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New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 225-6521 Joe Reppert—Press Secretary

> FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE AUGUST 29, 1973

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole met for an hour today with George Stafford, ICC Chairman, to discuss the continuing boxcar and hopper car shortage plaguing Kansas grain farmers.

Stafford told Dole that as a result of the survey made at Dole's request by representatives of USDA this week, two grain elevators in the Gulf port area are being embargoed. A large number of railroad cars full of grain are accumulating in the Gulf port areas and overburdening railroad switching facilities. The embargo is in effect until such time as the elevators unload sufficient cars and return them to service. These cars are needed by local elevators and terminals in the grain producing states as soon as possible.

Dole said, "We must make every effort to get these railroad cars to the Kansas elevators which need them so desperately. And until the local elevators can ship the grain they have stored now, they will not be able to make any additional grain purchases."