

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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## ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT ALLOWS EMIGRATION OF PRIEST AND WRITER

WASHINGTON -- The Romanian Government today informed Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) that it has decided to permit the emigration to the United States of Romanian Orthodox priest Father Georghe Calciu and poet/writer Dorin Tudoran, whose cases have sparked great interest among Rumanian-American and human rights groups here.

Dole visited Romania in May, in the company of his wife, Secretary of Transportation Elizabeth Dole. In a meeting with Romanian President Ceausescu on that occasion, both the Senator and the Secretary raised the Calciu and Tudoran cases, urging that they be speedily and satisfactorily resolved.

The Romanian Ambassador to the United States, Ambassador Nicolae Gavrilesco, informed Dole of Bucharest's decision during a courtesy call today. According to the Ambassador, Calciu and Tudoran would be allowed to depart Romania shortly, after completing certain formalities, including obtaining American visas.

Observers in the United States believe that both Father Calciu and Tudoran have wanted to emigrate for a long time. Calciu had previously been imprisoned for nearly ten years.

Dole welcomed the Romanian decision, saying, "The resolution of these two cases, which have sparked so much interest and concern in this country, is a helpful step in fostering mutually productive relations between our two nations."