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Hutchinson News Thursday, November 24, 1994

# Dole, Clinton agree on GATT

The Associated Press  
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Surrounded by Cabinet members and senior senators in the Rose Garden, Clinton announced an understanding with incoming Senate Majority Leader Dole, R-Kan., the man whose support the White House will need for virtually every piece of legislation it wants over the next two years.

"Today we have moved one step closer toward gaining broad bipartisan support for ... the largest, most comprehensive trade agreement in world history," the president said.

He expressed his "deep thanks" to Dole and his "appreciation ... for the very constructive working relationship that we have had."

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## GATT

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However, Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen sent Dole a letter promising the tax cut "will be carefully reviewed."

Another GOP senator who had been undecided, Phil Gramm of Texas, said the Dole-Clinton agreement "clears the way for me to vote for GATT." He did not say how he would vote on a waiver of Senate budget rules that is crucial to GATT's passage.

The 123-nation pact, negotiated under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, would reduce tariffs worldwide by about a third and offer more protection for American patents and copyrights.

It is scheduled for a vote Nov. 29 in the House, where it is expected to pass easily with bipartisan support, and Dec. 1 in the Senate, where the margin is viewed as narrower.

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Administration officials, facing

# Dole, Clinton agree on GATT

Administration grants demand for way to pull out of trade pact

By DAVE SKIDMORE  
The Associated Press

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Administration officials, facing the defection of senior Democratic senators Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia and Ernest F. Hollings of South Carolina, conceded they could not win the fight without Dole.

The administration granted Dole's demand for separate legislation next year making it easier for the United States, if necessary, to withdraw from the World Trade Organization, which would be set up to police the new trade accord.

A panel of five retired appellate judges would be created to review WTO decisions.

The panel could recommend that Congress vote to pull out of the WTO if the organization rendered three adverse decisions within five years that the judges considered unjustified.

The GATT accord already allows any country to withdraw with six months notice, but U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor said Dole's suggestion strengthened that protection.

"It will assure us that we have put suspenders on with our belt. That ought to assure everyone, including our friend in Texas," Kantor said, in a reference to Texas billionaire and former presidential candidate Ross Perot, an ardent GATT opponent.

The administration offered Dole concessions on three other issues:

■ It promised to review discounts on licenses to three companies developing the next generation of wireless telephones and to seek a change from Congress if it decided the government was not receiving a fair price.

■ It said it would not oppose legislation next year fixing the term of U.S. patents at 20 years from the date of application or 17 years from the date of the grant, whichever is longer. The term now is 17 years from the date a patent is granted, and the GATT bill changes it to 20 years from the application. Inventors complain the change is worse than the current arrangement because it sometimes takes many years for an application to be granted.

■ It repeated its assurances it would increase agricultural spending in areas where it is still legal under GATT.

The Salina Journal Thursday, November 24, 1994

# Dole gives approval to GATT

### Clinton-Dole accord crucial for passage of world trade pact

By The Associated Press  
WASHINGTON — Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole delivered crucial support for a world trade agreement Wednesday after receiving Clinton administration concessions on concerns involving the emotional issue of U.S. sovereignty.

Free-trade supporters said Dole's pledge to urge his fellow Republican senators to vote for the agreement will assure approval when Congress convenes in a post-election session next week.

The world trade agreement, negotiated under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, will lower tariffs on thousands of products and remove other trade barriers among more than 100 nations.

At a ceremony with President Clinton at the White House, Dole, R-Kan., said he will tell his colleagues that "we ought to be all in support of GATT when it comes up next week."

"There should be a big, big vote — not a narrow vote, but a big margin, a bipartisan margin as we've always had when it came to votes on trade," Dole said.

The House of Representatives is expected to easily approve the agreement, probably on Tuesday. Dole's support has been considered crucial in the Senate, because 60 votes will be required to waive a deficit-reduction rule that could prevent GATT from coming up for a vote.

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Dole

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## Dole says it's time to give OK to GATT

The administration accepted Dole's proposal to establish a panel of retired federal judges who will review rulings by the new World Trade Organization and recommend whether the United States should pull out of GATT.

Dole and other Republicans have been deluged with telephone calls from people complaining that the new trade agency will have the authority to overrule U.S. laws.

Dole said he believes the agreement with the administration addresses the sovereignty concerns.

"I've agreed with the president that we've fixed this as much as we can, and that's been my hope from the start — we fix it, not kill it," Dole said.

The administration had asked Congress to approve the agreement before the midterm election, but Sen. Ernest Hollings, D-S.C., used procedural rules to block a vote.

After Republicans won control

of both houses in the Nov. 8 election, the trade agreement emerged as an early test of the ability of GOP leaders in Congress and the Democratic administration to work together.

Questions about whether the agreement threatened U.S. sovereignty presented a dilemma for Republicans.

The sovereignty issue inflamed many members of the GOP's ultraconservative wing.

That made the trade vote a tough call for both Dole and Sen. Phil Gramm of Texas, two free-trade advocates who are expected to seek the 1996 Republican presidential nomination.

After the White House ceremony, Gramm issued a statement saying that he, too, plans to vote for the agreement.

"This deals with fundamental concerns about sovereignty. It clears the way for me to vote for GATT," he said.

The trade agreement allows a nation to file complaints against another nation if it believes a law is used as a barrier to open trade. For example, Mexico once challenged U.S. environmental laws

that prohibit the importation of tuna caught using methods that also allow capture of dolphins.

Under the agreement between Dole and Clinton, the administration will support legislation next year that will establish a commission consisting of five retired federal appeals court judges who will review all World Trade Organization rulings against the United States.

If the panel finds three cases in which U.S. laws are unreasonably attacked, a member of Congress could request a vote on continued U.S. participation in the global trade group.

Joe Cobb, a trade expert at the conservative Heritage Foundation, said the review panel is not needed, but its expected establishment is an important move to defuse opposition to GATT.

"It will go a long way to take the emotion out of the issue," he said.

Dole backed away from his suggestion on Sunday to link his support for the trade agreement to the administration's future support for lower taxes on capital gains, profits from the sale of stocks, real estate and other assets.

The Topeka Capital-Journal, Friday, November 25, 1994 3-A

## Deny Helms Senate chairmanship, Sen. Kerrey urges Dole

The Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Republican Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina should be denied the chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee because of remarks he made about President Clinton, Sen. Bob Kerrey said Thursday.

Kerrey, D-Neb., urged soon-to-be Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., to withdraw his support for Helms' chairmanship.

Helms has been strongly criticized by several Democrats, including Clinton, for his remark that the president was so unpopular with the military

that "he'd better have a bodyguard" if he visited North Carolina bases.

Helms said in a statement Tuesday that he had made a mistake, but didn't apologize.

Kerrey said he sent a letter to Dole outlining his concerns. The letter was also signed by Sen. Tom Daschle, D-S.D., who is seeking the post of Senate minority leader.

Dole, however, said Wednesday that Helms' comments about the president should not keep him from becoming chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. In an interview with CNN, Dole said Helms had assured him that such comments

"wouldn't happen again."

Kerrey, a Vietnam veteran and winner of the Medal of Honor, said it wasn't sufficient for Helms to apologize. "These comments are of such a serious nature that he must be made to pay a price for them," Kerrey said.

Hutchinson News Saturday, November 26, 1994 Page 8

# GATT foes insist it's not over yet

### Congress to vote on issue next week

By Martin Cruttsinger  
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — An eclectic group of opponents vowed intensified efforts Friday to kill the sweeping world trade accord, contending the loss of Sen. Bob Dole was not a fatal setback.

Even with the Republican leader's decision to support the agreement, the Clinton administration still is far short of the

votes needed in the Senate on a key procedural vote, the trade foes said.

Both the House and the Senate will return next week for a lame-duck session to vote on the overhaul of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. The new GATT rules, seven years in the making, were the product of the most ambitious trade talks ever launched, aiming to cut tariffs an average of 38 percent worldwide and extend global trading rules to such areas as agriculture, services and intellectual property.

Supporters contend the 123-nation accord will translate into a \$6 trillion boost for the global economy over the next decade. But opponents say the powerful new World Trade Organization being

created to police the agreement represents an unprecedented threat to U.S. sovereignty.

On Wednesday, Dole said the administration had satisfied his concerns about the WTO's threat to U.S. laws and he would now support the proposal. He announced his decision with President Clinton by his side in the Rose Garden.

But opponents representing consumer groups, environmentalists and unions said the battle was not over.

They plan to focus on a block of undecideds in the Senate. There could be as many as 30, said Ralph Nader, the consumer activist.

He said the key would be how conservatives such as Sens. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, and Trent Lott, R-Miss., decide to vote on a motion

to waive Senate budget rules that require that any lost government revenue be replaced.

Nader and other opponents promised television and newspaper ads, hoping to raise concern over the WTO and the fact that the agreement is being considered by many departing members of Congress.

"To have a lame-duck Congress with 90 losing or retiring members of Congress coming to town to decide America's economic future is an abomination," Nader said.

He said every lawmaker who will not be back next year should be required to disclose any discussions about possible employment with Washington lobbying firms working for GATT.



Dole