

APPENDIX III

Twenty-Six Decision Centers*

It is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to indicate each and every organization, department, bureau, agency, council, board, and committee that has by law or executive order been given some significant responsibility for at least one aspect relating to food. Many involve the inputs to agriculture; some involve the production process itself. Others involve marketing, distribution, and quality control. A number affect the overall supply and utilization of food—particularly when consumers and voters are up in arms over food prices.

This paper will attempt to enumerate the major agencies, departments, or Government bodies that have some significant input in the total food equation.

1. Department of Agriculture, with its 23 agencies, has the prime responsibility for many aspects of food, its production, and use,
2. Department of Labor, through its Rural Manpower Service of the U.S. Employment Service, its Office of Manpower Development programs, its National Migrant Workers program, and its administrative responsibility for occupational safety and health, is deeply involved in a number of aspects relating to food,
3. Department of State, likewise is involved through its Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, its Under Secretary for Political Affairs, its Assistant Secretary for International Organization Affairs, its semi-independent Agency for International Development, and its coordinator of the Food for Peace program.
4. Department of the Interior has inputs in the food area through its Bureau of Land Management which controls livestock production on Federal lands, its Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, its Bureau of Reclamation, and its Office of Land Use and Water Planning.
5. Department of Commerce and its Domestic and International Business Administration work with businesses involved in the processing, handling, and exporting of food products.
6. Department of Army, Corps of Engineers, with its jurisdiction over the Nation's water resources development actually has tremendous effect on agriculture.
7. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare plays an important role particularly through its Food and Drug Administration.
8. Department of Transportation has at least seven entities directly involved in transportation matters which have major impact on the supply of productive inputs or the transportation of raw or processed agricultural commodities.
9. Federal Energy Administration, with programs of allocation of energy supplies to agriculture, is deeply involved. Its decisions affect the ability of farmers to produce food and its proper handling and processing.
10. Treasury Department plays an important role particularly under the current government organization which brings the Secretary of Treasury into nearly all economic decisions.
11. Farm Credit Administration, supplying nearly one third of the capital needs of agriculture, is involved,

*Jaenke, Hearings pp. 175-178,

12. Central Intelligence Agency, with its analyses of world production, has become a significant part of the decisionmaking process.
13. Environmental Protection Agency, with its rulemaking authority in the agricultural field, can greatly increase the cost of food production as well as affect the ability of farmers to produce the quantities of food needed.
14. Federal Trade Commission, with its responsibilities over legislation affecting competition, is involved in food policy.
15. Federal Maritime Commission is concerned with the conditions of export of products including food products.
16. Federal Reserve System, with at least six of its banks located in heavily productive agricultural areas and with its decisions so intricately interwoven with national economic policy, is a key actor in the food decisionmaking process.
17. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, recently established to regulate futures trading, has a significant role and effect.
18. International Trade Commission, with its enforcement of import and export policies, affects food production and distribution.
19. Office of Management and Budget plays a major role in determining food production and utilization through its influence on policy and expenditures.
20. Domestic Council, charged with longrange planning and with making Presidential and legislative recommendations, is involved.
21. Council of Economic Advisors provides significant analyses and inputs into decisionmaking processes involving food,
22. Council on Wage and Price Stabilization, particularly during its most active period of the early 1970's, had tremendous influence on agricultural policy.
23. Office of Special Representative for Trade Negotiations is a key actor since agricultural trade is the largest single item involved in our balance of payments and, as a result, greatly affects how much farmers will be paid to produce food.
24. National Security Council is involved in all major international political and economic affairs.
25. Council on International Economic Policy was created by Presidential memorandum in January 1971 to improve the coordination of U.S. Government agencies in the field of foreign economic affairs. With food playing so important a role, the CIEP becomes part of the decision-making process.
26. President's Economic Policy Board, established to advise the President concerning all aspects of national and international economic policy. , and serve as a focal point for economic policy decisionmaking, has an important effect on food availability y.

Each of the above has some responsibility for decisionmaking in matters that affect food policy. In many instances, a decision by some of the above can have not only short-range but very important long-range effects. As an example of this, decisions in the field of energy have major impacts in the energy-intensive modern agricultural plant.