

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, December 20, 1985

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DOLE SUCCEEDS IN GETTING CONGRESS TO FUND RECONSTRUCTION WORK AT HISTORIC FT. LARNED

Washington, DC -- As Congress neared its holiday recess, Sen. Bob Dole succeeded in getting it to approve funding for reconstruction work at Ft. Larned National Historic Site. The funding, totaling \$300,000, was approved in the Continuing Resolution which served as a catch-all spending bill for 1986.

The funds will be used to reconstruct the blockhouse at Ft. Larned, the only building at the original fort which no longer stands at the historic site.

Following the funding approval, Sen. Dole said, "Fort Larned played an important role in our history, and it is important that it be seen today as it was over a century ago. The blockhouse was the first building to be constructed at Ft. Larned, and it is important that the fort today be as accurate as possible if there is to be integrity as a national historic site. This funding moves us a step closer to that goal."

The blockhouse, a defensive bastion at the fort, was used as a powder magazine and guardhouse also. In the mid-1880's, Fort Larned was declared surplus property and sold. The blockhouse was dismantled around the turn of the century, but several hundred of its stones were discovered during recent restoration of other site buildings.

It was Dole who, as a member of the House of Representatives, sponsored the legislation which made Fort Larned a National Historic Site in 1964.