

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DOLE PUTS WICHITA IN LINE FOR BIG FUNDING BOOST ON AIR FRONT:
SENATOR HELPS BOEING GET \$255 MILLION FOR REENGINEING;
TTTS PROGRAM GETS GREEN LIGHT FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING

WASHINGTON -- SENATOR BOB DOLE (R-KS) ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE HAS ADDED \$255 MILLION TO BOEING'S KC-135R REENGINEING PROGRAM IN ITS FY 90 DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL.

THE AIR FORCE HAD INITIALLY REQUESTED FUNDS TO MODIFY ONLY 24 AIRCRAFT NEXT YEAR AT A COST OF \$385 MILLION. THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS ADDED BY THE COMMITTEE AT SENATOR DOLE'S INSISTENCE WILL ALLOW THE MODIFICATION OF 40 AIRCRAFT AT A TOTAL COST OF \$640 MILLION.

"THE KC-135R PROGRAM IS AN OUTSTANDING PROGRAM THAT SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASES OUR COMBAT CAPABILITY AT MINIMUM COST. OUR TANKERS STATIONED AT MCCONNELL ARE FIRST CLASS EXAMPLES OF THE SUCCESS OF THE REENGINEING PROGRAM. I AM PLEASED THAT THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE AGREES WITH ME ON THE MERITS OF THIS CRITICAL PROGRAM," SAID DOLE.

ADDITIONALLY, THE COMMITTEE INCLUDED \$151 MILLION FOR THE TANKER-TRANSPORT TRAINING SYSTEM (TTTS) FOR FY 90. THE TTTS PROGRAM WILL INVOLVE THE PURCHASE OF 211 BUSINESS-TYPE JETS TO PROVIDE MULTI-ENGINE TRAINING TO AIR FORCE PILOTS. THE INITIAL FUNDING WAS PROVIDED IN FY 89 AND THE CONTRACT AWARD IS ANTICIPATED IN JANUARY 1990. THREE KANSAS CONTRACTORS, BEECH, CESSNA, AND LEARJET ARE CONSIDERED PRINCIPAL CANDIDATES FOR THE CONTRACT.

"THE TTTS PROGRAM HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BE A BIG WINNER FOR KANSAS. WE'RE DOING ALL WE CAN TO MAKE IT HAPPEN, ESPECIALLY WITH THREE STRONG KANSAS COMPETITORS WHO COULD BENEFIT GREATLY WITH THIS PROGRAM. THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE HAS ONCE AGAIN DEMONSTRATED FORESIGHT IN FUNDING TTTS," SAID DOLE.

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