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WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 5 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole took issue with a story which appeared in today's issue of the Washington Post concerning 13 Republican Senators.

Dole said the thrust of the story "is that President Nixon and the White House staff failed to develop any strategy to counter the politically-appealing amendment offered by Senator Gore of Tennessee to increase the personal exemption from \$600 to \$800."

"It may be that some of these 13 Senators do fault the President," Dole said, "but it should be noted that only four of the 13 including Senator Percy himself, supported the so-called Percy amendment which would have increased the personal exemption to \$750."

"To some in the group who have never been Nixon supporters it perhaps comes easy for them to fault the President at every turn and to blame the White House by vague and repeated references for any complaints they may have," he said. "Some also recognize that the way to gain nationwide publicity is to attack President Nixon or the Administration because, as they know, most of the Washington-based representatives of the media are looking for 'anti-Nixon' statements and seldom interview those who support the President."

"It is unfortunate that some Republicans seek to make capital out of party differences when, in fact, they are very minor and in many cases, imaginary," Dole said. "It might be well for some of the 'untouchables' to realize that the great majority of Americans support the President and that Republicans across the country expect Republican Senators to support the President on matters of vital importance."

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"No Senator should be a rubber stamp, but neither should any Republican Senator consistently oppose the President," Dole cautioned. "The Washington Post story failed to note many important facts including the underlying fact that Republican members of the Finance Committee were opposed to increasing the personal exemption because they felt the Committee approach would do more for the average American taxpayer.

"Apparently Republican liberals expected the President to take sides and support their wishes as opposed to the wishes of the Republican members of the Finance Committee who have been carefully studying the entire tax reform matter for several months."

Dole also said he believe that some listed in the Washington Post article were not anti-Nixon and should not be included in the group.