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STATEMENT OF SENATE MAJORITY LEADER BOB DOLE CONDEMN TERRORIST ATTACKS IN KARACHI AND ISTANBUL

NEW TERRORIST ATTACKS

OVER THE PAST WEEK, INTERNATIONAL TERRORISTS HAVE STRUCK TWICE, IN KARACHI AND ISTANBUL. WORDS ARE INADEQUATE TO DESCRIBE THE HORROR AND REVULSION WE ALL FEEL OVER THESE INHUMAN ACTS. OUR HEARTS GO OUT TO THE VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES, INCLUDING THE MANY AMERICANS VICTIMIZED IN THE KARACHI HIJACKING. OUR APPRECIATION GOES TO THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN, WHICH DID EVERYTHING IT COULD TO CONTAIN AND END THE KARACHI INCIDENT WITH MINIMUM BLOODSHED.

ONCE AGAIN, WE ARE PAINFULLY REMINDED OF THE FACT THAT THERE ARE FANATICAL ELEMENTS AT LOOSE IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, WILLING TO MURDER AND MAIM DEFENSELESS MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN, IN PURSUIT OF THEIR WARPED POLITICAL BELIEFS. ONCE AGAIN, WE MUST CONFRONT THE BITTER REALITY THAT THERE ARE NO EASY ANSWERS; THAT INTERNATIONAL TERROR IS NOT GOING TO GO AWAY; THAT, AS SURE AS TODAY TURNS INTO TOMORROW, WE WILL FACE EVEN MORE ATTACKS IN THE MONTHS AHEAD.

A TIME OF TESTING FOR THE NATION

THIS IS A TIME OF TESTING FOR AMERICA AND FOR AMERICANS, NO LESS THAN WE HAVE FACED IN OPEN WAR. IT IS A TIME FOR ALL OF US TO RESOLVE ONCE AGAIN TO SHOW QUIET COURAGE, NOT BRAVADO; UNITY, NOT DIVISENESS OR PARTISANSHIP; RESOLUTE DETERMINATION, NOT KNEE-JERK REACTION.

WE MUST REMAIN STEADFAST TO A THREEFOLD STRATEGY. WE MUST BE VIGILANT AND STRONG, AND BE PREPARED TO PAY THE HIGH COST OF THAT POSTURE. WE MUST NEVER GIVE IN TO THE DEMANDS OF TERRORISTS, NO MATTER WHAT THE CIRCUMSTANCES. AND, IN THE LONG RUN, WE MUST MAKE TERRORISTS PAY FOR THEIR DEEDS -- WITH THE COOPERATION OF OUR ALLIES AND FRIENDS, IF THAT IS POSSIBLE; GOING IT ON OUR OWN, IF THAT IS NECESSARY.

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IN THIS CONTEXT, I MIGHT ALSO NOTE THAT THE ISRAELI PARLIAMENT, THE KNESSET, WILL BE HOLDING A SPECIAL SESSION THIS WEEK TO EXPRESS SOLIDARITY WITH THE VICTIMS OF THE ISTANBUL ATTACK. THE DISTINGUISHED MINORITY LEADER AND I, ON BEHALF OF THE SENATE, WILL BE SENDING A MESSAGE TO THE SPEAKER OF THE KNESSET, ADDING THE SENATE'S VOICE TO THOSE OF THE ISRAELI PARLIAMENTARIANS EXPRESSING OUTRAGE AT THE ISTANBUL ATTACK.

RESOLUTION ON KARACHI AND ISTANBUL EVENTS

I URGE UNANIMOUS SENATE SUPPORT FOR THE RESOLUTION WE ARE CIRCULATING EXPRESSING THE FEELINGS OF THE SENATE ON THE TRAGEDIES OF KARACHI AND ISTANBUL AND REAFFIRMING OUR DETERMINATION TO STAND STRONG, AND TOGETHER, AGAINST INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.