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Dole cutline

DOLE CONFERS WITH GEN. HERSHEY -- Congressman Bob Dole talks with Lt. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, Director of the Selective Service, in the Congressman's Washington, D. C. office Thursday (July 18). The conference came after Dole sent letters to President Johnson and Hershey, urging them "to reduce Kansas draft calls in the months ahead." The Congressman also discussed a plan "to achieve some urgently needed draft reforms" in the meeting.

draft. Surely we can assure Kansans and all the others across the nation that future selection will be intelligent, impartial and just."

"My ideas on draft reform," he said, "will not eradicate all the problems connected with the draft. They represent some urgently needed reforms, however, to inject some justice into a system, which is patently unjust."

Dole's conference with Hershey results from letters he sent to President Johnson and Gen. Hershey last week, urging them "to reduce the draft calls for Kansas in the months ahead because of the unusually heavy number of Kansans involuntarily mobilized this year."

Dole told Gen. Hershey that Kansas, with 1.12 percent of the U.S. population, provided 16.2 percent of the total National Guard and Armed Forces Reserves mobilization in May. The number of Kansans activated for June, July and August are also high, he added.

Following the 90-minute conference with Hershey, Dole announced that General Hershey agreed to review the Congressman's request that Kansas draft calls should be reduced.

The Congressman said Hershey plans to compare the current Kansas situation with records of call-up, induction and mobilization in the state during the Korean war.

"General Hershey," Dole said, "was most sympathetic and understood the fact that Kansas has been hard hit."

"While he could give no assurance that favorable action will be taken, the General indicated his complete willingness to cooperate," he added.

The Congressman also said he and the General discussed the problem of teacher shortages in small Kansas communities and the need to liberalize deferment policies in these areas.

"As I pointed out," Dole said, "the question in most of the cases is not granting deferments to teachers. The question is whether the children in these areas can receive a good education if so many teachers are inducted."

"This does present a serious problem," Dole added. "The General indicated he has a very liberal attitude toward teachers because of the possible bad effects of teacher inductions on education generally."

Kansas Congressmen Larry Winn and Garner Shriver also participated in part of the conference.