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THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1977

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DOLE MEETS MLYNAR IN VIENNA

Washington, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole (R. Kan.) met with Zdenek Mlynar, former secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party who was allowed to emigrate to Austria last June. Dole, a member of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) met Mlynar and his wife in Vienna on July 3.

In addition to Mlynar, Dole met with recent emigrants from Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Soviet Russia.

A leading signatory of the Charter 77 human rights manifesto, Mlynar informed Dole that the document was a reflection of a "national resistance" in Czechoslovakia and had wide support throughout the nation.

"The democratization of Communism began during the Dubcek era," Mlynar told Dole, "but was suppressed after the 1968 Soviet invasion."

According to Mlynar, the long range goal of detente should be to lessen the European influence of both the United States and Soviet Russia and to permit greater sovereignty for the European nations.

Mlynar also mentioned that the Paris-based International Committee for the Defense of Charter 77 will soon publish a "white book" on Czechoslovakia which will be mailed to all 35 delegations at the Belgrade Conference.

Commenting on his meeting with Mlynar, Dole stated that Mlynar had confirmed much of the testimony presented during CSCE hearings held in Washington earlier in the year. "Czechoslovakia has a very poor human rights record,"

he stated, "and the actions of the present leadership demonstrate once again that Communist regimes cannot long survive without repression of their citizenry."

From Vienna, Dole traveled to Belgrade where he attended a session of the preparatory meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Commenting on his meeting with other delegation heads, Dole stressed the need for greater unity of effort among the NATO allies. "I'm disappointed that our allies are so willing to compromise with the Soviets in order to save detente. Detente is fine, but we must be thinking beyond detente, beyond a simple reduction in tensions. True peace can only be based on mutual trust and a respect for human dignity. Only in this way will we truly preserve the Helsinki process and use it to build a better world. I'm hopeful that our allies will realize this and close ranks in support of human rights in time for the fall conference in Belgrade."