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News from Senator

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BOB DOLE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OCTOBER 30, 1987

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STATEMENT OF SENATOR BOB DOLE COMPLIANCE -- SANDINISTA STYLE

HALLOWEEN OFFICIALLY ISN'T UPON US UNTIL TOMORROW -- BUT WE'VE BEEN SEEING A BIG MASQUERADE IN MANAGUA SINCE AUGUST 7. WE'VE SEEN A REGIME THAT HAS BEEN MAKING WAR ON ITS DEMOCRATIC NEIGHBORS FOR SEVEN YEARS MASQUERADING AS PEACEMAKER. A REGIME THAT HAS BEEN BRUTALIZING AND SUPPRESSING ITS OWN PEOPLE FOR SEVEN YEARS MASQUERADING AS DEMOCRATIC.

WELL, THE MASQUERADE IS OVER.

YESTERDAY, THE SANDINISTAS ANNOUNCED HOW THEY WILL RESPOND TO THE REQUIREMENT IN THE GUATEMALA CITY ACCORD THAT THEY REPEAL THE EMERGENCY DECREES -- THEY WILL IGNORE IT.

YESTERDAY, THE SANDINISTAS ANNOUNCED HOW THEY WILL RESPOND TO THE REQUIREMENT THAT THEY IMPLEMENT A GENERAL AMNESTY -- THEY WILL IGNORE IT.

YESTERDAY, THE SANDINISTAS ANNOUNCED HOW THEY WILL RESPOND TO THE REQUIREMENT THAT THEY WORK OUT A CEASEFIRE WITH THE ARMED RESISTANCE -- THEY WILL IGNORE IT.

I CAN'T ARTICULATE ANY MORE CLEARLY THAN THE SANDINISTAS THEMSELVES HOW THEY HAVE RESPONDED TO THE CALL THAT THEY NEGOTIATE A CEASEFIRE WITH THE DEMOCRATIC RESISTANCE. A CALL ENDORSED BY EVERY OTHER PRESIDENT IN CENTRAL AMERICA, INCLUDING PRESIDENT DUARTE, WHO HAS INSTITUTED NEGOTIATIONS WITH HIS OWN GUERRILLAS, AND BY OSCAR ARIAS, WHO HAS WON A NOBEL PRIZE FOR LEADING THE MOVEMENT FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. A CALL ENDORSED BY CARDINAL OBANDO, WHOM THE CONTRAS HAVE ALREADY URGED TO SERVE AS MEDIATOR. A CALL ENDORSED BY EVERYBODY -- EVERYBODY -- WHO REALLY WANTS PEACE AND DEMOCRACY IN NICARAGUA.

HERE'S HOW THE SANDINISTAS RESPOND TO THAT CALL, AND I AM QUOTING THEIR STATEMENT: THE SANDINISTAS, QUOTE, "NO WAY --NOWHERE -- THROUGH NO INTERMEDIARY -- AT NO TIME -- WILL EVER HOLD A POLITICAL DIALOGUE" WITH THE DEMOCRATIC RESISTANCE.

NO WAY. NOWHERE. THROUGH NO INTERMEDIARY. AT NO TIME. WE HEAR AN AWFUL LOT OF EXCUSES FROM AN AWFUL LOT OF PEOPLE FOR OUTRAGEOUS SANDINISTA BEHAVIOR.

BUT I WONDER IF ANYONE, ANYWHERE, AT ANY TIME -- CAN COME UP WITH AN EXCUSE FOR THIS OUTRAGEOUS, ARROGANT, THUMB-OF-THE NOSE TOWARD THE AUGUST 7 ACCORD, THE PEACE PROCESS, AND THE DEMANDS OF THE NICARAGUAN PEOPLE FOR PEACE WITH FREEDOM?

SINCE AUGUST 7, THE SANDINISTAS WITH GREAT FANFARE HAVE OPENED ONE NEWSPAPER -- WITH CERTAIN "UNDERSTANDINGS" ABOUT NOT PRINTING MATERIAL WHICH WOULD UNDERMINE THE SO-CALLED PEACE PROCESS. THEY HAVE OPENED ONE RADIO STATION -- BUT REFUSED TO ALLOW IT TO BROADCAST ANY NEWS. THEY HAVE ALLOWED SEVERAL SCORE PEOPLE OUT OF JAIL -- AND KEPT THOUSANDS LOCKED IN SANDINISTA SLAMMERS. THEY HAVE DECLARED A PHONY, PARTIAL CEASEFIRE -- AND CONTINUED TO IMPORT MASSIVE ARMS SUPPLIES FROM THE SOVIET UNION AND CUBA.

AND, OF COURSE, MR. ORTEGA WILL NOT EVEN BE IN MANAGUA ON THE DAY THE GUATEMALA CITY ACCORD IS TO GO INTO FULL EFFECT --BECAUSE HE WILL BE IN MOSCOW, CELEBRATING A COMMUNIST BIRTHDAY WITH HIS KREMLIN MENTORS.

THE MASQUERADE IS OVER. THE TIME FOR A HARD CHOICE BY THIS CONGRESS IS DRAWING NEAR.