

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 28, 1961

From the Office of
Congressman Bob Dole (R. of Kansas)
244 House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

CApitol 4-3121, ext. 2715

Congressman Bob Dole, Republican of Kansas, stated today he had written a letter to Under Secretary of Agriculture, Charles F. Murphy, requesting particulars on a public announcement by him that a Department of Agriculture task force is developing a \$70 million program for relocating and storing government owned "surplus" wheat.

Dole stated, "From the limited information available it appears 213 million bushel of "surplus" government ~~was~~ owned wheat would be moved to 68 urban centers for emergency use in the event of war or other disaster.

"I want to know", Dole said, "all the particulars for the announcement indicates 179 million bushel of the "surplus" grain would come from the Midwest. On the basis of the public announcement it seems rather ridiculous to spend \$70 million when storage and milling facilities are readily available throughout the Midwest. The announcement by Murphy, Chairman of the task force, contains many high sounding ideas but I only hope Murphy recognizes the importance of the grain industry to the Midwest and the possible adverse effects his plan would have if carried out.

"In addition to those employed in the industry who might be affected, the present arrangement is most convenient for farmers and before we spend \$70 million of the taxpayers money to relocate stored wheat, the public is entitled to full and complete details.

"If the plan is sound that is one thing, but if it is merely a dream of some social planner then I want to go into the matter fully not only with the U.S.D.A. but with representatives of the grain industry and farm organization leaders. We are all interested in reducing the so-called "surplus" but this plan would merely shift it from one place to another," Dole stated.

*Called in to Dayton Blair - Associated Press
7/28/61, Topeka, Kansas*