

Recently I forwarded to you a copy of my letter to Secretary Freeman concerning the shipment of grain from Western Kansas to the West Coast. His reply, received Sept. 24, is loaded with political implications and it occurs to me you might be interested in it.

It graphically illustrates that the leaders of the present Administration are more concerned with politics than in your well-being and the well-being of farmers and agriculture generally. If you have a copy of my letter you will note that the question asked was never answered by Freeman.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
WASHINGTON

September 24, 1962

Honorable Robert Dole
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dole:

Your letter regarding the shipment of wheat produced by Western Kansas wheat farmers to the Pacific coast indicates you have not been keeping abreast of developments in your district. The movement of grain from Western Kansas is being well received by wheat farmers since it is helping to open new and expanding markets for wheat in Japan. This is a new dollar market developed through the cooperative effort of the Western Wheat Associates, Great Plains Wheat, and the Department of Agriculture -- with the assistance and cooperation of Congressman Breeding.

The Department of Agriculture has agreed to maintain a supply of hard red winter wheat on the west coast to further our efforts to develop the Japanese market. Since June 13, about 6 million bushels have been moved to west coast locations. Over 3 million bushels of this wheat has already been sold for export to Japan.

It is estimated that if adequate supplies are maintained at west coast points, Japan may buy as much as 20 million bushels of hard red winter wheat per year. Wheat producer groups have worked hard to develop this market, and they have the full cooperation of this Administration.

I am sure you are aware that many farmers in your district cooperate with these market development groups, and have been highly interested in expanding the cash export markets for wheat. They will be surprised to learn that you advocate storing grain rather than moving it to cash markets in Japan at a time when their promotion efforts are beginning to show results.

The position of this Administration will be to continue to encourage aggressive action to develop new markets and to service those markets when they are open. I am sure Congressman Breeding expresses the view of wheat farmers when he supports their efforts to bring new markets to the wheatfields of Kansas. That position best serves the interest of farmers, and of the merchants and businessmen who know that new markets for the wheat farmer will mean new business for them. In joining with the grain trade to protest the efforts of wheat growers to increase wheat exports, you have taken a most short-sighted position.

Sincerely yours,

s/ Orville L. Freeman

Orville L. Freeman
Secretary