

*Bob Dole*



**NEWS**

**U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS**

**FROM:**

**SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
APRIL 16, 1992

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## **DOLE FORMS REPUBLICAN TASK FORCE FOR DEFENSE BUILD-DOWN; SENATOR RUDMAN NAMED CHAIRMAN**

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WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) announced today the formation of a Republican task force to help develop responsible policies to deal with the build down and restructuring of America's defense system in the wake of America's Cold War victory and the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Dole announced that Senator Warren Rudman of New Hampshire would chair the 13-member panel.

"Our hard-earned victory over Communism has presented us with some tremendous challenges, including how best to reduce our defense system without devastating the millions of Americans who depend on defense for their livelihood," Dole said. "There have been some very irresponsible ideas advanced on Capitol Hill that would simply throw these proud and productive Americans on the unemployment line, close down their plants and cripple their communities -- Let's face it, the American people deserve better.

"I am pleased that Senator Rudman has agreed to take on this important assignment. He is well-respected on both sides of the aisle and will bring real insight and leadership to this critical issue facing our nation."

The Republican Task Force will focus on alternatives of economic transition with the dual goals of shifting work force resources and the industrial base while maintaining a viable defense.

The task force will include leading Republican senators from the Armed Services, Appropriations, Budget, Foreign Relations, and Labor committees.

"The economic transition of our defense industrial base is a complex issue that will demand experts in defense, international relations, and human resources," Dole added. "We must also learn the lessons of history and remain strong and vigilant on defense, We can't afford to gut defense, as some are advocating."

Senator Dole named Senators Ted Stevens (R-AK), John Warner (R-VA), Richard Lugar (R-IN), Pete Domenici (R-NM), William Cohen (R-ME), Nancy Kassebaum (R-KS), John Danforth (R-MO), Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Hank Brown (R-CO), John McCain (R-AZ), Trent Lott (R-MS), and John Seymour (R-CA) to the task force.

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