

**BOB DOLE**  
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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D. C.**

COUNTIES:		
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BARTON	JEWELL	RENO
CHEYENNE	KEARNEY	REPUBLIC
CLARK	KINGMAN	RICE
CLOUD	KIOWA	ROOKS
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DECATUR	LINCOLN	RUSSELL
EDWARDS	LOGAN	SALINE
ELLSWORTH	MEADE	SCOTT
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GRANT	OSBORNE	STAFFORD
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HASKELL		WALLACE
		WICHITA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 1, 1963

The following is the text of a telegram sent to President Kennedy late last night from the following Congressmen: Bob Dole (R-Kansas); Albert Quie (R-Minnesota); Don Short (R-N. Dak.); Garner Shriver (R-Kansas); Joe Skubitz (R-Kansas), Bob Ellsworth (R-Kansas), Don Brotzman (R-Colorado), Catherine May (R-Wash.); Ben Reifel (R-S. Dak.) Odin Langen (R-Minn.). Congressman Bob Dole stated in releasing the text of the telegram, "Many of us from wheat-producing areas sincerely feel we are entitled to know the facts before being requested to take a position either for or against sale of wheat to Russia or any satellite nation."

The Honorable John F. Kennedy  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

September 30, 1963

Recognizing the great interest in and significance of the current proposal to sell U.S. wheat to the Soviet Union, we desire clarification of pertinent details concerning such a transaction and the probable ramifications should you make an affirmative decision.

Have any representatives of the Soviet Union or other communist nations recently contacted our government, either directly or indirectly, with reference to purchase of wheat or other U.S. agricultural commodities? If so, in what quantity and upon what terms and for what price?

Has the long range effect of such a transaction on our foreign policy been considered? What will be our policy toward Red China, North Korea, North Viet Nam, and Cuba in the event any of these nations should hereafter offer gold or dollars for wheat or other U.S. farm commodities?

In the event of a U.S.-Russian wheat transaction, what diplomatic pressures could our government apply to free world nations wishing to step up trade with Cuba or other communist nations. Will such sales to Russia impair the present policy of containment in Cuba?

October 1, 1963

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Another vital factor in your decision involves the current and projected status of the world wheat market. Secretary Freeman has pointed out that Soviet Russia cancelled many of its export commitments and that outside the U.S. there are but a few substantial sources of wheat in the world. In view of Soviet and European shortages, therefore, there appears a serious question whether our nation could export any more wheat to Russia than to the free world. If this be so, exporting wheat to free world countries would seem an obvious choice.

Will transshipment from Russia to Cuba of any U.S. wheat purchased, or its by-products be permitted?

Finally, we trust the legal aspects of such a sale to Russia--such as the Johnson Act on export credits, the Webb-Pomerene Act on export assistance, Public Law 480 which prohibits soft currency sales, barter and government-supported dollar sales to Russia, and the Latta Amendment to the Agricultural Act of 1961 expressing congressional policy against a subsidized sale to Russia--will be fully considered.

As Representatives of wheat producing areas, we shall appreciate answers to the questions raised. Without specific information, it is difficult for us and the many farmers we represent to make a proper appraisal.

BOB DOLE  
AL QUIE  
DON SHORT  
GARNER SHRIVER

JOE SKUBITZ  
BOB ELLSWORTH  
DON BROTZMAN  
CATHERINE MAY

BEN REIFEL  
ODIN LANGEN