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STATEMENT OF THEODORE M. HESBURGH, OF INDIANA, FOR  
THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING THE TENURE OF HIS SERVICE  
AS CHAIRMAN OF THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION TO THE  
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
FOR DEVELOPMENT.

The Chairman. Are you already in the job for which you  
are before us?

Reverend Hesburgh. We are doing some preparatory work.  
The conference is going to be in 1979, and we are already  
doing our preparatory work to prepare for the conference.

The Chairman. Yes, I was sure something was being done,  
though that is a good time from now.

What will be the purpose of the conference?

Reverend Hesburgh. The conference is the second one of  
its kind. The first was in 1963, in Geneva. I attended  
that one.

The purpose of the conference is, in a sense, to pool  
together all of the resources of science and technology insofar  
as they can be used for the further development of the world,  
especially in the developing countries, of course.

This would have to do with energy, food, habitation,  
population, health, education -- with the whole wide spectrum.  
In a sense, the U.N. family has been having what they call  
mega-conferences, very large conferences. If you recall,  
they had one on the environment in Stockholm; they had one on



1 women in Mexico City; they had one on population in Bucharest;  
2 they had one on habitat in British Columbia; they had one  
3 recently in Nairobi on development.

4 So, what this particular conference will do will be to  
5 draw on all of those and be a kind of capstone conference  
6 that will look at the whole field of science and technology  
7 to see how it might be used to help the developing countries,  
8 especially the poorest of them.

9 That, in general, is what the conference is about.

10 The Chairman. Thank you.

11 Senator Stone, do you have questions?

12 Senator Stone. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 First of all, I think our country is honored to have  
14 obtained the services of Father Hesburgh in this capacity.  
15 I certainly encorse his ambassadorship.

16 I would like to ask you, Father Hesburgh, will this  
17 conference have an emphasis on energy technology?

18 Reverend Hesburgh. Yes, that will be a part of it.  
19 It will probably focus on about five basic subjects. I don't  
20 know what they are going to be yet because each country is  
21 authorized to say what its five particular subjects are. My  
22 guess is that all of them will have energy, because it cuts  
23 across transportation, it cuts across agriculture, it certainly  
24 cuts across industrial growth. I think it will be one of the  
25 foci of the conference, very importantly.

1 My guess is that food will be another; health and population  
2 is likely to be another. I would guess, also, that rural  
3 and industrial development will be in large measure included.  
4 There will be a lot of talk about the transfer of technology  
5 and about the difference between public technology, which  
6 gets at peoples' basic human needs, such as food and energy  
7 technology, and private or some might say proprietary  
8 technology, which has to do with industrial growth and  
9 technology regarding computers, steel production, and things  
10 of that sort.

11 Yes, I am sure that energy will rank very high in the  
12 scheme of things. I am sure it will be on everyone's list.  
13 Certainly it will be on ours.

14 Senator Stone. Thank you, Mr. Ambassador to be, and  
15 thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16 Reverend Hesburgh. Thank you, Senator Stone.

17 The Chairman. Senator Case.

18 Senator Case. Mr. Reverend, I join the committee members  
19 who have already spoken in welcoming you to this forum again,  
20 and to the job. I think it is grand to have you.

21 I would like to put in a bid now for your services when  
22 they have finished with this thing as a member of the  
23 Advisory Council of the Office of Technology Assessment, about  
24 which I am very happy and pleased. I am just putting you on  
25 notice that you may be hearing from us in that connection when

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the time comes. I hope you can do it.

We have in the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, PL 95-105, requested the President to take steps to insure that all stages of this conference place important emphasis in both official statements and informal discussions on the development and use of light capital technology in agriculture, in industry, and in the reduction and conservation of energy, with special thought in mind -- this was Senator Humphrey's baby, especially -- of the developing countries, of course. We do place this in your charge with great confidence that that will be carried out. We have thought and do think that it is enormously important.

Reverend Hesburgh. I am completely in agreement with you, Senator, on that point.

Senator Case. That is all that I have to say, and we wish you very well on the job.

Reverend Hesburgh. Thank you very much, Senator.

The Chairman. Senator Percy.

Senator Percy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Father Hesburgh, you have built a reputation in so many fields, but I want to particularly mention the field of raising the living standards of people in the developing countries. You were way ahead of the North-South confrontation that has so absorbed us now in recent years. You have been trying to do this as a humanitarian for many years.



1           You have early promoted human rights around the world,  
2 long before it became the popular thing to do.

3           Do you see any connection between the use of science  
4 and technology for development and the promotion of human  
5 rights?

6           Do you expect that human rights will be considered as  
7 a subject matter at the conference?

8           Reverend Hesburgh. I am sure they will, at least in an  
9 indirect sense.

10           One of the basic human rights, of course, is the economic  
11 and social right to make a living, to be employed, to have a  
12 decent home, to have an opportunity to develop oneself. All  
13 of these rights, in the economic and the social orders, are  
14 certainly the focus of this conference. Science and  
15 technology can promote many of them a great deal.

16           I would think that without a doubt the emphasis on a  
17 broad look at human rights in this economic and social field  
18 would be a very pertinent part of the conference. I would  
19 hope so.

20           Senator Percy. From a procedural standpoint--you are  
21 beginning work now on this conference-- do you tie in at  
22 all with the United States Delegation to the U.N.? Do you  
23 keep them abreast of some of your thinking? Do you draw  
24 upon them for advice and counsel?

25           I presume that they continue the same kind of staff

1 meetings up there that we have all participated in when we  
2 were delegates.

3 Reverend Hesburgh. Yes.

4 Senator Percy. I think it would be important to make  
5 them feel a part of this effort. I think that Andrew Young  
6 can uniquely contribute to this overall objective and goal  
7 of the Conference on Science and Technology.

8 Reverend Hesburgh. Yes, we will be touching base.  
9 As a matter of fact, Ambassador Jean Wilkowski, who is  
10 coordinating the preparatory work for the conference, is going  
11 up to New York this week. She will be touching base with  
12 our delegation.

13 I am going up this afternoon, and I will, too, too.

14 Senator Percy. Fine.

15 Finally, I did have an opportunity to participate with  
16 Mr. Schumacher during his last visit to this country before  
17 his untimely death. I hosted a meeting in Chicago. I  
18 was rather pleased that in contrast to his previous trips,  
19 when he was look upon as a phenomenon unrelated to America,  
20 that small is beautiful became a concept that was backed  
21 by some very hard-headed industrialists and business leaders  
22 in Chicago, who did seem to feel that there may be a better  
23 way of doing things, that maybe we overkill in a lot of things.  
24 We do, in the use of energy consumption, for example. There  
25 is a lot that we can do in this country to reduce the

1 conspicuous consumption we have of energy, I think. Certainly  
2 with respect to developing countries, the last thing in the  
3 world we want them to do is to copy some of our mistakes.

4 They ought to go in with the appropriate technology,  
5 as Schumacher called it.

6 Will this be a major focus of attention for your conference?  
7 Will appropriate technology receive priority in the agenda?

8 Reverend Hesburgh. Yes, Senator, it certainly will.  
9 I have seen it listed in all of the papers I have read thus  
10 far.

11 I know in my own thinking on this subject, I have often  
12 thought that we try to establish a Cadillac civilization around  
13 the world, sometimes, when many people would be satisfied  
14 with a bicycle; in fact, that might be all they would really  
15 need and they would be happier with it than they would with  
16 a Cadillac, for which they would not be able to buy fuel.  
17 In their part of the world they might not have roads for it,  
18 too.

19 The important thing, I think, is that each country has  
20 to make its own plans on the kind of development it needs.  
21 In China, for example, the people are satisfied with barefoot  
22 doctors, because that meets their particular need there.  
23 We may have to have a big clinic ourselves because that is  
24 what we are used to. But there is just a whole spectrum of  
25 needs that can be met much more modestly in many parts of the

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1 world and which would be much more satisfactory to the  
2 people there. We should not impose upon them "overkill",  
3 as you say, and our own technology.

4 Yes, Senator, appropriate technology is very important.

5 You know, some people bristle at the word because  
6 they think we are being patronizing toward them; but I think  
7 that in general, if we can find another term for doing the  
8 same thing, that would be helpful.

9 Senator Percy. Thank you.

10 I would think the American organization of the  
11 Schumachers is under the presidency of, I believe, Peter  
12 [Gillingham in the peninsula.] I am certain that they would  
13 want to in every way they could to cooperate with and assist  
14 the conference.

15 Reverend Hesburgh. Yes.

16 Senator Percy. I thank you very much, indeed, and I  
17 congratulate the Administration on your appointment.

18 Reverend Hesburgh. Senator Percy, thank you for your  
19 very nice words.

20 The Chairman. Thank you, Father Hesburgh. The committee  
21 wishes you well.

22 Come back and see us again.

23 Reverend Hesburgh. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would love  
24 to.

25 The Chairman. Our next nominee is David D. Newsom, of



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California, to be Ambassador to the Philippines.

Mr. Newsom, we are very glad to have you with us today.

We have your biographical sketch and that will be made a part of the record at this point.

(The biography of Ambassador Newsom follows:)