

BOB DOLE
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
AREA CODE 202
225-2715

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

DISTRICT OFFICE:
101 FEDERAL BUILDING
GREAT BEND, KANSAS 67530
AREA CODE 316
SW 3-3423

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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CONGRESSMAN DOLE REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON FOR RELEASE: WEEK OF MAY 15, 1967

AMERICAN FARMERS AND WORLD FOOD NEED

The Chicago Board of Trade and the nation's agribusiness community last week sponsored the First International Agribusiness Conference in Chicago. Notable experts on world food and population problems met with decision-makers and policy-formers in an open forum to seek solutions to the world food problem.

It was a privilege and pleasure on Thursday, May 11, to participate in a panel on "The Impact of the Food Problem on Food Production, Storage, Marketing, Transportation, and Exports." The main points emphasized in my remarks on "The Impact of World Food Need and Agricultural Exports on the American Farmer" are summarized as follows.

The world population, according to many, is growing faster than its ability to produce food; and while the United States cannot feed the world, it will contribute a large portion of total food available in export channels. The American farmer must and will make a greater contribution toward world food needs; however, he must be compensated adequately for his labor and his investment.

Fair prices in the market place must be recognized and accepted by the public in general and the agribusiness community as an essential ingredient to any solution to the war on hunger. Both P. L. 480 and the Commodity Credit Corporation must be used as instruments to boost domestic farm prices, not to depress them.

The farmer's efforts to increase production of food and food products must be closely associated with business and industry. A profit motivated system must produce the goods. Government, although not a producer, must play a vital role by assisting free enterprise, negotiating with those countries in need, encouraging economic development in underdeveloped countries, and coordinating overall activities.

Finally, accelerated agricultural technical assistance can and should play an important role in meeting rising world food needs. Emphasis must be placed on the development of commercial agricultural exports through private trade channels as the economy in developing nations permits. Strong efforts must be exerted to maintain access for American farm exports in Europe and in developing new markets.