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FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SEN. BOB DOLE
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WASHINGTON, D.C., July 27 --- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) said he has been assured by the U.S. Department of Agriculture that as of July 27, no cases of Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis (VEE) have been confirmed outside of Texas, but "should a case be confirmed in Kansas, the state would be promptly quarantined and vaccine made available within hours."

Dole, a member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, asked the USDA, early this week, to provide vaccine for innoculation of the horses in Kansas against VEE, a disease now in epidemic proportion in southern Texas. He contacted the USDA Agricultural Research Service to request vaccine and quarantine measures for Kansas to prevent further spread of the disease.

USDA informed Dole that every effort is being made to keep the disease confined to Texas. Dole said one possible case of equine encephalomyelitis in Cowley County, Kans., is being investigated by the USDA to determine if it is one of the normal types of the disease, or if it is the so-called Venezuelan type.

The Kansas Senator explained that protection against the disease is not assured until two weeks following innoculation. Because of this requirement, Dole said, he has expressed his concern to the USDA regarding possible hazards this represents to Kansas horses. USDA indicated that state veterinarians and Public Health officials are being consulted to maximize use of available vaccine, and that the Department believes a barrier between California and Florida would best accomplish this.

Last Sunday, USDA announced that horses in six more states, California, Arizona, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Florida, will be quarantined and vaccinated in order to establish a coast-to-coast barrier against the northward spread of the disease. Earlier, horses in five states, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Arkansas, were quarantined and vaccinated.

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for: JOHNSON COUNTY SCOUT-SUN

President Nixon's General Revenue Sharing proposal is one of the most far-sighted and innovative approaches ever devised to improve the quality of our state, city and county governments. With its \$5 billion in new funds and return of control over their use to local and state governments, General Revenue Sharing breaks the long-standing and unsatisfactory trend of ever-increasing federal domination of local decision making and problem solving. General Revenue Sharing is the key both to easing the heavy tax burdens imposed by local governments and to making those units of government better able to serve the people.

Congressman Mills, of course, has expressed disagreement with the President's plan and has indicated that he intends to offer his own proposal to provide aid to the states and cities. It would be premature to pass judgment on Mr. Mills' alternatives until he presents them, but I am sure he is concerned with the problems of the states and cities. However, his plan will have to go a long way to surpass President Nixon's General Revenue Sharing plan in terms of sound thinking and realistic approaches to the challenge of providing better state and local government for all Americans.