

BOB DOLE
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

243 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 3-5423

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

COUNTIES:		
BARTON	HODGEMAN	RAWLINS
CHEYENNE	JEWELL	REPUBLIC
CLARK	KEARNY	ROOKS
CLOUD	KIOWA	RUSH
DECATUR	LANE	RUSSELL
EDWARDS	LINCOLN	SALINE
ELLIS	LOGAN	SCOTT
ELLSWORTH	MEADE	SEWARD
FINNEY	MITCHELL	SHERIDAN
FORD	MORTON	SHERMAN
GOVE	NESS	SMITH
GRAHAM	NORTON	STAFFORD
GRANT	OSBORNE	STANTON
GRAY	OTTAWA	STEVENS
GREELEY	PAWNEE	THOMAS
HAMILTON	PHILLIPS	TREGO
HASKELL	PRATT	WALLACE
		WICHITA

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, DEC. 4, 1967

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 4 -- Rep. Bob Dole (R-Kans.), a ranking member of the House Agriculture Committee, today charged the Johnson Administration has blocked several efforts to boost farm income.

"The American farmer has been the outcast of The Great Society," Dole said. "The Administration has emphasized urban problems and programs while the plight of the rural American has steadily worsened."

Farm prices are lower than they were 20 years ago, Dole pointed out, although the cost of what the farmer buys has skyrocketed 35 per cent. Net farm income, he said, is at a per capita average of \$1,731 -- 60 per cent below the average urban income.

Farm income is low, Dole said, because the Administration has:

- 1) increased wheat acreage encouraging more production and lowering prices,
- 2) reduced exports under the Food for Peace program, and
- 3) coddled the consumer to assume low farm prices mean low food prices.

add 1
Congressman Dole

Referring to Republican members of the House Livestock and Grains Subcommittee, Dole said, "Time and time again, we have outlined steps to improve farm income, but time and time again, the Administration has ignored our suggestions."

Dole said the subcommittee members have asked Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman to:

- 1) raise the loan rate for wheat from \$1.25 to \$1.40 and the loan rate for corn from \$1.05 to \$1.25,
- 2) direct the Commodity Credit Corporation to pay storage costs for wheat and feed grains on price support loans, and
- 3) require release of CCC stocks at no less than 100 per cent of parity.

"The Secretary has authority to implement these suggestions immediately," Dole said. Additional legislation would not be required, he explained.

Dole said, if enacted, the Administration's "so-called strategic reserve proposal" for wheat, feed grains, soybeans and rice would have permitted Secretary Freeman to further stabilize and manipulate market prices.

Pointing out Freeman never testified in support of the bill before the subcommittee, Dole said, "It is clear the Administration never wanted a truly meaningful reserve bill, but only a political issue."