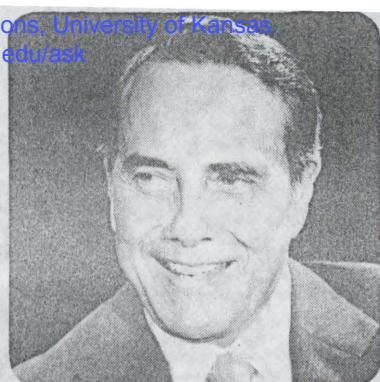


BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
OCTOBER 29, 1990

CONTACT: WALT RIKER
(202) 224-5358

RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION TOPEKA, KANSAS

THANK YOU VERY MUCH GENERAL KENNEDY. IT'S A PLEASURE TO SPEAK BEFORE SUCH A DISTINGUISHED GROUP OF KANSANS -- AND A DISTINGUISHED GROUP OF AMERICAN VETERANS.

THESE ARE PROUD TIMES FOR KANSAS AND THE AMERICAN MILITARY. I'M CERTAIN IT DID NOT ESCAPE ANYONE'S NOTICE HERE THAT WHEN THE PRESIDENT CALLED TO CONFRONT SADDAM HUSSEIN'S BRUTAL MIDDLE EAST AGGRESSION, AIR NATIONAL GUARDSMEN FROM TOPEKA AND WICHITA WERE AMONG THE FIRST TO RESPOND, TAKING TO THE AIR IN THEIR KC-135 REFUELING TANKERS. THESE TANKERS PROVED TO BE THE BACKBONE OF OUR AIRLIFT CAPABILITY, MAKING OPERATION DESERT SHIELD THE OVERNIGHT SUCCESS THAT STOPPED SADDAM IN HIS TRACKS.

U.S. TROOPS & SAUDI SANDS

A COUPLE OF MONTHS AGO IN SAUDI ARABIA, I HAD A CHANCE TO VISIT WITH SCORES OF U.S. TROOPS, INCLUDING A COUPLE OF ARMY ENLISTED MEN FROM KANSAS. AND I DON'T NEED TO TELL YOU WHAT AN INSPIRATION THESE YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM ARE. I WILL NEVER FORGET MY VISIT THERE -- PLANES LANDING EVERY TEN MINUTES; THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS POURING OUT OF THOSE HUGE TRANSPORT PLANES TAKING THEIR FIRST FOOTSTEPS ON SAUDI ARABIAN SANDS, AND A STATE OF READINESS THAT IS SECOND TO NONE. I KNOW ALL OF YOU -- EVERY ONE OF US WHO HAS WORN THE UNIFORM, OR WITNESSED THE HORROR OF COMBAT -- JOIN ME IN PRAYING FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THIS MIDDLE EASTERN CRISIS.

SADDAM'S BRUTAL WAKE-UP CALL

BUT LET'S FACE IT, WITH HIS INVASION OF KUWAIT, SADDAM HUSSEIN SOUNDED AN IMPORTANT WAKE-UP CALL. EVEN THOUGH THE SOVIET THREAT MIGHT BE A THING OF THE PAST, THE WORLD IS STILL A DANGEROUS AND UNPREDICTABLE PLACE. ON SATURDAY, THE SENATE APPROVED THE LARGEST DEFICIT REDUCTION PACKAGE IN HISTORY. IT INCLUDED A HUGE \$180 BILLION DOLLAR CUT IN DEFENSE SPENDING OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. BUT THAT STILL DIDN'T STOP SOME LIBERALS IN CONGRESS FROM DEMANDING EVEN MORE CUTS -- THE CROWD THAT BELIEVES "CUTTING" DEFENSE ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH -- "GUTTING" IT WOULD BE EVEN BETTER. THESE WERE THE SAME MISGUIDED LIBERALS WHO, JUST A FEW DAYS BEFORE SADDAM'S TROOPS ROLLED INTO KUWAIT, WERE RUNNING AROUND DECLARING AN END NOT ONLY TO THE COLD WAR WITH THE SOVIETS, BUT ALL WAR AND THREATS OF AGGRESSION; THEY WERE TELLING AMERICA WHAT WE NEEDED WAS NOT A DEFENSE SECOND TO NONE, BUT A SECOND-RATE DEFENSE.

FREEDOM ISN'T FREE

IN VOTE AFTER VOTE, THAT MISGUIDED BUNCH SENT OUT THIS TIMID MESSAGE: AMERICA WILL DO WHATEVER MUST BE DONE TO INSURE THE PEACE -- AS LONG AS IT DOESN'T COST TOO MUCH; OR ASK FOR ANY SACRIFICE; OR FACE UP TO THE WORLD AS IT REALLY IS, RATHER THAN AS WE WOULD LIKE IT TO BE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: WITH ALL THE CHANGES IN THE WORLD, ONE THING HASN'T CHANGED. FREEDOM ISN'T FREE. BUT YOU AND I KNOW: WHATEVER IT COSTS TO INSURE FREEDOM FOR OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN, IT IS WORTH IT.

BUT MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT -- IN THIS AGE OF DEFICIT REDUCTION, WE WILL NO LONGER HAND THE PENTAGON A BLANK CHECK. AND FOR ONCE, DEFENSE SPENDING CUTS ARE BEING ACCOMPANIED BY SAVINGS IN OTHER PROGRAMS, AS WELL.

PRESIDENT BUSH CALLED ME SATURDAY NIGHT TO EXPRESS HIS THANKS FOR MY SUPPORT IN THE BUDGET NEGOTIATIONS, AND HE SAID HE HOPED I WOULD GET SOME REST AFTER THE MARATHON BARGAINING SESSIONS. I HATE TO DISAPPOINT THE PRESIDENT, BUT I WOULD MUCH RATHER BE TRAVELLING AROUND THIS GREAT STATE OF OURS WITH A GREAT KANSAN. I'M TALKING ABOUT GOVERNOR MIKE HAYDEN.

MIKE HAYDEN

MIKE HAYDEN IS ONE TOUGH GUY FROM ONE GREAT, KANSAS-STYLE FAMILY. THREE GENERATIONS OF HAYDEN MEN WENT TO WAR: HIS GRANDFATHER IN WORLD WAR I, HIS FATHER IN WORLD WAR II, AND MIKE IN VIETNAM, WHERE HE SERVED WITH DISTINCTION AS A RIFLE PLATOON LEADER AND COMPANY COMMANDER. HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE EARNED HIM A PLACE IN THE FORT BENNING OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL 'HALL OF FAME.'

BORN, RAISED AND EDUCATED IN KANSAS, MIKE HAYDEN HAS BEEN SERVING THE PEOPLE OF OUR STATE FOR THE PAST 18 YEARS. IN 1972, HE WAS ELECTED TO THE STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND ELEVEN YEARS LATER, HE HAD WORKED HIS WAY FROM THE LAST ROW IN THE KANSAS HOUSE TO THE FRONT SEAT -- SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE. NOW, MIKE IS JUST A WEEK AWAY FROM EARNING HIS SECOND TERM AS OUR STATE'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE. IF YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW TO SPELL LEADERSHIP, IT'S H-A-Y-D-E-N.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE 'SOMEONE WE AGREE WITH' -- THE DISTINGUISHED GOVERNOR OF THE GREAT STATE OF KANSAS, THE HONORABLE MIKE HAYDEN.