

NEWS

FROM:

SENATOR FOR KANSAS

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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## POW/MIA

DOLE NAMES JOHN ERICKSON OF CLAY CENTER TO KEY STAFF POSITION FOR SENATE POW/MIA COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) today announced that he has named John F. Erickson, a native of Clay Center, Kansas, to be his official liaison to the Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs.

Erickson, a graduate of Washburn University Law School and the University of Kansas, will be a professional staff member of the committee which is exploring the status and fate of Prisoners of War and American soldiers Missing in Action in southeast Asia.

"I'm pleased that John has accepted this important position with this select committee, putting him on the frontlines of an issue about which Americans care deeply," Dole said. "We owe it to the families of our MIAs and to all Americans to do everything we can to get to the bottom of the issue of live U.S. servicemen in Southeast Asia. John's legal expertise will be a valuable resource for the committee members as they try once and for all to find answers to these painful questions."

Erickson's legal background includes experience as a Staff Judge Advocate with the Naval Training Center in San Diego, Commanding Officer of the Navy Legal Services Office in San Diego, and Legal Officer with the United States Southern Command in Panama City, Panama.

The Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs is co-chaired by Senators John Kerry (D-MA) and Bob Smith (R-NH), who was appointed by Dole. As Senate Republican Leader, Senator Dole named the panel's Republican members which include Senator Nancy Kassebaum (R-Kansas), and is entitled to appoint one professional staff member to the committee.