

Benjamin Franklin's Philadelphia, the U.S. patriot has been beset not only by foreign adversaries, but also by those influential portions of our own population, who have consented to be agents of influence of the British monarchy, as exemplified by the case of Sir Caspar Weinberger.

In this continuing global struggle between the two most powerful economic models of today's world—the American versus the British model—the gravest threat to the U.S.A. itself, has been the British reliance upon corrupting the U.S.A. through the influence of “free trade” and related policies. For systemic philosophical reasons inhering implicitly in the doctrine of “free trade,” the United States could not continue to survive but for recurrence of those periods, including the Civil War, in which the corrosive influence of “free trade” was defeated and the American tradition of Franklin, Hamilton, the Careys, and List re-established. The most recent return to American principles, was under the leadership of Franklin Roosevelt as President.

The entirety of the present world-wide financial and economic crisis, and most of the political conflicts among nations today, are a reflection of the efforts, by London and fellow-travellers such as Sir Henry Kissinger and Sir Caspar “Cap the Knife” Weinberger, to impose London-concocted “free trade” and “globalization” policies upon the U.S.A., China, Malaysia, Russia, and the states of Central and South America. Thus, our U.S. strategy must never be degraded to the brutish sport of the professional football field or the Roman imperial arena. We fight for principle, and we select opportunities for action, especially preferring flanking actions, in which the relative strength of an emerging community of principle is developed. We must put aside the infantile, macho's delusion, that it is the governments of nations which are our allies, and recognize, instead, that it is principles which must be the basis for our policy, our strategy.

When possible, attack by surprise. When possible, attack the flank, preferably with emphasis upon the psychological flank. Let these flanking actions be pre-emptive actions, not mass-masturbatory exercises in diplomacy, as by Sir Henry Kissinger at al. The Old Regime has failed. In its moment of weakness, we must make a revolution, in this case the re-enactment of the American Revolution, as by such exemplars as Franklin, Washington, John Quincy Adams, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin Roosevelt. The United States is still a great power, with powerful friends. Don't lead our forces into the swamp of G-7 lunacies; take pre-emptive action, often ad hoc, with appropriate partners. Establish the principle on which the New Bretton Woods will be based, before marching onto the diplomatic battlefield, in search of agreements with regimes which are already doomed. Robert Rubin must learn—quickly—to think as a revolutionary, to think as a soldier drafted from civilian life in the mummy room of the boardroom museums, to fight as a soldier.

Naturally, the mummies, being mummies, keep jabbering about an expected early recovery.

## U.S. announces food aid to Russia

by Marcia Merry Baker

On Nov. 4, President Bill Clinton announced that the United States was committed to providing food aid to Russia, and that arrangements were being made, pending final agreements, for a preliminary package of food shipments, including grains, and special relief commodities.

On the same day, Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Yuri Maslyukov said that food stocks in Russia have fallen to levels sufficient for only two or three more weeks.

The initial U.S. aid package is valued at around \$500 million, and is to consist of 100,000 tons of donated provisions to be distributed by private organizations to the most needy in Russia (especially the elderly and orphans); and some 3 million metric tons of grain and grain products (1.5 million tons of wheat donated by the U.S. government, and 1.5 million tons of grain bought by the Russians with a U.S. loan).

A relief package of this size is a modest start, but part of its benefit will be timeliness. President Clinton stated on Nov. 4, “This program will help sustain Russians through a serious food shortage this winter. We will be prepared to consider additional assistance if necessary.”

The go-ahead for the aid package awaits a U.S.–Russian agreement on certain terms, which reportedly concern U.S. demands that Russia make sure that the food will reach the people in need (and not be diverted in any way for wrongful gain); and secondly, that Russia *not* apply customs duties nor other taxes on incoming agriculture commodities from the United States.

This latter proviso may seem simple, when it concerns the incoming 3 million tons of U.S. grain, and the 100,000 tons of humanitarian products, but it is not at all straightforward when it comes to potential shipments of U.S. meat and certain other commodities.

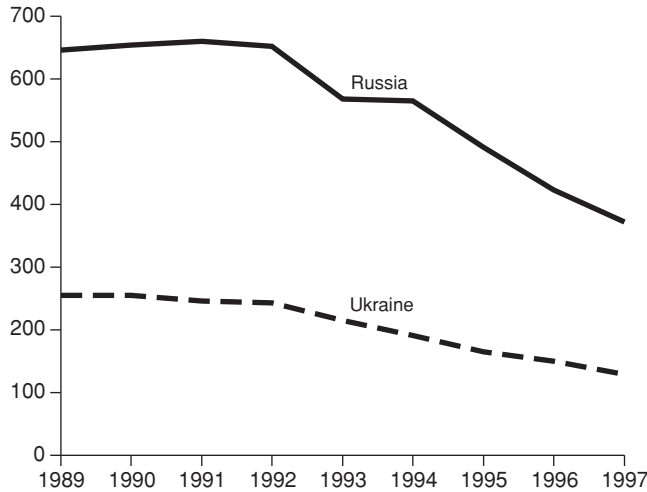
Over the entire 1990s so-called “reform” period, begun under the George Bush/Margaret Thatcher demands for shock therapy and “free markets,” foreign commodities cartels (IBP, ConAgra, Tysons, etc.) dumped food onto Russia, especially poultry. Russian domestic meat output was devastated. Russians call U.S. chicken quarter imports, “Bush legs,” for this reason. Now, Russia is asking for aid to rebuild its livestock sector, and agriculture productivity generally. Therefore, “Bush legs” are unwelcome.

**Figures 1-3** show how, over the 1990s, national inventories of livestock fell drastically in Russia and Ukraine. The estimated quantity of poultry (chickens and all fowl) in Russia, dropped by 46% during 1991-97; the number of hogs

FIGURE 1

**Numbers of poultry in Russia and Ukraine as of Jan. 1, 1989-97**

(million head)



Source: USDA, from statistical yearbooks of Russia and Ukraine.

dropped 50%; and, the number of cattle dropped 39%. Ukraine saw similar declines.

Now the U.S. Department of Agriculture is reportedly conducting negotiations with Moscow officials, outside the direct grain humanitarian aid package, to attempt to set up a credit package to “jump-start” renewed shipping of U.S. Bush-legs to Russia. The food cartels are insistent on this, but not for any benefit of U.S. farmers, whose prices for meat and grains are at 30-year lows. The commodities monopolies are attempting to re-assert their rigged patterns of “free” trade. As of 1997, fully 40% of U.S. chicken leg exports went to Russia—adding up to profiteering by the meat cartel. After Aug. 17, these shipments stopped, along with almost all other food imports into Russia.

The question now posed in meeting the needs of the nation of Russia is, will a new, “Food for Peace” policy—in mutual interests of U.S. farmers and public, and Russia and other nations, be forged—rather than an attempted re-run of the “Bush leg”-acy?

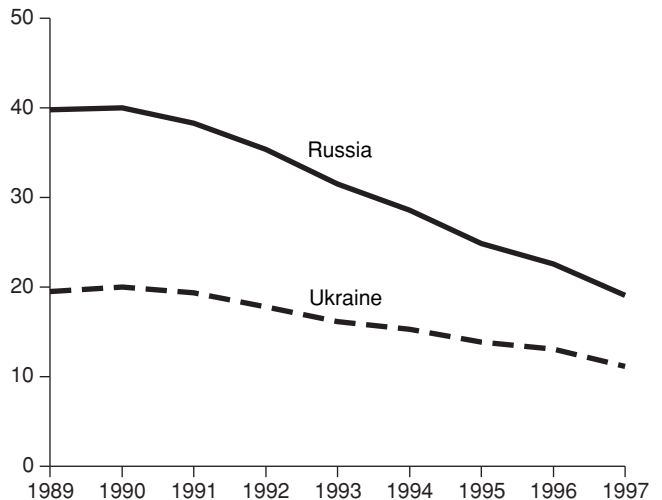
There is no disputing the urgency and scale of food and agriculture assistance required for Russia—a nation of 147 million people—and other former Soviet bloc locations.

On Nov. 4, U.S. Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman and other officials elaborated on the aid questions, and the severity of the need. “This is obviously not only a food aid and food assistance issue but it also is a very significant foreign policy issue as well,” Glickman said. “There are a lot of people in government who are interested in the political and economic stability of Russia.” Glickman referred to the disastrous 1998 Russian crop year, saying, the grain harvest is projected at “just 52 million metric tons—the country’s worst harvest in

FIGURE 2

**Number of hogs in Russia and Ukraine as of Jan. 1 1989-97**

(million head)

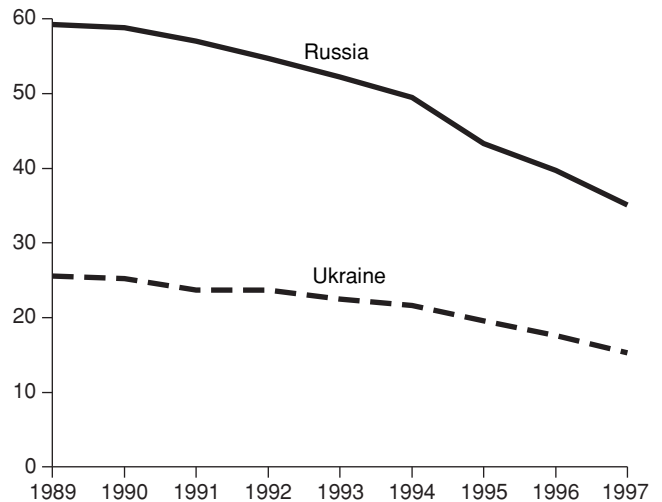


Source: USDA, from statistical yearbooks of Russia and Ukraine.

FIGURE 3

**Number of cattle in Russia and Ukraine as of Jan. 1, 1989-97**

(million head)



Source: USDA, from statistical yearbooks of Russia and Ukraine.

50 years.” He said that some livestock feed mixture may also be included in the donated wheat portion of the package; and that other specific products were still be negotiated, including meat. Glickman said that the grain could arrive in Russia sometime in December, if the U.S.-Russian agreement is reached soon.