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News from Senator

Please contact us with any questions or comments: http://dolearchive.ku.edu/ask

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ALL AMERICANS WILL PAY HEAVY PRICE FOR DECISION TO EMBARGO GRAIN

WEBSTER CITY, Iowa -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.) said today that "the grain embargo imposed by President Carter is one of the most devastating economic decisions made by the federal government in recent American history."

"All Americans will bear the burden of this embargo," he said.

He pointed to these costs of the embargo:

1. Lower farm income.

2. Several billion dollars of wasted taxpayer dollars.

3. Higher inflation.

4. Destroyed foreign grain markets.

5. The undermining of our free economic system.

6. Several hundred million dollars of storage and handling costs on embargoed grain.

7. The creation of huge grain surpluses.

'The Soviets are surely laughing at us," Dole said. 'They are now going to buy wheat and corn on the world market at a cheaper price. President Carter has wounded America more than he has hurt the Soviet Union.

''Our struggle against inflation in this country has been struck a harsh blow. The value of the dollar will decline, the rate of inflation will go up, and the federal budget will rise. Americans will pay dearly for this mistake for years to come.

"The decision by President Carter to have the government buy the grain will not help farmers very much. The grain will still be in America and will be available for sale at a later date. The farmer should be skeptical of claims by the Administration that it will be removed from the marketplace. There is good cause for suspicion that this huge surplus will be held over the market and become a depressant on grain prices."