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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MARCH 5, 1993

CONTACT: WALT RIKER (202) 224-5358

DOLE RECOMMENDS GRASSLEY AND MACK TO THE HELSINKI COMMISSION

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) announced today his recommendation of Senator Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) and Senator Connie Mack (R-Florida) to serve on the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, commonly known as the Helsinki Commission.

"Senator Grassley's longtime commitment to freedom and human rights makes him an ideal choice for the Helsinki Commission. With so many nations and ethnic groups struggling to make democracy work behind the former Iron Curtain, the Commission's task is more important than ever. That's why Chuck Grassley is the right man for the job at this critical time in Eastern Europe," said Senator Dole, himself a former member of the commission.

"Senator Mack has spent his career fighting for democracy overseas, whether it was Cuba, Central America, Eastern Europe or the Soviet Union. He knows that the tyrants of the world only understand strength and tenacity, and those are the kind of qualities Connie will bring to this important human rights panel. He'll make a real difference," Dole said.

The Commission monitors the acts of the signatories -virtually all the nations of Europe, including the former Soviet Union -- which reflect compliance with, or violation of the human rights principles outlined in the Final Act of the Conference of Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The Commission is further authorized and directed to encourage the programs and activities of the United States Government and private organizations aimed at advancing human rights.

Senator Dole's recommendation will be made official by the Vice President.

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