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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 2 --- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today termed President Nixon's Des Moines, Iowa, speech yesterday as an expression of the President's commitment to help the American farmer.

Nixon and Secretary of Agriculture Clifford Hardin flew to Des Moines yesterday where Nixon addressed the joint Iowa legislative body to explain his revenue sharing program and how it will benefit the agricultural community.

The Kansas Senator said:

The President went to Iowa, one of the nation's leading agricultural states, to communicate with rural America. He told the legislators that he believes state legislators for rural oriented states know better what affects rural America than the officials in Washington.

"President Nixon knows that to communicate means to listen, as well as talk," Dole commented.

While in Des Moines, Nixon announced he is increasing the amount of funds for rural revenue sharing by \$100 million. The new figure, \$1.1 billion, is about 25 per cent more than the present appropriations and commitments.

"Under the Presidents's new formula," Dole said, "none of the states would receive less, and some would receive considerably more funding."

Dole, who in a recent speech said, "there is no room for party politics in agricultural policies," noted that the President is offering his revenue sharing plan in a bi-partisan spirit. Dole pointed out that the President told the Iowa legislators:

I seek bi-partisan support --- for they cut to the heart of our hopes for progress in America, not just this year, but for the balance of the decade and the balance of the century.