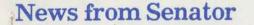
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1981 CONTACT: CATHY PILLION (202) 224-6521

## AGRICULTURE SECRETARY BLOCK ACCEPTS DOLE INVITATION TO TOUR KANSAS

WASHINGTON -- Agriculture Secretary John Block has accepted an invitation from Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.) to tour Kansas October 29 through October 31. The trip to the state is the first for Block since he was appointed secretary of agriculture.

Below is an outline of the locations Secretary Block and Senator Dole are expected to visit during the tour:

<u>Thursday, October 29</u>: Emporia <u>Friday, October 30</u>: Manhattan, Norton, Russell, Dodge City Saturday, October 31: Hutchinson, Independence, Kansas City

A more detailed outline of the schedule will be available later this month.

In addition to individual farmers and farm groups, Block and Dole have planned to meet with representatives of water districts, farm credit coops and land bankers, agriculture business leaders, and nutrition specialists. They will also meet with other business and government leaders in these cities. Kansas congressmen will join the tour at selected points.

Secretary Block will make a special appearance as the Kansas State University's Landon Lecture speaker.

"I am delighted that Kansans will have the opportunity to meet Secretary Block and discuss their concerns with him." Dole said. "I have arranged for meetings during the trip to meet not only with farmers and farm groups, but with those in related farm areas. such as food stamps and nutrition. We look forward to addressing some of the more pressing problems in the agricultural economy today."