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RR 1, Otis, Kansas 67565
August 28, 1967

AUG 30 1967

BOB DOLE

The Honorable Bob Dole
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Dole:

I am a 36-year-old grain farmer residing in Barton County, Kansas with my wife and two sons. I have been voting conservatively on issues and for candidates in various elections, and I have been paying enough (actually too much) taxes in recent years. I belong to the American Legion, which supports principles dedicated to the strength and security of the United States. I am an active member of the American Lutheran Church.

I am writing about an important matter in which you may have a vital part. This matter consists of the three pending Panama Canal Treaties, which have been presented to the U. S. Senate for a vote. Because they involve the disposition of U. S. property, the treaties may be considered also in the U. S. House.

I expect you to vote against all three of the pending Panama Canal Treaties should the House have the occasion to vote, and I want all of these treaties to be defeated.

I am aware that the Panama Canal Treaties represent the achievement of an important Communist goal, and I cannot understand how any senator could vote to give the Communists something that they have been working toward for nearly fifty years.

The current treaties, if ratified, will represent another major disaster in America's tragic retreat from the defense of freedom. Their ratification will be a major geopolitical defeat for the United States. Who are the architects of defeat in Washington? Are we not entitled to expect that at least thirty-four patriotic senators will stand up and defend the position of the United States in the Canal Zone by voting not to ratify them and, in view of the recent loss of the Suez Canal, will save us from the loss of another essential ocean lifeline of the shrinking free world? In addition, shouldn't the same situation (in proportion to the membership) prevail in the House should the occasion arise? The vote may be very close, and one single vote may be decisive; therefore; please consider this matter thoroughly then speak out against these three treaties and vote "No" against all three of these treaties if such situations occur.

I commend you for your voting for conservatism and/or national security which you have done on many occasions, and I thank you for your immediate and thorough attention to the above three treaties.

Sincerely,

August 31, 1967

Panama Canal

[REDACTED]
Otis, Kansas 67565

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

Thank you for your letter of August 28, and for taking the time to give me the benefit of your views on the proposals advocated by President Johnson relative to the Panama Canal.

Though I do not as a Member of the House, have a voice vote on this question, I nevertheless feel very strongly on it, and as you indicated, the treaties as proposed would, if ratified, constitute a shameful giveaway and constitute further concessions our country has already made to world communism over the years.

Inasmuch as our Constitution reserves treaty ratifications exclusively to the U.S. Senate, you may wish to let our Kansas Senators, Senator Frank Carlson and Senator James Pearson, know your position on this issue.

I am enclosing a copy of a release based on a partial tabulation of returned questionnaires recently sent to people of the First Congressional District, and also copies of other releases indicating my position on vital issues confronting us at this time.

Do continue to give me the benefit of your views, and any time I may be of assistance, do let me know.

Sincerely yours,

BOB DOLE
Member of Congress

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Enclosure