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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)

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DOLE AGAIN URGES ENERGY COMPROMISE

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Senator Bob Dole said today that he "feels certain" that President Ford will adopt the energy compromise which Dole initially proposed February 10.

"Three weeks ago there was plenty of talk about compromise," Dole said, "but no action. Now there are indications from both the White House and the Democratic majority that they are willing to compromise by accepting the first \$1 increase in Ford's oil import tariff proposal and postponing the next two. I feel certain that if President Ford takes the lead with a firm offer of compromise, Congress will meet him half-way."

In a telegram to Ford today, Dole urged the President to go ahead with the compromise, saying he believed a decision by Ford "to delay implementation of imported oil duty increase to \$2 per barrel can do much to break impasse over energy policy. Your energy initiatives have stimulated Congressional action," Dole said, and in the Senator's view a compromise now "can open the way to more fruitful cooperation in the future, and move us away from the confrontation toward which we were headed."

Dole's February 10th proposal would have permitted the Administration's February 1st \$1 import tariff increase to stand while suspending authority for the March 1st and April 1st increases the President planned. There are indications from the Administration that the President is considering taking such action on his own authority in hopes of striking a meaningful compromise.

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