

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE DISAPPOINTED WITH ARIAS' REMARKS

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Ks.) today said he was dissappointed that the address of Costa Rican President Arias to members of the Congress "was a missed opportunity to focus on the real question in Central America -- are the Sandinistas going to keep their promises on democratization, or not?"

"President Arias has, and deserves, my personal respect, and the admiration of all of us in Congress." Dole said. "And I know from our private talks that he shares my concerns about Ortega acting in good faith. But if we don't keep the heat on by laying down some clear markers on the November 7 deadline and what the Sandinistas must do by then, then we're sending the wrong signal to Managua."

Dole concluded by commenting: "I just fear that unless we are clear about what we demand from Managua, we'll be misread by Ortega as saying we'll accept cosmetics, instead of real change; gestures, instead of real democracy. If that happens, it will be a disservice to the very peace process that President Arias has done so much to advance."

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