

## News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



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### DOLE HAILS AGREEMENT ON U.S.-SOVIET GRAIN TRADE

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.) hailed today's agreement to extend the current grain supply accord between the United States and the Soviet Union as "an essential first step in normalizing and expanding agricultural trade between our two countries."

Dole added that "the Administration's decision to begin discussions early this fall on the terms of a new long-term agreement with the Soviet Union is fully consistent with the President's commitment to restore our reputation as a reliable supplier of grain to the world market."

Dole's comments came after the announcement by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative that U.S. negotiators, led by Trade Ambassador Bill Brock, had agreed on a one-year extension of the current five-year grain supply arrangement, which expires at the end of September. Dole had actively encouraged an early resumption of the talks, which were held August 3-5 in Vienna, Austria.

The extension will allow the U.S.S.R. to purchase up to eight million metric tons of U.S. wheat and corn, including at least three million tons of each commodity, for shipment in the October 1981-September 1982 period. In addition, both sides agreed to meet again as early as September to begin serious and detailed discussions on the terms of a new long-term agreement, possibly including expanded quantities of wheat, corn and other commodities or processed products.

"The willingness of the United States to meet the Soviets on a strictly business basis and to conclude this agreement represents the true end of the partial grain embargo imposed by the last Administration," Dole said. "I commend Ambassador Brock and the other members of the U.S. negotiating team, and trust that this occasion will be only the first in a series of actions to develop the full potential of international markets for U.S. agricultural exports."