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# 127 Ag Department Hikes Sugar Quota

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Agriculture Department announced Tuesday an increase of 100,000 tons in the 1972 sugar quota, raising to 11.9 million tons the amount of raw sugar expected to be required by the United States this year.

It was the third increase this month. The series began with a 400,000-ton boost on Jan. 5, followed with another increase of 100,000 tons on Jan. 14.

Officials said the Sugar Act requires quota adjustments any time the average price of raw

sugar exceeds by three per cent an "objective" or guideline figure specified by a formula in the law for seven consecutive marketing days.

The announcement said the objective price was 8.75 cents per pound. The average price for raw sugar delivered at New York, was 9.04 cents for the seven-day period ended Jan. 24.

The net effect of Tuesday's action was an increase of 17,333 tons in the 1972 quota for U.S. mainland sugar cane areas. The quotas of foreign countries were raised by 82,667 tons.

Normally, U.S. sugar beets areas would have received 47,667 tons of the total boost. Officials said, however, that domestic beet areas would not be able to supply the additional sugar so the tonnage was prorated among foreign suppliers.