BOB DOLE

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DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA OCTOBER 14, 1965

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Congressman Bob Dole was the principal speaker tonight in Durham, North Carolina, at a dinner celebrating the 75th birthday of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The "Happy Birthday, Ike" Dinner in Durham was one of 41 held throughout the country as a tribute to the American number one Republican.

Congressman Dole stated: "To fully understand the achievements of the eight Eisenhower years, it's only necessary to look back to January, 1953, when he came into office as the first Republican president in 20 years."

"On the international scene, the "Cold War" was at its height; American and Communist forces were locked in combat in Korea; the Red Chinese were threatening an invasion of Formosa; Iranian oil was a bubbling dispute in the Middle East; and the Communists were getting a toe-hold in Guatemala, the first in this hemisphere.

"Domestically, the country was divided over charges and countercharges of Communism in government; evidences of corruption in high places continued to surface; and the threat of inflation hung like a Damocles sword over our economy.

"In the short span of eight years, under Ike's leadership, the fighting in Korea was halted; a defense line was drawn in the Formosa Straits which resulted in a de facto cease fire in that area; the Iranian issue was resolved in favor of the West, and the Communist government which had taken over Guatemala was ousted by one favorable to the United States.

"Perhaps the best way to sum up Eisenhower's achievements is to note that his leadership restored to the country a sense of decency, honesty and sanity internally and respect, prestige and goodwill internationally. He instilled in the nation a sense of morality and fair play, enabling the great issues of the day to be debated rationally and calmly -- which, is after all, the first step toward finding solutions. By the force of his personality, he lifted America back into a position of esteem and leadership in the world as a peace-loving nation and defender of freedom.

"As General Eisenhower observes his 75th birthday, he can look back over his years of public service with great satisfaction. For one thing, although he's not likely to claim it, he has a long line of established credit to draw on from the American people.

The debt owed Dwight D. Eisenhower, in short, will be hard to repay."

Congressman Dole told the North Carolina Republicans that while he was not so naive as to believe that his remarks would be so compelling as to cause any of them to alter a particular viewpoint he was bold enough to suggest, "that if the Republican Party is to serve the nation, if constitutional government is to survive, if free enterprise is to continue to provide us with adequate goods and services, it is first required that this political instrument in whose service we have enlisted, accept and then articulate with boldness and vigor a political philosophy so easily understood, so crystal clear in all its manifestations as to permit the American people to recognize us for what we truly are."

"Republicans are opposed to socialism and so, indeed, are the majority of the people of the United States.

"Republicans have reverence for the Constitution and so, indeed, does the majority of the United States.

"Republicans recognize that as governments increased in size and cost, the sovereignty of the individual is diminished and there develops a dangerous concentration of power in the hands of government. And so, indeed, does the majority of the people of the United States.

"Republicans believe the federal government was created to 'form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.'" Congressman Dole suggested the majority of the people of the United States accept this language from the Preamble of the Constitution as an adequate description of what they desire in the federal government.