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DOLE SENDS TELEGRAM TO SEC. KLUTZNICK ON GRAIN EXPORT LICENSES

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R.-Kansas) this weekend sent a telegram to Secretary of Commerce Philip Klutznick urging him to immediately issue the regulations necessary for the issuance of export licenses to American grain companies to sell grain under the fifth year of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. grain agreement.

Dole said, "American grain companies can buy foreign grain and sell to the Soviets but they can't buy American grain to sell to the Soviets under the fifth year of the grain agreement until the regulations are issued. I believe this is not equitable and is hurting the American farmer.

The text of Dole's telegram follows:

"I understand for U.S. exporters to sell grain to the Soviet Union under the fifth year of the grain agreement that export licenses have to be issued by the Department of Commerce.

"I also understand the regulations under which these licenses would have to be issued have not been published yet by the Department of Commerce.

"I also understand Russia will not tender any bids to U.S. exporters until the regulations have been issued, and until they have been notified of them officially by the U.S. government.

"I urge you to issue the regulations immediately and notify the Soviets. U.S. farmers are being hurt by this unnecessary delay. There is also confusion in the grain trade.

"Our exporters can sell foreign grain to the Soviets but cannot sell U.S. grain. This is a terrible competitive disadvantage for the American exporter and farmer. The only people in the world who cannot now sell to the Soviets is the American farmer.

"The Carter Administration announced several weeks ago that the fifth year of the grain agreement would be honored. The export regulations should have been issued immediately."