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## HAITI INVASION POLICY

## PUBLIC & CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT IS MISSING LINK IN ADMINISTRATION'S HAITI POLICY: DOLE RENEWS CALL FOR FACT-FINDING COMMISSION TO REVIEW POLICY & CIRCUMSTANCES OF PRIEST'S MURDER

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole today issued the following statement:

"While the State Department negotiates with Fidel Castro's representatives, the Defense Department prepares to invade Haiti. The Clinton Administration's saber-rattling on Haiti has reached new heights with the dispatch of senior officials to the Caribbean on an invasion recruiting mission.

"A few countries agreed to provide a few troops, but the fact remains that American and Caribbean bayonets will not bring democracy to Haiti. American troops should only be asked to fight for American interests. Risking American lives to restore Aristide to power is not in America's interest.

"The United Nations and the Caribbean Community now support military action in Haiti but there's still a missing link in the Administration's Haiti policy: support form Congress and the American people. In my view, the President has not made his case for an invasion -- until he does, I oppose an invasion of Haiti.

"Finally, all Americans condemn the murder of Father Vincent in Haiti last Sunday. But this murder is no reason to invade -anymore than Castro's overflowing political prisons are'a reason to invade Cuba. President Clinton should take this opportunity to send a fact-finding commission to Haiti to examine the facts around Father Vincent's murder and all other elements of U.S. policy toward Haiti."

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