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T DISTRICT, KANSAS

AGRICULTURE /ERNMENT OPERATIONS DISTRICT OFFICE: 01 FEDERAL BUILDING 24 BEND, KANSAS 6730

AREA CODE \$16 SW 3-5423 **Congress of the United States House of Representatives Mashington**, D.C. 20515

BARTON	HODGEMAN	RAWLIN
CHEYENNE	JEWELL	REPUBL
CLARK	KEARNY	ROOKS
CLOUD	KIOWA	RUSH
DECATUR	LANE	RUSSEL
EDWARDS	LINCOLN	SALINE
ELLIS	LOGAN	SCOTT
ELLSWORTH	MEADE	SEWAR
FINNEY	MITCHELL	SHERID
FORD	MORTON	SHERM
GOVE	NESS	SMITH
GRAHAM	NORTON	STAFFC
GRANT	OS BORNE	STANTC
GRAY	OTTAWA	STEVEN
GREELEY	PAWNEE	THOMA:
HAMILTON	PHILLIPS	
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CONGRESSMAN DOLE REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON FOR RELEASE: WEEK OF JUNE 19, 1967 UNCLE SAM--A BIG PROPERTY OWNER

Perhaps few citizens in the hustle-bustle of everyday living stop to ponder just how large the United States Government is and how great is the amount of properties it owns. One phase of our government's operations is the national stockpile. The staggering cost value of items in inventories of the nation's stockpile may be of interest.

Purpose of the National Stockpile

After the United States found itself caught short of critical defense materials in World War II and in the Korean War, the idea of a national stockpile was set up. It was not created to supply the needs of industry for the manufacture of consumer goods or to regulate inflation and control economic factors. It's basic purpose is to assure this country an adequate supply of strategic materials if and when we ever need them for national defense purposes or in the event of an emergency.

The General Services Administration, the business manager of the government for these vast transactions, is responsible for storage, security, and maintenance of all stockpile items. If it were possible to concentrate the items in one location, I am sure a person would be astounded by the immensity of these federal possessions.

Cost of acquiring these properties involves, in addition, hundreds of federal employees who are required for maintenance, safekeeping, and other duties associated with this activity supported, of course, by tax dollars.

Cost Value of Stockpile Inventories

The cost value of federal stockpile inventories as of March 31, 1967, according to the latest figures compiled from official agency data and released by the Joint Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures on June 8, 1967, is \$9,425,013,083.

It is notable that one of the larger items from the standpoint of dollar value is the agricultural commodities which totaled \$1.9 billion. Some of the main items comprising the agricultural stockpile are wheat, grain sorghum, corn, wool, milk, and butterfat.