

Space Program

March 11, 1969

Mrs. Leon A. Brethower
Bird City, Kansas 67731

Dear Mrs. Brethower:

I am writing to express my appreciation to you personally and to those Cadette Girl Scouts for letting me know their concern over a recent article about Madalyn Murray O'Hair's protest against Scripture reading activity engaged in by members of the Apollo 8 space team during their recent memorable moon flight.

In these days of social unrest and rebellion against moral and spiritual values it is most comforting to learn that many of our young people have not lost sight of the importance of Christian principles to our way of life. I am sure that the popular response to Mrs. O'Hair's outburst has been one of general disdain. As long as the vast majority of our citizens continue to adhere to religious principles, we have little to fear, in my opinion.

I salute all members of the Cadette Girl Scout Troop for recognizing the importance of Christian principles to our way of life and I hope their example will serve to remind others that freedom will die only when our people desert those principles on which our founding fathers based our Constitution.

The letters addressed to President Nixon are being forwarded to the White House and since there were some addressed to Governor Docking, I am returning these with the thought your Troop may wish to forward them to the Governor at Topeka.

Sincerely yours,

BOB DOLE
U. S. Senate

BD:gh

Bird City, Kansas

February 5, 1969

Senator Robert Hale
United States Senate
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

The group of Cadette Girl Scouts of Bird City, Kansas of which I am an adult leader are concerned about our religious freedom in the United States.

We would appreciate you speaking up for the right of every American to worship when ever or where ever he pleases. Our country was founded to give people this freedom and it is as vital today as when our country was founded.

There is a movement in our country to remove this freedom, now even from outer space. We who believe there is a God must join together and stand up for our rights. We would be happy to do our part to help in any way you might suggest.

Thank you.

Sincerely

Mrs Leon A. Bethower

Bird City, Mo.

January 29, 1969

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BOB DOLE

Dear Senator Dole,

Cadettes Girl Scout Troop of Bird City, Kansas has been working on their Active Citizenship Challenges. A letter written to the Denver Post newspaper by a citizen inspired the group to express their feelings on keeping our freedoms. The letter told of the atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair & her opinions against the prayer & Bible reading of the crew of Apollo 8. As a group we discussed this and will do our part of declaring our views. We want our people and nation to keep our freedom of religion. Crewmen should have the freedom to praise God - they were not forced to do this.

Yours truly,
Donna Johnson

(Leader)

Bird City, Kansas
Jan. 29, 1969

Dear Senator Dole,

I read an article in the Denver Post which stated that the atheist are now trying to take our rights of freedom of religion away from us even in outer space. I think this is rather stupid. It looks to me like if you wanted to read the Bible or pray it should be your own decision. After all, no one is being forced to pray in space. I think that people that believe as I do should stand up for their rights also. I think God can help us with our problems in space, but only if we ask it of him in prayer.

Sincerely,
Dann Johnson

Bird City, Kansas
February 26, 1969

Dear Bob Dole,

I'm writing this letter in reply to an article in the Denver Post in which a woman expressed her views about the astronauts reading scriptures from the Bible when they were in orbit.

I feel that it should be said that the United States Constitution gives people the freedom of religion and that if the astronauts, and anyone else who believes in God, wants to pray or read the Bible in public they should be allowed to do so. I believe that because of all of the freedoms given in the Bill of Rights that she has the right to criticize but others also have the rights to do as they please.

These rights were given to us by our forefathers and they are good and just ones. Please consider my opinion on the subject.

Sincerely,
Darlene Sawyer