

FROM: THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE
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WASHINGTON, D.C., July 2 -- Congressman Bob Dole today announced he will visit the Kansas units of the 69th Infantry Brigade in Ft. Carson, Colo. *Monday, July 8.*

Nearly 3600 Kansas officers and enlisted men of the Army National Guard have been on active duty at Ft. Carson since May 13. About 70 of the men are from the Belleville area in Dole's Congressional District.

"In traveling around Kansas the past six weeks, I have had numerous inquiries about the men in the 69th Brigade," Dole said. "Kansans are rightfully proud of this unit and those with relatives and friends on active duty are undoubtedly concerned about the future."

"Soldiers, whether home from the war or preparing for war are too little acclaimed these days," Dole said. "The sacrifices of a few are not being widely shared; hence those of us not called upon to make the sacrifices should do everything within our power to respect and honor our men in uniform."

"The 4th of July period seems an appropriate time to pay my respects to those Kansans proudly serving their country on active duty at Fort Carson," he added.

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Dole plans to visit with as many of the officers and men as possible. Officers and enlisted men of the 69th were ordered to active duty from Topeka, Kansas City, McPherson, Hiawatha, Wichita, Belleville, Marysville, St. Marys, Manhattan, Emporia, Eureka, Council Grove, Troy, Sabetha, Horton, Paola, Winfield, Arkansas City, Wellington, Newton, Lawrence, Leavenworth, Atchison and Holton.

Dole, accompanied by a liaison officer, will go to Ft. Carson Sunday, July 7 and return to Washington, D. C. Monday (July 8).

The Congressman also announced he hopes to go to Fort Hood, Tex. soon to visit Kansas units there including about 175 men from his hometown of Russell and Hays.

Dole, who enlisted in the Army in 1943, served 5½ years in World War II in the U.S. and in Italy. Twice wounded and twice decorated for heroic achievement, he was discharged a Captain in 1948.