

Bob Dole



NEWS

U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, December 21, 1995

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DOLE PROPOSALS FOR WICHITA CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS
WIN FINAL SENATE APPROVAL

WASHINGTON - Kansas Senator Bob Dole announced that the U.S. Senate late Tuesday gave final approval to legislation which authorizes several military construction projects in Wichita.

At Senator Dole's request, McConnell Air Force Base will receive \$7.9 million for an Air National Guard Fuel Cell Hangar and \$4.9 million for an Air Force Reserve Squadron Operations Building. The bill also includes \$6.1 million for a KC-135 Squadron Operations/Maintenance facility at McConnell, \$5.19 million to replace 39 family housing units, \$2.2 million to renovate a dormitory, \$1.15 million for a construction of a de-icing pad, and \$800,000 to alter an Air National Guard Squadron Operations building.

"The tankers and bombers stationed at McConnell are critical to our national defense strategy," Dole said. "Funding these projects is crucial to ensure that all of the units at McConnell -- Active, Guard and Reserve -- maintain their readiness."

Senator Dole's request for \$8.3 million for renovation and construction of the 89th Regional Support Command headquarters in Wichita was also included in the legislation.

"The 89th Regional Support Command is now responsible for Army Reserve units in four states," Dole said. "As we make new demands on reserve units, we have an obligation to equip them with adequate facilities so they can succeed in their new tasks."

The project, which is part of the Pentagon's Future Years Defense Program, was included in the 1996 Defense Authorization Bill, which now heads to the President's desk. The President has threatened to veto the bill.

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