

News from Senator

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DUKAKIS FLUNKS AGRICULTURE TEST IN DEBATE PEORIA COMMENTS HAVE "NO CREDIBILITY"

WASHINGTON -- DESPITE GOVERNOR DUKAKIS' SHARP ATTACKS ON REPUBLICAN FARM POLICIES YESTERDAY IN PEORIA, HE HAS "NO CREDIBILITY IN THE FARM BELT", ESPECIALLY AFTER HE "FLUNKED THE AGRICULTURE TEST" IN THIS PAST SUNDAY'S PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE WITH GEORGE BUSH.

ACCORDING TO KANSAS SENATOR BOB DOLE, THE DEBATE REVEALED JUST HOW "OUT OF STEP THE MASSACHUSETTS GOVERNOR IS WITH RURAL AMERICA WITH HIS CALLS FOR BIG GOVERNMENT CONTROL DOWN ON THE FARM.

"THAT'S WHY HIS CRITICISM OF REAGAN/BUSH FARM POLICIES YESTERDAY IN ILLINOIS RANG SO HOLLOW. BASED ON THE DEBATE, AND HIS OWN RECORD, MICHAEL DUKAKIS HAS NO CREDIBILITY IN THE FARM BELT," DOLE CONTINUED.

"WHILE THE NATIONAL NEWS MEDIA OVERLOOKED THE RURAL AMERICA ISSUE IN THE DEBATE, VIEWERS IN FARM STATES DID NOT. THEY HEARD LOUD AND CLEAR SOME DISTURBING COMMENTS ABOUT WHAT A DUKAKIS ADMINISTRATION WOULD MEAN TO AGRICULTURE -- AND IT WENT OVER LIKE THE DROUGHT," DOLE SAID.

"THE MASSACHUSETTS GOVERNOR WAS CHEERLEADING FOR MANDATORY PRODUCTION CONTROLS AND SUPPLY MANAGEMENT; HE KNOCKED THE 1985 FARM BILL WHICH HAS KEPT THOUSANDS OF FARMERS AND THEIR FAMILIES FROM GOING UNDER; AND DID NOT RULE OUT A CARTER-STYLE GRAIN EMBARGO," DOLE SAID.

"GEORGE BUSH MEANWHILE DEMONSTRATED HE WAS FULLY AWARE OF WHAT WORKS IN PEORIA -- AND THE REST OF FARBELT -- BY REJECTING SUPPLY MANAGEMENT AND GRAIN EMBARGOES. THE VICE-PRESIDENT ALSO PLEDGED TO ALL HE COULD TO CREATE A THRIVING EXPORT MARKET, SOMETHING THE GOVERNOR NEVER MENTIONED," DOLE SAID.

"THE MASSACHUSETTS GOVERNOR OFFERS NO VISION FOR RURAL AMERICA EXCEPT TO SAY THAT YOU CAN MAKE 'ROAD DE-ICER' OUT OF CORN. NOW, THAT MAY NOT TOP HIS CALL FOR BELGIAN ENDIVE IN IOWA, BUT IT DOES SHOW AGAIN THAT HE DOESN'T GET THE PICTURE," DOLE SAID.