

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 16, 1991

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PARSONS -- WICHITA LEAVENWORTH -- FT. RILEY

KANSAS DEFENSE PROJECTS WIN BIG BOOST FROM KEY SENATE COMMITTEE;
PARSONS AMMO PLANT, TTTS, KC-135, McCONNELL AFB, FT. LEAVENWORTH

WASHINGTON -- Key Kansas defense projects backed by Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) and totalling \$902.5 million have earned the endorsement of the Senate Armed Services Committee as it moved to complete action on its \$270 billion committee report.

Upon completion, the massive report recommending funding for America's defense projects will head to the full Senate for approval.

"The committee has agreed with me that these Kansas defense projects are winners, for our national security, for the taxpayers and for our great Kansas workforce," Dole said.

Senator Dole announced today that the Senate Armed Services Committee has approved the following Kansas projects:

PARSONS -- CLUSTER BOMBS: At Senator Dole's request, the committee added \$100 million to fund continued production of cluster bombs (CEM) at the Kansas Army Ammunition Plant.

"America's smashing victory in the Persian Gulf underscored the importance of our made-in-Kansas weaponry. No doubt about it, cluster bombs proved to be an invaluable addition to America's arsenal when it came time to dismantle Saddam Hussein's vaunted military machine. The KAAP ordnance also helped save countless American lives by clearing the desert of mines and bringing the land war to a speedy end. This is a Kansas project that has more than proved its worth and could provide at least six months more work at the fine Parsons plant," Dole said. "I'm pleased the Pentagon has rethought its decision to terminate the CEM line in light of its spectacular success in the Persian Gulf."

WICHITA -- KC-135: At Senator Dole's request, the committee okayed \$624 million for continued re-engining and maintenance of the KC-135 tanker at Boeing's Wichita plant.

"The KC-135 was one of the real stars of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm," Dole said. "This airborne gas station was the backbone of the greatest deployment and projection of air power in military history. The men and women on the Boeing production line can be proud of their years of commitment to this workhorse airplane, and I am pleased to say that good work will

continue."

WICHITA -- C-12: At Senator Dole's request, the committee approved \$7.5 million to fund the National Guard's purchase of 3 C-12 airplanes (King Air) manufactured by the Beech Aircraft Corporation.

"This is the breakthrough I have been pushing for -- the National Guard is ready to modernize its fleet and I am pleased that one of our Wichita manufactures has been selected.

WICHITA -- TTTS "JAYHAWK": With Senator Dole's support, the committee approved \$167 million to help fund President Bush's request for the Tanker, Transport, Training System, which includes the Kansas-made T-1A "Jayhawk" trainer.

"This is another national defense priority, the new generation trainer that will continue to make America's pilots second to none. This Beech project already represents history's biggest general aviation contract, and this latest round of approval shows it is right on track, winning committee support for \$167 million for 37 trainers and training equipment," Dole said.

WICHITA -- McCONNELL AFB IMPROVEMENTS: At Senator Dole's request, the committee also approved \$200,000 for a corrosion control project that will protect fuel tanks and fuel lines vital to the operations of the crack 184th F-16 fighter wing.

FT. LEAVENWORTH -- HIGH-TECH SIMULATORS: At Senator Dole's request, \$2 million worth of new high-tech training equipment for the Army earned committee approval.

"These training simulators and computers for the Guard and Reserve Center in Leavenworth will be the high-tech additions our commanders need to keep their fighting forces number one," Dole said. "Operation Desert Storm dramatically proved the value of preparation and training, and this is no time to rest on success. Simulating battle conditions and troop movements with the latest technology will further enhance Fort Leavenworth as a world class facility."

FORT RILEY -- WATER TREATMENT: At Senator Dole's request, the committee approved \$800,000 to fund improvements at the post's water treatment plant.

"This project has been a longtime priority for Fort Riley, seeing how inadequate the current water treatment facility is. Our troops and their families deserve a safe and reliable water supply and this new funding plan will help them get it," Dole said.

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