

*Bob Dole*



**NEWS**

**U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS**

**FROM:**

**SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

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## **OCTOBER SURPRISE APOLOGY**

**APOLOGIES DUE MRS. CASEY & PRESIDENT BUSH FOR RECKLESS REPORTS BY  
PBS & GARY SICK ON "OCTOBER SURPRISE", NOW OFFICIALLY DEBUNKED**

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) today called on the Public Broadcasting System and author Gary Sick to apologize to President Bush, Mrs. William Casey and other Americans whose reputations were damaged by hyped-up reports of the so-called October Surprise, a story that has now been officially debunked by two Congressional investigations.

"It is regrettable that this tall tale was given such instant credibility by the media," Dole said. "Even worse is the damage those stories did to William Casey and his family, President Bush, and all the others whose reputations were smeared by the sensational coverage of this elaborate work of fiction. It seems that any time a Republican is put in the middle of a target, the news media are more than ready to shoot first and ask questions later.

"In particular, PBS with its two reckless 'Frontline' features, and Gary Sick, the creator of the October Surprise myth, owe Bill Casey's widow an apology for their wild accusations. Gary Sick and I come from the same small town in Kansas, and I hope my friend Gary will honor his Russell, Kansas values by apologizing to Mrs. Casey and the President. Enough is enough."

This week, a House October Surprise Task Force officially refuted Gary Sick's allegation that George Bush, and Reagan/Bush officials -- especially Reagan campaign director William Casey -- conspired with Iranians to manipulate the 1980 release of American hostages for political purposes. The investigation cost taxpayers \$4.5 million.

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