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## Immediate Release : Alumnus Appointed Staff Director of U.S. Senate Armed Services

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 16, 1981 jb

Rhett Dawson, a 1966 alumnus of Illinois Wesleyan University, has been appointed staff director of the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee.

He will be in charge of overseeing Chairman John Tower's plans to revamp the subcommittee structure.

Known as a wry, grin-and-bear-it kind of person, Dawson commented that many people in his line of work take themselves and the issues too seriously and he is not ashamed to be the other way.

After graduating from Wesleyan, where he was a member of Young Republicans, Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, and the student newspaper staff, Dawson earned a law degree from Washington University, St. Louis.

He started a career in government service in 1972 in the old Office of Legal Services. In 1975 he joined the staff of the then newly-formed Senate Intelligence Committee as minority counsel. He also has had a brief tour of duty with the Joint Committee on Defense Production and has been with the staff of the Senate Armed Services Committee since 1976.