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

WASHINGTON, D.C. July 7 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) has gone on record in support of a \$100 million increase in the 1971 Veterans' Administration appropriation and an All-Volunteer Armed Force.

"From personal experience, I understand the meaning of good medical care," Dole said. "The bulk of the VA hospital system was built in another era for another war; it was not designed to handle the new strains introduced by the Vietnam war. While the VA hospitals are doing a commendable job, it is clearly time to give them more assistance."

Dole is a cosponsor of a bill introduced today authorizing an All-Volunteer Armed Force. The bill would end the draft; make the pay scale of the Armed Services competitive with opportunities in civilian life; direct the Secretary of Defense to improve and expand specialist education, officer training and recruitment programs and allow for an increase in ROTC scholarships to help offset the credit restrictions imposed at many institutions.

"This proposal would make the Armed Services more than a purgatory between education and employment," Dole said. "It would make them a respected and gainful career. And it demonstrates our awareness that a nation's greatness does not lie in its power of conscription but in its ability to raise an army without it."