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WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 30 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today said the Kansas communities affected by the Defense Department cutbacks "apparently are taking the news in stride."

"Kansans realize the need for economies in government including cuts in defense spending if those cuts do not impair our national security," he added.

Defense Secretary Melvin Laird announced details Wednesday on a cutback that will affect Kansas as follows: A total of 213 jobs at three Army bases -- Ft. Riley, Ft. Leavenworth and the USA Engineer District (Kansas City) -- will be eliminated. Twenty jobs will be eliminated through inactivation of the 838th Division of Forbes Air Force Base, Topeka. An additional 173 military jobs will be eliminated with the phasing out of the Forbes C-130 maintenance manpower authorization. About 810 jobs will be eliminated with the closing of the Olathe Naval Air Station.

Dole said he is still in contact with the Defense Department and others "to assure that every possible measure is being taken to relocate those Kansans who will lose their jobs as a result of the action."

"I am not surprised that some Senators who have been demanding sharp reductions in military spending are the first to criticize because it affected their states," he added. "It's the same old story of 'whose ox is being gored'. Unfortunately, there are some in American and in Congress who would like to have it both ways."