

FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE
NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510
(202) 226-6521

528

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C., Sept 1 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today joined 13 other Senators in sending a letter to President Nixon urging him to offer at the Paris negotiations a comprehensive proposal for an internationally supervised standstill cease-fire in Vietnam.

The letter to the President appealed for "a course of action which has not yet been tried, but which we believe could move us toward a just and responsible peace."

Five areas were outlined for the cease-fire proposal:

- a) International peacekeeping machinery required to oversee the cease-fire, the protection of minorities against terrorism and political reprisals, and withdrawal of all outside military forces within a specified period following the effective date of the cease-fire;
- b) The conduct of prompt free elections supervised by a mixed electoral commission in which the Government of Vietnam, The National Liberation Front, and the broad middle spectrum of religious and political forces are fairly represented, with all sides agreeing to accept the results of the elections;
- c) Safeguards to assure freedom of speech, assembly and the press to all the people of South Vietnam;
- d) Release of all prisoners of war and political prisoners by both sides;
- e) Economic and medical relief and assistance to bind the wounds of war and to provide for social and economic reconstruction in South and North Vietnam.

The ~~signing~~ Senators stated that they were encouraged by the President's appointment of Ambassador David K. E. Bruce to lead the U.S. delegation at Paris and that they believed, "A proposal at this time for an overall cease-fire by all parties throughout Vietnam could present a new context for the Paris negotiations, give fresh and added meaning to our previous proposals, and create a new impetus for the other side to respond."

Signatures appearing on the letter were; Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.), Hugh Scott (R-Penn.), Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.), Robert J. Dole (R-Kans.), Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.), Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.), Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.), Alan Bible (D-Nev.), Thomas J. McIntyre (D-N.H.), Winston Prouty (R-Vt.), Birch Bayh (D-Ind.), Charles H. Percy (R-Ill.), Milt Young (R-N.Dak.), and Ted Stevens (R-Alaska).