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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 31, 1990

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DOLE ON STATE OF THE UNION

THE PRESIDENT'S BOLD PROPOSAL FOR FURTHER REDUCTIONS IN U.S. FORCES IN EUROPE KEEPS US ON THE OFFENSIVE AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE. THE BALL IS NOW IN GORBACHEV'S COURT, SO WE'LL SEE HOW SERIOUS THE SOVIETS ARE ABOUT CUTBACKS. UNTIL THEN, THE PRESIDENT HAS SENT THE RIGHT SIGNAL: AMERICA MUST STAY STRONG.

THE PRESIDENT CORRECTLY INDICATES THAT THIS IS A PERIOD OF GREAT HOPE -- AND ALSO UNCERTAINTY. WE HAVE TO KEEP OUR EYES WIDE OPEN AND OUR GUARD UP.

LET'S HOPE THESE REALITIES HELP SLOW DOWN THE CLAMOR TO SPEND THE SO-CALLED PEACE DIVIDEND.

THE PRESIDENT ALSO SENT THE RIGHT SIGNAL ON SOCIAL SECURITY: DON'T MESS WITH IT! EVEN THOUGH SOME DEMOCRATS WANT TO TAMPER WITH SOCIAL SECURITY AND BENEFITS, THE PRESIDENT MADE IT CLEAR HE WON'T STAND FOR ANYONE TRYING TO RENEGE ON THE PROMISE WE'VE MADE WITH SENIORS AND WORKING AMERICANS.

IT'S AN OPTIMISTIC, "CAN DO" STATE OF THE UNION, WHICH ADVANCES A HOPE AGENDA, ONE IN SHARP CONTRAST WITH THE DEMOCRAT'S NOPE AGENDA.

THE ULTRA LIBERALS AND THE ULTRA CONSERVATIVES MAY NOT LIKE TONIGHT'S SPEECH, WHICH TELLS ME GEORGE BUSH IS RIGHT IN STEP WITH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

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