

things he couldn't deliver, so this is, of course, one of the benefits of being in the minority. You can call your shots in either direction, and whatever the Chief Executive does, he is wrong.

I think, for my part, I prefer to be consulted before the fact rather than after the fact, and I appreciate the fact that the President is doing it this way rather than going down and making a commitment and then asking us to support it.

I might say, some members were out of town Friday, but I happened to be here and went down. There were about 40 people from Congress, some with such diverse opinions as Senator Morse and myself, and everybody was unanimous in saying the President had done the right thing and that everybody there, both Democrat and Republican, said they would support it.

Now, there are two things on this, Mr. Secretary, that intrigue me. One is, of course, as I stated last week, the fact that we are going to try to cut down on military aid and do more on the economic side, because I don't think military aid in Latin America would do anything but give these people something to use against each other. I don't see that it is going to protect them for anybody outside the hemisphere.

A second thing—and I would like to clarify it a little if I may, and then ask you to answer this question very briefly.

Ten years ago—I was checking with the staff—a small subcommittee which I had the honor to Chair, including Mr. Selden and Mr. O'Hara and Mrs. Church, who is no longer here in Congress, made a trip to Africa, and second only to Mrs. Bolton, who made a trip alone, it was the first time a congressional committee from the House had ever toured this part of the world.

I guess we got raked over in the press for being junketeers, but I thought I found out a lot of useful information.

I recall one of the people we talked to at length was the President of Egypt, Mr. Nasser, and I am a little bit hazy about the figure, but if I remember correctly he told us that one of his big problems was the fact that every time the sun came up in the morning, I believe the figure he used was he had 1,500 more mouths to feed than he had when it went down the night before.

In other words, every 24 hours, there was an increase of something of that order of magnitude in the population.

I recall that either in that conference with the President or afterward in conference among ourselves we figured out that by the time the Aswan Dam was completed it would provide enough new acreage and enough food to just feed at the same low level of existence the population of Egypt that would be born from the time it started until it finished—it wouldn't add anything for the population that was already there.

Now, isn't that one of the big problems in Latin America, and do you really think—and I am not trying to put you on the spot, I am sympathetic, but I feel pessimistic—do you think we can do anything about this problem? Are the countries attacking it, and is it possible to increase agriculture sufficiently to keep the increased population at a bare level of existence people have now, or are we running as hard as we can on a treadmill to catch up a little bit? What do you