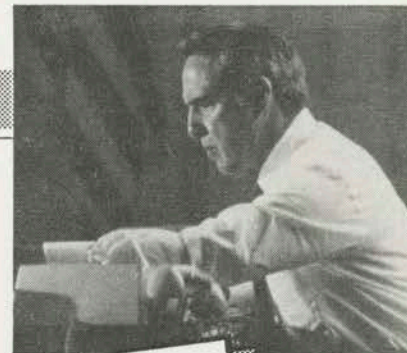


# Bob Dole

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER



Issues Update:

## DOLE ON S & L CRISIS

TUESDAY, FEB. 7, 1989

DOLE CALLS FOR NATIONAL TASK FORCE TO TAKE ON THRIFT PROBLEMS;  
LETTER TO THORNBURGH URGES SPEEDY FEDERAL ACTION ON FRAUD,  
BUT: "NO LOANS FOR LAWBREAKERS, NO BAIL-OUTS FOR BAD APPLES"

WASHINGTON -- SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE TODAY CALLED FOR THE CREATION OF A HIGH-POWERED NATIONAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TASK FORCE TO INVESTIGATE AND HELP PROSECUTE CASES INVOLVING FRAUD AND MISMANAGEMENT IN THE TROUBLED THRIFT INDUSTRY.

SENATOR DOLE MADE HIS CALL FOR THE NEW CRIMINAL DIVISION TASK FORCE IN A LETTER TO U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD THORNBURGH.

"IT'S TIME FOR DECISIVE NATIONAL ACTION ON THE THRIFT FRONT," DOLE SAID. "THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE SHOCKED AT HOW BADLY THEIR HARD-EARNED DOLLARS HAVE BEEN MISMANAGED. BUT THEIR SHOCK WILL DOUBLE IF THEY DISCOVER THAT THEIR OWN TAX DOLLARS ARE BEING FUNNELLED TO THE VERY MANAGERS, ACCOUNTANTS AND LAWYERS WHO HELPED PUT THE THRIFT INDUSTRY ON ITS BACK. THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANY LOANS FOR LAWBREAKERS, OR BAIL-OUTS FOR BAD APPLES."

"OUR REAL OBLIGATION IS TO THE DEPOSITORS WHO PUT THEIR TRUST -- AND EARNINGS -- IN THE HANDS OF THE SAVINGS AND LOAN INDUSTRY," DOLE ADDED.

"THAT'S WHY WE NEED A HIGH-POWERED TASK FORCE TO TAKE ON THIS MULTI-BILLION DOLLAR NIGHTMARE. IT'S IMPERATIVE THAT WE QUICKLY IDENTIFY AND PROSECUTE ALL THOSE WHO HAVE BROKEN THE LAW. THERE ARE PLENTY OF WELL-RUN SAVINGS AND LOANS OUT THERE WHO ARE SUFFERING BECAUSE OF SOMEONE ELSE'S MISMANAGEMENT," DOLE SAID.

THE DOLE LETTER TO THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL IS ATTACHED.

I'm enclosing some  
information that may  
be of interest to you.  
We'll keep in touch,

*Bob Dole*

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas) SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-1601

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
TUESDAY, FEB. 7, 1989

CONTACT: WALT RIKER  
224-5358

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DOLE  
ASAS

## United States Senate

OFFICE OF THE REPUBLICAN LEADER  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 6, 1989

The Honorable Richard L. Thornburgh  
Office of the Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
Constitution Avenue and 10th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Dick:

As you are well aware, the crisis in the savings and loan industry has been receiving headline coverage over the past few weeks. On Friday, President Bush invited a group of Congressional leaders to the White House to share their concerns. At this meeting, I recommended that swift action -- at the national level -- was needed to uncover and prosecute criminal fraud within the thrift industry.

The Office of Enforcement within the Federal Home Loan Bank Board and the Fraud Section of the Justice Department's Criminal Division have worked hard to expose and prosecute cases of fraud and mismanagement within the thrift industry. I specifically commend the efforts of the Dallas and Oklahoma City Task Forces. Nonetheless, it is a well-known fact that both the Office of Enforcement and the Criminal Division have been hamstrung in their enforcement efforts by the limited financial and staffing resources available to them. As a result, fraudulent practices within the thrift industry have gone undetected for years, thereby contributing to the scope of the problem that we face today.

It seems to me that we need more firepower in our efforts to identify and recover the enormous financial losses incurred as a result of past criminal fraud within the thrift industry. We also need a "faster whistle" to ensure that cases of criminal fraud are more quickly detected in the future. To accomplish both of these goals, I am recommending to you the establishment of a National Thrift Industry Task Force under the jurisdiction of the Justice Department's Criminal Division. The singular mission of such a National Task Force would be to ferret out and vigorously prosecute criminal fraud cases within the thrift industry. Staffing for the National Task Force should be set at a level that reflects its national purpose. In any event, the National Task Force should absorb the current staffs of both the Dallas and Oklahoma City Task Forces.

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You have my personal assurance that I will make every effort to ensure that sufficient funds are appropriated for the National Task Force so that it could effectively carry out its important mission.

There are a lot of well-run savings and loans out there that are suffering from all the bad publicity that the industry is receiving. In my view, the establishment of a National Task Force would go a long way toward both restoring the integrity of the thrift industry and protecting depositors who have put their trust in our nation's savings and loan institutions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bob Dole", written over the word "Sincerely,".

BOB DOLE

BD/ds