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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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JUNE 14, 1973

ACTUALITY -- FLAG DAY

FLAG DAY, JUNE 14, IS A DAY IN WHICH WE TRADITIONALLY HONOR THE FLAG AS AN IMPORTANT SYMBOL OF THIS NATION AND ITS HERITAGE OF FREEDOM. THIS FLAG DAY, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 12 YEARS THE U.S. IS AT PEACE, AND OUR SOLDIERS HAVE AT LONG LAST RETURNED FROM VIETNAM. BUT WE MUST NOT FAIL TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED FOR WHAT OUR FLAG SYMBOLIZES. NOR CAN WE FORGET THOSE WHO ARE STILL LISTED AS MISSING IN ACTION IN VIETNAM.

THIS MORNING I ATTENDED A PROGRAM TO LAUNCH OPERATION HERO FLAG. SIX-YEAR OLD JIMMY PLOWMAN, THE SON OF AN MIA SHOT DOWN IN MARCH OF 1967, RECEIVED A FLAG FLOWN OVER THE CAPITOL IN HONOR OF HIS FATHER AND ALL MIA'S. JIMMY REPRESENTED ALL CHILDREN OF OUR MISSING IN ACTION. OPERATION HERO FLAG CALLS FOR SIMILAR PRESENTATIONS TO BE MADE IN THE FUTURE TO OTHER CHILDREN LIKE JIMMY. A FLAG WILL BE FLOWN ON THE BIRTHDAY OF EACH MIA, AND THEN PRESENTED TO HIS CHILDREN AS A SYMBOL OF THIS COUNTRY'S GRATITUDE FOR THE SACRIFICES THEIR FATHERS HAVE MADE FOR THE FLAG.