

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE CALLS ON STATE TO CARRY OUT ANGOLAN POLICY

WASHINGTON -- SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE (R-KS.) TODAY WROTE SECRETARY OF STATE SHULTZ, EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ADMINISTRATION'S SUPPORT FOR UNITA, THE DEMOCRATIC RESISTANCE FORCE IN ANGOLA.

In the letter to Shultz, Dole noted reports that within interagency policy meetings at the State Department, some have urged an end to U.S. aid to UNITA.

"Termination of support for UNITA will be a major victory for the Soviet Union and will spell the end of any hope for meaningful negotiations to end the war," Dole stated. ".....it is essential that no Administration official do anything to undermine a sound policy, already established by the president and strongly supported by Congress."

The text of the letter follows:

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am deeply concerned by reports that State Department representatives in recent interagency policy meetings have urged an end to American support for UNITA, the democratic resistance forces in Angola under the leadership of Jonas Savimbi.

Continued support for UNITA is essential if we are to have any chance to achieve our goals in Angola: the withdrawal of Cuban and Soviet forces; a negotiated political settlement, encompassing all political elements in Angola and reflecting the will of the Angolan people; and peace in that country. Termination of support for UNITA will be a major victory for the Soviet Union and will spell the end of any hope for meaningful negotiations to end the war.

Of course, I have no desire to impede or interfere with a free and open discussion of policy options, in the State Department or anywhere in the Administration. But I am sure you will agree with me that it is essential that no Administration official do anything to undermine a sound policy, already established by the President and strongly supported by the Congress.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Dole', written over the typed name.

BOB DOLE
United States Senate