1. If an applicant's proposal involves the conversion of land so as to increase or decrease agriculture use, public notices will be sent to appropriate local and regional Department of Agriculture (USDA) offices. Additionally, district commanders will send a letter to USDA seeking its views as to whether the particular land conversion is good or desirable from an agriculture standpoint.

2. The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works has asked the Secretary of Agriculture to encourage USDA offices to provide substantive responses to the public notices.

3. Request a brief report on 1 August 1983 indicating the approximate percentage of responses from USDA and the value of USDA responses to the decision making process and your views on whether additional Washington contact with USDA is indicated.

FOR THE COMMANDER: