

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday PM, August 23, 1985

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DOLE SEES EGYPT WHEAT OFFER GOOD FOR KANSAS

Washington, DC -- Kansas Sen. Bob Dole sees the Dept. of Agriculture's sale of 300,000 metric tons of wheat to Egypt as another strong signal that the U.S. will compete against unfair foreign subsidies.

"American farmers must compete against heavily subsidized foreign farmers all the time - and this sale by the USDA is another strong signal to world markets that we don't think much of this unfair competition and are going to take counter actions," said Dole.

"In this instance, Egypt could have easily bought this wheat from nations which are subsidized by the European Economic Community (EEC) to the tune of \$15 or \$20-per-ton," explained Dole. "But our sale, using bonus stock from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) will act as an incentive for U.S. farmers to penetrate markets normally lost as a result of price-cutting by foreign nations. And that's good for Kansas farmers.

Dole said Egypt is the third largest market in the world, and "is too big to just shrug our shoulders and give up." The USDA had offered 500,000 metric tons of wheat to Egypt two months ago. Thus far, the U.S. has offered 2.1 million tons of wheat under the Export Enhancement Program to both Egypt and Algeria.