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Bob Dole: "We'll win by a nose"

HALEAH, Fla. (UPI) — Sen. Robert Dole, arriving in the famed race track area of Haleah, predicted Saturday that Republicans would win Florida "by a nose."

Dole also accused Democratic presidential candidate Jimmy Carter of changing sides on the issue of normalizing U.S. relations with Cuba.

Asked at an airport news conference who won Friday's final debate between the presidential candidates, the Republican vice presidential candidate replied: "I clearly felt that President Ford won the playoff. Now we're going to spend the night at home."

Dole scheduled campaign stops Saturday in Haleah, Fort Myers and Sarasota before returning to Washington to spend the night at home.

He told reporters that Republicans, according to their

own polls, have cut Carter's lead in Florida from an earlier 12 per cent to about 4 per cent.

"We're going to win Florida," he said. "We're going to win by a nose."

An estimated 1,000 persons, mostly Cubans, attended a GOP rally at a shopping mall to cheer Dole. He told the crowd that Carter was quoted in a December, 1975, New York Times report as saying he favored recognition of Cuba.

"Then in January of the following year he denied saying that, and a month or so later came here and said he does not favor recognition," said Dole.

"President Ford's position has been consistent," said Dole, pointing to an administration policy of not favoring normalization of relations with Cuba.

Dole's travel schedule for the rest of the campaign is being kept flexible. But aides said he expects to head West next week, with possible stops in the mountain states and on the West Coast.

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RUSSELL REPUBLICANS wait in line for the lunch served during the Ford-Dole Day event at the Russell 4-H Building Saturday night. McDill "Huck" Boyd, Phillipsburg, was the main speaker. Sen. Bob Dole also spoke to the group via telephone. The Russell Republican Women were hosts for the meeting. (Staff Photo)

Candidates Running Strong

By United Press International
While Jimmy Carter followed his usual weekend routine of church and rest, President Ford stumped southern California and aired a television show with sports figure Joe Garagiola which could become a mini-series for the windup of the campaign.

Alides dubbed the 10-station, statewide television program the "Jerry and Joe Show" Sunday night. Garagiola will stay with the campaign to air similar shows in Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York and possibly one more state this week.

Ford spends today in the north-west states of Oregon and Washington before flying eastward Tuesday.
Carter, who broke his self-imposed rule and chatted about religion and the Bible with reporters in Plains, Ga., Baptist Church doorway early Sunday, also spent time with the television cameras during the afternoon.

Doles Make Conference Telephone Call

"Win or lose, Sen. Bob Dole has a better chance to become president in 1980 than any other living American right now," McDill "Huck" Boyd, Kansas Republican committeeman, said here Saturday night. The Phillipsburg publisher shared the podium with Dole through a conference telephone call — at the Russell County Ford-Dole Team Day in the 4-H Building.

Dean and Aldean Banker were co-chairmen at the hot dog and bean supper attended by 200 party members. Local and area candidates were guests. The observance in Russell was timed to coincide with others across Kansas Saturday, a nationwide observance sponsored by the Kansas

Federation of Republican Women's Clubs and the Russell County Republican Women's Club, Mollie Krug, president.
"Things are looking up, the polls are getting closer all the time," Dole said, calling from his office at 8:13 p.m. He and his

wife, Elizabeth, talked for about 10 minutes wishing the local celebration success.
"I'll be in Russell Election Day," Dole said, "but I'll have to be back in Washington election night."
Dean Banker handled the microphone while the telephone instrument was placed in an amplifier. Dole could hear responses from the audience and his words were heard throughout the hall.



DEAN C. BANKER, co-chairman for the Ford-Dole Day at the Russell 4-H Building Saturday night, discusses with McDill "Huck" Boyd, National Republican committeeman, Phillipsburg, how they will use the telephone during the conference with Sen. Bob Dole. Boyd was the featured speaker at the evening hosted by the Russell Republican Women. (Staff Photo)

him when he arrived election day.
"Don't bake it too soon," Dole said. He warned his mother not to let Banker help make the pie, despite Banker's offer. "You can watch her make it," Dole said.
Dole's question about "How did the President do last night?" was answered with a round of applause. "It's going to be a close race but we might carry it off," the senator said.

"If we don't win in Russell, then we are in some trouble," he added.
"It's really looking good, it really is," Elizabeth Dole told the audience, she had been in North Carolina Saturday campaigning with President Ford and will be in Wisconsin and Illinois early this next week.

"Weren't you pleased with the President Friday night?" the senator's wife asked.
A telegram, with over 800 signatures of Russell area people was mentioned by both. "We were thrilled with the telegram in Houston. It did a lot to help Bob that day. I thought he did well, too," Mrs. Dole said.

Sen. Dole said the message helped him in the debate and that he was "going to frame it and put it on the wall."
Candidates honored were John Russell, Great Bend, candidate for associate magistrate judge of the 20th Judicial District, and his wife; Al Hall, candidate for Magistrate.

The Democratic candidate answered questions about his religious philosophy and said he did not know why his Bible class is for men only or why his church is all white. He said he assumed that if a black applied for membership, he would be admitted.

Carter said he had no way of knowing if some of the biblical stories — like that of the serpent in the Garden of Eden — were literally true, but that much of the Bible is written in allegories.
"For instance, he said, he does not believe the biblical view that the earth has "four corners," and doubts the earth was created in seven days — it was more likely to have been seven stages, or seven time periods.

Carter is taking today off as well, and embarks on his final campaign swing Tuesday morning.
Ford attended a Catholic service in a mission church, then spent the afternoon telling enthusiastic crowds in Orange County that California is a "must win" state in his drive for the presidency.

Ford sounded his familiar campaign themes: that he has earned the White House because he restored public confidence in the presidency after Watergate, "turned the economy around" after recession, "achieved peace and we are going to keep the peace," and healed national divisions.
GOP vice presidential candidate Robert Dole attended a Billy Graham crusade, and his Democratic counterpart stumped the northeastern area.
Dole was greeted with polite

Dole Softens Attack

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (UPI) — Backing down, Republican Robert Dole said Tuesday World War II and Vietnam were not Democratic wars. But another war could break out if Gerald Ford is not around to keep America strong, he said.

After three days of almost constant attacks on Carter-Mondale foreign policy plans, the GOP vice presidential nominee softened some of his barbed statements Tuesday.

Dole, who Democratic vice presidential candidate Walter Mondale earlier said had "richly earned" a reputation as President Ford's hatchet man, explained Tuesday that:

"The Democrats did not start World War II and the Vietnam War and he did not have reservations about fighting in World War II, although he felt the country was not prepared.

—He made a mistake by agreeing with Jimmy Carter that troops should not be sent into Yugoslavia if the Soviet Union should attack.

Dole's Day Was Spent Clarifying

TROY, Ohio (UPI) — Bob Dole, in a day of clarifications on the campaign trail, said Tuesday he did not blame Democrats for World War II or Vietnam.

The Republican vice presidential candidate, campaigning in Pennsylvania and Ohio, also acknowledged he misspoke when he said he, like Jimmy Carter, would not send U.S. troops into Yugoslavia if the Soviets should invade that country.

Dole also sought to clarify his Monday statement regarding any reservations he might have had about World War II, saying, "I don't think I ran all the way down to volunteer. But I did volunteer."

Dole's Maine-to-California campaign swing began as an unusually bitter attack on Carter's defense and foreign policies, but as he moved west, he found himself spending more and more time clarifying his own statements.

THERE WAS NO explanation immediately from Dole or any of his aides as to why, in a speech to 2,000 persons at the Troy courthouse, he made a point of calling past wars bipartisan after he had defended for days his statement in a national debate with Mondale that Democrats could be blamed for four past wars.

"No, I don't believe World War II was a Democrat war. And I don't believe Vietnam was," Dole said to the audience which apparently did not catch the significance of his statement and had no reaction.

"But I do know that no country is likely to attack us or attack our allies if we are strong, and through strength Gerald Ford has given us a world at peace."

At another point he said, "these were not partisan wars in the sense that a clear division of political philosophy separated the party in power from the other party when the fighting broke out. They were fought for what was perceived to be the national interest."

EARLIER IN THE day, in Erie he was asked specifically whether he would consider sending troops into Yugoslavia if the Soviets attacked. He said, "the answer is no." This put him in a position of supporting a stand for which both he and Ford had attacked Carter.

Later he said he "misspoke" himself.
"I guess you could say that," he said. "I just don't think you ought to telegraph in advance what we do. Of course, as vice president, I wouldn't send troops anywhere. That's up to the president."

Dole also was asked a series of questions about his somewhat ambiguous statements Monday indicating he had reservations about World War II.

He answered: "Well, not really any reservations. I think I ran all the way down to volunteer. But I did volunteer. And as I said, you get into it. I fought for my country."

"I'LL FLY MY record against Sen. Mondale's any time, either in the Senate, in defense or on the battlefield. I'm not certain he has one (a record)."

Mondale was 17 when World War II ended. He served two years in the peacetime Army.

Dole Puts 'Hatchet' In Mondale's Hand

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. (UPI) — Bob Dole carried his vice presidential quest across Indiana Wednesday, attacking Jimmy Carter's running mate, Walter Mondale, as the true "hatchet man" of the campaign.

Dole, reacting to attacks from Mondale, suggested that perhaps it was time for the Minnesota senator to take a rest.

"I think Fritz is getting a little tired," said Dole. "I wish this campaign would end so he could get some rest. But I think he'll survive."

In a local television interview earlier in Fort Wayne, Dole was asked about his reputation as the Ford campaign's "hatchet man." He said Mondale had called him a "hatchet man" in the vice presidential debate and said:

"The hatchet man called me the hatchet man."
FROM INDIANA, Dole was heading west for the remainder of the week. He concentrated his attacks on Carter's foreign and economic policies. Newsmen continued to ask him at each stop about his statements that

Democrats were to blame for past wars and his reversal Tuesday, when he specifically absolved Democrats of blame for World War II and Vietnam.

Dole said in his debate with Mondale that 1.6 million Americans had been killed in "Democratic wars" but has since repeatedly denied that he had ever blamed Democrats for the hostilities, saying, "I never did, never did."

Dole on Tuesday also found it necessary to explain a news conference statement that — like Carter — he would not send troops into Yugoslavia if the Soviets invaded.

HE LATER SAID he had "misspoke" and really thought America should not telegraph its intentions to potential enemies.

Mondale said Tuesday that Ford should repudiate Dole's remarks suggesting the Democrats were responsible for World War II. The Minnesota senator said, "Mr. Dole made that statement two or three times and it hasn't been repudiated by the President. They stand responsible together."

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