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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 29, 1991 CONTACT: WALT RIKER (202) 224-5358 SARA BELDEN (202) 224-8953

DOLE APPLAUDS SPEEDY PRESIDENTIAL DISASTER DECLARATION; CONTINUES PERSONAL EFFORTS TO COORDINATE RELIEF

WICHITA, KS. - KANSAS SENATOR BOB DOLE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH HAS DECLARED A MAJOR DISASTER IN KANSAS DUE TO THE SEVERE STORMS AND TORNADOES THAT STRUCK ANDOVER, KS. AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS NEAR WICHITA ON APRIL 26, 1991. THE PRESIDENTIAL ACTION MAKES AVAILABLE FEDERAL FUNDS TO AFFECTED INDIVIDUALS IN BUTLER AND SEDGWICK COUNTIES.

"I APPLAUD PRESIDENT BUSH AND FEMA FOR MOVING SWIFTLY AND DECISIVELY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE STORM VICTIMS IN BUTLER AND SEDGWICK COUNTIES. I HAVE VIEWED THE DAMAGE AND HAVE MET WITH LOCAL AND FEDERAL OFFICIALS TO PERSONALLY UNDERSCORE THE NEED TO MOVE SWIFTLY TO PROVIDE RELIEF FOR THE STORM VICTIMS, " SAID DOLE.

SENATOR DOLE, WHO IS IN KANSAS TODAY VIEWING DAMAGE AT MCCONNELL AIR FORCE BASE AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS, MET WITH WALLACE E. STICKNEY, DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, AND OTHER FEMA OFFICIALS SUNDAY AFTERNOON IN DOLE'S CAPITOL OFFICE. STICKNEY IS EXPECTED TO BE IN KANSAS TONIGHT TO PERSONALLY COORDINATE RELIEF EFFORTS.

FEMA ASSISTANCE THAT IS AVAILABLE CAN INCLUDE TEMPORARY HOUSING ASSISTANCE, LOW INTEREST LOANS FOR UNINSURED INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES AND OTHER PROPERTY LOSSES.

FEMA HAS INDICATED THAT RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES WHO HAVE STORM LOSSES IN BUTLER AND SEDGWICK COUNTIES MAY BEGIN TO APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE BY CALLING 1-800-462-9029 OR 1-800-462-7585 (TDD). THESE TOLL FREE NUMBERS WILL OPERATE FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M. SEVEN DAYS A WEEK UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. FEMA CAN BE REACHED AT (202) 646-4600.

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