

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE BLASTS CARTER DECISION TO VOTE FOR POL POT AT U.N.

WASHINGTON--Senator Bob Dole (R.Kansas) today denounced the Carter Administration for its decision yesterday to instruct Secretary of State Edmund Muskie to vote in favor of the seating of Pol Pot's "Democratic Kampuchea" regime to represent Cambodia in the United Nations if this vote comes before the General Assembly.

Dole, a member of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, condemned the Pol Pot regime's past record on human rights.

"This latest foreign policy decision by the Carter Administration is as harmful as any taken during the past three-and-a-half years," Dole said. "Certainly it gives the appearance of condoning the egregious, tragic human rights violations which characterized the Pol Pot regime.

"Since the Vietnam War era, the death toll has mounted from mass murder, disease, and officially inspired famine. Between one and two million people have died at the hands of the Pol Pot government. Even those estimates may be low.

Dole then called the decision "a blatant contradiction by the President, who loudly proclaimed human rights as a centerpiece of his foreign policy when it was attractive to do so."

Dole added, "Our delegation should be instructed to vote, for the time being, to keep the seat vacant. It is just the right thing to do."