





NEWS

U . S . SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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SARAJEVO MASSACRE

DOLE: U.S. MUST ACT NOW -- NATO AIR STRIKES, END BOSNIA ARMS EMBARGO, CONVENE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

Bal Harbor, Florida -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole today issued the following statement regarding the latest massacre in Sarajevo:

“Today’s brutal massacre of scores of Sarajevo’s citizens is tragic, but not surprising in light of the international community’s utter lack of will and principle in responding to nearly two years of aggression against Bosnia. Although NATO planes fly daily above Sarajevo, Serb gunners in the hills know by now that they will not be retaliated against. In effect, NATO has been conducting an air show, not a military operation.

“The slaughter of innocent, defenseless civilians can no longer be ignored by the United States. The response of the U.S. and its allies should not be another bureaucratic “working group,” but immediate and firm action to implement air strikes and to begin the arming of the Bosnian Government. I urge President Clinton to convene the Leadership of Congress on Monday morning to solidify support for a decisive course of action.

“About a week ago, the Senate overwhelmingly passed my amendment calling on the President to immediately terminate the U.S. arms embargo on the Bosnian Government, and to provide the Bosnians with defense equipment. I am confident that the Congress as a whole will support decisive measures to help the victims of this inhumane aggression to defend themselves. Such action does not require U.S. ground troops, but does require U.S. leadership. What is at stake here is not only the future of Bosnia, but the credibility of NATO, the United Nations, and United States global leadership.”

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