

FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE
NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510
(202) 225-6521

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SALINA, Kans., April 19 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kansas) tonight said President Nixon "has made great strides to disperse the fog of suspicion and distrust that clouded the closing years of the Johnson Administration."

Speaking here at the Kansas Press Association convention, Dole said, "Evidence of Nixon's fulfillment of his campaign pledge to create 'an open Administration' abounds."

He cited frequent nationwide television news conferences and frequent press conferences with top members of the Nixon cabinet as two examples of Nixon's drive "to reopen the channels of credible communication between the federal government and the people."

"The availability and willingness of the President and his cabinet to be questioned on issues that are still under debate within the Administration seem close to miraculous to the Washington press corps who became accustomed to heavy restrictions during the Johnson Administration," Dole said.

Before the President unveiled his decision on the anti-ballistic missile, Dole said, "The President encouraged full congressional and public debate, very properly and democratically making it possible for him to assess public and congressional sentiment before committing the country to a certain posture."

"President Nixon knows," he said, "that a poorly-informed citizenry leads only to a deteriorating democracy and a dangerous growth and unresponsiveness of the federal government. His policy of openness and responsibility can only pay dividends for America in the years ahead."

In his speech, Senator Dole also said former U.S. Senator Frank Carlson of Concorida has agreed to serve as chairman of a statewide advisory committee to help determine "if or to what extent hunger and malnutrition exist in Kansas."

Dole said, "The contributions of former Senator Carlson to his state and nation are well known. He will provide the kind of responsible leadership the committee will need to identify and define possible problem areas in Kansas and to recommend remedial legislative and community action."

Dole noted other members of the committee will be announced soon.