

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE WELCOMES RELEASE OF GERALD SEIB

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R-KS) expressed "a relief shared by all Kansans with the arrival of Gerald Seib in Zurich, Switzerland today. But Dole also said that Seib, a respected journalist for the Wall Street Journal, held captive for six days in Iran, "should never have been detained in the first place."

"Mr. Seib was invited to Iran by the Teheran government," Dole noted. "He did nothing wrong. The suggestions that he was 'spying' for anyone are absurd. There's no excuse for this dangerous blunder by the Iranians.

"If Iran wants to rejoin the community of civilized nations," Dole concluded, "it better learn to play by the same civilized rules the rest of us observe."

"The gift of freedom is the perfect present for Gerald Seib and his family on this his thirty-first birthday," Dole said.

Earlier in the week Senator Dole, in a hand-delivered letter to Prime Minister Turgut Ozal of Turkey, urged that country to use its influence with Teheran to effect the release of Mr. Seib:

United States Senate

OFFICE OF THE REPUBLICAN LEADER
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-7020

February 4, 1987

His Excellency Turgut Özal
Prime Minister
Republic of Turkey
Ankara

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

As you are aware, an American journalist, Gerald Seib, has been illegally detained in Iran. The only satisfactory resolution of this matter is for the immediate, unconditional release of Mr. Seib. I have already strongly urged the Iranian authorities to take this step.

As one of the most important and influential countries in the region, Turkey may be in a unique position to influence Iran to release Mr. Seib. I and all Americans would deeply appreciate any intervention you would be willing to undertake on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature of Bob Dole in dark ink.

BOB DOLE
United States Senate