

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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## DOLE SUPPORTS U.S. POSITION ON HIGHER LTA GUARANTEES

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.) today gave his "unequivocal support" to efforts by U.S. negotiators to include a higher guaranteed minimum level of grain in a new long-term agreement (LTA) on U.S.-Soviet agricultural trade.

"I can't see why we would spend two years to get to the point of negotiating a new LTA only to accept an outdated level of Soviet grain purchases," Dole stated. "My impression has always been that the Russians are prepared to be reliable customers, not residual customers, for U.S. corn and wheat exports."

Dole's comments followed a top-level briefing on the negotiations from Deputy Trade Representative Robert E. Lighthizer, who heads the U.S. delegation to the LTA talks. The meeting in Dole's Washington office was also attended by Senators from other key midwestern grain states.

The negotiations, which began in London on June 2 and continued in Moscow on June 20-22, are scheduled for a third round in Vienna, Austria, on July 26-27.

Dole concluded that "the fact that agreement hasn't been reached comes as no great surprise. After all, both sides haven't been talking that much in the last three or four years and they may still be a little rusty."