This document is from the collections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas
http://dolearchives.ku.edu

REMARKS BY SENATOR BOB DOLE

THE EISENHOWER LEGACY

OCT. 14, 1979

ABILENE, KANSAS

TODAY IS THE 89TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF A GREAT AMERICAN. HIS LIFE INSPIRES US, HIS LEGACY PROPELS OUR POLITICS, HIS DECENCY AND COMPASSIONATE STRENGTH MAKE EVERY ONE OF US PROUD TO CALL OURSELVES KANSANS.

DWIGHT EISENHOWER IS BURIED HERE, BENEATH THE WORDS HE SPOKE IN PRAYER AT THE TIME OF HIS FIRST INAUGURATION. BUT HIS ESSENCE LIVES ON, TO GUIDE OUR PATHS AS WE CARRY ON IN HIS LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO AN AMERICA THAT IS AS GOOD AND NOBLE AND UNABASHEDLY PATRIOTIC AS DWIGHT EISENHOWER HIMSELF.

This document is from the collections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas
http://dolearchives.ku.edu

TWENTY SEVEN YEARS AGO, AMERICA WAS A LAND IN DISTRESS. STRONGER THAN ANY INTERNATIONAL RIVAL, HER PEOPLE AT HOME WERE NEVERTHELESS DIVIDED AND ANGRY. THEY FELT SEPARATED FROM THEIR GOVERNMENT IN WASHINGTON. THEY FELT THEIR DOLLAR SHRINKING WITHIN THEIR GRASP. THEY WONDERED IF THEIR LEADERS WERE STILL CAPABLE OF FRESH APPROACHES TO OLD PROBLEMS INSTEAD OF TRAVELING IN THE RUTTED ROADS OF THE STATUS QUO.

WE WERE LUCKY THEN. WHEN WE WERE THIRSTY FOR LEADERSHIP, WE TURNED TO A MAN FROM KANSAS, A GENUINE HERO WHO EMBODIED IN HIS OWN LIFE THE FINEST QUALITIES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. DWIGHT EISENHOWER WAS A MAN FROM GRASSROOTS AMERICA, STEEPED IN THE TRADITIONS OF NEIGHBORHOOD AND PATRIOTISM AND SERVICE IN THE CAUSE OF HIS COUNTRY. PRESIDENT EISENHOWER WAS A STRONG MAN, WHO EARNED HIS STRENGTH IN WAR YET NEVER FORGOT THE DISEASE OF POVERTY OR THE SCOURGE OF PERSONAL SUFFERING.

c019_026_019_all_A1b.pdf

This document is from the collections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas
http://dolearchives.ku.edu

BECAUSE HE WAS STRONG, BECAUSE HE HAD GAINED A SENSE OF SELF AND OF HIS DIRECTION IN LIFE, DWIGHT EISENHOWER WAS ABLE TO CHART A COURSE FOR AMERICA THAT WAS STRAIGHT AND TRUE AND REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BEST QUALITIES IN US.

SOLVENCY AND STRENGTH

IT WAS HERE, IN ABILENE, THAT HE UNFURLED HIS PRESIDENTIAL BANNER ON JUNE 4, 1952.

IT WAS HERE, AMIDST THE WHEATFIELDS AND THE GRAIN SILOS OF CENTRAL KANSAS, THAT HE SPOKE THE FOLLOWING PROPHETIC WORDS . . .

"TODAY, AMERICA MUST BE SPIRITUALLY, ECONOMICALLY AND MILITARILY STRONG, FOR HER OWN SAKE AND FOR HUMANITY. SHE MUST GUARD HER SOLVENCY AS SHE DOES HER PHYSICAL FRONTIERS. THIS MEANS ELIMINATION OF WASTE, LUXURY, AND EVERY NEEDLESS EXPENDITURE FROM THE NATIONAL BUDGET."

c019_026_019_all_A1b.pdf

This document is from the collections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas
http://dolearchives.ku.edu

THE WARNING THAT PRESIDENT EISENHOWER GAVE AMERICANS A QUARTER CENTURY AGO HAS NOT LOST ITS FORCE. IT REMAINS THE CORNERSTONE OF WHAT WE, AS REPUBLICANS, ARE ALL ABOUT. WHAT DO WE BELIEVE, THAT SETS OUR PHILOSOPHY APART?

WE BELIEVE IN THE AVERAGE AMERICAN, IN HIS OR HER RIGHT TO MAKE ALL THAT IS POSSIBLE FROM THEIR GOD-GIVEN TALENTS.

WE BELIEVE IN GOVERNMENT ONLY INSOFAR AS IT CAN UNLEASH THOSE INDIVIDUAL TALENTS.

WE BELIEVE IN A STRONG AMERICA, POWERFUL ENOUGH TO DEFEND HER IDEALS AND DETERMINED ENOUGH TO HOLD AN UMBRELLA OF FREEDOM OVER ALL THE WORLD'S PEOPLE WHO SEEK HUMAN RIGHTS AND INDIVIDUAL JUSTICE.

WE BELIEVE IN OURSELVES, IN OUR ABILITY TO OVERCOME THE TEMPORARY CRISES OF ENERGY AND INFLATION.

c019_026_019_all_A1b.pdf

This document is from the collections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas
http://dolearchives.ku.edu

WE BELIEVE IN THE FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM, RATHER THAN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, AS THE ULTIMATE INSURER OF JOBS AND PROSPERITY FOR ALL OUR PEOPLE.

WE BELIEVE THAT, FOR TOO LONG, ONE POLITICAL PARTY HAS TAKEN FOR GRANTED THE SUPPORT OF BLACK AND OTHER MINORITY AMERICANS, AND WE ARE CONVINCED THAT WE ARE THE TRUE PARTY OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL OPPORTUNITY.

WE BELIEVE THAT PRODUCTION, NOT REGULATION, IS THE KEY TO A STRONG ECONOMY - PRODUCTION ON THE FARM, IN THE FACTORY, AND IN THE SEARCH FOR NEW AND ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF ENERGY.

c019_026_019_all_A1b.pdf

This document is from the collections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas
http://dolearchives.ku.edu

THE REAL PARTY OF THE PEOPLE

WE ARE THE PARTY THAT BELIEVES IN PEOPLE. DWIGHT EISENHOWER DID. YOU AND I DO.

IN 1952, A REPUBLICAN WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT. IT WAS TIME FOR A CHANGE THEN AND IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE NOW. WHEN PEOPLE HAVE TO ENDURE A 13% INFLATION RATE, OR RUN THE RISK OF MASSIVE RECESSION, OR TOLERATE A SHRINKING DOLLAR AND THE SPECTER OF MASS UNEMPLOYMENT - THEN I SAY IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE.

WHEN THE UNITED STATES POSITION ABROAD IS UNDERMINED BY CONFUSION AND UNCERTAINTY AMONG HER FOREIGN POLICY PLANNERS - THEN I SAY IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE.

WHEN WE FACE THE CRITICAL DILEMNA OF AN ENERGY SHORTFALL, AND AN ADMINISTRATION IN WASHINGTON CAN ONLY RESPOND WITH MORE REGULATION AND MORE DISINCENTIVES TO PRODUCTION - THEN I SAY IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE.

c019_026_019_all_A1b.pdf

This document is from the collections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas
http://dolearchives.ku.edu

MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, WHEN THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE RESTIVE FOR LEADERSHIP THAT IS EXPERIENCED, THAT IS MORALLY ADMIRABLE, THAT KNOWS HOW TO MAKE GOVERNMENT WORK, WITHOUT ALWAYS RESORTING TO GOVERNMENT AS THE SOLUTION TO OUR PROBLEMS - THEN I SAY IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE, AND TIME FOR THAT LEADERSHIP.

AMERICA HAS ALWAYS BEEN FORTUNATE. THROUGHOUT OUR HISTORY, WHEN DISASTER THREATENED, OR BRIGHT OPPORTUNITY BECKONED, WE SOMEHOW FOUND OURSELVES A LEADER TO BRING US TOGETHER, BIND UP OUR DIFFERENCES, AND PULL US THROUGH. WHEN KANSAS WAS BLEEDING AND TORN ASUNDER BY CIVIL WAR, IT WAS ONLY A PRELUDE TO THE ELECTION OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

WHEN AMERICA WAS FESTERING WITH DIVISIONS, CONFRONTED WITH AN IMPLACCABLE COMMUNIST FOE ABROAD AND WIDESPREAD DISTRUST OF GOVERNMENT ITSELF HERE AT HOME, THEN WE TURNED TO DWIGHT EISENHOWER.

c019_026_019_all_A1b.pdf

This document is from the collections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas
http://dolearchives.ku.edu

LEADERSHIP AND FAITH

TODAY, WE ARE ONCE AGAIN AT A CROSSROADS. WE ARE NOT A HAPPY PEOPLE IN 1979. WE SEEM UNCERTAIN OF OUR PURPOSE, CONFUSED OF OUR DIRECTION, AND DOUBTFUL EVEN OF OUR POTENTIAL.

WE WANT LEADERSHIP, WE WANT A PRESIDENT WHO WILL ENCOURAGE OUR BEST INSTINCTS, YET BE STRONG ENOUGH TO PUT THE VAST STRUCTURE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO WORK FOR US IN A CONSTRUCTIVE WAY. WE DON'T WANT A MAN ON HORSEBACK. WE DON'T WANT SOMEONE LARGER THAN LIFE. WE WANT SOMEONE WHO KNOWS ABOUT AVERAGE LIVES, WHO COMES FROM THE VERY HEARTLAND OF AMERICA, WHO KNOWS ABOUT SACRIFICE AND STRUGGLE AND WHAT IT'S LIKE TO OVERCOME TOUGH ODDS.

c019_026_019_all_A1b.pdf

This document is from the collections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas
http://dolearchives.ku.edu

DWIGHT EISENHOWER WAS SUCH A MAN. TO THOSE WHO COME TO THIS SHRINE FOR SPIRITUAL AND POLITICAL REFRESHMENT, HE IS WITH US STILL. HIS EXAMPLE AND HIS POLITICAL LEGACY ARE A PROUD HERITAGE FOR EVERY KANSAN - AND EVERY AMERICAN. WHAT HE ACHIEVED 27 YEARS AGO, WE CAN ACHIEVE IN 1980. WE CAN RENEW HIS MANDATE, RESTORE HIS PRINCIPLES TO OUR GOVERNMENT, AND REVIVE THE CONFIDENCE THAT WE ONCE PLACED IN A PRESIDENT WHO KNEW HOW TO LEAD, BECAUSE HIS LEADERSHIP WAS ROOTED IN FAITH - FAITH IN OUR BASIC GOODNESS AS A PEOPLE AND FAITH IN OUR UNIQUE OBLIGATION TO CARRY OUT THE IDEALS AND TRADITIONS THAT MADE US GREAT. WE ARE STILL GREAT. WE ARE STILL IDEALISTIC. BRIGHT DAYS LIE BEFORE US - IF ONLY WE RETURN TO THE PATHS OF INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM AND A PRODUCTIVE SOCIETY. JOIN WITH ME, MY FRIENDS, IN LEADING ALL AMERICA BACK TO HER ROOTS.

# # # # # # # # # # # #

c019_026_019_all_A1b.pdf

This document is from the collections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas
http://dolearchives.ku.edu

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE

EISENHOWER DAY DINNER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1979

BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS

Twenty seven years ago, America was a land in distress. Stronger than any international rival, her people at home were nevertheless divided and angry. They felt separated from their government in Washington. They felt their dollar shrinking within their grasp. They wondered if their leaders were still capable of fresh approaches to old problems instead of traveling in the rutted roads of status quo.

We were lucky then. When we were thirsty for leadership, we turned to a man from Kansas, a genuine hero who embodied in his own life the finest qualities of the American people. Dwight Eisenhower was a man from grassroots America, steeped in the traditions of neighborhood and patriotism and service in the cause of his country. President Eisenhower was a strong man, who earned his strength in war yet never forgot the disease of poverty or the scourge of personal suffering.

Because he was strong, because he had gained a sense of self and of his direction in life, Dwight Eisenhower was able to chart a course for America that was straight and true and representative of the best qualities in us.

SOLVENCY AND STRENGTH

It was in Abilene, amidst the wheatfields and the grain silos of central Kansas, that he spoke the following prophetic words . . .

"Today, America must be spiritually, economically and militarily strong, for her own sake and for humanity. She must guard her solvency as she does her physical frontiers. This means elimination of waste, luxury, and every needless expenditure from the national budget."

The warning that President Eisenhower gave Americans a quarter century ago has not lost its force. It remains the cornerstone of what we, as Republicans, are all about. What do we believe, that sets our philosophy apart?

We believe in the average American, in his or her right to make all that is possible from their God-given talents.

We believe in government only insofar as it can unleash those individual talents.

We believe in a strong America, powerful enough to defend her ideals and determined enough to hold an umbrella of freedom over all the world's people who seek human rights and individual justice.

We believe in ourselves, in our ability to overcome the temporary crises of energy and inflation.

We believe in the free enterprise system, rather than the federal government, as the ultimate insurer of jobs and prosperity for all our people.

We believe that, for too long, one political party has taken for granted the support of black and other minority Americans, and we are convinced that we are the true party of economic and political opportunity.

- MORE -

c019_026_019_all_A1b.pdf

This document is from the collections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas
http://dolearchives.ku.edu

We believe that production, not regulation, is the key to a strong economy - production on the farm, in the factory, and in the search for new and alternative sources of energy.

THE REAL PARTY OF THE PEOPLE

We are the party that believes in people. Dwight Eisenhower did. You and I do.

In 1952, a Republican was elected president. It was time for a change then and it's time for a change now. When people have to endure a 13% inflation rate, or run the risk of massive recession, or tolerate a shrinking dollar and the specter of mass unemployment - then I say it's time for a change.

When the United States position abroad is undermined by confusion and uncertainty among her foreign policy planners - then I say it's time for a change.

When we face the critical dilemma of an energy shortfall, and an Administration in Washington can only respond with more regulation and more disincentives to production - then I say it's time for a change.

Most important of all, when the American people are restive for leadership that is experienced, that is morally admirable, that knows how to make government work, without always resorting to government as the solution to our problems - then I say it's time for a change. And time for that leadership.

America has always been fortunate. Throughout our history, when disaster threatened, or bright opportunity beckoned, we somehow found ourselves a leader to bring us together, bind up our differences, and pull us through.

When America was festering with divisions, confronted with a dangerous Communist foe abroad and widespread distrust of government itself here at home, then we turned to Dwight Eisenhower.

THE SEARCH FOR A LEADER

Today, we are once again at a crossroad. We are not a happy people in 1979. We seem uncertain of our purpose, confused of our direction, and doubtful even of our potential. Jimmy Carter says we face a crisis of confidence. But we do not lack confidence in ourselves. We lack confidence in the Carter Administration. We have seen it fumbling and drift, and we have come to realize that we can't afford on-the-job- training for a president. Neither can we afford the budget-busting utopia of Senator Kennedy. As the saying goes - nostalgia isn't what it used to be. In 1980 we can't afford to bury our heads in the sands and hope that what worked once can work again.

You can't make a souffle rise twice. And we can't afford to go on spending and spending and regulating and dictating to our economy and still hope to preserve any hope of individual incentive or productivity.

What should we seek instead? I think we should put a lid on federal spending and federal taxing - amending the Constitution to do both! I think we should index our tax system - so when you get a raise or a job promotion, you don't get punished because inflation pushes you into a higher tax bracket. I think we should cut down on the red tape that strangles small and large businesses, and keeps new jobs from being created. I think we should pursue an energy policy based on productivity as well as conservation - and give producers the incentives they deserve to take the risks that the search for new oil and gas will entail.

All of these ideas have a real chance of becoming law - I know - I introduced them on the Senate Finance Committee.

The reason for a political party to exist is not protest or obstruction. A party exists to govern. That's what we Republicans have to keep in mind as we choose a candidate for the Presidency in 1980. Who can govern? Who can lead? Who can make the political system work - not for more and bigger government, but more and greater reliance on people themselves.

Dwight Eisenhower was such a man. To each of us here tonight, his example and his political legacy are a proud heritage. They are also an inspiration for the struggle ahead. What he achieved 27 years ago, we can achieve in 1980. We can renew his mandate, restore his principles to our government, and revive the confidence that we once placed in a president who knew how to lead, because his leadership was rooted in faith - faith in our basic goodness as a people and faith in our unique obligation to carry out the ideals and traditions that made us great. We are still great. We are still idealistic. Bright days lie before us - if only we return to the paths of individual freedom and a productive society. Join with me, my friends, in leading all America back to her roots.

-30-

c019_026_019_all_A1b.pdf

This document is from the collections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas
http://dolearchives.ku.edu

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE

EISENHOWER DAY DINNER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1979

BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS

Twenty seven years ago, America was a land in distress. Stronger than any international rival, her people at home were nevertheless divided and angry. They felt separated from their government in Washington. They felt their dollar shrinking within their grasp. They wondered if their leaders were still capable of fresh approaches to old problems instead of traveling in the rutted roads of status quo.

We were lucky then. When we were thirsty for leadership, we turned to a man from Kansas, a genuine hero who embodied in his own life the finest qualities of the American people. Dwight Eisenhower was a man from grassroots America, steeped in the traditions of neighborhood and patriotism and service in the cause of his country. President Eisenhower was a strong man, who earned his strength in war yet never forgot the disease of poverty or the scourge of personal suffering.

Because he was strong, because he had gained a sense of self and of his direction in life, Dwight Eisenhower was able to chart a course for America that was straight and true and representative of the best qualities in us.

SOLVENCY AND STRENGTH

It was in Abilene, amidst the wheatfields and the grain silos of central Kansas, that he spoke the following prophetic words . . .

"Today, America must be spiritually, economically and militarily strong, for her own sake and for humanity. She must guard her solvency as she does her physical frontiers. This means elimination of waste, luxury, and every needless expenditure from the national budget."

The warning that President Eisenhower gave Americans a quarter century ago has not lost its force. It remains the cornerstone of what we, as Republicans, are all about. What do we believe, that sets our philosophy apart?

We believe in the average American, in his or her right to make all that is possible from their God-given talents.

We believe in government only insofar as it can unleash those individual talents.

We believe in a strong America, powerful enough to defend her ideals and determined enough to hold an umbrella of freedom over all the world's people who seek human rights and individual justice.

We believe in ourselves, in our ability to overcome the temporary crises of energy and inflation.

We believe in the free enterprise system, rather than the federal government, as the ultimate insurer of jobs and prosperity for all our people.

We believe that, for too long, one political party has taken for granted the support of black and other minority Americans, and we are convinced that we are the true party of economic and political opportunity.

- MORE -

c019_026_019_all_A1b.pdf