

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Wednesday, August 16, 1961

From the Office of Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kansas)  
244 House Office Building, Washington, D. C.  
CApitol 4-3121, ext. 2715

Bob Dole, 6th District Kansas Republican labeled the plan outlined by Secretary of Agriculture, Orville Freeman, for moving "raw" wheat from the Midwest to urban areas as "a ridiculous one." Dole stated, "Certainly everyone agrees we should maintain a food reserve and make the necessary preparations to protect and sustain our people in the event of enemy attack, however, I am equally certain "raw" wheat would be little more in demand after attack than it is now. Wheat in a bin certainly isn't ready for consumption though perhaps Freeman feels he can "wear the surplus out" by shifting it back and forth. It would also be interesting to know who shall pay the cost of shifting this grain and what part of it is to be borne by the Civil Defense Administration."

Dole stated he knew of no place where wheat could be more widely dispersed than the Midwest and that milling facilities are available in the Midwest and would be less subject to attack than those in urban areas. "I am greatly disturbed with the attitude of the Department of Agriculture, particularly Under Secretary of Agriculture, Charles Murphy, for his complete failure to respond to my letters of July 28 and August 7 concerning this plan. In those letters I asked for detailed particulars concerning the relocation plan and as yet have not even had the courtesy of an acknowledgment of my letters. This appears to be the typical attitude of this Administration which has indicated it believes in Government "off the top of the head" without prior planning or consultation.

Dole concluded, "As a Representative from the largest wheat producing area in the world, I again implore the Secretary to consult with farmers, leaders of farm organizations, and the grain industry before taking action. Consultation could produce beneficial results and some agreement reached concerning "processed wheat" as a reserve rather than "raw" wheat. The Kansas Wheat Commission and the Kansas Wheat Grower's Association have developed a highly palatable wheat product, "Redi-Wheat," which would obviously be more desirable in case of emergency."

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Still waiting to hear from Under Secretary Murphy but thought you might be interested in the latest news release concerning this matter. The President has asked for \$47.3 million in his supplemental appropriations Civil Defense Program to pay relocation costs. If you have