

Bob Dole



NEWS

U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

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CONGRESS OKAYS DEFENSE FUNDING BILL;
WICHITA AVIATION PROGRAMS APPROVED.
BOEING, BEECH, CESSNA, PIAGGIO

WASHINGTON - Major Wichita defense projects championed by Kansas Senator Bob Dole won final Congressional approval today. Dole-backed projects agreed to by the full Congress 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, the purchase of 4 P-180D aircraft produced by Piaggio for the National Guard, and the leasing of 15 T-47 aircraft manufactured by Cessna.

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 the President for his signature.

"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 - \$526 MILLION -- The bill includes \$526 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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