



NEWS from
U.S. Senator
Bob Dole

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(R.—Kans.)

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DOLE PROTESTS MONITORING OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURE MOVEMENT
BY ASCS--ASKS SECRETARY BERGLAND TO CLARIFY AND STOP MONITORING

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan) today asked Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland to clarify reports that the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service has been ordered to monitor the activities of the American Agriculture farm strike movement.

In a telegram to Secretary Bergland, Senator Dole said, "Farmers report to me that ASCS employees are sending names, places and dates relating to the strike to your office in Washington."

"I would appreciate an immediate reply about what your office has requested from the ASCS and ask that if the ASCS has been ordered to monitor the American Agriculture Movement that an order be issued immediately to stop this activity."

Following is the full text of Senator Dole's telegram:

Mr. Secretary, I have received calls from farmers concerning reports that the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) has been ordered to monitor the activities of the American Agriculture farm strike movement.

Farmers report to me that ASCS employees are sending names, places and dates relating to the strike to your office in Washington.

This type of unprecedented surveillance activity reminds me of police state tactics and is not appropriate for ASCS employees.

Surely such actions do not foster unity and harmony between farmers and their government.

I don't believe the ASCS monitors other farm organizations activities.

I would appreciate an immediate reply about what your office has requested from the ASCS and ask that if the ASCS has been ordered to monitor the American Agriculture Movement that an order be issued immediately to stop this activity.