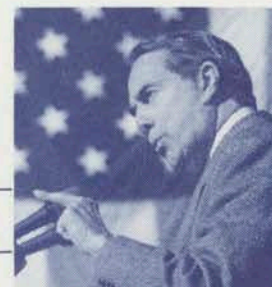


Attn: Agr. reporters

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 17, 1991

CONTACT: WALT RIKER
(202) 224-5358

SOVIET FOOD CREDITS

DOLE MEETS SOVIET TRADE REPS: URGES SPEEDY NEGOTIATIONS ALONG WITH WHEAT PURCHASES

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-KS) met today with top Soviet trade representatives to discuss the recently approved \$1.5 billion U.S. agriculture credit offer to the food-strapped USSR.

The visiting Soviet trade reps met with Senator Dole in his U.S. Capitol Leadership Office, where they thanked him for the role he played in helping make the historic credit offer possible. Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa was also in the conference.

Meeting with the Senators were Robert Ruzanov, USSR Trade Representative, and Igor Bassos, Deputy Trade Representative.

Dole was the author of a senate resolution calling for the Bush Administration to extend the credit offer, a resolution the Soviets said today was an essential element in the credit agreement.

"I am pleased the negotiations are moving along, and that Kansas commodities such as wheat, corn and beans will be included, but I emphasized that the final details must be hammered out quickly, which would be in the best interests of both sides," Dole said.

"I also urged the Soviets to use the credit extension as a way to fulfill their obligations to purchase more wheat under the current long term grain agreement between our two countries. The Soviets assured me that wheat was definitely in their plans."

Dole also announced that he would meet again on the Soviet credit package this Thursday, this time with Mr. Fedor Senko, Deputy Prime Minister of the Soviet Union, and Mr. Yuri Chumakov, the Soviet Union's Deputy Foreign Trade Minister.

###