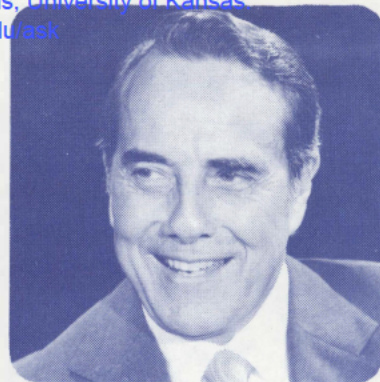


News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

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CONTACT: WALT RIKER,
SCOTT RICHARDSON 202/224-6521

DOLE PUSHES FOR LARGER WHEAT SALES AS US-USSR TALKS ARE ANNOUNCED

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole today hailed Agriculture Secretary John Block's announcement that the U.S. and U.S.S.R. will meet in Washington on November 20-21 for biannual talks called for under the superpowers' long-term grain agreement (LTA). Dole, who led a Congressional trade delegation to Russia in November 1982, was instrumental in getting the countries to renew the grain agreement.

"I am pleased the Administration is going ahead with the scheduled talks with the Soviet Union on our long-term grain agreement," said Dole.

"Ever since President Reagan lifted the Carter grain embargo, the Soviets have returned to our market with vigor. Just this week, the U.S. sold more than one million metric tons of hard red winter wheat to the Soviet Union," said Dole. "It's no secret the Russian grain harvest this year looks like a disaster, so it certainly will be a seller's market. The talks later this month should therefore focus on the President's offer of boosting the contracted 9-12 million ton level by 10 million tons."

"Given the Soviets' needs, and our own large grain surpluses, the U.S. may do well to offer even more tonnage once the consultations get under way. If the Russians begin buying a portion of the 10 million ton figure offered by President Reagan before the talks, we should be ready to offer them even more. I have long advocated an aggressive export policy as one of the real keys to revitalizing the farm economy. So, I'll be watching with great interest when the U.S. and the Soviets meet here in Washington for the latest round of grain talks," said Dole.

Senator Dole is the senior Republican on the Senate Agriculture Committee, and Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, which has jurisdiction over international trade.