

FROM: THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE  
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KANSAS CITY, Kans., June 24 -- Congressman Bob Dole tonight said America's leaders must set priorities in international affairs "because we have other demands on our resources which can no longer be ignored."

But the Kansas Congressman, speaking here at a meeting of the Federated Republican Club of Wyandotte County, cautioned the U.S. should not withdraw from its world responsibilities.

"I am not advocating an international policy of isolationism," he said. "Many developing nations would be living under communism were it not for America's assistance. To withdraw this support altogether would throw their economies into chaos and would be contrary to our national interests."

"But we cannot no more afford to police the world than we can to ignore it," he said.

"What we can do is set realistic, attainable objectives within the framework of the resources we can afford to allocate," Dole said.

Pointing out some developed nations have not carried their share of the burden, he said, "America must make it clear to our foreign allies that our continuing efforts will have to be part of a greater cooperative effort."

"Our allies," he said, "should, in their own self interest and in the interest of world stability and peace, increase their part in sharing the responsibilities of the free world."

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Turning to the urban crisis, Dole said, "Rather than pouring tax dollars in federally administered programs, we must offer tax incentives to private enterprise to move in and do the job, to provide jobs without bureaucratic fetters."

"So long as we continue to have centrally administered programs designed merely to sustain people at the poverty level," he said, "our disadvantaged Americans will remain a drain on our tax dollars."

"To the extent that we help them help themselves become productive and participating members of society, they will become taxpayers rather than tax users," he added.

The programs which require federal financing, Dole said, should be administered by state and local governments "which can cope with the problems at their sources."

Urging "reason and responsibility" in fiscal matters, Dole said, "One of the first steps is to reduce to the maximum extent and if possible, eliminate our continuing budget deficits."

Pointing out budget cuts can and should be made, Dole added, "But it is irresponsible to just pick a figure and start slashing. The answer to our fiscal problems is one of priority -- which projects can be delayed and which are vital to our nation's economic wellbeing."