

## News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



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### DOLE CONDEMNS MURDER IN IRAN, SENDS LETTER TO U.N.

WASHINGTON -- According to Senator Bob Dole (R.-Kan.), "After a drumhead trial last week, an Iranian named Habib Elghanian was executed by a revolutionary firing squad. Of course, he was not the only one killed that day. And unfortunately it appears he will be far from the last: such legalized murders have become commonplace."

"What makes this particular incident different is that Mr. Elghanian was a highly respected Jewish businessman whose crime--and it is now apparently a crime in the Islamic republic--was to contribute and raise money for Israel. If such philanthropy were a capital crime in the United States, millions of Americans of all faiths would be in jeopardy," said Dole.

"In Iran, his execution on this preposterous charge has intensified the fears of the religious minorities--not only the 100,000 Jews but the 230,000 Christians and the 200-odd thousands of Baha'is as well. They see his death as an ugly portent of the Ayatollah's intentions and as the activation of the bitter hostility he expressed while in exile against Jews, members of the Baha'i sect and Christians.

#### THE AYATOLLAH'S MESSAGE

"In a typical lecture, the Ayatollah stated: 'In Teheran, Christian, Zionist and Baha'i missionary centers issue their publications in order to mislead people and to alienate them from the teaching and principles of religion. Is it not our duty to demolish these centers?'"

"This religious intolerance is coupled with a desire to inflict what civilized people consider extraordinarily cruel and unusual punishment on those he considers enemies of his brand of Islam. Thus, flogging has been revived and he advocates cutting off the hands of minor criminals and even of President Anwar Sadat of Egypt because he has made peace with Israel," Dole said.

"It is as if Iran has been wrenched backward in time to the medieval religious wars. In the name of Allah, a reign of terror has been unleashed that is piling corpse upon corpse as one murder follows another.

"We are thousands of miles away from this bloody carnage, but that does not mean that we can be indifferent to what is taking place. The holocaust has taught us that silence is acquiescence. More than that, silence is participation," Dole said.

#### A MESSAGE FOR IRAN

"Therefore, we must speak out. The revulsion and horror of the American people must be expressed. The policies of the Khomeini tragedy--its abrogation of human rights, its trampling on human dignity, its disdain for human life--must be condemned utterly by every civilized person," Dole told his colleagues.

"Iran's violations transcend political and religious differences. The United States must send a message to the new Iran," Dole said.

"We can not, we must not, remain mute," he added.

#### LETTER TO WALDHEIM

"I have sent a letter on this matter to the Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr.

(MORE)

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Kurt Waldheim, requesting that he do all in his power to influence this disturbing trend, made even more dangerous by Iran's recent attempts to stifle the disgusted protests of those not under their immediate military control. I refer to the personal attack made on our distinguished colleague from New York, Mr. Javits, and his wife Marion, and on the President and others, by the diabolical fabricator of the present Iranian system of government--Ayatollah Ruholla Khomeini. The freedom to dissent is the essential element of how the United States government succeeds. America will not mean anything in the world if it doesn't uphold that principle for everyone, everywhere, and to speak out against morally reprehensible acts anywhere. I commend Senator Javits for his courage as I am sure we all do, and join him in speaking out against such tyranny and terrorism."