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NEWS

U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tuesday, May 31, 1994 Contact: Clarkson Hine (202) 224-5358

## TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL ROBLES

DOLE HONORS BIG RED ONE GENERAL FOR 28 YEARS
OF DEDICATION & SACRIFICE;
CITES OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP IN KANSAS & ABROAD

On June 1, 1994, Major General Joe Robles, Commanding General of the 1st Infantry Division -- the Big Red One -- will retire after more than 28 years of service. I would like to take a moment to recognize this outstanding leader and to thank him for his dedication and sacrifice to the Army, to Kansas, and to the nation.

While growing up, Joe Robles never dreamed that he would make the Army a career, much less command a division. General Robles never went through ROTC or attended West Point; he was drafted into the Army in 1966. He received his commission through Artillery Officer Candidate School in Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and worked his way up through the ranks. His service in the Army has taken him from Korea to Fort Knox; from Vietnam to Germany and from southwest Asia to Kansas. General Robles has never forgotten what it's like to be an enlisted man, and because of that, General Robles has always been able to identify with his soldiers. I have been impressed by his constant concern for his soldiers and their families.

While commanding the Big Red One, General Robles has added to the Division's long and illustrious history. As the Division Commander, he has ensured that the 1st Infantry Division stands ready to preserve our freedom and advance the ideals of democracy. As Post Commander, General Robles has worked extremely well with the people of Kansas, building a strong relationship with the communities around Fort Riley.

As Major General Robles turns over command of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley, I am certain that he will be missed by those who have served with him. I wish him, his wife, Patricia, and his children all the best as they embark together on new endeavors.