

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE PLEASED WITH TITAN II PHASE-OUT SCHEDULE

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R.-Kan.) announced today that late this year the United States Air Force will begin a scheduled phase-out of Titan II missiles now located in Kansas, Arizona and Arkansas.

Dole says the Air Force plans to commence retirement of the ICBM sites late this year at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Arizona. The remaining Titan II missiles at McConnell Air Force Base in Wichita, Kansas, and at Little Rock Air Force Base in Arkansas, will be removed over a five-year period, with Kansas the last state to be decommissioned. The missiles will be removed at a rate of one per month.

"I am pleased the Air Force is ready for the orderly phase-out of all 54 Titan II missiles. The fact that Kansas is last on the retirement schedule gives military officials in Washington the necessary time to find other missions for the McConnell facility," Dole said.

"I will continue a dialogue with the Defense Department to consider basing the B-1 bomber in Wichita, or any other military alternatives that will maintain McConnell Air Force Base as a vital and vigorous installation," said Dole.