

News from Senator

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# BOB DOLE



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## LENIENCY TOWARDS CLARK REPREHENSIBLE: DOLE CALLS FOR HEARINGS ON CLARK MISSION TO IRAN

WASHINGTON -- Senator Robert Dole (R.Kan) today announced that he was disturbed by the suggestion that the American citizens who participated in the travesty in Tehran billed as "Crimes of America" would be treated leniently. "I wonder," said the senior Senator from Kansas, "whether the victims of the misconduct of these people have been or will be treated as leniently. This disgraceful conduct has grave consequences for the United States and its allies. The provisions of the Logan Act and of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act of 1977 under which the President banned travel to Iran respond specifically to the damage such private initiatives have with respect to our national interests.

The Senator announced that if the returning participants are not detained or vigorously investigated with a view to prosecution, he will call upon Senator Frank Church of Idaho, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, to immediately hold hearings on the trip. "The American participants should be called before the Foreign Relations Committee and closely interrogated on the entire affair," said Dole. "If such a hearing is not immediately scheduled, I shall as a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, demand that hearings be commenced in that Committee." The Judiciary Committee has oversight of the Logan Act, which forbids, under pain of fine and imprisonment negotiations between private citizens of the United States and agents or officials of foreign powers.

Senator Dole this week introduced a Senate Resolution with the names of 23 co sponsors calling for the prosecution of anyone who violates the Logan Act or the provisions of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act of 1977. The resolution named no one but refers specifically to the Iranian crisis and the now almost forgotten 53 American hostages.

"Conduct such as this which undermines our attempts to solve the hostage crisis cannot be tolerated. A full investigation of this flagrant breach of national loyalty must be conducted, and I plan to pursue this matter until it is satisfactorily resolved," Dole said.