

Lawmakers, unions protest Air Force tanker deal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Kansas lawmakers joined labor leaders on Thursday to protest the massive Air Force tanker contract that Boeing Co. lost to a European rival and vowed to stymie the deal in Congress.

Organizers of the Capitol Hill rally said the contract would subsidize foreign competitors at the expense of U.S. jobs in the aerospace defense industry, particularly in Washington state and Kansas, where much of the work on the tanker would have been performed, had Boeing won.

"The Air Force process was so badly flawed that it was skewed to favor one bid," said Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan. "What should have been a boon to American taxpayers is instead an embarrassment to American taxpayers."

Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., called the Air Force's decision "an insult to our workers" and also raised questions about the fairness of the selection process.

"The rules were changed on Boeing time and time again in order to keep a foreign competitor at the table," Murray charged.

Congressional members from the two states have proclaimed outrage ever since the Air Force's decision in February to award a

\$35 billion contract for refueling tankers to Airbus parent European Aeronautic Defence and Space Co. and its U.S. partner, Northrop Grumman Corp.

The award came as a shock to Boeing, which has supplied tankers to the Air Force for nearly 50 years and was widely considered the favorite to win the deal. Boeing filed a formal protest with the Government Accountability Office on March 11 and expects a ruling by June.

Roberts, Murray and six other senators on Thursday sent a letter to President Bush claiming the award sends the wrong signal when at the same time the U.S. is protesting unfair foreign subsidies to Airbus before the WTO.

Union leaders on Thursday focused on the potential loss of American jobs.

"We will be sending our tax money to Europe to energize their economy while our economy goes in the tank," said Debbie Logsdon, Midwest chairwoman of the Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace, the union representing most of Boeing's engineers and technical workers.

Members of Alabama's congressional delegation have defended

the selection process, which would result in a tanker assembly plant in Mobile and the creation of 2,000 jobs. Northrop claims its victory would support at least 25,000 jobs at more than 200 U.S. suppliers, while Boeing says its aircraft would support more than 44,000 jobs at 300 U.S. suppliers.

Reps. Todd Tiahrt, R-Kan., and Norm Dicks, D-Wash. — two influential members of the House Appropriations Committee — are considering legislation to overhaul the procurement process or block funding for the deal.

"There's going to be a price to pay in Congress because we're not going to stand for losing American jobs and paying such a high price," Tiahrt warned.

He said Congress has an obligation "to look at things like maintaining a defense industrial base, how much revenue is lost when you send 19,000 jobs overseas, how much corporate revenue is lost by sending it over to a foreign supplier."

Dicks said bigger Eads/Northrop plane would use more fuel, costing the Air Force \$30 billion more than the Boeing model over the 40-year life span of plane.

"Congress has a responsibility to correct one of the worst decisions in modern history," Dicks said.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

8								4
7		3	4	5				
			2		1			
3		6						
			8		5			
						9		5
			3	6				
			1	8	4			9
	2							7

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

4/18

This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral. The solution to today's Sudoku puzzle is below.

©2008 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Doctor fights prosecutor

WICHITA (AP) — An embattled Kansas physician charged with running a "pill mill" that led to 56 deaths told a federal judge in court papers Thursday that he and his wife were not afraid of the truth and are opposed to the government's request for a gag order in their case.

Federal prosecutors asked U.S. District Judge Monti Belot earlier this month to prevent Dr. Stephen Schneider and his wife, Linda, from talking to the media.

Prosecutors also asked the judge to extend that gag order to include their attorneys, family members and Siobhan Reynolds, president of the Pain Relief Network, a patient advocacy group that has taken up the Schneiders' cause.

"The government's attempt to restrain contact with the media comes as a result of the media's coverage becoming balanced and raising questions about the government's motivations, its actions, and the results of those actions," according to a defense motion filed Thursday.

Prosecutors told the judge that the defendants and their supporters were attempting to use the me-

dia to influence the jury pool. As an alternative to a gag order, the government sought a transfer of the trial, scheduled for February 2009, to eliminate the possibility of jurors being prejudiced by publicity the case is getting in the Wichita media.

Federal prosecutors also asked the judge to admonish defense attorneys on professional rules of conduct regarding public statements. They also want to limit the contact Reynolds and family members have with witnesses in the case.

8	9	2	6	3	7	5	4	1
7	1	3	4	5	9	2	8	6
5	6	4	2	8	1	7	9	3
3	5	6	9	7	2	8	1	4
9	4	1	8	6	5	3	7	2
2	8	7	1	4	3	9	6	5
4	7	9	3	2	6	1	5	8
6	3	5	7	1	8	4	2	9
1	2	8	5	9	4	6	3	7

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

4/18

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

To have your ad placed in the Business Directory call Jasmine, Crystal or Hannah today at 462-3963.

H & H Auto Features Limo Services

930 S. Range
Colby, Kansas 67701

Phone: 785-460-0828
Cell: 785-443-1082

WORLDWIDE · Vacation Packages · Cruises · Tours · Groups · Flights · Hotels · Trains · Cars

155 W. 4th, Colby, KS 67701
Phone: 785-462-6999
Fax: 785-460-0852
Toll Free: 1-888-690-7077

CALL IN OR FAX YOUR INTERNET QUOTES AND OTHER ADS! WE CAN BOOK THEM FOR YOU WITH LOCAL, CARING SERVICE!!

Round Trip Travel

BOOK SPRING BREAK NOW!
Call for Bus Tours Schedules.

All specials may be for specific dates and are subject to availability.

VACATION SPECIALS	From	# Nights
LAS VEGAS	Air & Hotel	\$250 4
DISNEY WORLD	Park Passes, Air & Hotel	\$505 3
MEXICO	Air & Hotel	\$800 3
CARIBBEAN CRUISE	Cruise & Air	\$1,050 5
ALASKAN CRUISE	Cruise & Air	\$1,500 7
HAWAII	Air & Hotel	\$740 3
LONDON, ENGLAND	Air & Hotel	\$700 3
AMTRAK EXPLORE AMERICA	Air & Hotel	\$359 Max 45

Need a new insurance partner?

Auto | Home | Business | Farm/Ranch | Life
College | Retirement

David L. Browne III
550 N Franklin Ave
Colby
(785) 462-3388

FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES
Insurance • Investments
www.fbfs.com

Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company/West Des Moines, IA. Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company/West Des Moines, IA. Companies of Farm Bureau Financial Services © 2007 FBL Financial Group, Inc. 327

Murray Roofing & Construction

Residential roofs
Flat & Low-Sloped Roofs
Metal Retro-Fit
Energy Efficient Roofing Solutions

Residential & Commercial
(785) 462-6908

Vinyl & Steel Siding
Decks & Patios
Wood & Vinyl Fencing
Soffit & Fascia

FREE ESTIMATES

Jeff Dreiling - Sales
(785) 443-0819

FREE ESTIMATES

Jim Murray - Owner
(785) 443-1339

Seamless Rain Gutter

Siding, Soffit, Fascia
FREE estimates
22 colors available

Installed by Ron Lucke
719-346-8840
cell 719-349-8840 Burlington CO

Kitchen & Bath

Sales & Service

Custom Cabinetry • Design & Installation
50 NEW Door Styles • NEW Glazes & Finishes

Wood Floor Installation & Refinishing
Natural Stone Countertops & Much More!

Shop 462-7843 • Dennis 443-3140 • Lynda 443-0945

FAMILY DENTAL CARE

The Latest Technology and Most Complete Care Available!

- Root Canals • Orthodontics
- Implants • Wisdom Tooth Surgery

New Patients Welcome
No Referral Necessary ~ Financing Avail.

1690 W. 4th St., Colby ~ 785-460-3999
Toll Free: 1-866-305-3999

SHAWN D. JENSEN, D.D.S.

Spices On The Green

"Invites you to the most unique dining experience in the area"

James Thomas, Owner/Chef

Only serving Sterling Silver Beef, aged to perfection and hand cut

Celebrating 4 years In Burlington

Located at Burlington's Prairie Pines Golf Course

US Hwy 385 North of Burlington
48680 Snead Dr. • Burlington • 719-346-7855

ROOFMASTERS

Your Local Roofing Contractor
425 East Hill, Colby, KS
Licensed - Bonded - Insured

RESIDENTIAL	1-800-536-6642	COMMERCIAL
Tamko Shingles	1-785-462-6642	Rubber Single Ply
GAF Shingles		White TPO Single Ply
Wood Shingles		Built Up Systems
Metal Roofs		Modified Systems

FREE ESTIMATES

Elastomeric Rubber Coating For Metal Roofs

NEW SYSTEM PROFESSIONAL WINDOW CLEANING

785-462-6995

www.MyWindowCleaner.net
Serving Colby since 1992!

Chris and Beth Lewon 650 N Grant/Colby, KS - FREE ESTIMATES

NOW OPEN!

Mexican Restaurant

El Dos de Oros

We Have:

Appetizers, Combinations, Specialties, Luncheon Plates, Special Dinners, Fajitas, A La Carte Orders, Vegetarian Entrees, Desserts and a Kid's Menu.

a taste with tradition

Hours: Sunday-Thursday *11:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Friday & Saturday *11:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
New Location inside Quality Inn
1950 W. Range Colby, KS
(785) 460-5861

Tim W. Stanton, B.C.H.I.S.

Hearing Aid Sales & Service

- No Money Down
- Try Before You Buy
- 30 Day Free Trial
- Service On All Makes and Models

1870 S. Range (Inside Radio Shack) Colby, KS 67701
785-621-HEAR (4327)

2818 Vine, Suite B (Corner of 29th and Vine) Hays, KS 67601

Or Call Toll Free 1-888-421-HEAR (4327)

-CHANGING WHAT YOU HEAR-
CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT TODAY!