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REMARKS OF HONORABLE BOB DOLE

IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE

MARCH 31, 1969

THE PEACEMAKER

TODAY THE WORLD MOURNS DWIGHT DAVID EISENHOWER, AND WHILE THERE IS A SENSE OF PROFOUND LOSS, THERE IS NOT DESPAIR. AFTER A FULL LIFE OF SERVICE, HIS MEMORY IS UNQUESTIONABLY FOREVER SECURE IN THE AFFECTIONS OF HIS FELLOW MEN EVERYWHERE. HE WAS TRULY A LEADER OF MEN AND OF NATIONS IN WAR AND IN PEACE.

HIS DREAMS AS A BOY IN ABILENE, KANSAS, COULD NEVER HAVE ENVISIONED THE HEIGHTS HE WAS TO SCALE IN HIS LIFETIME. FROM A FAMILY OF HUMBLE ORIGINS IN THE HEARTLAND OF AMERICA, GENERAL EISENHOWER ROSE TO SUCCESSFULLY COMMAND THE LARGEST MILITARY FORCE EVER ASSEMBLED.

THE HONESTY AND SINCERITY SO CHARACTERISTIC OF THIS MAN THROUGHOUT HIS LIFE CAN BE TRACED TO THE SPIRITUAL HERITAGE OF HIS ANCESTORS AND STRONG GUIDANCE FROM HIS MOTHER. HIS BROAD GRIN AND GOOD HUMOR THAT REFLECTED THESE QUALITIES MADE HIM A POPULAR IDOL AND WERE PART OF HIS MAGIC. WHEREVER SEEN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, PEOPLE REACTED TO THE SPECIAL QUALITIES EXUDED BY THIS MAN. WINSTON CHURCHILL UNDERSTOOD THESE QUALITIES AND ONCE COMMENTED THAT IKE "WAS A GREAT COMMANDER, WHO NOT ONLY CAN LEAD AN ARMY, BUT CAN STIR MEN'S HEARTS".

THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY GENERAL EISENHOWER ARE LEGEND. HIS SUCCESS IN TIME OF WAR MARKED HIM AS A GREAT LEADER OF MEN. THEREAFTER HIS UNPARALLELED SUCCESS IN POLITICS UNDERScoreD THE RESPECT AND CONFIDENCE HE ENJOYED IN AMERICA.

IT IS ONLY NATURAL THAT THOSE OF US FROM KANSAS HAVE ALWAYS EXHIBITED SPECIAL PRIDE IN GENERAL EISENHOWER, FOR AS PRESIDENT NIXON SO ELOQUENTLY STATED YESTERDAY, GENERAL EISENHOWER "DID COME FROM THE HEART OF AMERICA -- THE GEOGRAPHICAL AND SPIRITUAL HEART".

GENERAL EISENHOWER ONCE SAID, "I COME FROM THE PEOPLE, THE ORDINARY PEOPLE." KANSANS ARE PROUD TO BE TERMED ORDINARY PEOPLE AND ESPECIALLY PROUD AND HONORED THAT THE PEOPLE FROM WHENCE HE CAME WERE KANSAS PEOPLE.

HIS GREAT TRIUMPHS AND DEEDS WERE ALWAYS MARKED BY THE EXTRA DIMENSIONS OF HIS PERSONALITY, HIS CHARACTER AND HIS HUMANITY.

ON BEHALF OF ALL KANSANS, I PROUDLY SALUTE GENERAL EISENHOWER AS WE PAUSE TO COMMEMORATE HIS GREATNESS.