

embargo concept does say food is now officially a weapon in the United States armament and is going to be used as such and that I, the President, whoever I might be, Jimmy Carter, Richard Nixon, whoever, can invoke and declare this weapon to be used under whatever conditions I want...call it national security or whatever, without sanctions from Congress, without sanctions from the court, without anything other than my saying it. What are the ramifications if this new philosophy, and it is a new philosophy, is accepted? And I am not saying it is right. I am not saying it is wrong, not at this point. I am saying it is a new philosophy. It has been declared. It will have certain effects...

PRESIDENT: One minute, Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: I am going to need more than that. First of all, agriculture is no longer privately owned because just like the tank, just like the airplane, it can be used whenever he needs it. When it is no longer subject to private control, land contracts and everything else, then it has no predictability in the economy and no stability. You can't deal with it as we have in the past, develop a market, put a machinery, tractors, land, and so on and so forth, fill that market. It is no longer subject to that. It is subject to the rules of war, and the rules of war are very simple. Soldiers don't have to be economical. Tanks don't have to be economical. They are for war purposes, and no matter what they cost, no matter what they cost, the public bears that burden. Agriculture has been the one segment...

PRESIDENT: Senator...

SENATOR DeCAMP: Thirty seconds.

PRESIDENT: A little more time, all right, finish.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Agriculture has been the one segment for the last ten years that has bailed this country out on the balance of payments deficit, for example, because we produce so economically. It is the one field left in the world where we still compete. We don't compete in Hondas and Datsuns and Toyotas. We compete in agriculture and that is why they buy because they can't produce it as cheap and efficiently as we can, but when we remove the rules that regulate this, we remove the nature of agriculture in this country. We also declare that if we have to resort to starvation as our device, we will use it. I submit to you if this is the new policy, if this is the new declaration of the country, so be it, but do it in the proper manner, changing the Constitution,