



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 225-6521

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DOLE URGES QUICK ACTION TO AID CATTLE INDUSTRY

CONTACT: JANET ANDERSON

Washington, D. C. -- In a private meeting with the President this afternoon, Senators Bob Dole and Carl Curtis (R-Neb) reported the disastrous effects cattle prices and beef imports are having on cattlemen and farmers across the nation. "The cattle situation has reached crisis proportions in recent months," Dole said.

Dole and Curtis, both members of the Senate Agriculture Committee, stressed three areas of widespread concern--prices, losses and credit. Citing examples of recent prices individual Kansas cattlemen have received, Dole said they have fallen below \$40 per hundred weight for prime steers, causing losses of up to \$200 per head. "Cattlemen and those engaged in feeding cattle are taking such serious losses that they can't pay their bills, and because of alarm on the part of bankers, they are unable to get additional financing."

Recommendations made by Dole and Curtis to the President included action to curb imports of beef. They also suggested a White House Conference that would include representatives of cattlemen, packers and chain stores and others to work on the task of reversing the present situation.

Dole said he had urged early action to limit import quotas. He added that the President seemed well-aware of the situation facing the livestock industry. New quotas must be announced by July 1 when the new quarter begins.

Dole also has a bill pending before the Finance Committee that would halt the import of all beef for 90 days.