

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

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LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, Sept. 4 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today, speaking at a Republican State Convention dinner in Lincoln, Neb., said, "The eagerness today of some members of the Senate to take over from the President control of foreign policy, plus his duties as a Commander-in-Chief is exceeded only by the lethargy they showed during the decade of the 1960's when John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson were slowly but steadily involving us in an Asian land war."

The Kansas Senator cited a series of dates and events, beginning on May 5, 1961 of the Kennedy administration, when the announcement was made that the U.S. was considering use of U.S. military forces to help the Republic of Vietnam. Dole stated, "Finally, on February 28, 1969, our troop strength hit 542,000. That was the peak. From that day onward, U.S. efforts to disengage honorably and credibly and responsibly from Vietnam have been increasingly successful."

Dole charged, "The fact is those voices carping against the President today belong largely to the same persons who must share the blame for the disasters of the 1960's"

"Are there partisan elements fearful the President will win the just peace their party was incapable of winning?" Dole asked. "Have segments of our society predicted defeat so often their future rests on the realization of that defeat? Are there those who lack the perseverance to see a working program of withdrawal and disengagement through?"

Calling 1970 a "crucial" election year, Dole said, "We must unite and provide our country with the leadership it needs in this trying and perilous era."

"There is nothing we can do about our Democrat-created problems -- except solve them. But we can do something about the Democrat problem-makers and solution-blockers."

"What we can and must do is elect Republicans who will join Richard Nixon in solving our problems -- meeting our challenges and leading our country into its third century of greatness."

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