

BOB DOLE

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DOLE RESOLUTION EXPRESSES GRATITUDE FOR CANADIAN ASSISTANCE IN ESCAPE OF AMERICAN DIPLOMATS

WASHINGTON -- A resolution extending the United States' deep appreciation and thanks to the Canadian government, the prime minister, Ambassador Taylor, and the Canadian people for their granting of asylum and aid in the escape of six American diplomats from Iran was introduced today in the Senate by Senator Bob Dole (R Kan.).

"The American people owe a great debt to the Canadian government and embassy personnel in Teheran," he said. "Despite risk to their own safety, the Canadian diplomatic entourage provided sanctuary and support for these six Americans who have so fortunately escaped unharmed. This action was taken in the highest tradition of cooperation between our two nations, and the courage shown in the face of terrorist threats must not go without official thanks and deep gratitude by the United States."

Following is the text of Senator Dole's resolution:

Whereas the Canadian government provided refuge in its Iranian embassy for United States officials escaping the siege of the U.S. embassy in Teheran;

Whereas the storming of the U.S. embassy and the seizure of its diplomatic personnel was an act of terrorism and a breach of international standards, traditions and treaties which was facilitated by the governing authorities in Iran;

Whereas the granting of asylum to the six U.S. officials put the lives and security of the Canadian officials in Iran at considerable risk from both official and unofficial reprisal;

Whereas despite that risk to their own safety the Canadian diplomatic personnel provided relief to the United States officials;

Whereas the danger of retribution against the officials and people of Canada necessitated the closing of their embassy in Iran and their withdrawal from that country; and

Whereas this brave act in the highest tradition of friendship and cooperation between our two nations has shown the entire world that their honorable commitment toward civilized ideals of international conduct cannot be shaken by terrorist threats: NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE (THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING) THAT . . .

THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES EXTEND THEIR DEEPEST APPRECIATION AND THANKS TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF CANADA.

SEC. 2. THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE IS DIRECTED TO TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE PRESIDENT, THE PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA, AND AMBASSADOR TAYLOR OF CANADA.