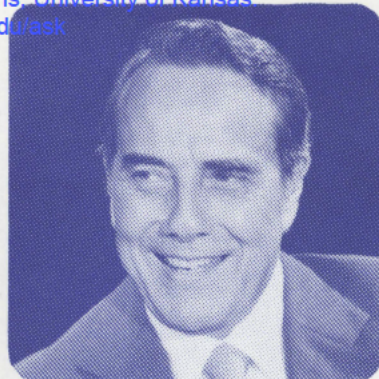


# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## DOLE ANNOUNCES U.S.S. TOPEKA

WASHINGTON--KANSAS SENATOR BOB DOLE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE U.S. NAVY AGREES WITH HIM THAT THE KANSAS STATE CAPITAL SHOULD BE REPRESENTED ON A NAVY VESSEL AND THUS WILL NAME ONE OF ITS NEXT 'FAST ATTACK' SUBMARINE THE U.S.S. TOPEKA.

"I AM PLEASED THAT THE NAME OF OUR STATE CAPITAL WILL BE PROUDLY CARRIED BY ONE OF OUR NEWEST SUBMARINES. AS IT PATROLS THE WATERS OF THE WORLD, WE KANSANS CAN TAKE REAL PRIDE IN KNOWING THAT OUR STATE WILL BE REPRESENTED ON THE FRONT LINE OF FREEDOM," DOLE SAID.

SENATOR DOLE LEARNED OF THE NAVY'S DECISION TODAY IN A PHONE CALL FROM SECRETARY OF THE NAVY JOHN F. LEHMAN, JR. DOLE HAD SUGGESTED THAT THE NAVY REVIVE THE 'TOPEKA' MONICKER AT THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY.

ACCORDING TO DOLE, THE 'TOPEKA' IS A LOS ANGELES CLASS FAST ATTACK SUBMARINE. IT IS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN GROTON, CONNECTICUT. WORK BEGAN THIS PAST APRIL AND IS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION IN 1988. NO LAUNCH DATE HAS BEEN SET. THE 'TOPEKA' WILL BE A NUCLEAR POWERED SUB BUT WILL NOT CARRY BALLISTIC MISSILES. FAST ATTACK SUBS ARE DESIGNED TO SEEK AND DESTROY ENEMY SUBMARINES.

THIS IS THE THIRD NAVY VESSEL TO CARRY THE NAME OF OUR STATE CAPITAL. THE FIRST WAS A STEAMER THAT WAS CONVERTED TO A GUNBOAT IN 1898 FOR USE IN THE SPANISH/AMERICAN WAR. THE NAME 'TOPEKA' SURFACED AGAIN IN 1943 WHEN A LIGHT CRUISER WAS COMMISSIONED DURING WORLD WAR II. THE 'TOPEKA' WAS LATER MODIFIED TO CARRY MISSILES DURING THE VIETNAM WAR WHERE IT EARNED TWO BATTLE STARS.

"IT'S A PROUD TRADITION. I AM PLEASED IT WILL CONTINUE," DOLE CONCLUDED.

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