EXECUTIVE
LE/AR5-1
AR5-1

July 26, 1966
1:15 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT KINTNER

SUBJECT: Presidential Statement on Signing of Screwworm Bill

Attached is a draft statement by the President to be issued on signing of Screwworm bill -- H.R. 14888.

We have deliberately generalized the details of the bill. We do not think it would be in good taste for the President to issue a statement detailing how our scientists have devised methods of sterilizing screwworm flies -- which is really the crux of the matter. We have discussed this with Bill Moyers and he agrees.

RH/WS

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101–11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO: Joe Califano

(5) EXECUTIVE

AG5-1
WE 9

TO : Bill Moyers

DATE: August 12, 1966

FROM : Bill Crook

LH/Houston
PU 2-2/C*
TG 11-15

SUBJECT: Attached Editorial

Increasingly the cities are asking for anti-poverty funds for the extermination of rats. Houston is coming in for a $600,000 three-year program. While a necessary and urgent need exists, I personally hate to see poverty funds used for this purpose. It seems to me that the issue has now peaked at a level where the President himself could show his concern by establishing a national program, perhaps through one of the existing agencies. Such an all-out effort would be far more economical than the present method of setting up local organizations and it could be dramatized in an imaginative manner. Rats constitute a threat to the health of this country.

As you can see by the attached editorial, in the present way of spending federal funds the credit accrues to the mayor. Why not the President?

THE HOUSTON POST
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
PAGE 2, SECTION 3 TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 1966

Good Work

This is a city that cares.

In announcing a proposed three-year, $600,000 joint rat control program for Houston, Mayor Welch has demonstrated that the city will not sit by while a substantial portion of its population is plagued by rats.

When approved, the new program, which will operate in all areas of the city, will concentrate in the lower-income areas of the city, and will employ residents of those areas. This is wise. It will not only serve to help eliminate those unwholesome conditions, but will provide evidence that someone cares, that someone is willing to help make their Houston a better place.

THE NEW PROGRAM WILL be sponsored jointly by the city and the Houston-Harris County Office of Economic Opportunity. It will cost $200,000 a year for three years. The city will pay 10 per cent of the cost. The anti-poverty program will pay 90 per cent. The program will employ about 40 inspectors, four supervisors, a director and three or four persons for clerical help, the mayor said.

In addition, commercial and industrial property owners would be informed and encouraged to take private rat control measures.

Homes will be inspected for rat entry and harborage, and, with the resident's permission, the city will trap and poison the animals.

Mayor Welch is to be congratulated for acting effectively and in the interest of every Houstonian in bringing about this program.

ITS EFFECTS GO FAR beyond the mere extermination of these rats.

It was only a few weeks ago that young Stacey Briscoe, a resident of Houston 3 weeks old, was nearly eaten alive in his crib by a pack of rats.

His scars may be long in healing. His ordeal awakened the conscience of a community. He may be told that some day.

[2 of 2, back]

gab/ ew r10

EXECUTIVE
AG 5-1
FG 11-15

August 23, 1966

FOR Sarge Shriver

FROM Joe Califano

How much would it cost and what would be involved in terms of time and people in a program to exterminate the rats in our ghettos throughout the country?

EXECUTIVE
LE/AG5-1
AG5-1
Rec'd
7/27 11 AM
Screw Worm Endorsin B.11

1966 JUL 20 AM 2 05

WA039 PD 1 EXTRA

MP DALLAS TEX 19 416P CST

JAKE JACOBSEN

THE WHITE HOUSE

BECAUSE OF GREAT SUCCESS OF PROGRAM TO DATE AND INTEREST IN SCREW WORM ERADICATION, DOLPH BRISCOE, JR. UVALDE, TEXAS, AND I HOPE WE MIGHT BE PRESENT IF PRESIDENT SCHEDULES PUBLIC SIGNING OF BILL AUTHORIZING U. S. MEXICO COOPERATION IN SCREW WORM ERADICATION SPONSORED BY REPRESENTATIVE POAGE AND SENATOR MONTOYA

C S STRUGGS EDITOR THE PROGESSSIVE FARMER.

EXECUTIVE
AG 3-1
AG 5-1
PR 18

(3)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION
WASHINGTON

FG 150
FG 807

FEB 28 1966

Mr. Jim Moyers
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Moyers:

The Advertising Council has indicated interest again this year in supporting the Department's continuing informational effort to encourage the safe use of pesticides among both rural and urban users throughout the country. The invaluable cooperation of the Council in this matter has been obtained through your office during the past several years.

By endorsing the USDA program in its radio-television bulletin, the Council has helped make available the public service broadcasting time needed to carry the pesticide safety message to all sections of the Nation. This continuing support has contributed substantially to the success of our campaign.

We are currently developing a new pesticide safety information program, including production of materials designed for broadcast use. We would appreciate it greatly if you would forward a request to the Council for its cooperation in 1966. A suggested letter is enclosed. Mr. Rosenberg, to whom the letter is addressed, is familiar with the program.

Sincerely yours,

Harold R. Lewis

Harold R. Lewis
Director of Information

Enclosure

EXECUTIVE

AG 5-1
CO IVI
GG 105-4
FO3-2/CO IVI

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20523

OFFICE OF
THE ADMINISTRATOR

OCT 1 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Hayes Redmon
The White House

SUBJECT: Rat Control Program in India

REFERENCE: Your memorandum of September 14, 1965

The Agency for International Development presently is not using dollars to support the National Rat Control Committee in the Ministry of Health of India. It is possible, however, that local currencies generated by PL 480 sales are being used for purchase of commodities such as rodenticides. If you wish information on this, please let us know and we will obtain it from our Mission in New Delhi.

In the past, this Agency and its predecessors have provided rodent control advisors and furnished rodenticides for rat control programs in several less developed countries. This support usually has been successful in helping countries develop improved rat control programs and, consequently, has been decreased as such programs became effective. India had the benefit of this type of support and we would expect it now to have acquired the technical knowledge needed to pursue an effective rat control program.

The seriousness of the rat problem continues to receive attention by A.I.D. For example, our Office of Technical Cooperation and Research is currently considering proposals of research on chemo-sterilization of rats, which might well lead to better and much less expensive methods of rat control or possible eradication.

If you desire further information, please let us know.

William S. Gaud

William S. Gaud
Acting Administrator

Nothing else sent to Central Files as of 11/10/65

(2)

EXECUTIVE
NR 2
IG 145
AG 5-1

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

AUG 25 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR

The President
The White House

I believe it is important to inform you that the latest pesticide report by Department of the Interior scientists says that even the slightest trace of certain pesticides kills aquatic life in our estuaries.

The Fish and Wildlife Service has just published its fifth annual report on expanded studies of pesticides since the enactment of Public Law 85-582 (August 1, 1958) which directed the Department of the Interior to undertake comprehensive continuing studies on the effects of pesticides upon fish and wildlife resources.

Pesticides are particularly significant to the fishing industry. Some of the most valuable species of fish and shellfish are also the most sensitive to pesticides. Shrimp is the most valuable resource taken from the sea by American fishermen, and is among the most susceptible to destruction by pesticides.

All life forms in the sea depend on plankton--microscopic plants and animals grouped by billions and inhabiting waters rich with nutrients. Scientists know that minute amounts of pesticides can reduce plankton productivity 50-90 percent in a 4 hour period.

Conservationists are concerned about the effects of pesticides on the functioning and reproduction of both fish and wildlife including birds and small mammals. Fish and wildlife have been caught alive, and apparently healthy, which contained levels well above those considered lethal in laboratory tests. These specimens had not taken in at any one time a dose large enough to kill them. Over a long period of time, however, they had accumulated and stored the pesticide in their fat. For these specimens, a period of stress during which they would have to use their reserves of fat might prove fatal.

Our researchers have accumulated evidence to show that if certain levels of pesticide residues are found in an animal's brain, it can be said that the pesticide caused the death. The researchers found that the brains of eagles which died after being fed various levels of DDT contained very similar quantities of DDT despite differences in dosage levels and the time it took to die.

EXECUTIVE
AG 5-1
FG 726
Cotton Insects Panel
CM/cotton
Watson, James

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 7, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR : Joe Laitin

FROM : Horace Busby

Attached is a release suggested by Dr. Donald F. Hornig. I would recommend that it be used.

Dr. Hornig's office can supply you with copies of the report referred to in the release. I hope this one can get out.

THE WHITE HOUSE 6/1/65

President ~~Lyndon B~~. Johnson today announced the publication of a report on cotton insects prepared by the Cotton Insects Panel of his Science Advisory Committee, headed by Nobel Laureate James Watson Jr.

The report points out that in value cotton is the largest cash crop of U.S. agriculture, amounting to about a sixth of the total value of our farm crops.

Ten to twenty percent of the cost of producing cotton is spent on insect control, mainly through the use of chemical pesticides.

The Panel stated its conviction "that the increasing problems of cotton insect control will not be solved by reliance on present practices ... and that a research effort with sufficient emphasis on promising new attacks will lead to a more effective and efficient cotton insect control program and will reduce the cost of producing cotton."

The Panel called particular attention to the promise of controlling insect behavior by chemicals such as attractants, repellents and feeding stimulants; to biological control by use of native and foreign parasites and predators; to infectious agents such as viruses specific for insects; and to breeding of cotton plants resistant to insect attack.

The Panel recognized that ~~our~~ the need for pesticide chemicals will not disappear, ~~On the contrary, we must push the search~~ that the search must continue for new, more specifically acting and less persistant chemicals.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture in line with recommendations made by the Panel has already increased its research on attractants, repellents, and other chemicals which affect the behavior of insects. It has also placed greater emphasis on infectious agents that can be used specifically to control insects and other means of biological control. The search is being intensified for new pesticides having different modes of action and less persistence than some in current use.

To fully exploit the possibilities in cotton insect control will require an increase in fundamental research on insect biology and the training of insect biologists. Colleges and universities educating biologists in fields relevant to cotton pest control will be strengthened by training grants to support graduate and postdoctoral students. Contracts and grants to colleges, universities and other research institutions will be established and financed to broaden the current base of research on cotton insects.

As research progresses, the threat of decreasing yield and increasing costs of cotton production can be averted, and indeed it can be anticipated that more effective insect control can be achieved at less cost.

EXECUTIVE

AG 5-1 (1)
FG 807
FG 150

April 26, 1965

mh:mb
CC: Central Files

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. RODNEY E. LEONARD
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Enclosed is the official notification of approval of the Pesticide Safety project from the Advertising Council, including instructions and contact information.

Frederick L. Holborn
Special Assistant
in the White House

Enclosure

BGI

5/24/67

(4)

PUI/FG 11-15
FG 11-15
AG5-1
FG 165-6

OPE

Operation Rat

RAT

a rat eradication program for the American People

A Condensation of the Detailed Program

26 March 1965

EXECUTIVE
AG 5-1
CO190

November 18, 1964

Dear Mr. Briscoe:

Thank you for your telegram to the President of November 12, in which you suggested that the President discuss the screw worm eradication program with the Mexican President-elect.

The meeting with the Mexican President-elect was designed to enable the President to become acquainted with the new Mexican President. The informal discussions ranged over a number of subjects, but no attempt was made to discuss in detail any particular project.

A possible program to extend the screw worm eradication program throughout all of Mexico has been the subject of extensive discussions within the United States Government and with Mexico. The Mexican Government has indicated an interest in the program. We hope, after the new Mexican Government has had an opportunity to consider the matter, we can develop a long-range program with it.

Sincerely yours,

McGeorge Bundy

Mr. Dolph Briscoe
President
Southwest Animal Health Research
Uvalde, Texas

0040

Rec'd in Sat Pres's ofc Nov. 14, 1964 @ 10 am [after Diaz Ordaz visit]

Bob Sawyer

The White House
Washington

1964 NOV 12 PM 1 55

WA042 PD 1 EXTRA

UVALDE TEX 12 1113A CST

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

HOPE YOU HAVE A CHANCE TO DISCUSS WITH PRESIDENT DIAZ ORDAZ THE CONTINUING OF THE SCREW WORM ERADICATION PROGRAM SOUTH THROUGHOUT THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO. BEST REGARDS

DOLPH BRISCOE PRESIDENT SOUTHWEST ANIMAL HEALTH RESEARCH.

735

Mr. President,

Do you want to call Mr. Elmer Staats

______yes ______no

Have him come in

______yes ________no

Tell him to go ahead as suggested

L

mjdr
Dec 4

"Called Staats 2:20 Friday Dec. 4, 1964"
orig to Mrs Territo

EXECUTIVE (6)

AG 5-1
FG 11-1
FG 150
FG 105-4
C 0190
FO 3-2/C 0190
FI 4

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

NOV 10 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Screwworm eradication in Mexico

The Southwest screwworm eradication program was started in 1962 on a 50-50 matching basis with the States. It was an experimental program to determine the feasibility of eradicating the screwworm fly from its overwintering areas in Texas and then to prevent its reestablishment and its annual northward migration by means of a barrier of sterile flies. This barrier extends on both sides of the Texas-New Mexico international border. Eradication from Texas was substantially completed during 1963 and the seasonal migration of flies into the States to the north and east was almost nonexistent.

Last March, Senator Anderson wrote to you proposing that the Federal Government pay the full cost of operating the sterile fly barrier beginning in FY 1965. After a number of meetings on the subject, you submitted a 1965 budget amendment to the Senate in June, proposing that the U.S. pay the full cost of the international barrier. The Senate did not agree to the amendment and the conferees concurred, indicating that the States should continue to contribute 50 percent. (The estimate assumed that local outbreaks inside the barrier would still be dealt with on a 50-50 matching basis.) We understand that the States are making an effort to raise the necessary matching money in the light of the congressional action, although we do not have definite information on this point.

We have also been considering the possibility of working out a joint program with the Government of Mexico to shift the eradication program further south in an effort to eradicate the fly entirely. The idea was to arrange for a cost-sharing program with the Government of Mexico or with the bordering states in Mexico.

Scientists of the Department of Agriculture believe that it probably would be feasible to eradicate the screwworm fly from most of Mexico over the next eight years. This would be done by moving the sterile fly barrier southward from its present location to the narrow waist of Mexico, the Isthmus of Tehuantepec.

F (12a)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dec. 3, 1964

Mr. President:

At the ranch you said you wanted to talk to Elmer Staats about this. I think I should bring it to your attention at this time.

Jack Valenti

called Staats 2:20
Friday / Dec 4
BB

A successful program would --

-- provide a greater certainty of protection for U.S. livestock and game,

-- reduce the annual costs of maintaining a sterile fly barrier from $6 million to $2 million,

-- provide protection for Mexican livestock and game,

-- provide a dramatic example of the leadership of U.S. agricultural technology.

Total cost of such a program over the eight-year period would be about $26 million in addition to the cost of continued maintenance of the present barrier.

The Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with AID, has assembled the available information from its experts on the feasibility of screwworm eradication in Mexico. A copy of this report is attached for your information.

The Department advises that a field survey should be conducted in Mexico to determine fly distribution and present economic losses. AID is prepared to finance a two-man team of consultants to work with the Government of Mexico in developing the scope of a field survey. However, AID does not believe that it should finance any of the costs of the actual survey or the eradication program. A copy of Mr. Bell's letter is attached.

Agriculture has expressed disappointment that the extent of AID's participation would not go beyond the cost of supplying two consultants to develop the scope of a field survey. A copy of Mr. Murphy's letter of November 6 to Mr. Bell is attached.

The Mexican Secretary of Agriculture has stated to the AID representative that the Government of Mexico has a most sincere concern with the screwworm problem in that country and is quite impressed by the dramatic results being achieved through use of the sterile fly technique. Both the Secretary and the Subsecretary for Livestock have expressed their desire to obtain U.S. Government cooperation in conducting whatever feasibility study is required and in a campaign to eliminate screwworms from Mexico.

We believe that the next steps should be to --

1. Request AID to dispatch the consultants to Mexico City to work with the Mexican Government on plans for a survey.

2. Request Agriculture to:

(a) submit proposals setting forth alternatives for paying the costs of the present barrier protecting Texas and the States to the north and east in the 1966 budget;

(b) submit a justification, with costs, of extending, jointly with Arizona and California, the present barrier westward to the Pacific Ocean to protect those two States and northward; and

(c) finance, following consultations with the Government of Mexico, a survey of screwworm distribution and economic losses in Mexico.

If you approve, we shall advise AID and Agriculture to firm up plans along the above lines.

Elmer B. Staats

ELMER B. STAATS
Deputy Director

Attachments

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

November 6 1964

Honorable David E. Bell, Administrator
Agency for International Development
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bell:

Reference is made to your letter of October 9 to the Honorable Kermit Gordon, Director of the Bureau of the Budget, concerning extension of the screwworm eradication program in Mexico.

We are pleased to learn that you are prepared to finance a two-man team to work with the Government of Mexico on "developing the scope of a feasibility study of screwworm eradication" in that country. We believe that this two-man team could probably collect and organize much valuable information concerning the necessary scope of such a feasibility study. It is hoped, therefore, that this team will soon be selected and that it will start its studies in Mexico at an early date.

Early discussions with the Bureau of the Budget and representatives of your office indicated to us that the Agency for International Development could probably assume responsibility for the feasibility study. Naturally, we are disappointed to learn that your participation will not go beyond the development of the scope of the study.

If this Department can be of any assistance to you in furnishing information, please do not hesitate to call on us.

We would like to express our appreciation to you and to others in your organization for the interest that has been shown in our screwworm program operations in Mexico.

Sincerely yours,

Charles S. Murphy
Acting Secretary

cc:
Hon. Kermit Gordon, Bureau of the Budget

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF
THE ADMINISTRATOR

OCT 9 1964

The Honorable Kermit Gordon
Director, Bureau of the Budget
Executive Office of the President
Washington, D. C.

Dear Kermit:

The United States Department of Agriculture has proposed to extend the southwestern states' screwworm control program, begun in February 1962, southward from the U.S. and Mexican border states to include all of Mexico.

Information currently available indicates that screwworm eradication throughout Mexico would result in savings to the U.S. and to livestock producers from Texas to California by cutting control costs and reducing the incidence of reinfestation. Although there will be some benefit to the Mexicans, the extension of the current program should result in considerable long range benefits to the United States and to U.S. citizens.

A delegation representing Texas livestock interests, while in Washington last April to testify before Congress on the control program, approached A.I.D. seeking financial assistance and support for extending the control program.

The Bureau of the Budget, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and A.I.D. staffs have been meeting on the problems connected with this program. As you know, A.I.D.'s general posture regarding assistance to Mexico is that Mexico's financial and development position is strong and that assistance from this Agency except for a small technical assistance program ($200,000) and P.L. 480, Title III, is most difficult to justify.

We understand the high priority you have given to this study. A.I.D. is prepared to finance -- from general Regional funds for Latin America under its service agreement with the USDA -- a two-man team to work with the Government of Mexico on developing the scope of a feasibility study of screwworm eradication.

A.I.D. has expressed a willingness to finance these consultants to assure that the preliminary work proceeds expeditiously. I must indicate, however, that any costs connected with carrying out the U.S. share of a feasibility study or long-term eradication program seems more properly under the jurisdiction of the USDA and should be financed from its appropriations. I do not believe that the proposed study or long-term program is appropriate for this Agency to finance, given A.I.D.'s position on financing Mexico's development needs, and the fact that major benefits will accrue to the U.S.

I would appreciate your consideration of these views when budget and legislative recommendations are formulated on the USDA budget.

Sincerely yours,

Dave

David E. Bell

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

October 2 1964

Honorable Kermit Gordon
Director, Bureau of the Budget

Dear Mr. Gordon:

The Department has been requested to take the lead in preparing a statement on the economic and technical feasibility of screwworm eradication in Mexico. In preparing the attached statement the Department has cooperated closely with the Department of State, Agency for International Development (AID) and the Bureau of the Budget.

The attached report including cost estimates has been based on the limited information now available and the experience of Department personnel. Before the advisability and feasibility of undertaking screwworm eradication activities in Mexico could be determined, a field survey would be necessary to determine (1) the incidence and location of screwworm populations in Mexico and (2) economic losses resulting from screwworm infestations.

We have divided further screwworm eradication activities into three phases essentially as follows:

Phase I - eradication of the screwworm in Arizona and California and extension of the existing artificial barrier zone of sterile screwworm flies westward to the Pacific Ocean.

Phase II - eradication in the northern half of the Republic of Mexico.

(as depicted on map attached to report)

Phase III - eradication in remaining southern portion of Mexico as far south as the Isthmus of Tehuantepec.

Upon completion of phase III, an artificial barrier zone would be established across the narrow Isthmus of Tehuantepec at considerably less cost than the present barrier zone along the Mexico-United States

Growth Through Agricultural Progress

border protecting Texas, New Mexico and States north and east from permanent screwworm re-infestation from Mexico. This is described in detail in the report.

Based on present information, it is anticipated that an 8-year period would be required to complete the necessary phases of screwworm eradication in United States and the Republic of Mexico. The best estimates of total program costs are reflected in the table attached to the report. Briefly, the costs over the 8-year period are estimated at approximately $25.6 million in addition to the costs of continued maintenance of the presently constituted barrier zone. With the establishment of a barrier at the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, at the completion of phase III the costs to establish that barrier plus the annual maintenance costs would approximate the costs of maintaining the present barrier zone over a period of about 15 years.

It is pointed out in the attached statement that officials of the Mexican Department of Agriculture are impressed by the sterile fly technique of eradication and have expressed their desire to cooperate with the United States in eliminating screwworms from Mexico. It is not assumed that the Mexican Government would make substantial financial contributions to the campaign. It should be pointed out also that any proposed screwworm eradication to be conducted cooperatively with the Republic of Mexico will require a thorough review of existing legislative authorities for cooperation.

If the contemplated technical and economic screwworm survey is conducted over Mexico, the information from such a survey will provide facts for a more detailed plan for eradication as far south as the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. The information forthcoming from the contemplated survey may substantially alter the estimated time and cost for eradication in Mexico.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely yours,

Charles S. Murphy

Charles S. Murphy
Under Secretary

Enclosure

An Exploratory Analysis of the Economic and Technical Feasibility of Screwworm Eradication in Mexico

A. History and Current Status of Screwworm Eradication in the United States

1. History

The screwworm fly (Cochliomyia hominivorax) has been recognized as a damaging livestock and wildlife pest of the Southwestern United States since the early 1800's. Screwworms were able to survive the winter in southern Texas and moved north each spring, through migration and movement of infested animals as far north as the Dakotas.

In 1933 cattle shipped from the drought stricken areas of the Southwest to the Southeastern States carried screwworms with them and screwworms were found for the first time in Georgia that year. They quickly became established as a native population and spread throughout the Southeastern States. Florida was an ideal habitat where they were able to survive throughout the year. Each spring the screwworms from the overwintering area in Florida spread northward causing great damage to warm-blooded animals of the States to the north.

In 1957 using the sterile male technique developed through Department research an eradication program in the Southeastern States of Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama and Mississippi was initiated. The technique of eradication consisted of rearing millions of flies on a media of animal flesh and blood heated to body temperature, irradiating them with Cobalt-60, and releasing them by aircraft over areas where native populations existed. The primary principle of this technique of eradication is based on the breeding of native females with laboratory-reared sterile males, resulting in sterile egg masses that do not hatch; thus the flies breed themselves out of existence.

Screwworm eradication in the Southeastern United States was achieved in 1959 with great economic benefits to that region. Eradication of the screwworm fly from the Southeastern United States was greatly facilitated, as the overwintering area in Florida was protected on three sides by water and on the north by a climate which would not allow screwworms to survive through the winter.

2. Current Status

In the Southwestern United States, there are no natural barriers as in the Southeast. Thus, Mexico is a continuing source of re-infestation. However, a plan was developed for eradication using a sterile fly barrier zone along the Mexico-United States border. Sterile flies would continually be released to form an artificial barrier to prevent re-invasion of areas freed of self-perpetuating native screwworm populations.

Eradication operations were started early in 1962 and have been remarkably successful. Eradication has been achieved and the sterile fly barrier zone has prevented all but a few gravid flies from penetrating into the United States causing a few sporadic outbreaks. Each outbreak has been eliminated and the program has successfully prevented any screwworm population from becoming permanently re-established.

B. Extending the Barrier Zone Westward to the Pacific Ocean - Phase I

1. Advantages

When proposing extensions of screwworm eradication, consideration must first be given to eradication in the States of Arizona and California. These are the only areas of recurring infestation remaining in the Continental United States and represent a constant threat of re-infesting screwworm-freed States.

In considering the extension of screwworm eradication activities, the required eradication from Arizona and California can be considered to be Phase I. It would include eradication from Arizona and California and the extension of the current artificial barrier zone west to the Pacific Ocean. The eradication of screwworms from Arizona and California will free the Continental United States of the screwworm and the serious economic damage that they cause to the livestock industry each year. With the eradication of screwworms from the United States, there will be no need to maintain interstate controls to prevent infested animals moving into areas freed of the screwworm. All of the United States would be protected by the sterile fly barrier zone which would need to be maintained indefinitely with recurring annual appropriations needed to operate the barrier zone.

2. Cost and Timing

Eradication in Arizona and California with the maintenance of the complete barrier zone can be accomplished by using present production facilities with some modification and enlargement. It is estimated that screwworms can be eradicated from Arizona and California in about two years at a cost of approximately $2,700,000 the first year and $2,400,000 for a second year. This is based on continuing the present program in Texas, New Mexico and northern Mexico. Phase I -- eradication of screwworms from the Continental United States and the establishment of the barrier zone from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific Ocean--should be accomplished before extensions in eradication efforts are made to the south.

C. Eradication in Mexico

1. Feasibility of Eradication

Department entomology research workers who have had some ecological experience in northern Mexico, have furnished the following applicable information: "Research on the development of the release of sterile males for the eradication of the screwworm fly has led to successful

eradication campaigns in Curacao, the Southeastern United States and, currently, the Southwestern United States. These successful programs, along with the knowledge and experience acquired during their execution, as well as the research conducted in their support, has demonstrated the feasibility of this approach to control and eradicate screwworms under a wide range of conditions. Therefore, it is believed that the eradication of screwworms from Mexico through the sterile-male technique is technically feasible."

"The technical and financial requirements for a program of this sort are impossible to know without adequate survey to determine favorable screwworm breeding areas, natural population densities during difficult seasons of the year, and favorable resting areas and dispersal patterns. We would expect that the situation in Mexico is similar in principle to that encountered in the Southwestern eradication program. The distribution and abundance of screwworms will vary with seasons of the year and locality. It is anticipated that a combination of grid and strategic releases would be needed in certain areas. In others, strategic releases may be adequate at least seasonally. Survey and ecological studies would be needed to determine areas that would have to be treated, the number of flies to be released and the most effective means of dispersal of these flies. A program should allow at least three years to accomplish eradication if done all at one time or longer if done in stages."

2. Reduction in Annual Costs by Establishing Artificial Barrier of Reduced Size

It is estimated that maintaining Texas, New Mexico, and the States to the north and east free of screwworms will require an annual expenditure of $6 million. This includes funds from Federal, State and local sources as well as the estimated cost of services provided by cooperating parties for field inspections and surveys necessary to locate promptly any screwworm infestations. If this annual cost is to be reduced substantially, the greatest opportunity lies in the eradication of screwworms from the Republic of Mexico south to the Isthmus of Tehuantepec where a barrier zone of much smaller proportions is possible and more economically feasible than the present barrier along the Mexico-United States border protecting Texas, New Mexico and States north and east.

If the barrier were to be established and maintained at the Isthmus of Tehuantepec in Mexico, the annual barrier cost is estimated at $2 million, a saving of $4 million annually as compared to the operation of the barrier at its present location.

3. Increased Protection to United States

As long as screwworms continue to infest northern Mexico, there will be a few sporadic outbreaks occurring each year in the United States as gravid female flies will occasionally manage to penetrate the sterile

fly barrier zone. Thus constant surveillance will have to be maintained indefinitely to prevent the sporadic outbreaks from becoming established as a sustaining population. By eliminating the screwworm population from Mexico, the United States will benefit by not having to combat sporadic outbreaks and maintaining field inspections and surveys needed to keep areas free of screwworms. This protection in depth from reinvasion would offer appreciable relief to the United States.

4. Preparation

In planning eradication in Mexico, timing becomes important. As stated above, it is estimated that eradication of screwworms from Arizona and California would take at least two years. During that time, an intensive survey of the screwworm situation in Mexico could be conducted and planning completed to start eradication in Mexico immediately following the completion of eradication from these States.

In a subtropical and tropical region such as Mexico, the season during which a screwworm eradication program is initiated is not of great importance; however, at least a year will be necessary for preparation prior to beginning release of sterile flies. This time would be used for construction or the adaptation of facilities to rear flies, to train personnel, and to acquire supplies and equipment.

In estimating costs for such a program, it is assumed that the extended screwworm barrier activities along the United States-Mexico border would be continued. It is also assumed that eradication would be completed in Arizona and California before eradication in Mexico is initiated.

5. Economic Benefits of Screwworm eradication in Mexico

The information presented here in regard to the economic benefits which would be forthcoming after eradication in Mexico is conjecture. The benefits discussed are based on knowledge of Mexico gained by USDA personnel who have had experience in that country. The proposed economic and technical survey is needed to provide detailed information on the impact which screwworms have upon the economy of the country.

The elimination of the screwworms from Mexico would not necessarily affect the agricultural economy of that country in the same manner in which it has affected the economy in those areas of the United States freed of screwworms. Livestock management practices throughout most of Mexico differ from those in the United States. In Mexico

most animals are herded with one person taking care of only a few animals. Consequently, screwworm infestations are quickly detected, treated, and the natural populations are kept under some degree of control.

Eradication in the United States allowed ranchers to reduce drastically their work force, as the constant surveillance of their herds for screwworms is no longer necessary. Because of traditional management practices in Mexico, elimination of screwworms would not cause such a reduction in labor. Livestock death losses do occur due to screwworm damage to livestock because of screwworm infestations in Mexico but because of the more prompt treatment of infested wounds, this mortality would be primarily due to secondary bacterial infestations, rather than damage caused by the screwworm larvae.

If screwworms were eliminated from the Republic of Mexico north of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, the basic impact on the economy would be a slightly increased meat supply which would improve the diet of the less privileged population of that country. It is believed that the amount of increase in available meat would be absorbed in Mexico and would not have an important impact upon exports into the United States, although the quantity of livestock being imported into the United States is now running into difficulty because of plentiful supplies in this country. It is understood that European markets are being opened up to Mexican beef, which would alleviate the problem of increased livestock production in both this country and Mexico.

After the eradication program in the southern United States east of Arizona and California, tremendous increases have been noted in the wildlife crop each year. This increase in the United States is primarily of benefit to sportsmen. A corresponding increase in the Mexican wild life population would have a different effect and probably would increase the protein intake of the less privileged of the Mexican people.

6. Alternate Plans for Eradication Program in Mexico.

Two plans for eradication have been considered: (1) Under the first plan an eradication program which would divide Mexico into two zones with the first being that area of Mexico north of a mid-Mexico line roughly similar to the foot-and-mouth disease eradication program quarantine lines. (see map attached) The second zone would be the remainder of Mexico. (2) The second plan would cover initiation of a program simultaneously over the entire Republic of Mexico.

Eradication of screwworms from Mexico through the use of an eradication program taking the Republic of Mexico in two zones can be successful only if we are able to stop the spread of screwworms by animal movements. It is believed that a mid-Mexico inspection line as used during the foot-and mouth disease program provided a natural division line insofar as animal movements were concerned.

During the campaign to eradicate foot-and-mouth disease from Mexico, a study was made of marketing procedures and natural movements of livestock. It was determined that livestock movements created a natural division across the center of the country. The northern States of Mexico primarily raised their livestock and directed their management toward marketing surplus livestock for export to the United States. South of this natural division, livestock which were not consumed locally were marketed in Mexico City for slaughter and consumption there. It is believed the same marketing practices continue. By establishing the zone divisions along this mid-Mexico line (see map), the most effective control could be made over animal movements with the least interference with the livestock industry. As eradication progresses in the north, animal movements must be controlled to prevent reinvasion of those areas freed of screwworms.

It is believed that eradication could be accomplished in a much shorter time and probably at less total cost if an intensive program is conducted over the entire Republic simultaneously; however, such a program would require a very large number of trained personnel and would be very difficult to conduct, logistically. It is recommended, therefore, that an eradication program be conducted in two zones--the first zone encompassing Mexico from the old mid-Mexico foot-and-mouth disease quarantine line north and the second zone encompassing Mexico from the old quarantine line south. The success of the two-zone approach would be dependent to a large degree upon the capability of controlling animal movements at the mid-Mexico line.

Phase II Eradication of screwworms from northern Mexico would be Phase II of the screwworm eradication extensions. An estimated $3 million would be needed for the preparation and training portion of such a program. To make the best use of program gains and for effective utilization of personnel and equipment, this stage should be completed during the final year of eradication in Arizona and California.

Phase II would require an expenditure of approximately $7 million per year over an estimated period of three years. During the third year, possibly sooner, it would be possible to discontinue most of the barrier activities presently being conducted in northern Mexico and southern United States. During the last year of Phase II, additional rearing facilities should be developed in southern Mexico. The cost of such facilities is estimated at $1 million.

Phase III Eradication from the southern zone of Mexico would take an additional three years at $7 million per year--or a total of six years to complete the eradication program in two phases. When eradication has been accomplished, a barrier across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec could be maintained for approximately $2 million per year. Such a barrier would have to be continued indefinitely.

Detailed Eradication Plans

Selection of sites and detailed plans for production, irradiation, release and detection, including personnel requirements, should be held in abeyance pending information forthcoming from the survey to be conducted over the Republic of Mexico.

There are 758,259 square miles in the Republic of Mexico, of which approximately 150,000 square miles are being covered as a part of the barrier operation in the Southwestern United States screwworm eradication program. The eradication program estimates contained herein are based on dividing the remaining 608,259 square miles of Mexico into two approximately equal zones for screwworm eradication activities.

The lack of information on the ecology, population, and adaptability of screwworms in Mexico makes a firm feasibility statement on the cost of eradication of the pest in that country quite difficult. Based on the limited information available and the experience of USDA personnel, the best estimates have been presented and are summarized on the attached table.

7. Cooperation

The Secretary of Agriculture and the Sub-Secretary for Livestock of Mexico have stated to the USAID representative in Mexico that the Government of Mexico is most sincerely concerned with the screwworm problem in Mexico and is quite impressed by the sterile fly technique of eradication and the resulting dramatic decrease in screwworm incidence and damage. Both have expressed their desire in obtaining U. S. Government cooperation in conducting a feasibility study and a campaign to eliminate screwworms in Mexico. The Secretary of Agriculture has officially directed the Sub-Secretary to cooperate with the AID Mission in working out the necessary details.

Although Mexican Government officials and leaders of the Mexican livestock industry are enthusiastic about screwworm eradication in Mexico, past experience has shown that cooperation in such a program would be largely a matter of cooperative services, with a minimum of financial assistance.

D. Possibilities of Further Developments in Screwworm Activities

1. Developments in Economy of Conducting a Program

The estimates on the cost of eradication in Mexico as presented in this statement are based upon the present knowledge and techniques of rearing screwworm larvae, the release of sterile flies, and the field detection of the native populations. Department research workers are constantly striving to develop new, more effective and more economical techniques. It is possible that in the intervening years reduction could be made in the

cost of conducting a program. The development of an effective field attractant for trapping native insects could greatly reduce native populations in areas of heavy concentration, thereby reducing the quantity of sterile flies needed for eradication. The development of effective attractants that might be combined with chemosterilants would greatly affect the cost and difficulties of eradication. However, these techniques have not been developed to the extent that they could be used for practical application for the foreseeable future.

2. Possibilities of Future Extension of Screwworm Eradication to Central America.

Following elimination of the screwworm from the United States and Mexico and the establishment of the barrier at the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, consideration could then be given to the eradication of screwworms from Central America as far south as Panama, with the establishment of a sterile fly barrier zone at that location. This final movement of the barrier zone is the ultimate solution, according to present knowledge, in reducing the continuing annual cost of the maintenance of a barrier to prevent reinvasion and re-establishment of screwworm populations on the North American continent. However, prior to any considerations given to the feasibility of extending eradication to that region, additional surveys must be made to determine facts concerning screwworms in Central America.

ESTIMATED ANNUAL COSTS OF SCREWWORM ERADICATION IN MEXICO

Years of Operation	United States Barrier Zone (per year) a/	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Tehuantepec Barrier	Total
1	$6,000,000	$2,700,000				$8,700,000
2	6,000,000	2,400,000	$3,000,000			11,400,000
3	6,000,000		7,000,000			13,000,000
4	4,500,000		7,000,000			11,500,000
5			7,000,000	$1,000,000		8,000,000
6				7,000,000		7,000,000
7				7,000,000		7,000,000
8				7,000,000		7,000,000
			Subtotal, estimated cost to establish Tehuantepec barrier			73,600,000
9					$2,000,000	2,000,000
10					2,000,000	2,000,000
11					2,000,000	2,000,000
12					2,000,000	2,000,000
13					2,000,000	2,000,000
14					2,000,000	2,000,000
15					2,000,000	2,000,000
Total Program Costs	$22,500,000	$5,100,000	$24,000,000	$22,000,000	$14,000,000	$87,600,000 b/

a/ Comparative Data:

1. Estimated costs over 8-year period to eradicate screwworms in Mexico and establish artificial barrier at Isthmus of Tehuantepec $73,600,000

   Estimated costs to continue existing barrier over 8-year period to maintain screwworm-freed status for Texas, New Mexico and States north and east 48,000,000

   Est. additional costs for Mexican Program.. 25,600,000

2. Estimated costs for maintaining present barrier for 15-year period 90,000,000

   Estimated costs for Mexican screwworm eradication operations and maintenance of Tehuantepec barrier at reduced costs 87,600,000

   Difference 2,400,000

b/ Includes funds from Federal and State and local sources and estimated costs for services by cooperating parties for necessary field inspections and surveys.

PHASE I - EXTENSION OF SCREWWORM ERADICATION

PHASE II - EXTENSION OF SCREWWORM ERADICATION

PHASE III - EXTENSION OF SCREWWORM ERADICATION

FOR RELEASE FOR MONDAY A.M'S, NOVEMBER 2, 1964

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

EXECUTIVE

AG 5-1

CM/COTTON

FG 726/C*

Nov 2/64

THE WHITE HOUSE

President Lyndon B. Johnson today announced an expanded program to control and eliminate cotton insect pests.

Acting on the recommendations of the Cotton Insects Panel of his Science Advisory Committee, the President instructed the Secretary of Agriculture to undertake an expanded program of research and education in order to improve the methods for control of cotton insects so as to decrease the costs of cotton production and improve its profitability.

The President said, "At the present time, between ten and twenty percent of the cost of producing cotton is spent on insect control mainly through the use of chemical pesticides.

"Despite the progress that has been achieved in insect control, several problems have emerged that require immediate attention to achieve effective control of these cotton pests.

"Many of the most important insect pests have become partially or completely resistant to some pesticide chemicals. A concerted effort is being made to find alternate means of effective pest control including those which do not require the use of chemicals. I have proposed and Congress has approved funds to support this effort.

"In addition, long-range measures that need to be taken include greatly increased attention to biological methods of control. To this end, increased support must be provided for fundamental research on insect biology, and for the training of insect biologists, both within the Government and in our colleges and universities.

"Such research will seek ways to use native and foreign parasites and predators of cotton insects.

"We need more information on infectious agents that specifically harm cotton insects and can be used to control them. Prompt field testing is an important part of this research.

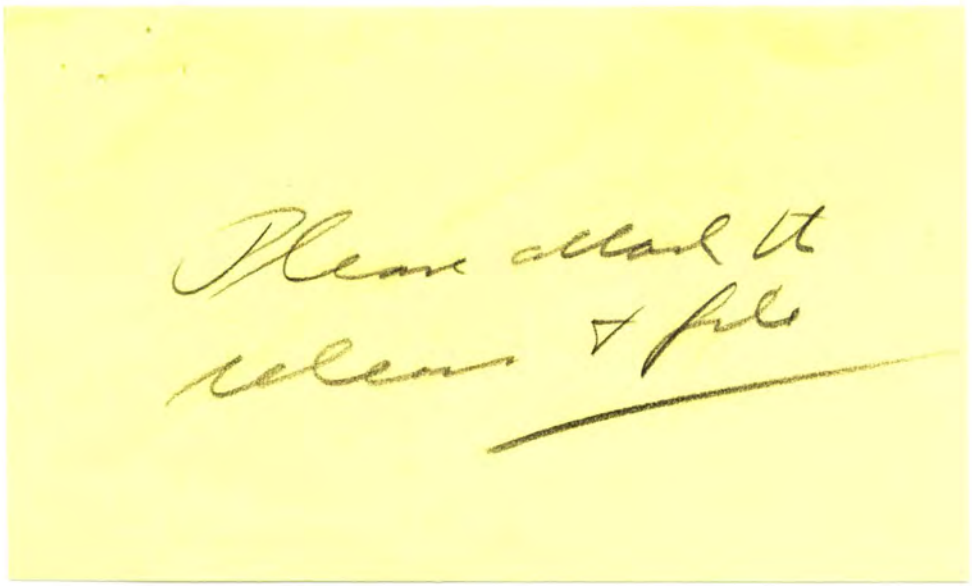
"Increased plant breeding research may lead to new varieties of cotton, resistant to insect pests.

"8.5 million of our citizen depend on cotton production and processing for at least part of their livelihood. Another 3 to 4 million people service the industry and sell its products.

"As research progresses, the threat of decreasing yield and increasing costs of cotton production can be averted, and indeed it can be anticipated that more effective insect control can be achieved at less cost.

"Our need for pesticide chemicals will not disappear. On the contrary, we must push the search for new, more specifically acting and less persistant chemicals."

# # #



Rod Leonard -

~~U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE~~
~~Office of the Secretary~~
~~Washington, D.C. 20250~~

For Release for Monday A.M's.

~~DRAFT~~
~~10-29~~64

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NOV 2 1964
CENTRAL FILES

Dept. of Agr.

SENT 301434Z

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SENT WHCA

10/29/64

WH40638

1964 OCT 30 13 58

TO: Valenti for the President

FROM: McGeorge Bundy

Following is a small by-product of Operation Headlines, but one which has a certain value in the South. Release from your windmill would not do much good, but if you or George Reedy would flash me an O. K., I will get it out through White House and Agriculture here.

(quote attached 2 pages)

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

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10-29-64

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WHCA

1964 OCT 30 14 34

OO WTE8 PHILADELPHIA
DE WTE 7P

FROM MCGEORGE BUNDY
TO MR VALENTI FOR THE PRESIDENT
CITE WH40638

//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY//

FOLLOWING IS A SMALL BY-PRODUCT OF OPERATION HEADLINES, BUT ONE WHICH HAS A CERTAIN VALUE IN THE SOUTH. RELEASE FROM YOUR WINDMILL WOULD NOT DO MUCH GOOD, BUT IF YOU OR GEORGE REEDY WOULD FLASH ME AN O.K., I WILL GET IT OUT THROUGH WHITE HOUSE AND AGRICULTURE HERE.

PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON TODAY ANNOUNCED AN EXPANDED PROGRAM TO CONTROL AND ELIMINATE COTTON INSECT PESTS.

ACTING ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COTTON INSES PANEL OF HIS SCIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, THE PRESIDENT INSTRUCTED THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE TO UNDERTAKE AN EXPANDED PROGRAM OF RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE METHODS FOR CONTROL OF COTTON INSECTS SO AS TO DECREASE THE COSTS OF COTTON PRODUCTION AND IMPROVE ITS PROFITABILITY.

THE PRESIDENT SAID, "AT THE PRESENT TIME, BETWEEN TEN AND TWENTY PERCENT OF THE COST OF PRODUCING COTTON IS SPENT ON INSECT CONTROL MAINLY THROUGH THE USE OF CHEMICAL PESTICIDES.

"DESPITE THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN INSECT CONTROL, SEVERAL PROBLEMS HAVE EMERGED THAT REQUIRE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION TO ACHIEVE EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF THESE COTTON PESTS .

"MANY OF THE MOST IMPORTANT INSECT PESTS HAVE BECOME PARTIALLY OR COMPLETELY RESISTANT TO SOME PESTICIDE CHEMICALS. A CONCERTED EFFORT IS BEING MADE TO FIND ALTERNATE MEANS OF EFFECTIVE PEST CONTROL INCLUDING THOSE WHICH DO NOT REQUIRE THE USE OF CHEMICALS. I HAVE PROPOSED AND CONGRESS HAS APPROVED FUNDS TO SUPPORT THIS EFFORT.

"IN ADDITION, LONG-RANGE MEASURES THAT NEED TO BE TAKEN INCLUDE GREATLY INCREASED ATTENTION TO BIOLOGICAL METHODS OF CONTROL. TO THIS END, INCREASED SUPPORT MUST BE PROVIDED FOR FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH ON INSECT BIOLOGY, AND FOR THE TRAINING OF INSECT BIOLOGISTS, BOTH WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT AND IN OUR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

"SUCH RESEARCH WILL SEEK WAYS TO USE NATIVE AND FOREIGN PARASITES AND PREDATORS OF COTTON INSECTS.

"WE NEED MORE INFORMATION ON INFECTIOUS AGENTS THAT SPECIFICALLY HARM COTTON INSECTS AND CAN BE USED TO CONTROL THEM. PROMPT FIELD TESTING IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THIS RESEARCH.

"INCREASED PLANT BREEDING RESEARCH MAY LEAD TO NEW VARIETIES OF COTTON, RESISTANT TO INSECT PESTS.

"8.5 MILLION OF OUR CITIZENS DEPEND ON COTTON PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING FOR AT LEAST PART OF THEIR LIVELIHOOD. ANOTHER 3 TO 4 MILLION PEOPLE SERVICE THE INDUSTRY AND SELL ITS PRODUCTS.

"AS RESEARCH PROGRESSES, THE THREAT OF DECREASING YIELD AND INCREASING COSTS OF COTTON PRODUCTION CAN BE AVERTED, AND INDEED IT CAN BE ANTICIPATED THAT MORE EFFECTIVE INSECT CONTROL CAN BE ACHIEVED AT LESS COST.

"OUR NEED FOR PESTICIDE CHEMICALS WILL NOT DISAPPEAR. ON THE CONTRARY, WE MUST PUSH THE SEARCH FOR NEW, MORE SPECIFICALLY ACTING AND LESS PERSISTANT CHEMICALS."

DTG: 30/1358Z OCT 64

CONGRESSIONAL

EXECUTIVE (5)

NR 7
FG 999
AG 5-1
HE 8-4
FG 411/Govt. Operations
FG 11-9

CARDED
JUL 8 1964

July 6, 1964

Dear Mr. Chairman: Carl Elliott

On May 1, 1964 Congressman Robert McClory addressed a letter and attached document to you which dealt with water resources research. We appreciated his thoughtfulness in sending a copy to this office, as it is a subject of great interest to us also.

We are enclosing for your convenience two reports on the subject of water research which have been issued by this office during the past 18 months, although I am sure that you have seen both of them. One report is "Federal Water Resources Research Activities" dated March 25, 1963, which was prepared by the Federal Council for Science and Technology and printed by the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the Senate. The more recent report is "Federal Water Resources Research Program for Fiscal Year 1965", which was prepared by a Committee of the Federal Council for Science and Technology, and transmitted to the Congress by President Johnson on March 16, 1964.

Any program area which has provoked as much concern and criticism as has water resources research deserves to be examined with great care. Prior to some four years ago water resources research received no special focus for Government-wide program planning or coordination. Such research was, and to a large extent still is, a part of research programs related to the missions of the agencies. However, problems related to water are so pervasive and enter into so many facets of our activities that there are actually 25 agencies carrying on research involving the many aspects and applications of water. Consequently, it is not surprising that some of these numerous research activities impinge closely upon each other, and close coordination is indeed required.

The water research area has been receiving special attention by groups in this office since 1961. In September 1963 a standing committee on Water Resources Research was created under the Federal Council for Science and Technology. It is chaired by an experienced water scientist who came to the OST staff from outside of the Federal Government for this purpose. This Committee has been extremely active, and we think, effective. The enclosed recent report is a product of its efforts which have given primary consideration to matters of coordination. Increasingly, the Committee is giving its attention to program analysis and development, and it is currently working actively with the agencies on development of the FY 1966 budget.

RECEIVED
JUL 9 1964
CENTRAL FILES

To: Geo Reedy
From: Joe Laitin, Budget

EXECUTIVE
FI4/FG110
FG 150
AG 5-1
CO 190

Released 6/18/64

The President transmitted to Congress today an amendment to the 1965 budget amounting to $2,250,000 and a supplemental appropriation for the fiscal year 1964 amounting to $10,000,000, both for the Department of Agriculture.

The funds requested are covered in the totals for the fiscal years 1964 and 1965 in the 1965 budget.

The additional amount for the fiscal year 1965 is needed for an international protective barrier along the Mexico-United States border to keep Texas and New Mexico and States to the north and east free of the screwworm fly.

The Southwestern screwworm eradication program has eliminated screwworms from over-wintering areas in southern Texas and New Mexico. It has also demonstrated that an artificial barrier zone of sterile screwworm flies along the Mexico-United States border can be effectively maintained to prevent reinfestations from Mexico of areas in the United States which have been freed of the pest. The female screwworm fly is a constant drain on livestock in several States, and in Texas alone has caused between $20,000,000 and $100,000,000 damage a year. Radioactive cobalt is being used to sterilize the flies, which are then airdropped over thousands of square miles along the border to discourage the entry from Mexico of the destructive female screwworm flies.

The $2,250,000 requested today, together with $2,750,000 in the 1965 budget request, will provide for the maintenance of an international protective barrier. The government of Mexico has pledged its cooperation.

May 12 - 9 30 AM.

208

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S. 1605

EXECUTIVE

LE/AG 5-1

AG 5-1

Do you want to have the bill-signing of the Pesticide Bill after the legislative breakfast tomorrow. Ribbicoff and Rosenthal are the sponsors.

Claude Desautels asked about this — Called Desautels 12:50 | 5/11/64

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

May 7, 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR GEORGE REEDY

From: Joe Laitin

Calling your attention to an enrolled bill sent to the President today for action on or before Tuesday, May 12. The bill represents significant progress in the protection of the public in the use of pesticides.

The accompanying draft of a proposed signing statement, plus the background sheet, should be adequate, but if you plan to release it and require additional information, please call.

Attachment

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

EXECUTIVE
AG 5-1
PU1/FG150
FG145
FG165
FG150
NR2

April 8, 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR

George Reedy
Press Secretary to the President
The White House Office

The attached release has been drafted for possible release by your office in view of its relevance to three Departments. If you prefer not to handle it from the White House, we can do so from here with the agreement of Interior and HEW. It is now being cleared with them for handling either way.

Since we are anxious to move it in light of the current pesticides flap, I'd appreciate word from you today if possible.

Rodney E. Leonard
Assistant to the Secretary

Attachment

RECEIVED
APR 1964
CENTRAL FILES

Draft

The White House today announced inter-departmental arrangements for continuous coordination in the Executive Branch in matters relating to the safe use of pesticides, including Federal registration, establishment of permissable tolerances in food and feed, and exchange of research findings.

The Departments of Agriculture, Interior, and Health, Education, and Welfare, through a formal memorandum of agreement, have established working procedures to assure effective coordination in carrying out their respective responsibilities.

The agreement grew out of action initiated by the Department of Agriculture following publication of the report of the President's Science Advisory Committee on "Use of Pesticides." The Department invited Interior and HEW to join with it in developing a formal working agreement in the interest of more effective coordination as recommended by the Advisory Committee.

The agreement, signed by the Secretaries of Agriculture, Interior, and Health, Education and Welfare, outlines the responsibilities of their departments with respect to pesticides as follows:

In the Department of the Interior the Fish and Wildlife Service conserves beneficial wild birds, mammals, fish and their food organisms and habitat, with regard to pesticides.

In the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Public Health Service protects and improves the health of man in regard to pesticides and the Food and Drug Administration establishes tolerances for pesticides in or on raw agricultural commodities and processed foods.

(more)

In the Department of Agriculture, the Agricultural Research Service provides for the safe and effective use of pesticides, including their registration.

Under the agreement, each department undertakes to keep the other two departments fully informed of developments from research or other sources that may come into its possession.

USDA will furnish Interior and HEW a weekly listing of all proposals affecting registration and re-registration of pesticides.

HEW will furnish Interior and USDA a weekly listing of all proposals affecting tolerances.

Upon request, USDA and HEW will each furnish to the other two departments full information about any pending action on registration or the setting of a tolerance.

To implement this agreement, each department will designate a scientist as its representative. The weekly listings and any additional pertinent information will be directed to these representatives.

Each department representative will review the listings of actions pending. Any questions will be communicated to the originating department within one week. The originating department will then furnish necessary information and make arrangements for further review, withholding final action for an additional three weeks.

If one department concludes that a proposal should be rejected in whole or in part, this view shall be expressed in writing and supported by appropriate scientific evidence. The department responsible for final action will take the initiative to work out a basis for agreement.

(more)

Proposals on which agreement is not reached within two weeks after the initial objection will be referred directly to the Secretary of the department responsible for final action. He will evaluate the proposal and the objections, then notify the other two departments, in advance of his proposed final determination of the issues.

The three department representatives will make a joint quarterly report to the Secretaries regarding their activities. The representatives are authorized to review questions involving existing use of pesticides or tolerances upon which they have reason to believe that critical questions exist.

At least once each year the representatives will arrange a general conference to discuss research needs, program, and policy, and the application of research findings in action and informational programs.

The Federal Pest Control Review Board may be asked to consider broad questions on policies relating to the interrelationships of research, control programs, registration, and use of pesticides.

- - -

a D 8 / Bj

EXECUTIVE
AG 5-1
FG 150

(2)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

March 12, 1964

FILE

MEMORANDUM FOR: Ivan Sinclair
Assistant to the President
The White House

FROM: Thomas R. Hughes
Executive Assistant to the Secretary

Regarding the attached correspondence, Under Secretary Murphy talked by phone with Walter Jenkins and Dolph Briscoe on this matter. Mr. Briscoe recently met with Mr. Murphy for a full discussion of the Southwest Screw-worm Eradication Program. At that time it was agreed no further response should be forthcoming on the January 20 letter.

I trust this will be satisfactory with you.

SOUTHWEST ANIMAL HEALTH RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Reply to:

Box 389
Uvalde, Texas

January 20, 1964

President Lyndon B. Johnson
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am enclosing a summary of the Screwworm Eradication Program in the Southwest. The Program has been a tremendous success, and without your help all of us realize that we would have no Screwworm Eradication Program underway in the Southwest today.

The situation now is that as of July 1, 1964, producer funds, which have been raised slightly in excess of three million dollars, and State Funds will have been expended; so, as of that date we have the following alternatives:

1. That the U. S. Department of Agriculture take over the Program, since eradication has been achieved and the effectiveness of a barrier of sterile flies where one properly implemented and serviced has been proven, or,

2. We go back to livestock producers in another fund raising drive, or,

3. That the Program be discontinued.

I think we could all agree that we could not afford to discontinue a Program which has resulted in such tremendous benefits over such a great area. I would certainly appreciate the benefit of your advice as to how we should proceed.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Dolph Briscoe, Jr.

DB:dg

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

ROUTE SLIP

(Copy for Retention by Department or Agency)

File

Date: February 10, 1964

TO: Department of Agriculture, Atten: Mr. Sydney A. Skoglund

Prompt handling is essential. *Correspondence should be answered or other necessary action taken within 48 hours after arrival at the department or agency.* If any delay is encountered, please telephone office of the undersigned.

Please handle the attached correspondence as indicated below:

A. Reply on behalf of the President .....

B. Draft for presidential signature X

C. Draft for undersigned's signature .....

D. Other:

(1) For background briefing on which to base reply from this office .....

(2) For suitable acknowledgement or other appropriate handling .....

(3) For your information .....

(4) For comment .....

Furnish this office with a copy of your reply. Yes X No .....

Return the original correspondence to this office. Yes X No .....

REMARKS:

Referral of letter from:
Dolph Briscoe, Jr.
Southwest Animal Health Research Foundation
Box 389
Uvalde, Texas

GPO 16—76420-1

By direction of the President:

Ivan Sinclair
Assistant to
The President

SCREWWORM ERADICATION IN THE SOUTHWEST

January 14, 1964

I.

HISTORY TO FEBRUARY 14, 1962

Prior to 1962 many livestock leaders visualized a screwworm eradication program in the Southwest and in order to implement this program, in 1961 they formed the Southwest Animal Health Research Foundation to solicit contributions from Livestock Producers and Sportsmen throughout the Southwestern States. The Southwest Animal Health Research Foundation is a non-profit corporation, governed by a Board of Trustees, representing the States of Texas, Louisiana, New Mexico and Oklahoma. In February, 1962, the corporation had about One Million Dollars on hand and was in the process of securing Three Million Dollars, the last million of which was received in the month of February, 1963. These funds were to be twenty-five per cent of the cost of the estimate of an eradication program in the Southwest which was estimated to take a period of three years to complete. The commencement of this program was accelerated because of cold weather and the program actually got under way in February, 1962.

II.

PLANS AND RESULTS

1. Plant and Plant Capacity:

(1) PROJECTION - The first plant was a temporary one constructed at the United States Department of Agriculture Research Facilities at Kerrville, Texas, and which had a capacity of about twenty million flies per week. This plant was used during the construction of a permanent plant at Moore Air Force Base, Texas. It was estimated that the permanent Plant at Moore Air Force Base would have a capacity of 75,000,000 flies per week; that it could be built in one year; and that it would cost about $1,200,000.00.

(2) RESULTS - The temporary plant facility produced about 25,000,000 flies per week during the spring and early summer of 1962, and the permanent plant was dedicated in late June or early July, 1962, having been constructed in four to five months at a cost of about $650,000.00. This plant has produced as many as 150,000,000 flies per week.

2. Time Schedule - Eradication

(1) PROJECTION - It was estimated that eradication would take a full three years.

(2) RESULT - The experts state that we have demonstrated eradication during 1963 in the area of South Texas where screwworm flies survive the winter in the United States before beginning the northward migration, and that the reinfestation that we have experienced during the fall of 1963 was the result of flies migrating into the United States from the Republic of Mexico.

. Time Schedule - Barrier

(1) PROJECTION - The proposed plan for keeping the United States free of reinfestation from the Republic of Mexico was to establish and prove a barrier zone in which sterile flies would be dropped on a systematic basis. It was estimated that this barrier would have to be about 100 miles wide because flies live approximately two weeks and migrate about 70 miles and that it would not be proven for three years.

(2) RESULT - It has now been learned that flies migrate 180 miles and Dr. E. F. Knipling of the United States Department of Agriculture states that it is his opinion that the barrier which was established just South of Brownsville, Texas (the only place that a barrier was established and serviced in 1963) was effective all last summer and fall.

III.

FINANCING

1. General

(1) PROJECTION - The Southwest Eradication Program was started as a matching program during the three-year evaluation period with local sources paying fifty per cent of the cost of production, irradiation and release of sterile flies. In addition to this proposal, it was projected that there would be items that would be fully a Federal responsibility and that the protection of the United States from reinfestation once eradication was achieved would be a Federal responsibility.

(2) RESULT - On the present level of spending, the United States Department of Agriculture will be about $1,200,000.00 behind on matching the expenditure of local funds by the end of the current fiscal year on June 30, 1964.

2. Federal

The United States Department of Agriculture spent about $800,000.00 during the year 1962 and about $2,000,000.00 each year in fiscal 1963 and fiscal 1964 on the matching portion of the program.

3. Southwest Animal Health Research Foundation

The Southwest Animal Health Research Foundation has spent approximately all of the funds which they have secured from Livestock Producers and Sportsmen in the Southwest and by the end of the current fiscal year will have spent in excess of $3,200,000.00, which will be all of their money.

4. States

The State of Texas will have spent $2,700,000.00 in the program by 1 July, 1964, and will have no other funds for screwworm eradication. The

Texas Legislature does not meet until January, 1965, so it will be impossible to secure additional funds from that source. Producers from other states in the Southwest have contributed through the Southwest Animal Health Research Foundation, but the states themselves have put very little money in the program.

IV.

PROGRAM RESULTS

The program has been so effective that most livestock producers and sportsmen in the Southwest feel that it is 100% successful. However, the experts feel at this point that it has been 99% effective. Louisiana and Arkansas have not had a case of screwworms in two years; Oklahoma has had only a few cases during 1963; the southeastern states, which are free from screwworms, have not been threatened by reinfestation; and the migration of the screwworm in the State of New Mexico has been to some extent contained. The program is one which has had universal approval and acceptance and there has been only one confirmed case of screwworms in the Southwest since December 20th, and that was a specimen gathered on December 25th, 1963.

(1) We have demonstrated that eradication can be achieved in a given area;

(2) We have proven the effectiveness of a barrier of sterile flies where one is properly implemented and serviced; and

(3) We are faced with a problem now, that is one of an International nature where the eradication gains made in the Southwest are constantly threatened by reinfestation from the Republic of Mexico.

V.

FUTURE OF THE PROGRAM

1. ERADICATION

To protect the gains made, the Southwest must be protected from reinfestation by migrant flies from Mexico.

2. BARRIER

Any barrier of flies which is established and maintained must be largely in Mexico and this is an International problem which cannot be accomplished by the State of Texas nor the Southwest Animal Health Research Foundation.

3. FINANCES

(1) The State and the Southwest Animal Health Research Foundation will have spent their $6,000,000.00 by 1 July, 1964, and be out of funds with no more in sight. The Federal Government will be $1,200,000.00 behind on their part of the eradication program as originally projected.

(2) Unless the United States Department of Agriculture can take the program as a Federal responsibility on 1 July, 1964, it appears that the $12,000,000.00 investment which has been made will be sacrificed and that all gains of screwworm eradication will be lost.

(3) There is ample precedent for the program becoming at this time a Federal responsibility:

A. The following are quotes from the Hearings before the Committee on Appropriations of the United States Senate, April 4, 1962.

(a) The following is from a prepared statement of the United States Department of Agriculture:

> "It is necessary to preserve intact the Federal responsibility to prevent reinfestation of areas freed of screwworm flies. This involves inspection and quarantine enforcement activities along the Mexican-United States border and at points along the western New Mexico State line to inspect livestock movements to prevent introduction of screwworms from farther west and surveys in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, and other areas to disclose any screw-worm infestations. These are Federal responsibilities with the costs to be borne by the Department without matching by cooperators in the program. This means that the brunt of the reduction would be borne by the cooperative portion of the program concerned with eradication and the release of sterile flies to maintain the barrier zone. A substantial reduction of up to $1 million in this cooperative program would jeopardize the success of the program. The Department stringently urges restoration of the $500,000 reduction by the House."

"The proposed appropriation language provides for minimum matching by State and local sources equal to at least 50 per cent of the expenses of production, irradiation, and release of flies. Costs of activities such as additional international and interstate inspection and quarantine, and methods development to reduce Federal costs, would be borne by the Department."

"The Department urges that the Senate restore the full amount of the budget estimate. It would be necessary to apply the House reduction to the portion of the program relating to the production and release of sterile screw-worm flies, since it would be impracticable to absorb any part of it on the Federal activities which are aimed at preventing reintroduction of infestation from Mexico and Western States."

(b) The following is from the discussion held at the above meeting:

COST IN FUTURE YEARS

"Senator Russell. What do you estimate it is going to cost yearly to maintain this zone, if your plans do succeed?
Dr. Clarkson. Of course, these are preliminary estimates, but we think it will cost $1½ million a year. It is costing us now $750,000 along the Mississippi, plus some inspection costs and some costs of eliminating these occasional outbreaks.
Senator Russell. This would have to be much more intensive than along the Mississippi, would it not?
Dr. Clarkson. Yes, sir. And our estimate is that it would be about double that cost. I am not able to say with any certainty that that would be it; but we have the advantage of the western part of the area that would have to be covered since it is rather high. In normal winters and in cold winters the fly would not overwinter in a substantial area.
But there is no question about it that intensive activities would have to be carried on year-round in the southern parts of the border, where the fly would overwinter each year.

FUTURE LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROGRAM

Senator Russell. Is it contemplated that the local contributions clause would apply to that, if you succeeded in getting it eradicated?
Dr. Clarkson. No, sir. That is not projected, here. We have not taken that up with the local people. We had projected it on the same basis that we had in the Southeast. There we picked up the cost of the maintenance of the protection, and the States, each and every one of them, have

> assisted in the inspection work and in the survey work necessary when occasional outbreaks do occur, and I am sure that would be the case in Texas, New Mexico, and the other States involved here.
> Senator Russell. Well, now, this language--the contribution only applies to the screw-worms that are irradiated; is that correct?
> Dr. Clarkson. The language applies to the major cost of the eradication effort. The production, irradiation, and distribution of the flies is the major cost. This does not include the cost of the maintenance of the Federal quarantines on the Arizona-New Mexico line or some additional quarantine costs along the Mexican-United States border."

B. The States of the Southeast do not share directly in the cost of the Mississippi River control line.

C. Border states do not man international boundaries to prevent the transportation of pests and insects into the United States.

D. Border states do not share directly in the costs of the fever tick buffer zone.

E. No state finances operations in a bordering nation to protect the United States of America from insects and disease.

EXECUTIVE

AG 3-1

AG 5-1

February 17, 1964

Dear Mr. Lewis:

Attached is a copy of a letter I have just received from the Advertising Council advising me that the Council has approved support for your Pesticide Safety project.

Please follow through on the procedures requested in Mr. Rosenberg's letter as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Bill Moyers
Assistant to the President

Mr. Harold R. Lewis
Director of Information
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C.

BY;ny