

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

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**U.S. SENATE PASSES DEFENSE FUNDING BILL;
HIGH-TECH TRAINING SYSTEM FOR KANSAS GUARD GETS OKAY;
BASED IN SALINA**

WASHINGTON - Kansas Senator Bob Dole announced today that the U.S. Senate okayed his funding request for two high-tech training systems for the Kansas Army National Guard to be located at the Nickell Barracks Training Center in Salina. The Senate approved \$700,000 for two Squad Engagement Training System (SETS), an individual weapons marksmanship training simulator, during passage of the FY1993 Department of Defense Appropriations bill today. The measure now goes to a joint House/Senate conference committee before final passage by both Houses.

"This advanced training system will enable our Kansas National Guard and Guardsmen from all over the country to enhance and perfect their skills -- achieving and sustaining marksmanship proficiency at a much lower cost," said Dole. "At a time of shrinking defense budgets, I'm pleased that the Senate agrees with me that this is a way to train our Guard, improving force readiness for our units throughout Kansas," said Dole.

The SETS system is a video-disc based interactive training simulator that will support marksmanship training at all levels for individuals, fire teams and squads. These simulators will provide training, from qualification range to a combat scenario in which a trainee's performance can be judged independently and collectively with increased efficiency while training in a realistic situation. SETS training is conducted in classroom environment and is unconstrained by weather, ammunition limitations, or availability of ranges and training areas. Using simulators will also alleviate some environmental concerns involved in non-simulator training.

The system is also transportable and can be brought to unit armories across Kansas. The SETS system can accommodate up to 15 shooters simultaneously and includes training in the M16 Rifle, M203 Grenade Launcher, M249 Squad Automatic Weapons and the M60 Machine Gun.