This press release is from the collections at the Robert J. Dole Archive and Special Collections, University of Kansas.

BOB DOLE Please contact us with any questions or comments: http://dolearchive.ku.edu/ask

CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING AREA CODE 202 225-2715

1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
DISTRICT OFFICE:

101 FEDERAL BUILDING GREAT BEND, KANSAS 67530

GREAT BEND, KANSAS

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

BARTON
CHEYENNE
CLARK
CLOUD
DECATUR
EDWARDS
ELLIS
ELLIS
ELLSWORTH
FINNEY
FORD
GOVE
GRAHAM
GRANT
GRAY
GREELEY
HAMILTON
HASKELL

HODGEMAN RAWLINE
JEWELL REPUBLE
KEARNY ROOKS
KIOWA RUSH
LANE RUSSELL
LINCOLN SALINE
LOGAN SCOTT
MEADE SEWARD
MITCHELL SHERIDA
MORTON SHERMA
NESS SMITH
NORTON STAFFOR
OSBORNE STANTON
OTTAWA STEVENS
PHILLIPS TREGO
PRATT WALLACI
WICHITA

FOR RELEASE AFTER 8:30 P.M. July 4, 1967

Congressman Bob Dole was the principal speaker at the 1st Annual Community-wide Celebration of Independence Day in Great Bend last night. Dole stated, "While Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, said, 'Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty,' the notion exists today in some quarters that there is no longer any need to pay that price; that the War for American Independence having been fought and won -- and succeeding generations having fought to preserve our freedom -- the benefits of those sacrifices can be enjoyed by our generation without paying any price at all. In sum, those who hold to this notion conceive freedom and rights to be independent of duty and responsibility."

He added that freedom is a right for every individual but for a society, a national community, freedom is a privilege. "That was a basic fact of international life on July 4, 1776," he said, "and it remains a basic fact of international life on July 4, 1967."

Congressman Dole emphasized the following points:

- --- Nationalism is stronger throughout the world now than it was in 1776.
- ---There are those today, as in 1776, who would prefer to deny the existence of the war between America and the Communist world.
- ---There cannot be true peace between the Communist world and our own until the Communists understand we intend to keep our freedom.
- ---The problem of Communism and East-West confrontation is going to be with us for many years to come.
- ---There is a strong need for a realistic assessment of the world in which we live since today man has the capacity to destroy himself.
- ---The American people are confused about our intentions in Vietnam and other places in the world because on the one hand we are furnishing men, money and material to stop Communism, and on the other we talk of "building bridges" through trade with those Communist countries supplying the forces that are killing Americans.
- ---Communist aggression and subversion in Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and our own hemisphere is a fact of history that cannot be melted away by dreams, wishes, or the so-called "spirit of Hollybush" unless the Communists give up their declared aims of world conquest.

declared aims of world conquest.

Dole concluded, "We have no God-given first mortgage on liberty. Whatever liberty we have ever had, we had to fight to maintain, and there is no assurance that we won't be tested again. To those who gave their lives that we might live free from tyranny, we may only pledge that we'll hand that freedom on to their posterity."