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FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE

NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

(202) 225-6521

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TOPEKA, Kans., Oct. 10 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today said "the entire orientation of U.S. policy in Vietnam has changed despite the allegations of those who confuse, confound and contaminate the issues."

"We are withdrawing troops, not adding them.

"We ware increasing participation of South Vietnamese forces, not discouraging it.

"We are scaling down U.S. combat operations, not intensifying them.

"These are not the policies of the past," Dole said. "These are not policies to escalate the war."

"If there is criticism for following past policies, for not changing, for being inflexible and unresponsive, let this criticism be directed where it rightly belongs -- at Hanoi," he said.

"They are the ones who have not made reasonable suggestions," Dole said. "They have not made meaningful gestures toward peace. They are not the ones who expressed willingness to reach viable compromises.

'What do the critics of Richard Nixon's Vietnam policy want?", Dole asked. "Is it tyranny in South Vietnam? Is it peace at any price? Or is it a game which noted political columnist David Broder calls 'The Breaking of the President'?"

Dole spoke at a kickoff meeting of KaMPAC, a new separate political action arm of the Kansas Medical Society here.

"Each day, all of us continue to see in Vietnam tragic loss of life and vast expenditures of resources," Dole said. "We have paid a terrible price for not heeding General Macarthur's warning against involvement in an Asian land war.

"But the question is no longer whether our direct involvement in the war will escalate, but how rapidly our troops will be brought home. This is a fundamental fact that has been obscured and ignored."