

7/16

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 13---U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.)

today said President Nixon's first 9 months in office are characterized by "courage---that kind of courage basic to making the hard decisions necessary for the next decade."

In a speech here to members of the Jackson County Republican Club, Dole said, "In January, the most important challenge to the Nixon Administration was to restore confidence among the people toward the effectiveness of their government.

"This Administration is doing just that," he said. "It is oiling the governmental machinery to make it responsive to human needs and then living up to its promises."

Praising Nixon's "determination and courage" in Vietnam, Dole added, "For the first time, the question is no longer how fast our involvement will escalate, but rather how it can be contracted."

"Mr. Nixon has advanced generous and equitable grounds for compromise in his televised May 14 speech," he said. "He is the first President who has begun to bring our boys home, and to step up U.S. aid so South Vietnam can shoulder a greater share of the fighting."

"I hope that further withdrawals can be made in the very near future," Dole said. "But I would point out to the critics that no President can effect an immediate withdrawal of all troops from any combat zone."

On the President's tax reform proposals, Dole said, "They include some of the most significant benefits to individuals in the history of the income tax. If implemented they could bring individual tax relief to the tune of \$7.3 billion a year."

Turning to the President's efforts to curb inflation, Dole said, "There are hopeful indications in interest rates, the stockmarket and reduced demand for bank loans that this Administration's anti-inflation measures are taking hold.

"Unpopular as some of the measures like the surtax and reduced federal employment and government construction may be, these and other policies are necessary if we are to stabilize prices and strengthen the value of the dollar at home and abroad."