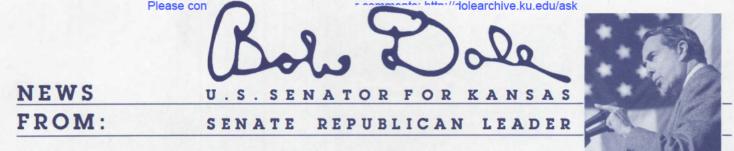
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WHEAT EXPORTS TO CHINA

DOLE CALLS CHINESE AMBASSADOR TO CAPITOL HILL TUESDAY; "IRRESPONSIBLE" THREATS AGAINST U.S. WHEAT UNDERMINE IMPROVED US-CHINA RELATIONS

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) will meet this week with China's Ambassador to the U.S. to demand an end to China's threats to close its markets to American wheat exports. Dole initiated the meeting with Ambassador Zhu Qi-Zhen, which will take place in Dole's Capitol Hill office on Tuesday, September 15th at 11:30 AM.

As the Senate Monday debated continued Most Favored Nation trade status with China, Dole said, "as America makes progress in our battle against foreign trade barriers, I remain concerned about the Chinese failure to give fair access to American wheat exports, including wheat from Kansas. Without question, thoughtless and irresponsible threats by the Chinese undermine the support that exists in the Senate for China's favorable trade status. That's why I'll make it clear to the Ambassador that full access to their markets for American wheat is in the best interests of both our nations."

China has threatened to retaliate against American agricultural exports because of the pending sale of American fighter jets to Taiwan.

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11:30 AM TUESDAY, S-230 U.S. CAPITOL ***A PHOTO-OP WILL PRECEDE THE MEETING*** ***STAKEOUT AT OHIO CLOCK***