

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C., NOVEMBER 30, 1970 -- The following is the text of U.S. Senator Bob Dole's message cabled today to Minister Xuan Thuy, Representative of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, Paris, France.

"With the approach of the Christmas and Oriental New Year seasons, I call upon you to make a special gesture regarding U.S. Servicemen you hold prisoner in your country. I can think of no better way nor more appropriate occasion for you to demonstrate to the American people, and indeed to the people of the world, the humanitarian policy which you proclaim. In addition to the holiday ceasefire you have proclaimed, it would be particularly fitting for you to release the men you hold prisoner. I call upon you to set aside political differences and other grievances to accomplish this simple humanitarian act."

In releasing his message, Dole stated that if the North Vietnamese are sincere, it is time they take some positive action. Dole added he hoped his colleagues would join with similar requests to demonstrate their concern for American prisoners.