FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510 (202) 225-6521

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WASHINGTON, D.C. May 18 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) in expanding on remarks made earlier today on CBS news said that he plans to make certain that "nothing in any resolution on our involvement in Southeast Asia passed by the Senate is intended to embarrass or question the President's good faith or prevent the President at any time from taking such action as he deems necessary to protect American troops in South Vietnam.

"It is imperative that we clarify the question of protection of the troops even if to do so will take an additional three or four weeks or more debate on the Senate floor."

Dole said he is hopeful some compromise can be reached which will make it clear that the President retains this right.

"It is important that the President be able to act quickly should our troops be placed in a position of eminent danger," Dole said.

"Let me make it clear," he continued, "that I oppose the idea of sending troops in to bolster the Lon Nol government. I do support the President's Vietnamization program and feel it is necessary that the President be able to send troops outside Vietnam if necessary to protect our troops and keep the Vietnamization and withdrawal programs on schedule."