

FROM: THE OFFICE OF U. S. SENATOR BOB DOLE
NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510
(202) 225-6521

FOR RELEASE AFTER 12 NOON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 1969

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 4 -- U. S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today announced the U. S. Army has issued a policy statement which liberalizes the early release program for over 24,000 Reservists and National Guardsmen activated last spring if they attend college, teach school or accept seasonal employment such as farming.

With 1.12 of the total population, Kansans comprised 16 percent of the total May 1968 call-up.

Dole said the new policy means a Reservist or Guardsman serving in the U. S. or overseas and who qualifies may request a 90-day early release based on the earliest of the following dates: projected separation date at the time he was ordered to active duty, rotation date or November 20, 1969.

"The effect in Kansas", Dole said, "is that many boys, now in Vietnam, could be returning home earlier than they previously anticipated. The policy will be especially helpful to those wishing to go to college or teach school beginning in the fall 1969 semester as well as to those whose major source of income may depend on seasonal employment beginning in the fall."

Dole said servicemen who qualify should apply for an early release to their commanding officers 60 days before the date they hope to be released.

To attend school, the soldier must present a statement signed by an official of an accredited college or university that the applicant has been unconditionally accepted for school enrollment beginning with a specific term and will carry a full-course load. The statement must also show the latest date on which the applicant must register in person.

To teach school, the serviceman must show he has been employed by a specific school and the date the school term begins.

To accept seasonal employment, he said, the serviceman must present evidence that the job is his prime source of income and is not continuously in full operation during the year. "Peaks of activity" of a continuously active company or student summer employment do not qualify a serviceman for early release.

The applicant must also show the necessity for him to report for employment at a specified time to prevent loss of his prime source of income for the year. The specified time must be within the last three months of the soldier's scheduled term of service and before the beginning of the seasonal