FROM: OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE
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Let me visit briefly about one of the most controversial issues before Congress this year. For several weeks, knowledgable and responsible men have been testifying before the Senate Armed Services Committee on the anti-ballistic missile system proposed by President Nixon. One advocate of the modified ABM plan said it would be extremely dangerous to trust the Soviet Union not to seek a position to destroy the U. S. in a surprise attack. An opponent to the safeguard system said it would be impossible for the Soviet Union to achieve a nuclear first-strike capability by the mid 1970s.

Here we have two conflicting points of judgment from well-versed and well-intentioned men. I remember Speaker McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives, once advised that whenever the security or the survival of the United States is at stake....if there is doubt on your mind.....re-solve it on the side of our nation's security.

President Nixon's decision to deploy the safeguard anti-ballistic missile system directly affects the security of the United States, the life of Every American citizen and I happen to believe, the sur-vival of freedom everywhere. These are inescapable ingredients of his decision to proceed with the modified ABM system. The President will not compromise with these ingredients and I believe, rightly so. His case rests squarely on the need to ensure the security of the United States in the mid 1970s... and he justly resolved the ABM issue on the side of our national security and let me say that it occurs to me that we must place our national security number one on the list of priorities and I would hope that when the Senate and the House considers this highly controversial issue in the next few weeks, the Presidents view will be sustained.