

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

2213 Dirksen Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1979

CONTACT: BILL KATS, BOB WAITE
(202) 224-8947, -8953

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE AUTHORIZES LEAVENWORTH PENITENTIARY MODERNIZATION STUDY

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.) today announced that the Federal Bureau of Prisons will be authorized to perform a study to modernize the facilities at the Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth. Dole is a member of the Department of Justice Authorization Conference Committee that agreed to the study. The Conference Committee report includes the phasing out of the federal prison at Atlanta.

"I believe it is important that Leavenworth, the site of America's first federal prison, continues to stand as a role model for other detention facilities in this country," Dole said.

The Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth, located 25 miles north of Kansas City, houses about 1,400 inmates, and is directed by a staff of about 475. More than 800 of the inmates are trained or work in Federal Prison Industries factories (UNICOR), including a computer program center, and brush, furniture and shoe factories. Inmates also participate in several educational and athletic programs. The penitentiary includes a 72-bed hospital and a multi-denominational church.

"Leavenworth Penitentiary is a vital part of eastern Kansas," Dole said. "It still stands as an important part of our national corrections system and with needed modernization, we can make it an even finer facility. I am pleased if my efforts as a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee help to make those improvements."