

**SENATOR BOB DOLE
IOWA FARM BUREAU**

OPENING (5 MINUTES)

***THANK YOU. IT'S A PRIVILEGE TO
BE WITH YOU TODAY, AND I WISH I
COULD BE THERE IN PERSON.**

***FARMERS KNOW ALL ABOUT
SEASONS--THERE'S A PLANTING
SEASON, A HARVEST SEASON, AND SO
ON. HERE IN CONGRESS, IT'S THE
SEASON TO MAKE THE TOUGH
DECISIONS THAT NEED TO BE MADE
TO BALANCE THE BUDGET. AND**

**THAT'S WHAT WE'LL BE DOING IN THE
WEEKS AHEAD.**

*** ALONG WITH MY FRIEND,
SENATOR GRASSLEY, I HAVE MET
MANY TIMES OVER THE YEARS WITH
MEMBERS OF THE IOWA FARM
BUREAU, AND I SHARE YOUR
CONCERNS AND YOUR VALUES.**

*** THOSE OF US WHO GREW UP IN
RURAL AMERICA WERE RAISED WITH A
SET OF VALUES. LOVE OF COUNTRY
AND FAMILY. HONESTY, DECENCY,**

**PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY. A BELIEF
THAT WE WOULD BE PASSING ON A
BETTER LIFE TO OUR CHILDREN AND
GRANDCHILDREN. THESE SAME
VALUES HAVE GUIDED AMERICA
THROUGH ITS HISTORY AND HAVE
MADE US THE GREATEST NATION ON
EARTH.**

*** AND THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT
THE SECRET TO GETTING OUR
COUNTRY BACK ON TRACK IS SIMPLY**

**TO RETURN TO THESE RURAL VALUES
AS A MATTER OF NATIONAL POLICY.**

***I HAVE BEEN COMMITTED TO
STRENGTHENING RURAL AMERICA
THROUGHOUT MY YEARS IN THE
SENATE. AND I WILL TAKE THAT
COMMITMENT TO THE WHITE HOUSE IF
I AM ELECTED PRESIDENT.**

***MY VISION FOR RURAL AMERICA IS
COMPREHENSIVE. IT INCLUDES -- TAX
REFORM, HEALTH REFORM,
STRENGTHENING AGRICULTURE,**

**FIGHTING RURAL CRIME, REDUCING
GOVERNMENT INTRUSION IN OUR
EVERYDAY LIVES.**

***LET ME BRIEFLY DETAIL A FEW
PROVISIONS OF MY "COMMITMENT TO
RURAL AMERICA."**

**TAX REFORM--I AM COMMITTED TO
REDUCING THE SPIRALING TAXES
THAT BURDEN RURAL FAMILIES. IN
1948, THE AVERAGE AMERICAN
FAMILY PAID 3% OF ITS INCOME IN**

**FEDERAL TAXES. TODAY, IT PAYS
ABOUT 25%.**

**AMERICAN FAMILIES AND SMALL
BUSINESSES DESERVE TAX RELIEF--TAX
RELIEF LIKE THAT CONTAINED IN OUR
HISTORIC BALANCED BUDGET
RESOLUTION, WHICH INCLUDES A \$500
TAX CREDIT FOR EACH DEPENDENT
CHILD, TAX CREDITS FOR ADOPTION,
IRA'S FOR HOMEMAKERS, ESTATE TAX
RELIEF, AND A CAPITAL GAINS TAX
REDUCTION.**

**ALL THIS MUST JUST BE A START,
BECAUSE WE NEED TO SCRAP OUR
COMPLICATED TAX CODE AND
REPLACE IT WITH A FAIRER, FLATTER
AND SIMPLER SYSTEM.**

***BUDGET RESPONSIBILITY--**

**AMERICAN FAMILIES MUST BALANCE
THEIR CHECK BOOKS -- SO MUST THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. A BALANCED
BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE
CONSTITUTION IS A NECESSARY FIRST
STEP. A BALANCED BUDGET WILL**

**SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE CREDIT COSTS
FOR RURAL AMERICANS AND SMALL
BUSINESSMEN AND WOMEN.**

***GROWTH ORIENTED FARM POLICY-**

**-I AM COMMITTED TO POSITIONING
AMERICAN AGRICULTURE AS A LEADER
IN THE WORLD MARKETPLACE. TO DO
THAT, WE MUST IMPLEMENT POLICIES
WHICH ALLOW AMERICAN FARMERS
TO PRODUCE AN ABUNDANT SUPPLY
OF HIGH QUALITY FOOD TO MEET
GROWING WORLD DEMAND.**

**WE MUST ELIMINATE SET ASIDES,
INCREASE PLANTING FLEXIBILITY,
REDUCE GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS,
SIMPLIFY FARM PROGRAMS AND
INCREASE FUNDING FOR
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.**

***EXPAND TRADE OPPORTUNITIES--**

**U.S. AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST
COMPETITIVE IN THE WORLD. GIVEN A
FAIR AND LEVEL PLAYING FIELD--
AMERICA CAN COMPETE WITH
ANYONE. WHILE THE EUROPEANS**

HAVE COMMITTED TO REDUCING THEIR EXPORT SUBSIDIES, THEY MUST DO MORE.

IN MY VIEW, WE MUST CONTINUE TO OPEN UP MARKETS WORLDWIDE AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, KEEP THEM OPEN. TO REMAIN COMPETITIVE, WE MUST FOCUS ON VALUE-ADDED EXPORTS AND WE MUST FOCUS ON HIGH GROWTH MARKETS LIKE ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA.

***REGULATORY REFORM--**

PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY IS A HIGH PRIORITY, BUT APPLYING COMMON SENSE TO FEDERAL STANDARDS IS VITAL. FEDERAL REGULATIONS SHOULD BE BENEFICIAL, NOT BURDENSOME. FARMERS AND RURAL BUSINESSES HAVE FACED AN ONSLAUGHT OF REGULATIONS ORIGINATED OUT OF THE FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY--WITH LITTLE REGARD TO THE IMPACT ON

THE VALUE OF PRIVATE PROPERTY.

*** SANITY MUST BE BROUGHT BACK
TO FEDERAL REGULATIONS AND
PROPERTY OWNERS NEED TO BE
COMPENSATED WHEN A TAKING
OCCURS. A DOLE ADMINISTRATION
WILL TAKE A COMMON SENSE,
BALANCED APPROACH TO
ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION--
SEEKING VOLUNTARY, INCENTIVE
BASED SOLUTIONS RATHER THAN**

**GOVERNMENT DECREES ORIGINATING
FROM WASHINGTON.**

***HEALTH CARE REFORM--A MAJOR
PRIORITY OF THE DOLE
ADMINISTRATION WILL BE HEALTH
CARE REFORM. I AM COMMITTED TO
PROVIDING AFFORDABLE, ACCESSIBLE
AND QUALITY HEALTH CARE TO ALL
RURAL AMERICANS. THIS INCLUDES
FULL DEDUCTIBILITY FOR HEALTH
INSURANCE. AND WE MUST PROTECT,
PRESERVE AND STRENGTHEN**

**MEDICARE FOR OUR NATION'S SENIOR
CITIZENS.**

***RURAL CRIME--CRIME IS NOT JUST
AN URBAN PROBLEM, IT IS A PROBLEM
THAT AFFECTS RURAL AMERICANS AS
WELL. THAT'S WHY I AM COMMITTED
TO ENSURING THAT RURAL AMERICA
RECEIVES ITS FAIR SHARE OF FEDERAL
ANTI-CRIME FUNDS.**

**A DOLE ADMINISTRATION WILL
CLOSE THE GAP BETWEEN CRIME AND
PUNISHMENT THROUGH TOUGH**

**MANDATORY SENTENCES FOR VIOLENT
CRIMES. I AM COMMITTED TO
WINNING BACK OUR RURAL TOWNS
AND NEIGHBORHOODS THROUGH A
WAR ON DRUGS.**

**WITH STRONG LEADERSHIP AND
EFFECTIVE POLICIES, FUTURE
GENERATIONS WILL INHERIT A SECURE,
ATTRACTIVE, AND THRIVING RURAL
AMERICA. I ENCOURAGE YOU TO JOIN
ME AS WE WORK TO IMPLEMENT A**

COMPREHENSIVE COMMITMENT TO RURAL AMERICA.

QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

1) WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON AGRICULTURE TRADE?

**IN MY VIEW, A GROWTH ORIENTED
AGRICULTURAL POLICY WILL FOSTER
EXPANDED TRADE. IN OTHER WORDS,
WE SHOULD NO LONGER TRY TO
BALANCE GLOBAL SUPPLY AND
DEMAND ON THE BACKS OF AMERICAS
FARMERS. SUCH CONTROL ONLY
ENCOURAGES INCREASED
PRODUCTION OVERSEAS.**

**EXPANDING TRADE GLOBALLY IS
JUST PART OF THE SOLUTION. WE
MUST ALSO FOCUS ON DOMESTIC
DEMAND FOR AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTS. VALUE ADDED PRODUCTS
LIKE ETHANOL AND BIO-DIESEL CREATE
DEMAND AND BOOST FARMERS
PRICES.**

**IN ORDER TO COMPETE ABROAD,
OUR FARMERS MUST CONTINUE TO BE
THE MOST PRODUCTIVE AND
COMPETITIVE IN THE WORLD. TO DO**

**THAT, WE MUST PROVIDE AMERICAS
FARMERS WITH THE BEST AVAILABLE
RESEARCH IN THE WORLD. WE MUST
MAKE A COMMITMENT TO RESEARCH
AND STREAMLINE THE APPROVAL
PROCESS FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY.**

**WE NEED TO FOCUS OUR EXPORTS
ON WHERE THE GROWTH IS --
SPECIFICALLY ASIA AND LATIN
AMERICA. AND WE MUST PLACE
GREATER EMPHASIS ON VALUE-ADDED
EXPORTS.**

**AGRICULTURAL TRADE WILL BE A
PRIORITY IN A DOLE ADMINISTRATION.
FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS -- BOTH
CUSTOMERS AND COMPETITORS --
MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THE U.S.
WILL NOT SACRIFICE ITS AGRICULTURE
INTEREST IN THE NEGOTIATION AND
SUBSEQUENT ENFORCEMENT OF
TRADE AGREEMENTS.**

**THE DOLE ADMINISTRATION WILL
INCLUDE OFFICIALS WHO**

**UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF
AGRICULTURAL TRADE.**

**NO SELECTIVE EMBARGOES.
AGRICULTURE SHOULD NOT BE
SINGLED OUT.**

**2) WHAT IS YOUR VIEW ON FREEDOM
TO FARM?**

**I SUPPORT THE OBJECTIVES OF
FREEDOM TO FARM. ELIMINATION OF
SET ASIDES, PLANTING FLEXIBILITY,
SIMPLICITY, CERTAINTY OF
PAYMENTS.**

**HOWEVER, EVEN THOUGH THESE
PAYMENTS DECLINE OVER TIME AND,
EVEN THOUGH THIS IS A CAPPED
ENTITLEMENT, I WORRY THE**

**GUARANTEED PAYMENTS WILL BE
VIEWED AS WELFARE.**

**3) REGARDING A BALANCED BUDGET,
WHAT ARE THE AG PRIORITIES?**

**EARLIER THIS YEAR, EVERY TIME I
WENT ON TELEVISION, THEY WOULD
ASK ME, "WHAT ABOUT
AGRICULTURE? ARE THEY GOING TO
CONTRIBUTE?"**

**AS I HAVE SAID, EVERYTHING HAS
BEEN ON THE TABLE. THE CUTS MUST
BE FAIR AND EQUITABLE. FARMERS
TELL ME THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO**

**DO THEIR FAIR SHARE IN BALANCING
THE BUDGET -- AS LONG AS EVERYONE
ELSE IS WILLING TO CONTRIBUTE.**

**THE BALANCED BUDGET PLAN
WHICH REPUBLICANS HAVE PUT
FORWARD TREATS AGRICULTURE
FAIRLY AND EQUITABLY WITH OTHER
FEDERAL PROGRAMS. (AG CUTS
EQUAL \$12.2 BILLION OVER 7 YEARS)**

**FREEDOM TO FARM HAS GONE A
LONG WAYS TOWARDS CONTRIBUTING
TOWARDS DEFICIT REDUCTION BY**

**CAPPING ENTITLEMENT SPENDING.
FARMERS AND RANCHERS
UNDERSTAND THAT BRINGING
RUNAWAY FEDERAL SPENDING UNDER
CONTROL AND BALANCING THE
BUDGET WILL MAKE THE GREATEST
CONTRIBUTION TO THE RURAL
ECONOMY BY CONTROLLING
INFLATION AND REDUCING INTEREST
RATES.**

**IN MY VIEW, AN AGREEMENT ON A
SEVEN-YEAR BALANCED BUDGET IN**

**THE NEXT FEW WEEKS WOULD BE THE
BEST PRESENT WE COULD GIVE OUR
CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN THIS
HOLIDAY SEASON.**

CLOSING STATEMENT (2 MINUTES)

MY ENTIRE PROFESSIONAL CAREER HAS BEEN SPENT TRYING TO BUILD A STRONGER, MORE VIBRANT RURAL ECONOMY. MY ROOTS, MY ETHICS AND VALUES ARE ALL GAINED FROM BY UPBRINGING IN THE FARM COMMUNITY OF RUSSELL, KANSAS.

IF BOB DOLE IS PRESIDENT, YOU WILL HAVE SOMEONE IN THE WHITE HOUSE WHO TRULY UNDERSTANDS

**THE IMPORTANCE OF A GROWING
RURAL ECONOMY. MY CABINET WILL
ALSO SHARE IN THE BELIEF THAT A
STRONG RURAL ECONOMY IS CRITICAL
TO FUTURE U.S. ECONOMIC GROWTH.**

**BOB DOLE'S ADMINISTRATION WILL
MAKE AGRICULTURE AND THE RURAL
ECONOMY A FRONT AND CENTER
ISSUE THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE COMMITMENT TO RURAL
AMERICA. WE WILL WORK TO BUILD A
BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR OUR NATION'S**

**FARMERS, RANCHERS AND SMALL
BUSINESSMEN AND WOMEN THAT
FORM THE BACKBONE OF RURAL
AMERICA.**