

3-28-1969

## Correspondence, Jim Buck Ross, John C. Stennis, James A. Graham, March 1969

John Cornelius Stennis

Jim Buck Ross

James A. Graham

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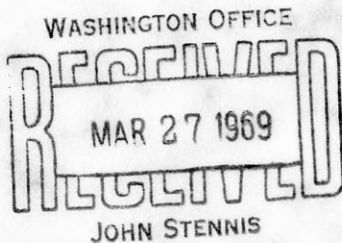
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THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE  
JACKSON  
39205

JIM BUCK ROSS  
COMMISSIONER

P. O. Box 1609  
Jackson, Miss. 39205  
March 25, 1969



Senator John C. Stennis  
Room 5213, Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Stennis:

For your information I am enclosing copies of letters, with mailing lists, that I have written in an effort to help our cotton producers.

All of the Commissioners of Agriculture in the southern states, as well as in Arizona, California and New Mexico, have joined forces to prevail upon Secretary of Agriculture Hardin to change CCC policies so that CCC will work with, instead of against, the cotton producer at the market place and at market time.

I hope that this will meet with your approval.

Yours very truly,

Jim Buck Ross  
Commissioner

JBR/mlf  
Encl.



THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE  
JACKSON  
39205

JIM BUCK ROSS  
COMMISSIONER

P. O. Box 1609  
Jackson, Miss. 39205  
March 21, 1969

See attached list

Commissioner Jim Graham and I have discussed the desirability of our Association members supporting our cotton producers across the cotton belt in their efforts toward obtaining a revision of CCC loan and re-sale policies for cotton.

In discussing the problems posed by CCC's handling of take-over and re-sale of 1968 loan stocks, we agreed that a continuation of present policies would very materially reduce producer income from 1968 loan cotton and lower off-take and market prices for the 1969 and subsequent crops.

Secretary of Agriculture Hardin has promised an early announcement of the new administration's cotton loan and sales policies. Cotton producers have prepared an analysis of the problems created by present policies and made recommendations for improvement. In the interest of time, Commissioner Graham has asked me to mail a copy of the material prepared by the Beltwide Cotton Producers Committee to each of you.

I am also enclosing two letters- one from Mr. L. D. Anderson, Chairman of the AdHoc Producer Committee, to Congressman Mahon, and one from Mr. B. F. Smith, Executive Vice President of Delta Council, to Congressman Poage, which will give you additional insight into the cotton producers' request.

Cotton producers in Mississippi, as in your state, have been disappointed in their efforts to market their crop. It appears to me the policy changes regarding CCC price supports program for cotton are desirable. The policy change which the Producer Committee recommends should permit orderly marketing of each cotton crop and add to producer income from cotton.

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March 21, 1969

We are asking your support for the Beltwide Cotton Producers' requests which are as follows: (1) extension of 1968 cotton loans by CCC, (2) provide future loans for 14 months from the date the loan is made, and (3) discontinue sales of cotton owned by CCC at less than 110 percent of the loan level plus normal carrying charges.

I sincerely hope you will take whatever action you feel appropriate in supporting these producer requests.

Yours very truly,

Jim Buck Ross  
Commissioner

JBR/mlf  
Encl.

JOHN C. STENNIS, MISS., CHAIRMAN  
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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

March 28, 1969

Honorable Jim Buck Ross  
Commissioner  
Department of Agriculture and Commerce  
P. O. Box 1609  
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Dear Jim Buck:

This will acknowledge your letter of March 25 enclosing copies of letters and other material regarding attempts to obtain a revision of the CCC loan and resale policies for cotton.

Jim Buck, I think the proposed revision is mighty sound and I do hope we can prevail upon the Secretary of Agriculture to make a change. I think it would help orderly marketing practices a great deal and be of substantial benefit to our farmers.

A group representing our producers were here yesterday, and I had an opportunity to talk with Frank Brumfield and others about it. Also, the group met with the Secretary of Agriculture about it. Although I could not attend the meeting personally because of previously scheduled hearings over which I was presiding, Eph Cresswell of my staff attended the meeting and advised the Secretary of my strong interest.

I do hope that favorable action will be taken, and you can count on me to continue to do everything I can to help.

With warm regards and best wishes, I am

Your friend,

John Stennis  
United States Senator

JS:cb

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Cotton

File  
NADPA  
Cotton



State of North Carolina

Department of Agriculture

Raleigh

March 21, 1969

JAMES A. GRAHAM  
COMMISSIONER

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Honorable James Ross  
Commissioner of Agriculture  
Department of Agriculture and Commerce  
P. O. Box 1609  
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Dear Commissioner Ross:

Cotton marketing is facing a situation which has me deeply concerned. The cycling of cotton through the CCC Inventories for this year's high quality crop instead of moving through regular market channels, indicates to me that this trend will continue as a marketing necessity unless changes are made in the rules under which CCC Inventory is sold. I am sure that this same situation faces the cotton producers in your state.

The loan and resale policies for 1968 and subsequent years are under review by USDA and Secretary Hardin.

One of the glaring short comings of CCC resale provisions has been the massive sales of CCC stock cotton almost immediately following the August 1 take over date for loan cotton. This action makes this cotton available in the face of new crop cotton, and tends to drastically depress the demand for, and the price of, cotton which the producer wants and needs to sell on the open market.

The Beltwide Cotton Producers Committee has formulated a program which I feel will do much in correcting this situation. Their program would do the following: (1) extend the 1968 cotton loans by CCC, (2) provide future loans for 14 months from the date (anniversary date) on which the loan is made, and (3) discontinue sales of cotton at less than 110 percent of the 1969 loan level plus normal carrying charges.

Honorable James Ross  
March 21, 1969  
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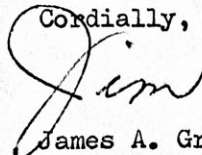
Secretary Hardin has announced a minimum resale price of soybeans of 110 percent of the 1969 crop price plus carrying charges as a means of helping support producer income. Since this is one of the main objectives of the cotton producer recommendations, such a policy as it relates to cotton would be following a precedent already promulgated by the Secretary.

I have discussed this matter at length with Commissioner Jim Buck Ross of Mississippi and have asked him to forward information prepared by the Beltwide Committee of Cotton Producers which analyzes the problem and their solution to it. I think that it is important to have producers help to formulate a program, instead of having to live with a program which they have no part in preparing, but with which they must live with and as a result face, in many instances, an economic loss.

I am urging Secretary Hardin to accept the recommendations of the Producer Group. I urge you to review the literature which Commissioner Ross is mailing you today, and to make known to Secretary Hardin your thoughts on this matter at your earliest convenience.

I would appreciate your advising me of your action in this matter.

Cordially,



James A. Graham

JAG/plp