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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 225–6521 Joe Reppert—Press Secretary

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DOLE INQUIRY POSSIBLE MILITAR' FUEL WASTE RECEIVES ACTION

(R.-Kans.)

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole said today from his Washington office that Defense Secretary James Schlesinger had ordered an immediate investigation of Dole's inquiry of December 21 regarding possible "wholesale waste of large quantities of JP-4 jet fuel" by the military.

Dole had written both Schlesinger and Energy Office Director William Simon on Friday about a report he had received of wasteful fuel policies at Fort Campbell Kentucky.

"Secretary Schlesinger has ordered an immediate investigation of the matter in response to my request," said Dole. "I have been assured that should the evidence confirm that the planes are flying simply to burn up fuel so that new shipments can be stored on base, then an order to cease and desist such wasteful practices will be issued immediately."

Dole said that he had some indication that such policies were being carried out not just at the Kentucky base, but at other bases across the country. He said he had asked this morning that Schlesinger order a comprehensive investigation to determine just how widespread the practice may be."

"If the problem is as bad as it seems," he said, "the waste involved could be enormous. As much as a million gallons could be involved at the Kentucky base alone."

Dole, in Washington as the Senate attempted to work out its differences with the House of Representatives on the Emergency Energy bill, said he expected a more detailed report from the Defense Department within the next few days.