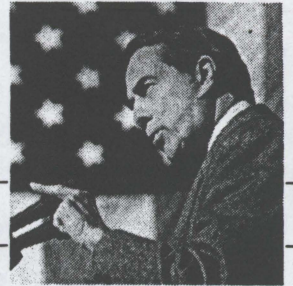


Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 22, 1992**

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**DOLE CALLS FOR NATO ULTIMATUM
TO STOP YUGOSLAV BLOODBATH;
SERBIA'S MILOSEVIC IS ANOTHER HITLER & SADDAM HUSSEIN
DOLE OFFERS 4-POINT NATO PROGRAM FOR PEACE**

WASHINGTON - NATO SHOULD ISSUE AN IMMEDIATE ULTIMATUM TO SERBIAN DICTATOR SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC TO CEASE HIS "PERVERTED AGENDA...OF SLAUGHTER", ACCORDING TO SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE (R-KS).

SENATOR DOLE CALLED FOR THE NATO ACTION IN A 4-POINT PROGRAM FOR PEACE OUTLINED IN REMARKS ON THE FUTURE OF NATO DELIVERED TODAY TO THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL CONFERENCE AT THE J.W. MARRIOTT IN WASHINGTON, D.C..

RECOGNIZING NATO'S HISTORIC AND SUCCESSFUL ROLE IN HELPING WIN THE COLD WAR, SENATOR DOLE SAID INTERVENTION IN THE ONGOING NIGHTMARE IN YUGOSLAVIA WOULD BE A NEW MANDATE FOR THE ALLIANCE.

I BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT NATO MUST MOVE NOW, URGENTLY, TO EXERCISE ITS NEW MANDATE TO HELP RESTORE PEACE, PROTECT DEMOCRACY, AND FOSTER STABILITY IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA.

CANDIDLY, WE -- AND I SPEAK HERE BOTH OF MY OWN COUNTRY, THE UNITED STATES, AND OF NATO -- WE ARE ALREADY LATE INTO THIS "GAME." WE HAVE BEEN TOO LATE IN SPEAKING OUT; TOO LATE WITH A STRONG DIPLOMACY; TOO LATE WITH OUR ECONOMIC SANCTIONS; TOO LATE TO HELP THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS WHO HAVE DIED, OR FACE IMMINENT DEATH FROM WAR AND STARVATION.

WE ARE LATE. I JUST HOPE WE ARE NOT TOO LATE.

MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT -- THE SITUATION IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA IS COMPLEX, AND THERE HAVE UNDOUBTEDLY BEEN EXCESSES AND ERRORS ON ALL SIDES.

BUT THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEM IS CLEAR. SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC IS AN OLD-STYLE, COMMUNIST DICTATOR, AND A VIRULENT NATIONALIST IN THE MOLD OF A SADDAM HUSSEIN OR, YES, EVEN AN ADOLF HITLER. WHAT HE WANTS IS NOT TO ADVANCE THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF THE SERBIAN PEOPLE -- AND INDEED THOSE PEOPLE HAVE INTERESTS JUST AS LEGITIMATE AS THOSE OF THE BOSNIAN MUSLIMS, OR THE CROATIANS, OR THE ALBANIANS, OR ANY OF THE OTHER GROUPS WHICH MADE UP THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA.

BUT MILOSEVIC IS NOT ABOUT ADVANCING THOSE INTERESTS, BUT ADVANCING HIS OWN PERVERTED AGENDA: PERSONAL POWER, ELIMINATION OF POLITICAL OPPOSITION, OCCUPATION OF NEIGHBORING STATES, AND THE DISLOCATION OR, IF NEED BE, SLAUGHTER OF EVERY ETHNIC GROUP EXCEPT HIS OWN.

WE SHOULD HAVE BLOWN THE WHISTLE ON MILOSEVIC MONTHS AND MONTHS AGO. WHEN IT BECAME CLEAR TO ALL BUT THE MOST RIGID-MINDED THAT YUGOSLAVIA WAS GOING DOWN THE TUBES, WE SHOULD HAVE SIDED PUBLICLY AND DECISIVELY WITH THE FORCES OF DEMOCRACY. INSTEAD, WE DID NOTHING -- HIDING BEHIND THE FOOLISH, AND PERHAPS EVEN PHONY, ARGUMENT THAT WE DIDN'T WANT TO BE BLAMED FOR "DESTROYING" YUGOSLAVIA. TRAGICALLY, BUT PREDICTABLY, MILOSEVIC TOOK OUR INACTION AS A "GREEN LIGHT" FOR CONTINUED AGGRESSION. AND THE REST IS BLOODY HISTORY.

SO WE ARE LATE. BUT LET US NOT USE THAT AS JUST THE LATEST EXCUSE FOR DOING NOTHING. WE ARE LATE. BUT, GOD WILLING, NOT TOO LATE.

(MORE)

SO LET US LOOK TO NATO FOR THE SAME KIND OF LEADERSHIP IN THIS CRISIS AS IT HAS PROVIDED IN SO MANY OTHERS. IT IS THE ONLY ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS THE ESSENTIAL QUALITIES TO MAKE A DECISIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA.

- o NATO'S MEMBERSHIP ENCOMPASSES THE ESTABLISHED DEMOCRACIES OF EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA.

- o NATO HAS A CLEAR AND VITAL INTEREST IN RESTORING STABILITY IN AN AREA OF HISTORIC AND NATURAL VITAL CONCERN.

- o NATO HAS A LONG ESTABLISHED MILITARY AND POLITICAL RATIONALE, AIMED AT PRESERVING PEACE AND STABILITY.

- o NATO HAS THE POLITICAL CLOUT TO HAVE AN IMPACT, EVEN SHORT OF THE EMPLOYMENT OF MILITARY FORCE; BUT THE MILITARY CLOUT BOTH TO ADD CREDIBILITY TO ITS DIPLOMACY, AND TO ACT MILITARY, IF IT MUST.

- o NATO HAS A "TRACK RECORD" OF ACTING DECISIVELY IN EMERGENCIES.

WE ARE LATE. BUT LET US ACT NOW, BEFORE IT SURELY BECOMES TOO LATE.

TODAY, I CALL ON NATO TO BEGIN URGENTLY TO IMPLEMENT A FOUR STEP PROGRAM:

1. AUTHORIZE THE USE OF ALLIANCE FORCES, IF NECESSARY, TO REESTABLISH PEACE IN BOSNIA AND OTHER THREATENED AREAS OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, SUCH AS KOSOVA.

2. ORGANIZE A "STAND-BY" FORCE WITH THE MILITARY ASSETS TO ACCOMPLISH SEVERAL URGENTLY NEEDED INITIAL TASKS:

- TO CLOSE THE AIRSPACE OVER BOSNIA, WHERE SERBIAN JETS TODAY ROAM FREE, DESTROYING HOMES AND HOSPITALS, AND SLAUGHTERING INNOCENT PEOPLE.

- TO PROTECT CONVOYS OF DESPERATELY NEEDED HUMANITARIAN SUPPLIES -- FOOD AND MEDICINE -- FOR A POPULATION FACED WITH IMMINENT STARVATION.

- TO PLAN FOR AIRSTRIKES, IF FEASIBLE, AGAINST SERBIAN POSITIONS IN BOSNIA AND IN SERBIA.

3. CONSULT WITH THE CSCE, THE U.N. AND OTHER APPROPRIATE BODIES; TO ACHIEVE THEIR COOPERATION IN USING FORCE IF NECESSARY.

4. ISSUE AN ULTIMATUM TO MILOSEVIC TO END HIS AGGRESSION AND PULL BACK HIS FORCES, OR FACE THE CONSEQUENCES.

I UNDERSTAND THE COMPLEXITIES INVOLVED, BOTH POLITICALLY AND MILITARILY. I UNDERSTAND WE ARE BREAKING SOME NEW GROUND, AND TAKING SOME RISKS.

BUT I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT PEOPLE ARE DYING, AND IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD NO ONE SEEMS TO BE DOING MUCH ABOUT IT.

THE BOTTOM LINE IS: MILOSEVIC MUST BE STOPPED, NOW. AND, IN MY VIEW, ONLY NATO IS CAPABLE OF STOPPING HIM.

THE COLD WAR IS OVER. BUT, EVEN AS WE TAKE SATISFACTION IN ITS END, WE ARE CONFRONTED WITH THE FACT OF A BLOODY CONFLICT, AND THE POSSIBILITY OF A BROADER WAR, ON NATO'S DOORSTEP.

IT IS A CHALLENGE THAT WE CANNOT IGNORE, EXCEPT AT THE PERIL OF SEEING NATO'S GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS UNRAVEL IN A "NEW WORLD DISORDER."

IN OVER FOUR DECADES, NATO HAS NEVER FAILED TO MEET A CHALLENGE. IN THE FINAL DECADE OF THIS CENTURY, IT CANNOT FAIL TO MEET THIS ONE.

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