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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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WASHINGTON, D.C., MAR. 13 -- Senator Bob Dole in his statement before the Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee today called the Food for Peace Program one of America's greatest success stories.

In his statement the Senator traced the 19-year history of the Agriculture Trade Development and Assistance Act, now better known as Food for Peace. "The day the Act was signed into law (July 10, 1954) it received only a minimal amount of attention," Dole said. "In retrospect, it has turned out to be one of the most important events of our generation. The change has largely been one of attitude. This program has helped us close some of the gaps between food abundance in surplus producing countries and human hunger in food deficit areas," he added.

Dole urged that in evaluating the Food for Peace Program we should consider the following major benefits at home and abroad:

First, it generates higher income with increased tax receipts.

Second, it increases employment, both rural and non-farm.

Third, it produces CCC inventories and along with that, storage and interest costs.

Fourth, it increases the volume of agriculture commodity processing, especially wheat to flour and soybeans to meal and oil.

And fifth, it improves the health of those who receive the foods and fosters better international relations.