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BOB DOLE

(R - Kansas)

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STATEMENT OF SENATE MAJORITY LEADER BOB DOLE AID TO THE PHILIPPINES

I BELIEVE WE HAVE FINALLY REACHED AN AGREEMENT WHICH MOST OF US WILL BE ABLE TO SUPPORT ON AID TO THE PHILIPPINES. I SEND THE AMENDMENT REFLECTING THE COMPROMISE TO THE DESK AND ASK FOR ITS IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.

BASICALLY, THIS PACKAGE WILL GIVE THE PRESIDENT
AUTHORIZATION TO TAKE \$200 MILLION FROM THE SO-CALLED 150
ACCOUNT -- THE ACCOUNT COVERING STATE, AID AND RELATED
ACTIVITIES -- BUT NO MORE THAN 3% MAY BE TAKEN FROM ANY ONE
PROGRAM, PROJECT OR ACTIVITY.

IT SEEMS TO ME THERE ARE FOUR BENEFITS WHICH WE WILL GET FROM THIS COMPROMISE AND FROM THE DEBATE AND VOTES WHICH LED UP TO IT.

FIRST, I'VE EXPRESSED MY CONCERNS, AND A NUMBER OF MY COLLEAGUES HAVE JOINED IN, ABOUT THE BASES ISSUE. IT SEEMS CLEAR TO ME -- MORE IMPORTANT, I HOPE IT IS CLEAR IN MANILA -- THAT OUR DEBATE, AND THE TWO VOTES WE'VE HAD REJECTING THE EARLIER PACKAGES, IN IMPORTANT MEASURE REFLECTS THE FACT THAT THE SENATE PLACES EXTREMELY HIGH PRIORITY ON THE BASES ISSUE AND IS DISTURBED BY SOME OF THE THINGS WE'VE SEEN AND HEARD RECENTLY FROM THE PHILIPPINE SIDE. A WARNING SHOT HAS BEEN FIRED ACROSS THE BOW. I TRUST IT HAS BEEN NOTED, AND I HOPE IT WILL BE HEEDED.

SECOND, WHAT WE HAVE DONE IS LIGHT YEARS AHEAD OF WHAT THE HOUSE DID ON THIS ISSUE IN TERMS OF RESPONSIBILITY AND BUDGET-CONSCIOUSNESS. THE HOUSE JUST WROTE OUT A CHECK AGAINST UNCLE SAM'S FY86 ACCOUNT AND TOSSED IT ONTO THE HUGE DEFICIT

(MORE)