

## SENATOR DOLE CONSIDERING INHOFE CHOICE FOR PENTAGON'S BASE CLOSURE COMMISSION

MANHATTAN - Following a meeting with area officials in Manhattan, Kansas yesterday, Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole of Kansas revealed that he has placed Major General (USAF - retired) General Jerry Holmes of Norman, Oklahoma, on his short list for appointment to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC).

Congressman Inhofe introduced General Holmes to Senator Dole during previous meetings in Oklahoma. General Holmes discussed with Dole his concerns regarding national security and the dwindling defense budget. The General clearly impressed the Senator in those meetings.

"General Holmes is an outstanding candidate for the Commission," Dole said. "He is extremely knowledgeable and would be an excellent Commissioner."

The Commission (BRAC) makes recommendations to Congress for base closures and may determine the fate of Tinker and Vance Air Bases. Congress can not amend the BRAC recommendations, but can only accept or reject them. The next round of closure decisions is expected to be announced in 1995.

Tuesday, Dole attended a "Veteran's For Inhofe" rally in Oklahoma City and told the gathering that he could "just about guarantee" that Inhofe would be assigned a seat on the Senate Armed Services Committee if elected. Dole said that he was "99% sure -- sort of like Ivory Soap" that Inhofe would gain the coveted post on the Armed Services Committee. Senate Republicans are virtually assured of gaining more Senate seats in the November election and will thereby have new seats to fill on Senate committees. No new seats would be open for Democrats.

In addition, Dole named Wendi Steele as another candidate on his short list. Steele has worked as a military aid for Oklahoma Senator Don Nickles, who served on the BRAC staff in 1991.



## ARMY GUARDRAIL TACTICAL INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM - \$39.2 MILLION

The legislation also included \$39.2 million for the Army's Guardrail Tactical intelligence program. Aircraft for the Guardrail is produced by Raytheon aircraft company.

"Real-time tactical intelligence is essential to our men and women in the field. Guardrail, one of the Army's principal airborne tactical intelligence systems, fulfills a critical need for the tactical commander," said Dole.

## C-XX AIRCRAFT - \$11 MILLION

The bill included \$11 million in for an Army modernization program to procure new production medium range aircraft for the U.S. Army's utility aircraft program.

"The C-XX program approved today will meet the Army Aviation Modernization program's need for small medium range aircraft to provide rapid transportation of critical parts and equipment more efficiently. Kansas aviation companies are second to none in this competition," said Dole.

## B-1B BOMBER - \$139.2 MILLION

The bill provides \$139.2 million for research, development and modifications of the B-1B bomber.

"The B-1 is one of the mainstays of our long-range bomber fleet. These funds are essential for the modernization of the B-1, ensuring that our forces are prepared for any future conflict. In my view, the 384th Bomb Wing should be equipped with the aircraft available and these modifications will do just that."

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