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FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE
NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510
(202) 225-6521

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C., MARCH 9, 1971 -- U.S. Senators Bob Dole and James Pearson and Congressman Garner Shriver today announced that the U.S. Air Force 32nd Air Refueling Squadron is to be activated at McConnell AFB, Kansas.

This will result in an additional 789 civilian and military personnel at McConnell. The Air Force also announced that they were inactivating the 835th Air Division presently at McConnell resulting in the loss of 20 personnel. The cumulative result of the two moves will be an additional 769 military and civilian personnel at McConnell.

The move is to further realign certain elements of the strategic offensive forces of SAC, John Giraudo, M-Gen. USAF, said. This realignment is necessary to insure our strategic bomber and tanker forces are in the best possible position to survive and retaliate in light of the current threat, changing technology and world conditions.

Twenty KC-135's will be stationed at McConnell. Ten will be transferred from Ramey AFB, Puerto Rico, and ten from McCoy AFB, Florida.

All personnel and aircraft should be at McConnell by June 30, 1971.