



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-6521

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 1979

CONTACT: BOB WAITE, BILL KATS
202-224-8953, 224-8947

DOLE IN EUROPE FOR SALT, MULTINATIONAL TRADE BRIEFINGS

WASHINGTON -- Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) arrived in Geneva today for the first day of a five-day tour of Switzerland and Italy.

In Geneva with his wife Elizabeth, Dole will attend the Law of the Sea Conference today as a special Senate delegate.

Also today, Dole will meet with U.S. representatives to the SALT negotiations. Briefing Dole will be the United States' chief negotiator, Ambassador Ralph Earl, who will be accompanied by Lt. Gen. Edward Rowny, the representative of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Dole, one of the Senate's leaders on SALT, said he has grown concerned about apparent increased skepticism by Europeans towards the SALT II treaty.

"I have been informed by experts on SALT, including Henry Kissinger, General Alexander Haig, Lord Chalfont and others, that our allies' views on SALT have been little heeded in recent months," Dole said. "SALT is not a bilateral issue. Indeed, it goes to the heart of our strategic defense capabilities, and could serve as the mechanism which would unbind the cohesion of our alliance system. That is why I have come here to share the views of some of my Senate colleagues on SALT and to listen to Europeans on this vital topic."

Also in Geneva, Dole will meet with major participants in the recently concluded Multinational Trade Negotiations. As ranking Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, Dole will play a crucial role in the approval process for the treaty.

"Because our concessions and undertakings are so far-reaching, we will be closely scrutinizing the agreements to determine whether there are substantially equivalent benefits for U.S. commerce that will result from the agreements," he said. "The agreements, if approved, must serve as the vehicle by which we move toward a better system of reciprocity and free trade that can accommodate all of our economic systems."

On Friday, Dole will travel to Rome to attend the Foreign Agriculture Organization Conference as a representative of the Senate Agriculture Committee. Saturday he will go to the small town of Castel d'Aiano near Bologna to revisit the battlefield where he was wounded in fighting during World War II.

The Doles are scheduled to return to Washington on Sunday, April 22.

Senator Dole's expenses were paid through Agriculture Committee funds. Mrs. Dole is accompanying her husband at her own expense.