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News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE APPLAUDS CREATION OF SENATE OFFICE OF SECURITY

(WASHINGTON) -- SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE (R-KS.) APPLAUDED THE SENATE'S ACTION YESTERDAY TO ESTABLISH A SENATE OFFICE OF SECURITY, TO BE HEADED BY AN EXPERIENCED SECURITY PRO. DOLE FIRST PROPOSED SETTING UP THE OFFICE LAST YEAR, IN THE MIDST OF A WAVE OF ESPIONAGE CASES AND "LEAKS" OF CLASSIFIED MATERIAL.

"Setting up this Office is a giant step in the right direction," Dole said. "We know that Soviet intelligence operations are aimed at facilities and people all over Washington. I want to make sure the Senate is not an attractive target."

Last year, Dole asked several Senate committees to take a close look at the security situation in the Senate. "Their report," Dole said, "was an eye-opener. With the exception of several committees that had set up their own systems, we just did not have effective procedures in place to handle classified material. We didn't even have a list of Senate personnel with security clearances. It's not too much of an exaggeration to say there was a disaster here, just waiting to happen."

"This is a totally nonpartisan matter, on which I've worked closely with Senator Byrd," Dole added. "We coauthored and sponsored the legislation we passed yesterday. And we're going to continue working together to make sure the Senate stays 'off limits' to Soviet spies."