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NATION
Senators hunt deal on spending cuts, House approves defense bil

The spending cuts are a top priority for Dole and other GOP senators.

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WASHINGTON (AP) - Eager to de-



 bored to find middle ground on the mea-
sure Thursday after Democrats rejected a

 slashing other programs even cuts whil
raising its total savings to $\$ 16$ billion. But Democrats, worried that the dea still wounded anti-poverty initiatives that
the party has long defended, rebuffed the party has long defended, rebuffed
their leader and rejected it.
"It's more than numbers," said Sen. Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J. "It's policy. It's principle,
The measure is a top priority for Dole they are as zealous about deficit reduc-
tion as their fast
brethren tion as
brethren.
aid, education, public broadcasting and
other programs.
With the stakes that high, Dole vowed to delay the Friday start of the Senate's recess until lawmakers completed the
spending-cuts bill.
He tried He tried limiting debate, which began
March 29, but Democrats held together The 56-44 roll call was four votes shy of nap, whatever," Dole advised his Republior anotheagues the bill would be completed. As Daschle and Dole pondered their proval of a $\$ 3.1$ billion measure replen-
peacekeeping operations in Hait, The Senate was expected to follo
House's $343-80$ roll call with it proval, which would send the me Clinton for his signature.
Even Daschle conceded tually would get the votes he pass the spending-cuts bill. He si mocrats might as well accept at
down measure that protects som
grams from grams from GOP-sought cuts, and
credit with Republicans for $t$ t
deficit redu deficit reduction and $\$ 6.7$ billion assistance to states. $\$ 6.7$ billion here, there is a tremendous


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