

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 29, 1991

CONTACT: WALT RIKER
(202) 224-5358

IRAQ NUCLEAR AMENDMENT

DOLE/LIEBERMAN MEASURE TO SUPPORT PRESIDENT'S OPTIONS TO WIPE OUT SADDAM'S NUKE CAPABILITY

LATER THIS WEEK -- HOPEFULLY SOMETIME TOMORROW -- THE SENATE WILL BEGIN CONSIDERATION OF THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION BILL.

I WANT TO ADVISE MY SENATE COLLEAGUES OF MY INTENTION TO OFFER TO THAT BILL AN AMENDMENT WHICH WOULD AUTHORIZE PRESIDENT BUSH TO USE ALL AVAILABLE AND APPROPRIATE MEANS TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOAL OF ELIMINATING IRAQ'S NUCLEAR CAPABILITY.

I AM PLEASED THAT THE DISTINGUISHED SENATOR FROM CONNECTICUT, SENATOR LIEBERMAN, HAS AGREED TO JOIN ME IN OFFERING THIS AMENDMENT. AND I HOPE THAT MANY OTHER SENATORS FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE AISLE WILL JOIN WITH US OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS IN PUTTING TOGETHER THIS AMENDMENT.

THE AMENDMENT WILL MAKE CLEAR THAT WE DO NOT WANT TO USE FORCE TO ACCOMPLISH THIS GOAL. IT WILL FURTHER INDICATE OUR HOPE THAT THE PRESIDENT, SHOULD HE BE FORCED TO EXERCISE A MILITARY OPTION, WILL TAKE EVERY POSSIBLE PRECAUTION TO AVOID OR MINIMIZE CIVILIAN CASUALTIES.

BUT THE AMENDMENT WILL NOT EQUIVOCATE ON OUR DETERMINATION TO SEE THAT IRAQ'S NUCLEAR CAPABILITY IS WIPED OUT, ONCE AND FOR ALL, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER. THE RISKS OF ACCIDENTAL CIVILIAN CASUALTIES IN ACCOMPLISHING THAT GOAL, THROUGH A CAUSE OF REAL CONCERN, PALES IN COMPARISON TO THE CONCERN THAT ALL OF US HAVE ABOUT THE PROSPECT OF SADDAM HUSSEIN ACQUIRING NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

I INVITE ALL SENATORS TO CONTACT ME OR MY STAFF, IF THEY WISH TO JOIN US IN CRAFTING AND OFFERING THIS AMENDMENT.

###