

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NOVEMBER 13, 1990

CONTACT: WALT RIKER
(202) 224-5358

DOLE/BUSH IN SAUDI ARABIA

DOLE TO JOIN PRESIDENT BUSH IN SAUDI ARABIA; THANKSGIVING WITH THE TROOPS; TOUR FORT RILEY MONDAY

WASHINGTON -- SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE (R-KS) ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT HE HAS ACCEPTED A SPECIAL INVITATION FROM PRESIDENT BUSH AND WILL SPEND THANKSGIVING THIS YEAR IN SAUDI ARABIA WITH AMERICAN TROOPS.

THE PRESIDENT EXTENDED THE INVITATION TO THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP YESTERDAY.

DOLE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT ON MONDAY HE WILL TOUR FORT RILEY KANSAS, HOME OF THE ARMY'S "BIG RED ONE" 1ST DIVISION WHICH HAS BEEN ORDERED TO GULF REGION TO SUPPORT OPERATION DESERT SHIELD. ARMY CHIEF-OF-STAFF GENERAL CARL VUONO WILL ACCOMPANY SENATOR DOLE ON THE FORT RILEY TOUR.

"I CAN'T THINK OF A BETTER WAY TO SPEND THIS THANKSGIVING THAN TO SPEND IT WITH OUR TROOPS IN SAUDI ARABIA. I AM GRATEFUL TO THE PRESIDENT FOR INVITING ME TO JOIN HIM ON HIS MIDDLE EAST MISSION.

"I'LL BE LEAVING WITH THE REST OF THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP NEXT TUESDAY AND WE WILL MEET UP WITH PRESIDENT BUSH IN SAUDI ARABIA IN TIME FOR THANKSGIVING.

"OUR TRIP WILL SERVE AS A POWERFUL DEMONSTRATION OF BI-PARTISAN SUPPORT FOR OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM.

"IT SHOULD ALSO BE ANOTHER MESSAGE TO SADDAM HUSSEIN THAT CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE STAND UNITED IN DEFIANCE OF HIS BRUTAL INVASION OF KUWAIT.

"JUST TWO MONTHS AGO, I TRAVELLED TO SAUDI ARABIA TO SHAKE HANDS WITH THE FINEST SOLDIERS IN THE WORLD AND TO TELL THEM THAT AMERICA IS PROUD OF THEIR COURAGEOUS STAND AGAINST SADDAM HUSSEIN. IT WILL BE AN HONOR TO GO BACK TO SAUDI ARABIA TO TELL THEM AMERICA STILL SAYS "THANK YOU" -- AND THAT'S WHAT THANKSGIVING IS ALL ABOUT.

"I AM ALSO LOOKING FORWARD TO TOURING FORT RILEY AND VISITING WITH THE CRACK 'BIG RED ONE'. I'LL OBSERVE TRAINING AND DEPLOYMENT AND SPEND TIME WITH THE FAMILIES, TOO. KANSANS ARE PROUD OF FORT RILEY AND THE 1ST INFANTRY AND WE WILL BE PRAYING FOR A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION TO THE GULF CRISIS AS THE 'BIG RED ONE' HEADS TO THE MIDDLE EAST," DOLE SAID.

DOLE SCHEDULE ON BACK FOR FT. RILEY.

###