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NEWS

U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Contact: Clarkson Hine (202) 224-5358

DRUG SMUGGLING PROSECUTION

SENATE UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTS DOLE RESOLUTION DIRECTING ATTORNEY

GENERAL TO ENSURE PROSECUTORS "VIGOROUSLY" ENFORCE DRUG LAWS;

TOTAL REBUKE OF CLINTON PROSECUTOR'S POLICY OF

RELEASING DRUG SMUGGLERS

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Senate today unanimously approved a Sense of the Senate amendment sponsored by Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole instructing Attorney General Reno promptly to investigate a May 13th report in the **Los Angeles Times** that Clinton administration officials are letting drug smugglers go free and to report, within 30 days, to the Chairmen of the Senate and House Committees on Judiciary. The resolution also instructs the Attorney General to ensure that cases involving the smuggling of drugs into the United States are vigorously prosecuted.

Senator Dole's statement follows:

"I am pleased that the Senate today made unmistakably clear that the Clinton Administration's policy of not fully enforcing our drug policies is unacceptable.

"Reports that the United States Attorney for the Southern District of California simply released persons caught trying to smuggle large amounts of drugs across our borders need to be investigated now and not swept under the carpet.

"The message should be clear: drug smugglers are merchants of death. Nothing less than prosecution to the full extent allowed by law is appropriate."