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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JANUARY 24, 1990

SENATOR DOLE/KASSEBAUM OPEN SECOND SESSION WITH ACTIONS TO LAUNCH THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF DWIGHT DAVID EISENHOWER;

RESOLUTION TO COMMEMORATE EISENHOWER'S BIRTH AND FELLOWSHIP ENDOWMENT BILL INTRODUCED.

Washington, D.C.-- "EISENHOWER IS A NAME THAT STANDS TALL WITH THE GIANTS OF AMERICAN HISTORY," SENATOR BOB DOLE (R-KS) SAID TODAY AS THE SENATE OPENED THE SECOND SESSION OF THE 101ST CONGRESS. DOLE AND SENATOR NANCY KASSEBAUM (R-KS) INTRODUCED A JOINT RESOLUTION TO COMMEMORATE OCTOBER 14, 1990, THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF DWIGHT DAVID EISENHOWER.

THE KANSAS SENATORS ALSO INTRODUCED A BILL THAT WOULD ESTABLISH A PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FOR THE EISENHOWER EXCHANGE FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM.

"EISENHOWER'S MARK WAS THAT OF A TRUE LEADER -- OF MEN IN WAR, OF THE PEOPLE OF HIS COUNTRY, AND OF ALL NATIONS STRIVING FOR PEACE. WITH THE CENTENNIAL YEAR OF EISENHOWER'S BIRTH UPON US, I BELIEVE IT IS ESPECIALLY APPROPRIATE TO HONOR THE FORMER PRESIDENT. THE 1990 CENTENNIAL GIVES US A NEW OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ON EISENHOWER'S GREATNESS," SAID DOLE.

"THE COMBINATION OF IKE'S MILITARY ACCOMPLISHMENT AND HIS DEVOTION TO PUBLIC SERVICE HAS MADE HIM A HERO NOT ONLY IN THE SUNFLOWER STATE, BUT ALSO ACROSS OUR NATION AND AROUND THE GLOBE," SAID DOLE.

THE EISENHOWER EXCHANGE FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM, INC., ESTABLISHED IN 1953, WAS DEVELOPED TO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING THROUGH THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, IDEAS, AND PERSPECTIVES AMONG EMERGING LEADERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. THE BILL INTRODUCED WOULD ESTABLISH A \$5 MILLION PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FOR THE FELLOWSHIPS. THE BILL WOULD MATCH THE FUNDS THE PROGRAMS CAN RAISE FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR, UP TO AN ADDITIONAL \$2.5 MILLION, OVER THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

"THIS YEAR MARKS THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE THE BIRTH OF DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, AND THIS LEGISLATION REPRESENTS A MOST FITTING MEMORIAL TO HIM. AS A MAN WHO KNEW WELL AND CARED DEEPLY ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, PRESIDENT EISENHOWER WOULD HAVE MOVED QUICKLY TO EXTEND THE HAND OF HELP AND FRIENDSHIP TO THE PEOPLES OF EASTERN EUROPE IN THEIR STRUGGLE TO BE FREE. THE RAPID AND ASTONISHING DEVELOPMENTS IN THOSE NATIONS DURING THE PAST YEAR STAND IN STARK CONTRAST TO THE GLOOMY COLD WAR ATMOSPHERE WHICH EXISTED WHEN EISENHOWER LEFT OFFICE IN 1961," SAID KASSEBAUM.

"SINCE ITS FOUNDING, THIS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM HAS SERVED TO INVITE RISING LEADERS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES FOR VISITS TO THE U.S., AND TO GIVE AMERICANS SIMILAR EXPOSURE TO OTHER COUNTRIES. IT HAS CLEARLY HELPED DEMONSTRATE EISENHOWER'S CONVICTION THAT WORLD PEACE COULD BEST BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FRIENDSHIPS BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS," SAID DOLE.

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SOMETIMES PEOPLE MIGHT THINK I SEND A MESSAGE TOO LOUD -- BUT I HAVEN'T RECEIVED TOO MANY COMPLAINTS IN MY CAREER THAT MY CRITICISM HASN'T BEEN CLEAR ENOUGH.

SO IF SOMEONE IS LOOKING FOR VEILED MESSAGES, OR SECRET CODES, OR HIDDEN MOTIVES -- LOOK AT MY RECORD; AND THEN LOOK SOMEWHERE OTHER THAN THIS PROPOSAL. IT IS WHAT IT IS, AND I HOPE IT WILL BE CONSIDERED AND EVALUATED AND JUDGED ON THAT BASIS.

THE NEW WORLD

SO I JUST SAY THIS: LET US LOOK, REALISTICALLY, AT THE NEW WORLD OUT THERE. LET US REMEMBER, REALISTICALLY, THE BUDGET AND DEFICIT REALITIES WE FACE.

AND LET US CONSIDER WHETHER THE TIME HAS COME TO RE-THINK THE ALMOST AUTOMATIC, KNEE-JERK PROCESS OF FOREIGN AID EARMARKING -- WHICH HAS TURNED FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS INTO SOMETHING AKIN TO ENTITLEMENT PROGRAMS; AND WHICH HAS ROBBED THE PRESIDENT OF THE FLEXIBILITY HE NEEDS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITIES WE NOW SEE EVERY DAY -OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP AMERICA, AND TO ADVANCE FREEDOM.

I HOPE, AND BELIEVE, THAT MY OP ED HAS ALREADY SERVED AN IMPORTANT PURPOSE. SOME OBSERVERS, SUCH AS THE PRESIDENT, CONGRESSMAN HAMILTON, THE WASHINGTON POST AND OTHERS --HAVE SUGGESTED IT ALREADY HAS, IN STARTING A REAL DEBATE ON THESE IMPORTANT ISSUES.

LAST FRIDAY, I MET WITH THE DISTINGUISHED MAJORITY LEADER, SENATOR MITCHELL, AND WITH SECRETARY BAKER -- TO DISCUSS THE WHOLE FOREIGN AID ISSUE. SENATOR MITCHELL INDICATED HE WOULD BE TAKING UP THE ISSUE IN MEETINGS ON HIS SIDE, AND I WILL BE DOING THE SAME THING OVER

WOULD BE TAKING UP THE ISSUE IN MEETINGS ON HIS SIDE, AND I WILL BE DOING THE SAME THING OVER ON THIS SIDE.

SO I DO BELIEVE THE DEBATE HAS STARTED.

I'M PLEASED AND PROUD OF THAT. I HOPE THAT DEBATE WILL GO FORWARD; I LOOK FORWARD TO PLAYING AN ON-GOING ROLE; AND TO ALL MY SENATE AND HOUSE COLLEAGUES I SAY -- COME ON IN, THE WATER IS A LITTLE WARM, BUT IT'S FINE.