

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE

CONGRESSIONAL BOOSTERS LUNCH  
DENVER, COLORADO

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1969

I AM MOST HAPPY TO BE PRESENT FOR TODAY'S BOOSTER LUNCHEON.

AS A FRESHMAN SENATOR, I FULLY APPRECIATE THE NEED FOR YOUR INTEREST AND ACTIVITY ON BEHALF OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY. WITHOUT ADEQUATE FINANCES TO OFFSET THE LARGE RESOURCES WHICH THE AFL-CIO MAKES AVAILABLE TO MOST OF THE DEMOCRAT CANDIDATES, REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES ARE AT A GREAT DISADVANTAGE. THIS DOESN'T MEAN ADEQUATE FINANCES TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE ELECTION -- BY THEN IT IS TOO LATE. IN THE STATES WHERE WE HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO UNSEAT AN INCUMBENT, IT IS MOST IMPORTANT OUR CANDIDATE START EARLY. HE HAS TO ESTABLISH AN ORGANIZATION WHICH REQUIRES TRAVELING THE STATE MEETING PEOPLE AND SPEAKING. HE MUST ORGANIZE A COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM -- THE TREMENDOUS COSTS OF WHICH GO UP DAILY.

NEXT YEAR WE HAVE 25 INCUMBENT DEMOCRATS AND ONLY 10 REPUBLICANS RUNNING FOR REELECTION. WE NEED ONLY 7 ADDITIONAL REPUBLICANS TO WIN CONTROL OF THE SENATE. MANY OF THE DEMOCRAT INCUMBENTS REPRESENT A PHILOSOPHY THAT IS COMPLETELY AT ODDS WITH THE PRESIDENT AND HIS PROGRAM.

MANY INCUMBENT DEMOCRATS CAME IN 1958, A YEAR YOU WILL RECALL WAS DEVASTATING FOR THE REPUBLICAN PARTY. THE SAME MEN BENEFITTED FROM THE JOHNSON LANDSLIDE IN 1964. LAST YEAR PRESIDENT NIXON CARRIED ALL STATES WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TEXAS, WASHINGTON AND HAWAII. WE HAVE AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO PICK UP THE REPUBLICANS WE NEED IN THAT AREA.

THE PRESIDENT NEEDS THE SUPPORT OF A MAJORITY IN THE SENATE. HE NEEDS REPUBLICAN CHAIRMEN OF THE COMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEES. ONE OF THE FIRST LESSONS YOU LEARN IN THE HALLS OF CONGRESS IS THAT THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN HAVE VIRTUALLY LIFE OR DEATH CONTROL OVER IMPORTANT LEGISLATION. ONE CANNOT EXPECT THE PRESIDENT TO RECEIVE THE SUPPORT HE NEEDS FOR HIS PROPOSALS FROM DEMOCRATS. THUS FAR MANY HAVE ENGAGED IN A CONTINUED EFFORT TO EMBARRASS THE PRESIDENT BY PROMISING MORE OF WHATEVER HE HAS PROPOSED. WHEN PRESIDENT NIXON ANNOUNCED WITHDRAWAL OF 25,000 MEN FROM VIETNAM, THEY CALLED FOR 100,000 TO BE WITHDRAWN. WHEN HE ANNOUNCED WITHDRAWAL OF AN ADDITIONAL 35,000 MEN, THEY CALLED FOR TOTAL WITHDRAWAL. WHEN HE PROPOSED \$ 1 1/2 BILLION IN FREE FOOD STAMPS, THE DEMOCRATS CALLED FOR \$5 BILLION. WHEN HE PROPOSED A 10% INCREASE IN SOCIAL SECURITY, THEY (DEMOCRATS) DEMANDED A 15% INCREASE. ON AND ON I CAN RECITE THEIR EFFORTS TO SPEND MONEY WITHOUT REGARD FOR THE INFLATIONARY EFFECTS THEIR PROPOSALS WILL HAVE ON THE ECONOMY. TAX REFORM HAS TURNED INTO TAX GIVE-AWAY.