Agriculture by Marcia Merry

Who elected Orville Freeman?

The cartels officially take over U.S. food policy, for the explicitly genocidal aims of Freeman, et al.

he "Agexport '86" exhibit and conference at the U.S. Department of Agriculture on June 16-20, officially marked the takeover of U.S. agriculture production and foreign food policy by the international cartel companies, tied to the current "New Yalta" orientation to the Soviet Union. Most prominent in this brazen usurpation of U.S. food power is former Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman, who for decades has been the helping hand for the cartel companies, and their needs around the world.

Since his days in Washington in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations in the 1960s, Freeman has done his dirty work from New York, through his company, Business International, Inc. Now, since January of this year, Freeman has moved back to Washington, D.C., joined the Washington office of his old Minneapolis-based, Cargill-connected law firm, and assumed the chairmanship of a new base of operations, the Agriculture Council of America.

It was announced at the Agexport conference on June 17, that the Agriculture Council of America, and Orville Freeman, will "voluntarily" serve as the policy-formulation and action group on food exports for the government, beginning this summer, after the expiration of the two-year term of the current policy advisory committee, the National Commission on Agriculture Trade and Export Policy.

You may ask, who elected Freeman? No one even appointed him. But he intends to run the show. Since January, he has been shuttling around the country, and between Washington government offices, using his rhetoric about how an "action triangle" of food, commercial trade, and economic programs for selected countries, should be pursued by combining the powers of the State Department, the USDA, and the Trade Commissioner for the purpose—which he does not say—of totally controlling their food supplies and guaranteeing profits to the cartels.

In the case of Mexico, for example, Freeman says it should be made into multibillion-dollar food importers from the United States He calls for a special agriculture adviser to the government (mandated by the new farm law). The Commission itself calls for a new department of trade for this purpose.

At the Agexport conference, the Commission released a document with the same Freeman policy perspective, "Executive Summary of the Report to the President and Congress of the United States of America, Concluding Recommendations of the National Commission on Agricultural Trade and Export Policy," containing their proposals for trade policy.

The food export policy now being implemented in Washington, D.C., under the new farm law, "Food Security Act of 1985," was heavily influenced by the Commission and is directed in the way Freeman intends: Cut U.S. food output, drastically reduce the number of independent farms, turn over control of food production and distribution to the cartel group, alienate our NATO and other foodproducing allies, and watch people

However, in the doublespeak terminology of the conference, this policy was described as: "eliminating food surpluses, lowering farm prices to be more competitive, and using export enhancement 'tools' to fight back foreign-export competition.'

A State Department speaker at the conference, Dennis Avery, agriculture specialist, said, "Without more effective farm trade rules in the future, the world runs the risk of diverting badly needed capital into more and more high-cost farm production, storage of yet more expensive farm surpluses, and more debilitating farm trade conflicts."

Variations on this theme were repeated over and over again throughout the conference sessions, in which many congressmen and farm representatives also participated to add an aura of public approval.

However, the exhibit was just the public window dressing for private policy drives that are already, literally, treasonously undermining the economic and strategic interests of the na-

Look at the hosts of the conference—the National Commission on Agriculture Trade and Export Policy, officially formed in August 1984, by mandate of Congress, to design new foreign trade policies in the face of declining U.S. exports. The Commission was funded and led by international cartel interests, who made certain over the last two years to ignore or play down the role of their associated agencies, such as the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, in imposing the loan conditionalities and looting policies that led to the food trade decreases. The backers of the Commission in this category includes: Garnac Grain Co., Inc. (the U.S. arm of André, the Swiss-based grain cartel), W. R. Grace & Co., and Continental Grain Co. (the European oligarchy-owned grain cartel, based in New York since World War II).