

on the environment, on the pollution of the air and water, on all of the other things that too many people too quickly bring to our country, aside from the poverty—the race problems and the city core problems that are brought about by overcrowding. I believe, along with many others, that the population problem now in this country is one of the two or three most difficult and threatening problems that we face. It will directly affect our own children and grandchildren unless we as a nation—it cannot be done by a few people—realize that smaller families are better able to provide more education, more care, better housing, better clothing, and all that goes with the smaller family. For the Nation as a whole, it represents the only way we are going to solve in the end our question of resources, of rising incomes, of environment, of pollution, of health, and of national stability.

Does that answer your question sufficiently?

Senator NELSON. Yes, sir. Thank you.

General DRAPER. Shall I proceed?

Senator NELSON. Go ahead, General.

General DRAPER. Fortunately, those responsible in the executive branch for carrying out both our domestic and our foreign population and family planning programs are sincerely concerned themselves, and are giving the highest priority to this problem.

I have talked with all of these gentlemen and I am sure I am stating the fact. Secretary Robert Finch, Assistant Secretary Roger Egberg, and Deputy Assistant Secretary Louis Hellman, in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and Mr. Donald Rumsfeld, of OEO, are loyally devoted to carrying out President Nixon's 5-year program.

AID Administrator John R. Hannah and his Deputy, Rutherford Poats, and those more directly responsible for population activities in the developing world, Joel Bernstein and Dr. Reimert Ravenholt, are carrying on a magnificent worldwide program of growing size and effectiveness. And that program is because the Congress has earmarked the money and they have then gone loyally to work.

Even the man in the street and the boys and girls on our college campuses are fast becoming concerned. For the first time they see that our own environment is being ruined, and that the much admired American "quality of life" is gradually being destroyed. They see that it is people and more and more people who are rapidly using up the earth's limited resources, and who are polluting its air and its water.

They begin to see that the population explosion is no longer far off in either space or time. It is no longer only a problem, say, in India, nor a problem that is years off in the future. The population explosion is here in the United States, and it is here today.

Fortunately, the American people are beginning to realize that we must reduce our rate of population growth—and very soon—or our children and grandchildren will pay a horrendous price.

The decade of the sixties has been the decade of comprehension. The decade of the seventies must become the decade of all-out action.