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SENATOR BOB DOLE STATEMENT COMMEMORATING 50TH ANNIVERSERY OF WORLD WAR II DURING WEEK OF JUNE 3 - 9, 1990

MR. PRESIDENT, ON BEHALF OF MYSELF, SENATOR INOUYE AND MY DISTINGUISHED CO-SPONSORS, I OFFER A JOINT RESOLUTION TO COMMEMORATE THE WEEK OF 3 JUNE THROUGH 9 JUNE, 1990 AS THE NATIONAL OBSERVANCE OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II.

IT SEEMS TO ME, THAT WITH THE RAPID SPREAD OF DEMOCRACY AND FREEDOM THROUGHOUT EASTERN EUROPE, IT IS ESPECIALLY FITTING THAT WE NOW HONOR THOSE AMERICANS WHO FOUGHT AND SACRIFICED DURING WORLD WAR II TO LAY THE FOUNDATIONS OF THIS NEW FREEDOM UNFOLDING IN EUROPE.

THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT AMERICA'S CONTRIBUTION DURING WORLD WAR II WAS DECISIVE IN THE DEFEAT OF THE VIOLENT TYRANNIES THAT HAD IGNITED THE MOST DESTRUCTIVE WAR IN HISTORY. IT WAS THE BRAVERY, PRODUCTIVITY, AND GENIUS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THAT MADE THIS VICTORY POSSIBLE.

THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION BEGAN LONG BEFORE PEARL HARBOR: AMERICAN SHIPS ENSURED THAT ENGLAND KEPT ITS SEA LANES OPEN; AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE EXPERTS WERE BREAKING THE CODES THAT WOULD BE A KEY TO OUR FUTURE NAVAL VICTORIES IN THE PACIFIC AND THE ATLANTIC; AND THE U.S. ARMY WAS PERFECTING THE TACTICS THAT WOULD ALLOW OUR FORCES TO TAKE NORTH AFRICA, ITALY, AND FRANCE. BY THERE WERE AMERICANS ACTUALLY FLYING COMBAT MISSIONS AS VOLUNTEERS OVER ENGLAND AND CHINA.