

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

2213 Dirksen Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 1979

CONTACT: BOB WAITE
(202) 224-8953

SOVIET TROOPS IN CUBA A THREAT TO SALT PROCESS, SAYS DOLE

LITTLE ROCK-- The presence of a 2,300-man Soviet combat unit in Cuba could have an adverse effect on the SALT II Treaty, according to Senator Bob Dole (R.-Kansas).

Dole joined Senator Frank Church (D.-Idaho) in calling upon President Carter to insist on the "immediate withdrawal of all Russian combat troops from Cuba."

But Dole went further, saying that unless the Soviets provide a full explanation, he would favor suspending the SALT II debate in the Senate.

"The SALT process is serious business. I voted for SALT I and, as I have said numerous times over the past 8 months, I hope to vote for SALT II. But the stationing of Soviet combat units 90 miles from U.S. shores, in violation of the spirit of the 1962 agreements, is also very serious. If the Soviet Union is not forthcoming, I believe we should halt our debate on the SALT Treaty in the Senate until our questions have been answered."

Dole was in Little Rock, Arkansas yesterday and today to attend a meeting of the Institute for Better Government, a bipartisan public interest forum. The Senator released his statement in Little Rock and through his Washington office.