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WASHINGTON, D.C., July 16 --- Kansas Senator Bob Dole issued today the following statement from his Washington Senate office in response to President's Nixon's announcement last night concerning his plans to visit Mainland China before next May.

President Nixon's decision to visit Mainland China is a further indication that he is a President who intends to solve problems, not perpetuate them.

Surely those who share the President's goal of a full generation of peace must agree that a softening of relations with the world's largest nation can only enhance the chances of reaching that goal.

Although I recognize that there is concern in some quarters over this move, I believe that two points will help keep it in proper perspective.

First, President Nixon has always dealt in foreign affairs from a position of strength. His approaches to world peace and to peace in Vietnam have been conciliatory, but have not been timid or weak. He has not made the mistakes of some recent Presidents in offering concessions before they were sought, or without asking a quid pro quo.

Second, the President has not made this move at the expense of the independence of Nationalist China. He continues to live up to our national commitments.

All in all, I believe the President's initiative has greatly improved our chances for world peace and world stability; and is a realistic facing up to the world situation as it exists today.