

THE OFFICE OF U.S. SEN. BOB DOLE

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NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING

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for immediate release

WASHINGTON, D.C., August 11, 1971 ---- U.S. Senators James B.

Pearson and Bob Dole announced today that a six-bed intensive care unit and a combined six-bed medical and two-bed coronary intensive care unit is to be established at the Wadsworth Veterans' Administration Center

The Kansas Republican Senators explained that the active general medical hospital in the Wadsworth complex is experiencing increased demands to provide treatment for severely ill patients. The new intensive care units will marshal the expertise of trained personnel and sophisticated treatment equipment to help prevent unnecessary complications and death in seriously ill patients, according to the two Senators.

Pearson and Dole said the VA plans to complete design work for the project in December, and that invitations to bid will be issued in January for the construction contract which will begin in March. The present schedule calls for the work to be completed in March, 1973. The estimated construction cost is in excess of \$495,000.

The Wadsworth VA Center is composed of a general medical and surgical hospital, a domiciliary and a nursing homecare unit. It is affiliated with the University of Kansas School of Medicine and the University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Dentistry. Pearson and Dole said that the Wadsworth project is part of the VA's Intensive Care program to establish such units at the 166 VA hospitals throughout the country.