

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE, CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE HELSINKI COMMISSION,  
CALLS FOR U.S. BOYCOTT OF MADRID MEETING

CHICAGO -- Senator Bob Dole (R.-Kan.) today called on the United States to boycott the upcoming Madrid Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which would include the Soviet Union and the other signatory states of the Helsinki Accords. Senator Dole serves as Co-Chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission), and Vice-Chairman of the U.S. delegation to the Madrid meeting. The Senator was scheduled to attend the conference with Secretary of State George Shultz.

"We are supposed to be meeting with the Soviets in Madrid on the so-called Helsinki Accords in the next two weeks. I think we ought to boycott that meeting. I don't think Secretary Shultz should attend," said Senator Dole.

Dole made his comments on ABC-TV's "Good Morning America" from Chicago, where he will attend this afternoon's drought summit meeting with Secretary of Agriculture John Block, and office-holders from other midwestern states.

When asked about the calls by some members of Congress to revoke the recently-signed Long Term Grain Agreement (LTA) with the Soviet Union, Senator Dole said, "There are a number of options. This might be one, but only if all the other nations in the world would also not sell grain to the Soviet Union. In the past, we've gone down the plank and said 'we'll shut off grain exports' while all the other countries continue to sell to the Soviets."

"I think what we may find coming from some of the liberals is that we ought to have a nuclear freeze, we ought to cut defense spending, and then not sell them grain. Now, maybe this is their idea of a strong reaction to what the Soviet Union does, but I think we need some world opinion to focus on this."

On November 22, 1982 Dole addressed the Helsinki Review Conference in Madrid and called on the Soviet Union to take eight specific steps -- ranging from the easing of emigration restrictions to a halt to the jamming of western radio broadcasts -- to demonstrate its commitment to the Helsinki ideals.

Following today's television interview Dole expanded on his call for a Helsinki boycott: "Unfortunately, what we have now is a crisis of credibility. Following the Soviet's unconscionable actions this week, there is no way the people of the free world can reconcile the realities of Russian brutality with the noble ideals embodied in the Helsinki accords. At this time it would be a sham to honor the Soviets with our presence in Madrid later this month."