

Space program

November 29, 1972

Mr. Otis H. Smith
Vice-President
General Manager
The Boeing Company
Wichita, Kansas 67210

Dear Otis:

Thank you for your letter outlining the Wichita Division's plans for participating in the Space Shuttle Program. I was pleased to learn that your facility hopes to play a part in this important program with such a high potential benefit for the Wichita area. I am sure Boeing can make a major contribution to this new phase of America's space program and will follow the progress with interest.

Sincerely yours,

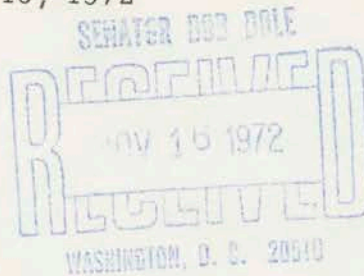
BOB DOLE
United States Senate

BD: nmm

THE **BOEING** COMPANY
WICHITA DIVISION
WICHITA, KANSAS 67210

November 13, 1972

OTIS H. SMITH
VICE-PRESIDENT
GENERAL MANAGER



Senator Bob Dole
New Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Bob:

Consistent with our desire to keep you advised concerning our program activities at the Wichita Division, I want to inform you of our interest and plans in the Space Shuttle.

Since the recent award of NASA's Space Shuttle Orbiter contract to North American Rockwell, The Boeing Company is vigorously pursuing several items of Space Shuttle related business including the external hydrogen/oxygen tanks.

It is the Company's primary objective to be the NASA prime contractor for the design and fabrication of the large expendable fuel tanks. You will recall the Boeing participation in the Saturn program. We have the experience and facilities to build hardware of this type. The Space Shuttle tanks are approximately the size of the S-1C Saturn first stage for which the Wichita Division produced most of the tooling and the fabricated parts which were then assembled at the Michoud facility in Louisiana before delivery at Cape Kennedy.

At Wichita, we are planning to apply our resources and capabilities to design and production of hardware and tooling involved in the program.

The competition for the tank design is expected to occur next spring. NASA has indicated that the final assembly of this hardware will take place in the NASA Michoud facility. It is expected that this program could represent nearly one billion dollars in sales over the next 15 years. The new job impact at the Wichita Division could range upward to 2500 people and result in further benefits to the economy of the area.

The Boeing Company expects the competition for this work to be tough, particularly from companies such as General Dynamics in Texas and California, McDonnell Douglas in St. Louis, Missouri, Lockheed in California and Georgia and Chrysler Corporation in Louisiana. To meet this competition, we at Boeing have assembled a very capable and

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experienced team that combines skills in large aircraft, launch vehicle and administrative capabilities.

The Company has sent similar letters to members of the Washington and Louisiana delegations. We plan to keep you informed of our further activities in these business pursuits and to solicit your support and guidance because of the impact these activities can have on the states of Kansas, Washington and Louisiana.

The Space Shuttle is a major step forward in our nation's space program, and we are looking forward to being a contributor to its success. The Shuttle is an interesting and complex program, and we would welcome the opportunity to provide you or your staff an oral briefing of its technical features, its potential impact on our community, and the contribution it will make to our nation.

Your interest and support of our efforts to win contracts in these fields is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Oles".