

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE  
BOGUE CHEESE - A - RAMA  
TOWNSHIP HALL  
BOGUE, KANSAS  
SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1974

IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO GET BACK TO MY HOME DISTRICT AND TO SEE OLD FRIENDS. I'M PROUD OF THE BIG FIRST AND WESTERN KANSAS. THE NATION IS PROUD OF IT TOO, FOR NOW MORE THAN EVER THE PEOPLE OF THIS NATION AND THE WORLD ARE BECOMING AWARE THAT MUCH OF THE BEEF, THE WHEAT, AND THE CHEESE THEY ENJOY COMES FROM BOGUE, FROM GRAHAM COUNTY, ROOKS OR RUSSELL COUNTY. THEY ARE BEGINNING TO APPRECIATE THE CONTRIBUTION OF COMMUNITIES LIKE THIS IN WESTERN KANSAS AND OTHER STATES. THE PEOPLE OF THIS NATION AND THE WORLD NOW HAVE A BETTER APPRECIATION FOR THE AMERICAN FARMER, FOR THE KANSAS FARMER AND HIS ABILITY TO PRODUCE FOOD OF ALL KINDS.

EXPANDED MARKETS -- SHRUNKEN WORLD

OUR FARMERS NO LONGER MARKET JUST TO THEIR NEIGHBORING TOWNS OR CITIES. NO LONGER IS THE PRICE THEY RECEIVE DETERMINED BY LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCES. TODAY, THEIR MARKETS EXTEND TO ALL CORNERS OF THE EARTH, AND CHANGES THAT OCCUR ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD CAN EFFECT THEM AND THEIR BASIC WELL-BEING.

IN THIS AGE OF MORE AND MORE PEOPLE LOOKING FOR SUBSIDIES, GRANTS AND OUTRIGHT HANDOUTS, IT IS REASSURING TO SEE THAT FARMERS ARE NOT TURNING TO THEIR GOVERNMENT FOR GIVEAWAYS. INSTEAD THEY ARE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF EXPANDED WORLD MARKETS AND ARE IMPROVING THEIR INCOMES ON THE BASIS OF THEIR OWN PRODUCTIVITY. THE PROTEIN DEMAND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD PRESENTS A CHALLENGE TO THE FARMERS OF THIS NATION, BUT IT IS ALSO A GREAT OPPORTUNITY WHICH I AM CONFIDENT THEY WILL GRASP.

NO BURDEN

FOR TOO MANY YEARS THE AMERICAN FARMER HAS BEEN PORTRAYED AS A BURDEN TO THE TAXPAYER DUE TO SUBSIDY PROGRAMS. IN THE PAST FEW YEARS, HOWEVER, MANY CONSUMERS HAVE FOUND THAT IT WAS THEY WHO WERE SUBSIDIZED -- AND AT THE FARMERS EXPENSE. MANY MORE HOUSEWIVES NOW REALIZE THAT IF THEY WANT THE GOOD QUALITY FOOD THEY HAVE TO PAY A COMPETITIVE PRICE TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT INCENTIVE FOR FARMERS TO PRODUCE.

NO, AGRICULTURE IS NOT A LAGGARD; IT IS NOT A BURDEN. IT OWES NO APOLOGIES. IT IS NOT HOLDING AMERICA BACK! IT IS IN THE FOREFRONT OF THE STRUGGLE FOR A BETTER WORLD. IT IS WHAT IS PROPELLING AMERICA FORWARD AND IT IS ABOUT TIME THAT ALL AMERICANS UNDERSTOOD THIS.

EV

BARGAIN

EVEN AT TODAY'S PRICES, THE AVERAGE AMERICAN FAMILY SPENDS ONLY ABOUT 17 CENTS OUT OF ITS SPENDABLE DOLLAR OF INCOME, COMPARED WITH 27 CENTS IN 1947.

OUTPUT PER MAN HOUR ON THE FARM IS 3.3 TIMES HIGHER THAN 20 YEARS AGO, WHILE IN THE BIG MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES THE OUTPUT PER MANHOUR IS ONLY 1.6 TIMES GREATER THAN 20 YEARS AGO.

BASIS OF STRENGTH

YOU ALL KNOW THE STORY OF OUR EXPORT GROWTH OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES. IN A CRITICAL PERIOD EXPORTS SALES REVERSED OUR BALANCE OF TRADE. AND THE STRENGTH OF THE AMERICAN ECONOMY IN THE FASE OF THE ENERGY CRISIS AND ALL ITS RELATED DIFFICULTIES HAS CERTAINLY BEEN A BIG FACTOR IN SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER'S SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS FOR PEACE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. HE DEALS FROM STRENGTH IN HIS NEGOTIATIONS AND A GOOD DEAL OF THAT STRENGTH LIES IN THE PRODUCTIVE VITALITY OF AMERICA'S FARMERS.

SO I SALUTE YOU TODAY. I SALUTE BOGUE, GRAHAM COUNTY AND EVERYONE IN IT -- FOR BOGUE AND GRAHAM COUNTIES ARE AGRICULTURE -- AND AGRICULTURE IS MUCH OF WHAT IS MAKING AMERICA GREATER TODAY!