

FOR RELEASE UPON RECEIPT  
SEPTEMBER 27, 1965

All five Members of the House of Representatives from Kansas, Congressmen Dole, Ellsworth, Mize, Shriver, and Skubitz, announced today that their goal of improving the United States bargaining position on grain negotiations at the Kennedy Round in Geneva, has been achieved. Over the past two months, the five have urged suspension of the Kennedy Round negotiations until the French elections in December.

In a letter to Congressman Thomas B. Curtis of Missouri, one of the four members of the U.S. delegation for the negotiations, the Congressmen noted that: 1) the negotiations on agriculture have, in effect, been suspended until the Common Market can resolve its internal differences; 2) the British Grains Agreement has been abandoned as a guide for Kennedy Round negotiations on grain; and 3) the Administration is actively giving consideration to the removal of the licensing and shipping restrictions on the development of global markets for U.S. wheat.

The full text of the letter follows:

September 27, 1965

Honorable Thomas B. Curtis  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Tom:

Many thanks for your discerning and comprehensive letter of August 30. We certainly agree with you that the exchange of views we have had in the last few months has been most constructive, and we want to thank you for the outstanding contribution you have made to a better understanding of the many complex issues surrounding international trade negotiations.

At this time we feel our objectives have been achieved since we observe that the grains negotiations which resumed on September 20 are being carried on only at the working party level, and our representatives at the Kennedy Round are not empowered to bargain at the negotiating level at this time. Negotiations on agriculture have, in effect, been suspended until the Common Market can resolve its internal differences, and this it cannot do until after the French elections in December.

We are also particularly glad to note that the U.K. Grains Agreement has been abandoned as a guide for Kennedy Round negotiations on grains, and we are pleased that the Administration is actively giving consideration to the removal of licensing and shipping restrictions on the development of global markets for U.S. wheat.

Again, we want to express our appreciation to you for your fine contribution to a more complete recognition and comprehension of the over-all trade situation.

Sincerely,

/s/ Chester L. Mize  
/s/ Bob Dole

/s/ Bob Ellsworth  
/s/ Joe Skubitz  
/s/ Garner E. Shriver