



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 225-6521
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NOVEMBER 2, 1973

DOLE, COLLEAGUES, MEET WITH MEIR, DISCUSS SETTLEMENT PROSPECTS

WASHINGTON, D.C.--At a breakfast meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir this morning, Senator Bob Dole and a small group of his Senate colleagues discussed the prospects for negotiating a settlement to the Mid-East conflict. The conversations were general and informal, but Dole indicated that he perceived a willingness to compromise on the part of the Israeli chief of state.

"There are of course, certain requirements which are held strongly by both sides", said Dole, but he added his personal hopes based on this morning's talks that a resolution to these basic points could be worked out.

"One of the issues of fundamental concern discussed by Mrs. Meir is the question of Prisoners of War", Dole said, and he added he found himself in agreement with her on the matter.

In a statement delivered on the Senate floor this morning, Dole called for strict application of the Geneva Convention applying to the treatment of the POW's. "I hope most fervently", said Dole, "that the POW question will be treated by all the parties to the conflict as a humanitarian question and not as a political pawn."

Pointing out that the International Red Cross has been permitted to visit Arab prisoners held by Israeli forces, but that "little information has been received from Syria or Egypt" about Israeli soldiers held there, Dole called upon all parties to the conflict to submit information on prisoners required by the Geneva convention and to "make the proper immediate arrangements to exchange all prisoners they hold".

Also attending the meeting at Blair House in Washington were Senators Ribicoff, Javits, Symington, Kennedy, Humphrey, Percy, Jackson, Stennis, Pakwood, Muskie, Mondale, McClellan, and Bayh.