

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From the Office of Congressman Bob Dole
244 House Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

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Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kansas) introduced a resolution today calling for an investigation of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Dole is a member of the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Departmental Oversight and Consumer Relations which has the responsibility of supervising and reviewing the activities of the Department.

Dole stated: "In my opinion, recent developments involving the Deputy Administrator of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Emory E. Jacobs, make it imperative that our subcommittee move rapidly to determine first of all, if charges recently made are valid, and, if so, how widespread they may be."

Recent published reports indicate that Jacobs and perhaps others were accepting expensive gifts from Texas financier, Billie Sol Estes. Last week Jacobs resigned. Just two weeks ago, Jacobs conducted a secret meeting for state ASC officials in Washington.

Dole pointed out that this recent instance was only the culmination of a series of activities which has embroiled the ASCS in a sea of controversy and in a quagmire of politics. Dole recalled that a year ago the local ASC officials were required to swear "loyalty oaths" to the New Frontier farm programs. Later the South Dakota state ASC Committee sponsored an exhibit showing a derailed "free enterprise train". Last week in a secret meeting in Washington the President himself, advised state ASC Committee members to not let their Congressmen get "lonesome". Now we have indications of serious personnel problems.

Dole concluded, "It is unfortunate that at a time when Congress is wrestling with the problem of offering new farm programs for wheat, feed grain, and dairy farmers, that public confidence in this important agency of Government is being undermined by the action of the present Administration. I have, therefore, written to the Chairman of our Committee, Harold Cooley and to Paul Jones, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Departmental Oversight and Consumer Relations suggesting immediate hearings be commenced and that members of this subcommittee conduct this inquiry during the Easter recess."