

*Anne gave this to Al Polyzinski
at Eagle. 620*

FROM THE OFFICE OF: SENATOR BOB DOLE
2327 NEW SENATE OFFICE BLDG.

WASHINGTON, D.C., DEC. 17. Senator Bob Dole today expressed his concern over the actions which may result from the Congressional cutback in military appropriations.

Dole said, "As Secretary of Defense Laird indicated, this reduction, which is \$2.3 billion below the Administration's request, will necessitate closing some military installations and a reduction in personnel at others."

Dole added, "Rumors continue to circulate regarding the closure of McConnell Air Force Base in Wichita and Forbes Air Force Base in Topeka, as well as every one of our bases at home and abroad. I have discussed this personally with Secretary Laird, and he has again confirmed that no decision has yet been reached as to which bases may be closed, but that all bases are undergoing a thorough review and an announcement may be expected after Congress returns in January."

"I am, of course, hopeful", Dole continued, "that Forbes and McConnell will remain open. However, whenever reductions in defense spending are made, someone must suffer the consequences, and it is interesting to note that those who cry the loudest for cuts are almost without exception the first to complain whenever such reductions result in base closings."