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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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DOLE HITS FAMILY REUNIFICATION RECORD OF WARSAW PACE NATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Reacting to testimony presented before the Helsinki Commission recently, Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan) questioned the sincerity of the Warsaw Pact nations in implementing the Helsinki accord. A member of the Helsinki Commission, Dole was especially concerned with the lack of progress made by Americans of Eastern European ancestry in their efforts to bring close relatives to the United States.

"It is incomprehensible to me," stated Senator Dole, "that in this modern age there can exist a society on this earth that is so oblivious, so insensitive to this basic human right. What possible political gain can there be for such a society to keep father from daughter, mother from son, husband from wife?"

Commenting on the great hope that "Americans of Czech, Rumanian, Ukranian, Lithuanian, Latvian, Estonian, and other Eastern European ancestry" had that some progress would be made after the Helsinki Conference, Dole concluded that "the Helsinki accords have not lived up to expectations.

The Helsinki Commission is an independent, joint Legislative and Executive panel established to evaluate and encourage compliance with the 1975 agreements signed by the United States, Canada and 33 European states. Public hearings were conducted March 15 on the policies and practices of the Warsaw Pact nations towards movement of people for the purposes of family reunification and marriage.

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