

example. In 1971 India spent \$560 million on the importation of crude oil, fertilizer and food grains. If she were to buy the same amount of these products today, which she cannot afford to do, she would find that the price of crude oil and the price of fertilizer had gone up about four or five fold, and the price of food grains had tripled.

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Freight rates have increased. In order to obtain the same amount of these products which were purchased in 1971, India would have had to pay approximately \$3.1 billion, more than five times as much as in 1971. This is completely impossible as India's foreign exchange earnings from all sources are about \$2.4 billion. There is no way in which India can secure adequate fertilizer and adequate crude oil except by importing, and thus India cannot afford to import what is needed. The so-called green revolution which promised so much has gone down the drain and India is forced into increasing dependence upon the rest of the world.

It is necessary not only to increase food production but to stabilize world population. However, stabilization of the world population is not an end to be sought in itself, as the recent conference in Bucharest on world population made abundantly clear. It is a by-product of development.

The sad fact is that the poorer countries have insufficient capital to improve their production. If what we say is true, that mankind is one human family, it is the duty of the richer one-third to help the poorer two-thirds. An attitude of charity is not enough. What is called for is a system which is free of exploitation and injustice.

What are some of the measures which can be taken? There is an urgent need for the creation of an internationally-managed feed reserve system which would provide a measure of price stability in a world food economy. A crash effort is needed to increase world fertilizer production. Aid can, of course, play a positive role, but it is only secondary.

I could never understand why we have not lived up to the U.N. target proposed originally, as I recall it, by the former prime minister, Mr. Lester Pearson, of .7 per cent of the gross national product for development assistance. We should do so. We should take the lead in meeting this target which has long been proclaimed but which has never been accepted in practice.

Aid can only be viable as a complement to trade and economic policies which enhance self-reliant development in the Third World. It is true that in the immediate future we shall probably be called upon to deal with disaster areas and take special emergency steps to prevent starvation, but in the long run it is only by policies of development, and by aid and trade which will assist this development, that world problems can be solved.

Sales of food to less developed countries must be made on concessionary terms. The basic problem, however, is the growing gap between the affluence of the north and the poverty of the Third World. What is required is a restructuring of the world economic system with the interests of the Third World the centre of debate. Too often the voting power in memberships of international organizations such as the IMF, the World Bank and GATT have reflected the views of the developed world and have not

reflected equitably the interests of the majority of the world's population.

Canada is in a unique position to assume leadership, and the World Food Conference in Rome is a good place to start. I was glad to hear the other day that the Secretary of State for External Affairs himself expects to lead the Canadian delegation. May I once again urge that provision be made for the attendance at the conference of other Members of Parliament from the different parties, as well as representatives of non-governmental organizations.

So far, Mr. Speaker, I have been speaking of the tragic possibilities inherent in the world food situation. I want now to turn to the tragic realities in one part of the world and suggest that if Canada's policy is to be based, as the Prime Minister says, on humanism, a new attitude is required. I refer to the situation in Viet Nam.

As is now well-known, the Paris Peace Agreement, although it brought about the withdrawal of most American military personnel from Viet Nam, has not brought peace to that country. Indeed, the hideous and tragic war has continued and U.S. military aid involvement in South Viet Nam is continuing.

According to an article in the *New York Times* by David K. Shipler the United States, far from phasing out its military involvement in South Viet Nam has descended from a peak of warfare to a high plateau of substantial support, dispatching not only huge quantities of weapons and ammunition but also large numbers of American citizens who have become integral parts of the South Vietnamese supply, transport and intelligence systems. Indeed, an article in the *Globe and Mail* by Charles Taylor, a responsible journalist, suggests that Canada has been indirectly involved in the supply of weapons and ammunition to South Viet Nam for the continuation of the war.

It is true that the American people and the American Congress are becoming restive. Recently the Senate, despite the urging of President Ford in the honeymoon era of his administration, voted by a majority of only one to meet a request for increased aid to Saigon. The basic reason for this is that more and more Americans are becoming aware of the situation in regard to political prisoners.

The existence of political prisoners in South Viet Nam is beyond any reasonable dispute. Substantial accounts of mistreatment and torture of such political prisoners have been authoritatively reported by responsible people from different countries. Evidence has been given before the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the U.S. House of Representatives and before the U.S. Senate Sub-Committee on Refugees.

I myself have had an opportunity to interview many witnesses of unquestionable credibility who have seen the evidence of continued terror and torture. The scale is tremendous even if the numbers are sometimes in dispute. The conclusion of Amnesty International, a respected international organization, was that there were 70,000 to 100,000 political prisoners being held. The U.S. Senate Foreign Aid Appropriations Sub-Committee set the figure at between 40,000 and 60,000.

Various other sources estimate the number of political prisoners at 200,000 or more. The Saigon government has