

1FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
JANUARY 23, 1991

CONTACT: WALT RIKER  
(202) 224-5358

## TROOP TAX RELIEF

### DOLE BILL CLEARS COMMITTEE; DESERT STORM SOLDIERS CLOSER TO MUCH NEEDED TAX RELIEF

WASHINGTON -- SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE'S (R-KANSAS) BILL TO PROVIDE MUCH NEEDED TAX RELIEF FOR OPERATION DESERT STORM TROOPS MOVED ONE STEP CLOSER TO BECOMING LAW TODAY WHEN THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE LEGISLATION, SENDING IT TO THE SENATE FLOOR FOR A LIKELY VOTE TOMORROW.

DOLE'S LEGISLATION, S.8, WOULD PROVIDE THE IRS WITH AUTHORITY IT DOES NOT PRESENTLY HAVE TO GRANT DESERT SHIELD/STORM SOLDIERS INTEREST ON TAX REFUNDS, PAID AS OF APRIL 15TH, FOR SOLDIERS WHO FILE RETURNS WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF THE END OF COMBAT SERVICE. THE IRS ESTIMATES THAT ABOUT THREE-QUARTERS OF THE SOLDIERS IN OPERATION DESERT STORM WILL BE ENTITLED TO TAX REFUNDS.

"NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, WITH WAR RAGING IN THE GULF, WE OWE OUR BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN RELIEF FROM THE HASSLES OF MEETING TAX DEADLINES," DOLE SAID. "AND THE LAST THING OUR GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE DOING IS PROFITING FROM THE INABILITY OF THESE SOLDIERS TO FILE TIMELY TAX RETURNS WHEN THEY ARE DUE REFUNDS. REFUND INTEREST IS NOT COVERED BY THE IRS'S 'BATTLE ZONE' PROVISIONS AND THAT'S WHY IT'S SO IMPORTANT FOR CONGRESS TO APPROVE THIS COMMONSENSE LEGISLATION ON OUR TROOPS' BEHALF."

EARLIER THIS WEEK, PRESIDENT BUSH SIGNED AN EXECUTIVE ORDER EXTENDING THE TAX DEADLINE FOR TROOPS BY 180 DAYS FROM THE END OF THEIR DESERT SHIELD/STORM SERVICE, AND RELIEVING THOSE SOLDIERS OF INTEREST AND PENALTIES ON TAXES NOT PAID BY THE TRADITIONAL APRIL 15TH DEADLINE.

DOLE'S LEGISLATION EXTENDS SIMILAR RELIEF TO DESERT SHIELD PERSONNEL WHO MAY NOT QUALIFY AS COMBAT TROOPS UNDER THE EXECUTIVE ORDER, AND RELIEVES TAX DEADLINES FOR SOLDIERS CONTINUOUSLY HOSPITALIZED IN THE UNITED STATES AS A RESULT OF DESERT SHIELD/STORM SERVICE FOR UP TO FIVE YEARS.

DOLE PROMISED LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE TAX RELIEF TO DESERT SHIELD TROOPS IN EARLY DECEMBER, AND INTRODUCED THE BILL AS PRIORITY LEGISLATION ON JANUARY 14TH, THE FIRST DAY BILLS COULD BE OFFERED. S.8 HAS RECEIVED THE BIPARTISAN SUPPORT OF A WIDE MAJORITY OF SENATORS, AS WELL AS THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION.

###