This press release is from the collections at the Robert J. Dole Archive and Special Collections, University of Kansas. Please contact us with any questions or comments: http://dolearchive.ku.edu/ask

BOB DOLE

243 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING AREA CODE 202 225-2715

> COMMITTEES: AGRICULTURE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

DISTRICT OFFICE: 210 FEDERAL BUILDING HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67501

> WASHINGTON, D. C. OCTOBER 11, 1966

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

	COUNTIES:	
BARBER	HODGEMAN	RAWI
BARTON	JEWELL	RENC
CHEYENNE	KEARNY	REPU
CLARK	KINGMAN	RICE
CLOUD	KIOWA	ROOK
COMANCHE	LANE	RUSH
DECATUR	LINCOLN	RUSS
EDWARDS	LOGAN	SALI
ELLIS	MEADE	SCOT
ELLSWORTH	MITCHELL	SEW/
FINNEY	MORTON	SHER
FORD	NESS	SHER
GOVE	NORTON	SMIT
GRAHAM	OS ORNE	STAF
GRANT	OTTAWA	STAN
GRAY	PAWNEE	STEV
GREELEY	PHILLIPS	THOM
HAMILTON	PRATT	TREG
HARPER		WALL
HASKEL		WICH

FOR RELEASE WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12 AFTER 1 P.M.

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kans) told Members of Congress, in a statement on the House floor today, that there appear to be 4 major reasons for the sharp drop in wheat prices in the past few weeks. "Cash prices," Dole said, "have dropped from 20 to 30 cents per bushel in Kansas and other wheat producing areas.

President Johnson and Secretary of Agriculture, Orville Freeman, have clearly and repeatedly demonstrated their determination to keep the price of farm commodities low. Price depressing actions by this Administration include limiting the export of hides, ordering the military to reduce pork purchases, dumping of Commodity Credit Corporation stocks of wheat and other grain on the open market.

With specific reference to wheat, Dole cited 4 primary reasons for the price drop, as follows:

1. Sharp curtailment of wheat exports under P. L. 480, the Food For Peace Program. Secretary Freeman has not denied a report in the August 2 <u>New York Times</u> or statements by Democrat Senator George McGovern that P. L. 480 shipments would be reduced by nearly 25 percent.

2. Another factor in depressing wheat prices recently has been the tampering with wheat export subsidies. The amount of export subsidies on wheat was always determined by what was necessary to meet the competition of other nations in getting wheat to world markets. There have been periods in the last month when the Department of Agriculture refused to meet competitive foreign prices. This has resulted in a sharp curtailment in wheat shipments to the West Coast, for sales to Japan and other markets in this area. Tampering with export subsidies is discussed in the brochure entitled "1961-1965: The Farmers' Worst Five Years", just published by Frank LeRoux, a \$25,000 per year USDA appointee, and a Democrat, who quit this Administration on October 3 because of its anti-farmer policies.

3. Announcing increases in wheat allotments for 1967, of approximately 33 percent, without positive assurances to American wheat producers that Freeman and the USDA would not beat down the price next year by dumping Commodity Credit stocks.

-OVER-

This press release is from the collections at the Robert J. Dole Archive and Special Collections, University of Kansas Please contact us with any questions or comments: http://dolearchive.ku.edu/ask

BUIG C COE

myress of the United Hi

4. The overriding and major factor in the drop in wheat prices is the widespread recognition that the Johnson Administration is determined to hold down farm prices as a means of combatting inflation resulting from vast expenditures for the war in Vietnam and further aggravated by the tremendous cost of countless multi-billion dollar Great Society programs. This policy has prevented farmers from sharing in inflated prices to the extent that other segments of our economy have.

"It is strange indeed," Dole concluded, "that when the price of bread advanced one to two cents a loaf, Committees in both the House and the Senate held 'urgent' hearings, but when the price of wheat drops 30 cents a bushel, not a single spokesman for the Administration even suggests that Congress investigate the causes. Secretary of Agriculture Freeman continues to issue statements that market prices will remain strong, but at the same time does everything to weaken the market.

"The USDA has become so consumer-oriented that the American farmer, in effect, does not have a Cabinet-level spokesman."

1. Sharp curtailment of theat experts under P. L. 480, the Food For Proce Program. Surveyory Freeman has not dealed a report to the August 2 See York Thea of statements by Democrat Security Reage Reference that P. L. 480 phipments would be reduced by marily 25 percent.

2. Another factor in depressing wheat prices recently hus been the tempering with wheat expert subsidies. The amount of report subsidies on wheat we always determined by what was measured to meet the competition of order matimatic prices when the Department to world mathets. There have been periods in the last mostly down the Department of Apriculture refuned to meet competitive inverses prices. This has respective investiga prices down the Department of Apriculture refuned to meet competitive investiga prices. The same and apprices in the Department of Apriculture refuned to meet competitive investiga prices. This has resulted in a charp cartailment in wheat adopt the forect cont, and the same competitive investiga prices. The same is a different of the same of the boother and the same is the Mont Cont, and the same is properly when the published by Frank failer, a \$25,000 per year USDA appointee, and a price price of the box of the same of the anti-farmer price of the same of the sa

5. Announcing increases in where allotnence for 1967, of approximately 35 percent, without positive assumates to American wheat producers that Freedo and the USM would not heat down the orige mark year by damping Composity Gredit