

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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

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CONTACT: WALT RIKER
(202) 224-5358

DOLE ON PERSIAN GULF WAR

THE UNITED STATES IS AT WAR. AND, AS IN PREVIOUS ERAS, WHEN WAR BEGINS, ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS END.

WHATEVER DIFFERENCES HAVE EXISTED UNTIL NOW, WHATEVER OUR DEBATE, WE HAVE BEEN UNITED SINCE THE BEGINNING IN OUR GOALS AND OUR DETERMINATION. AND NOW HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF YOUNG AMERICANS ARE CARRYING OUT OUR NATIONAL WILL IN THE PERSIAN GULF -- AND THEY HAVE THE UNANIMOUS SUPPORT OF THE AMERICAN CONGRESS, AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

PRESIDENT BUSH SPOKE ELOQUENTLY TONIGHT OF OUR NATIONAL PURPOSE IN THE GULF. ONE THING HE SAID RINGS OUT MORE PERSUASIVELY THAN ANY OTHER SINGLE THING.

THE CONFLICT IN WHICH WE ARE NOW ENGAGED STARTED OUT, NOT TONIGHT, BUT IN AUGUST -- WHEN SADDAM HUSSEIN ORDERED HIS MILITARY MACHINE TO ATTACK, OVERRUN AND OCCUPY A SMALL AND DEFENSELESS NEIGHBORING NATION. THE CAUSE OF THIS WAR IS IRAQI AGGRESSION, NOT AMERICAN DETERMINATION.

AND NOW, AFTER MONTHS OF SEEKING A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION, CONSISTENT WITH OUR NATIONAL HONOR AND IDEALS, WE HAVE COME TO THIS HOUR -- WHEN WE ALL REALIZE THAT OUR GOALS CANNOT BE ACHIEVED BY PEACEFUL MEANS. WHEN ALL THAT REMAINS IS FORCE -- THE ONLY IMPERATIVE THAT SADDAM HUSSEIN WILL UNDERSTAND.

ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS COME TO AN END. AND WE JOIN UNITED -- NOT AS REPUBLICANS OR DEMOCRATS, BUT AS AMERICANS -- BEHIND OUR PRESIDENT, BEHIND OUR YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN OF THE ARMED FORCES, BEHIND OUR CAUSE: TO REPEL AGGRESSION, TO DENY IT ANY REWARD, AND TO REESTABLISH PEACE AND STABILITY IN THIS VITAL REGION OF THE WORLD.

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