

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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GORBACHEV STEPPING DOWN AS PARTY CHIEF? CNN REPORT SERVES AS A
WAKE UP CALL: DOLE AGAIN WARNS ABOUT SPENDING "PEACE DIVIDEND".
TIME TO PUT IT ON HOLD.

WASHINGTON -- FOLLOWING REPORTS FROM THE CABLE NEWS NETWORK THAT MIKHAIL GORBACHEV MIGHT BE STEPPING DOWN AS THE COMMUNIST PARTY'S GENERAL SECRETARY, SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE TODAY URGED HIS COLLEAGUES TO PUT THE SO-CALLED PEACE DIVIDEND ON HOLD.

"IS MR. GORBACHEV STEPPING DOWN AS HEAD OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY? WE DON'T KNOW YET. BUT EVEN INITIAL REPORTS OUGHT TO REMIND US HOW FOOLISH IT WOULD BE TO GUT OUR DEFENSES ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT GORBACHEV WOULD SUCCEED," DOLE SAID. "THAT'S WHY WE NEED TO PUT THE PEACE DIVIDEND ON HOLD. THERE'S BEEN A STAMPEDE AROUND HERE TO DISMANTLE OUR DEFENSES AND START SPENDING THE SO-CALLED SAVINGS ON ALL KINDS OF NEW GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS -- WE HEARD IT ALL DAY YESTERDAY IN THE DEMOCRATIC 'RAIN DANCE' OF BUDGET CRITICISM. "WELL, THE WAKE-UP ALARM JUST SOUNDED IN MOSCOW. IF ANYONE IS FOOLISH ENOUGH TO GAMBLE WITH OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE BASED ON THE POLITICAL LIFE AND DEATH OF ONE MAN -- MIKHAIL GORBACHEV -- THEN WE ARE IN DEEP TROUBLE.

ALREADY, THE STOCK MARKET, ACCORDING TO ONE REPORT, IS EXPERIENCING WILD GYRATIONS BASED ON THE CNN REPORT

WE WANT GORBACHEV TO SUCCEED, BUT THERE ARE NO GUARANTEES. THERE NEVER WILL BE. THE WORLD IS CHANGING -- MINUTE-TO-MINUTE. IS GORBACHEV STEPPING DOWN AS PARTY BOSS? WHO KNOWS? IS HE IN, OR OUT? WE DON'T KNOW. BUT ONE THING IS CERTAIN -- LET'S SLOW DOWN. LET'S LOOK AT REALITY. AND LET'S CALL OFF THIS MAD RUSH TO SPEND A DIVIDEND WE DON'T EVEN HAVE YET.

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