controls, tariff policies with respect to foodstuffs as they may affect other countries, and, eventually, the profits to be derived from their economic partnership. A large order, to be sure, but one which has, under the circumstances, a compelling logic.

THE HIGH PLAINS PROJECT

The need

One of the basic admonitions imparted to both trained and would-be statisticians is: "Don't run a trend line out the window!"

While this is a perfectly sound and useful rule, it needs to be modified with a corollary: "Don't ignore such trends, either. Rather, use them as tools for interpretation and analysis."

In the case of the relationship between rates of population growth and agricultural production throughout the world, the trends fairly scream for recognition. Like it or not, the Malthusian theory is becoming increasingly valid. Agricultural production in most of the countries of the world cannot begin to keep up with their rates of population

increase, with the result that, barring sufficient foreign exchange to provide for the importation of foodstuffs in substantial quantities, more and more people are, year by inexorable year, getting less and less to eat. Yet the bases from which this decline may be measured are, even now, barely above subsistence levels, while world market prices for key commodities continue to rise, due not only to the increasing demand but, as well, to other inflationary factors, such as soaring prices for fuels and fertilizers.

Nowhere is this squeeze likely to manifest itself with greater consequences to the economic, social and political security of the United States than in Mexico, with its booming rate of population growth, its reluctance to try to slow that rate down, its inadequately watered land, its primitive agricultural methods, and its already impoverished peons. No matter which of several possible trends are chosen for analysis, the pressure of these gentle, likeable and usually pacific people against our southern border must eventually become enormous. If we already have, as the Immigration Service conservatively estimates, some ten million illegal immigrants in the U.S. -- 90% of them Mexicans -- what will the situation be like in the next decade, or in the 1990's and beyond?

Let's look at this aspect of the future, given such facts as are available. The Comparative International Statistics section of the U.S. Statistical Abstract, 1975, shows a growth rate for Mexico of 3.5%, as against a 1.1% annual rate for the U.S. These rates, projected,

are the "lows" given in the table below. The "highs", calculated from a 1974 estimate made by the Mexican government and from the highest U.S. projection (Series C) given in the Statistical Abstract, are shown at the rates of 5.07533% and 1.20524%, respectively. The figures, in millions, are based on the official 1970 censuses and, in the case of the U.S., include Armed Forces abroad.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Mexico, high</u>	<u>Mexico, low</u>	<u>U.S., high</u>	<u>U.S., low</u>
1970	48.2	48.2	204.9	204.9
1976	64.9	59.3	220.2	218.8
1980	79.1	68.0	231.0	228.6
1990	129.7	95.9	260.4	255.0
2000	212.8	135.3	293.5	284.5
2010	349.2	190.8	330.9	317.4
2020	572.9	269.2	373.0	354.1
2030	939.9	379.7	420.5	395.0
2040	1,542.1	535.6	474.0	440.7
2050	2,529.9	755.6	534.3	491.6
2060	4,150.6	1,065.8	602.3	548.5
2070	6,809.6	1,503.4	679.0	611.9
2076	9,164.9	1,848.1	729.6	653.4

Taken at their worst, the above figures mean that American and Mexican agriculture (and fisheries), combined, must somehow be prepared to feed a cumulative total of 9.743 billion persons within the next twenty-five years; 29.787 billion within the next fifty years;

80.611 billion within the next seventy-five years; and 231.173 billion within the next hundred years.

At the U.S. dietary level (1974) of 3.64 pounds per person per day, the total amount required during the hundred-year period would be 153.673 billion short tons. This figure, however, is not a true measure of the total need, since it does not take into account grains fed to animals, nor other agricultural products needed to clothe the future populations and to sustain their industries. On the basis of the figures given for some 41 products listed in the 1976 Almanaque Mundial, it is possible to make a more meaningful comparison between Mexican and American production in terms of pounds per capita per year, as follows: (1974)

<u>Category</u>	<u>Mexico</u>	<u>United States</u>
Meat	35.2	172.2
Other edible animal items	159.2	591.4
Edible vegetable products	<u>725.8</u>	<u>2,464.7</u>
Subtotal	920.2	3,228.3
Non-edible products	<u>73.1</u>	<u>661.1</u>
Total	<u>993.3</u>	<u>3,889.4</u>

Since the U.S. (in 1973) produced 87.8% of the domestic supply of farm commodities, while utilizing, domestically, 79.5% of the total, a reduction of the above figure by 8.3% (representing the excess of exports over imports, less changes in stock) should produce a fairly accurate measure of U.S. per capita demand: 1.7833 short tons per year.

This, in turn, provides us with a figure for the total need over the period of one hundred years of 412.251 billion short tons, one which represents what might be called the "maximum goal" of the High Plains project. Whether it can be reached, or even closely approached, will be seen shortly. But whether such a demand will arise in the first place is another question. It is hard to imagine nine billion people crowded into the limited area of Mexico, since their density per square mile would be 12,034 -- about the same as Washington, D.C. One can only hope that the Mexicans themselves will find a solution to their population problems before they get completely out of hand.

As for the reasonable "minimum goal", one that provides the extant standards of living to both peoples, based on their "low" projections, the hundred-year total for Mexico is 26.272 billion short tons and, for the U.S., 71.228 billion short tons -- a total of 97.5 billion -- and representing an average yearly boost in U.S. agricultural levels of 171%, as against 909.3% for Mexico's agriculture. In other words, as between the two countries, new areas capable of producing an average 529.37 million short tons of farm commodities per year must be developed between now and 2077 in order to meet this "minimum" level of demand. In effect, this would necessitate a 218.8% increase over the acreage presently in cultivation.

Can it be done? The answer is yes -- given certain conditions and a considerable amount of capital investment, plus some rather major environmental changes -- all of which deserve careful analysis. Let's see

how.

The mechanics

Infinitely complicated though the High Plains project may be in execution, it is simple enough in concept. The idea, essentially, is to utilize various Acua-gas mechanisms (chiefly Flowgen systems -- see pp. 11-13 of the June 21st letter), plus units operating along the lines of the Anderson thermal-differences process (June 21, pp. 14-15), to electrolyze water in the Gulf of California and the Gulf of Mexico, as well as in various coastal lagoons and in the lower courses of certain rivers, so as to produce hydrogen. The hydrogen is then piped to land and to stations in the highlands where it is burned with the oxygen of the air so as to produce virgin water, generating, in the process, such electricity as may be utilizable in the immediate vicinity. Some of this electricity would be used to manufacture fertilizers, principally ammonium nitrate. These fertilizers are added to the new water in the amounts required by the lands which will be irrigated by it, these lands being generally downhill from the water-producing station. Where geological conditions permit, some of the electricity can be used to pump water back to the irrigation system after it has once been used on the croplands and has filtered down to natural aquifers.

If the distances of transmission are not too great, any excess electricity would be sent back to the coasts so as to electrolyze more sea water and produce more hydrogen. This process, though extremely wasteful, can, if repeated often enough, eventually produce almost 30%

more hydrogen than was produced originally by the Acua-gas units.

Alternatively, the electricity may be used to pump water, wherever it might be found, to areas no higher than 1,044.4 feet from its source (804.9 feet, if repeated electrolysis were to be employed). Beyond that height, it is more economical in terms of B.t.u. to electrolyze the water at the outset, sending the hydrogen uphill instead. In practice, this break-even altitude would be considerably lowered due to friction within the water conduit, depending on the distance over which the water needs to be pumped. Some of this pumped water can indeed originate in the sea so as to irrigate the many crop plants that exhibit tolerance to salt water. (See Boyko, Hugo. "Salt-Water Agriculture." Scientific American, 216, March 1967.) Anderson thermal-differences units, with their high on-site yields of electricity, would be ideal for this purpose.

Although both the land and sea areas involved in the High Plains project can, as of now, be only approximated, it will be useful to detail them in an effort to determine the possible limits to which the project might be carried. In the table below, the sources of energy which can be utilized are set forth in quadrillions of B.t.u. annually, together with the areas of land, in square miles, that might be irrigated to a depth of 30 inches of water per year. The sources and land areas are numbered, reading from west to east, for later reference, even though no attempt can be made, at the moment, to match particular desert areas with corresponding sources of hydrogen and

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water. In general, though, the Gulf of California would serve to irrigate the drylands of Southern California, Arizona, New Mexico, Baja California, Sonora, Sinaloa, Chihuahua, and Durango; while the Gulf of Mexico and the Mississippi deltas would bring water to parts of Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Coahuila, Nuevo León, Tamaulipas, and San Luis Potosí.

<u>Sources</u>	<u>Quad</u>	<u>Irrigable area</u>
Mexico:		
1. Bahía Sebastian Vizcaino	175.7	5,910
2. Gulf of California	2,472.6	83,175
3. Coastal lagoons (Mazatlán to Latitude 22°)	28.8	969
4. Lower courses of rivers, among them the Colorado, Sonora, Yaquí, Río del Fuerte, and one half of the Rio Grande	119.0	4,003
5. Coastal lagoons (Matamoros to Tampico)	71.8	2,415
6. Gulf of Mexico (zone extending 200 miles from shore between Matamoros and Tuxpan)	<u>3,096.0</u>	<u>104,146</u>
	<u>5,963.9</u>	<u>200,618</u>
United States:		
7. Coastal lagoons, Texas	175.1	5,890
8. Lower courses of Texas rivers, including one half of the Rio Grande	142.8	4,804
9. Gulf of Mexico (zone extending 200 miles from shore between Brownsville and the mouth of the Mississippi)	5,507.0	185,248
10. Coastal lagoons, Louisiana	402.5	13,540
11. Louisiana delta areas	<u>3,598.4</u>	<u>121,045</u>
	<u>9,825.8</u>	<u>330,526</u>

The 15,789.7-quad grand total per year is an amount of energy so huge as to be incomprehensible without the aid of a few comparisons: it is equal to the predicted use of energy in the United States in 1976 multiplied by 190; it is just over 1.5 times the amount of energy needed to meet the 23.5-year quota of Scenario No. 3, as set forth in my letter to you of June 21st.

It corresponds to an amount of hydrogen which, when burned, would yield (at the average use by fossil-fuel plants of 10,494 B.t.u. per kilowatt-hour) 1.505 quadrillion kilowatt-hours -- more than 800 times the quantity of electricity produced in the U.S. in 1972.

And, most important, it will produce 1.155 trillion short tons of water annually -- enough to irrigate, at thirty inches, 340 million acres of land, more than the entire harvested acreage of the U.S. in 1973.

By engaging in repeated electrolysis -- an expensive proposition -- the total area potentially irrigable can be extended to 689,201 square miles. This, of course, uses up all the electricity generated in the process of burning the hydrogen to produce water. As it turns out, the area which can be profitably irrigated is somewhat less than the above total. Let us see what that irrigable area might be and how much power would be left over for other purposes. Discounting, by rough measurement, the areas in the desert regions of the U.S. that are taken up by mountains, national parks and monuments, cities, highways, etc. -- but counting Indian reservations on the theory that the

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residents thereof can also benefit from this project -- I come up with the following totals:

Arizona	75,817 square miles
California	21,240 square miles
Colorado	27,282 square miles
Kansas	15,897 square miles
Nevada	28,995 square miles
New Mexico	81,854 square miles
Oklahoma	22,028 square miles
Texas	171,625 square miles
Utah	<u>13,642</u> square miles
	<u>458,380</u> square miles

For Mexico the figures are far less accurate, but they would be, approximately:

Area northwest of Nuevo Laredo	12,750 sq. mi.
Area south of Durango	29,568 sq. mi.
Baja California elbow, west of Sa. Sta. Clara	5,560 sq. mi.
Baja California, along the coast of the Gulf	6,389 sq. mi.
Bolsón de Mapimí in Coahuila	35,574 sq. mi.
Bolsón de Mayrán near Torreón and Saltillo	26,565 sq. mi.
Ciudad Juárez to Chihuahua area	31,994 sq. mi.
Coastal region of Sonora and Sinaloa	26,667 sq. mi.
Gulf coast triangle south of Matamoros	6,800 sq. mi.
Santa Ana to Hermosillo area in Sonora	<u>3,380</u> sq. mi.
	<u>185,247</u> sq. mi.

The combined total of 643,627 square miles results in an excess, when subtracted from the total potential, of 45,574 square miles, thus presenting several alternatives, not counting the obvious one of reducing the sea area to be utilized.

For one thing, the entire area under irrigation could be given another two inches of water per year. However, this is not very practical, since thirty inches, plus whatever rainfall occurs naturally in these various regions, is more than enough for most crops.

A better use for the excess hydrogen (some eleven billion tons of it) might be to convert it into synthetic fuels -- it represents the energy equivalent of 242 billion barrels of petroleum. Or to nitrogenous fertilizers -- it would produce 440 billion short tons of ammonium nitrate, enough to sprinkle four tons of the stuff over every acre of the earth's surface, land and sea. Finally, it can be used for any number of more exotic purposes, such as for transportation, for the drying of grain, for rust removal, for Acua-gas Sunge and Balloongen plants, and in several of the thirty-odd irrigation and desalination techniques that have evolved in the course of my efforts to describe the Seafarm Concept. None of these uses represent the consumption of more than a tiny fraction of the hydrogen available.

Similar excesses will result if the hydrogen is converted in the process of water-making to electricity, for some 129.35 trillion kilowatt hours would be produced. Only a small portion of this amount is likely to be used each year for such purposes as furnishing power to

the homes, cities and industries which will inevitably arise as the result of the project, or for electric railways to serve the regions, or for pumping water from aquifers, or for the drying of grain, or for lighting fields at night, or for desalination and salt-water-mining projects.

Another problem in efficient utilization arises with respect to all the oxygen that will be produced by the project. While it will do no harm whatsoever to simply pour it into the atmosphere, some of it should be diverted to the manufacture of fertilizers or to the refining of metals. It can be used to increase the metabolism rate in cattle held in feedlots, thereby putting the necessary poundage on them more quickly. It can be used -- although I would hate to try to explain the technique to you in the space remaining in this letter -- for the purpose of heating croplands that are in danger of freezing. And some of it should be pumped into the oceans, thereby enhancing the yield from fisheries and, perhaps, restoring to the waters the vigor they are so steadily losing as the result of pollution.

Despite all the above, the problem of the excess potential remains. I suggest that this can be solved and that an even larger land area can be opened to cultivation via the development of effective techniques of farming steep slopes with agricultural machinery. Terracing, of course, is always a possibility, but the cost of this in labor is enormous. If it is found more feasible simply to sow the steep slopes to grass and

then let cattle do the harvesting, methods must still be devised so as to prevent all the water which can be brought to such areas from causing excess erosion.

I don't begin to have the answers to these questions, although I feel sure that competent hydraulic and agricultural engineers will be able eventually to supply them.

In any event, what I will be assuming in the subsequent section is that the full potential of the High Plains project can be realized and that those excess 45,574 square miles (reduced by 2% so as to divert the hydrogen or electricity that they represent to the various purposes set forth above) can be successfully opened to cultivation.

This makes the total area figure read 688,290 square miles.

What, under the given circumstances and conditions of the project, might such an expanse be expected to produce?

The potential

In examining this phase of the project, the first question that arises is, "What can be grown?" Assuming always that sufficient water can be given to meet the requirements of each type of crop, there remains the twin problem of climate and altitude. Most of the areas in question are extremely hot during daylight hours and downright cold at night. Many of the areas, especially south of the Rio Grande, suffer from an excess of evaporation over precipitation that runs as high as 40 inches per year. A large portion of the available plains are at

altitudes that are between 3,000 and 6,000 feet, a factor which may limit such areas to the production of one crop per year. On the other hand, the increase in total hours of daylight as the southern limits of the project are approached, together with such techniques as illuminating fields during part of the night, or piping carbon dioxide to them dissolved in the irrigation water, may enable certain of the areas to produce two or even three crops per year, depending on how easily the biological clocks of specific plants can be adjusted to such factors.

Without a thorough study of these and other matters, including local soil conditions, it is impossible to say with any assurance just what the potential production of each type of food plant might turn out to be. Nonetheless, one can make some reasonable guesses, based on the average per acre yields of each crop as produced in the United States. Thus for the major crops, if conditions prove to be suitable to them throughout the project area, the total yields, in millions of short tons and calculated on the basis of one crop per year, would be as follows: wheat -- 432; corn -- 1,201; rice -- 1,030; cotton and cottonseed -- 215; beans -- 994; sorghums -- 800; soybeans -- 350; hay -- 951; or, to take an extreme case, tomatoes -- 7,347.

However, it is far more likely (and more reasonable) to expect the project area to engage in diversified farming. If for this purpose we choose only those crops which would be especially suited to the types of climate to be encountered, it is possible to calculate

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the total project tonnage as follows, based on 1972 yields per acre and distributed according to the proportion of each crop's acreage to the total U.S. harvested acreage for that year:

<u>Climate needed</u>	<u>Crop</u>	<u>Square miles</u>	<u>Millions of short tons</u>
Hot-dry:			
	Cantaloupes	363	1.556
	Cotton & seed	43,157	18.506
	Hay	199,730	276.107
	Honeydew melons	50	.280
	Onions	354	3.398
Hot-moist:			
	Corn	226,752	394.730
	Eggplant	11	.059
	Escarole	36	.139
	Green peppers	174	.550
	Sorghums	58,139	67.720
	Soybeans	144,718	76.874
	Tobacco	3,292	5.204
	Tomatoes	1,526	16.329
	Watermelons	1,006	3.039
Hot-wet:			
	Rice	6,825	10.221
Warm-moist:			
	Asparagus	447	.346
	Beans, Lima	280	.219
	Beans, snap	1,283	1.848
	Brussels sprouts	23	.085
	Celery	124	1.915
		<u>688,290</u>	<u>879.125</u>

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In order to arrive at any meaningful comparison between the figures above and the probable demand levels developed on pages 6 and 7, several adjustments must be made to both compilations. I will spare you the details of this, except to note that I have employed a ratio of 4.65 tons of grains (corn equivalent) to 1 ton of meat, and 15 tons of hay for every 4.6 tons of milk and cheese produced, the hay itself being omitted from both sets of the tonnages listed below for non-edible products. The summary that follows is for the cumulative 100-year totals for Mexico and the United States, combined, and is stated in billions of short tons:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Minimum goal</u>	<u>Project potential</u>	<u>Ratio: project to goal</u>
Meat	4.370	6.966	159.4%
Other edible animal products	16.021	10.544	65.8%
Edible vegetable products	<u>61.972</u>	<u>50.243</u>	81.1%
Subtotal	82.363	67.753	82.3%
Non-edible products	<u>15.136</u>	<u>10.058</u>	66.5%
Total	<u>97.499</u>	<u>77.811</u>	79.8%

However, to the project potential must be added one hundred years worth of agricultural production by both countries at their present (ie., 1974) levels, assuming no change in productivity during that period. When this is done, restoring, in the process, the excess of exports over imports that was purposely omitted in the above table,

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and, at the same time, raising the Mexican standard of living to that enjoyed by the United States, the following figures are obtained:

<u>Category</u>	<u>American standard goal, at the "low" populations rates</u>	<u>Potential, project plus present production</u>	<u>Ratio: combined potentials to the redefined goal</u>
Meat	7.994	8.912	111.5%
Other edible animal products	27.453	17.384	63.3%
Edible vegetable products	<u>114.411</u>	<u>78.735</u>	68.8%
Subtotal	149.858	105.031	70.1%
Non-edible products	<u>30.688</u>	<u>17.348</u>	56.5%
Total	<u>180.546</u>	<u>122.373</u>	67.8%

Since this realignment of the agricultural economy falls short of the newly defined goal (even though it more than meets the requirements of the minimum goal set earlier), some adjustments would seem to be in order. Instead of such a diversified arrangement as set forth on page 17, the project could benefit from a greater degree of specialization, particularly with respect to those grains which exhibit high unit-area yields, such as corn and rice. Also, more grains should be allocated to human consumption, rather than to the fattening of cattle.

Obviously, one could spend hours or even days in the occupation -- meaningless, as it turns out -- of juggling yield and area figures until the maximum possible approach to the "ideal" goal was worked out.

But, in so doing, one would have to disregard the two factors that must doom such calculations to failure at their very outset: the varying levels of demand for the products, combined with the individual farmer's proclivity for planting what he very well pleases.

Furthermore, one would be overlooking the hard fact of the present ownership and utilization of the lands proposed to be included in the High Plains project. Where these desert and drylands are farmed at all they are almost exclusively devoted to the raising of cattle. Few, if any, ranchers in their right minds would be willing to give up their relatively easy ways of life so as to engage in the backbreaking toil of raising field crops, no matter how much water might be available nor to what extent agricultural machinery could be employed.

In other words, if there's sufficient water made available to them, ranchers will simply run more cattle on their suitable portions of land.

Happily, this prospect turns out to be most favorable, for several reasons, not the least of which is the fact that protein needs are high all over the world, that there exists a tremendous shortage of this vital dietary ingredient, and that assimilation in the form of meat is the easiest and most healthful manner of meeting one's needs for the substance. (Vegetable protein is a poor substitute, no matter how much of it is consumed, since it lacks two of the essential amino acids.)

Secondly, many of the grasses and clovers exhibit good tolerance for salt water, among them alfalfa. Even Napier grass, about which more

will be said shortly, could be watered, at least to some extent, from the sea, provided the soil is well drained.

Thirdly, raising cattle on the project lands would serve to extend them considerably, since slopes can be used that would not be suitable for the cultivation of field crops.

Finally, the ability of the High Plains project to furnish nitrogenous fertilizers cheaply, easily, and in enormous quantities will result in some truly spectacular yields in the form of fodders. A case in point is Puerto Rican Napier grass. This plant, given plenty of water and sunlight, yields 37 metric tons per hectare without nitrogen and 75 metric tons with the addition of 900 kilos of nitrogen per hectare. Translated into the terminology being used herein, yields of 21,416.66 short tons per square mile can be obtained with the addition of just under 257 short tons of nitrogenous fertilizers.

Cattle thrive on Napier, provided it isn't allowed to grow too tall. At the rate of 15 tons of grass per ton of meat, the project area, devoted in its entirety to beef production, would yield 98.272 billion short tons of beef over the hundred-year period, or, if the area were devoted entirely to the raising of dairy cattle, 452.053 billion short tons of milk. The approximately 3.9 billion head involved in this production each year represents a herd that is two and a half times the 1974 world population of cattle.

The production of beef is five times greater than the hundred-year demand if that were figured at the U.S. consumption level and with both

populations calculated at their high rates of growth.—That of milk and related products is 6.6 times the maximum demand.

The magnitude of these ratios is such as to provide a wide margin of safety to the project, one which is absolutely vital when we realize that in such calculations as have been made so far we are, in reality, looking at the potential as it might be at the very end of the hundred-year period -- which is a lot like trying to ascertain the dimensions of an unknown object as magnified by a telescope. In other words, the presumption has been all along that the 15,789.7-quad potential of energy, hydrogen, water, etc. is in place now (or, rather, by the end of this year) and that the full quota is being produced year after year for the next hundred years. Since that aim is manifestly impossible, the question becomes, "Just how quickly can it be achieved and what will be, in the final analysis, the cumulative total of food produced, whatever its form?" The question cannot be answered now, nor may it even be approximated without the aid of a multivariable computer. We have, first of all, the matter of lead time to consider. There are, at the very least, nine different rates of growth to be reckoned with, among them four of populations (not counting combinations within the four), the rate at which carbon can be provided for the polyethylene used in constructing the productive units, how fast these can be built, the rate at which some specific seed can be produced (Napier grass, for instance), the net growth rate of the cattle to be raised, and how long it may be until facilities for servicing the newly productive areas --

hydrogen-bearing pipelines and storage tanks, water-making and condensation plants (with or without facilities for the generation of electricity), transmission lines, irrigation conduits, transfer siphons, reservoirs, wells and pumps for the recovery of ground water, sprinkler systems, fertilizer plants, fences, feedlots, stockyards, refrigeration plants, warehouses, homes, villages, cities, highways, railroads, airports, and all the rest of it -- will be in place and properly functional.

With so many factors to be taken into account, it would be foolhardy indeed to try, at this point, to determine what percentage of the cumulative potentiality might be attained within the given period or within any segment thereof. And, basic to that calculation, even with the growth rates of all the factors known, it is first necessary to solve the problem of when a crash program can be instituted, how strong it is to be, and over what period of time it is to be in effect. (Considerable care must be exercised in this respect, for it would be economically disastrous, considering the perishability of the products, if in the course of accretion productivity were ever to seriously outstrip both the demand and the available storage facilities.) Besides, in a time series as lengthy as this one, the higher the rate of growth, the lower becomes the cumulative total attainable, since most of the increase is bunched toward the very end of the period.

Despite such hazards, however, I feel certain that the project can accumulate at least 12.5% of its total potential within the given time. If so, it can meet its "ideal" or "American standard" goal for meat and

other edible animal products -- even without the aid of the 100-year total of current production on the part of both countries.

If, with some extra effort, it can attain as much as 30% of its potential, it will -- with current production now being added in -- fulfill its "maximum" goal and will still have some 3.073 billion short tons of edible animal products left over for export.

That is certainly to be hoped for, since the future world demand is enormous, and every little bit that can go towards meeting it will be of help.

To be more specific about this matter, the cumulative population of the world (projected at 2% per year on a 1972 base of 3.782 billion for the period 1977 to 2076) comes to 1,303.765 billion. At current levels (1974), world production of meat, fish, milk and eggs amounts to 768.998 million short tons per year. Divided by the estimated 1974 world population of 3.935 billion, the per capita consumption is .1954 tons. If production of these foods is not increased during the 100-year period, the average yearly per capita consumption figure falls to .0590 tons, but if the cumulative U.S. population and its consumption over the period is excluded from the calculation, the figure drops to .0488 tons, or a little over 4 ounces per person per day (one half of a cup of milk for a total of 4.8 grams of protein, or, if measured as beef, 32.8 grams of protein, about one half of a man's recommended daily dietary allowance). The total shortfall, at the 1974 world average consumption figure, is 177.856 billion short tons; at the U.S. level, it

is an even more staggering 420.878 billion short tons.

Thus a possible 3.073 billion short tons available for export after the maximum Mexican and American quotas are met is really a rather modest contribution. Yet, small as this excess may be and unattainable or, at least, difficult of attainment as it will be in the short run, it is well worth striving for, especially in view of the grim consequences if nothing whatsoever is done.

America must, in my opinion, take the lead in trying to avert such a disaster by whatever means possible, for it cannot long survive in a world that is on the brink of chaos.

Your letterhead expresses the dream, "For America's third century, why not our best?" To this I most heartily accede. But, Jimmy, our third may well turn out to be our worst -- tragic beyond our imagining -- unless we do something concrete to avert the coming catastrophe in food supplies.

The High Plains project, or something like it, may be the key to this, for if it works out economically and successfully for the United States and Mexico, other countries can apply the technology that will have been evolved to their own benefit. For deserts and drylands abound, and few are the nations containing them which do not have access to the oceans or to major rivers.

The costs

There are two to be considered: monetary and environmental. And, as might be expected, they are, like so many other of man's economic

activities, not only coexistent, but also in inverse relation to one another. The more profit that can be made out of strip mining, the more havoc is wreaked upon the surrounding countryside. The cheaper the fossil-fueled power plant, the more it pollutes the atmosphere. One man's industrial complex is another man's disaster area. And so on.

Nowhere is this more true than with respect to the High Plains project, even though the impact it will have on the environment is chiefly visual.

There are two choices for extracting hydrogen from the sea at a price within the reach of those farmers and ranchers who may benefit from the project.

One of these is via Acua-gas Flowgen mechanisms, which are relatively cheap, long-lasting, and easy to maintain. But they are of low unit yield, which means that they must be utilized in enormous numbers and, therefore, will have to be spread over a huge area of the sea in order to meet the project's requirements.

The other is the Anderson thermal-differences process. These plants, due to their compact form, are very efficient with respect to the space needed for the production of hydrogen. But they would be somewhat expensive to build, would require highly trained technicians for their operation, and would exhibit higher amortization and maintenance rates than generating facilities of the same capacity that are located on land. Nonetheless, they would have to be employed almost

exclusively on the Gulf of California and, to a considerably lesser degree, on the Gulf of Mexico, so as to avoid major disruptions of fishing and shipping operations in those areas.

Although this aim is a worthy and, in some circumstances, an imperative one, there immediately arises a well-nigh insoluble dilemma: the Anderson units will function effectively only in areas where deep, cold waters are surmounted by warm surface zones, thereby ruling out their utility over fishing grounds. The problem remains: how economically to tap the fishing areas for their inherent energy without surfacing them with Tidegen or Currentgen units?

One solution is to locate Acua-gas Sungen installations near beaches located in sunny areas, using the electricity generated to electrolyze the offshore waters. But Sungen installations are relatively expensive per kilowatt-hour of capacity -- I would estimate them to be at least \$40 over a lifetime of, say, fifty years. Thus their amortization costs per year would work out to \$.80 per kilowatt-hour. They would also require for their operation and maintenance personnel with high degrees of professional skills, chiefly thermodynamic engineers.

As for the Anderson units, I am handicapped by not knowing either their cost per kilowatt-hour of capacity nor their capacity per area of surface. However, if erected on bases employing the airtrap raft principle of the Acua-gas units, the cost of their construction can be reduced remarkably. Furthermore, since they would be dedicated solely to the task of electrolyzing the waters directly beneath them, they

would not require high voltages for transmission, thereby effecting great savings in the costs of turbines and generators. But against such reductions in costs must be set the costs of housing the employees and their families on floating bases and the protection of the entire complex from wave action by surrounding it with concentric circles of Wavegen units. Since the latter would contribute at least a portion of the electricity generated by the installation, I believe its costs could be set as low as \$60 per kilowatt-hour of capacity. Assigned lifetimes of twenty-five years, their amortization costs per year would be \$2.40 per kilowatt-hour.

In the case of the Flowgen units, I am assuming that with the addition of \$20 to their original costs of \$100 (for the purpose of increasing the thicknesses of the polyethylene used in their bases) they can be assigned lifetimes of one hundred years, instead of the twenty-five assigned earlier. Thus their amortization costs per year are set at \$.12 per kilowatt-hour.

In addition, by constructing them in their combination forms, ie., by mounting them with Windgen, Raingen, Magnetogen, or small Wavegen units, or with solar cells or semiconductors, or with all of these, I am assuming that their yields of electricity can be doubled (to 20 kilowatt-hours capacity per unit) and that this extra construction would add but another \$40 to their costs. As a result, their amortization costs per year would work out at \$.08 per kilowatt-hour, as opposed to the original \$.40. Such combined forms would probably be most effective in

oceanic areas.

Presumably, this new rate of amortization would reduce the cost of the hydrogen that can be produced to about \$437,500 per quad. But this figure includes, as well, the cost of the oxygen as a by-product. Since oxygen is of even less utility to the High Plains project than it was to the Acua-gas energy scenarios set forth earlier, the true costs of producing the irrigation water must be calculated on the costs of producing the hydrogen alone, or \$3,909,705.60 per quad for the combined units, \$5,864,558.40 for the Flowgen units when utilized in their pristine forms, \$39,097,056 for the Sungen units, and \$117,291,168 for the Anderson units.

Inasmuch as the Sungen units must be replaced once and the Anderson units, three times during the 100-year period, the total costs for the project, when considered with everything else involved, become enormous. But, then again, the project itself is enormous -- as is the demand it is designed to meet.

Let me try to summarize these costs as best I can, so as to arrive at some idea of what the water will cost per acre-inch and, from that, what the costs may be (excluding seed, fertilizers, land rental, equipment, labor, interest, and all the other factors) per unit of possible production -- that is, per pound of meat, or per quart of milk.

Except for the hydrogen-producing entities, which can be measured with some precision, the figures below are necessarily arbitrary, both

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as to the number of units required and as to their individual costs. They are based, perforce, on the total potential for the period, even though that can't be realized.

And the research and development figures are, really, plucked out of the air, for I have no idea of what that phase of the project might cost. To be on the safe side, I've been at some pains to overestimate them.

<u>Research and Development</u>	<u>Billions of dollars</u>
Flowgen, Wavegen and combined systems	.002
Mass production techniques for the above	.008
Sungen plants	.032
Anderson thermal-differences plants	.080
Oceanography and marine environment	.024
Meteorology (precipitation studies)	.018
Fisheries and shipping surveys	.012
Terrain engineering (for pipeline and conduit locations)	.006
Geological and hydrographic studies	.016
Soil surveys	.048
Agronomy	.012
Ecological studies of land areas	.032
Entomology, parasitology and mycology	.054
Demographic and sociological studies and planning	.028
Economics and logistics	<u>.036</u>
	<u><u>.408</u></u>

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Construction costs, productive units

Billions of dollars

Mexico: (see page 10 for area code)

1. Combined units	68.694
2. Anderson units -- 70%	20,300.990
Sungen units -- 20%	1,933.428
Combined units -- 10%	96.671
3. Tidegen units	16.890
4. Rivergen units	69.788
5. Tidegen units	42.108
6. Combined units -- 70%	847.311
Anderson units -- 15%	5,447.002
Sungen units -- 15%	<u>1,815.667</u>
	<u>30,638.549</u>

United States: (see page 10 for area code)

7. Tidegen units	102.688
8. Rivergen units	83.746
9. Combined units -- 70%	1,507.152
Anderson units -- 25%	16,148.061
Sungen units -- 5%	1,076.537
10. Tidegen units	236.048
11. Combined units -- 80%	1,125.495
Deltagen units -- 20%	<u>422.061</u>
	<u>20,701.788</u>
Grand total	<u>51,340.337</u>

The fact that the Anderson units, together with the Sungen units, constitute 91% of the total costs, even though the use of these two forms has been reduced to a minimum, suggests that a doubling or even tripling of their R&D allocations (in an effort to reduce their costs per kilowatt of capacity, or to prolong their lifetimes) would be money well spent, as would similar increases in R&D expenditures for oceanography and fisheries studies -- the aim being, first, to reduce the need for these units and, if possible, to eliminate their use altogether.

One solution for the Gulf of Mexico area might be to replace them with Acua-gas combined units concentrated in circular zones within the territorial jurisdiction of the two countries, as well as within international waters. The expanse needed would be some 30,844 square miles, or an area that would be, roughly, 198 miles in diameter -- about a fourth of the shore-to-shore distance along the 90th meridian. Or, say, a hundred sites, each just under twenty miles in diameter, distributed in polka-dot fashion along the western curve of the Gulf and within 150 to 200 miles of the shore, in which zone the units would be able to take advantage of the northward-flowing currents. In this event, the savings in capital costs would amount to \$23,478.210 billions, less the cost of the extra underwater pipelines involved. The latter would not, really, amount to much, for I believe submerged, semibuoyant pipelines can be designed that would function on the so-called "equal pressure principle", thereby permitting the use of thin-walled, flexible and inexpensive plastics in their construction.

The Gulf of California presents a different problem, since the only alternate location for the 26,595 square miles of combined units to replace the Anderson and Sungeu plants would have to be in the Pacific Ocean off the shores of Southern California and the Mexican state of Baja California -- fifty sites, say, each 26 miles in diameter, located within 40 to 60 miles of the coast so as to catch the currents.

Although this would necessitate the hydrogen being pumped long distances downhill so as to reach the areas that would otherwise have been served by the Gulf, it is doubtful that the costs of doing so for a hundred years would even begin to approach the \$21,364.375 billions in capital costs that could be saved through such an arrangement.

The combined total of \$44,842.585 saved is sorely needed, for we are about to encounter some truly substantial costs as the attempt is made to analyze what must follow, once the hydrogen is produced.

I will spare you as much of the detail of these calculations as I can -- it is available should you, or one of your aides, want it. But to present the following schedule compactly, I must first describe the alternative situations that are being set forth for comparison.

The first of these, called the "basic yield plan", envisions an exact matching of the land areas irrigated to the energy available -- that is, without going through the costly process of repeated electrolysis. In other words, most of the hydrogen is simply burned to produce water, letting its heat energy go to waste. What little of that energy

is utilized would be in the form of electricity so as to meet the needs of the inhabitants of the project's regions -- it would total just under two trillion kilowatt-hours per year, about 7.7% more than was produced in the U.S. in 1972. The smaller land area under this plan results in reduced tonnages for meat (75.835 billion short tons) or for milk (348.841 billion short tons) on a cumulative basis.

The "repeated electrolysis plan" is shown merely for purposes of comparison. This method of bringing an extra 157,146 square miles under cultivation entails the total conversion of the hydrogen's energy into electricity, thereby running into some fantastic costs, as based on the average capitalization costs of privately-owned utilities in the U.S. of just over \$370 per kilowatt of capacity, and assuming lifetimes for the plants of twenty-five years..

The "condensation plant plan" achieves the irrigation of the added areas by placing Acua-gas combined units over an extra 56,155 square miles of the ocean's surface. Except for local electrical production, the heat produced in the process of water-making is simply allowed to go to waste.

The "precipitation control plan", similar in areas and hydrogen utilization to the above, differs from it in that the water-making plants, reservoirs, and irrigation systems are replaced through the device of delivering the hydrogen, on a strictly local basis, for its burning in the open air via simple structures called "watertorches". This would almost always be done at night, providing the wind conditions were such as to distribute the rapidly condensing water where

it was needed.

But this plan, although the cheapest in all respects, requires careful monitoring and supervision so as not to greatly modify the normal weather patterns in regions far from the particular sites for whose benefits such dew-making methods are employed. Among the costs listed in the schedules below are those for precipitation control stations. These units, manned by teams of meteorologists, would have the responsibility of lighting and extinguishing such watertorches as may be set up in the areas under their jurisdiction -- usually consisting of a square with ten-mile sides and within which the watertorches would be spaced at intervals along the diagonals and cross sections. The costs include the necessary electronic control systems for effecting this efficiently.

The use of watertorches by the plan has another consequence that should prove as useful as the irrigation itself: the extra light provided during the night will serve to stimulate the growth of the plants receiving it, although care must always be taken not to deprive them of at least a few hours of rest from their photosynthetic activities.

The plan also envisions the use of large-scale watertorches so as to create enough water vapor to form clouds and, under the proper conditions, subsequently rain. These units, set up along the western ridges of a huge valley, such as the Bolsón de Mapimí in Northern Mexico, could, presumably, be utilized for the creation of rainfall along the eastern slopes of the region as the clouds are forced into cooler altitudes -- yet both ranges might be miles away from the agricultural areas to be irrigated. Clearly, though, the use of such a technique should

be under the sole control of responsible and competent teams of meteorologists.

These four plans are by no means mutually exclusive. In practice, they would probably be found interacting to a substantial degree, depending on local needs and circumstances.

Construction costs, auxiliary units (in billions of dollars)

<u>Units</u>	<u>Basic yield plan</u>	<u>Repeated electrol- ysis plan</u>	<u>Condensa- tion plant plan</u>	<u>Precipita- tion con- trol plan</u>
Combined units added	---	---	1,837.053	1,837.053
H ₂ pipelines	340.444	441.753	441.753	441.753
H ₂ liquefaction plants	---	16.392	---	---
H ₂ storage tanks	---	204.884	---	---
Water-making & gener- ating plants	337.528	330,269.764	437.969	437.969
Condensation plants	6.316	---	8.185	---
Reservoirs	35.000	45.355	45.355	---
Water conduits	112.178	145.367	145.367	---
Groundwater recovery systems	16.000	20.734	20.734	20.734
Siphons	44.872	58.148	58.148	---
Sprinkler systems	329.056	426.412	426.412	---
Transmission lines	168.542	1,075.572	218.697	218.697
Precipitation control stations	---	---	---	5.508
Watertorches, large	---	---	---	2.050
Watertorches, small	---	---	---	58.148
Line compression pumps	---	---	---	5.245
Fertilizer plants	218.400	283.017	283.017	283.017
	<u>1,608.336</u>	<u>332,987.398</u>	<u>3,922.690</u>	<u>3,310.174</u>

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The total capitalization costs are as follows (in billions of dollars):

	<u>Basic yield plan</u>	<u>Repeated electrol- ysis plan</u>	<u>Condensa- tion plant plan</u>	<u>Precipita- tion con- trol plan</u>
Research & Development	.408	.408	.408	.408
Productive units	51,340.337	51,340.337	51,340.337	51,340.337
Auxiliary units	<u>1,608.336</u>	<u>332,987.398</u>	<u>3,922.690</u>	<u>3,310.174</u>
	<u>52,949.081</u>	<u>384,328.143</u>	<u>55,263.435</u>	<u>54,650.919</u>

On a unit basis, the following costs are obtained (in cents):

Per ton of water	45.844	256.784	36.924	36.514
Per pound of meat	34.911	195.543	28.118	27.806
Per quart of milk	15.834	88.689	12.753	12.611

By adding \$248 millions to various R&D expenditures in an effort to replace the Anderson and Sungeu units entirely with Acua-gas combined units, the following unit costs may be achieved (in cents):

Per ton of water	7.019	226.823	6.963	6.553
Per pound of meat	5.345	172.728	5.302	4.991
Per quart of milk	2.424	78.341	2.405	2.263

And by replacing all units with combined forms, thereby saving \$324.442 billions in capitalization costs, these unit costs result:

Per ton of water (cents)	6.738	226.607	6.746	6.337
Per pound of meat (cents)	5.131	172.563	5.137	4.825
Per quart of milk (cents)	2.327	78.266	2.330	2.189
Per acre per year at 30" (in dollars)	\$228.94	\$7,699.38	\$229.21	\$215.31

The total capitalization costs are as follows (in billions of

dollars):

Research & Development	Basic yield plan	Repeated electrol- ysis plan	Condensa- tion plant plan	Precipita- tion con- trol plan
.408	.408	.408	.408	.408
21,340.337	21,340.337	21,340.337	21,340.337	21,340.337
1,608.336	335,987.398	335,987.398	3,252.690	3,310.174
25,949.081	384,328.143	384,328.143	25,263.432	24,650.919

On a unit basis, the following costs are obtained (in cents):

Per quart of milk	Per pound of meat	Per ton of water
15.834	34.911	42.844
88.689	192.243	226.784
12.223	28.118	36.924
12.611	27.806	36.214

By adding \$248 million to various R&D expenditures in an effort

to replace the Anderson and Sugen units entirely with Acua-gas com-

ined units, the following unit costs may be achieved (in cents):

Per quart of milk	Per pound of meat	Per ton of water
2.424	2.342	7.019
78.341	172.728	226.823
2.402	2.302	6.993
2.263	4.991	6.223

And by replacing all units with combined forms, thereby saving

\$34.442 billion in capitalization costs, these unit costs result:

Per quart of milk (cents)	Per pound of meat (cents)	Per ton of water (cents)
2.327	2.131	6.738
78.266	172.263	226.607
2.330	2.137	6.746
2.189	4.822	6.337

(in dollars) \$228.94 \$7,699.36 \$229.21 \$212.31
 per acre per year at 30"

Offsets to costs (income)

The High Plains project, clearly, must begin paying its own way on a yearly or even on a monthly basis as soon as possible. Otherwise, if interest were to be charged for any considerable length of time on the enormous amounts of money involved, the burden would soon become insupportable and would render the whole effort unfeasible.

Fortunately, once the R&D expenditures have been covered and the first productive units have begun to deliver hydrogen and water to some nearby dryland area, the project can earn enough revenue from sales to pay for virtually all of the costs incurred during its developmental stage and can, thereafter, operate on a pay-as-you-go budget.

To see how this might work out in the long run, let us take as an example the most expensive of the three plans that are economically feasible at all: the condensation plant plan, which has, as set up in the above cost summaries, only water, electricity and ammonium nitrate to sell.

In the hundred-year period, this plan would deliver 149.66967 trillion short tons of water, plus 22.169108 billion tons of hydrogen for conversion into electricity, ammonia or synthetic fuels. If converted to electricity, that amount of hydrogen would produce 258.09033 trillion kilowatt-hours. At the average U.S. price, 1973, of 1.86142 cents per kilowatt-hour, the income from electrical sales would come to \$4,804.145 billions. But since a little over 4% of the hydrogen would have to be diverted so as to make the nitrogenous fertilizers

required by the plan, the possible sales of power would be reduced to \$4,611.058 billions, while the sales of the 17.689 billion short tons of ammonium nitrate (at the average U.S. price, 1972, for all types of fertilizers, of just over \$62.62 per ton) would produce \$1,107.718 billions.

These figures, subtracted from the \$10,096.654 billions of capitalization costs for the least expensive version of the condensation plant plan, result in a water cost per ton of 2.925 cents, bringing the per-acre-per-year costs for thirty inches to \$99.38. However, since the water already bears \$25.15 worth of ammonium nitrate per acre per year, a charge per ton of 3.7 cents, or even a round 4 cents, would not seem to be unreasonable. At the latter figure, the income from sales of both water and electricity could amount to \$10,597.844 billions, or a gain of about 5% over the capitalization costs. This results in a cost per pound of meat of 5.340 cents and, for milk, of 2.422 cents per quart.

The High Plains project should be so planned as to be prepared for two very likely eventualities: 1. that sales of electricity may at times be lower than those set forth above; and, 2. that there will be some years when a full thirty inches of water will not be needed, thanks to natural precipitation. Both circumstances result in indeterminate amounts of hydrogen being available for other purposes. Instead of simply storing the extra hydrogen or, worse, letting it go to waste, facilities should be on hand for converting it into synthetic

fuels, thereby easing the energy situations in both countries, or for using it in the process of salt water mining (see pp. 33-34 of the June 21st letter).

If the assumption is made that as much as six percent of the hydrogen available for water-making is not so used during the period -- an average yearly difference of 1.8 inches -- the quantities of the gas allocated to other purposes might be as follows (in quadrillions of B.t.u.):

90% of cumulative energy demand, U.S., 1977-2076	62,678.8
90% of cumulative energy demand, Mexico, 1977-2076	33,260.4
Salt water mining: 100 cubic miles per year	26,400.0
Ammonium nitrate: 696.64 million tons per year	<u>428.7</u>
	<u><u>122,767.9</u></u>

The value of these products, measured crudely by natural gas (at thirty cents per 1,031,000 B.t.u.) for the energy; 288.57 million tons of salts per cubic mile at \$20.00 per ton; and \$62.62 per ton for the fertilizers -- comes to \$89,992.713 billions.

And if the heat used to boil away 10,000 cubic miles of sea water were to be converted into electricity at the same time, the residual salts could be processed into elements worth at least \$1,330,322.6 billions, bringing the grand total to \$1,362,601.313 billions for the hundred-year period, less, of course, the capital investments and labor necessary to achieve these levels of production. And provided, as well,

that a ready market can be found for the various products. Like the oxygen produced in the process of obtaining the hydrogen, many of the chemicals dissolved in the sea can be produced in such enormous quantities as to overwhelm the possible uses for them. Undoubtedly, if such elements are cheap enough, chemists and engineers will soon devise ways to put them to use that are not even conceivable now.

Environmental costs

Although much of the above section was devoted to trying to solve or, at least, to lessen the impact that the productive units will have on the oceanic environment, particularly as that relates to extant commercial activities, such as fisheries and shipping, there are other aspects of the High Plains project which should be examined.

The most important, though least measurable of these is what overall effect some 688,290 square miles of new greenery will have on the world's climate. And this inquiry can only be done via an examination of the degree of disruption that may be caused in the normal operation of three basic mineral cycles: water, oxygen and carbon dioxide.

Water, in effect, is being moved eastward and westward to the continental divide, thereby depriving regions on the Pacific coast of, perhaps, a small amount of the water that might otherwise fall on them, while areas near the Gulf of Mexico would no doubt receive more than their usual quotas of rain. Yet this is by no means certain, since the deserts experience high rates of evaporation anyway, and it seems reasonable to suppose that covering them with plants would serve to slow

down the process of evaporation, due not only to the retention of some of the water within the tissues of the plants, as well as to the conversion of at least some of it into cellulose and sugars, but also because of great differences in specific heats and rates of heat conductivity as between plant tissues and rocks or sand. In other words, the plants would act as a partial barrier to the escape of both heat and water. Also, much of the transferred water would eventually be removed from the cycle, becoming permanent bodies of groundwater.

As for carbon dioxide, much of that which would be released from calcareous soils or from the expiration of cattle would be taken up quickly by the plants, along with, let us hope, a portion of the increasing amounts of the gas in the atmosphere that are threatening to produce serious climatic effects via the operation of the "greenhouse effect".

Oxygen presents a different problem, since a considerable amount of it is released into the atmosphere at the productive sites and is not altogether removed in the process of making irrigation water, fertilizers, electricity or synthetic fuels. Also, all those millions of acres of greenery will release more oxygen in the process of photosynthesis than can ever be taken up again by the human and animal populations in their midst. On the other hand, the burning of the synthetic fuels that are produced will go far towards restoring the balance. Besides, the amounts of oxygen in the world's atmosphere are so huge that the temporary addition of a few billion tons or so would scarcely be noticeable.

Ozone will be released in small quantities during the process of electrolysis. This is all to the good, for it will react with some of the carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons now polluting our air.

On the whole, even though some short-term effects may result on a local basis, the total impact of the High Plains project on the atmosphere and on climatic patterns is believed to be negligible. It warrants being looked into, however, by persons who are more knowledgeable in these matters than I.

Shortages

These are of the same materials as were found to be lacking in the case of the Acua-gas energy scenarios (see pp. 30-33 of the June 21st letter), namely, carbon, copper, and roller bearings). Actually, there should be enough vegetable matter derived from the clearing of the desert areas themselves to satisfy the carbon oxide requirements of the productive units necessary to their irrigation. But if synthetic fuels are to be produced in the quantities set forth on page 40, serious carbon shortages will be experienced.

As for copper, the shortage will be severe -- so much so as to force the High Plains project's planners to seek out other conductive metals as substitutes, magnesium being a leading contender for that role, since it can be obtained so cheaply and in such huge quantities from the sea.

A new shortage, however, arises with respect to the pipes needed

for transporting the hydrogen to its destinations. An effort needs to be made to discover what other, cheaper materials may be used in place of steel that will also be able to withstand the high pressures under which the hydrogen must be allowed to flow or, in some cases, be pumped. Otherwise, many more thousands of miles of pipelines must be laid down in order to handle the huge quantities of the gas that are involved. This problem merits the attention of some highly competent engineers, for even though hydrogen dissipates rapidly in air and, if aflame, flares upward, a leak or explosion in a hydrogen-bearing pipeline would be a major disaster, just as it would be if the line were carrying methane or natural gas, instead.

The role of government

In view of the unique locations, requirements, functions, modes of operation, and aims of the High Plains project, the roles of the two governments are not easy to define -- aside from the two obvious facts that the resources being exploited for energy are already owned by each nation, and that the sums of money needed to initiate the project are so large as to be beyond the reach of the private sectors of their economies.

Less simple is the matter of jurisdictions. Mexico's territorial waters have recently been pushed back from their former limits of twelve miles to two hundred miles, an action that effectively turns the Gulf of California into a Mexican lake. The United States, as I understand it, is soon to follow suit, staking out a similar zone for

the protection of fishery and underwater mineral rights.

Such a situation is ideal as far as the High Plains project is concerned, since, presumably, these extensions of jurisdiction imply, as well, that -- barring the rights of passage of international commerce -- the surface areas of such territorial waters remain at the disposal of each particular country, though not, of course, in a mutual sense. And it is with respect to that latter consideration that a distinct problem arises, for the productive units in some locations are likely to be furnishing hydrogen to not just the country within whose jurisdiction they lie, but to both countries, or even solely to the other country -- as is the situation of units stationed at the northern end of the Gulf of California, assuming they are used to furnish water to the southern parts of California and Arizona.

Compounding this problem is the fact that there can, at best, be only an approximate matching of the irrigable land areas in each country with the bodies of water serving them. With the Gulf of California counted in, the U.S. contributes but 62% of the total hydrogen produced by the project, yet receives on its territory 71% of the water. Replacing the energy that can be derived from the Gulf of California with that of Pacific coastal waters, however, raises the U.S. contribution to 70% -- but very little of Mexico's share of the Pacific Coast output would wind up as water brought to Mexico's western drylands.

Then there's the matter of defense. Though they are not particularly vulnerable to attack while engaged in producing hydrogen alone,

areas of the productive units that might be devoted to the production of power for salt-water-mining operations would inevitably present a tempting prize to any mineral-short seafaring country willing to run the risks of piracy. Which of the two countries would assume the burden of protecting such "sea mines" from invasion, along with other seaborne industries, such as fertilizer plants or installations for the production of synthetic fuels, that might often be associated with them?

Finally, there's the even more troublesome problem of the status of certain international waters, especially in the Gulf of Mexico. Many of the entities above, as well as areas dedicated solely to producing hydrogen for irrigation purposes, would often be most suitably sited in part or as a whole within waters over which no one exercises any effective jurisdiction at all. Yet control over such areas must be assumed by one or the other of the countries or, perhaps, by both, acting reciprocally and mutually.

It is this undeniable matter of mutual interests, rights, obligations, and responsibilities with respect to the productive entities of the High Plains project that provides the key to its organization and to the form that might best serve its purposes. Mere cooperation between Mexico and the United States, though vital, is not quite adequate to the task.

It seems to me that what would be useful in this case is the formation of a bilateral corporation -- a holding company, in effect -- that

would be financed and owned by both governments in equal proportions. This entity would be charged with the responsibility of conducting the research and development activities necessary to get the project under way and would, thereafter, supervise the activities of two wholly national corporations formed to manage production and marketing as these may occur in their respective sectors.

In cases of overlapping, as will often occur, the national corporations would be authorized (and obligated) to sell hydrogen, water and electricity to each other at fixed prices, as these may have been determined by the bilateral corporation, which entity would also be charged with setting and maintaining stable prices for hydrogen, water, fertilizers, electricity, and oxygen sold to the ultimate consumers: the ranchers, farmers and other inhabitants of the areas embraced by the High Plains project.

With respect to those products manufactured as the result of such excesses of hydrogen and oxygen as may from time to time occur -- that is, synthetic fuels, fertilizers, and salts or elements obtained via salt-water-mining techniques -- the national corporations would be on their own and could charge for the products, or for the excess hydrogen and oxygen, whatever the market would bear.

Who would own these national corporations? I suggest that the following formula might be evolved: 40% retained by the national government; 20% by the bilateral corporation; 20% to be made available for purchase by owners of agricultural lands within the project's national

areas; and the remainder of the shares to be sold to the general public of the particular country.

If such is the eventual form, the roles of the two governments are reduced (if that is the word, considering the magnitude of the roles) to negotiation, initial organization, financing of the corporate entities, defense of the oceanic areas involved, receipt of such income as may be due them annually as the result of the activities of their respective national corporations and of the bilateral company, and the maintenance of attitudes of cooperation and mutuality with respect to those other aspects of the project as were outlined earlier.

Aside from the above, there is a highly specific role which the American government, via its President and State Department, must assume, and that is to get the idea off the ground in the first place. This will require a fairly thorough investigation of the validity of the theories herein set forth, as well as the general feasibility of the project, per se, together with its overall economic and ecological impact. Evaluation should be made of the likelihood of the plan's acceptance by the U.S. Congress and public. And diplomatic overtures need to be made towards Mexico so as to ascertain if that country's government will look with favor upon the project as a whole or if, on the contrary, it may one day balk at some of its provisions.

In other words, whatever its worth (or eventual problem areas, or even final unacceptability, should that occur), nothing will be done,

Carter-Stevenson/HIGH PLAINS/49

ever, to prove the project's possible usefulness unless, first, it is moved off my desk and placed in the hands of someone who may soon be in a position to see to it that it is properly evaluated: namely, you.

And, once that is done, it can only be you, as President, who can eventually initiate the steps necessary to turn the project's paper promises into some sort of reality.

As for my own role in all this, I am -- as was the case with the Acua-gas energy plans set forth in my June 21st letter -- wholly at your service.

Next on the agenda: some observations on governmental farm policies.

Good luck on the kickoff of your campaign!

Your friend,

Bill Stevenson

E. W. Stevenson, Jr.

c/d Julia Masís B.

Urbanización Montealegre

Zapote, San José

Costa Rica, C.A.

Carter-Stevenson/HIGH PLAINS/49

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HOWARD UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20059

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

I
ISSUES

August 25, 1976

Jimmy Carter for President Committee
1795 Peachtree Road, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30309

Dear Sir:

This letter is written consistent with my sincere belief that Governor Jimmy Carter should and will be elected the next President of the United States. I am, as thousands of others dedicated and committed to his election. In support of this commitment, however, it is felt that more should be done than merely casting a vote for him.

The election of Jimmy Carter in November must reflect a clear and strong mandate from the people. A marginal victory might well diminish the ability to be immediately effective in unifying the country. It would seem essential then, that the American people be made aware of the kind of administration to be expected prior to the Carter election. They must be aroused and caused to rally behind him because of the excitement, the stimulus value and the promise of planned programs. I am certain that during the next two months, communications will be forthcoming on a number of issues revealing the depth and tone of the programs of the Carter Administration. Hence, it may be presumptuous on my part to suggest the inclusion of a project in the new administration. However, I have studied the mechanics of the following project, analyzed its prospects and hold such confidence in its usefulness that I must present it for consideration.

→ It is proposed that a "Quality of Life Research Center" be established whose major function would be: improvement of the lives of the poor, the underprivileged, the culturally deprived. This Center would be dedicated to the memory and efforts of Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Kennedys. Indeed, it could render possible realization of their hopes, struggles, and dreams for a better life for all people. It is believed that establishment of such a facility would have the following benefits:

- It would represent, for the first time, a national commitment to improve life for the poor.
- Refute the idea that election of a Democratic Administration signals the proliferation of social programs. Inherent in this proposal is the cessation of those programs initiated as reactions to crisis. Instead, it requires the application of technology for the study and solution of problems prior to legislation and implementation.
- The Center would be advantageous not only from the standpoint of its need and public appeal, but most of all, its consistency with the objectives of reorganization, coordination and reduction of wastefulness already articulated by Governor Carter.
- It would bring to bear the same thoroughness, dedication and commitment to solving socio-economic problems as that applied to the eradication of physical and mental disease.

Proposed

Kennedy-King Quality of Life Research Center

Rationale and Objectives

In recent years there has been considerable effort, both public and private, to develop measures that would enhance the quality of life for the poor, the underprivileged, the culturally deprived. While some initial and temporary success has occurred, the living standard for a substantial segment of the population remains, essentially, unchanged. Despite the expenditures of huge sums of money, there is little evidence reflecting the formulation of a national policy or a consistent methodology that would render possible alleviation of the condition of substandard existence.

Cognizance is taken of the complex nature of quality of life problems. Even more, the immense task of finding solutions and designing methodology for their implementation is certainly appreciated. At least half a dozen Federal departments or agencies and scores of private enterprises, are engaged in or sponsor research on quality of life measures. The results of this research should not be evaluated on the basis of an isolated individual agency effort but rather within the context of the total research program and the resultant benefit to the subject population. An evaluation on this level reveals an effort of magnitude but fragmented; a huge outlay of funds, but one yielding negligible benefit; an effort that at best can be described as perfunctory.

It is believed that the success of the research effort is limited by the following weaknesses:

- Research, in the main, has followed rather than preceded legislation and program implementation. A predominance of Federal socio-economic programs initiated by Government and business may be viewed as reactions to crisis. Hence, research frequently becomes evaluative rather than an inquiry relevant to causal factors.
- The problems of the poor have been treated as sociological in nature. This misperception has resulted in an array of budget splitting, culture oriented, subsidy-type programs that are transient in effect and that reinforce the disbelief in the Government's commitment to the poor.
- The motivation and direction of research has, generally, focused on minorities, specifically Blacks and Spanish surname clients. The problem and tasks of improving the quality of life for the poor and underprivileged transcend ethnic and geographical boundaries. We should recognize the substantial segment of the population in this category that is neglected and the resultant effect on the nation's economy and growth.
- The present research effort is fragmented sometimes duplicative and almost totally devoid of any system of coordination. Hence, it is well-nigh impossible to acquire adequate knowledge of individual research and make an assessment of the merit and benefit of such as it applies to the total research effort.

In consideration of present trends, the need for the creation of a central research activity is clearly indicated. The centralization or localization of research responsibility would make possible a determination of the global needs and economic behavior of the poor and underprivileged. Of equal importance, such a center would provide for the efficient dissemination of information. This proposal recognizes the need for:

- The avoidance of a fragmented effort.
- Cross fertilization.
- Provisions for direction and quality control.
- Public visibility and recognition. Creation of the proposed Center would reflect a national priority and commitment to the poor.
- Creation of a vehicular structure that would make possible the coordination and facilitation of research.

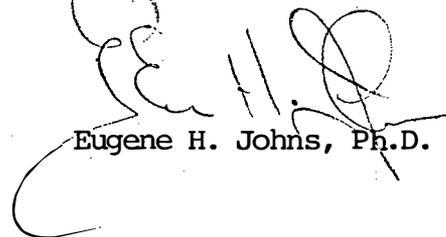
- Dissemination of information.
- Identification of relevant areas of research.
- Cost/benefit analysis of efforts.
- Funding center.

It is felt that a study should be designed and commenced early to determine the feasibility of establishing a Research Center along the lines described. The broad and long range goal of the Center would be to acquire an all-encompassing body of knowledge essential to adequate policy formulation, legislation, and implementation of all socio-economic problems effecting the poor and underprivileged. This would be accomplished by the research activities of the Center as well as the coordination of similar research conducted by others. The major objectives of the Center then would be:

- Engage in research activities that will provide information aimed at improving the quality of life.
- Provide a focus for research, evaluation and analysis of measures of the quality of life in such areas as: minimum wage and welfare legislation, health, education, welfare, social sciences, housing, community development, unemployment and other factors that are viewed as significant problems to the poor.
- Serve as a coordinator and facilitator of research by others.
- Provide the focal point for technical assistance, evaluation and analysis to the Federal, state and local governments.
- Establish and maintain a sophisticated information system that would provide for an in-depth socio-economic analysis (cost-benefit analysis; social impact analysis, etc.) of those problems affecting the poor and underprivileged.
- Develop experimental and demonstration programs so as to provide useful knowledge responsive to the real needs of the poor.

I sincerely hope that by abbreviating the discussion of this proposal, its worth has not been lost or diluted. Obviously, I have the utmost confidence in the potential of this project and would like to play a role in its implementation. If you believe in its worth, as I do, I am requesting and will be appreciative of any efforts to obtain consideration from the Carter staff.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "E. H. Johns", with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the bottom left of the signature.

Eugene H. Johns, Ph.D.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20059

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

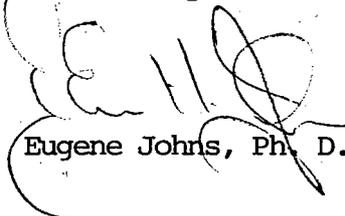
September 7, 1976

Jimmy Carter for President Committee
1795 Peachtree Road, N. E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30309

Dear Sir:

Please refer to a letter dated August 25, 1976, to the Governor Carter for President Campaign Headquarters, Plains, Georgia. On the advice of Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, I have enclosed a corrected copy of this letter with the hope it will be extended your favorable consideration.

Yours truly,



Eugene Johns, Ph. D.

Enclosures (2)

BARBARA JORDAN
18TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEES:
JUDICIARY
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
DEMOCRATIC STEERING
AND POLICY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

1534 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
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TELEPHONE: (202) 225-3816

FEDERAL BUILDING
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HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002
TELEPHONE: (713) 226-5724
5303 LYONS, 2D FLOOR
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77020
TELEPHONE: (713) 674-8465

August 31, 1976

Eugene H. Johns, Ph.D.
School of Business and Public Administration
Howard University
Washington, D. C. 20059

Dear Dr. Johns:

This will acknowledge and thank you for your letter of August 25.

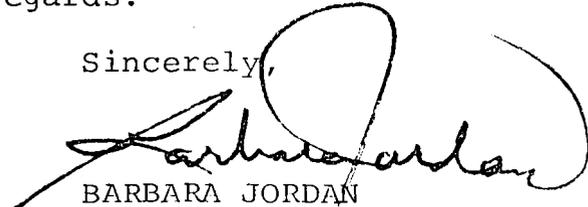
Your observations concerning a Kennedy-King Quality of Life Research Center are certainly worth considering. There is no question that the quality of life for the poor and underprivileged desperately needs improvement and we must continue to investigate ways of upgrading their status through legislative and administrative remedies.

I personally feel that Governor Carter is very much aware of this situation and if elected will do everything he can to further diminish the hopelessness of the poor in this country.

I would like to suggest that you send your proposal directly to Governor Carter. The address is Jimmy Carter for President Committee, 1795 Peachtree Road, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia 30309. I am sure you will be hearing from his office.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,



BARBARA JORDAN
Member of Congress

BJ/mgr



Jimmy Carter

Presidential Campaign

For America's third century, why not our best?

August 23, 1976

Mr. Monte Mace
Wood & Wood Products Magazine
300 W. Adams Street
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Dear Mr. Mace:

Thank you for your questionnaire and patience in letting us respond to it. I have enclosed answers to questions 2, 4, and 7, and position papers that should cover the remaining questions.

I am sorry for any delay or inconvenience that may have occurred, and if I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to write again.

Sincerely,

Noel Sterrett

NS/stc

Enclosures

copy

ANSWERS TO WOOD AND WOOD PRODUCTS MAGAZINE QUESTIONNAIRE

Question 2 concerning national forests and clearcutting

I am very concerned about the present controversy over forest management which has closed a number of national forests to timber harvest. We must place high priority on developing a comprehensive approach to timber management on national lands, and establish appropriate procedures and guidelines for harvesting of trees. I continue to support clearcutting, but only in small units where conditions such as slope and soil types permit. It is important to remember that the ecosystems of each of our national forests vary greatly, and I recognize that the great douglas fir stands of the Northwest are shade intolerant and require clearcuts for proper regeneration.

I would support a policy which requires the development of timber management plans for each of our national forests. These plans should be developed with full participation of all sectors of the public which have an interest in maintaining our national forests for multiple uses. Such an approach will help insure that our forests are used responsibly, that they are preserved and protected, and that our citizens derive maximum benefit from these public lands.

Question 4 Since I have not had an opportunity to study in detail the health and technical issues posed by the apparent conflict between OSHA and EPA over work-place noise levels, I do not feel it appropriate to interject my views into the debate at this time. As a general matter, however, I believe that the basic

concept of the Occupational Safety and Health Act is excellent and I fully support the 1976 Democratic platform which states that "the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 should cover all employees and should be enforced as intended when the law was enacted." In the past, OSHA's emphasis has been on safety, rather than on health. I believe that we should increase our efforts to reduce industrial health hazards, and focus upon problems related to excessive heat, noise, and other sources of stress.

Question 7. As I stated in my submission to the Democratic Platform Drafting Committee, I will insist on strict enforcement of our water pollution control laws to protect our oceans, lakes, rivers and streams from unneeded and harmful commercial pollution. I oppose efforts to weaken the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. I am, however, aware of the report of the Commission on Water Quality and its recommendations concerning future direction of our water pollution control programs. Review of the issues represented in that report would be of high priority in my administration.

The present tax code does permit certain tax benefits for investments in pollution control equipment. I have committed myself to a major review and overhaul of our national tax system and my commitment to protection and restoration of environmental quality in this country would certainly guide me in evaluating these provisions of the tax code.

August 26, 1976

Mr. Roger P. Rose
Manager/Corporate Alcohol & Drug Program
Scovill
Box 520
Woodbury, Conn. 06798

Dear Mr. Rose:

The purpose of this letter is to indicate our appreciation for your letter to Governor Carter concerning the role of business and industry in helping alcoholics. Clearly, organizations such as your own have made great strides in helping to overcome this most serious problem. Unless a person has had the opportunity to witness first hand the tragedy of the alcoholic, he is usually ill-equipped to deal with the problems associated with it. Business and industry must take an increased leadership role.

Your willingness to assist us personally in this endeavor is most commendable. Regrettably, we must decline your offer. At this time our major efforts are being focused on the election in November.

Again, thank you for your kind offer.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Weagraff

PJW/mg

Roger P. Rose
Manager/Corporate Alcohol & Drug Program
Scovill
Box 520
Woodbury, Conn. 06798

Scovill

Corporate Offices

James Carter
Plains, Georgia

Dear Sir:

It is obvious to me that the government's thrust in the field of alcoholism is erroneous. NIAAA continues to preach and emphasize "responsible drinking", there is no such answer for the alcoholic whom this government agency is primarily responsible for helping. The sick alcoholic, his family, and his employer will spend thousands upon thousands of needless dollars on this unmotivated individual with this approach.

Industrial programs have by far the most successful recovery rate in the field of alcoholism due to job action if the sick individual will not respond to help. Recovery rates of 75% to 85% are not uncommon in industry and are based on total abstinence through nonsophisticated, spiritually principled rehabilitation methods. The cost is minute compared to the highly sophisticated psychiatric and medical approaches attempted by the government. In all honesty it appears to me that the more expensive and irrational the Grant application, the quicker it is approved and funded, to the immense value of the professional and the complete detriment of the suffering alcoholic. The RAND report being a prime example of complete irresponsibility on the part of NIAAA. Thousands of alcoholics who would have sought help will delay doing so because of a belief (perpetrated with government funds) that the alcoholic can drink socially. What a shame !

It occurs to me that a concerted effort backed at the highest level of government and directed to the chairmen and presidents of all major industries would most expeditiously erase the stigma of alcoholism and have prodigious results nationally. Obviously the cost would be minimal to the government as the programs would be financed and operated by the corporations themselves. As 95% of the active alcoholics are employed this seems the most logical approach to a major health and social problem.

Mr. Carter, you have come across to me as a man of high principles based on spiritual values, I feel a new resurgence in what this country can and should do in the future based only on these values, this is what has been missing and made me doubt our direction and purpose. I have been fortunate in managing a large industrial alcoholism recovery program for many years that operates on principle and spiritual conviction as the enclosed material will indicate. I can think of nothing that would please me more than to serve your administration in some capacity befitting my earnest desire to help people.

Most respectfully yours,



Roger P. Rose

Manager/Corporate Alcohol & Drug Pgm.

RPR/1r

Enc.



THE LEVINSON STEEL COMPANY
S. 20th AND WHARTON STREETS • PITTSBURGH, PA. 15203

AARON P. LEVINSON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Phone
Area Code 412
481-3200

August 2, 1976

Dear Mr. Carter:

When you visited us in Pittsburgh you invited us to write you with our ideas.

I have read almost everything written about you and by you, including "Why Not The Best". I know you are basically honest, that you are filled with enthusiasm and that you are a man with convictions; that's why I'm supporting you.

I was one of those in the small group which met with you prior to the breakfast in Pittsburgh. One thing you did at that meeting which, to me, is the real measure of your character---you were speaking to wealthy people but you talked about poor people. That tells me a lot about your sincerity and your integrity.

Some have said that you have not addressed the issues clearly enough. I believe that you are discussing the issues as much as you can, or should. More important, you have talked about fundamentals: About the importance of an honest, open administration; about the need to get more mileage out of our tax dollars; about how absolutely essential it is for the President of the United States to surround himself with America's top authorities in every field---and with people of good character. It's obvious that you give more than lip-service to these ideas, especially after the selection of Walter Mondale as your running mate.

I hope you do not allow yourself to be stampeded into taking positions on the hundreds and hundreds of minute questions which will come before you. In my opinion, there are many executive decisions which no one could make in good faith without all the facts----and that means being in the White House. Perhaps becoming President of the United States is a little like getting married; you really can't know what it's like until you're there.

I hope that when you become President that you do not make the mistake of surrounding yourself with image-makers as Nixon and Johnson did. The real Jimmy Carter is what the public has come to know and like. Furthermore, most people eventually see through anything that is contrived.

I know that you will look for permanent solutions to our countless challenges. I think you will agree that one of the major problems about our kind of

Mr. James Carter
August 2, 1976

Page 2

democracy is that elected officials are rewarded for short-term solutions to long-range problems. I hope that as President you can reverse this trend. Some have said that Mr. Carter wants to be all things to all people. I'm sure that isn't so; that you'll call it as you see it. Nevertheless, with your kind of dynamic leadership we can perform wonders: We can have equitable tax laws without removing incentives for business; we can be sensitive to the poor and minorities without forsaking our national defense; we can direct some of our attention to housing, health care and education without abdicating our fiscal responsibilities.

Someone once asked me what qualities I look for in a President of the United States. I said: "Integrity, objectivity, a sense of fair play, an understanding of economics, executive ability, the ability to choose honest and able people for important positions, the ability to relate to other people, the common touch, and (most of all) the ability to be themselves". My friend said: "Are you looking for a human being or a god?" I have a deep feeling that you possess all of these traits, but that it's your humanness and your humility which will make you great.

If I can ever be of help, never hesitate to call on me.

Cordially,

Garrett Levinson

P.S.: Last night Stu Eizenstat addressed a group of leaders in Pittsburgh's Jewish Community. The meeting not only confirmed my convictions about you but also reinforced my feelings that you know how to choose good people around you. He is a brilliant young man and an authority on Jimmy Carter.