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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C., 12 NOV 70 -- Senator Bob Dole, commenting on continuing rumors about Forbes Air Force Base, today stated, "There is not now any plan by this Administration to close Forbes." Dole based his statement on a conversation with a high Department of Defense official.

Dole added, however, that there have been sharp reductions in Defense spending under this Administration, and as a result there is a continuing review of possible base closings and other means of economizing. "When reductions are made," Dole said, "there is always a possibility of this affecting any state -- including Kansas."

Dole continued, "The House, for example, before the recess cut \$2 billion from the Defense Appropriation Bill, and if this cut is not restored in the Senate, the Secretary of Defense will be required to make reductions in many areas."

Dole emphasized, "It is important that in our efforts to reduce defense spending, we do not impair or endanger our national security."

Dole said he had been advised there would be no statement made until after the first of the year regarding what, if any, bases might be affected.