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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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FOOD ASSISTANCE HEARINGS TO BE HELD IN DECEMBER

WASHINGTON, D.C.---Senator Bob Dole said today that hearings will be scheduled to study the utilization of surplus food commodities, especially meat and poultry, in the United States overseas assistance programs. The hearings are being scheduled in response to a request made yesterday by Dole, who will be ranking Republican on the Senate Agriculture Committee next year.

Dole said the hearings will include a production analysis and study of what commodities are available and how they might best be used. "Another issue we must study very carefully," Dole added, "is the impact increasing our food relief efforts might have on the rate of inflation." Unless all these factors are considered, we cannot make a valid recommendation on whether or not the U.S. food relief program should be expanded.

In a letter yesterday to Agriculture Committee Chairman Herman Talmadge (D-Ga.), Dole requested the hearings "to consider the ability of this nation to increase its expenditures for the Food for Peace Program." He also urged "that the feasibility of using meat, dairy products and other livestock and poultry products be explored," since there is presently a surplus of livestock and poultry and these industries are suffering disastrous market conditions.

Dole said he expected the hearings to be conducted the second week of December by the Subcommittee on Agricultural Production, Marketing and Stabilization of Prices. The Kansas Senator is a member of that subcommittee.