

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DOLE ON NATO SUMMIT: BUSH AND KOHL COMPROMISE MAKES SENSE
SOVIETS NOTE -- NATO STANDS UNITED

WASHINGTON -- SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE DELIVERED THIS FLOOR STATEMENT TODAY REGARDING THE NATO 40TH ANNIVERSARY SUMMIT:

MR. PRESIDENT:

THE SUMMIT MARKING NATO'S FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY GAVE US A CLEAR INDICATION THAT NATO IS ALIVE AND WELL AND HEADED TOWARD FIFTY.

AFTER WEEKS OF DOOM AND GLOOM OVER THE US-GERMAN SQUABBLE OVER SHORT-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES, PRESIDENT BUSH AND CHANCELLOR KOHL REACHED A COMPROMISE THAT MAKES SENSE. NATO CAME THROUGH AS IT HAS FOR FORTY YEARS.

CYNICS MAY SAY THAT THE ALLIES ONCE AGAIN PAPERED OVER THEIR DIFFERENCES AND AVOIDED A DECISION. I SUPPOSE THERE IS A GRAIN OF TRUTH TO THAT OBSERVATION IN ANY POLITICAL SITUATION. BUT I PREFER TO SEE THE SNF COMPROMISE AS THE RESULT OF THE PROCESS BY WHICH 16 DEMOCRACIES HAVE LEARNED TO LIVE TOGETHER.

THE NATO SNF DECISION MAKES CONCRETE SENSE, AND WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE SENSE -- IF WE STICK TO ALL OF IT.

FIRST WE HAVE TO GET A VERIFIABLE CONVENTIONAL ARMED FORCES IN EUROPE, OR CAFE, TREATY. THAT MEANS A VERIFIABLE AGREEMENT TO EQUALIZE TANKS, INFANTRY FIGHTING VEHICLES AND ARTILLERY.

ONCE CAFE IMPLEMENTATION STARTS, WE CAN TURN TO NEGOTIATIONS FOR A PARTIAL REDUCTION OF SNF FORCES. LET'S UNDERSCORE THAT WORD PARTIAL. EVEN WITH CAFE, THE SOVIET UNION IS TOO BIG A MILITARY POWER, TOO CLOSE TO WESTERN EUROPE, FOR NATO TO GIVE UP ALL ITS SNF NUCLEAR DETERRENT.

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