



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-6521

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1979

CONTACT: BOB WAITE, BILL KATS
202-224-8953, 224-8947

AMERICANS WILL ACCEPT 'CREDIBLE' ENERGY POLICY, DOLE SAYS

OMAHA, Neb. -- Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) said today that the American people are ready to accept a credible energy proposal, but that the Carter Administration may offer little more than a rehash of the energy program that met with disaster in Congress.

"The President has a rare opportunity to dramatically change the direction of this country," Dole said. "However, in the past he has built his policy on mythical energy conservation imposed by heaping punishing taxes on the American public.

"I fear that the new program will be a rehash of the last. Congress will not buy schemes which don't address real energy production. Americans are willing to pay a fair price for energy, but they will not tolerate artificial means to regulate their lives.

"A properly structured oil decontrol program with the possibility for an energy 'plowback' will encourage oil production. It is absurd to continually pay higher prices for OPEC oil. The American people will believe and accept a credible energy policy.

"With the sharp increase in gasoline prices, many groups are becoming interested in the benefits of using gasohol as an alternative source of fuel. Congress should provide more incentives, like an increased investment tax credit and a five-year extension of the gas tax exemption for gasohol. We should also patch up our relationship with Mexico so we can have reasonable access to their energy resources.

"Now it appears the Carter Administration has again gone back to the drawing board on energy policy. The fact is, it has been two years since the President announced his energy plan, dubbing it the moral equivalent of war. Now will we simply see a sequel, the Moral Equivalent of War II?"