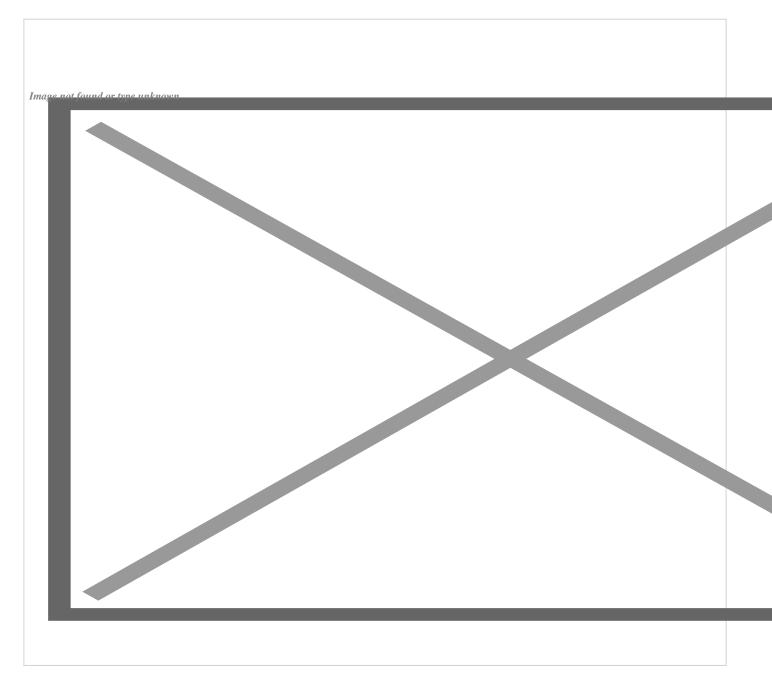
U.S. Senator Bob Menendez, under fire as calls mount to step down after bribery indictment



Washington, September 25 (RHC)-- In the U.S., New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy and a growing number of Democrats are calling on Senator Bob Menendez to resign after he and his wife were indicted on bribery charges. Federal prosecutors accuse Menendez of accepting bribes in exchange for using his

position to increase U.S. assistance to Egypt and to do favors for New Jersey businessmen.

Damian Williams, the main prosecutor in the case, told reporters: "Senator Menendez allegedly provided sensitive, nonpublic U.S. government information to Egyptian officials and otherwise took steps to secretly aid the government of Egypt. We also allege that Senator Menendez improperly pressured a senior official at the U.S. Department of Agriculture to protect a lucrative monopoly that the government of Egypt had awarded to Hana, a lucrative monopoly that Hana then used to fund certain bribe payments."

Bribes included a Mercedes-Benz, mortgage payments, gold bars and over \$500,000 in cash. It's the second time Menendez has been charged with corruption.

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