

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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STATEMENT OF SENATE MAJORITY LEADER BOB DOLE ORTEGA AT THE UNITED NATIONS

THE IRONY OF ORTEGA'S PERFORMANCE

SANDINISTA LEADER DANIEL ORTEGA'S PERFORMANCE DURING HIS CURRENT STAY IN THE UNITED STATES IS RAISING IRONY TO AN ART FORM.

AFTER SPENDING THE LAST THREE MONTHS CRACKING DOWN ON THE CHURCH IN NICARAGUA AND FORCING SOME OF ITS MOST PROMINENT LEADERS INTO EXILE, HE WENT TO SERVICES LAST SUNDAY IN NEW YORK TO SHOW US WHAT A PIOUS FELLOW HE REALLY IS. AFTER SPENDING THE LAST SEVEN YEARS BUILDING UP HIS MILITARY MACHINE, ATTACKING HIS DEMOCRATIC NEIGHBORS, SUPPORTING SUBVERSION AND SOWING UNREST IN CENTRAL AMERICA, HE TOOK TO THE PODIUM AT THE UNITED NATIONS THIS MORNING TO ACCUSE US OF AGGRESSION. AND AFTER SCUTTling THE LATEST AND MOST PROMISING NEGOTIATING PROPOSAL FROM THE CONTADORA NATIONS, HE BLAMES US FOR SABOTAGING A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

WE KNOW THE TRUTH

AND, YOU KNOW, WHEN YOU HAVE THE COMPLETE FREEDOM TO SPEAK, EVEN TO SPEAK TOTAL BUNK, AS YOU DO AT THE U.N. OR HERE IN OUR DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM -- THE FREEDOM WHICH IS SO TOTALLY LACKING IN ORTEGA'S NICARAGUA, I MIGHT ADD -- THEN YOU CAN FOOL SOME OF THE PEOPLE SOME OF THE TIME. AND AT THE U.N. I OFTEN HAVE THE FEELING YOU MIGHT EVEN BE ABLE TO FOOL MOST OF THE PEOPLE MOST OF THE TIME. BUT LET MR. ORTEGA UNDERSTAND THIS. HE'S NOT FOOLING THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES. AND HE'S NOT FOOLING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

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- 2 -

WE KNOW THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEM IN CENTRAL AMERICA. ITS GROWING RIGHT THERE IN MANAGUA, WHERE THE SANDINISTAS ARE HATCHING THEIR PLANS FOR THE CONTINUED SUPPRESSION OF THEIR OWN POPULATION, THE CONTINUED INTIMIDATION OF THEIR NEIGHBORS AND THE CONTINUED COZYING UP TO MOSCOW AND HAVANA.

A FAREWELL MESSAGE FOR ORTEGA

AND WE KNOW THE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM, TOO. IT IS TO SUPPORT THE DEMOCRATIC RESISTANCE FORCES WHO WANT TO TAKE THEIR COUNTRY BACK FROM KREMLIN CONTROL AND SANDINISTA REPRESSION. IT IS TO FORCE THE SANDINISTAS INTO A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT WHICH ENDS NICARAGUA'S MILITARY ALLIANCE WITH THE SOVIETS AND CUBANS, REVERSES ITS MILITARY BUILDUP, STOPS ITS ATTACKS ON ITS NEIGHBORS AND LEADS TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL SYSTEM.

I PRESUME MR. ORTEGA WILL BE PACKING UP SOON TO RETURN TO MANAGUA. IN ALL HONESTY, I CAN'T SAY THAT I'M SORRY TO SEE HIM GO. BUT I DO HOPE THAT WE CAN SOON GET TO WORK ON THE MOST APPROPRIATE FAREWELL MESSAGE FOR HIM THAT I CAN THINK OF -- A QUICK, AFFIRMATIVE VOTE ON THE ASSISTANCE PACKAGE FOR THE CONTRAS.

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