

Bob Dole

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

NEWS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER



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DARMAN BRIEFS DOLE ON ADMINISTRATION'S
TORNADO RELIEF PACKAGE & McCONNELL RECONSTRUCTION;
"FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE CARE OF IT"

WASHINGTON -- Bush Administration Budget Director Richard Darman today briefed Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) on a supplemental funding package to help cover the costs of Kansas tornado damage. "I called Richard Darman today to make it clear that we want to see things moving. Mr. Darman assured me that the additional funding is on track as planned and as promised," Dole said.

According to Dole, Mr. Darman assured him that the funding measure would be sent soon to Capitol Hill. Meanwhile, funding for rebuilding McConnell Air Force Base was also discussed. The Budget Office is working closely with senior Defense Department officials and the Air Force to put together a package that will restore the damaged facilities, including 105 units of family housing, a school and a hospital.

"While the exact amount is still being determined, Mr. Darman and I discussed several options for the source of these funds, including money previously made available for other Defense Department programs and including a portion of the money in the upcoming supplemental request for the Federal Emergency Management Agency and other programs experiencing budget shortfalls.

"The bottom line is the federal government is committed to taking care of these Kansas priorities. These are assurances I've gotten from the Secretary of the Air Force, the SAC Commander, and top officials in the Bush Administration."

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