



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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DOLE INTRODUCES BILL RESTRICTING CHINA'S MOST FAVORED NATION ELIGIBILITY

WASHINGTON— Senator Bob Dole (R-Kansas) today introduced legislation which would predicate the granting of most favored nation status to China on that nation's agreement to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Test Ban Treaty.

Dole, Ranking Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, personally raised the issue with Chinese Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping during a question and answer session in Washington during the Chinese leader's recent visit.

Teng told Dole that he would "give the matter the fullest consideration" and that he "understood" Dole's concerns.

"The Chinese people have much to gain, just as we do, through our new relationship," Dole told his colleagues in the Senate today. "But with full membership in the world community also comes full responsibility. The Chinese were able to obtain normalization without any preconditions and now the talks begin for expanded trade— trade from which the People's Republic of China will benefit. Before they begin to reap the benefits of normalization, I think we should make clear our position concerning the responsibilities we would like to see the Chinese undertake. I am speaking," continued Dole, "about the necessity of the Chinese to become a signatory of the Limited Test Ban Treaty of 1963 and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Today, I am introducing a bill that requires such initiative by the Chinese before their products can be eligible for most favored nation status."

According to Dole, "China is the only nation in the world that conducts atmospheric nuclear tests. France, although not a signatory, stopped testing, under the pressure of world opinion, in 1974. We in Congress have an excellent opportunity to express to China and the world our firm resolve and sincere belief in the international efforts towards arms control and nuclear non-proliferation. This is a measure which is non-partisan and non-ideological, in the sense that I think all members of the Senate agree that all nations should and must cease testing nuclear devices in the atmosphere."

Senator Dole pointed out that since China entered the nuclear "club" in 1964, there have been 25 subsequent explosions.

"Ranging in yield between 20 kilotons and 20 megatons these nuclear explosions create enormous radioactive clouds that are carried within a few days across the North American continent. Radioactive particles suspended in these clouds eventually reach the farmlands of this country, endangering the health of all Americans," said Dole.

NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION

"In statements prior to and following nuclear detonations the Chinese have consistently ridiculed our efforts, along with those of the Soviet Union, towards disarmament and arms control. In Huang Hua's speech before the UN Assembly for Disarmament he denounced both the non-proliferation treaty and the test ban treaty as hampering the development of nuclear technology in other countries," said Dole.

"But the signing and adherence to the non-proliferation treaty is not a hollow act, but rather another of the many responsibilities that nations must respect in order to create a safer, more secure world. All other non-market countries to whom we have extended most favored nation status have realized their obligations and are signatories to both treaties," said Dole.