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NEWS

KANSAS U.S. SENATOR FOR

FROM:

SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Friday, March 22, 1996 Contact: Clarkson Hine (202)224-5358

## GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

STATEMENT OF SENATE MAJORITY LEADER BOB DOLE

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole today issued the following statement recognizing Greek Independence Day:

"As Greek Americans all across the country prepare to celebrate the 175th anniversary of Greek Independence Day, I would like to send my very best wishes for a joyous celebration.

"Greece is one of America's closest friends -- and American leadership will remain vital to maintaining that strong friendship. We are not only bound to Greece through the NATO Alliance, but through common ideals. America's founding fathers were inspired by classical Greek ideals -- democracy, liberty and justice. As the Leader of the Free World, America remains committed to these ideals and to confronting those forces opposed to freedom. We Americans are all indebted to the ancient Greeks for the light of democracy which led us out of the darkness of tyranny.

"So on this special occasion, Greek Americans can take great pride in their rich heritage -- and also in the myriad contributions Americans of Greek descent have made to our nation. From sports to the arts, business to politics, Greek Americans have helped make this country great."