

PRESS RELEASE FROM THE OFFICE OF
CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE (R-KANSAS)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
MAY 23, 1962

Cong. Bob Dole (R-Kansas) charged "the decision of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to move out the grain it has stored with the Estes elevator interests in West Texas amounts to an admission the grain should not have been stored there in the first instance."

"In an effort to determine the facts concerning this decision to transfer approximately 42 million bushels of government-owned grain from Estes' elevators, I have today written Secretary Freeman," Dole said. The letter to Freeman is set forth in full below:

May 23, 1962

Honorable Orville Freeman
Secretary of Agriculture
Agriculture Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Secretary Freeman:

I have read with interest reports of USDA plans to transfer approximately 42 million bushels of grain from facilities in which Mr. Estes may have had an interest.

It has been reported that this transfer is being made as a matter of "public policy," and without elaboration it is difficult to determine what the public policy may be and in just what manner the public interest is being served. The cost of transferring this grain, as well as the ultimate disposition, is also a matter of great interest and it is difficult to understand the statement that this can be done without cost to the government. I assume some cost was involved in the original movement of this grain to Estes' facilities and that additional "in" and "out" charges and transportation costs will be involved when the Estes elevators are "loaded out." I would, therefore, appreciate a further explanation of the statement purportedly made that since the grain was being moved out over a period of 18 months there would be no additional cost involved.

I have also had inquiries concerning the total amount of grain now actually in storage in the Estes facilities and whether or not all of it can be accounted for. In other words, is there any evidence of any grain shortage and if not, what steps were taken to arrive at this conclusion?

The answers to the questions and any other information which you feel may be pertinent will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

s/ Bob Dole

BOB DOLE, M.C.

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