

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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W.H. TRAVELGATE REPORT

WHITE HOUSE DAMAGE CONTROL DOESN'T CHNAGE NEED FOR INDEPENDENT CONGRESSIONAL PROBE

WASHINGTON -- Republican Leader Bob Dole issued the following statement after the release today of the White House's "internal review" of the "Travelgate" affair:

The White House's internal review of its Travelgate scandal only gives more credence to those of us who have viewed the Administration's scrambling on this one as little more than damage control.

At least the White House finally admitted that senior political appointees pressured the FBI for political purposes.

Make no mistake, when the FBI and the IRS are used as body guards for political mischief inside the White House, the American people are justifiably outraged.

It's a serious and dangerous abuse that demands far more than just an apology: it demands a no-holds-barred, independent investigation. Not by employees of the White House. Not by friends of President Clinton. And not by staff lawyers from the home team. It demands a full Congressional probe.

"Inexperience" and "ineptitude" are simply no excuses for the inexcusable behavior of the White House officials implicated in Travelgate.

White House officials can describe their efforts as "candid" and "frank" in this fox-in-the-chicken-coop investigation, but the American people aren't fooled for a minute.

So, for those who may believe the McLarty report marks the final chapter of Travelgate, I have some bad news: You're wrong.

My colleagues and I will continue to press for a full-fledged Congressional hearing as the best way to restore the confidence of the American people, both in the ability of the White House to conduct its affairs properly, and in the independence of the F.B.I and the I.R.S., our nation's top law enforcement agencies.

So, while the White House is slapping itself on the wrist, the American people are slapping themselves on the forehead, wondering what's going on.

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