

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE ENCOURAGED BY PRESIDENT'S MIDEAST PEACE INITIATIVE

WASHINGTON -- Senator Robert Dole (R-Kan.) said today he was encouraged by President Reagan's initiative to resolve the delicate Mideast problem.

"The President has properly and timely recognized that this is an opportunity to promote lasting peace in the Middle East," said Dole. "With the withdrawal of the Palestine Liberation Organization from Lebanon, every effort should be made to expand on the Camp David peace process."

"We must be bold, as the late President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin earlier recognized and continue to search for a way Arabs and Israelis can live in harmony," Dole continued. "President Reagan's approach sets out a framework that will require give and take on all sides."

"While this is a time for hope, we must be cautious. The security of Israel has been a primary concern of the United States since World War II, and we must insure that any new agreement will guarantee a stable and secure Israel," Dole said. "The Mideast problem demands greatness from the world's leaders. It will not be quick, nor will it be easy; but surely it is worth pursuing despite preliminary indications to the contrary."