



NEWS

U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CUBA AIRCRAFT SHOOTDOWN

STATEMENT OF SENATE MAJORITY LEADER BOB DOLE

TUCSON, AZ -- Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole tonight issued the following statement:

“The shooting down of two American civilian aircraft by the Cuban air force deserves the condemnation of the entire civilized world. While it is not yet definitive that these planes were in international airspace, we know they posed no threat to Cuba. There is no excuse for shooting down civilian aircraft in broad daylight. I offer my condolences to the families of the latest victims of Castro’s regime.

“In recent days, Fidel Castro has savagely cracked down on the democratic opposition in Cuba. Now he has taken his assault to the skies. Castro has once again shown he will never change. It’s time for President Clinton to do more than seek Castro’s explanation. It’s time for the White House to get on the side of democratic change in Cuba. Instead of siding with Castro in opposing tougher sanctions, President Clinton should now voice his support for tightening the Cuban embargo and endorse the Dole/Helms ‘Libertad’ legislation passed by both houses of Congress increasing the pressure on Fidel Castro as the only way to end his reign of terror.”

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