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DOLE CHALLENGES CLINTON

TIME FOR A MAJOR NO-HOLDS-BARRED PRESS CONFERENCE: FACE THE MEDIA ON SPECIFICS OF BIG SPENDING & TAX PACKAGE; AMERICAN PEOPLE DESERVE THE FACTS

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) today challenged President Clinton to hold a major news conference to defend the details of his tax plan. Senator Dole made the following remarks this afternoon on the Senate floor:

I know the President feels strongly about his package. I know he is doing a good job telling the American people about the concept. But I hope he will have a press conference sometime, where reporters can ask him specifics about the plan.

Have a press conference, Mr. President. Go out and let the reporters ask you about how much your tax is, how much spending, what is really in the plan; because I have to believe that less than 10 percent of the American people can tell you one thing that is in this package.

They could tell you they like the speech, Mr. President. They can tell you they like to cut the deficit, but they cannot tell you what is in your plan.

Obviously, the President would rather not talk about specifics, but we think it is time, and we will do our best on this side to try to call attention to some of the areas we believe deserve public scrutiny.

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