

# BOB DOLE



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## DOLE ENCOURAGES VETERANS TO PARTICIPATE IN 21-DAY NATIONAL CELEBRATION

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole, a twice-wounded and twice-decorated veteran of World War II, today encouraged veterans to participate in a 21-day national celebration beginning today on Flag Day and culminating on Independence Day, 1984.

"As part of this celebration, members of Congress encourage Americans everywhere to participate in ongoing activities demonstrating to the world that we are proud of our country," said Senator Dole.

In 1975, Congress approved legislation which designated the 21 days from Flag Day through Independence Day as a period to honor America, that there be public gatherings and activities at which the people can celebrate and honor their country in an appropriate manner. This time span, selected to correspond to the traditional 21-gun salute accorded to heads of state, was initiated by the Honor America committee of the American Historic and Cultural Society and won hearty acceptance by Congress.

Senator Dole quoted President Abraham Lincoln from his Independence Day speech of 1858:

We hold this annual celebration to remind ourselves of all the good done in the process of time, of how it was done and who did it and how we are historically connected with it. And we go from these meetings in better humor with ourselves -- we feel more attached the one to the other and more firmly bound to the country we inhabit.