

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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STATEMENT OF SENATE MAJORITY LEADER BOB DOLE  
LET'S NOT UNDERMINE THE PRESIDENT IN ICELAND

## ARMS CONTROL ISSUES CENTRAL TO ICELAND MEETING

NEXT WEEKEND, THE PRESIDENT WILL MEET SOVIET GENERAL SECRETARY GORBACHEV IN ICELAND, FOR A PRE-SUMMIT SESSION THAT WE ALL HOPE WILL LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR A FOLLOW-ON, SUCCESSFUL SUMMIT MEETING HERE IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE SOVIETS ARE CLEARLY TRYING TO MAKE THE ICELAND SESSION A ONE-ISSUE MEETING. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE RESIST THAT EFFORT. AS IMPORTANT AS ARMS CONTROL IS, WE HAVE MANY OTHER ITEMS ON OUR AGENDA, CHIEF AMONG THEM HUMAN RIGHTS AND REGIONAL ISSUES. WE CAN'T LET THE SOVIETS OFF THE HOOK ON THEIR MISTREATMENT OF THEIR OWN CITIZENS AND THEIR DANGEROUS ADVENTURISM IN AFGHANISTAN AND ELSEWHERE AROUND THE WORLD.

NONETHELESS, IT IS CLEAR THAT ARMS CONTROL WILL BE, AND SHOULD BE, ONE IMPORTANT FOCUS IN ICELAND. AND I AM DEEPLY DISTURBED BECAUSE THE PROVISIONS PASSED BY THE HOUSE IN BOTH THE CR AND IN THE DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL WOULD GIVE THE SOVIETS BY DEFAULT MUCH OF WHAT THEY HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH IN ICELAND.

## CONGRESSIONAL ACTIONS TIE PRESIDENT'S HANDS

THE LIST IS LONG AND SCARY. IF WE DO WHAT THE HOUSE WANTS, WE WILL FORCE THE PRESIDENT INTO A MORATORIUM ON VIRTUALLY ALL NUCLEAR TESTING, IN THE MISGUIDED BELIEF THAT HALTING TESTING WILL STOP THE ARMS RACE.

HOGWASH! THE FACT IS, WE NEED TO DO SOME ADDITIONAL TESTING FOR TWO REASONS. FIRST, TO CLOSE A GAP THE RUSSIANS CREATED WITH THEIR MOST RECENT TESTS. HAVING COMPLETED THOSE TESTS AND JUMPED AHEAD, THE RUSSIANS NOW PIOUSLY PROPAGANDIZE ABOUT THEIR SO-CALLED "UNILATERAL MORATORIUM," HOPING WE WILL BE FORCED INTO A MORATORIUM OF OUR OWN.

(MORE)

SECOND, WE NEED SOME ADDITIONAL TESTING TO INSURE THAT OUR NUCLEAR STOCKPILES REMAIN RELIABLE AND SAFE. IN THE LONG RUN, ALL OTHER THINGS BEING EQUAL, THAT MEANS WE CAN KEEP FEWER WEAPONS IN OUR STOCKPILES AND HAVE MORE ASSURANCE THEY WILL NEVER HAVE TO BE USED.

THE HOUSE ALSO VOTED TO FORCE U.S. COMPLIANCE WITH THE SALT II TREATY. NOW WE'VE GONE OVER THAT GROUND AT GREAT LENGTH IN THE SENATE, AND I DON'T WANT TO START UP THE DEBATE AGAIN. LET ME JUST SAY THAT, WHATEVER MERIT THERE MIGHT BE IN THE U.S. VOLUNTARILY STICKING TO SOME OF THE SALT II LIMITS -- AND, PERSONALLY, I DON'T SEE ANY MERIT IN THAT APPROACH AT ALL, IN LIGHT OF THE MASSIVE SOVIET VIOLATIONS WE SEE -- IT IS BLATANTLY RIDICULOUS FOR THE CONGRESS TO FORCE THE PRESIDENT TO DO WHAT THE RUSSIANS WANT HIM TO DO ON SALT BEFORE THE TALKS EVEN BEGIN.

AND THE HOUSE DIDN'T STOP THERE. IT ALSO MANDATED A ONE-YEAR BAN ON ASAT TESTING, DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE SOVIETS ALREADY HAVE AN OPERATIONAL ASAT SYSTEM WHILE WE'RE STILL IN THE R&D STAGE. AGAIN, MAYBE THERE WILL BE SOME MERIT, SOMEWHERE DOWN THE ROAD, TO LIMITS ON ASAT TESTING. BUT LET'S NOT GIVE AWAY, IN ADVANCE AND FOR NOTHING, OUR OPTION TO PRODUCE A SYSTEM THE SOVIETS ALREADY HAVE.

AND, FINALLY, WE HAVE THE ASSAULTS IN BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS ON THE PRESIDENT'S SDI BUDGET. WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT, AS WE WIELD THE BUDGETARY KNIFE, WE DON'T STICK ITS POINT INTO THE HEART OF OUR NATIONAL SECURITY.

NO SINGLE ACTION BY THE CONGRESS WOULD DO MORE TO WIPE OUT ANY HOPE FOR A NEW ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT ON LONG-RANGE OFFENSIVE WEAPONRY THAN SUSTAINING THE SDI CUT VOTED BY THE HOUSE. I HOPE THE CR AND DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION CONFERENCES WILL BE WISER THAN THAT.

CONGRESS SHOULD STAND BEHIND PRESIDENT  
SUCCESS IN ICELAND, LIKE SUCCESS IN ANY OTHER ENDEAVOR, WON'T COME CHEAP. IF WE WANT NEXT WEEK'S MEETINGS TO BE A TURNING POINT ON THE ROAD TO REAL NUCLEAR ARMS REDUCTIONS, WE WILL HAVE TO PAY THE PRICE.

PART OF THE PRICE IS IN DOLLARS -- WE HAVE TO FUND SDI AND THE OTHER ESSENTIAL DEFENSE PROGRAMS IN THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET ADEQUATELY. AN EVEN GREATER PART OF THE PRICE, THOUGH, IS IN LAYING ASIDE OUR PAROCHIAL AND PARTISAN INTERESTS AND GETTING BEHIND OUR PRESIDENT. HE NEEDS OUR SUPPORT, AND HE DESERVES IT.

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