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WASHINGTON, D.C. April 21, 1967

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

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FOR RELEASE: Tuesday April 25, 1967

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kans) today in the House of Representatives said United States dairy farmers have spoken in a unified voice calling for action to end their number-one problem--the booming importation of dairy products into this country in evasion of set quotas.

Under Section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, the President can set quotas pending the report and recommendations of the Tariff Commission. "If the Secretary of Agriculture would report to the President that there is a situation which calls for emergency treatment, the President could act tomorrow to regulate the flow of dairy imports," Dole stated.

"The President can do this now, temporarily stopping the flow of dairy imports in evasion of quotas," Dole continued. "This action would help the dairy farmer, until a permanent solution is in effect. The dairy farmers are united on what this solution should be. They are for passage of the 'Dairy Import Act of 1967,' which would set quotas, while allowing importers to share in our domestic markets."

The Secretary of Agriculture, Grville Freeman said on April 4, 1967 that dairy income is "disgracefully low, and must be improved." The administration has admitted that one problem is, just as American dairy farmers cut back production to balance supply and demand, imports began flooding the country. It is estimated that some 4 billion pounds of milk equivalent will be shipped into this country this year. "Our dairy farmers have to set their prices to compete with these products. This has driven their prices down so low that many cannot make a living on the dairy farm, and they are leaving their farms by the thousands," Dole commented.

"So here is the situation," Dole concluded. "The dairy farmers and the Secretary of Agriculture agree that something should be done to control imports. The Administration can best serve the dairy farmers of this country be taking immediate action under Section 22--which it has the authority to do--and stopping-the flow of incorts before more dairy farmers decide to leave their farms."

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