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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

12-13-73

Washington, D C -- Agriculture's role in reversing the U S unfavorable world trade balance points up the necessity for making adequate fuel supplies available to farm producers, Rep Kika de la Garza declared Thursday as the House of Representatives passed the National Emergency Energy Act.

Rep de la Garza cited figures showing that agricultural exports totaled \$1.7 billion in October, producing a trade surplus in farm trade of \$1 billion and more than offsetting a deficit of \$648 million in non-agricultural trade.

"It is significant," the Congressman said, "that our agricultural export strength has led the way to another trade balance improvement. As matters appear now, when the figures are in for the full year, it is expected that agricultural exports will give the nation the first annual trade surplus we have enjoyed since 1970, as well as providing countless jobs for farm workers and in related industries.

"American agriculture is meeting a threefold responsibility of feeding America, helping to feed the world, and improving the trade balance between the United States and other nations. It will continue to do so if our producers obtain the fuel they need in order to carry on their operations," Rep de la Garza said.

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