

10-2-1975

## Letters Exchanged Between Constituent, G. Rives Neblett and Congressman David R. Bowen, October 1975

G. Rives Neblett

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G. RIVES NEBLETT

ATTORNEY AT LAW

P. O. BOX 63

SHELBY, MISSISSIPPI 38774

October 2, 1975

SHELBY

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CLARKSDALE

(601) 627-2812

OCT 6 1975

Representative David R. Bowen  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Representative Bowen:

We, as Mississippi farmers, are very disturbed about the Ford administration's attitude toward agriculture, and personally feel that it is wrong for George Meany to assist in running the Department of Agriculture. We, as farmers, have been encouraged to place our land in full production, and after doing so, we are only faced with export controls to drive our prices down and eliminate the possibility of making a reasonable profit. We, of course, have suffered adverse weather conditions in Mississippi and are hopefully looking for an increase in commodity prices to make up the loss in yield.

It is now time for us to plan for 1976, but as of yet, we do not know whether rice allotments will be opened. We cannot contract for wells, build flume pads, dig the necessary ditches to adequately drain the fields, or build the necessary farm storage to handle the rice production. It is not fair for the government to expect the farmer to produce an adequate supply of food and then wait until the last minute to give him any indication as to governmental policies so that a reasonable decision-making process can be implemented.

If there is anything that I can do to assist you as a congressman in making the present administration aware of what is happening, please let me know.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

  
Rives Neblett

RN/su

cc: Mr. Earl Butz, Secretary of Agriculture  
Washington, D. C.

AGR COMM: Oilseeds and Rice  
(G. Rives Neblett)

October 7, 1975

Mr. G. Rives Neblett  
Attorney at Law  
P. O. Box 53  
Shelby, Mississippi 38774

Dear Rives:

Reference is made to your letter of October 2 regarding the Ford Administration's export controls on our agricultural commodities.

I share your concern over this distressing situation. I frankly cannot understand the logic of the Administration's thinking. We are supposed to be producing crops for the market according to official U.S.D.A. policy. It seems to me that a market-oriented agriculture calls for full and free access to both domestic and foreign markets which is obviously not the case at the moment.

I have pleaded with Administration officials to lift the export controls and fervently hope that they will pursue this course of action in the immediate future.

With regard to the rice crop, I can only say that I have been pushing for committee action on my Rice Production Act of 1975 which was approved by the Rice and Oilseeds Subcommittee in June. I am happy to report to you that the full committee plans to take up the bill on October 21 and 22. We hope to have it brought before the House of Representatives sometime in November. You can be assured that I shall do everything in my power to prevail upon my colleagues to support the bill.

JHH/ft

I am glad that you have sent a copy of your letter to me to Secretary Butz.

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I appreciate your writing to me to express your feelings and the feelings of the surrounding farmers toward this agricultural matters.

With kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

DAVID R. BOWEN  
Member of Congress