

FROM: OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE  
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LAWRENCE, KANS., JUNE ~~14~~<sup>13</sup> - U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE (R-KANS.) SAID AMERICANS EXPERIENCED "GREAT HOPE" WHEN PRESIDENT NIXON ANNOUNCED THE PROPOSED WITHDRAWAL OF 25,000 AMERICAN TROOPS FROM VIETNAM.

DOLE, SPEAKING TO THE 1969 SESSION OF GIRLS' STATE ON THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS CAMPUS, POINTED OUT THAT FROM 1960 THROUGH 1968, COMMITMENT TO VIETNAM INCREASED FROM 113 AMERICANS TO MORE THAN A HALF MILLION. HE SAID, "THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN SOLDIERS FROM THE BATTLEFIELDS WOULD BE A SIGNIFICANT STEP TOWARD PEACE LONG AWAITED BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE."

THE SENATOR SAID THOSE WHO "CRITICISE EVERY MOVE TOWARD PEACE MADE BY PRESIDENT NIXON" TO END THE WAR HE INHERITED SHOULD HOLD THEIR FIRE". DOLE CONTINUED, "THIS IS A TIME FOR NATIONAL UNITY. WE ARE AT A JUNCTURE WHICH MAY VERY WELL DETERMINE A NEW DIRECTION TO EMBARK IN OUR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE WORLD PEACE."

HE CONCLUDED, "WHILE THE CONFLICT IN VIETNAM CONTINUES, FOR THE FIRST TIME AN AMERICAN PRESIDENT, PRESIDENT NIXON, IS ORDERING AMERICANS HOME RATHER THAN SENDING THOUSANDS MORE TO SOUTH VIETNAM."

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