

FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE
NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510
(202) 225-6521

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C. July 7 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) in a telegram today to NBC requested that the network grant free, equal time to Senators opposed to the End the War Amendment.

Dole cited a letter dated July 7 from Federal Communications Commission Chairman Dean Burch as the basis of his request. The letter from Chairman Burch states, in part, "...if a station presents one side of a controversial issue of public importance, it is required to afford reasonable opportunity for the presentation of contrasting views."

Dole said there are a number of Senators who are opposed to the End the War Amendment, but are not financially able to purchase time from NBC. "We hold the view that President Nixon is ending the war and that the American public is entitled to be informed of our views," Dole said.

Dole added that the End the War Committee has reportedly raised over 1/2 million dollars from its broadcast on NBC on May 12 and that the committee is now in the process of raising additional funds through paid TV commercials on several TV stations across the country.

"The American people should not be asked to send contributions to the End the War Committee when there is little, if any, likelihood that the so-called "End the War" amendment will be adopted. While there is apparently no rule or regulation prohibiting soliciting money for such highly emotional issues, it is certainly a highly questionable practice."

Dole declared that every Senator wants to end the war and that President Nixon is embarked on a course of disengagement and has reduced American troop levels by over 115,000 since June of 1969.

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Text of the telegram:

On May 12, 1970, a 30-minute program sponsored by the Amendment to End the War Committee was broadcast on NBC-TV.

Since NBC has not broadcast contrasting views, I respectfully request that Senators opposed to the End the War Amendment be granted equal time, without cost, so that the public may be informed and the Fairness Doctrine complied with.

Your immediate response will be appreciated.