

News from Senator

BOB DOLE

(R - Kansas)

2213 Dirksen Building, Washington, D.C. 20510



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 1982

CONTACT: WALT RIKER
(202) 224-6521

DOLE APPLAUDS PRESIDENT'S CALL FOR ARMS CONTROL

WASHINGTON -- Senator Robert Dole (R.-Kan.) today endorsed President Reagan's appeal last night for nuclear arms control negotiations with the Soviets. Senator Dole is a co-sponsor of a Senate Resolution which calls for the United States and the Soviet Union to engage in substantial, equitable and verifiable reductions in nuclear weapons. The resolution was endorsed by President Reagan last night during his nationally broadcast news conference.

"I welcome the President's support for serious negotiations with the Soviet Union on strategic nuclear arms control," Dole said. "The prospect of global destruction is becoming an ever-increasing burden on the minds of people around the world. American and Soviet arsenals are already enormously destructive, and the risk of accident or misclaustration in their use grows with each passing day."

"I stand with the President in the request for the earliest possible talks with the Soviets. Such talks, as long as they insure a proper balance between American and Soviet forces during the control and reduction process, will serve our national security interests well," Dole said.

"Without doubt we deeply deplore the actions of the Soviet government in Poland, Afghanistan and against their own people. But at the same time, we must recognize that arms control talks are not a 'favor' that we grant to the Soviets or withhold from them depending on Soviet policies in other areas," Dole continued. "Arms control discussions are a compelling security interest of the United States even when tensions between the two countries are high.

"We simply must negotiate a sensible end to the madness of the nuclear arms race."