News from Senator

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KANSAS A BIG WINNER IN BATTLE FOR TIGHT DEFENSE DOLLARS

WASHINGTON -- SENATOR BOB DOLE (R-KS) ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT HOUSE AND SENATE CONFERENCE COMMITTEES HAVE AGREED TO FUND MAJOR KANSAS DEFENSE PROJECTS. THE SENATE AND HOUSE DEFENSE CONFEREES COMPLETED WORK ON THE FY 1990 DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL THIS AFTERNOON.

THE DEFENSE PACKAGE NOW GOES TO THE HOUSE AND SENATE FOR A VOTE ON FINAL PASSAGE.

"AT A TIME WHEN MANY PROGRAMS ARE BEING TERMINATED OR SEVERELY REDUCED, CONFEREES AGREED TO FULLY FUND MOST KANSAS PROJECTS. THERE WERE TOUGH CHOICES TO MAKE -- BUDGET PRESSURES FORCED THE CONFEREES TO TAKE A LONG HARD LOOK AT EVERY PROGRAM -- BUT THESE PROGRAMS WERE AUTHORIZED BECAUSE THEY ARE IMPORTANT TO THE SECURITY OF THIS NATION. I AM PARTICULARLY PLEASED ABOUT THE \$8.9 MILLION FOR LAND AND A NEW AIR NATIONAL GUARD TRAINING BUILDING AT MCCONNELL AIR FORCE BASE," DOLE SAID, IN RESPONSE TO ACTION THE CONFEREES TOOK WITH REGARD TO KANSAS PROJECTS.

DOLE HAD WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE AIR FORCE, McCONNELL OFFICIALS AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS TO ENSURE THAT THESE MCCONNELL PROJECTS WERE INCLUDED IN THE DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL. THE CONFERES AGREED TO FUND THESE NEW INITIATIVES EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE NOT INCLUDED IN THE ORIGINAL DEFENSE REQUEST.

"WITH OUR EVER INCREASING RELIANCE ON THE GUARD AND RESERVE FOR OUR NATIONAL SECURITY NEEDS WE NEED TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT THEIR FACILITIES ARE ADEQUATE. DESPITE BUDGETARY PRESSURES, THE CONFERES AGREED WITH ME THAT THESE WERE PRIORITY PROJECTS," DOLE SAID.

OTHER WICHITA PROJECTS RECOGNIZED BY HOUSE AND SENATE CONFERES AS ESSENTIAL PROJECTS INCLUDE BOEING'S KC-135 REENGINING PROGRAM AND A-6 REWING PROGRAM.

THE CONFEREES ALSO FULLY AUTHORIZED FY 1990 FUNDING FOR THE TANKER-TRANSPORT TRAINING SYSTEM (TTTS) -- A TOTAL OF \$147 MILLION. THE TTTS PROGRAM WILL INVOLVE THE PURCHASE OF 211 BUSINESS-TYPE JETS TO PROVIDE MULTI-ENGINE TRAINING TO AIR FORCE PILOTS. THE CONTRACT AWARD IS EXPECTED IN EARLY 1990 AND THE CONTENDERS ARE THREE KANSAS CONTRACTORS, BEECH, CESSNA AND LEERJET.

"THE CONFERES TOOK A LONG TERM VIEW AND WISELY DECIDED THAT THE TTTS PROGRAM IS ESSENTIAL TO THE AIR FORCE'S PILOT TRAINING EFFORT. KANSAS COULD BENEFIT GREATLY FROM THIS PROGRAM OVER THE COMING YEARS," SAID DOLE.

IN ADDITION, THE CONFEREES AUTHORIZED FUNDING FOR THE M864 ARTILLERY ROUND AND THE CEM CLUSTER BOMB. BOTH ARE KANSAS ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT PROGRAMS.

MOREOVER, THE CONFEREES AGREED TO FUND CRITICAL MILITARY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, INCLUDING \$10 MILLION FOR A WATER TREATMENT PLANT AT FORT RILEY TO BRING WATER INTO ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS. "THE SOLDIERS AND FAMILIES AT FORT RILEY DESERVE BETTER WATER AND THEY'RE GOING TO GET IT," DOLE SAID.

FY1990 DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION CONFERENCE

MAJOR KANSAS DEFENSE PROJECTS (IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

PROGRAM	DOD REQUEST	CONFERENCE
CEM (CLUSTER BOMB)	\$136.6	\$136.6
KC-135 R	\$488.0	\$488.0
TTTS	\$147.0	\$147.0
A-6 REWING	\$ 63.0	\$ 63.0
M864 ARTILLERY	\$178.7	\$178.7
MILCON PROJECTS:		
FORT LEAVENWORTHCHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER/RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FACILITY	\$ 5.5	\$ 3.0
FORT RILEYCHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERSTANDBY GENERATORSWATER TREATMENT PLANTWAREHOUSE*	\$ 1.5 \$ 0.58 \$ 10.6 \$ 4.028	\$ 1.5 \$ 0.58 \$ 10.6 \$ 4.028
McCONNELL AFBGYMAPRONLAND*TRAINING FACILITY*	\$0 \$ 0.52 \$0 \$0	\$ 5.2 \$ 0.52 \$ 5.2 \$ 3.7
TOPEKA FISCAL FACILITY*	\$ 1.4	\$ 1.4

^{*} signifies Army or Air National Guard project