

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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STALINISM ALIVE AND WELL IN YUGOSLAVIA & SOVIET UNION;  
CRACKDOWNS ORDERED BY BELGRADE AND MOSCOW CRUSHING DEMOCRACY;  
DEADLY DEADLINE TICKS DOWN IN YUGOSLAVIA

WASHINGTON - SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE (R-KS) TODAY ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT REGARDING THE RECENT EVENTS IN THE BALTIC STATES:

THIS WEEK ALL EYES ARE ON BAGHDAD. BUT, THERE ARE OTHER TROUBLESPOTS AROUND THE GLOBE--PLACES WHERE THE UNITED STATES IS NOT AT WAR, BUT WHERE THE DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES AND FREEDOMS WE BELIEVE IN ARE UNDER SERIOUS ATTACK.

GORBACHEV ROLLING BACK REFORMS

AT THE TOP OF THE LIST IS THE SOVIET UNION. WHILE TANKS ARE ROLLING INTO AND OVER THE BALTICS, GORBACHEV IS ROLLING BACK GLASNOST AND REFORM. THE BRUTALITY OF THE SOVIET MILITARY IN LITHUANIA HAS LED TO HUMAN TRAGEDY--THE LOSS OF LIVES AS WELL AS THE NEAR LOSS OF DEMOCRACY. LITHUANIAN WORKERS, IN WHAT MAY BE A FUTILE EFFORT, ARE TRYING TO PROTECT THEIR PARLIAMENT FROM ASSAULT BY PLOWING DITCHES AND SETTING UP BARRICADES.

AND, WHILE THE VIOLENT OPPRESSION CONTINUES IN LITHUANIA, SOVIET TROOPS ARE BEGINNING THEIR MOVE ON LATVIA AND ESTONIA: SOVIET COMMANDOS ARE STORMING PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES AND INCITING PROVOCATIONS AS AN EXCUSE FOR FURTHER ESCALATING THE VIOLENCE.

BALTIC BLACKMAIL

WHILE THERE ARE NO TROOPS SHOOTING ON CIVILIANS IN MOSCOW, OTHER DISTURBING EVENTS ARE TAKING PLACE THERE, AS WELL. INCREASINGLY, EVENTS INDICATE THAT GORBACHEV'S COMMITMENT TO REFORM AND GLASNOST MAY HAVE BEEN ILLUSORY. I RECENTLY MET WITH THE MINISTER AT LARGE OF ESTONIA, ENDEL LIPPMAA. HE REMARKED, "SHEVARDADZE IS RIGHT." WELL, IT SEEMS TO ME, TOO, THAT SHEVARDADZE IS INDEED RIGHT. GORBACHEV AND THE REST OF HIS GOVERNMENT IS RAPIDLY MOVING TOWARD CENTRALIZED DICTATORSHIP. THIS WEEK, GORBACHEV AND THE SOVIET PARLIAMENT MADE A BIG MOVE TO ROLL BACK GLASNOST--YET, THE PROPOSAL THAT WAS PASSED--PROVIDING FOR MEASURES TO ENSURE 'OBJECTIVITY'-- DID NOT GO FAR ENOUGH FOR PRESIDENT GORBACHEV. GORBACHEV, THE FATHER OF GLASNOST, NOW WANTS TOTAL CONTROL OF THE PRESS. I THINK THAT BY NOW, MOST AMERICANS ARE WONDERING WHO GORBACHEV REALLY IS. IS HE A REFORMER OR A DICTATOR?

YUGOSLAVIA: POLICE STATE CRACKDOWN

ANOTHER TROUBLESPOT WHERE OPPRESSION IS SPREADING AND CONFLICT APPEARS IMMINENT IS YUGOSLAVIA. LAST WEEK, THE FEDERAL PRESIDENCY ISSUED A DECREE WHICH THREATENED THE USE OF FORCE BY THE YUGOSLAV ARMY AGAINST SO-CALLED "IRREGULAR UNITS" IF THEY DID NOT DISARM BY SATURDAY, JANUARY 19. THIS DECREE IS VIEWED BY THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICS OF SLOVENIA AND CROATIA, IN PARTICULAR, AS A DIRECT THREAT NOT ONLY TO THEIR NATIONAL GUARD UNITS, BUT TO THEIR POPULATION AS A WHOLE.

THE DECREE IS ALSO VIEWED AS A PROVOCATION TO THE ALBANIAN MAJORITY IN THE PROVINCE OF KOSOVA. THE COURAGEOUS LEADER OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE OF KOSOVA, DR. IBRAHIM RUGOVA, IS CLEARLY COMMITTED TO DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES AND PEACEFUL RESISTANCE AGAINST THE HARDLINE COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT OF SERBIA. IF THERE IS TO BE PEACEFUL AND DEMOCRATIC CHANGE IN KOSOVA IN THE FUTURE, THE COURSE CHARTED BY DR. RUGOVA WILL HAVE TO BE TAKEN.

(MORE)



KOSOVA NIGHTMARE

NEVERTHELESS, THE SERBIAN GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO INCITE VIOLENCE. DOOR TO DOOR SEARCHES BY SERBIAN POLICE FORCES, OSTENSIBLY SEARCHING FOR ARMS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE, BEGAN EARLIER THIS WEEK IN KOSOVA.

AND, WE MUST NOT FORGET, THAT THE PEOPLE OF KOSOVA LIVE UNDER STALINIST CONDITIONS. MARTIAL LAW WAS IMPOSED ALMOST TWO YEARS AGO--PEOPLE ARE HARASSED, BEATEN, ARRESTED AND IMPRISONED WITHOUT TRIAL. SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE OF KOSOVA HAVE BEEN IN JAIL FOR SIX WEEKS AND HAVE YET TO GO TO TRIAL: SALIH CEKAJ, ISA DEMUKAJ, NIJAZI HYLAJ, PASHE KUCI, XHEVDET LATAJ, ISAT MUSHKOLAJ AND ZEQR RAMOSAJ. THE DECREE ISSUED BY THE FEDERAL PRESIDENCY OF YUGOSLAVIA IS ONLY THE LATEST IN A LONG LINE OF THREATENING AND REPRESSIVE MEASURES.

IT IS CLEAR THAT IN YUGOSLAVIA, AS IN THE SOVIET UNION, THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICS ARE UNDER SIEGE BY THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND THE ARMY. AS A RESULT, THE SURVIVAL OF DEMOCRACY IN YUGOSLAVIA AND THE SOVIET UNION IS IN REAL QUESTION.

DIRECT U.S. FOREIGN AID BILL: BYPASS STALINESQUE REGIMES

THAT IS WHY I INTRODUCED S.9, THE DIRECT AID FOR DEMOCRACY ACT, THIS WEEK. S.9 AMENDS U.S. POLICY TO PERMIT THE PROVISION OF DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS AT THE REPUBLIC LEVEL THAT EXIST WITHIN COUNTRIES THAT STILL HAVE A COMMUNIST RULING MAJORITY IN OTHER REPUBLIC GOVERNMENTS AND/OR AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL.

THIS BILL IS APPLICABLE TO BOTH THE SOVIET UNION AND YUGOSLAVIA. IT WOULD ALLOW THE UNITED STATES TO BYPASS THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES AND PROVIDE U.S. ASSISTANCE DIRECTLY TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICS. AND, WE WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO GIVE ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNIST REPUBLIC GOVERNMENTS, SUCH AS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA, WHICH HAS A DEPLORABLE HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD. IN SUMMARY, S.9 TAKES U.S. FOREIGN AID POLICY OUT OF THE "HELP ALL OR HURT ALL" BOX.

IT IS MY HOPE THAT THE CONGRESS WILL PASS S.9--IT REPRESENTS AN IMPORTANT FIRST STEP IN TRANSLATING U.S. HOPES FOR DEMOCRACY IN THE SOVIET UNION AND IN YUGOSLAVIA INTO REALITY.

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