This press release is from the collections at the Robert J. Dole Archive and Special Collections, University of Kansas

News from Sema topet us with any questions or comments: http://dolearchive.ku.edu/as

BOB DOLE

(R - Kansas) SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-1601

CONTACT: WALT RIKER

(202) 224-5358

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

911188

DOLE SAYS PENDING RUSSIAN GRAIN DEAL COULD BE "DOWNPOUR" FOR MIDWEST

WASHINGTON -- A MAJOR GRAIN DEAL WITH THE SOVIET UNION IS ON THE HORIZON AND THAT'S GOOD NEWS FOR THE MIDWEST ACCORDING TO KANSAS SENATOR BOB DOLE WHO HAS BEEN PUSHING THE ADMINISTRATION TO NEGOTIATE A NEW MULTI-YEAR GRAIN PACT WITH THE USSR.

"I HAVE RECOMMENDED AT LEAST A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF THE CURRENT AGREEMENT, ALTHOUGH THE ADMINISTRATION SHOULD CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR A MULTI-YEAR PLAN," DOLE CONTINUED. "MAKING THE SOVIETS RELY ON OUR AGRICULTURAL BOUNTY WILL HELP KEEP THEM FROM USING THEIR SCARCE RESOURCES FOR OTHER PURPOSES, WHILE AMERICAN WHEAT, CORN AND SOYBEAN FARMERS HARVEST THE BENEFITS."

"IN THE WAKE OF THE DROUGHT, A NEW DEAL FOR MILLIONS OF TONS OF U.S. GRAIN MIGHT SEEM LIKE A DOWNPOUR FOR THE MIDWEST," DOLE SAID TODAY AS HE CONFIRMED THAT THE UNITED STATES IS NEARING AN AGREEMENT WITH ITS SOVIET CUSTOMERS.

"LET'S FACE IT, THE SOVIET UNION'S BAD LUCK ON THE AGRICULTURE FRONT IS GOOD NEWS FOR AMERICAN FARMERS. WE HAVE THE BEST PRODUCT AND THE BIGGEST SURPLUSES, SO IT MAKES GOOD BUSINESS SENSE FOR ALL CONCERNED."

THE CURRENT FIVE YEAR GRAIN AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIET UNION -- WHICH DOLE HELPED BRING ABOUT -- EXPIRES ON SEPTEMBER 30. THE NEW PACT COULD BE WRAPPED-UP IN FOUR WEEKS, EVEN THOUGH DOLE SAYS THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN TRYING TO BACK AWAY FROM CURRENT MINIMUM PURCHASE LEVELS AND COMMITMENTS TO SPECIFIC CROPS.

"WHEN MIKHAIL GORBACHEV PUBLICLY ADMITS FAILURE DOWN ON THE FARM, YOU KNOW THEY HAVE REAL PROBLEMS. THAT'S WHY THE TIME IS RIGHT TO NAIL DOWN A DEAL," DOLE SAID.

"A NEW GRAIN PACT WILL HELP RESTORE UNCLE SAM AS A RELIABLE TRADING PARTNER AND ALSO MOVE US FURTHER AWAY FROM THE FAILED POLICIES OF GRAIN EMB GOES OF THE CARTER YEARS," DOLE CONCLUDED.