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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R-Kans)

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DOLE AMENDMENT WOULD CUT FUNDS TO STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICE IN CUBA

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) said today that he will offer an amendment to prevent the expenditure of funds for salaries or any other expenses connected with the operation of the United States Interests Section Office in Cuba, when the State Department Appropriations Bill reaches the Senate floor this summer.

"In view of continuing massive Cuban aggression in Africa, not one dime of the American taxpayers' money should be spent to support efforts towards 'normalizing' relations with the Communist Cuban regime," Dole said.

"The administration appears to be finally waking up to the fact that Cuban adventurism is expanding, with the active support of the Soviet Union. So long as the Cubans consent to be the tools of death and destruction in Africa, there can be no justification for spending money to nurture relations with Castro and his crew."

SENATE ATTITUDES

Dole said he was also encouraged by indications that the Senate Majority leader and others who previously defended normalization efforts "are beginning to see the light."

"On several occasions last year, the senator from Kansas and others attempted to place restrictions on diplomatic recognition or trade with Cuba until it ceased its malicious activity," Dole said, "but at every step of the way, our efforts were thwarted by the Senate leadership and the concerted opposition of the administration spokesmen. Although some still cling to a gullible hope that Castro will cease his deadly assaults in Africa,' many more now recognize the futility of that hope.

"There will be numerous legislative efforts to register Congressional dissent with 'normalization' efforts this year, and broad support is expected."