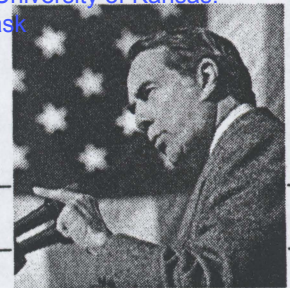


Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

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CONTACT: WALT RIKER
(202) 224-5358

U.S. SENATE OKAYS DEFENSE FUNDING BILL;
WICHITA AVIATION PROGRAMS APPROVED.
BOEING, BEECH, PIAGGIO

WASHINGTON - Kansas Senator Bob Dole announced today that the U.S. Senate has approved his funding requests for several programs critical to the Wichita manufacturing and defense base. Dole-backed projects agreed to by the full Senate include funding for the KC-135R Tanker Program produced by Boeing, the Air Force Tanker Transport Training System's T-1A Jayhawk for the Air Force and the purchase of 12 C-12F aircraft for the Army Reserve both made by Beech, and funding for the purchase of 4 P-180D aircraft produced by Piaggio for the National Guard.

The Dole-backed projects were included in the FY 1993 Department of Defense Appropriations bill passed today by the Senate. The measure now goes to a joint House/Senate conference committee before final approval by both Houses.

"The U.S. Senate has given Wichita a strong vote of confidence," said Dole. "At a time of shrinking defense budgets, Wichita aviation is second to none in our nation's aviation and defense industry. These Kansas defense projects are winners, for our national security, for the taxpayers and for our great Kansas work force," said Dole.

KC-135R - \$393 MILLION -- The bill includes \$393 million for continued upgrading of the KC-135R.

"The KC-135R played a critical role in supporting our air power in the Gulf War. As an airborne gas station, the KC135R was the aerial backbone of Operation Desert Storm - a successful and vital component of our flying forces. Boeing workers in Wichita can be proud to know that they are an important part of that combat success," said Dole.

TTTS "JAYHAWK" - \$178 MILLION - At Senator Dole's request, the bill includes \$178 million to help fund the Tanker, Transport, Training System (TTTS), which includes the Kansas-made T-1A "Jayhawk" built by Beech Aircraft Corporation of Wichita for the Air Force. The funding will be for 36 additional T-1A's.

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"This trainer will continue to keep America's Air Force pilots in top-notch shape by providing critical pilot training and giving our men and women the experience they need to keep us number one. A product of Beech in Wichita, we know that when it comes to trainer aircraft, we can look to the fine employees at Beech for real value and quality.

C-12F AIRCRAFT - \$43.2 MILLION - At Senator Dole's request, the bill includes \$43.2 million to fund the Army Reserve's purchase of 12 C-12F aircraft, also manufactured by the Beech Aircraft Corporation, Wichita.

"As the Army Reserve continues to modernize its fleet, I'm pleased that one of our Wichita manufacturers will be supplying the aircraft. It's an important task and one that will keep our men and women reservists in the air and also keep our Wichita employees on the job," said Dole.

P-180D PIAGGIO AIRCRAFT - \$16 MILLION - At Senator Dole's request, the bill includes \$16 million to fund the National Guard's purchase of 4 P-180D aircraft, manufactured by Piaggio of Wichita.

"As the National Guard modernizes its fleet, I'm pleased that another Kansas manufacturer has been selected to furnish the aircraft," said Dole.

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