

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 1985

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DOLE LEVELS WITH TOP EUROPEAN AG OFFICIAL;
U.S. READY TO TAKE "MORE AGGRESSIVE ACTION" ON FARM TRADE

WASHINGTON -- In a frank breakfast meeting, Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole (R-KS) told the European Community's top agriculture official that the United States is ready to take "more aggressive action" to boost its farm markets overseas.

Dole met with European Community Agriculture Commissioner Frans Andriessen and other EC officials at a morning meeting. The breakfast session was set up by the Kansas Republican.

A key member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Dole expressed "growing concern" over the increasingly strained relationship between the U.S. and Europe over agriculture trade issues.

"I made it clear to these officials that our patience is wearing thin on the expanded use of export subsidies by the EC," Dole said. "Unless our trade picture improves dramatically, the U.S. will be forced to take more aggressive action to make our farm products more competitive overseas."

According to Dole, Commissioner Andriessen indicated that agriculture trade conditions in the EC are similar to those in the U.S., and that while no country will benefit from a trade war, producing for storage is not a long-term solution in agricultural policy either. Dole told Andriessen and the EC Ambassador to the U.S., Sir Roy Denman, that the Senator will keep in touch with them and will continue to communicate the United States' strong feelings on this trade problem.

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EC DELEGATION

Frans H. J. J. Andriessen, Vice President of the EC Commission
responsible for Agriculture (The Netherlands)

Sir Roy Denman, Head of the Delegation of EC Commission (i.e., EC
Ambassador to the US) (UK)

Mr. Guy Legras, Director General of Agriculture for the EC
(Belgium)

Carlo Trojan, Chef de Cabinet (Chief of Staff) to Andriessen
(FRANCE)

Derwent Renshaw, First Secretary of Delegation for Agriculture
(UK)

Robert Whiteman, Head of Congressional Affairs for Delegation
(US)