

FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SEN. BOB DOLE
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WASHINGTON, D.C., February 17, 1971 --- Wheat exports were up 48 per cent in 1970 according to information U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) received today from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Total farm products exports reached a record \$7.2 billion in 1970, reflecting an overall 20 per cent gain over 1969 figures. USDA's Economic Research Service indicated that the total figure was comprised of \$1.9 billion, soybeans and oilseed products; \$2.6 billion, grain; \$817 million, animal and animal products; \$488 million, tobacco; \$378 million, cotton, and \$609 million, fruits, vegetables and nuts.

Commenting on the export gains, which will be part of a comprehensive report released later this week, Dole said, "The increases in grain shipments can be attributed to the ability of our farmers to produce grain efficiently and compete in world markets. The Department of Agriculture has been making every effort to respond to this ability and to stimulate increased demands abroad."

"Increased demand for wheat and soybean products in Japan and the European Economic Community, has been the major factor in these gains," Dole said.