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News from Senator Senator News from Senator

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DOLE CALLS HASENFUS TRIAL "KANGAROO COURT"

MOBILE, ALABAMA -- SENATE MAJORITY LEADER BOB DOLE (R-KANSAS) TODAY CRITICIZED THE SANDINISTA REGIME IN NICARAGUA FOR ITS RIGGED TRIAL OF AMERICAN CITIZEN EUGENE HASENFUS, THE FLYER DOWNED WHILE ALLEGEDLY ON A CONTRA RESUPPLY OPERATION.

"What we're seeing with this kangaroo court," Dole said,
"is exactly why so many people -- Nicaraguan patriots and
American citizens alike -- are so determined to see the end
of Sandinista rule. The Sandinistas don't know what a fair
trial is. Ortega, himself, announced the verdict in
advance, before the trial began. That's what passes for
justice in Sandinista-land."

"Meanwhile," Dole continued, "there's a big hue and cry among some liberals in Congress about whether Americans who try to help the contras have violated the law. These same liberals, though, don't seem to give a tinker's dam whether the rights of this American are being trampled by these Marxists in Managua -- thugs who got their lessons in judicial process from the jailers of Nick Daniloff, Andrei Sakharov and the thousands of other innocent people held in Kremlin jails."

In concluding his statement, Dole called for Hasenfus' immediate release to the custody of our Embassy; free access to attorneys of his choosing; and an eventual fair trial, with normal procedural safeguards.

"Anything less," said Dole, "would represent not a trial of Hasenfus, but a well-deserved indictment of the Sandinista regime."