

**Bob Dole**



**NEWS**

**U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS**

**FROM:**

**SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

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## **TRADE TALKS WITH JAPAN**

Washington -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole today issued the following statement regarding the failure of talks between United States and Japanese negotiators to reach agreement on market access and the current trade imbalance:

I am disappointed that the U.S. and Japanese negotiators were unable to reach agreement on market access barriers in Japan. Nevertheless, the last thing we need is an ineffective trade agreement that fails to address the real problems foreign firms have in penetrating the Japanese market.

I met with Prime Minister Hosokawa and Foreign Minister Hata this morning and we had a very frank exchange. He agreed that the chronic trade imbalance between Japan and the world is unacceptable and must be resolved. I support United States Trade Representative Mickey Kantor in his determination to seek a meaningful agreement. Now he must redouble his efforts.

This is a bi-partisan issue. We have been working with Japan for many years trying to resolve these problems. The time has come for Japan to understand that global economic leadership carries obligations. Japan must continue to move to join the ranks of open markets in the global trading system.

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