



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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DOLE CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE END TO PHASE IV FERTILIZER PRICE CONTROLS

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Returning to Washington for a round of meetings with federal officials, Senator Bob Dole released the text of a telegram he sent this morning to Cost of Living Director, John Dunlop.

In the telegram, Dole criticized Phase IV regulations which he said are "badly distorting the allocation of needed fertilizer for domestic use. Export prices are exempt," Dole said, "and I have been informed they are much higher than permissible domestic prices. American agriculture needs immediate action by the Cost of Living Council to deregulate domestic prices so that sufficient supplies of American produced fertilizer can be kept at home where it is so badly needed."

A full text of Dole's telegram to Dunlop is attached.

August 28, 1973

Dr. John Dunlop
Cost of Living Council
2000 M Street
Washington, D.C.

Having just returned from Kansas I can tell you how concerned and alarmed my farmer constituents are about their inability to obtain fertilizer. They need the material now for fall wheat planting. They will need large tonnages next spring for corn, milo, etc., and they are being advised by their local suppliers that they probably will not get the material they need.

I have been advised that all producers are allocating material because their inventories are low or nonexistent.

In discussing this matter with industry leaders, it is clear that Phase III and IV are badly distorting the allocation of these vital resources. Export ^{prices} are exempt and, I have been informed, are much higher than permissible domestic prices. This is syphoning off large tonnages of material to foreign buyers. American agriculture needs immediate action by Cost of Living Council to deregulate domestic prices so that sufficient supplies of American-produced fertilizer can be kept at home when it is so badly needed. At minimum, U.S. farmers must have the opportunity to compete fairly with foreign buyers. Under present Phase IV rules, they are put at a distinct competitive disadvantage.

It would seem to me that the Council should immediately meet with leaders of the industry to resolve this issue. With time of the essence, the ordinary bureaucratic delays should not prevent prompt action. I await your early reply.

BOB DOLE
United States Senator