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Food Policy

Statement by the Prime Minister

The Government has given <sup>the</sup> ~~urgent~~ <sup>comprehensive</sup> consideration to the extremely serious shortage of food in the world today. ~~Believing the situation endangers peace itself,~~ the Government is seeking by <sup>all</sup> practicable means to <sup>see being taken</sup> make available for export the maximum supply of foodstuffs.

The Seriousness of the World Food Shortage

It has long been realized that the end of the war would not automatically be followed by an increase in food supplies. It was known that the problems of providing food for liberated areas would continue to be substantial until agriculture in these areas had resumed a more normal and stable condition. The problem has now been further complicated by great difficulties in getting domestic production in the liberated territories under way, by problems of distribution and by widespread crop failures in various parts of the world, particularly of staples such as wheat and rice.