

# News from Senator BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1980

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## APPROVAL OF TITAN ALARM SYSTEM HELPS ENSURE SAFETY OF CITIZENS, DOLE SAYS

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.) said today that House-Senate conference committee approval yesterday of a Dole-Pryor amendment calling for the installation of an early warning alarm system in areas surrounding Titan II missile sites "ensures that positive steps will be taken to safeguard the lives of citizens living near Titan II silos." The committee was meeting on the military construction bill, which is expected to be reported out of the committee sometime next week.

Dole and Senator David Pryor (D-Ark.) called for the installation of such an early warning system in an amendment they attached to the military construction authorization bill Sept. 16, 1980. The House version of the bill had no provision for the alarm systems.

There was one minor change in the language of the conference amendment. The Dole-Pryor amendment had stated that the Air Force secretary "shall" proceed with implementation of the system. That was changed to state that the Air Force "may" implement the system. This change was made so that if a better alarm device is devised, it could be substituted.

"We should make it clear that this alarm device is nothing more than a stop-gap measure," Dole said. "It will give the residents of Kansas, Arkansas and Arizona some precious time in the event of another Titan accident. But it will not substitute for a complete re-evaluation of the Titan II network. It is crucial that an exhaustive, impartial congressional study be made. I am continuing to work to see that we get that investigation by the Senate Armed Services Committee. We need to see if this missile system is safe to those working on it and living nearby, and whether it remains an effective strategic weapon."