

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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STATEMENT BY SENATOR BOB DOLE MEMORIAL DAY, 1987

Washington, DC -- The following is Senator Bob Dole's Memorial Day statement for 1987:

"With the loss of 37 American lives in the Persian Gulf this week, Memorial Day, 1987, will be extra poignant.

"The shocking, unwarranted attack on the U.S.S. Stark reminds us again that the cost of freedom is high; and that our responsibilities as leader of the Free World are heavy indeed. It is not easy. It is often painful. And we pray for peace.

"But the real world is a dangerous place, with tyranny on the march. It is a challenge that we have always met with courage, determination and, yes, sacrifice. Time and time again, American servicemen and women have put their lives on the line to keep the flame of freedom burning around the globe.

"I understand that Memorial Day is a 'holiday', a long weekend for America. It is a time for family and some fun. But let us remember the true spirit of Memorial Day - a special day to honor the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for this great land in the bitter cold of Valley Forge, in the agony of Chateau-Thierry and Belleau Wood, on the bloody beaches of Normandy, Iwo Jima and Anzio, in Korea, Viet Nam, Lebanon, the Persian Gulf and wherever else freedom's call has taken us.

"So let us honor our fallen comrades this weekend. Let us remember the sacrifice of the 37 men of the U.S.S. Stark. They are the latest additions to our long and distinguished honor roll of heroes. We will never forget them."