

FROM: DOLE FOR SENATE HEADQUARTERS
603 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas

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Topeka, Kansas.....Speaking at the Downtown Kiwanis Club at noon today, Congressman Bob Dole, Republican candidate for the U. S. Senate, stated that in too many cases more people will applaud self-government in principle than will practice the participation in government that makes the system work.

Dole said the real forgotten American at this time is the solid, middle class taxpayer who, for the past 30 years, has been quietly sitting on the sidelines while the big parade, billed successively as the New Deal, the Fair Deal, the New Frontier and the Great Society passed by him. And the irony of it all is that this forgotten American is the fellow who has been paying most of the bills for the big parade. "While forgotten Americans have been taken for a ride," Dole said, "much of this has been due to our own apathy and indifference." He added that one of the greatest threats to our democracy is the continuing unwillingness of many responsible citizens to play a direct role in the business of politics.

"Those who treat politics as a 'spectator' sport," said Dole, "**may** some day witness the principles they believe in and the values they live by crumble because of apathy. In my opinion," he added, "ignorance and apathy are America's greatest enemies, and those concerned with an ever expanding federal bureaucracy and a federal government that is willing and eager to thrust itself into every aspect of American life should take the time to make themselves aware of the issues involved."

"As Abraham Lincoln warned more than a century ago," concluded Dole, "'If destruction is to be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and finisher. As a nation of freemen we must live through all time or die by suicide.'"