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NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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YUGOSLAVIA

DOLE INTRODUCES BILL TO PROHIBIT U.S. IMPORT OF ARMS FROM YUGOSLAVIA; DON'T SUBSIDIZE YUGOSLAV ARMY, U.S. STREET CRIME

WASHINGTON - EARLY THIS MORNING, JUST AS WE RECEIVED NEWS OF THE COLLAPSE OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY PEACE EFFORTS REGARDING YUGOSLAVIA, A TWELVE MILE LONG CONVOY OF TANKS, TROOPS AND ARTILLERY CROSSED THE CROATIAN BORDER. TODAY YUGOSLAV AIR FORCE JETS HAVE CONTINUED THEIR BOMBARDMENT OF CROATIAN TOWNS AND VILLAGES AND THE DEATH RATE HAS CLIMBED TO OVER 500--AMONG THEM MANY INNOCENT CIVILIANS.

WITH EVERY MINUTE IT IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY CLEAR THAT THE COMMUNIST LED-YUGOSLAV ARMY HAS TAKEN MATTERS INTO ITS OWN HANDS--THAT IT IS NOT ANSWERING TO THE PRESIDENT WHO IS COMMANDER IN CHIEF, NOR TO ANY OTHER OFFICIALS IN THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. IT IS ALSO APPARENT THAT THE YUGOSLAV ARMY IS IN AN ALLIANCE WITH HARDLINER SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC TO EXPAND CONTROL OVER CROATIA, THAT YOUNG DEMOCRACY TO ITS KNEES.

DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE WEST IMPOSED AN ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST YUGOSLAVIA, THE ARMY HAS PLENTY OF GUNS, BOMBS, TANKS AND PLANES TO CARRY OUT THESE OBJECTIVES. THAT IS BECAUSE YUGOSLAVIA HAS A SIGNIFICANT DEFENSE INDUSTRY. AND THIS INDUSTRY, IN ADDITION TO SUPPLYING THE YUGOSLAV ARMY, EXPORTS ARMS. AMONG THEIR CUSTOMERS ARE THE FEW REMAINING COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIPS AND STATES WHO SPONSOR TERRORISM, SUCH AS LIBYA. BUT, THIS SHOULD NOT COME AS A SURPRISE SINCE THESE WEAPONS FACTORIES ARE STATE-OWNED AND SUBSTANTIALLY CONTROLLED BY THE YUGOSLAV MILITARY.

I AM HERE TODAY TO INTRODUCE A BILL THAT VERY SIMPLY, PROHIBITS THE IMPORT OF ARMS AND MUNITIONS FROM YUGOSLAVIA. THE UNITED STATES IS BUYING WEAPONS FROM THESE MILITARY-CONTROLLED FIRMS IN YUGOSLAVIA. AND IT SEEMS TO ME, HAVING WITNESSED OVER THE LAST TWO MONTHS THE DESTRUCTION BROUGHT BY THE YUGOSLAV ARMY ON CROATIAN TOWNS AND VILLAGES, ON SLOVENIA'S COUNTRYSIDE IN JUNE, AND IN THE STREETS OF BELGRADE LAST MARCH--WHEN ARMY UNITS FIRED ON THOUSANDS OF PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATORS--THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD NOT BE SUBSIDIZING THE MUSCLE BEHIND THE YUGOSLAV ARMY. ESPECIALLY NOT BY BUYING GUNS THAT WILL END UP IN STREET CRIMES AND DRUG WARS.

THE UNITED STATES NEEDS TO DO WHAT IT CAN TO BRING THE TRAGEDY IN CROATIA TO AN END. I BELIEVE THAT THIS IS AN IMPORTANT STEP IN THAT DIRECTION.

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