



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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ADMINISTRATION OVER-REACTING TO MOOD OF THE MOMENT IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DOLE SAYS

HACKETTSTOWN, N.J. -- Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) said today that the Carter Administration has "over-reacted to the mood of the moment in international affairs."

Speaking to a Jim Courter for Congress dinner, Dole said the Administration has permitted "lofty idealism to supplant hard-nosed reality."

"As a result, our relations with the Soviets are deteriorating. Our national defense posture is slipping. Even the Administration's laudable commitment to human rights, which was launched with great fanfare last year, is fading."

"The Administration's rhetoric on foreign policy has been tough, its deeds weak. We have unilaterally given up one weapon system after another, thrown away bargaining chip after bargaining chip in the strategic arms talks. We have been reluctant to become involved in blatant human rights violations, which at first glance appear not to affect us directly, for fear of intervening in the 'internal affairs' of another nation. But I say that so long as there is such blatant disregard of human rights as the Shcharansky and Ginzburgs, the Cambodian holocaust, the Cuban adventures on the African continent, none of us can hide behind national borders."

Dole said that the Carter Administration has projected an image of inconsistency to foreign governments.

"Our goals are blurred, our commitment to allies questioned, our resolve to deal firmly with adversaries doubted," he said. "Uncertainty, contradiction, frequent shifts in policy and inconsistency characterize American foreign policy today. Our image is of a nation which has seemingly lost its grip on the rudder of free-world leadership."