

you have to look at this thing in terms of great circle routes, and when you do that and take the globe, pick it up and turn it around, you find that there is one-half of the world in which 90 percent of the habited land is located, and that's the land hemisphere. The center of the land hemisphere is more accessible to more people in this world than any other spot on the globe.

If what people do is important in terms of accessibility to other people, what they do in Argentina is less important than what they do, let's say, in France, because the French are in the middle of the land hemisphere, and Argentina is away off at a distance.

Sure, communications are instantaneous, but still distance has a different meaning. To be sure, we have missiles, but still it has meaning. It's a whale of a lot different being located in the water hemisphere, for instance, than being located near to the center of things in the land hemisphere.

In other words, distance is still there but has to be measured in different terms. I think that never before has global position been important, until just now, just since 1950.

I think you have to rephrase Mackinder and say that who controls Western Europe, or the center of the land hemisphere, can control the world island, and so on.

**QUESTION:** Your recent references and your discussion of the culture regions seem to be landlocked. Would you comment on the importance of