

FOR RELEASE: After 2:00 P.M.
Saturday, May 5, 1962

May 5, 1962; BIRD CITY, KANSAS--Cong. Bob Dole (R-Kansas), who was the principal speaker at the Bird City Post Office dedication today, discussed the postal modernization program which was inaugurated in 1953 and under which modernization program the Bird City Post Office was constructed. Dole pointed out our postal system began with only 75 post offices serving approximately 4 million people in 1790 and has grown into an organization which annually handles more than 64 billion pieces of mail for delivery to more than 185 million people.

The principal theme of Dole's remarks dealt with delivery of Communist propaganda in this country.

Dole said, "The history of propaganda delivery is a long one. Basically it involves international relations. We delivered communications from other nations, and they ostensibly delivered ours, but we soon discovered the Communists were using our mails for propaganda purposes, hence the exchange program was working against us.

"In 1951, the Post Office began intercepting Communist propaganda at the port of entry. Notices were sent to addressees, but fewer than 10 per cent ever claimed the mail.

"This continued until 1961, when this Administration canceled this interception and the volume of Communist propaganda coming into the country swelled by 300 percent."

Dole also stated that he and other Members of Congress were distressed by this flood of poison from abroad and had introduced legislation which would simply provide that no international mail determined by the Attorney General to be Communist propaganda may be handled by the Post Office Department, and that Communist mail sent from within the borders of the U.S. must go fourth class under parcel post rates instead of the much cheaper third class rate.

Dole concluded, " I believe it is time we halted this subsidized distribution of propaganda by the Communists."

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