

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE CALLS FOR CAREFUL, CONSTRUCTIVE EXAMINATION OF INF TREATY

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE (R-KS.) TODAY LIKENED THE SHULTZ-SHEVARNADZE AGREEMENT ON INF ISSUES TO THE SUCCESSFUL FIRST STAGE TEST OF A MULTI-STAGE ROCKET. "THE INF 'ROCKET' HAS CLEARED THE LAUNCH PAD -- AND THAT IS GROUNDS FOR SOME SATISFACTION, DOLE SAID. "BUT WE'VE GOT STAGE TWO, SIGNING AT THE SUMMIT; AND THE VITALLY IMPORTANT STAGE THREE, SENATE APPROVAL, STILL AHEAD. SO LET'S NOT BREAK OUT THE CHAMPAGNE UNTIL WE FIND OUT FOR SURE THERE IS SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE."

"According to the preliminary briefings I've had," Dole said, "I am hopeful that we are going to have a solid verification regime. But that is clearly one area that we're going to have to look at very closely in the Senate. Among other things, we're also going to be looking at compliance policy; and at the basic clarity of the language -- no more of these damaging debates over 'treaty interpretation,' such as we've had with the ABM Treaty."

Dole concluded by noting that, "Unlike in the Soviet Union, we've got a Constitution based on separations of powers and responsibilities. Gorbachev may be the last and only word in Moscow; but in this country the Constitution gives the Senate a key role -- and I take that responsibility seriously. What you'll see from Bob Dole -- and from the Senate in general -- is a careful, constructive examination of the INF treaty."