News from Senator





(R - Kansas)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1979 CONTACT: BILL KATS, BOB WAITE (202) 224-8947, -8953

DOLE CALLS ON KANSANS TO GIVE AID TO CAMBODIAN REFUGEES

WASHINGTON -- Asking Kansans to "spread the joy of the holiday season by giving the gift of life," Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.) today announced that his office will act as a clearing house for Kansas donations for the relief effort in wartorn Cambodia.

Dole said that his Topeka office would collect money to be used specifically for the purposes of providing food and medical supplies. These funds will be passed on to the UNICEF Committee for Kampuchean Relief at the United Nations for processing.

"This is an especially difficult Christmas season for Kansans and all Americans, as 50 of our brothers are being held captive in Iran," Dole said. "Our prayers go out to those American hostages inside the embassy compound in Teheran, and to their families here in the United States, who must endure the uncertainty of not knowing what will happen to their loved ones.

"I know it is frustrating for individual Americans to sit and wait for events in Iran to develop, seemingly powerless to shape events directly. But there is one area in which there is a vital need for each and every American to become involved. The people of Cambodia need your help.

"Fierce warfare has been a horrifying fact of life for Cambodia for more than 10 years, but recently fighting there has seriously jeopardized not only the combatants, but the lives of thousands of innocent Cambodians who must endure the hardships caused by war.

"Nearly three million Cambodians currently face an uncertain fate due to the ravages of famine and disease. The oppressive Cambodian puppet regime of Hang Samrin -- armed by the Soviet Union and supported by Vietnamese forces -has driven Cambodian civilians from their homes and into refugee camps on the Cambodia-Thailand border. Many did not survive the long journey; many who did now hold on to their existence by thin threads.

"I am asking the people of Kansas to help now. There is no tomorrow for thousands of starving Cambodians. Your contribution, no matter how small, will help purchase the rice, children's food, grain and medicine that is needed so desperately.

"Send your check or money order addressed to the "UNICEF Committee for Kampuchean Relief" to:

Cambodian Relief Office of Senator Bob Dole 444 Southeast Quincy Suite 392 Topeka, Kansas 66683

"These monies will be forwarded directly to the United Nations and will be used for food and medicinal purposes only. Your contribution is tax deductible, and, if addressed properly to the UNICEF Committee for Kampuchean Relief, will be subject to minimal administrative costs.

"Please join with me and help spread the joy of the holiday season by giving the gift of life."

Other names of organizations aiding in the Cambodia relief effort are available for those who prefer an alternative to UNICEF. Contact the office of Senator Dole.