

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE SECURES \$70 MILLION BOOST IN FUNDING FOR PARSONS PLANT.
"DUAL SOURCE PLAN" GETS GREEN LIGHT

WASHINGTON -- SENATOR BOB DOLE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT SENATE AND HOUSE APPROPRIATORS AGREED WITH THE KANSAS REPUBLICAN AND WILL SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE FUNDING FOR THE AIR FORCE'S COMBINED EFFECTS MUNITIONS PROGRAM (CEM). THE CEM SYSTEM PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN AIR FORCE STRATEGY FOR CLOSE AIR SUPPORT. THE CEM IS A FREE-FALL, 1000 POUND CLASS WEAPON, CONSISTING OF A DISPENSER CONTAINING 202 BOMBLETS. THE CEM IS PRODUCED AT THE ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT IN PARSONS RUN BY DAY AND ZIMMERMAN INC.

IN ADDITION TO A \$70 MILLION INCREASE IN FUNDING, THE CONFEREES CONCURRED WITH THE SENATOR'S ANALYSIS THAT THE DUAL SOURCE ACQUISITION PLAN SHOULD BE CONTINUED.

"THE AIR FORCE WANTED TO REDUCE THE PROGRAM AND DOWNSELECT TO ONE SYSTEM CONTRACTOR, IGNORING THE IMPRESSIVE RESULTS OF THE CEM DUAL SOURCE COMPETITIVE ACQUISITION RESULTS TO DATE," SAID DOLE. "UNDER THIS SYSTEM, PRODUCTION COSTS WERE 33% BELOW THE ORIGINAL GOVERNMENT ESTIMATE WITH A SYSTEM PERFORMANCE RELIABILITY IN EXCESS OF 99%. MOREOVER, THE CONTRACTORS PROVIDE TEN-YEAR WARRANTIES ON ALL SYSTEMS DELIVERED TO THE GOVERNMENT. CLEARLY, HONEYWELL AND AEROJET HAVE MADE THIS PROGRAM A GOOD DEAL FOR THE GOVERNMENT. WE'RE GETTING OUR MONEY'S WORTH, SO LET'S STICK TO IT," ADDED DOLE.

DOLE WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT THE MERITS OF THIS PROGRAM WERE RECOGNIZED AND THAT FUNDING AND DUAL-SOURCE ACQUISITION CONTINUE IN FY 1990.

THE DEFENSE PACKAGE NOW GOES TO THE FULL HOUSE AND FULL SENATE FOR APPROVAL.

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