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FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#358
TOPEKA, Kans. Feb. 17 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) said today that the circumstances of the times demand that the San Francisco Chief and Grand Canyon Limited trains of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway continue to serve Kansas.

The railway company has proposed discontinuing the Grand Canyon and reducing service of the Chief. Both trains carry passengers from Chicago, Ill., to various points in California.

In a statement given during Interstate Commerce Commission hearings on the petition here, Dole said, "Although solutions are in the making, if passenger rail service is even temporarily allowed to stop, reinstatement of service would be almost impossible."

While acknowledging the financial problems of the railroads, Dole said, "Dollars and cents are important to any decision on a discontinuance petition, but the public interest is also a critical concern."