

File s-con_304_005_005.pdf

Correspondence between Senator Dole and Mrs. Ray Stevens from Augusta, KS, about the NASA space program.

August 19, 1969

Senator Robert Dole
U.S. Senate
Washington D.C.

Senator Dole:

In July of this year I watched the Apollo 11 Moon shot from blast off to splash down, then on to the ticker tape parades and on the the state dinner honoring the three astronauts. Granted I saw history made and agree that an accomplishment has been made. However as all this was going on I really couldn't get very excited as my thoughts kept drifting elsewhere. For instance: when the two men reached the moon I thought "this is quite an expensive trip for us (the taxpayers) to take, just sitting in our living rooms." It is my personal opinion that these three men have done nothing greater than thousands of our young American men are doing every day, fighting the war in Vietnam. As these young boys return home I don't see them being greeted by the President, a parade in their honor, nor an invitation to the state dinner. We have people in our country starving to death, and to see an event such as the state dinner, in my opinion, was in very poor taste. At this point I lost complete faith in President Nixon. These men could have been honored on a more conservative level.

As for taxes and the middle man, I realize we have to pay taxes for our country to operate; however I say let EVERYONE pay their fair share. It is common knowledge that any way you want to look at it- the middle man foots the bill. I am wondering how much more our elected officials think the middle man can tolerate. The middle class working man has no choice but to carry the load for the rich and the poor. I am definitely in favor of a tax reform program that will lighten our load—not burden us further.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Ray Stevens

Mrs. Ray Stevens

2321 Moyle

Augusta, Kansas 67010