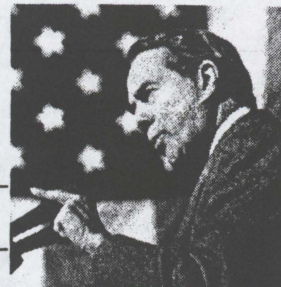


*Bob Dole*



**NEWS**

**U . S . SENATOR FOR KANSAS**

**FROM:**

**SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **ISRAELI LOAN GUARANTEES**

**WASHINGTON - Kansas Senator Bob Dole today issued the following statement on the floor of the United States Senate:**

**THE WHITE HOUSE IS THE ULTIMATE "HOT SEAT." THE HEAT IS ALWAYS INTENSE WHEN THE PRESIDENT MAKES DECISIONS AFFECTING THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES. IT CAN BE EVEN MORE INTENSE WHEN THE PRESIDENT'S DECISIONS -- TAKEN IN THE AMERICAN INTEREST -- ARE AT ODDS WITH THE POLICIES OR ACTIONS OF A CLOSE ALLY.**

**AND THE TEMPERATURE SHOOTS TO THE BOILING POINT WHEN THOSE SAME PRESIDENTIAL DECISIONS ARE CONTRARY TO THE STRONGLY HELD VIEWS OF WELL-ORGANIZED AND POLITICALLY POTENT GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS IN THIS COUNTRY. PRESIDENT BUSH OCCUPIES THE "HOT SEAT," AND -- IN THE VIEW OF THIS SENATOR -- DOES SO WITH WISDOM, FORESIGHT AND DETERMINATION. WHEN THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES IS AT STAKE, HE DOES WHAT HE MUST, PERIOD.**

**ON NO ISSUE HAS PRESIDENT BUSH DEMONSTRATED THIS QUALITY MORE VIVIDLY THAN ON THE ISSUE OF LOAN GUARANTEES FOR ISRAEL. HE HAS TAKEN A LOT OF HEAT. HE'S BEEN THE TARGET OF A LOT OF CHEAP SHOTS. BUT HE HAS STOOD HIS GROUND, BECAUSE HE BELIEVED HE WAS DOING THE RIGHT THING FOR THE UNITED STATES.**

**AND TODAY THE VERDICT IS IN -- PRESIDENT BUSH WAS RIGHT. TODAY, THE PRESIDENT AND ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER RABIN HAVE ANNOUNCED AGREEMENT ON A PACKAGE OF LOAN GUARANTEES THAT WILL ADVANCE OVERALL U.S. INTERESTS IN THE REGION; WILL ENCOURAGE, RATHER THAN UNDERMINE, THE PEACE PROCESS; WILL BOLSTER, RATHER THAN UNDERMINE, THOSE ISRAELI POLITICAL FORCES MOST STRONGLY INCLINED TO SEEK A LASTING PEACE.**

**PRESIDENT BUSH WILL BE MEETING WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP THIS AFTERNOON, IF OUR FLOOR SCHEDULE PERMITS, AND WILL ASK US TO MOVE QUICKLY TO APPROVE THE PROGRAM. THIS IMPORTANT DECISION WAS TAKEN IN THE CONTEXT OF YESTERDAY'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF A RESUMPTION OF THE PEACE TALKS, AND THE EXPECTATION THAT RABIN'S GOVERNMENT WILL BRING TO THOSE TALKS CREATIVE NEW PROPOSALS THAT COULD MOVE THE PROCESS FORWARD.**

**AS BOTH PRESIDENT BUSH AND PRIME MINISTER RABIN SAID THIS MORNING, THE DECISION REFLECTS A RENEWED WARMTH IN U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONS, UNDERSCORES THE PROFOUND CONVERGENCE OF FUNDAMENTAL INTERESTS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, AND NOW -- WITH THE ELECTION OF RABIN -- DEMONSTRATES THE STRONG CONVERGENCE OF GOALS AND VIEWS BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS.**

**PRESIDENT BUSH DESERVES OUR COMMENDATION. HE DID IT RIGHT - AND IN DOING IT RIGHT ADVANCED THE NATIONAL INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES, ENHANCED THE LONG-TERM SECURITY OF ISRAEL, AND RENEWED THE HOPE FOR REAL PROGRESS TOWARD A LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.**

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