

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 1981

CONTACT: BILL KATS
(202) 224-6521

DOLE APPLAUDS BLOCK RECOMMENDATION FOR ITC CASEIN STUDY

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.), senior member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, today applauded Agriculture Secretary John Block's recommendation that President Reagan order an investigation by the International Trade Commission (ITC) of imported milk proteins, including casein.

Block's recommendation came three weeks after release of a USDA study of casein imports indicating that they may be having an increasing impact on displacement of domestic dairy products, and possibly an adverse impact on the U.S. dairy price support system.

Block's action also made good an Administration promise to Dole and other farm state senators to order an ITC investigation when a similar question was raised during Senate debate in March.

"I am pleased that the Administration has honored its commitment to pursue this matter," Dole said. "The ITC is the appropriate forum in which to explore the casein import matter and to determine whether the President should take immediate action. I look forward to hearing what the ITC may recommend.

"I spoke with Secretary Block following his recommendation to the President, and I assured him that his decision will make Senate floor deliberations on the 1981 farm bill less complicated."