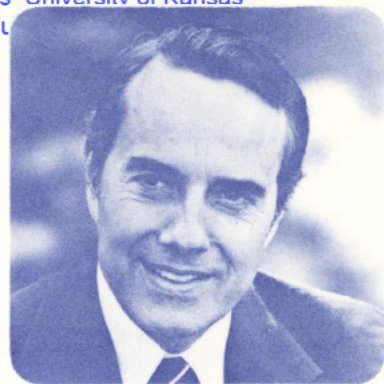


# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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## DOLE CALLS FOR MILITARY PAY INCREASE, FT. RILEY SCHOOL AID

MANHATTAN, Kan. -- Advocating better pay and increased incentives for volunteers, Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.) today called for renewed support of the all-volunteer army concept, adding that it will assure the United States of a better army than would a return to the draft.

"If Congress comes through with promised military pay raises and restores the G.I. Bill, a quality all-volunteer army is definitely recruitable," Dole said. "Volunteers make the choice to join the army, draftees do not. I am convinced that once we add proper incentives, the quality of our recruits will rise immediately.

"It shouldn't be any surprise that in recent years the armed services have found it increasingly difficult to attract high school graduates. The government has promised to make military pay comparable to civilian pay, but has not lived up to that commitment. In 1972, for example, an entering recruit was paid 111 percent of the federal minimum wage. Today this figure has declined to 84 percent.

"Perhaps worse was the termination of the G.I. Bill in 1976."

### Ft. Riley School Aid

Dole pledged to actively pursue Ft. Riley elementary school construction funds.

"Unfortunately, Ft. Riley has been bumped from the top of the priority list of military base schools to be upgraded because of the severe need of other base schools around the country," Dole said. "But it is clear that the Ft. Riley situation is worthy of funding. In fact, these funds have now been five years overdue.

"I have written to Senator Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.), chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, bringing Ft. Riley's needs to his attention. I am seeking committee resolution of this matter, but I fully intend to offer an amendment to the Labor/HEW appropriations bill, regardless of committee approval. The \$7 million which Ft. Riley has requested is one that I feel should be considered strongly by the committee."

Dole stated that he had been working closely on the funding issue with Max Heim, superintendent of Geary County Unified School District 475.