

*John R. Dole*

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE  
KANSAS EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION  
FLY-IN BANQUET  
[REDACTED], NEWTON, KANSAS  
JULY 6, 1974

5:30 P.M.

IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE HERE WITH THE EXPERIMENTAL AVIATORS OF  
KANSAS.

AS THE ORVILLE AND WILBUR WRIGHTS OF THIS ERA, YOU REPRESENT A  
GREAT TRADITION OF CONTINUING INNOVATION, INDEPENDENCE AND PERSONAL  
INITIATIVE IN FLYING AND IN THE AMERICAN CHARACTER AS WELL.

KANSAS IS OF COURSE THE CAPITAL OF AMERICAN AND WORLDWIDE  
GENERAL AVIATION, SO THOSE OF YOU WHO DESIGN, BUILD AND FLY YOUR  
OWN AIRCRAFT IN OUR STATE STAND OUT AS ESPECIALLY SIGNIFICANT REPRESENTATIVES OF GENERAL AVIATION.

VALUE OF EXPERIMENTAL AVIATION

I BELIEVE THAT EXPERIMENTAL AVIATION IS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF  
CIVIL AERONAUTICS. IT IS A GREAT TEACHER OF THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF  
FLIGHT. IT IS A SOURCE OF GREAT PERSONAL SATISFACTION FOR THOSE WHO  
PARTICIPATE IN IT. AND I AM SURE THE MEMBERS OF THIS AUDIENCE AGREE  
AMONG YOURSELVES THAT IT IS BASICALLY FUN AND ENJOYABLE.

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SO I WOULD JUST EXPRESS A WORD OF ADMIRATION FOR YOUR MANY CUSTOM BUILT AIRPLANES WHICH YOU FLEW TO NEWTON TODAY, AND WOULD ADD MY PERSONAL COMPLIMENTS FOR THE HARD WORK, SKILL AND IMAGINATION WHICH WENT INTO THEM.

#### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S ROLE

I BELIEVE THERE IS A GREAT FUTURE FOR GENERAL AVIATION OF ALL TYPES IN AMERICA. ITS DEVELOPMENT SHOULD CONTINUE TO EXPAND -- ALONG WITH INCREASED SAFETY, ENJOYABILITY AND ACCEPTANCE BY THE PUBLIC. AND IN THIS PROCESS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY.

OF COURSE THERE ARE THE FUNDAMENTAL POINTS SUCH AS AIR WORTHINESS AND PILOT CERTIFICATION WHERE FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY HAS ALWAYS BEEN CLEAR. BUT THERE ARE OTHER ONGOING AND DEVELOPING AREAS WHERE UNCLE SAM CAN PROVIDE AN IMPORTANT BOOST TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF GENERAL AVIATION.

#### IMPORTANT PROGRAMS FOR GENERAL AVIATION

PERHAPS THE BIGGEST EFFORT IN TERMS OF DOLLARS IS THE AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT AID PROGRAM WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE 1970 AIRPORT AND AIRWAYS DEVELOPMENT ACT. UNDER ADAP 81 NEW AIRPORTS HAVE BEEN CONSTRUCTED ACROSS THE COUNTRY, AND OUT OF THIS NUMBER ALL BUT THREE WERE BUILT EXCLUSIVELY FOR GENERAL AVIATION. ALTOGETHER MORE THAN

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\$1 BILLION HAS BEEN ALLOCATED FOR SOME 1,955 PROJECTS WITH 600 OF THESE AT GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORTS AND THE REMAINDER AT AIRPORTS SERVING ALL AIRSPACE USERS.

IN ADDITION, SUCH THINGS AS THE PUBLIC BROADCAST SERVICE'S WEATHER REPORTS, EXPERIMENTAL AIR-GROUND WEATHER SERVICES, A CONGRESSIONAL PROHIBITION -- AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING -- ON CLOSINGS OF FLIGHT SERVICE CENTERS, AND A STABILIZED FUEL SITUATION ALSO SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE CONTINUED GROWTH OF AMERICAN GENERAL AVIATION.

OF COURSE I REALIZE THAT ELT'S QUESTIONS ABOUT USER CHARGES AND FEES FOR GENERAL AVIATION, AND GETTING A FIRM READING ON SOME OF THE FAA'S POLICIES AND PROPOSALS ARE SOURCES OF CONCERN FOR GENERAL AVIATION.

#### BRIGHT FUTURE FOR GENERAL AVIATION

BUT ON BALANCE, I BELIEVE THERE IS A STRONG AND BRIGHT FUTURE FOR THE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS WHO FLY THEIR OWN AIRCRAFT FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES AS WELL AS FOR THE SHEER THRILL AND ENJOYMENT IT BRINGS.

WE ARE TRULY A NATION ON THE MOVE, AND MOVEMENT ON THE FLIGHTWAYS IS -- AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE -- A VITAL PART OF IT, ESPECIALLY IN KANSAS.



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LET ME TURN AT THIS POINT TO ANOTHER POINT WHICH RELATES CLOSELY TO OUR ACTIVITIES OVER THIS FOURTH OF JULY HOLIDAY WEEKEND IN THE YEAR 1974.

200 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

SOON IT WILL BE 200 YEARS . . . . . 200 YEARS SINCE JULY 4, 1776. TWO HUNDRED YEARS ARE ONLY A MOMENT IN THE MEMORY OF THE UNIVERSE, SHORT IN THE SPAN OF A GROWING REDWOOD. BUT 200 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE, NEVERTHELESS. TWO HUNDRED YEARS OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE GRAPPLING TO UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF THE IDEA THAT "ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL, THAT THEY ARE ENDOWED BY THEIR CREATOR WITH CERTAIN UNALIENABLE RIGHTS, THAT AMONG THESE ARE LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS."

THE AMERICAN NATION WAS HERE BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT WAS CREATED. THE WILL OF THAT NATION, ITS BELIEFS, ITS DESIRES, AND ITS HOPES WERE CAPTURED IN THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE; THE REVOLUTION RESPONDED TO THEM. ITS PEOPLE BELIEVED IN "AN INNATE SPIRIT OF FREEDOM," TO USE GEORGE WASHINGTON'S PHRASE, AND IN LIBERTY.

IT WAS THE PEOPLE THEN THAT GAVE LIFE TO THE WORDS OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE; THAT GAVE THE LAND ITS CHARACTER; PEOPLE. "WE THE PEOPLE . . ." AS THE CONSTITUTION WAS TO DECLARE YEARS LATER.

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### HUNDREDS OF FRONTIERS

THE PEOPLE FACED THE HUNDREDS OF AMERICAN FRONTIERS AND FORCED CHANGE ON WHAT HAD ALWAYS BEEN. SOME GOOD, SOME UNFAIR, BUT CHANGE. IT WAS THE INDIANS WHO FIRST FELT THE EFFECTS OF THIS WILL TO CHANGE, OF THIS WILL TO CHALLENGE. AND SUFFERED AS A RESULT. BUT IT WAS AN INDIAN SCOUT TROOP THAT JOINED THE FIGHT IN DELAWARE. IT WAS JEWS AND BLACKS AND FRENCH AND SWEDES AND GERMANS AND ENGLISH AND IRISH AND POLES AND ITALIANS AND SCOTS WHO JOINED THE AMERICAN BATTLE. THOSE WHO CAME TO AMERICA HAVE BECOME PART OF AMERICA. OF THE 56 MEN WHO SIGNED THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, EIGHT WERE NOT OF ENGLISH BACKGROUND; EIGHT OTHERS WERE BORN IN OTHER LANDS. THIS WAS THE NATION, THEN. A NATION OF PEOPLE. A NATION OF AMERICANS.

THEY HAVE DECLARED AGAIN AND AGAIN THAT MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL; THAT THEY HAVE A RIGHT TO LIFE, TO LIBERTY, AND TO THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS. THE DECLARATION REMAINS: THE SEARCH FOR LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS REMAINS; THE NEED TO MOLD THE DECLARATION AND THE SEARCH INTO A NEW COMMITMENT, A NEW SPIRIT FOR '76 REMAINS. THIS THEN IS THE BICENTENNIAL ERA.

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MEMORIES HELP TO SHAPE THE STYLE OF A PEOPLE AS THEY DO A PERSON  
--- THE PAST AND ITS MEMORIES HAVE BROUGHT US TO WHERE WE ARE TODAY.  
WITH THOSE MEMORIES AS A GUIDE WE CAN CHART OUR CONTINUING COURSE AS  
A NATION.

#### FACING THE UNKNOWN

OUR FOREBEARERS WERE FACED WITH A SERIES OF MOVEMENTS INTO THE  
UNKNOWN. AT FIRST THEY CAME ACROSS SEAS TO A NEW LAND, LATER OVER THE  
PLAINS AND MOUNTAINS OF THAT LAND, AND STILL LATER THROUGH THE MOVING  
FRONTIERS OF AMERICA IN TECHNOLOGY, IN EDUCATION, IN SCIENCE AND IN  
SPACE.

AND, IN MUCH THE SAME WAY, WE, TOO, ARE FACED TODAY WITH A  
MOVEMENT INTO THE UNKNOWN. JUST AS OUR ANCESTORS HAD NO GUIDELINES,  
FOR NO NATION WAS EVER BUILT AT SUCH A PACE AND WITH SUCH DYNAMISM, WE  
HAVE NONE OTHER, BECAUSE, AS WITH THEM, NO NATION HAS DARED TO MOVE INTO  
THE UNKNOWN WITH SUCH INTENSITY. JUST AS IT WAS THEIR HOPE OF BUILDING  
A NEW AND BETTER SOCIETY, IT MUST BE OURS.

THEIR MOVEMENTS INTO THE UNKNOWN WERE NO GREATER CHALLENGES THAN  
ARE THOSE WE FACE TODAY. IN RETROSPECT, THEIR MOVEMENTS APPEAR TO BE  
MORE AGAINST PHYSICAL ODDS THAN ARE OURS. WE MUST REMEMBER, HOWEVER,  
THAT THE CHALLENGE THEN WAS NOT ONLY TO THEIR PHYSICAL CAPABILITIES  
BUT ALSO TO THEIR SOUL, THEIR HEART, TO THEIR FAITH IN THE FUTURE, BUT  
PROBABLY MOST IMPORTANT, THEY RESPONDED WITH A DEEP BELIEF THAT BY THEIR



ACTIONS THEY COULD CREATE A BETTER SOCIETY IN A BETTER WORLD. CAN WE  
DO LESS?

CHALLENGE OF THE AMERICAN IDEAL

THE CHALLENGE WE FACE IS NOT PHYSICAL. IT IS NOT THE REBUILDING  
OF A CITY OR CITIES, IT IS NOT THE CLEANSING OF OUR STREAMS OR OUR AIR,  
IT IS NOT THE ORDERLY MOVEMENT OF LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE AT REASONABLE  
EXPENSE. THESE ARE IMPORTANT, BUT THEY ARE NOT THE TRUE CHALLENGES TO  
TODAY'S AMERICA. THE CHALLENGE WE FACE -- AND WE MUST FACE IT TOGETHER --  
IS ONE OF WILL, A NATIONAL AND INDIVIDUAL COMMITMENT TO OUR COUNTRY  
AND TO OURSELVES THAT WE MUST GET ON WITH THE TASK OF REACHING FOR THE  
AMERICAN IDEAL.

WE MUST NOW COPE WITH CREATING THAT MORE PERFECT UNION OUR FOREFATHERS  
SPOKE OF, A MORE PERFECT UNION OF MAN. WE MUST SHOW THE WORLD, AS WE  
HAVE DONE SO OFTEN BEFORE, THAT THERE IS A UNIQUE DYNAMISM AFOOT IN  
AMERICA, ONE IN WHICH WE CONSCIOUSLY AND VISIBLY STRIVE TO ACHIEVE, A  
SOCIETY IN WHICH MEN CAN TRULY WORK TOGETHER, LIVE TOGETHER, AND LEARN  
TOGETHER. WE MUST SET A MODEL FOR THE WORLD -- NOT BECAUSE THE WORLD  
DESIRES IT -- BUT BECAUSE IT IS THE NEXT STAGE IN THE PROCESS OF  
CONSTRUCTING CIVILIZATION. NO NATION HAS EVER DONE SO BEFORE. NO NATION  
HAS EVER SOLVED THIS PROBLEM -- A MORE PERFECT UNION OF ITS PEOPLE. AND  
IF WE DO SO WE WILL TRULY BE THE GREATEST NATION IN THE HISTORY OF MANKIND.

A MOMENT FOR GREATNESS

WE READ ABOUT THE UNITED STATES AND THE WORLD, AND WHAT LIFE WILL BE LIKE IN THE YEAR 2000. THE QUESTION WE MUST ASK OURSELVES TODAY IS, WHAT WILL THAT GENERATION OF THE YEAR 2000, THE POSSESSOR OF HISTORICAL HINDSIGHT INTO OUR ACTIONS, THINK OF US, THOSE OF OUR GENERATION WHO MUST PLAN FOR AND DIRECT THIS PERIOD IN THE PROCESS OF BUILDING A CIVILIZATION? WILL THEY SAY OF US "THEY WERE SO CONCERNED WITH THEIR DAILY LIVES, WITH THE PRESENT, THAT THEY DID NOT SEE THE FUTURE AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEAD THE WORLD - - TO LEAD THE WORLD IN ADDING A NEW DIMENSION TO CIVILIZATION."

IT IS ANOTHER MOMENT FOR GREATNESS

THE WORLD IS WATCHING US WITH GREAT INTENSITY - - SOME AS WELL-WISHERS, SOME WITH PERHAPS SINISTER CONCERN, VERY FEW TRULY NEUTRAL. THEY WATCH US WITH SUCH INTEREST BECAUSE THEY KNOW, PERHAPS BETTER THAN WE, THAT NO SOCIETY HAS EVER BEFORE REACHED THIS COMPLEX STAGE IN CIVILIZATION BUILDING - - OF URBANIZATION, OF AFFLUENCE, OF ARMED POWER, OF TECHNOLOGY.

BUT IN THE MANNER WHICH IS SO CHARACTERISTIC OF OUR GREATNESS, WE AMERICANS ARE WATCHING OURSELVES THE CLOSEST OF ALL. AND OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS, AS WE APPROACH OUR BICENTENNIAL, WE CAN, I BELIEVE, GAIN A MORE ACCURATE PICTURE OF OURSELVES AND OF AMERICA. AND THIS PICTURE WILL REVEAL, I AM CONFIDENT, THAT THE ORIGINAL SPIRIT OF '76 WHICH GUIDED OUR DESTINY - - FROM THE EARLY DAYS OF A FEW CLUSTERED COLONIES TO THOSE FIRST STEPS ON THE MOON - - THAT THIS SPIRIT IS LIVING AND STRONG AND AS VIGOROUS AS EVER AMONG THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.



A TIME FOR REFLECTION

THIS IS THE GREAT PROMISE OF THE FORTHCOMING TWO YEARS. FOR AFTER FAR TOO MANY YEARS OF BITTER DIVISION, CONFLICT, AND CHALLENGE TO OUR BASIC INSTITUTIONS AND BELIEFS, IT WOULD BE HIGHLY WORTHWHILE AND PRODUCTIVE TO TAKE STOCK OF OUR VALUES AND CAPABILITIES. AND THIS PROCESS WILL, I AM CONFIDENT, PROVIDE GREAT REASSURANCE THAT THE GOODNESS AND GREATNESS OF AMERICA IS UNDIMINISHED AND UNDAUNTED.

TO BEGIN OUR THIRD CENTURY

AND ON THIS NOTE, WE CAN EMBARK ON THE THIRD CENTURY OF OUR HISTORY AS A REUNITED AND STRENGTHENED PEOPLE WHO WILL MEET AND OVERCOME THE CHALLENGES WHICH LIE AHEAD. AND THESE ACHIEVEMENTS WILL SERVE AS THE MILESTONES ON A CONTINUING PATH TO FULFILLING THE BASIC IDEALS OF THOSE UNALIENABLE RIGHTS WITH WHICH OUR CREATOR HAS SO RICHLY ENDOWED OUR LAND, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.