

Bob Dole



NEWS

U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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INMAN NOMINATION

Columbia, South Carolina -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole today issued the following statement regarding the withdrawal of Admiral Bobby Inman's nomination to be Defense Secretary:

"I have no idea what's gotten into Bobby Inman, or what partisan response to his nomination he is talking about.

"Admiral Inman's letter doesn't make any sense to me. I've never said that I was opposed to his nomination, nor have I said that I would lead any concerted opposition, and I had no intention of doing so. It's pretty obvious that he would have faced tough questions and received the same scrutiny as any nominee for such an important post. That comes with the job, but as Admiral Inman's letter indicates, perhaps he didn't really want the job.

"My greatest concern was that Admiral Inman would be a truly independent voice at the Pentagon, and resist efforts to gut -- not reasonably cut -- our nation's defenses. Furthermore, Admiral Inman could have expected questions about his management record in the private sector, and concerns about a double standard on the domestic help issue. My view is, barring something unforeseen, his nomination was not in any kind of trouble, and I've said that publicly."

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