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Atchison Speeches and  
Dole Congressional Recess  
Itinerary.

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WASHINGTON, D.C., August 12, 1971 --- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) will be in Atchison, Kans., Friday to participate in the city's "Dedication Week" honoring the community's work in urban renewal and flood control project since its devastation by a flood 13 years ago.

In remarks prepared for delivery at the 10 a.m. dedication of the Independence Park and the Cut-and-Cover Conduit, Dole praised the community's leaders "who gave voice and direction to the city's confidence in itself and in its people." Dole commended the area's leaders who he said following the flood of July 1958 "stimulated formation of local agencies, sought out state and federal support and helped in the development of plans and proposals."

The Kansas Senator said, however, that the "most important source of confidence for the city" had been and still was "all the citizens of Atchison who went to the polls and expressed their confidence by voting programs, bond issues and tax levies in support of the accomplishments that have been made over the past decade and one-third."

In remarks prepared for the "Dedication Week" noon luncheon to be held Friday in the American Legion Building, Dole said that the history of Atchison's cooperation among various local, state and federal government authorities involved in the renewal work of Atchison "holds a lesson not just for other communities, but for the entire nation as well."

Dole said:

In recent decades America has seen a deterioration of the idea that your or I or our local governments are the best judges of what our problems are and how they ought to be solved. Instead the tendency has been to concentrate both the problem-identifying and the problem-solving authority away from the problems and away from the people with the problems. The result has been a huge confusing and ineffective bureaucratic tangle in Washington with paralysis and near stagnation of local government and not many solutions for the problems.

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The Kansas Senator said, however, that there is a "growing recognition that we must reorder the balance of power between Washington and the people." This idea, he said, "has been called revenue sharing, new federalism and several other names, but regardless of the title, the idea behind it is as old as our nation's history --- that the best most responsive and the most responsible government is that which is closest to the people."

The Atchison experience of urban growth and renewal, Dole said, "proves that small governmental units can plan and coordinate properly to get the job done." "The people of Atchison," he said, "have proven the potential of local leadership and the value of federal assistance. The experience has proven that the combination of local leadership and federal resources is a partnership that can effectively meet community needs."

Dole's Friday visit to Atchison concludes a week-long tour of Kansas which included Concordia, Hutchison, El Dorado, Kansas City, Topeka, Wichita and his hometown of Russell. Tuesday, the Senator will begin his trip to Southeast Asia. The following week, Dole will return to the United States and is expected to spend much of the remainder of the summer Congressional Recess in Kansas. The Senate will reconvene Sept. 8 at noon.