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October 12, 1989
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PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: END HUNGER AWARDS CEREMONY
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
OCTOBER 16, 1989
10:30 AM

NAMES!

Good morning. Clayton Yeutter, [members of Congress,] Mark Edelman, Administrator of AID: welcome to the White House.

Vair
Ver-geese
Lure
lett-ee-en

And it is a special privilege to welcome Dr. Verghese Kurien

of India -- the 1989 recipient of the World Food Prize -- and father of India's "White Revolution" that has brought hygienic milk to the homes of 170 million people. Tomorrow evening, Dr.

op Flood

Steve
Abram 3
447-3631

Kurien will be honored at the Smithsonian Institution for his life-long dedication to the poor and hungry of India. But this morning, I want to congratulate this great humanitarian, whose work has changed the lives -- and the livelihoods -- of so many millions of people.

if family
wife, daughter
son-in-law
nabi's bop

And, of course, let me say again how honored I am to meet with the End Hunger Award winners -- one dozen ^{examples} of the 1000 points of light who are bringing hope to the hungry.

You've all heard me say before that, from now on in America, any definition of a successful life must include service to

others. Well, by that standard, the people I've just met with are the kind of success stories who inspire us all.

Whether you're a Congressman or Ambassador -- or a produce merchant like Mickey Weiss who decides one day it's time to feed the hungry with the perfectly edible food we waste -- what you've done proves that each of us can make a difference -- right in our own neighborhood, or on the other side of the world.

Mickey Weiss bio

I know this is a proud moment for all of you. But I'd like to single out three award winners who are **not** here. Ambassador Alan Woods, Administrator of AID, who cared so deeply, working until the very end of his life to help the world's hungry.

Congressman Mickey Leland: People here in Washington, people back in Mickey's home town of Houston, and the starving children of Ethiopia will never forget this man and his great love and compassion. And Tom Worrick -- AID officer in Ethiopia who also lost his life on the way to Ethiopia's refugee camps with Congressman Leland. Tom's wife Roberta, shares the award.

Roberta, our hearts go out to you. ////

a former AID food monitor

nutrition analyst,
monitor for food programs

Doug Eldred
647-3802
EXT Affs
AID

The End Hunger Awards underscore a simple fact about America. We are a compassionate people, a nation of neighbors and neighborhoods -- and America will never sleep well so long as a single man, woman or child goes to sleep hungry or homeless, haunted or hurting.

But hunger cuts across all nations and peoples. Hunger is black. Hunger is white. Hunger is brown. /// And hunger is cruel. /// Every time you feed a family -- even a single man, woman or child -- along with nourishment, **you give them dignity and hope.**

I salute the winners of the End Hunger Awards. And with that salute goes the gratitude of a nation to you for answering the call to provide this most basic of needs. Because of you, we're one step closer to a **world without hunger.**

Thank you all for joining me this morning. **Now, I will sign a proclamation declaring today World Food Day.** God bless you -- and God bless the United States of America.

#

1989 PRESIDENTIAL END HUNGER AWARDS

GOVERNMENT/LEGISLATIVE

GLADYS D. GILBERT

As Special Projects Officer for the U.S. Agency for International Development in Ethiopia, Gladys D. Gilbert worked tirelessly to ease the suffering and despair of people fleeing the ravages of drought and war in Sudan and Somalia. Following service with the Peace Corps, she joined the Agency for International Development in 1977 as a public health specialist and project development officer, working in India, Nepal and Somalia.

During her tours in Washington and the field, Ms. Gilbert played a key role in setting up population and family planning programs in Somalia, Malawi, Uganda and other African countries. Her areas of responsibility ranged from health and nutrition programs to control of locusts to assistance for orphans in Ethiopia. She represented A.I.D. in international efforts to coordinate donor actions during the 1984-85 drought. When the need for specialists with experience in the Horn of Africa arose in 1988, she willingly volunteered to return to Ethiopia. Ms. Gilbert's career reflected a combination of solid professionalism, cultural sensitivity and an exceptional ability to establish close rapport with people in the countries where she worked.

###

1989 PRESIDENTIAL END HUNGER AWARDS

GOVERNMENT/LEGISLATIVE

THOMAS J. WORRICK AND ROBERTA WORRICK

Tom Warrick was the Acting A.I.D. Representative in Ethiopia at the time of his death on August 7, 1989. Mr. Worrick joined A.I.D. in 1974 as an agriculture project manager after serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in Ethiopia. During the intervening years, he served as an agricultural economist in Nigeria, Tanzania, Pakistan, Kenya, Liberia and Washington. Mr. Worrick was an outstanding Foreign Service Officer. He excelled at analyzing problems and finding workable solutions. Because of his innovative and thoughtful approach and his widely recognized expertise, cultural sensitivity, and ability to deal with officials at all levels, he was regularly sought out for advice by host country officials.

In 1979, Mr. Worrick pioneered a new development approach when he led a major effort in Pakistan to bring the private sector into that country's fertilizer distribution system, which helped move the country toward wheat self-sufficiency. When drought and the prospect of famine resurfaced in Ethiopia in 1987, Mr. Worrick volunteered to return to the country where he had first served 20 years before. His analyses of the food situation and refugee problems in Ethiopia played a critical role in the U.S. response to the recent drought.

Roberta Worrick, a talented painter and, more recently, a well-known author, had been a Peace Corps volunteer in Ethiopia in the early 1970's with her husband. When he returned in 1987, she accompanied him and worked with A.I.D. as a food monitor. In this capacity Mrs. Worrick traveled widely in Ethiopia, overseeing the emergency efforts of the donors.

###

1989 PRESIDENTIAL END HUNGER AWARDS

EDUCATOR/SCIENTIST

DR. JEAN MAYER

Dr. Jean Mayer, President of Tufts University and an internationally renowned nutritionist, has been integral in formulating policy to combat hunger and malnutrition. Dr. Mayer continues to alleviate suffering by influencing changes in legislation, programs and domestic and foreign U.S. policy.

Primary among his accomplishments was the first White House Conference on Food, Nutrition and Health in 1969, which he was asked to chair as a special consultant to President Nixon. That conference led to enactment of food stamps, subsidized school lunches, unit pricing, the Women, Infants and Children's (WIC) program, and food labeling regulations.

As a member of the Nutrition Division of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Dr. Mayer has sought to extend the U.S. expertise that has enabled this country to feed its own people as well as others in the world. He was an organizer and participant in a Swedish symposium on famine which produced the first major document on how nutrition and relief operations should be handled in disasters. At Tufts University, he established the first graduate school of nutrition in the U.S. and was responsible for establishing the Tufts USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging.

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1989 PRESIDENTIAL END HUNGER AWARDS

GOVERNMENT/LEGISLATIVE

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE BILL EMERSON

Representative Bill Emerson of Missouri, Vice Chairman of the House Select Committee on Hunger, has shown extraordinary leadership in seeking solutions to chronic hunger and malnutrition both in the United States and abroad.

During Congressional trips to Ethiopia in 1984 and Sudan in 1989, his actions were crucial to expediting life-saving aid to thousands of people who faced death from starvation. As a senior member of the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Domestic Marketing, Consumer Relations and Nutrition, he has worked vigorously to craft legislation such as the Emergency Hunger Relief Act of 1988.

Mr. Emerson has vigorously worked to improve coordination among Federal programs to relieve hunger and meet other basic needs, and to simplify procedures for applying for benefits of these programs. He has stood up for hungry people who are often intimidated and confused by bureaucratic structures. His stature as a legislator and his commitment have made great impact on this issue and will continue to do so in the future.

###

1989 PRESIDENTIAL END HUNGER AWARDS

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

HILL STAFFERS FOR HUNGRY AND HOMELESS

In 1986, Hill Staffers for the Hungry and Homeless set a modest goal of collecting food and clothing for the Washington, D.C. area homeless, and to encourage congressional employees to volunteer at shelters and soup kitchens. As a result of those early efforts, workers from local shelters and soup kitchens regularly collect bags of food and clothing at pick-up points in the Senate and House. This system has made participation easier for busy Hill staffers and exposed them to various organizations working with the poor. This weekly donation schedule has encouraged hundreds of congressional employees to volunteer at soup kitchens and shelters.

Hill Staffers has consistently sought innovative ways to provide the area's homeless children with many items that others take for granted. What began as a food and clothing drive has become a creative activity that brings food, books, toys and fun into the lives of children whose home address is often the street. While filling the needs of the most innocent, Hill Staffers has created a system that enables even the busiest to participate.

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1989 PRESIDENTIAL END HUNGER AWARDS

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT

MAURICE "MICKEY" WEISS

For more than 40 years, Maurice "Mickey" Weiss has been a merchant in the Los Angeles Wholesale Produce Market, a centralized facility that provides fresh fruit and vegetables daily to the greater Los Angeles area. As in all similar central produce markets across the country, vast quantities of perfectly edible food were thrown away each day because the produce was too ripe to pass the ten-day shelf life requirement for delivery to supermarkets.

In 1987, Mickey Weiss decided that instead of wasting this food, participating merchants could donate it to the needy. At the age of 72, he established and personally funded the Charitable Distribution Center at the Los Angeles Wholesale Produce Market. Here a daily supply of fresh fruits and vegetables could be delivered by the participating merchants to the hungry and homeless.

In the two years since the Center's inception, it has distributed to the hungry in Los Angeles 14,450,000 pounds of produce valued at \$7,947,500 -- produce which otherwise would have been destroyed -- at no cost to the government or taxpayers.

Long known as a community leader and outstanding philanthropist, Mickey received the Private Sector Initiative Commendation from President Reagan for his community last year. He is a member of the Board of the United Way-founded Food Partnership.

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1989 PRESIDENTIAL END HUNGER AWARDS

CORPORATE

CHEVRON CORPORATION

The humanitarian interventions and steadfast cooperation of the Chevron Corporation in the political unrest of Sudan have been nothing short of heroic. Throughout the course of organized multi-donor food relief efforts, Chevron installations scattered throughout the conflict zone have comprised the key logistic element in averting thousands of deaths from starvation. Moreover, Chevron made available its Muglad airport and refueling facilities to support a 90-day US-UN airlift to the besieged towns of Aweil, an action which saved 65,000 people from the immediate threat of starvation. Chevron took these humanitarian actions despite the possibility of incurring the displeasure of either or both sides in Sudan's civil war. Considering that Chevron has a \$1 billion investment in southern Sudan, its assumption of such a political risk evidenced the kind of moral integrity that major corporations are so often accused of lacking.

###

1989 PRESIDENTIAL END HUNGER AWARDS

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

AMBASSADOR ALAN WOODS

As Administrator of the Agency for International Development from November, 1987 to June, 1989, the late Ambassador Alan Woods was dedicated to ending human suffering around the world. Not only did Ambassador Woods direct massive humanitarian and disaster relief efforts, his concern for the poor, the hungry, the sick and the dying went beyond that into discovering and implementing ways to achieve long term, broad based development gains that would improve living standards for entire nations.

His visit to Ethiopia in 1988 contributed significantly to the mobilization of A.I.D.'s efforts to pre-position food supplies in that nation to head off food shortages that threatened renewed starvation. His creative efforts within the Agency to better integrate food aid and agricultural development policy made significant contributions to understanding how U.S. food aid can help produce on-going as well as immediate relief from hunger.

Ambassador Woods was a selfless and dedicated professional, working literally from his deathbed to complete projects, programs and initiatives that he knew would bring relief to millions of people around the globe.

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1989 PRESIDENTIAL END HUNGER AWARDS

GOVERNMENT/LEGISLATIVE

JULIA V. TAFT

Julia Taft's distinguished public service as Director of A.I.D.'s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance has earned her recognition throughout the world. Thousands of people in Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan have survived famine, drought, flood, pestilence and civil strife to re-establish their lives thanks to her rapid and effective mobilization of U.S. Government assistance in the mid-to-late 1980's.

Ms. Taft gained international recognition for her accomplishments and leadership in organizing an international assault on locust and grasshopper infestations in 1986 which threatened the agricultural economies of 13 countries in Africa and Asia. Some 3,000,000 hectares in Senegal, Gambia, Mauritania and Mali alone were sprayed within several months, resulting in the control of 90 percent of the infestation and the "rescue" of invaluable food-producing cropland. In 1987, control was maintained and in 1988 and 1989, further control supported by OFDA resulted in the successful termination of the locust plague in both Africa and Asia.

In addition to her commitment to reduce hunger of those affected by disaster, Julia Taft's humanitarian efforts have, most recently, extended to aiding the over 200,000 unaccompanied minors whose status has resulted from the civil unrest in Mozambique. In this instance, the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, under her direction, raised the consciousness of world leaders, sensitizing them to the issue and facilitating the efforts of private voluntary organizations and the Government of Mozambique to reunify the unaccompanied children with their families.

###

1989 PRESIDENTIAL END HUNGER AWARDS

CELEBRITY

TED DANSON

Ted Danson has been a major supporter of efforts to end hunger and insure the healthy future of children's lives around the world. He was 1989 national chairperson for World Health Day and appeared in public service announcements that encouraged Americans to become involved in protecting children's health, especially in the Third World.

Mr. Danson was an important force in enrolling the heads of the three major TV networks to join together in the Prime Time to End Hunger initiative, broadcasts of the top primetime television shows dealing with hunger, homelessness and poverty all during the same week in December 1989. This breakthrough event has a goal of motivating and linking 100,000 new volunteers with opportunities to make a difference in their communities and around the world.

He also was a member of last year's Chance of a Lifetime campaign and spoke about the global campaign to immunize all the world's children against polio, diphtheria, measles, whooping cough, tetanus and tuberculosis by the year 2000.

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1989 PRESIDENTIAL END HUNGER AWARDS

PRIVATE VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATION/COOPERATIVE

VOLUNTEERS IN OVERSEAS COOPERATIVE ASSISTANCE

Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance (VOCA) is a private, nonprofit organization providing short-term technical assistance to developing countries. On request, VOCA sends volunteers to cooperatives, other private sector agricultural enterprises, and government agencies. Founded in 1970, VOCA has been a significant part of the foreign assistance program of the United States ever since.

Through VOCA, U.S. cooperative and agricultural leaders' experience and know-how is channeled to selected organizations in the developing world. The 150 years of American experience in cooperative business enterprises has created a tremendous reservoir of experts. These experts have transferable talents in improving incomes of farmers and other producers of goods and services, and in reducing the cost of what they buy - farm supplies, electricity, consumer goods and housing.

VOCA taps into this resource by recruiting highly qualified volunteers from this talent pool to spend from 30 to 90 days on overseas assignments. The carefully matched volunteer may be a recent retiree of a U.S. cooperative, an independent farmer or agribusinessman, or a mid-career professional whose organization has granted him/her leave with pay to undertake the assignment in the field.

Between 1971 and the end of 1988, VOCA volunteers have completed almost 600 technical assistance assignments with developing world cooperatives and farmers.

###

1989 PRESIDENTIAL END HUNGER AWARDS

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE MICKEY LELAND

Representative Mickey Leland of Texas dedicated his life to helping rid the world of the scourge of hunger. Recognizing that hunger issues were fragmented among many committees in the House, he co-authored legislation to establish the Select Committee on Hunger and was appointed Chairman upon its creation in February, 1984.

Congressman Leland took an active role in legislative efforts to alleviate world hunger. Under his leadership, the Committee held numerous hearings and seminars on domestic and international hunger issues. In November, 1984, Representative Leland led a Congressional delegation to Ethiopia to assess conditions and relief operations there. Upon learning of an impending critical shortfall in emergency food supplies, Representative Leland and the delegation arranged for food aid already enroute to Southeast Asia to be diverted to the stricken region. As a Member of Congress and an advocate of new methods and strengthened institutions to end hunger, he devoted his life to affecting the direction of public policy.

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AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20523

PRESIDENTIAL END HUNGER AWARDS

PAST RECIPIENTS

1988

Individual Achievement
Private Voluntary Org./Cooperative
Educator/Scientist
Celebrity
Government/Legislative

Corporate
Media/Communications
Special Recognition

Eliza M. Carney
ACCION International
Dr. Ralph Waldo Cummings
Jeff Bridges
Hon. Marge Roukema
Hon. Tony Hall
General Foods Fund, Inc.
National Public Radio
Constantine Gregory
(posthumously)

1987

Lifetime Achievement
Individual Achievement
Private Voluntary Org./Cooperative
Educator/Scientist
Celebrity
Government/Legislative
Corporate
Media/Communications
Special Recognition

Dr. Y.C. James Yen
Marguerite Chandler
Christian Children's Fund
Dr. John W. Mellor
Valerie Harper
M. Peter McPherson
Caltex Petroleum
The Christian Science
Monitor
David L. Guyer
Trickle Up Program
Dr. Jean-Pierre Hallet

1986

Lifetime Achievement
Individual Achievement
Private Voluntary Org./Cooperative
Educator/Scientist
Celebrity
Government/Legislative

Corporate

Special Recognition

Dr. John Hannah
Mary Barden Keegan
Lutheran World Relief
Dr. Robert F. Chandler
Dennis Weaver
Hon. Silvio Conte
Hon. Dante Fascell
Hon. Mickey Leland
International Minerals
and Chemical Corporation
The Peace Corps
Dr. Larry Ward

1985

Individual Achievement
Private Voluntary Org./Cooperative
Educator/Scientist
Celebrity
Government/Legislative
Corporate
Special Recognition

Hon. Bradford Morse
CARE
Dr. Norman E. Borlaug
John Denver
Hon. John C. Danforth
Land O'Lakes
USA for Africa
Live Aid Foundation
Band Aid Trust

1984

Lifetime Achievement
Private Voluntary Org./Cooperative
Educator/Scientist
Celebrity
Government/Legislative
Corporate

C. Payne Lucas
Meals for Millions
Dr. Arthur T. Mosher
Eddie Albert
Hon. Benjamin A. Gilman
Rodale Press

1983

Lifetime Achievement
Private Voluntary Org./Cooperative
Educator/Scientist
Celebrity

Special Recognition

Wallace J. Campbell
Save the Children
Frank Parker
Kenny and Marianne Rogers
Kareem Abdul-Jabbar
Harry Chapin
(posthumously)
Roberto Clemente
(posthumously)
Clifton R. Wharton, Jr.



The President of the United States of America

awards this

Certificate of

Outstanding Achievement

to

The Honorable

Mickey Leland

*For vision, initiative and leadership in the effort
to achieve a world without hunger.*

*The White House
Washington, D.C., October 16, 1989*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George Bush".



The President of the United States of America

awards this

Certificate of

Outstanding Achievement

to the

Chevron Corporation

*For vision, initiative and leadership in the effort
to achieve a world without hunger.*

*The White House
Washington, D.C., October 16, 1989*

George Bush



The President of the United States of America

awards this

Certificate of

Outstanding Achievement

to the

Hill Staffers to End Hunger

*For vision, initiative and leadership in the effort
to achieve a world without hunger.*

*The White House
Washington, D.C., October 16, 1989*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely belonging to George H. W. Bush.



The President of the United States of America

awards this

Certificate of

Outstanding Achievement

to

Ambassador Alan Woods

*For vision, initiative and leadership in the effort
to achieve a world without hunger.*

*The White House
Washington, D.C., October 16, 1989*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. Bush".



The President of the United States of America

awards this

*Certificate of
Outstanding Achievement*

to

Mickey Weiss

*For vision, initiative and leadership in the effort
to achieve a world without hunger.*

*The White House
Washington, D.C., October 16, 1989*

R. Bush



The President of the United States of America

awards this

Certificate of

Outstanding Achievement

to the

**Volunteers in
Overseas Cooperative Assistance**

*For vision, initiative and leadership in the effort
to achieve a world without hunger.*

*The White House
Washington, D.C., October 16, 1989*

A. Bush



The President of the United States of America

awards this

Certificate of

Outstanding Achievement

to

Thomas and Roberta Worrick

*For vision, initiative and leadership in the effort
to achieve a world without hunger.*

*The White House
Washington, D.C., October 16, 1989*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George H. W. Bush".



The President of the United States of America

awards this

Certificate of

Outstanding Achievement

to

Dr. Jean Mayer

*For vision, initiative and leadership in the effort
to achieve a world without hunger.*

*The White House
Washington, D.C., October 16, 1989*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. Bush".



The President of the United States of America

awards this

Certificate of

Outstanding Achievement

to

The Honorable

Bill Emerson

*For vision, initiative and leadership in the effort
to achieve a world without hunger.*

*The White House
Washington, D.C., October 16, 1989*

Cy Bunt



The President of the United States of America

awards this

Certificate of

Outstanding Achievement

to

Julia Taft

*For vision, initiative and leadership in the effort
to achieve a world without hunger.*

*The White House
Washington, D.C., October 16, 1989*

George Bush



The President of the United States of America

awards this

Certificate of

Outstanding Achievement

to

Gladys D. Gilbert

*For vision, initiative and leadership in the effort
to achieve a world without hunger.*

*The White House
Washington, D.C., October 16, 1989*

A. Bush



The President of the United States of America

awards this

Certificate of

Outstanding Achievement

to

Ted Danson

*For vision, initiative and leadership in the effort
to achieve a world without hunger.*

*The White House
Washington, D.C., October 16, 1989*

George Bush

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what*

**World Food Day Celebration at the White House
Monday, October 16, 1989**

Draft of suggested remarks by President George Bush

Today, in the tradition of my predecessor here in the White House, I've signed the proclamation passed by both houses of congress establishing October 16th as World Food Day. It is a day on which we all take pause to remind ourselves that not all people in the world are as fortunate as we are -- and that we must help them.

I've asked you all to come together here in private with me for a few minutes of both celebration and remembrance.

A celebration to the extent we are celebrating people and corporations who care -- and who serve other people.

A remembrance, in the sense that we want to pause together in remembrance of those who are no longer with us today, but who gave so much.

The world is a fortunate place because of you people --people who care.

**World Food Day
Draft Remarks for
President George Bush
Page 2**

I look forward to joining all of you in the ceremony that will take place later this morning when the Agency for International Development will officially present the 1989 Presidential End Hunger Awards to you, a group of concerned Americans who have made a difference.

But before that ceremony, I wanted to take this opportunity to personally thank you for embodying the strength of commitment that brings forth what I have referred to as The Thousand Points of Light that make the world a better place. A commitment that brings renewed hope and strength to our world every day.

I also consider it a special privilege today to have with us a man who is being given special recognition for his lifelong contribution to improving the lot of the poor and the hungry, Dr. Verghese Kurien, the 1989 recipient of the World Food Prize.

**World Food Day
Draft Remarks for
President George Bush
Page 3**

The World Food Prize will be presented tomorrow evening to Dr. Kurien at a ceremony at the Smithsonian Institution.

This is the third year of the World Food Prize, but it's the first year that it's being awarded in conjunction with World Food Day activities, and to do so is very appropriate.

Dr. Kurien, let me extend my personal congratulations and extend a warm welcome from all the people of the United States for your great service to Humankind.

I also want to take time to focus on the lives of two very special public servants from here in our own country who were tragically taken from us this past year: Congressman Mickey Leland, and Ambassador Alan Woods of the Agency of International Development.

**World Food Day
Draft Remarks for
President George Bush
Page 4**

Both came from different directions and different political philosophies, but both were committed toward a singular goal: to make the world a better place for all.

Both Mickey Leland and Alan Woods were public servants who committed their lives to improving the living conditions of others.

Both, up until the last minutes of their lives, continued to speak out and work toward what they believed.

Both left a mark on all of us who knew them. A mark to retain our commitment toward hope and excellence, service and helping the less fortunate. Through such work, the economic and spiritual condition of the rest of us is elevated.

World Food Day is a appropriate day to celebrate their special accomplishments.

**World Food Day
Draft Remarks for
President George Bush
Page 5**

And to each of the rest of you being honored today for your magnificent contributions, I want to thank you once again for your personal commitments, for your accomplishments in service, and for your efforts in behalf of others.

To those members of congress who are present, Secretary Yeutter, and Ambassador Edelman, I look forward to our continued working together to build a better world, and one in which no one ever has to go to sleep hungry or go through their waking hours malnourished.

Thank You.


EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE
June 6, 1989

CONTACT: Elizabeth Kelley
Edelman Public Relations
202/371-0200

**DAIRY DISTRIBUTION PIONEER NAMED
1989 WORLD FOOD PRIZE WINNER**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- A global dairy distribution leader who turned the milksheds of India into a cooperative system owned and managed by milk producers that produces, processes and markets milk for the urban centers of that country has been named winner of the 1989 World Food Prize sponsored by the General Foods Fund, Inc.

Verghese Kurien, chairman of India's National Dairy Development Board, is the 1989 winner of the \$200,000 annual prize, the largest of its kind.

Dr. Kurien's cooperative program, entitled "Operation Flood," involves more than six million dairy producers in 50,000 cooperatives, marketing milk in 500 cities and towns throughout India. Involving nearly 170 million people in India, Operation Flood is the largest agricultural development program in the world. The success of Operation Flood has led to its application to other commodities, including fruits, vegetables and oilseeds. 

The World Food Prize, established in 1986, is given each year to an individual whose work has brought food to the tables of the world's population. It recognizes achievements in any discipline that has improved the quality, quantity or availability of food in the world.

- 2 -

Dr. Kurien's endeavors toward improving the milk supply in his country began in 1949 when he went to Anand, India, following his graduate studies at Michigan State University. He worked for a newly-formed cooperative organization, the Kaira District Milk Producers Union, which was established to help market milk directly to the consumers. At that time, two cooperatives were involved representing only a handful of farmers.

After years of struggle, the cooperative began to produce dramatic results. In 1965, then Prime Minister of India, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, created the National Dairy Development Board to replicate the program on a nationwide basis. The Prime Minister cited Dr. Kurien's "extraordinary and dynamic leadership" upon naming him the chairman.

Today, six million dairy cooperative members supply almost 3 million tons of milk annually. As a result of this work, milk prices in India have stabilized; India's towns and cities receive an adequate supply of hygienic milk; and the small farmers and landless laborers who comprise the majority of dairy cooperative membership now have a regular source of income.

Operation Flood has also helped break down caste barriers in India by treating all members of the cooperative equally. Harijans or "untouchables," those at the bottom of the caste structure, also sell their milk into the cooperatives.

Leaders from a large number of countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America have expressed the desire to replicate Operation Flood in their own countries.

- 3 -

"Operation Flood and its application to other commodities has played a vital role in getting food from the farmers to the tables of the world's population," said A.S. Clausi, chairman of The World Food Prize Council of Advisors. "Dr. Kurien's accomplishments exemplify all that The World Food Prize represents."

Dr. Kurien was selected from 173 nominees from 48 countries. His selection was announced today at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., by Dr. Norman Borlaug, chairman of The World Food Prize Selection Committee and 1970 winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. Other speakers at the event were Mr. Clausi; James Ferguson, chairman of the General Foods Executive Committee; and Lalit Mansingh, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India.

"Operation Flood's cooperatives have created a grassroots foundation underpinning India's democracy," said Mr. Mansingh. "Dr. Kurien's role in bringing about the 'White Revolution' is unique."

The Prize, an original sculpture by world-renowned designer Saul Bass and the cash award, will be given to Dr. Kurien at a ceremony in Washington on October 17. The award ceremony will be held in conjunction with a day-long colloquium on world food issues at the Smithsonian Institution.

Born in Calicut, India, Dr. Kurien, age 67, received a Bachelor of Science and a Bachelor of Engineering (with honors) at Madras University; and a Master of Science of Mechanical Engineering (with distinction) at Michigan State University.

- 4 -

The World Food Prize was conceived by Dr. Norman Borlaug, who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 for his work in agricultural research. After receiving the Nobel Prize, Dr. Borlaug spent years striving for the creation of an award that would recognize individual achievements in any discipline that has affected the global food supply. Examples of these fields include anything from agricultural sciences to transportation, from political leadership and marketing to economic policy and education.

The World Food Prize was awarded in 1988 to Robert F. Chandler, Jr., Ph.D., founding director of the International Rice Research Institute, whose work in developing new varieties of rice helps feed billions. The first World Food Prize was given in 1987 to M.S. Swaminathan, architect of India's "green revolution," and former secretary of agriculture for that country.

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GENERAL FOODS
WORLD FOOD PRIZE



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BIOGRAPHY: VERGHESE KURIEN

Vergheese Kurien, 1989 winner of The World Food Prize, sponsored by the General Foods Fund, Inc., established a cooperative system that produces, processes and markets milk of the farmers of his native India.

Dr. Kurien, age 67, is chairman of India's National Dairy Development Board. Born in Calicut, India, he received a Bachelor of Science and a Bachelor of Engineering (with honors) at Madras University in 1943. After working for one of India's major industrial firms, Dr. Kurien accepted a scholarship to study dairy science at Michigan State University with the understanding that he would work for the Indian government following his schooling.

Upon receiving a Master of Science of Mechanical Engineering (with distinction) in 1949, Dr. Kurien was assigned to work with an Indian government experimental dairy in Anand, Gujarat. It was there that he met Tribhuvandas Patel, chairman of a fledgling cooperative union, which shared space with the government dairy. So began the Kaira District Milk Producers Union and a working relationship that has lasted a lifetime.

When Dr. Kurien arrived in Anand, the equipment in the cooperative dairy was antiquated and the cooperative faced difficulties in procuring and processing the milk to send 280 miles

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away to Bombay. He overcame these early struggles, however, and quickly built a highly committed and talented team which worked with the elected leaders of the cooperative to transform the Kaira Milk Producers Union into a success.

These successes did not go unnoticed. In 1964, then Prime Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri visited Anand and was so impressed that he created the National Dairy Development Board in 1965 to replicate the program on a nationwide basis. Dr. Kurien was appointed chairman of the organization.

Today, the National Dairy Development Board's cooperative program, "Operation Flood," reaches nearly 170 million milk producers and consumers throughout India and is the largest agricultural development program in the world.

"Kurien is a controversial person. He has taken risks but calculated ones and more often than not, his gambles have succeeded," according to a book entitled Management Kurien Style: The Story of the White Revolution.

Dr. Kurien, the book reports, has spoken at great lengths about the role of a professional. In a cooperative, Dr. Kurien has said "The professional manager's role is to ensure that cooperative members are masters of technical change -- and to see that this technical change serves the socioeconomic objectives of the community at large."

In addition to serving as chairman of the National Dairy Development Board, Dr. Kurien is currently chairman of many other organizations including the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing

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Federation; the Institute of Rural Management's Board of Governors; the Aga Khan Rural Support Program's Board of Directors; the Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development Council of Gujarat; and the National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India.

He is currently a member the Government of India's Central Advisory Council on Trade for the Ministry of Commerce; India Ministry of Education's Steering Committee of Model Schools Project; India Ministry of Environment and Forests' National Wastelands Development Board; the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Memorial Trust; and Executive Committee of the International Dairy Federation, Government of India.

Past positions have included Director, Bank of Lardoda (until 1969); Director, Life Insurance Corporation of India Ltd., (1970-74); Director, Industrial Development Bank of India (1972-76); Director, Central Board, Reserve Bank of India (1972-83); Member, Consultative Council on Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture (1972-75); Member, Advisory Council of Industries, Government of India (1975); Member, Advisory Board on Energy, Government of India (1983-85); Member, Executive Committee, International Dairy Federation, Brussels, Belgium (1974-86) (1988-92); Member and Chairman, Gujarat Electricity Board (1965); and Vice Chancellor, Gujarat Agriculture University (1984-85).

In addition to receiving the 1989 World Food Prize, Dr. Kurien has been honored with many awards, including the Wateler-Carnegie Peace Prize in 1986; India's Padma Shri in 1965 and India's Padma Bhushan in 1966; the Prof. V. Subrahmanyam Industrial Achievement

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Award in 1983; the Shri Mathurdas Vissanji Endowment Award in 1984; the Business Leadership Award of Madras Management Association in 1978; and the Ramon Magsaysay Award for Community Leadership in 1963.

Professional organizations of which Dr. Kurien is currently a member include Fellow of the Institution of Engineers; Patron, India Dairy Association; Honorary Member, Association of Food Technologists; and Companion, British Institute of Management, London.

Honorary degrees Dr. Kurien has received include Doctor of the University, University of New England, Armindale, Australia, 1989; Doctor of Science, Anna University, Madras, in 1988; Doctor of Humane Letters, Ottawa University, 1985; Doctor of Science, Acadia University, 1985; Doctor of Law, University of Glasgow, Scotland, 1974; and Doctor of Science, Michigan State University, 1965.

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McGroarty/Dooley
October 12, 1989
12:30 pm
[END]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: END HUNGER AWARDS CEREMONY
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
OCTOBER 16, 1989
10:30 AM

Good morning. Clayton Yeutter, [members of Congress,] Mark Edelman, Administrator of AID: welcome to the White House. And it is a special privilege to welcome Dr. Verghese Kurien of India -- the 1989 recipient of the World Food Prize.

And, of course, let me say again how honored I am to meet with the End Hunger Award winners. We're fresh from our photo-op -- and I want to thank you for giving me the chance to have **my** picture taken with **each of you.** ////

You've all heard me say before that, from now on in America, any definition of a successful life must include service to others. Well, by that standard, the people I've just met with are the kind of success stories who inspire us all.

Whether you're a Congressman or Ambassador -- or a produce merchant like Mickey Weiss who decides one day it's time to feed the hungry with the perfectly edible food we waste -- what you've done proves that each of us can make a difference -- right in our own neighborhood, or on the other side of the world.

I know this is a proud moment for all of you. But I'd like to single out three award winners who are **not** here. Ambassador Alan Woods, Administrator of AID, who worked until the very end to help the world's hungry. Congressman Mickey Leland: People here in Washington, people back in Mickey's home town of Houston, and the starving children of Ethiopia will never forget this man. And Tom Worrick -- AID officer in Ethiopia who was on the way to Ethiopia's refugee camps with Congressman Leland. Tom's wife Roberta shares the award. Roberta, our hearts go out to you.

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The End Hunger Awards underscore a simple fact about America. We are a compassionate people, a nation of neighbors and neighborhoods -- and America will never sleep well so long as a single man, woman or child goes to sleep hungry or homeless, haunted or hurting.

But hunger cuts across all nations and peoples. Hunger is black. Hunger is white. Hunger is brown. /// And hunger is cruel. /// Every time you feed a family -- even a single man, woman or child -- along with nourishment, **you give them dignity and hope.**

I salute the winners of the End Hunger Awards. And with that salute goes the gratitude of a nation to you for answering

the call to provide this most basic of needs. Because of you, we're one step closer to a **world without hunger**.

Thank you all for joining me this morning. Now, I will sign a proclamation declaring today World Food Day. God bless you -- and God bless the United States of America.

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46DTH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

The Associated Press

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August 8, 1989, Tuesday, AM cycle

SECTION: International News

LENGTH: 793 words

HEADLINE: Police Search Through Night For Congressmen and Others From Missing Plane

DATELINE: ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia

KEYWORD: Ethiopia -Leland

BODY:

Police and farmers with flashlights searched a remote mountain area Tuesday night for the missing plane carrying Rep. Mickey Leland and 13 other people.

John Guerra, political officer at the U.S. Embassy in Addis Ababa, said the search was conducted on foot and with the aid of jeeps, trucks and other vehicles. The aerial search was suspended at dusk Tuesday.

Embassy officials said several planes remained on dirt airstrips in the desolate area of southwestern Ethiopia, ready to resume the search at dawn.

The twin-engine plane carrying Leland and the other disappeared Monday on its way to the Fugnido refugee camp near the border with Sudan, 480 miles southwest of Addis Ababa.

The 44-year-old Texas Democrat is chairman of the House Select Committee on Hunger and he has taken a keen interest in Africa's refugee problem.

Aboard the plane with him were eight other Americans and five Ethiopians. His office in Washington said the Americans included Patrice Johnson, Leland's chief of staff; Hugh Johnson of the Hunger committee staff, and Joyce F. Williams from the staff of Rep. Ron Dellums, D-Calif.

President Bush said he telephoned Leland's wife, Alison, in Houston to express his concern and promise his administration will do "all we can to learn" what has happened.

"She's strong, has a lot of hope, and we all pray that he's safe," But told a meeting of the National Urban League in Washington, where delegates observed a moment of silent prayer for Leland's survival.

"I think it says a lot about Mickey that he was on his sixth humanitarian mission to help feed the hungry in that part of the world," Bush told the meeting.

Leland-1451

The Associated Press, August 8, 1989

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said Ethiopia's government has asked for a "specialized search plane" and that the United States is trying to find one to accommodate them.

"We have offered to assist in every way we can," Boucher said.

Heavy clouds and poor visibility hampered aerial sweeps Tuesday as rescue planes criss-crossed the cold, windswept plateau in Ethiopia until sunset.

Robert Houdek, U.S. charge d'affaires in Addis Ababa, said searchers were encouraged by reports that a small plane was sighted Monday circling a field at Dembidola, 75 miles from the refugee camp.

"If it was our plane, what we find encouraging is that it would have transversed a lot of the more treacherous terrain to Fugnido," said Houdek. He said Dembidola is in an inaccessible region far from communications points, "which could provide a benign explanation for why we haven't heard anything."

"They could be sitting in the bush with the plane not capable of taking off but in good shape waiting for search and rescue," Houdek said.

At a briefing in Washington, Leland press secretary Alma Newsom also was hopeful.

"At this point no news is good news," she said, recalling being on similar trips with the congressman where air travel and communications were disrupted.

"The safest thing for them to do was land and just sit tight and we think that is what the congressman did," she said.

She was confident the sighted plane was Leland's, she said, because Ethiopian air controllers keep close tabs on planes and no others were supposed to be in the area.

Also in Washington, Rep. Gary Ackerman, D-N.Y., said Ethiopian authorities in the past have used bad weather as an excuse to prevent American congressmen from visiting refugee camps or other controversial sites.

Ackerman said in June that he and Leland were to visit northern refugee camps in March but were told their charter from Addis Ababa airport could not take off because of bad weather. The lawmaker said the weather appeared fine.

Leland's Twin Otter aircraft left Addis Ababa in heavy clouds and poor visibility at about 10:30 a.m. Monday after a two-hour delay caused by bad weather, said embassy political officer John Guerra.

The plane was last heard from about 15 minutes after it took off.

"It was about 25 miles outside of Addis at the time," Guerra said.

The Twin Otter, a plane commonly used for bush flying in Africa, carried eight people who were members of Leland's staff, embassy personnel or officers of the U.S. Agency for International Development. The five Ethiopians aboard were three government officials, the pilot and co-pilot.

The Associated Press, August 8, 1989

Guerra said the pilot was highly experienced and had flown all over the treacherously mountainous country for international relief agencies.

Half a dozen small planes were being used in the hunt directed by Ethiopia's Civil Aviation Authority. A C-130 Hercules cargo plane also was standing by.

Fugnido camp is run by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees and is one of four in the region that house more than 300,000 refugees who have fled civil war in neighboring Sudan.