

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 1980

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DOLE SAYS BILLY INVESTIGATION MAY BE BECOMING 'FAMILY AFFAIR'

GOODLAND, KS--- Senator Bob Dole (R.-Kansas) said today that the investigation examining Billy Carter's relationship with Libya may have to be expanded to include other members of the Carter family.

Dole, who originally called for a Senate investigation in July after press reports indicated that Billy Carter received \$220,000 in "loans", said today that "it now appears that dealings with foreign governments were a way of life for the Carter family. The President's son, Jeff, was involved in business with the Philipines; Ruth Carter Stapleton, the President's sister, toured the Arab world courtesy of a pro-Arab U.S. businessman; and of course Billy had his relationship with the Libyans. Instead of calling this Billygate, it might be more appropriately titled Family Affair."

Dole added that he had been "a little puzzled" last week when President Carter, in a nationally televised news conference, had said he was issuing an executive order prohibiting contact between members of his family and officials in the government.

"Now, after the revelations about Jeff Carter and Ruth Carter Stapleton, I can see why he said 'members' of my family, rather than 'my brother Billy,'" said Dole.

Dole said he agrees with Senator Bayh that there may be a need to pass a law concerning the activities of members of the Presidential family.

"But," Dole cautioned, "it would have to be very carefully drafted. Members of a President's family have First Amendment and other constitutional rights that should be protected. We may have to conduct separate hearings on that subject after the Billy Carter hearings are concluded."