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ATWOOD, KANS., Oct. 6 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) tonight said he supports voluntary restraints on meat imports "if they continue to protect against substantial import increases."

Dole spoke here at the Rawlins county Farm Bureau dinner.

Noting a recent U.S. Department of Agriculture announcement that fourth quarter meat imports are expected to hold within predicted limits the Senator said "This is a hopeful sign that voluntary restraints are continuing to be effective."

"Voluntary international cooperation is by far and large the preferred method of dealing with export-import questions," he added.

"Unilateral imposition of tariffs, duties and quotas disrupts trade channels and strains relations among countries."