

*Bob Dole*



**NEWS**

**U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS**

**FROM:**

**SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
AUGUST 2, 1991

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## **B-2**

### **DOLE B-2 AMENDMENT TARGETS TOPEKA'S FORBES AIR BASE**

THE STRONG ENDORSEMENT THE SENATE DEFENSE BILL HAS GIVEN THE B-2 BEGINS TO PAVE THE WAY FOR A SECOND WING OF THIS AWESOME SYMBOL OF AMERICAN TECHNOLOGICAL GENIUS. MY AMENDMENT DIRECTS THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE TO STUDY EXISTING AIR BASES TO DETERMINE THEIR SUITABILITY AS MAIN OPERATING BASES FOR THE NEXT WING OF B-2 BOMBERS.

EXPLORING THE USE OF EXISTING BASES MAKES SENSE, ESPECIALLY AS WE BEGIN TO DRAW DOWN OUR FORCE STRUCTURE.

I HAVE SPECIFICALLY HIGHLIGHTED FORBES AIR FORCE BASE IN TOPEKA KANSAS BECAUSE I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT THE SECRETARY TAKES A GOOD LOOK AT ALL THAT FORBES HAS TO OFFER. BECAUSE SOME OF THE MISSIONS HAVE BEEN SCALED BACK AT FORBES OVER THE YEARS I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT FORBES IS NOT OVER LOOKED. THIS AMENDMENT ENSURES THAT THIS FINE BASE GETS THE FULL CONSIDERATION IT DESERVES.

I THINK THAT SECRETARY RICE WILL AGREE WITH ME -- FORBES HAS A LOT TO OFFER AND DESERVES HIS SPECIAL ATTENTION. THE LARGE EXISTING RUNWAY, EXCELLENT FLYING CONDITIONS, AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE TOPEKA AREA ALL ADDS UP TO A SOLID VALUE FOR THE AIR FORCE AND THE TAXPAYER.

FORBES IS ALREADY HOME TO THE 190TH AIR REFUELING GROUP -- STARS OF OPERATION DESERT STORM. THE CURRENT STRATEGIC REFUELING MISSION OF THE 190TH WOULD BE A GREAT FIT WITH AMERICA'S NEWEST STRATEGIC BOMBER.

MY AMENDMENT ENSURES THAT MCCONNELL AIR FORCE BASE IN WICHITA WILL ALSO RECEIVE FULL CONSIDERATION BY THE SECRETARY. MCCONNELL IS CURRENTLY THE HOME OF THE STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND'S B-1B. IT POSSESSES THE FACILITIES, EXTENSIVE RUNWAY, AND FULL INSTRUMENTATION NECESSARY FOR A STATE OF THE ART OPERATING BASE REQUIRED BY THE B-2.

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT. KANSAS AND THE STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND HAVE HAD A GREAT RELATIONSHIP OVER THE YEARS. THIS IS JUST A REMINDER OF OUR MUTUAL HERITAGE.

**(DOLE AMENDMENT TEXT ON REVERSE OF THIS RELEASE)**



PURPOSE: TO DIRECT THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE TO STUDY BASES  
TO SERVE AS MAIN OPERATING BASES FOR THE B-2 BOMBER.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES -- 102ND CONGRESS, 1ST  
SESSION.

S.1507

TO AUTHORED APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1992 AND 1993  
FOR MILITARY ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, FOR  
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AND FOR DEFENSE ACTIVITIES OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, TO PRESCRIBE PERSONNEL STRENGTHS FOR  
SUCH FISCAL YEARS FOR THE ARMED FORCES, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES.

AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY MR. DOLE

VIZ: AT THE APPROPRIATE PLACE INSERT THE FOLLOWING:

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. REQUIREMENT TO CONDUCT BASING STUDIES FOR THE B-2  
BOMBER.

THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE SHALL CONDUCT STUDIES OF  
EXISTING AIR FORCE AND OTHER SERVICE BASES INCLUDING BASES SUCH  
AS FORBES AIR FORCE BASE. TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY AND  
SUITABILITY OF SUCH BASES AS MAIN OPERATING BASES OF THE  
STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND FOR THE B-2 BOMBER. SUCH STUDIES WILL  
INCLUDE DESIRABILITY OF LOCATION, STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS,  
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS, COSTS, FLYING CONDITIONS,  
ADEQUACY OF SAFETY ZONES, AND OTHER SITE REQUIREMENTS AS DEEMED  
NECESSARY BY THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE. THESE STUDIES SHALL  
BE COMPLETED AND PROVIDED TO THE COMMITTEES ON THE ARMED SERVICES  
OF THE DEBATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PRIOR TO FINAL  
SITE SELECTION OF ANY MAIN OPERATING BASES FOR THE B-2 BOMBER NOT  
PREVIOUSLY SELECTED AND CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND SHALL BE  
PART OF THE STUDIES MANDATED IN SECTION 2310.