

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STATEMENT OF SENATOR BOB DOLE
DID MOSCOW EMBASSY RESIST NEEDED SECURITY MEASURES?

YESTERDAY I RECEIVED DISTURBING REPORTS THAT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN MOSCOW, IN LATE 1984, STRONGLY RESISTED BADLY NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS IN SECURITY PROCEDURES AT THE EMBASSY -- ON THE RATHER EXTRAORDINARY GROUNDS THAT SUCH IMPROVEMENTS WOULD SOMEHOW DAMAGE U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS.

ACCORDING TO THE REPORTS I HAVE RECEIVED, OUR AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW AT THE TIME SENT A HARSHLY-WORDED CABLE TO SECRETARY OF STATE SHULTZ. THAT CABLE MAY HAVE SUCCEEDED IN BLOCKING THE PROPOSED NEW AND TOUGHER SECURITY MEASURES.

NOW LET ME STRESS THAT THE REPORTS I HAVE ARE NOT YET CONFIRMED. BUT I DO HAVE ENOUGH CONFIDENCE IN THE SOURCES WHO PROVIDED ME THE INFORMATION THAT I AM DETERMINED TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS MATTER, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

URGENT ACTION NEEDED ON DOLE-ROTH BILL

AS THE SENATE KNOWS, SENATOR ROTH AND I YESTERDAY INTRODUCED THE COMPREHENSIVE ANTI-ESPIONAGE ACT OF 1987 -- IN DIRECT RESPONSE TO THE INCREDIBLE SECURITY PROBLEMS THAT HAVE EMERGED IN MOSCOW IN RECENT MONTHS. THAT LEGISLATION -- AND THE PROBLEMS WHICH GENERATED IT -- REQUIRE URGENT CONSIDERATION HERE IN THE SENATE.

TO DO THAT JOB RIGHT, THE SENATE HAS A REAL AND LEGITIMATE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE SECURITY SITUATION THERE IN MOSCOW: HOW THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND ITS OVERSEAS PERSONNEL ACTED, AND REACTED.

DOLE-HELMS LETTER TO SECRETARY SHULTZ

FOR THAT REASON, THE DISTINGUISHED SENATOR FROM NORTH CAROLINA, MR. HELMS -- WHO SERVES AS THE RANKING REPUBLICAN MEMBER ON THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE -- JOINED ME

YESTERDAY IN WRITING TO SECRETARY SHULTZ. WE ASKED THAT HE
RELEASE -- TO THE SENATE LEADERSHIP AND THE FOREIGN
RELATIONS COMMITTEE ONLY -- A COPY OF THE CABLE I EARLIER
MENTIONED. ANY SUCH RELEASE, OF COURSE, WOULD BE UNDER THE
NORMAL PROCEDURES PROTECTING ANY CLASSIFIED INFORMATION
INVOLVED.

SENATE CANNOT "FLY BLIND"

THIS IS A SERIOUS MATTER; AN URGENT MATTER. THE SENATE
CANNOT "FLY BLIND" IN CONSIDERING IT. WE NEED ALL THE
RELEVANT INFORMATION. AND IT APPEARS THAT THIS CABLE MAY BE
VERY RELEVANT, INDEED. SO I HOPE THE SECRETARY WILL BE ABLE
TO CONSIDER OUR REQUEST BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR MOSCOW, AND
THAT HE WILL SEE FIT TO PROVIDE US WITH THE CABLE.