



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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WASHINGTON, D.C. -- "Wheat farmers have enough to overcome in planting and producing a crop without interference by the federal government," Senator Bob Dole today told John Dunlop, Director of the Cost of Living Council, in a special meeting concerning the fertilizer shortage.

"Due to price controls imposed by the Cost of Living Council," Dole said, "supplies of fertilizer are being exported to nations paying higher prices than the CLC will allow. These controls must be lifted immediately in order to make adequate stocks of fertilizer available to our farmers."

In a meeting with the CLC Director and other interested senators, arranged by Dole and Senator Hubert Humphrey, Dole explained that there are many causes for the fertilizer shortages at this time, including a lack of adequate natural gas for manufacture, shortage of railroad freight cars to ship the fertilizer, and a greatly expanded number of acres being planted due to world-wide demand for all crops. "All of these factors need attention," Dole said, "but ^{the} only one that will provide quick supplies for the winter wheat planting in the next few weeks is to allow domestic prices to increase so that our fertilizer manufacturers will sell their production to our farmers instead of shipping it overseas."