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COMMITTEES; AGRICULTURE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

DISTRICT OFFICE: 210 FEDERAL BUILDING HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67501

Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

April 25, 1966

BARBER
BARTON
CHEVENNE
CLARK
CLOUD
COMANCHE
DECATUR
EDWARDS
ELLIS
ELLIS
ELLISWORTH
FINNEY
FORD
GOVE
GRAHAM
GRANT
GRAY
HAMILTON
HARPER
HASKEL

COUNTIES:
HODGEMAN
JEWELL
KEARNY
KIDWA
LANE
LINCOLN
LOGAN
MEADE
MITCHELL
MORTON
NESS
NORTON
OSBORNE
OTTAWA
PAWNEE
PHILLIPS
PRATT

COUNTIES:

For Immediate Release

Washington-Rep. Bob Dole appeared Monday before the Public Works subcommittee on appropriations in support of budget recommendations for 1967 with reference to the following projects in his congressional district:

- 1. Almena Unit Completion of minimum health and safety facilities at the Norton Reservoir is proposed during fiscal year 1967 and the major portions of the \$2,050,000 recommended will be used for construction of the Almena diversion dam. The Almena canal laterals and drains will be completed.
- 2. Glen Elder Unit The budget recommendation for the Glen Elder Unit is \$13,500,000 for fiscal 1967. This will permit continued construction of the dam and cover costs of relocating state and county roads. Dike work at Cawker City and Downs, as well as continued construction on various drains and levees and other activities, are also contemplated under this appropriation.
- 3. Boswick Unit Budget includes \$375,000 for construction of the Courtland Pump No. 3 and completion of associated canals and laterals. This sum will also permit continuation of earth lining on canals and sub-surface drains, all but \$100,000 of this appropriation will be spent in Kansas.
- 4. Cow Creek, Hutchinson \$120,000 is requested for advanced engineering and design by the Corps of Army Engineers on flood protection work in the vicinity of Hutchinson.
- 5. Dodge City flood protection project Budget contains an item of \$75,000 to initiate engineering and design studies to afford local flood protections for Dodge City which suffered so heavily as a result of the June 1965 floods along the Arkansas River.

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- 6. Hays flood protection project The City of Hays has suffered extensively the result of recurring floods over the past 15 years and the \$50,000 contained in the budget will be used for continued engineering work leading to a hoped for solution to this threat.
- 7. Arkansas River, Great Bend, Kans. to John Martin Dm, Colo. -During the devasting flood along the Arkansas River in June, 1965, millions of dollars damage was inflicted to hundreds of farms and numerous towns likewise suffered extensively. For several years the Corps of Engineers has engaged in limited investigation aimed at finding a satisfactory solution to this recurring threat. The budget contains an item of \$80,000 to continue these investigations and I am informed the Bureau of Reclamation has requested \$30,000 to complement the activities of the Corps. In as much as it seems imperative that these investigations are accelerated so that adequate protection measures may be realized at the earliest possible time, I have asked the Office of Director of Civil Works Office of the Chief of Engineers to advise me as to the capabilities to use funds in excess of the amount contained in the budget. In response to my inquiry I have learned the Corps would effectively use an additional \$10,000. Therefore the committee is urged to provide \$90,000 for general investigation for the section of the Arkansas River from Great Bend, Kansas, to John Martin Dam, Colorado. The importance of this request cannot be over-emphasized. On June 25, 1965, a special sub-committee of the House Public Works Committee viewed first hand the devastation resulting from this catastrophe. Committee members toured the areas affected and can attest to the damages and will agree to the urgency for providing protective measures at the earliest possible time.

(Congressman Dole pointed out that visits to areas suffering the greatest flood damage to farm land have convinced him that the growth of willows and other vegetation and debris in the river bed was a significant contributing cause for flood water being diverted from the main channel and consequently inundating and eroding valuable adjoining farm land.