BOB Tokelisess release is from the collections at the Robert J. Dole Archive and Special Collections, University of 928/15859 1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS Please contact us with any questions or comments: http://dolearchive.ku.edu/askcheyenne HODGEMAN JEWELL

NON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING AREA CODE 202 225-2715 COMMITTEES;

AGRICULTURE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS DISTRICT OFFICE: 101 FEDERAL BUILDING GREAT BEND, KANSAS 67530

SW 3-5423

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

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STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE BOB DOLE (R-Kans) IN THE HOUSE OF REPRE-SENTATIVES, JUNE 8, 1967. rethers of others 1, 1967.

## EFFECTIVE OIL IMPORT PROGRAM NEEDED

Mr. Speaker, For the past several years the domestic oil industry of the United States has been pleading for reasonable restraints concerning our government's policy on oil imports. Many protests have been lodged, particularly by independent domestic producers and Members of Congress, against the Administration's policies only to have them ignored. As a result, exploration and development of new domestic reserves has declined alarmingly, particularly in the past five to ten years.

Kansas, where forty-five of the fifty-two counties in my Congressional District produce oil or natural gas or both, has experienced a sharp decline in exploration, development and drilling for oil the past few years. Oil and gas production and related businesses and industries account for 30,000 jobs in Kansas. Approximately 30% of state taxes are received from fuels and vehicle taxes. About one-fourth of the total land area of the state is productive or leased for mineral rights. These figures point out that the people in my district have a big stake in the oil industry, and they are concerned that it remain the strong, aggressive and progressive industry that it should be. The slackening of activity in the oil industry is not a healthy one. It threatens the economy of my district and my state and imposes a real threat to our national security. Secretary Udall is well aware During the latter part of May, his department held hearings on this subject; however, it was generally conceded this was simply another in a series of actions to placate the domestic oil industry.

Mr. Speaker, since the outbreak of fighting in the Near East, cashing a cloud over the availability of Arabian oil, the Johnson Administration has suddenly become concerned over free world oil shortages.

The Wall Street Journal of June 7, 1967, in an article by James C. Tanner stated that one clear cut gain to U.S. oil operators may be political -that the war gives new ammunition in their fight to lower oil import quotas.

It is extremely unfortunate that the threat of a world upheaval is required to bring about the objectives long sought and imminently deserved by our domestic oil industry. In my opinion, increased domestic production

(over)

on this basis could, in the long run, be extremely harmful unless safeguards are provided insuring some stability.

I am therefore joining a number of others today in introducing legislation which would insure effectiveness of the oil import program.

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BOB DOLE

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