

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

2213 Dirksen Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 1980

CONTACT: BOB WAITE  
(202-224-6521)

BELLUOMINI DEVELOPMENT OPENS UP NEW DIMENSIONS IN BILLY INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON-- Senator Bob Dole (R.-Kansas) said today that information concerning a U.S. Justice Dept investigation of George Belluomini, a Bakersfield, California, business associate of Billy Carter's, "opens a whole new dimension in this increasingly complex case."

According to Dole, "From all indications, Billy Carter was and is a personal friend of Mr. Belluomini. He has stayed at his home; they have visited together often; Ronald Sprauge, his son-in-law, has served as Billy's financial advisor while being paid by Mr. Belluomini-- to say that all of this has raised new questions would be to state the obvious. At best, what we see developing here is a classic case of manipulation-- and an appalling lack of judgement on Billy Carter's part," said Dole.

"Ultimately" Dole said, "we will have to examine the questions raised by these startling new developments. We need to know what Mr. Belluomini had in mind when he established his relationship with Billy Carter. Ultimately we also need to know if there was any connection between Mr. Belluomini's alleged illegal activities and his apparent attempt to use Mr. Carter to effectuate business transactions in the Middle East."

Dole added, "It is important to stress that we must withhold judgement on all of this. Clearly we need to know more of the background. We need to know why the Justice Department waited until now to notify our Committee of this development; we need to know when the White House was notified. We, as members of the Special Subcommittee, of course must reserve judgement until we learn the facts."