

FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE
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WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 4 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today said President Nixon's "most dramatic achievement" in his first year in office has been "full commitment of the U.S. government to eliminating hunger and malnutrition in America."

In a statement issued here, Dole said, "Not only did the President make a rhetorical commitment, but he has followed through with specific action to give -- not just promise -- new hopes to many who previously have had little or none."

To combat hunger and malnutrition, Dole said the President has:

- *Reduced the price of food stamps and established uniform national food stamp allotments;
- *Substantially increased county and city participation in the food stamp program;
- *Alloted \$15 million to assist the states in improving commodity distribution programs;
- *Established in-depth nutrition education programs;
- *Expanded the school lunch program to reach children heretofore ineligible;
- *Asked for advice and recommendations from professionals and the poor themselves in the first White House Conference on Food, Nutrition and Health.

"Hunger and poverty amidst a nation of unprecedented plenty is a paradox and a problem which, until completely solved, will paralyze America," Dole said.

"Until last year, progress to wipe out hunger and malnutrition had been sporadic and piecemeal," the Kansas Senator said. "The tide has begun to turn. We are reaching more poor with food and with technical assistance than ever before. We are ironing out the kinks in federal food programs to make them more responsive to the needs of the poor."