



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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REPORTS OF SOVIET SUB BASE COULD AFFECT TREATY DEBATE, SAYS DOLE: ASKS BROWN FOR REPORT

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole today said that if recent reports of a Soviet nuclear submarine base being built on the southern coast of Cuba are true, it "could significantly affect the status of the Panama Canal Treaties currently under study in the Senate." Dole urged Secretary of Defense Harold Brown "to personally review the situation ... in order to fully inform the Congress on the matter prior to resumption of the Panama Canal Treaty debate on April 3."

Following is the text of Dole's telegram to Brown:

The London Daily Telegraph reported on Monday that the Soviet Union may be building a base for nuclear submarines on the southern coast of Cuba. It was further suggested that Soviet submarine-launched missiles may have already been introduced into Cuba.

As you know, such reports, if accurate, would have a significant impact on our national strategic interests and could significantly affect the status of the Panama Canal Treaties currently under study in the Senate.

Consequently, I urge you to personally review the situation and to locate the source of these reports, in order to fully inform the Congress on the matter prior to resumption of the Panama Canal Treaty debate on April 3. I will be awaiting your reply.