

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 24, 1982

Dear Bob:

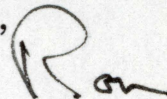
Thank you for the June 11 telegram which you cosigned with 11 other members of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation. I fully share your concern about the tragic plight of Soviet citizens attempting to join their spouses in the West.

As you may know, the Administration has undertaken a wide range of measures to secure their release. Two demarches have been presented to the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressing the extreme importance which the U.S. Government attaches to the successful resolution of these and other divided family cases. At the end of May, four spouses of Soviet hunger strikers met with Vice President Bush, who reaffirmed the Administration's firm commitment to upholding the principles of the Helsinki Accords. Most recently, this issue was raised in connection with the June 10-11 meeting of Secretary of State Haig with Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko in New York.

I am extremely pleased that our efforts have prompted the resolution of four of the seven original hunger striker cases. Please be assured that we shall continue to work steadfastly toward the reunification of families divided by Soviet restrictions on emigration. This Administration has not and will not tolerate flagrant violations of the Helsinki Accords.

Again, thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Robert Dole  
Co-Chairman  
Commission on Security and Cooperation  
in Europe  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515