

REMARKS OF SENATOR DOLE

PENNSYLVANIA STATE CONVENTION-- VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

I AM PARTICULARLY PROUD TO BE WITH YOUR OUTSTANDING ORGANIZATION SO SOON AFTER OUR CELEBRATION OF INDEPENDENCE DAY. INDEPENDENCE, LIKE FREEDOM, IS A WORD THAT ALL TOO OFTEN WE TAKE FOR GRANTED. AS WE GO ABOUT OUR COMMON, EVERYDAY CONCERNS OF RAISING A FAMILY, EARNING A LIVING, AND JOINING IN A COMMUNITY WITH OUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS, IT'S TOO EASY TO FORGET WHAT IT MEANS TO BE INDEPENDENT--AS A NATION WHICH CHARTS ITS OWN DESTINY, AND AS A COMMUNITY OF INDIVIDUALS WHO MAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS ON WHERE TO LIVE, WHAT TO THINK, HOW TO WORSHIP, AND WHERE TO WORK.

BUT THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DO NOT FORGET. YOU KNOW THE MEANING OF INDEPENDENCE FIRST-HAND; YOU HAVE FOUGHT AND PUT YOUR LIVES ON THE LINE TO DEFEND IT. THE MEN OF VALLEY FORGE KNEW WHAT INDEPENDENCE, AND LIBERTY, MEAN--THEIR DEVOTION TO THOSE PRINCIPLES SUSTAINED THEM THROUGH EXTRAORDINARY HARDSHIP. AND WHILE MANY OF THEM NEVER REALIZED THE BLESSINGS OF THE LIBERTY THEY FOUGHT SO HARD FOR, I DOUBT IF ANY OF THEM--OR ANY OF YOU--

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HAD ANY SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT SERVING THE CAUSE OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE.

LIBERTY

AS YOU KNOW, WE HAVE JUST CELEBRATED NOT ONLY INDEPENDENCE DAY, BUT LIBERTY WEEKEND AS WELL--ACKNOWLEDGING THE STIRRING SYMBOL OF AMERICAN FREEDOM THAT DOMINATES NEW YORK HARBOR, EVEN TODAY WELCOMING THOSE WHO SEEK LIBERTY FROM ALL AROUND THE GLOBE. YOU, GATHERED HERE TODAY--EVERYONE OF YOU--HAVE PROVEN YOUR DEVOTION TO THE CAUSE OF LIBERTY. YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO EXPECT YOUR POLITICAL LEADERS--THE MEN AND WOMEN YOU SELECT TO GUIDE AMERICA'S DESTINY AS THE BEST HOPE FOR FREEDOM--TO SHOW THE SAME MEASURE OF DEVOTION.

LET ME SUGGEST WHAT THOSE OF US WHO HOLD A PUBLIC TRUST--POLITICIANS, IF YOU WILL--CAN AND MUST DO IN THE NAME OF INDEPENDENCE AND LIBERTY.

AMERICAN POWER: RHETORIC AND REALITY

THIS INDEPENDENCE DAY, LIKE EVERY OTHER, SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN HEADED BACK HOME TO ANNOUNCE THEIR PRIDE IN AMERICA AS A BASTION OF FREEDOM AND A REFUGE FOR THE OPPRESSED, BUT ALL TOO OFTEN, MANY OF THESE SAME POLITICIANS COME RIGHT BACK TO WASHINGTON AND CAST VOTE AFTER VOTE TO UNDERMINE OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE AND REJECT THE PLEAS FROM FRIENDS OF FREEDOM AROUND THE GLOBE.

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THE PEOPLE HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW--AND TO BE CONCERNED--WHEN ELECTED OFFICIALS TALK STRONG, BUT VOTE WEAK. LET'S FACE IT; THERE ARE SOME IN CONGRESS WHO WOULD RATHER LAMBASTE OUR COMMANDER IN CHIEF THAN TAKE ON THE THREAT OF SOVIET IMPERIALISM AND SOVIET OPPRESSION,

THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD RATHER SPEAK ABOUT PEACE, THAN REALLY WORK FOR IT,

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WELL, THE DAYS OF THE DOUBLE STANDARD ARE PAST. THE WATCHWORD FROM NOW ON IS ACCOUNTABILITY. YOUR LEADERS ARE GOING TO HAVE TO STAND UP AND BE COUNTED IF THEY REALLY WANT TO DEFEND AMERICA'S INDEPENDENCE, PRESERVE AMERICA'S LIBERTY, AND ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM AROUND THE WORLD,

IN SHORT, WE IN CONGRESS ARE GOING TO VOTE--TO GO ON RECORD--ON THE CRITICAL ISSUES OF DEFENDING AMERICA AND AMERICAN PRINCIPLES. AND NO ONE WILL HAVE THE LUXURY OF HIDING IN THE CORNER,

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SALT

LET ME OFFER A FEW EXAMPLES FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF RHETORIC LATELY ABOUT THE SALT II ARMS TREATY WITH THE SOVIET UNION, AND ABOUT PRESIDENT REAGAN'S DECISION TO END OUR UNILATERAL COMPLIANCE WITH THAT TREATY.

IN MY VIEW, THE PRESIDENT HAS TAKEN A BOLD STEP THAT OFFER US THE BEST, AND PERHAPS THE ONLY, OPPORTUNITY FOR REAL ARMS REDUCTION.

WHAT THE PRESIDENT HAS DONE--AND, FRANKLY, I WOULD HAVE TAKEN THIS STEP SOME TIME AGO--IS TO STATE CLEARLY THE CRITERIA THAT WILL GOVERN OUR STRATEGIC ARMS DECISIONS FROM NOW ON:

FIRST, DETERMINE WHAT ARMAMENTS WE NEED TO ENSURE OUR SECURITY AND KEEP OUR COMMITMENTS AROUND THE GLOBE.

SECOND, DECIDE WHAT STRATEGY GIVES US THE BEST CHANCE TO MAKE REAL PROGRESS ON ARMS REDUCTION IN THE GENEVA TALKS.

THIRD, LOOK AT WHAT THE RUSSIANS ARE REALLY DOING IN THEIR OWN ARMS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS--INCLUDING THE ISSUE OF THEIR ACTUAL COMPLIANCE WITH EXISTING ARMS AGREEMENTS. ARE THEY SERIOUS ABOUT ARMS CONTROL, OR NOT?

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IN SHORT, THE PRESIDENT HAS ONLY REJECTED THE NOTION THAT THE U.S. WILL COMPLY UNILATERALLY WITH SALT II, REGARDLESS OF WHAT THE SOVIETS DO. NO LONGER ARE WE WEDDED TO A TREATY THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE REPEATEDLY AND MASSIVELY VIOLATED; A TREATY THAT HAS ALLOWED THEM TO BUILD UP, NOT REDUCE ARMS-- AND THAT LIMITS THE WRONG KINDS OF THINGS, GIVEN THE DEVELOPMENTS IN WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY THAT HAVE OCCURRED SINCE THAT TREATY WAS NEGOTIATED.

THE FACT IS THAT UNILATERAL COMPLIANCE WITH A FLAWED TREATY SERVES NEITHER OUR SECURITY NEEDS, NOR THE CAUSE OF PEACE. IT HAS NOT RESTRAINED THE RUSSIANS, AND IT HAS NOT BROUGHT A REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS.

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I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT PRESIDENT REAGAN'S DECISION ON SALT II IS THE ONLY WAY TO SET THE STAGE FOR SALT III-- A NEW TREATY THAT ACHIEVES REAL ARMS REDUCTIONS, AND FAIRLY BALANCES U.S. AND SOVIET INTERESTS.

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SO I FIND IT DIFFICULT TO FOLLOW THE REASONING OF MY FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES WHO THINK STICKING WITH SALT II IS THE SUREST PATH TO PEACE. BUT EVEN IF WE DISAGREE ON THE MERITS OF THAT TREATY, WE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO AGREE ON A SIMPLE PRINCIPLE--WE SHOULD BE WILLING TO GO ON RECORD IN DEFENSE OF OUR DIFFERING VIEWS.

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PUT IT TO THE TEST

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AFTER ALL, WHAT MATTERS MORE THAN THE SECURITY OF OUR NATION, AND THE PROMOTION OF PEACE? LINKED TOGETHER, THOSE GOALS CANNOT BE QUESTIONED--AND CLEARLY THEY PREVAIL OVER ANY MERE PAPER AGREEMENT, LET US WEIGH THE MERITS OF SALT II IN THAT LIGHT--AND VOTE, THAT IS THE AMERICAN WAY,

OPPORTUNITIES TO ACCOUNT

WHETHER OR NOT WE VOTE ON SALT II, THERE WILL BE MANY OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO GO ON RECORD ON THE MATTER OF AMERICAN SECURITY AND INDEPENDENCE, THE PRESIDENT HAS SPOKEN TIME AND AGAIN OF THE NEED FOR AN AMERICAN MILITARY SECOND TO NONE,

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HE HAS MADE A STRONG CASE FOR HIS DEFENSE BUDGET, A BUDGET THAT WILL BE PUT TO THE TEST MORE THAN ONCE AS WE CONTINUE TO GRAPPLE WITH THE GRAMM-RUDMAN DEFICIT LAW. BUT LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT I WILL DO EVERYTHING I CAN TO MAKE SURE THAT ALL OUR VITAL DEFENSE NEEDS ARE MET--INCLUDING HIGHER FUNDING FOR THE STRATEGIC DEFENSE INITIATIVE, WHICH PROMISES TO SUBSTITUTE TRUE SECURITY FOR THE FALSE SECURITY OF MUTUAL ASSURED DESTRUCTION.

WHATEVER ELSE WE DO ON THE DEFENSE BUDGET, WE MUST MOVE AHEAD ON SDI.

IN MANY WAYS, IT WOULD BE NICE IF WE COULD AFFORD NOT TO. IT WOULD BE NICE IF WE DIDN'T HAVE TO SPEND BILLIONS OF DOLLARS ON DEFENSE. BUT WE DO. IT WOULD BE NICE IF THE RUSSIANS WOULD FORGET ABOUT STRATEGIC DEFENSE, AND NOT PUSH AHEAD WITH THEIR OWN PLAN. BUT THEY ARE.

BUT MOST OF ALL, IT WOULD BE NICE IF WE COULD JOIN WITH ALL THE NUCLEAR NATIONS AND RENOUNCE THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, ONCE AND FOR ALL. UNTIL THE DAY ARRIVES WHEN THAT IS POSSIBLE, WE MUST MAKE THE BEST, MOST REALISTIC PLAN FOR PEACE THAT WE CAN. THAT MEANS MOVING AHEAD ON STRATEGIC DEFENSE, WHICH HAS THE POTENTIAL FOR OPENING NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR ECONOMY, AS WELL AS ENHANCING OUR OWN SECURITY. LIKE THE ENTIRE REAGAN DEFENSE

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BUILDUP, SDI GIVES THE RUSSIANS A REASON TO NEGOTIATE--IT RELIES ON THAT OLD, TRUSTED MOTIVATING FORCE KNOWN AS SELF-INTEREST. FOR THAT REASON ALONE, IT SETS US ON THE PROPER PATH TO PEACE.

FREEDOM FIGHTERS

IF WE BELIEVE IN LIBERTY FOR OURSELVES, SURELY WE MUST SUPPORT THE CAUSE OF LIBERTY AMONG OUR FRIENDS AND ALLIES ABROAD. THANKS TO PRESIDENT REAGAN, THE U.S. HAS A NEW COMMITMENT TO THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM: WHETHER IN THE TURBULENT WORLD OF CENTRAL AMERICA, IN THE FAR PACIFIC, IN AFRICA, OR IN ASIA.

WE HAVE GONE ON RECORD FOR FREEDOM. THE HOUSE HAS FINALLY AGREED TO FUND THE NICARAGUAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS, PUTTING REAL PRESSURE ON THE OPPRESSIVE REGIME OF DICTATOR DANIEL ORTEGA. WITH HIS WELL-KNOWN INSTINCT FOR GOOD PUBLIC RELATIONS, ORTEGA HAS RESPONDED--BY CLAMPING DOWN ON LA PRENSA, THE LAST FREE OPPOSITION NEWSPAPER. BY EXPELLING BISHOP ANTONIO VEGA FOR HIS DEFENSE OF FREEDOM, AND BY BULLYING THE CHURCH FOR SHOWING THE WILL TO SPEAK OUT. NO ONE COULD DO MORE THAN ORTEGA DOES TO MAKE THE CASE FOR THE NICARAGUAN FREEDOM-FIGHTERS; A CASE THAT SURELY MUST BE DEEMED SETTLED, ONCE AND FOR ALL.

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BUT SOME CASES, IT SEEMS, ARE NEVER FINALLY SETTLED, THE RECENT COUP ATTEMPT IN THE PHILLIPPINES PROVES THAT FREEDOM CAN NEVER BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED, AND THAT VIGILANCE IS ALWAYS REQUIRED. BUT AT THE SAME TIME, THE CASE OF THE PHILLIPPINES SHOWS THAT MILITARY STRENGTH IS ONLY ONE PART OF THE BATTLE AGAINST TYRANNY. EQUALLY IMPORTANT ARE ECONOMIC SUPPORT, MORAL SUPPORT, AND UNDERSTANDING FOR THE SPECIAL AND PARTICULAR PROBLEMS OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES WE SEEK TO AID,

THERE ARE NO SIMPLE FORMULAS FOR FREEDOM. BUT THERE IS A SIMPLE COMMITMENT WE CAN MAKE, IF WE TRULY CARE ABOUT THE LIBERTY WE SO PROUDLY HAILED ON INDEPENDENCE DAY,

THAT COMMITMENT IS TO PROMOTE LIBERTY, PROTECT OUR INDENDENCE, AND ADVANCE FREEDOM BY REAL ACTIONS IN THE REAL WORLD--NOT JUST BY FINE WORDS ON A PATRIOTIC OCCASION, LET US MATCH OUR DEEDS TO OUR RHETORIC--NOT PROMISE WHAT IS BEYOND OUR STRENGTH TO ACHIEVE--YET NEVER SHIRK FROM THE CHALLENGE OF PRESERVING FREEDOM. THAT IS THE WAY TO REAL PEACE, FOR PEACE WITHOUT FREEDOM IS A BITTER PROSPECT INDEED. WE DEVOUTLY PRAY THERE WILL BE NO MORE FOREIGN WARS--THAT YOU AND YOUR COMPATRIOTS AROUND THIS GREAT NATION WILL NOT BE JOINED BY FUTURE GENERATIONS OF AMERICAN MEN AND WOMEN WHO MUST GO TO WAR BECAUSE OUR POLITICAL LEADERSHIP HAS FAILED TO PRESERVE THE PEACE. WE WILL FIGHT WHEN WE MUST--BUT PEACE WITH FREEDOM IS OUR HIGHEST GOAL, AND OUR DEEPEST OBLIGATION,

BOB DOLE
KANSAS

United States Senate

OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY LEADER
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

JULY 8, 1986

TO: SENATOR DOLE
FROM: GEORGE PIELER
SUBJECT: SPEECH TO PENNSYLVANIA VFW

ATTACHED IS A DRAFT OF A SUGGESTED SPEECH FOR
THE PENNSYLVANIA VFW, THURSDAY, JULY 10.

THEY EXPECT SOME 8,000 OR MORE VETS, PLUS
LADIES' AUXILIARY,

BOB EDGAR WILL BE SPEAKING THE SAME DAY, AS
WILL BILL SCRANTON, BILL CASEY, AND SEN. SPECTER.

ATTACHMENT

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WE HAVE GONE ON RECORD FOR FREEDOM. THE HOUSE HAS FINALLY AGREED TO FUND THE NICARAGUAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS, PUTTING REAL PRESSURE ON THE OPPRESSIVE REGIME OF DICTATOR DANIEL ORTEGA. WITH HIS WELL-KNOWN INSTINCT FOR GOOD PUBLIC RELATIONS, ORTEGA HAS RESPONDED--BY CLAMPING DOWN ON LA PRENSA, THE LAST FREE OPPOSITION NEWSPAPER. BY EXPELLING BISHOP ANTONIO VEGA FOR HIS DEFENSE OF FREEDOM, AND BY BULLYING THE CHURCH FOR SHOWING THE WILL TO SPEAK OUT. NO ONE COULD DO MORE THAN ORTEGA DOES TO MAKE THE CASE FOR THE NICARAGUAN FREEDOM-FIGHTERS: A CASE THAT SURELY MUST BE DEEMED SETTLED, ONCE AND FOR ALL.

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BUT SOME CASES, IT SEEMS, ARE NEVER FINALLY SETTLED. THE RECENT COUP ATTEMPT IN THE PHILLIPPINES PROVES THAT FREEDOM CAN NEVER BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED, AND THAT VIGILANCE IS ALWAYS REQUIRED. BUT AT THE SAME TIME, THE CASE OF THE PHILLIPPINES SHOWS THAT MILITARY STRENGTH IS ONLY ONE PART OF THE BATTLE AGAINST TYRANNY. EQUALLY IMPORTANT ARE ECONOMIC SUPPORT, MORAL SUPPORT, AND UNDERSTANDING FOR THE SPECIAL AND PARTICULAR PROBLEMS OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES WE SEEK TO AID.

THERE ARE NO SIMPLE FORMULAS FOR FREEDOM. BUT THERE IS A SIMPLE COMMITMENT WE CAN MAKE, IF WE TRULY CARE ABOUT THE LIBERTY WE SO PROUDLY HAILED ON INDEPENDENCE DAY.

THAT COMMITMENT IS TO PROMOTE LIBERTY, PROTECT OUR INDEPENDENCE, AND ADVANCE FREEDOM BY REAL ACTIONS IN THE REAL WORLD--NOT JUST BY FINE WORDS ON A PATRIOTIC OCCASION. LET US MATCH OUR DEEDS TO OUR RHETORIC--NOT PROMISE WHAT IS BEYOND OUR STRENGTH TO ACHIEVE--YET NEVER SHIRK FROM THE CHALLENGE OF PRESERVING FREEDOM. THAT IS THE WAY TO REAL PEACE, FOR PEACE WITHOUT FREEDOM IS A BITTER PROSPECT INDEED. WE DEVOUTLY PRAY THERE WILL BE NO MORE FOREIGN WARS--THAT YOU AND YOUR COMPATRIOTS AROUND THIS GREAT NATION WILL NOT BE JOINED BY FUTURE GENERATIONS OF AMERICAN MEN AND WOMEN WHO MUST GO TO WAR BECAUSE OUR POLITICAL LEADERSHIP HAS FAILED TO PRESERVE THE PEACE. WE WILL FIGHT WHEN WE MUST--BUT PEACE WITH FREEDOM IS OUR HIGHEST GOAL, AND OUR DEEPEST OBLIGATION.



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