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News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STATEMENT OF SENATOR BOB DOLE
ARIAS WINS PEACE PRIZE,
SANDINISTAS PREPARE FOR MORE WAR

MR. PRESIDENT:

I WANT TO JOIN OTHERS IN THE SENATE IN EXPRESSING SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS TO COSTA RICAN PRESIDENT ARIAS, FOR RECEIVING THIS YEAR'S NOBEL PEACE PRIZE. AS PRESIDENT ARIAS HIMSELF HAS SAID, THIS AWARD REFLECTS NOT ONLY HIS OWN EFFORTS TO FIND A PATH TO PEACE; BUT THE EFFORTS OF THE OTHER OTHER DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTS OF THE REGION -- PRESIDENTS AZCONA, DUARTE AND CEREZO. ALL OF THEM DESERVE TO SHARE THIS HONOR.

BUT, MR. PRESIDENT, WHILE I DO NOT WANT TO RAIN ON ANYONE'S PARADE, I ALSO REFUSE TO GET SWEEPED UP IN A EUPHORIA THAT MAKES US LOSE SIGHT OF SOME VERY HARD FACTS.

AND TODAY, THE FACT OF THE AWARD OF THIS NOBEL PRIZE, IS ACCOMPANIED BY ANOTHER FACT:

BECAUSE TODAY THE SANDINISTA GOVERNMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED ITS LARGEST-EVER DRAFT OF YOUNG MEN INTO THE SANDINISTA ARMY. 30,000 MORE TEENAGERS WERE CALLED UP TODAY, FOR TWO YEARS COMPULSORY SERVICE IN THE SANDINISTA ARMY.

THAT WILL BRING SANDINISTA TROOP STRENGTH UP TO A LEVEL OF 100,000 MEN, MORE THAN ALL THE OTHER ARMIES OF CENTRAL AMERICA COMBINED. LET ME REPEAT THAT: THE SANDINISTA ARMY NUMBERS 100,000 -- MORE THAN ALL OF THE OTHER ARMIES IN CENTRAL AMERICA COMBINED.

THE GUATEMALA CITY ACCORD ENDORSES THE CONTADORA CALL "TO STOP THE ARMS RACE IN ALL ITS FORMS AND BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE CONTROL AND REDUCTION OF ... THE NUMBER OF ARMED TROOPS." THIS, APPARENTLY, IS THE WAY DANIEL ORTEGA MEETS HIS PLEDGE TO ABIDE BY THE ACCORD.

MR. PRESIDENT, COSTA RICA MAINTAINS NO ARMY; AND ITS PRESIDENT HAS WON THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE.

NICARAGUA MAINTAINS A BIGGER ARMY THAN ALL OF THE OTHER CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES COMBINED; AND ITS PRESIDENT IS THE ONE WHOSE WORD WE ARE ASKED TO TAKE AS WE EVALUATE THE PROSPECTS FOR THE GUATEMALA CITY ACCORD.

LET US REMEMBER THOSE FACTS, TOO, AS WE CONGRATULATE PRESIDENT ARIAS TODAY.