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National Recognition Due POWS and MIAs

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 16----- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) cosponsored recently two bills intended to express national gratitude and concern for American servicemen who are Prisoners of War (POWs) or who are listed as Missing In Action (MIAs) in Southeast Asia.

One bill is designed to exempt from taxation the compensation payable to POWs and MIAs during the Vietnam conflict for the period they are held prisoner or are in a missing status. Senate Bill 2944 would amend Section 112 of the Internal Revenue Code to exclude from gross income the entire amount of the compensation of members of the Armed Forces who are POWs or MIAs during the Vietnam conflict.

The second bill, Senate Bill 2945, would enable the sons of POWs and MIAs to compete for Presidential appointments to U.S. service academies.

Dole said that the overall purpose of this legislation "is to express in some measure this nation's gratitude to these men and its awareness of the very special sacrifice they they and their families have been called upon to make."

The Kansas Senator added that the cost of the legislation he cosponsored would be modest, but "the need for the national recognition of the sacrifices made by American POWs, MIAs and their families, is large."