

The original documents are located in Box 43, folder “1975/04/15 - John Olson, Chuck Tyson and James Abdnor” of the James M. Cannon Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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4:30 PM

~~5:00~~ - Meeting with John Olson Chairman
Republican State Committee
South Dakota Mr. Chuck Tyson
(?) Congressman James Abdnor

Tuesday, April 15, 1975

[April 1975]

Telegram

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TO: President Gerald R. Ford	<input type="checkbox"/> (EOA)
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STREET ADDRESS The White House	<input type="checkbox"/> (EOA)
CITY, STATE, ZIP OR COUNTRY Washington, D. C. 20515	<input type="checkbox"/> (EOA)

We are distressed at the suggestion that an increase in meat imports may be receiving consideration in the State Department. As you know, our nation's livestock industry has been struck as severely by the destructive forces of inflation and for a longer period of time by the equally destructive pressures of recession than nearly any other segment of our economy. It is unthinkable that in this extremely difficult time for our livestock producers that their economic well-being, indeed their economic survival, would be traded away for the political expediency of pacifying a foreign government.

It has been our hope that the ongoing negotiations with regard to voluntary restraints would lead to reduced meat imports. It is our firm belief that the current state of our domestic livestock industry merits and demands such reductions. In any case, however, we remain confident in your resolve to honor the pledge which you made in Sioux City, Iowa, to invoke the statutory quotas if meat imports threaten to surpass the "trigger point."

For the sake of millions of farm families, we urge your immediate action in

SENDER'S NAME	STREET ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP
TEL OR ACC. NO.	OWNER SIGN.	DATE
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NOTE: SHADDED AREAS FOR OFFICE USE ONLY.



Telegram

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scupling any idea State Department negotiators may have with regard to increased meat imports. No trade concession can justify the economic consequences the dumping of increased foreign meat on our markets would bring. Your support in directing the State Department to continue to negotiate for lower meat imports will, in the long run, contribute to the well-being of both consumers and producers.

JAMES ABDNOR, Member of Congress

LARRY PRESSLER, Member of Congress

(SP) (SP)

SIGNATURE			COL		
SENDER'S NAME		STREET ADDRESS		CITY, STATE, ZIP	
JAMES ABDNOR		1227 LHOB		Washington, D. C. 20515	
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COUNCIL ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

April 8, 1975

Dear Congressman Abdnor:

This is in further reply to your communication concerning U.S. meat imports.

On October 31, 1974, in Sioux City, Iowa, the President promised to either impose quotas or negotiate voluntary export restraint agreements with foreign suppliers if imports of meat subject to the Meat Import Law threatened to pick up markedly during 1975 and the Agriculture Department's estimate of 1975 imports exceeds the trigger level under the Meat Import Law. The President acted to fulfill that promise in December when he instructed the State Department to negotiate voluntary restraint agreements. While some difficulties have been encountered, the State Department is close to completing these negotiations.

In his second quarterly estimate, the Secretary of Agriculture estimated 1975 imports of meat subject to the Meat Import Law at 1,180 million pounds. This estimate takes into account progress made by the Department of State in negotiating voluntary restraint agreements. The difference between the estimated level of imports under the voluntary restraint agreements and the adjusted base quantity for 1975 will be less than 0.6 percent of total U.S. beef production. Imports will be at least 10 percent below imports in 1972 and 1973. It should be noted that 1974 imports were below trend and 20 percent below 1973. Without Presidential action, 1975 imports would very likely have been considerably above the 1972-73 levels.

Since the level of imports will not be significantly different whether achieved by voluntary restraints or mandatory quotas, it is greatly preferable to achieve the goal by voluntary restraints. Imposition of the quotas could be considered a technical violation of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs, a violation which would damage our overall trade relations with other countries at a time when good relations are so important to the success of the multilateral trade negotiations. Imposition of mandatory quotas would prejudice the free-trade stance of the U.S. in the MTN, and would undermine U.S. efforts to persuade other major beef importers

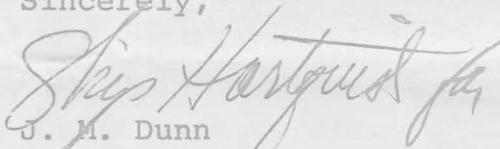


to remove their quotas or beef import bans. Voluntary restraints also remove the possibility of retaliation by other countries which could impair U.S. agricultural exports, including many items of importance to the U.S. livestock industry such as breeding cattle, hides and skins, and variety meats. U.S. exports of animals and animal products totaled \$1.8 billion in 1974 and are an important source of earnings for the U.S. livestock industry.

In further fulfillment of the President's commitment, the Council on Wage and Price Stability has been engaged in a study of farm-retail price spreads. The final report is expected to be issued in the next few weeks.

We share your concern about the difficult times facing the U.S. livestock industry. We believe that the approximately 30 percent projected increase in feed grain production this year, as well as the Administration's program to stimulate aggregate demand, provide the best hope for relief to the U.S. livestock industry.

Sincerely,


J. M. Dunn
Acting Executive Director

The Honorable James Abdnor
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515



5PM Tuesday

April 7, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO: JIM CANNON

FROM: JACK CALKINS

Donalds in (A.D.C.)

On April 16 John Olson, new Chairman of the Republican State Committee of South Dakota, and his Executive Director, Chuck Tyson, will be in Washington and would like an appointment with "someone at the White House to whom we can talk about agriculture." They are interested in getting across their ideas which have political as well as agrarian implications, and they wish to publicize the fact that they have talked with a high official at the White House on this subject. I assume this would be Mike Duval or someone else on the Domestic Council Staff who you would designate. Or perhaps yourself, now that you have such an exalted position and are, in addition, the proprietor of an agricultural enterprise in Upstate New York?

I would appreciate it if whomever will receive these two gentlemen, will telephone Chuck Tyson at (605) 224-7347 to make firm arrangements for the morning of Wednesday, April 16.

Many thanks.

cc: RTH

JTC:rg

They will call Monday

5PM as so

632-2484

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten initials]

(605) 224-2719 Olson
Headquarters



Schedule
4/15/75

Cannon
meeting
file

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 7, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO: JIM CANNON

FROM: JACK CALKINS *W*

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Many thanks.

cc: RTH



[4/15/75]

Delay inputs of Beef would
help farm structure in
their area —

When is the problem
we looking into it

Rep
July

Beef inputs
Finance

Food

