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INCOME TAX DEADLINE REMINDS US OF BROKEN PROMISES BY CARTER, CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, D.C.-- "Will Rogers once joked that the income tax has made liars out of more Americans than even golf has. As it turns out, the real joke, as we approach tax day on April 16, is the promises that have been made by politicians concerning taxes. The income tax sure hasn't done much for their credibility, either," said Senator Bob Dole (R.-Kansas).

"These thoughts come to mind as we reach the deadline for filing our 1978 forms. And for those Americans who were led to believe that somehow they would be paying less and now find themselves frustrated as they pay more, I would like to extend my sincere condolences," said Dole.

"As a candidate for the presidency, Jimmy Carter promised never to raise the taxes of the working people of this country. Indeed, he promised to reduce the tax rate by 40 to 50 percent, in accordance with some as-yet-undisclosed formula," Dole said.

"Have taxes decreased? Ask the 80 percent of all working people whose taxes will increase this year. Ask the average family of four who has seen its tax bite rise from \$2205 in 1977 to a projected \$2886 in 1980-- a 30 percent increase. Ask the Director of the Internal Revenue Service, who for the first time in history will collect over half a trillion dollars in taxes this year-- an average of \$6800 for each and every household in America," said Dole.

"Little wonder that some organizations-- like the Teamsters-- are reluctant to abide by the President's inflationary guidelines when the government itself, the prime source of inflation, is unwilling to tighten its own belt.

"The Democratic Congress is hardly blameless either," added Dole. "Despite the small tax cut voted just before the 1978 elections, the American people are paying more than they did in the two previous years, because inflation has moved them into higher and higher tax brackets. That is why I introduced my tax indexing proposal in 1978, and reintroduced it in 1979. The American people are not stupid, nor can they be fooled into believing that their inflated dollars represent any real economic gain.

"At this rate, tax revenue will reach \$780 billion by 1984, of which \$392.1 billion will come from individual income taxes-- more than double that which was paid only last year. And yet the President has the gall to take credit for the illusionary tax cuts of 1978-- somewhat like the old-time magician who performed feats of magic while his partner quietly fleeced the crowd. No wonder people say they are 'Mad as hell, and won't take it anymore.'"

"The President should proclaim April 16, 1979 as a National Day of Mourning. After all, his campaign promises are dead. And, if we don't do something soon, the incentive for the American public to work hard, earn more money, and pay taxes will die also," Dole concluded.