

BOB DOLE
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

243 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
AREA CODE 202
225-2715

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

DISTRICT OFFICE:
101 FEDERAL BUILDING
GREAT BEND, KANSAS 67530
AREA CODE 316
SW 3-5423

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

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

COUNTIES:		
BARTON	HODGEMAN	RAW
CHEYENNE	JEWELL	REP
CLARK	KEARNY	ROO
CLOUD	KIOWA	RUS
DECATUR	LANE	RUS
EDWARDS	LINCOLN	SAL
ELLIS	LOGAN	SCO
ELLSWORTH	MEADE	SEW
FINNEY	MITCHELL	SHE
FORD	MORTON	SHE
GOVE	NESS	SMI
GRAHAM	NORTON	STA
GRANT	OSBORNE	STA
GRAY	OTTAWA	STE
GREELEY	PAWNEE	THO
HAMILTON	PHILLIPS	TRE
HASKELL	PRATT	WAL
		WIC

FOR RELEASE AFTER 1 P.M.
Tuesday, September 5, 1967

PACIFICATION PROGRAM UNSUCCESSFUL

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kans) in a speech before the Kansas City, Kansas Rotary Club today declared that "the progress of the much-heralded pacification program in South Vietnam is not encouraging." Dole participated in the Rotary program with Congressman Larry Winn of the 2nd District of Kansas.

Based on his service on the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the House Committee on Government Operations, which has carried on a thorough appraisal of the pacification program, Dole said, "The pacification program simply has not been a success." To support his contention Dole cited three Reports unanimously approved by the Government Operations Committee, which were recently released on August 25.

Dole pointed to the fact that only 168 of the 12,537 rural hamlets are classified as under total government control, and fewer than 2000 are under partial control, while over 4000 are under Viet Cong control, as concrete evidence that "progress, if we can call it that, has been painfully slow." Dole went on to cite figures which indicate that pacification is behind schedule in 26 of the 44 provinces and is at a virtual standstill in 1/4 of the country.

"Perhaps the reason," Dole said, "for this lack of success is the fact that the South Vietnamese Government that we have maintained in power has simply not followed through on many of its promises -- even in Vietnam there exists a credibility gap!" In this connection, Dole mentioned the failure of the Vietnamese Government to undertake land reform, the scant attention paid to the almost half a million refugees, the lagging medical program, and rampant corruption in the Vietnamese Government.

"In my opinion," Dole concluded, "no amount of military or financial assistance will bring security and self-determination to South Vietnam. It would appear that unless we can breathe life into the pacification program, there will be little hope and less success in involving the people of South Vietnam in the defense and future development of their country. U. S. military successes are not the answer to the problem of the Viet Cong. Only by bringing the people of Vietnam to the point where they are willing to fight their war -- and it cannot be forgotten that it is their war to fight -- can it be brought to a successful conclusion."