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DOLE ANNOUNCES "STAR WARS" RESEARCH PROJECT TO K.U.

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today announced that the University of Kansas has been selected to join twelve other universities in a nationwide joint research effort on President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI)-- popularly referred to as "Star Wars."

Dole, Senate Majority Leader, made the announcement after the Pentagon informed the Senator of the K.U. pick.

"I am very pleased that one of our fine educational institutions will have the opportunity to participate in research of important national and international strategic significance," Dole said. "It once again demonstrates that K.U. holds a preeminent place among U.S. schools in the field of space science."

According to the Defense Department, the research has two goals. First, theoretical and experimental studies on the origin of radiation emanating from and surrounding large spacecraft in low Earth orbit will be conducted. And second, research will be done on man's influence on the Earth's space environment through the introduction of chemicals, electromagnetic waves, or beams of atomic particles.

The results of this research will form the foundation for understanding the technologies important to the Strategic Defense Initiative. What is more, it will provide relevant data that could be used in civilian as well as and scientific communities.