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DOLE SAYS SYSTEM NOT TO BLAME FOR, OR HURT BY, WATERGATE

EMPORIA, KANSAS -- In remarks prepared for delivery at the commencement exercises of the College of Emporia, Senator Bob Dole takes issue with those who "make dismal prophecies about the future of our democratic society," because of the Watergate scandal.

Asserting that the entire system ought not to be condemned for the misdeeds of a few, Dole said, "... a few men -- unfortunately in positions of tremendous power and public trust -- abused their power and violated their trust. But how does that condemn the system?"

"My answer is that it doesn't. Not at all," he added.

"For it was the system that found them out," he continued.

"When hearings and the trials are over, and the verdicts are in -- it will be the system that measures out justice in the case.... in the process, I believe the system will have restored and strengthened itself. It will have reasserted its claim on our loyalty, its claim on our trust.

And as always, we will be the winners", he told the students.

(The full text of the Senator's remarks is attached)