

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE URGES KANSANS AND ALL AMERICANS WITH AGRICULTURAL SKILLS
TO VOLUNTEER FOR PEACE CORPS IN FAMINE-STRICKEN AFRICA

WASHINGTON -Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole (R-KS) today urged Kansans and all Americans with agricultural skills to respond to the Peace Corps appeal for volunteers to work in famine-stricken Africa.

The national appeal, launched by Peace Corps Director Loret Miller Ruppe on January 10, seeks 10,000 volunteer applicants for positions on agricultural projects aimed at alleviating the famine which now threatens millions in Africa.

"The United States has taken the lead in sending help to the stricken people of Africa," Dole said. "Already this fiscal year, we have announced more than \$250 million in emergency food aid. Late last year, I urged that we tap our Emergency Wheat Reserve for more assistance, and I am happy that the Administration responded with an authorization for use of 300,000 MT from the Reserve for Africa," said Dole.

"The Peace Corps volunteer program offers us the chance to make yet another, even more personalized, contribution to the resolution of this international problem. American agriculture is the most advanced and productive in the world. Our farmers and agricultural specialists possess enormous stores of knowledge, experience and energy which could make a major contribution to the long-term handling of this problem."

"Volunteering for the Peace Corps program would involve a major personal sacrifice. But it also offers the chance to reap a unique personal reward -- the satisfaction of knowing that, when others were in need, you responded. That spirit, as much as our great technical skills, is at the heart of what makes this country great," said Dole.

"I hope qualified people all over the country will respond positively to the Peace Corps appeal. I especially hope that farmers and agricultural specialists from Kansas -- the home of America's greatest farmers -- will respond with the special enthusiasm and spirit of helping for which they are known."