

CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE
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RUSSELL, KANSAS

RUSSELL, KANSAS--MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1961--FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE.

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kansas) announced today the appointment of eight community leaders residing in the Sixth Congressional District to an "Academy Screening Board". Dole stated the purpose of the Screening Board would be to help assure the appointment of the best qualified candidates to the Military Academy at West Point, the Naval Academy at Annapolis, and the Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs.

The Board will meet in Hays, Kansas, December 30, to conduct personal interviews with applicants for the various academy positions for the school year 1962. Dole has five vacancies at Service Academies, three at the Naval Academy, one at West Point, and one at the Air Force Academy, and between thirty-five and forty applicants have expressed a strong desire to attend one of these academies.

In an effort to select only the best qualified young men, each applicant has taken a Civil Service examination, furnished a scholastic report, and submitted to the Congressman a statement not exceeding five hundred words, "Why I Desire to Attend a Service Academy". Dole stated, "When the cost to the government of educating a boy at one of the Academies, estimated to be well over fifty thousand dollars, is considered, then every effort should be made to assure the best possible selection. Selections are based on leadership potential, mental ability, and physical fitness".

"The Board will carefully review each application, scholastic records, and any other pertinent matters relevant to the application, in addition to conducting personal interviews with each young man. The Board Members are:

Mrs. A. M. Shatzell of Hoxie, Kansas
Leo Paulsen of Concordia, Kansas
Forrest Stamper of Plainville, Kansas
George Meeker of Phillipsburg, Kansas
Robert Cram of St. Francis, Kansas
Dr. Byron Hutchison of Salina, Kansas
Dwight Payton of Ellsworth, Kansas
Richard Burnett of Hays, Kansas

They were chosen on the basis of their records of service to their community, state and nation", Dole said, "and I consider

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December 18, 1961 (cont)

the group to be an outstanding one. Mrs. Shatzell, the only woman member of the Board, has long been active in community affairs, particularly active in Girl Scouting on a national level; Paulsen has had service in the Kansas Legislature, is an outstanding farmer in Cloud County, and represents many of the farm organizations as a legislative agent in the Kansas Legislature. Dr. Hutchison has been active in community affairs in Salina, Kansas, and presently, among other things, is President of the Sacred Heart Home and School Association in Salina. George Meeker is Superintendent of Schools in Phillipsburg, and was recently elected Vice-President of the Kansas State Teachers Association. Forrest Stamper is a widely known farmer and stockman from Rooks County, a community leader, and a former member of the Kansas Senate. Richard Burnett of Hays has been active in many, many affairs, and is a member of the administrative staff of Fort Hays Kansas State College, serving in the capacity of Assistant to the President. Dwight Payton is a widely known Kansas editor, and is presently owner and publisher of the Ellsworth Messenger. Robert Cram is presently in the Kansas Legislature from Cheyenne County, and just recently finished a term as District Governor of Rotary. In addition to the Board members, Lester J. Ruegsegger (Reserve-Major) and Liaison Officer to the Air Force Academy, presently Business Manager of Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina, will serve in the capacity of Technical Advisor to the Board".

Dole concluded, "Nearly every young man who has made application appears to be eminently qualified, and I felt this method of selecting principals and alternates would be the most objective and the fairest to every applicant".