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WASHINGTON, D.C., Sept. 13, 1971 --- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.)

met privately with President Nixon today to report on the findings of the Senator's recent trip to Southeast Asia. Earlier in the day, Dole had attended a Cabinet meeting at the White House.

The Kansas Senator told the President he was particularly interested in looking into the drug abuse program conducted by the U.S. armed forces in South Vietnam. Dole said he was briefed on the program's dismissal process for servicemen heading back to the states, by the general in charge of the program in Long Binh. Dole inspected Long Binh's laboratory and holding facilities that are used in the GI departure process, and talked with personnel conducting the program. Dole, who financed last month's trip himself, expressed concern over the availability and open sale of drugs in Southeast Asia, noting that in Vietnam a 97 per cent pure gram of heroin sells for \$1.82, while the same drug would cost \$32 in the United States.

Dole, who met with Major General Creighton W. Abrams and Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker while in South Vietnam last month, told the President he was able to see first-hand that the Vietnamization program is working. The Kansas Senator also met with South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu and South Vietnamese Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky.

Dole, for a long time active in focusing worldwide attention on the plight of American servicemen who are being held as prisoners of war or who are listed as missing in action, inspected the treatment of North Vietnamese POWs held in South Vietnam.

He viewed a detention facility in Bien Hoa for North Vietnamese POWs and reported to the President that according to his findings, "American-held and South Vietnamese-held POWs are receiving humane and fair treatment, as designated in the Geneva Conventions." Dole said he was pleased to see that these prisoners were allowed full use of recreational facilities, to receive and send mail freely, to receive food and gifts, and to receive visits from family members; but was deeply disturbed to know that American POWs are not receiving reciprocal treatment.

While conferring with the President for almost an hour today, the new economic program and the President's economic proposals to Congress were also discussed. Dole told President Nixon that the majority of Kansans have responded to the announcement of the new program with "overwhelming approval," and that he believes Kansans will continue to support the efforts toward a new prosperity for Kansas and the country.