

FOR RELEASE:

Any time after 8:00 P.M.

Saturday, October 19, 1963

REMARKS OF CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE (R-KANSAS) ADDRESSING
A JOINT 1ST AND 4TH DISTRICT REPUBLICAN RALLY,
SALINA, KANSAS, OCT. 19, 1963, 8:00 P.M.

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kansas) in remarks delivered to Republicans from the 1st and 4th Congressional Districts predicted that Foreign Aid programs would be cut even further unless waste and inefficiency is eliminated. Congressman Robert Taft, Jr. of Ohio was the principal speaker at the Congressional Fund Raising Dinner honoring Congressman Dole of the First District and Congressman Garner Shriver of the Fourth District. Dole's brief statement was as follows:

"Let me say at the outset that some of our foreign assistance programs have been effective. The Marshall Plan was a key factor in rebuilding Western Europe and our "Food for Peace" programs have been and will continue to be effective if properly managed and not extended beyond all proportions. At the same time, we must recognize there is vast waste, inefficiency, and mismanagement in our Foreign Aid programs. Recognizing this, Congress recently cut \$585-million from the Foreign Aid Authorization Bill, which cut, in my opinion, was long overdue and not deep enough when considering the trouble the American dollar is in.

"Our free-wheeling Foreign Aid program has been one of the principal causes of inflation. In all inflation the principal loss is borne by the man of small means. He loses at every turn and usually has little chance to reap any speculative gains. He loses in his real wages, his savings, his social security check, and, if inflation continues long enough, his chance for a productive job. Even his liberty goes as he becomes a number in a government made work project.

"Republicans were quick to recognize politics when President Kennedy called the House action 'short-sighted, irresponsible and dangerous.' His boast of supporting the Foreign Aid requests of his predecessor from 1953 to 1960 were quickly disproved, for the record shows that in six of those eight years the then Senator Kennedy voted to cut or had been absent--campaigning for the Presidency--when Foreign Aid was being considered.

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"Let's not forget that 66 Democrats voted with 156 Republicans which should be proof the opposition was bi-partisan.

"The final, total cost of our Foreign Aid programs will far exceed the \$100-billion dollars which has already been spent for military and economic assistance in nearly 100 countries since the end of World War II.

"The United States borrowed much of this money. Interest charges on \$100-billion amount to nearly \$4-billion a year--and, with one budget deficit being piled upon another, it looks as though the funds we borrowed to finance foreign aid will remain a permanent part of our staggering \$309-billion national debt. Thus, in time, the real cost of foreign assistance programs will be not just \$100-billion but perhaps two or three hundred billion--even if we were to terminate all aid tomorrow.

"For a moment, let's suppose this money had not been spent abroad--that instead it had been put into a special fund. What could be done with \$100-billion?

"For one thing, it would pay off about one-third of the national debt. Or, with that \$100-billion in the treasury, the government could suspend all federal taxes for more than a year and still operate in the black. There would be no income taxes, no federal gasoline tax, no excise levies of any kind.

"One hundred billion dollars would buy new \$15,000 homes for nearly 7 million American families.

"With \$100-billion, Uncle Sam could open a \$1,500 savings account for each of the Nation's 70-million jobholders.

"One hundred billion dollars would pay off the entire mortgage debt of American farmers and there would be enough left over to buy a \$2,500 tractor for each of the Nation's 3.5 million commercial farmers.

"With \$100-billion, the government could pay the salaries of its 2.4 million civilian workers for the next seven years.

"One hundred billion dollars would provide free food for every family in America for nearly two years.

"With \$100-billion, we could build tens of thousands of new schools, hospital centers and churches. One hundred billion dollars would wipe out every slum area in the Nation.

"Just the interest on \$100-billion would provide \$1,000 scholarships for 5,000,000 college students each year. Or this interest would make possible a \$1,000 increase in retirement benefits for 5,000,000 senior citizens."