



## Dole's Milk Role

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Dole was fully aware at the time that the dairymen were lobbying the White House for substantial milk subsidies and other favors that eventually cost the taxpayers millions.

The subsidies helped bring about President Nixon's resignation, led to ex-Treasury Secretary Connally's trial and acquittal, and smeared both Democrats and Republicans with charges of accepting dirty money.

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**D**OLE'S PART in the scandal, however, has remained virtually unexplored. But now, we have unearthed a White House memo that shows Dole twisted the arm of White House staff chief H. R. Haldeman on behalf of the dairymen.

The crucial memo, stamped "Confidential" and dated Feb. 2, 1971, is from Haldeman to White House aide Chuck Colson. It tells how Dole tried to get the milk money flowing.

Haldeman confided in the memo that Dole, then the Republican national chairman, "sent me a note at the cabinet meeting (in early 1971) regarding the milk producers and apparently

he is being pressured by them.

"They have told him that they are unable to work out a means of getting their activity going regarding their support for us. Would you please get in touch with Dole and follow up on this?"

The Dole note, according to one of those with knowledge of its contents, said, in effect, "Get off the stick. Why can't they (the milk producers) find anyone (at the White House) to deal with?"

In addition to penning the note, Dole "went back and forth . . . on behalf of the milk producers" with White House aides, according to a White House official who was involved in the milk deal.

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**W**E TRIED to talk with Dole, but he didn't return our calls. However, a spokesman said that Dole "wasn't involved in the milk price decisions," and made at most only a few appeals to the White House.

The spokesman quoted Dole as saying the milk producers "wanted to support the President and I passed the word along to the White House." Dole conceded he was aware that the dairy groups wanted price increases, "but that's what they always want." Dole said he couldn't remember sending a memo to the White House on the dairymen's behalf.