

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 8, 1989

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STATEMENT OF SENATOR BOB DOLE
SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CONFIRMATION HEARING
AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE C. HOWARD WILKINS, JR.
JUNE 8, 1989

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Ks) introduced Ambassador Designate C. Howard Wilkins, Jr., Wichita, at his confirmation hearing today before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Wilkins, has been nominated for the post of Ambassador to the Netherlands.

The following is the text of Senator Dole's statement:

IT'S A REAL PERSONAL PLEASURE FOR ME TO INTRODUCE TO YOU TODAY HOWARD WILKINS -- AN OUTSTANDING KANSAN; AND SOMEONE WHO, IF CONFIRMED, WILL BE A GREAT AMBASSADOR.

I'VE KNOWN HOWARD WILKINS FOR 20 YEARS. HE IS A NATIVE, AND STILL RESIDENT, OF WICHITA; A DEVOTED FATHER OF FIVE CHILDREN; AND AN EXTRAORDINARILY SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMAN.

HE IS ALSO A PRACTITIONER OF WHAT I HAVE COME TO THINK OF AS THE "KANSAS SUCCESS FORMULA." YOU RELY ON COMMONSENSE, YOU WORK HARD, AND YOU DON'T GIVE UP.

IF CONFIRMED, HOWARD WILL BE TAKING UP A VERY IMPORTANT POST. THIS IS A TIME OF NEW CHALLENGES FOR NATO, AND -- AS THE RECENT SUMMIT DEMONSTRATED -- THE ROLE OF THE NETHERLANDS CAN BE CRUCIAL. THIS IS A TIME -- WITH 1992 JUST OVER THE HORIZON -- WHEN WE MUST DEAL WITH SERIOUS TRADE PROBLEMS, AND WHAT WILL SOON BE A NEW TRADE ENVIRONMENT IN WESTERN EUROPE.

HOWARD WILKINS IS UP TO THE TASK OF REPRESENTING THE PRESIDENT AND THE COUNTRY IN MEETING THOSE CHALLENGES. I COMMEND HIS CANDIDACY FOR THIS POST, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO BRINGING HIS NOMINATION TO THE SENATE FLOOR WITH THE STRONG SUPPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

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