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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 225-6521

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CONTACT: JANET ANDERSON

AIR FORCE PROMISES REVIEW OF RICHARDS-GEBAUR MOVE

WASHINGTON, D. C.--The U.S. Air Force has indicated it will "review the rationale behind the relocation" planned for the Air Force Communications Service (AFCS) at Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base.

The A.F. indication came in response to a March 26th request from Senator Bob Dole who has ordered a Government Accounting Office study of the justification for the move. The Air Force review will be conducted in conjunction with G.A.O. In the meantime, Dole has learned, the military will take no irreversible actions to carry out its relocation schedule, so that in Dole's words, "the Air Force can adjust if the G.A.O. study indicates the move should be reconsidered."

Air Force plans call for the initial transfer of a "small advance party" from Richards-Gebaur to Scott AFB, near St. Louis, the proposed site for the AFCS. The service plans to go ahead with these transfers and Dole has been assured that they will be both "small in number" and "not present any significant difficulties should the G.A.O. (study)... warrant further review of the relocation schedule."

Dole has been informed by G.A.O. that its study can be completed by the end of June. Air Force officials tell him they believe it may be possible to complete the review by early June. "A great deal of information is available on this matter," says Dole, "from both the Air Force and the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce. There are however, substantial differences between the conclusions drawn by each and it is the job of the General Accounting Office to compare the two and offer an independent judgement."