

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NOVEMBER 1, 1991

CONTACT: WALT RIKER
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KANSAS DEFENSE PROJECTS BOOSTED IN DEFENSE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE,
\$755 MILLION FOR KC-135R'S, TTTS, AND C-12'S;
BILL ALSO BOOSTS WORK FOR KANSAS SUBCONTRACTORS

WASHINGTON - Key Kansas defense projects backed by Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) and totalling \$755 million have earned approval from a joint House/Senate Conference committee. The Dole initiatives are included in the \$290.8 billion FY1992 Department of Defense Authorization Bill. The conference report will now go to the House and Senate for final approval.

"My colleagues have agreed with me that these Kansas defense projects are winners, for our national security, for the taxpayers and for our great Kansas workforce. No doubt about it, Wichita continues to be a strong player in our nation's aviation and defense industry," said Dole.

Wichita projects approved by the Defense Authorization Conference are:

KC-135R - \$590.2 MILLION - At Senator Dole's request, the conferees okayed \$590 million for continued re-engining and modification for 26 of the KC-135R tanker at Boeing's Wichita plant.

"The KC-135 was the aerial backbone of Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm, giving America the ability to get our forces in place and keep our fighters in the air," said Dole.

TTTS "JAYHAWK" - 156 MILLION - With Senator Dole's support, the conferees approved \$156 million to fund the Tanker, Transport, Training System, which includes the Kansas-made T-1A "Jayhawk" trainer, built by Beech in Wichita and Salina. The funds will be used to purchase 34 additional T-1A's.

C-12F - \$9.3 MILLION - At Senator Dole's request, the conferees approved \$9.3 million to fund the purchase of 3 C-12F (King Air) aircraft for the Army Reserve. The C-12 is manufactured by Beech Aircraft.

"This is just the first installment of a large scale Army Reserve Air Modernization program. I am delighted to land this program in Wichita," said Dole.

KANSAS MANUFACTURING BASE WINS, TOO

"A number of defense programs of vital interest to Kansas based subcontractors received a big boost by the conferees, as well," noted Dole.

Projects okayed by the committee include \$2.8 billion for production of the B-2 bomber, \$625 million for the V-22 Tilt-rotor aircraft, \$1 billion for the F-16 Fighter, and \$1.5 billion for the C-17 Airlifter.

"Our smaller manufacturing firms don't always get the attention they deserve," said Dole, "but they play important roles in these vital programs. When the large defense firms seek quality and solid value, they come to Kansas."

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