

News from Senator

BOB DOLE

(R - Kansas)

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AT DOLE INVITATION, JAPANESE DELEGATION TO VISIT KANSAS

(Washington, DC) -- At the invitation of Sen. Bob Dole (R-KS), a high-level delegation of Japanese officials will extend their visit to the United States and make a special trip to Kansas this week.

The nine-member delegation has been in the U.S. since October 5, and had planned to return to Japan within one week. However, following a meeting with Sen. Dole the delegation decided to visit Kansas, where meetings with agriculture and business leaders have been arranged.

"When I was in Japan last August," said Sen. Dole, "I invited Prime Minister Nakasone to send a delegation to the U.S. to further discuss our international trade situation. That invitation was accepted, and we have had some productive meetings in Washington.

"But more needed to be accomplished, especially when the Japanese officials told me of their interest in American farm products. That's when I asked if they would like to extend their stay, and visit Kansas to discuss the importing of agriculture goods to Japan. I'm pleased that we could put this together so quickly and am hopeful that we'll make some progress in improving trade with Japan."

The delegation, led by Sasumu Nikaido, vice president of the majority Liberal Democratic Party in Japan, will meet with Kansas farm leaders tonight. On Tuesday, they will visit an Olathe cattle farm, meet with media representatives and lunch with Kansas business and economic development officials.

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Although Sen. Dole is unable to accompany the delegation to Kansas because of the congressional schedule, he will speak by satellite to the Tuesday luncheon group. John Peterson, deputy counsel to Dole, will accompany the delegation while they are in Kansas.

The delegation's schedule has been announced to include the following:

Monday

4:22 PM CST Arrival at Kansas City International Airport, TWA
Flight 143 (Open press coverage permitted)

7:00 Dinner meeting with approximately 20 Kansas farm leaders at the residence of Japan Consul General Tanaka, 1025 West 55th, Kansas City, MO (Open coverage permitted prior to serving of dinner/following completion of dinner)

Overnight Marriott Hotel, 10800 Metcalf, Overland Park, KS

Tuesday

9:00 AM Tour the cattle farm of Bill & Diana Walton, 23300 West 111th, Olathe, KS (Open press coverage permitted throughout)

11:00 Meeting with area media representatives (By invitation only)

12:00 PM Luncheon meeting with approximately 25 Kansas business and economic development officials at the Overland Park Marriott Hotel, Salons C and D; Sen. Dole will address the group by satellite from Washington (Open press coverage permitted throughout)

3:10 Depart Kansas City International Airport on Eastern Flight 201 (Press coverage permitted)