

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. list	re: SSNs and DOBs (5 pages)	n.d.	b(6)
002. list	re: Invitation List [partial] [10 U.S.C. 424] (1 page)	08/02/1999	P3/b(3)
003. list	re: SSNs and DOBs (1 page)	n.d.	b(6)
004. email	Maureen Shea to Katharine Button [partial] [10 U.S.C. 424] (1 page)	08/02/1999	P3/b(3)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
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FOLDER TITLE:

Kosovo

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RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

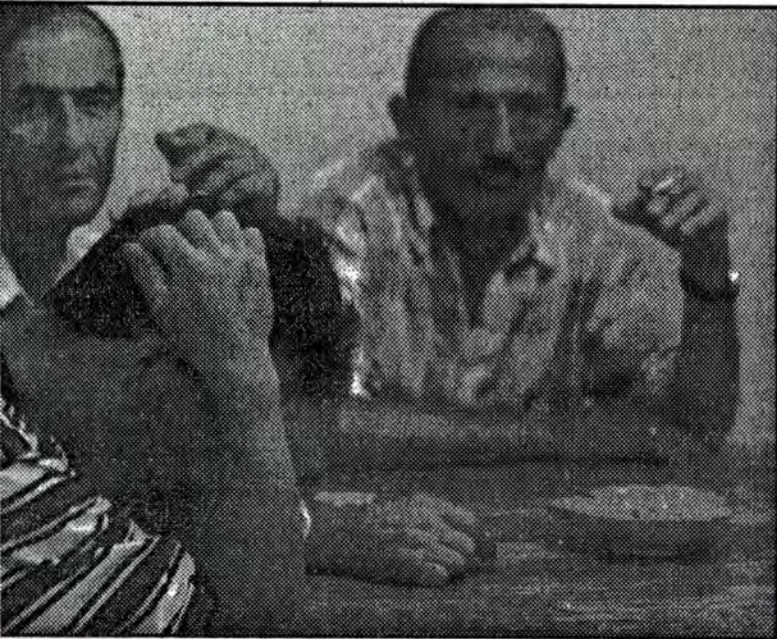
C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

File
Kosovo**BORN IN THE U.S.A.****BROKEN PROMISE TO**

Refugees Naim (front), Gafurr (left) and Yebi Karaliju (right) can't re-
it have yet to find work in Dallas.

Tim Sharp

**Kosovar family:
Charities failing**

By MARIA ALVAREZ

The elaborate welcome mat that greeted "Baby Amerikan" — the first Albanian Kosovar refugee born in the United States — is already looking threadbare.

Naim and Lebibe Karaliju — the parents of the newborn whose birth inspired the nation — say they are facing the dismal choice of living in destitution in Dallas or returning to a burned-out home in a war-ravaged country.

"We are having a hard time — there is not enough money to buy milk for the baby," said Naim Karaliju, Amerikan's father.

Karaliju said his 63-year-old mother is the only family member with a job. She works as a hotel housekeeper.

"We are being told that our food stamps will be cut off and we will have to pay the rent. For me it's just too de-

pressing," Karaliju said, speaking through a translator and refugee volunteer in Dallas.

The family and their advocates say promises have been broken — leaving the refugees with no money, no jobs and, soon, possibly no apartment.

Several refugee volunteers and sponsors of Baby Amerikan's family claim Refugee Services of North Texas did not pro-

NEW YORK POST
EXCLUSIVE

vide all it should have in housing, furniture, food, clothing and other resettlement costs.

The Texas agency is funded with federal taxpayer dollars to house, feed, clothe and provide transportation to refugees for the first 30 days of their resettlement.

If the families still need help, the Texas agency is supposed to get charities and social services to pick up the living costs.

Baby Amerikan created a national sensation in May when his mom gave birth just days after the family was airlifted to Fort Dix, N.J., from Macedonia.

The tiny boy was photographed holding an American flag — endearing himself to the adopted nation his parents named him for.

"Amerikan," following the Albanian spelling, was showered with wishes

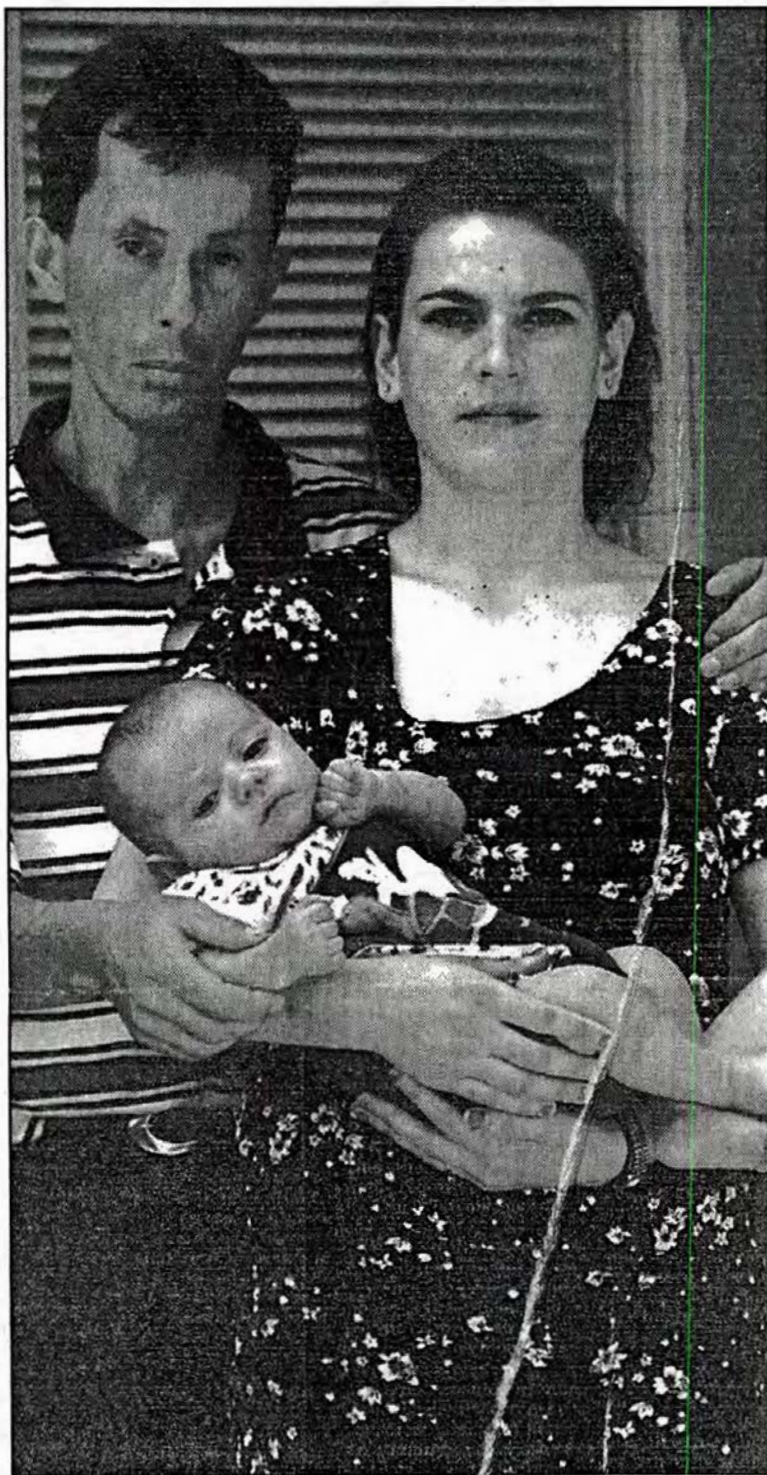
More on the

BORN IN THE U.S.A.

BABY 'AMERIKAN'

"We are having a hard time — there is not enough money to buy milk for the baby."

DAD NAIM KARALIJU



DOWN IN DALLAS: The joy of giving birth to their first child, Amerikan, in America is giving way to frustration for refugees Naim and Lejbe Karaliju.

Tim Sharp

"These people are not in need. They are self-sufficient and he doesn't have to worry about his future," DeWinter said. "Church World Services has an exemplary record. We stand by our families."

She said an official from

the organization went to Dallas to investigate the allegations.

"Our investigation indicates the refugees have been adequately taken care of," she said.

Refugee volunteer Weiss said that despite the fami-

ly's hardships, "they are very grateful."

"They are very, very dear people — very sincere, honest and hard-working people," Weiss said. "The kind of immigrants in America needs — with good family values."



WELCOME TO AMERICA: Baby Amerikan comes into the world at a New Jersey hospital in May. AFP

Little for refugees as aid agencies help themselves

By MARIA ALVAREZ

At the height of the Kosovo crisis, the Clinton administration promised to relocate 20,000 Kosovar refugees — with \$740 in federal funds allotted for each.

The State Department contracts with 10 national organizations; their affiliates are responsible for getting refugees settled.

The money is supposed to pay for housing, food, clothing, furnishings, social-service referrals, transportation to jobs and job training, said a State Department official.

But the local agencies aren't required to spend all of the \$740 on the refugees.

"It's up to the organization and its affiliates how it wants to spend the [money]," the official said. "We do not dictate how much of the money is given to the refugees."

Ruzhdie Krasniqi, friend of the Dallas cousin who sponsored Baby Amerikan's family and 24 other relatives, said Refugee Services of North Texas wanted to turn over only \$100 per person.

"We know the agency has to pay its employees," Krasniqi said. "We did not expect all the money. But at least 40, 50 percent — not 10, 15 percent."

The State Department's only concern is that the refugees received the basic necessities for the

first 30 days.

If the families still need help after that, the agencies are supposed to enroll them in social-service programs and get charities to pick up the living costs.

Marguerite Rivera Houze, deputy assistant secretary of the State Department, has been in Dallas meeting with directors of the various refugee agencies.

"As far as we know, the families have been provided with the core services," an official said. "The quality of housing was pretty good."

But the official admitted the program ran into some snags.

"The Kosovar resettlement was a problem. It was hard because we brought in a lot of people in a hurry," said the official.

Deborah DeWinter, spokeswoman with Church World Services, said that in the Dallas case, it turned over \$580 per person to the affiliate, which is required to spend only \$200 on each.

"We have salaries to pay," said DeWinter, adding that the local agency relies on local charities to donate money and help refugees.

"As far as we are concerned, the family of Baby Amerikan have been provided with all the services."

file Kosovo

**INTERACTION MEMBER AGENCY
ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES FROM
KOSOVO**

Updated April 16, 1999

The following are brief descriptions of activities being undertaken by InterAction members to assist refugees from Kosovo. The material is compiled from information provided by these agencies and taken from their web sites. Additional details of their activities are available on some web sites. Agencies shown as collecting funds generally will be channeling those funds to local affiliates in the region which are engaged in relief work. Agency addresses and websites are on the previous page, click [here](#) to go back.

ACTION AGAINST HUNGER/USA

Presently has a team of 30 expatriate relief workers focusing on meeting the basic needs of refugees and displaced populations in Albania, Macedonia and Montenegro. Our overall objectives in the region include: provision of drinking water and sanitation facilities in refugee camps to prevent outbreak of epidemics; provision of appropriate food with special emphasis on breast-feeding mothers and children under five years old; setting up emergency feeding centers; provision of ready-to-eat food to newly-arrived refugees; and improving water and sanitation facilities in host communities.

ADVENTIST RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

ADRA is assisting refugees in both Albania and Macedonia. In Macedonia, it is providing food and personal hygiene items to refugees in resettlement areas. Families are given 44 pounds (20 kilograms) of food, including wheat, rice, noodles, milk, beans, fresh fruit and more, and hygiene items such as soap, toothbrushes, towels, etc. ADRA's Albania office is assisting refugees near the Kosovo border and is working with refugees who have been transported to southern Albanian districts. ADRA has offices and warehouses in Albania and has been operating a health education program in that country.

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

Will be providing fund to partner organizations engaged in relief activities in the region.

AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE (JDC)

The JDC team reported that large quantities of relief material have reached Albania. However, distribution problems exist. While medicine and food are available in Tirana, the capital, relief organizations are struggling to distribute it to the remote parts of the country. The JDC team visited various temporary refugee camps in Albania to explore what special needs exist and how to address them immediately. Their impression is that children - some of whom have been separated from their families - are in need of special assistance and support. Many need psychological assistance for post-traumatic shock and pediatric medical help. JDC is in contact with World ORT Organization which has an office in Tirana, to harness its expertise to this effort. JDC is also working closely with the International Rescue Committee (IRC) team in Albania and with UNICEF.

AMERICAN JEWISH WORLD SERVICE

Raising funds to provide emergency shelter, water and sanitation facilities for Kosovo refugees. AJWS is working to bring the support of the Jewish Community to the refugees in Albania, Macedonia and Montenegro.

AMERICAN RED CROSS

To help meet the refugees' immediate needs for food, clothing, shelter, and medical attention, the American Red Cross is cooperating with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), as well as the National Red Cross Societies in Yugoslavia, Macedonia, Albania, and Bosnia-Herzegovina, to position relief supplies and personnel to meet a growing range of humanitarian needs.

AMERICAN REFUGEE COMMITTEE

Working with UNHCR, the agency will be providing staff and other assistance to strengthen the existing Macedonian health care system.

AMURT

Providing medical care, food and personal items to Kosovar refugees at the National Sports Stadium in Tirana, Albania. AMURT is also supporting Albanian families in the Tirana area who are hosting Kosovar refugees. This assistance takes the form of bedding, clothes, toiletries, food and medical care.

BAPTIST WORLD AID

Collecting funds to assist the refugees from Kosovo, and is channeling this through Baptist churches and agencies in the Balkans region. Baptist communities in Albania and Macedonia are already caring for refugees, and funds have been provided to assist them. In Macedonia the local Baptists are caring for refugees in their homes, and BWAid has provided \$10,000 to assist in the purchase of food and medicines. The Baptist Centre in Tirana, Albania is working with the Salvation Army in setting up a refugee camp for 1,000 refugees, but expects this to grow to 3,000. BWAid working is also working with Hungarian Baptist Aid on the delivery of essential foodstuffs.

BROTHER'S BROTHERS FOUNDATION

The Brother's Brother Foundation is accepting cash donations for coverage of costs of shipment of humanitarian aid for the refugees affected by the Kosova Crisis. On April 20th 1999, three forty foot containers of donated relief goods will be leaving warehouses. One container of new clothing for women, children and men will be shipped to Tirana, Albania. The remaining two containers of food will be sent to Albania and Bosnia for use by Kosovar refugees. The Brother's Brother Foundation is partnering for the distribution of these goods with the United Methodist Committee on Relief and LIFE for Relief and Development. BBF plans to send a medical shipment by air later this month.

CARE USA

CARE's relief efforts for Kosovar refugees have been primarily focused in Albania and Macedonia. In Albania, CARE will assume management duties for the Dures camp, which will eventually house

15,000 refugees. CARE also has distributed food and blankets at the Kukes border area. In addition, CARE is developing additional programs in the sectors of water and sanitation, shelter provision, medical assistance for vulnerable populations, and logistics/transportation. In Macedonia, CARE's initial efforts focused on the distribution of food and blankets at the Blace border and refugee centers. CARE is managing the Stenkovec 2 transit camp, which currently houses 12,000 refugees. A committee of community leaders have been established to help with the distribution of food, diapers and other essentials. CARE also is partnering with other aid agencies to help reunite unaccompanied children with their parents, as well as planning a mobile gynecological clinic program.

CATHOLIC MEDICAL MISSION BOARD (CMMB)

The Catholic Medical Mission Board (CMMB) is working with Caritas Internationalis, the Catholic international relief agency, to address identified medical needs among refugees from Kosovo. Caritas, in turn, is coordinating relief efforts with its local agencies in Albania, Croatia, and Macedonia. Each local agency is detailing precisely what is needed to help refugees and the homeless. CMMB expects to airlift medicines very soon. Additionally, CMMB has provided funds to Caritas and other partner organizations engaged in relief activities in the region. Funds have been sent to Caritas Albania and Catholic Relief Services in Macedonia. These funds support local water purification programs, general hygiene needs, trauma counseling, and other health-related activities.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is currently assisting more than 300,000 refugees suffering as a result of the conflict in Kosovo. Catholic Relief Services is the principal implementing partner for UNHCR in distributing basic needs to refugee populations in Albania, Macedonia, Bosnia, and the Yugoslav Republics of Serbia and Montenegro. This week marked the successful implementation of a phone center in Macedonia. The initiative, sponsored by Catholic Relief Services, International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC), Caritas Germany, and Caritas France, is allowing refugees to call relatives in Europe and around the world. The four agencies have donated \$50,000 for the ten-day campaign which brought twelve cell phones to the refugee camps. It is expected that over 10,000 three-minute phone calls will be placed. This effort will greatly help morale and facilitate family reunions.

CHILDREACH/PLAN INTERNATIONAL

Helping the communities and the local government to cope with the situation in PLAN program areas of Tirana, Elbasan, Fier, and Lushnje. Independently and in partnership with other NGOs and the local government, PLAN programs include converting available structures to house over 3,000 refugees, and preparing native Albanians to house Kosovar refugees in their homes. Additionally, clothing, food, and medicines are being collected and distributed in-country. In Tirana, PLAN is helping the community and local government to set up a camp including a common kitchen that can host 200 people as of April 7. In Elbasan, PLAN is helping the commune of Tregan to accommodate 200 people in the existing building of an ex-thermal bath hotel. In the district of Fier, PLAN is rehabilitating a structure to host 350 people. In the Lushnje district, PLAN is cooperating with the government and other agencies to set up shelter for 2,500 people.

CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S FUND

CCF staff have begun daily visits to the refugee camps to administer emotional and mental health

counseling, and will assist a network of relief agencies to develop their own trauma programming based on CCF's model. CCF has set-up activities in Muletta, a campground near Tirana which can accommodate 2,500 inhabitants, and already has 800 refugees living on site. CCF is utilizing this campground to begin implementing its child trauma program for the children and families, and to coordinate various morale boosting activities for the refugees. Through the School of Social Work in Albania, CCF staff has obtained valuable information regarding the social and cultural backgrounds within the Albanian society. This information will prove very helpful in treating the psychological needs of the refugees and aid in the healing process.

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

Church World Service, the relief and development agency of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., has sent \$1.16 million in assistance for the needs of Kosovar Albanians and other displaced persons in the region. The aid has been sent to colleague agencies working in Albania and other regions affected by the Kosovo crisis. The most recent assistance was \$265,000 to help Kosovar refugees and internally displaced persons in Bosnia, where CWS staff is operational. Previous aid has included \$800,000 for tents, blankets and mattresses to Diaconia Agape and \$100,000 to International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC). On April 2, airlifts of relief goods consigned to Diaconia Agape began arriving in Tirana.

DIRECT RELIEF INTERNATIONAL

Direct Relief International is providing medical goods to hospitals and clinics in Albania, Macedonia and Yugoslavia, including emergency centers specifically established to provide services to the refugee population. Donations have included antibiotics, local anesthetics, cardiovascular agents, analgesics and first aid supplies. In addition, the organization is preparing a shipment of autoclaves and essential hospital supplies and pharmaceuticals to support the Albanian medical infrastructure that is struggling to provide basic services. Direct Relief is continuing to work with partner agencies and individuals who are providing current information regarding specific needs to meet changing circumstances.

DOCTORS OF THE WORLD

A medical team is being sent to Macedonia to provide emergency services to refugees until the agency can return to Kosovo.

DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS/MSF

Currently assisting Kosovar refugees in Albania, Macedonia, and Montenegro. In all locations, teams are treating patients with diarrhea and respiratory infections, and conducting epidemiological surveillance. In Albania, Doctors Without Borders is providing medical care and supplies, and conducting health assessments in Krume; building latrines, supplying water, and providing mental health care in Kukes; and working in a number of refugee camps in the south around Vier. The organization will participate in a major measles and polio vaccination drive throughout the refugee encampments. In Macedonia, the organization is working in the Brazda and Radusa camps, again providing basic medical care and supplies. In Montenegro, Doctors Without Borders is distributing medical supplies and supporting local health structures.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH PRESIDING BISHOPS FUND FOR WORLD RELIEF

Will be providing funds to local partners for relief activities in the region.

FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY INTERNATIONAL

Food for the Hungry has shipped over \$1 million worth of food, clothing, medicines and medical supplies to Albania and Macedonia. Through their network of local groups, in affected countries, they are also supplying money for immediate onsite purchase of food and shelter.

HEART TO HEART INTERNATIONAL

Heart to Heart International will be sending a shipment of medical aid, including antibiotics, children's medications, and first aid supplies within the next 36 to 48 hours. It will collaborate with another American NGO, ADRA, to distribute supplies in Albania.

INTERNATIONAL AID

Assisting in the provision of the basic needs of 10,000 Kosovar refugees in Peshkopi, Albania and providing personal care kits to at least 1,500 refugees in Tirana. The principal partner in Peshkopi is the local prefecture and Pioneers. The partner in Tirana is Bethany Christian Services, which has a major psycho-social support initiative for mothers with children. In Macedonia, International Aid has made a small grant to Pioneers to start a refugee medical screening program. IA will also ship several thousand personal care and school kits.

INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC MIGRATION COMMISSION (ICMC)

ICMC is currently helping vulnerable refugee groups in Macedonia, assisting elderly persons, children, and the mentally handicapped who have been separated from their families during their flight from Kosovo. This program is providing immediate shelter and protection to these groups, ensuring their access to camp services and seeking to facilitate family reunification. A second ICMC team is seeking to establish similar services for vulnerable refugees in Albania. ICMC is also operating a free telephone access program allowing refugees in camp to contact loved ones in the outside world. ICMC will shortly open a community information center which will provide a lost and found and a community bulletin board for camp residents, in addition to social services.

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS

International Medical Corps (IMC) has staff in Tirana, Kukes, Shkoder and Durres. IMC is providing medical services, including mobile clinics in Kukes and health and sanitation support to refugee collective centers in Tirana. IMC is preparing to expand their mobile clinics programs – pending the purchase of vehicles. IMC is utilizing local Albanian and Kosovo doctors (supervised by expats) in its emergency response.

INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

Since 1992 International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) has provided emergency and development assistance throughout the former Yugoslavia including Kosovo, Serbia, and Montenegro. Relief operations continue in each of these areas with the provision of shelter, food and personal care articles to displaced persons as well as vulnerable groups (children, elderly and

hospitals). IOCC is also working with partners in Albania to provide food, personal care supplies, and blankets. Through the IOCC office in Athens, Greece additional staff have been added and a regional response is being coordinated.

INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE

In Albania, International Rescue Committee teams are providing shelter, water and sanitation facilities for refugees in the central portion of the country, and are providing assistance as well to host families, directly and through local charities. IRC physicians are delivering medical aid, and IRC social workers have begun creating recreational activities for refugee children. In Macedonia, the IRC teams are managing the Neprosteno refugee camp and supplying water and sanitation services in other camps, providing medical assistance and delivering personal and household items to refugees. The International Rescue Committee also has relief teams in Montenegro and Bosnia and Albanians.

ISLAMIC AFRICAN RELIEF AGENCY

IARA-USA has concentrated on providing refugee services for Kosovars fleeing to Albania. It collaborates with a partner organization in these efforts. Recently, IARA-USA arranged for the local purchase of approximately \$13,000 (US) in sheep and cows in Albania for the Muslim holiday, Eid al-Adha. The meat was distributed to the refugees and other needy people. IARA-USA conducts two child sponsorship projects in Albania, and Bosnia-Herzegovina. It maintains a Vocation Training Center and a Rehabilitation Center for victims of rape in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE

In Albania, JRS is managing the Arre e Madhe camp in the northern town of Shkodre, on behalf of Caritas Albania. This camp acts as a reception centre for the most vulnerable among the refugees, identifying and arranging for the further help that they need. In Montenegro, JRS is working on behalf of Caritas in Bar parish providing material relief. In Croatia and Italy, JRS is preparing for an expected influx of Kosovo refugees.

Latter-day-Saints Charities

Donations of critical relief supplies by Latter-day Saint Charities to Kosovar refugees have been shipped by air and sea container from the Latter-day Saint Humanitarian Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. On 6 April, Latter-day Saint Charities shipped seven sea containers containing 21,000 blankets and 152,000 pounds of clothing to be distributed by Mercy Corps in Albania and Macedonia. On 9 April, a chartered DC-8 cargo jet arrived in Macedonia with 78,000 pounds of food packaged into 3,000 separate family packs containing enough food to sustain a family of four for 10-14 days. The food packages were distributed by Mercy Corps International. 35,000 pounds of food, 147,000 pounds of clothing, and 7,000 blankets will be shipped to the region and distributed by the American Red Cross. Plans for additional assistance to the refugees include shipments of clothing, family hygiene kits, food, and powdered milk.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

In Macedonia, up to 40,000 refugees living with local families receive a weekly food package at 14 distribution centers run by a local partner agency. 1,200 other refugees camped in an isolated location there are now hooked up to water and electricity supplies. In Albania, over 120 metric tons of food

have been distributed around Kukes, Tirana and Korce. Two camps for 8,000 people will be ready next week and partner agency staff are preparing a feeding program for 6,000 families sheltered in private homes. In Montenegro and Serbia an Orthodox church partner is providing some aid to refugees and people affected by the bombing. LWR has also sent 58 tons of clothing and quilts to Kosovar refugees since last October.

MAP INTERNATIONAL

Through the support of individuals and the pharmaceutical and health care industry, MAP International is preparing numerous shipments of desperately needed medicines, health care supplies and personal hygiene products. These are being packaged for immediate airlift and sea container delivery to cooperating NGO's involved with the provision of health services to refugees in Albania, Macedonia and possibly Montenegro. These essential supplies include antibiotics, oral rehydration salts, pain relievers, first aid supplies and personal care items such as antibacterial soaps and other personal hygiene items. Materials are being received and distributed by other InterAction members and local agencies in partnership with MAP. An assessment team is being dispatched for immediate evaluation of the situation and the effectiveness of MAP medical aid shipments.

MERCY CORPS INTERNATIONAL

Was among the first agencies to open in Kosovo in 1993. Today Mercy Corps is providing food, water, shelter and other supplies to more than 120,000 refugees throughout the Balkans. Mercy Corps is especially focused on the well-being of children and their care-givers traumatized by the war. Plans now in place will reach an additional 250,000 refugees in the coming weeks. Today Mercy Corps' 50 staffers in Albania, Montenegro and Macedonia are providing daily shipments to refugees, host families and other vulnerable groups. The U.S. Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance has entrusted Mercy Corps with a \$2.1 million grant to provide food and supplies for 75,000 refugees.

OPERATION USA

Operation USA is collecting funds as well as refugee relief supplies in its Port of Los Angeles warehouse. We have approximately 15 tons on hand. Priority is being given to corporate in kind donations of shelter materials--tents, cots, new waterproof clothing (in bulk), inflatable mattresses, water-related equipment (receptacles, purification filters and chemicals), portable energy sources (flashlights/batteries). No shipments will be made without prior clearance as to appropriateness, continuing need for the item and ability of recipient partner agencies to handle and distribute the supplies. We are also consolidating other groups' supplies for later shipment. As there are no available government planes for NGO cargo, we are focusing on determining where there are gaps in supplies on hand and what those gaps will most likely be in a month. We are closely monitoring UNHCR, USG and NGO/IO reports to establish lists of needs. We have already provided antibiotics and other pharmaceuticals to a medical team fielded by Relief International.

OPPORTUNITY INTERNATIONAL

Opportunity International is working with our partners in the Balkans, particularly Macedonia, to provide assistance to client families who have taken in refugees and also to build up and adapt our microcredit programs to meet the rapidly changing needs of poor families in the Balkans.

OXFAM

Setting up a network of water distribution sites at the Albanian and Macedonian borders. Oxfam has delivered 17 tons of water purification equipment to Skopje, and are up and running with water at the refugee camp in Stankovic. Oxfam is also up and running with water for approximately 20,000 people in the town center of Kukes. The Kukes water system can handle about 25,000 people, and there are 125,000 now dependent on it.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is collecting funds to support the work of faith-based agencies directly involved in providing basic humanitarian relief, including food and medicines, clothing, and shelter, to migrating refugees in Albania and other countries in the region.

REFUGEES INTERNATIONAL

As an advocacy agency Refugees International carries out regular field humanitarian missions to the Balkans to identify failures and gaps in the refugee assistance and protection system for the refugees from Kosovo. We then advocate in Washington, New York and European capital for corrective action.

RELIEF INTERNATIONAL

Currently providing emergency medical assistance to the Kosovar refugees in Tirana, Kukes and Korce in Albania. Relief International has identified sanitation/waste management and rapid immunizations as its priority issues. RI has two medical clinics in Kukes and Korce, distributing pharmaceuticals on behalf of WHO. RI is also working with UNICEF on an EPI (Expanded Programme on Immunization) Project. RI intends to expand its health and sanitation programs, serving the most needy in Albania.

SALVATION ARMY

Working in Albania in partnership with local church groups. Food, water, and hygiene items have been provided to refugees in transit near the border of Albania. In addition, 45,000 blankets and 25 tons of clothing have been sent. Fifteen tons of locally baked bread, drinking water, and diapers have been distributed through other agencies. Hot meals are being provided to a camp housing 3,000 people; and other feeding centers are being established to assist Albanian families hosting refugees. Mobile canteens, field kitchens, food, diapers, and other products are being airlifted to Albania which will enable The Salvation Army to greatly increase its capacity to provide assistance.

SAVE THE CHILDREN

With its British, Norwegian, and Danish Alliance partners, Save the Children is responding to the critical needs of Kosovar children and families in Albania and Montenegro. In addition, the organization is expanding its early childhood education program for Kosovar refugee children in Bosnia.

On April 6, 1999, Save the Children's first shipment of supplies since the onset of this most recent conflict safely crossed the border from Bosnia into Montenegro. Headed to the town of Plav, where more than 8,000 refugees await assistance, this 22 ton shipment includes kits of canned meat and fish,

rice, cooking oil, and powdered milk and juice, as well as soap and shampoo. Save the Children also is initiating early childhood education programs in Plav to help restore structure and normalcy to the lives of children affected by this crisis.

On April 12, Save the Children will send by air approximately 40 metric tons of supplies –primarily to assist children in need – to Albania and Macedonia. The shipment will include family kits that contain warm winter clothing for children, hygiene packs with diapers and other supplies, first aid supplies to treat diarrheal disease, and canned baby food.

USA for UNHCR

Accepting financial contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations to support the work of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. The High Commissioner for Refugees is the UN's lead agency for assisting the refugees who have fled from Kosovo. UNHCR at present is coordinating relief among more than 60 non-governmental organizations. The agency's more than 300 officers in the field are monitoring border crossing points, urging host governments to keep borders open, and providing refugees with blankets, tents, personal hygiene items and medicines. UNHCR is also arranging for water purification and distribution among refugees as well as appropriate sanitation facilities. The agency is also conducting a registration of Kosovo refugees who are in camps and transit centers in Macedonia.

U.S. COMMITTEE FOR UNICEF

Collecting funds to support UNICEF activities. A team of teachers and social workers trained by UNICEF are conducting psycho-social programmes for traumatised children as well as education programmes. UNICEF's activities are concentrated on immunization, essential pediatric drugs, baby care supplies, family reunification, education, pre-school care and trauma relief. Implementation of system to reunite unaccompanied children (UAC). Tracing tents have been established in six camps to register separated families. UNICEF is co-ordinating the registration. 150 UAC identified in first three days. Some 500 parents trying to trace missing children have registered. Polaroid cameras and film have been supplied to be used in family reunification efforts. UNICEF's activities cover Albania, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

UNITED METHODIST COMMITTEE ON RELIEF

UMCOR is sending an assessment team at the end of this week to tour the region to determine how to continue and strengthen their response to the refugee crisis in the Balkans. UMCOR has been working with their churches in Macedonia for more than a year to support them in their efforts to respond to the trickle of refugees that is now a flood. UMCOR is also working with the Methodist Church of Italy to respond to the refugees pouring into their country with shelter and food. In Macedonia and Albania, UMCOR is responding through their ecumenical partner ACT (Action by Churches Together). Much of the assistance will be targeted in areas of central Albania where many of the refugees will be transported. Immediate assistance will include food, water, cooking utensils, bedding, tents, medical supplies, and sanitation facilities. In Macedonia and Montenegro, ACT partners are also distributing food and securing shelter for refugees.

UNITED WAY

Will provide funds to partner organizations to support their relief activities.

WORLD CONCERN

Has established a team in Albania to provide food, clothing, shoes, diapers, and hygiene items to refugees through a local (Albanian) partner organization. Similar work is being established in Macedonia. All materiel provided is based on specific requests, so there is a local consignee and it quickly clear the port and reaches those in need. Food is being purchased as nearby as possible in Europe in order to reduce shipping costs and speed the process. One exception is a 3-metric tons shipment of baby formula from Seattle in response to a request made by World Concern's Albanian partners. At least 8 sea containers at 8 metric tons each of clothing, shoes, diapers, baby bottles and blankets are being shipped.

WORLD RELIEF

Staff in Albania are working with the Albanian evangelical churches to provide emergency care items such as food, foam mattresses, pots, pans, cups, plates and blankets to thousands of refugees being housed in churches and private homes throughout the country. World Relief is also providing needed technical expertise to the Albanian Evangelical Alliance, made up of 160 churches, as they operate a refugee transit center for 3,000 people in an outdoor sports stadium in Tirana. World Relief plans to assign a Refugee Protection Officer for six months as a go-between for World Relief, the UNHCR and the Albanian churches. In the long-term, World Relief is considering starting a micro credit project for Kosovars.

WORLD VISION

World Vision's relief program in Montenegro is being expanded to assist the growing number of people displaced from Kosovo. Relief supplies – canned meat, flour, oil, rice, bread, personal care items, diapers and blankets – are being distributed to refugees in the town of Rozaje and elsewhere. World Vision is exploring the feasibility of establishing relief stations along the refugees' transit routes within Montenegro. World Vision's program aiding 75,000 people in Kosovo was suspended on March 21 when heightened tensions forced international staff to evacuate. In Albania, World Vision plans to become operational within the first week of April to assist with the tremendous needs of the refugee population there. World Vision has launched a \$2 million program to fund the relief effort for the refugees from Kosovo in the region.

BACK HOME

FOUNDATION MEETING ON KOSOVO RELIEF

Monday, April 19, 1999

Talking Points

Foundations

- Thank you so much for joining me here today, especially on such short notice. When I realized I had a little time during my schedule of events in New York, I could think of nothing more important than to meet with all of you on the continuing humanitarian crisis in Kosovo. I know many of your colleagues who wanted to be here are already in New Orleans for the Council on Foundations meeting and some of you will be headed there yourselves.
- I hope that this meeting will be a beginning discussion and that in the days and weeks ahead, we will work together on this pressing emergency – what many are describing as the largest *in Europe* refugee exodus since World War II. I am aware that some of you have already supported programs in the region for years; others have come forward in recent weeks as the magnitude of the need has become apparent; and others in the foundation community are exploring an appropriate response for both the short- and long-term.

Situation in Kosovo

- I don't have to tell you what the ethnic Albanians in Kosovo have been enduring at the hands of Slobodan Milosevic. The ethnic cleansing and brutality are a continuation of what we witnessed throughout 1998 when more than 400,000 Kosovars were displaced. These people are being threatened by the oldest problem of human society – our tendency to fear and dehumanize people who are different from ourselves. As the President said on Friday in Detroit, "It is the harshest example at the moment of what we have seen from Bosnia to Rwanda and beyond."
- Milosevic is attempting to expel the entire ethnic Albanian population in Kosovo. There is evidence of mass killings; unfathomable atrocities, including brutal expulsions, rape, looting of homes, burning of towns and villages; new reports of the planting of land mines along Yugoslavia's border with Albania, and; the destruction of all family records so there can be no trace of their history in Kosovo.
- <May want to insert here remarks about your meeting with Kosovar women.>
- Over half a million Kosovars have fled or been deported from Kosovo and there are large numbers of people searching for food and shelter. We are concerned about reports in the last couple of days of additional displacements within Kosovo.

U.S. Response

- Over the last year, we have provided \$150 million to support displaced Kosovars and the President will be submitting an emergency supplemental budget request to include substantial funds for humanitarian efforts to support civilian organizations and NATO's military and humanitarian effort in Macedonia. There are currently 8,000 troops providing humanitarian assistance to the refugees in Albania. We are also airlifting tons of emergency food relief to refugee communities. (Reference trip to Dover.)
- The military is also in the process of beginning construction of a facility in Albania for up to 20,000 refugees. USAID and Julia Taft's office are closely involved in this project with the military.
- To facilitate and coordinate our assistance to the refugees, the President has established a coordinating council composed of USAID, the State Department, the Defense Department, and FEMA, which is overseeing private U.S. donations.

NGO Role

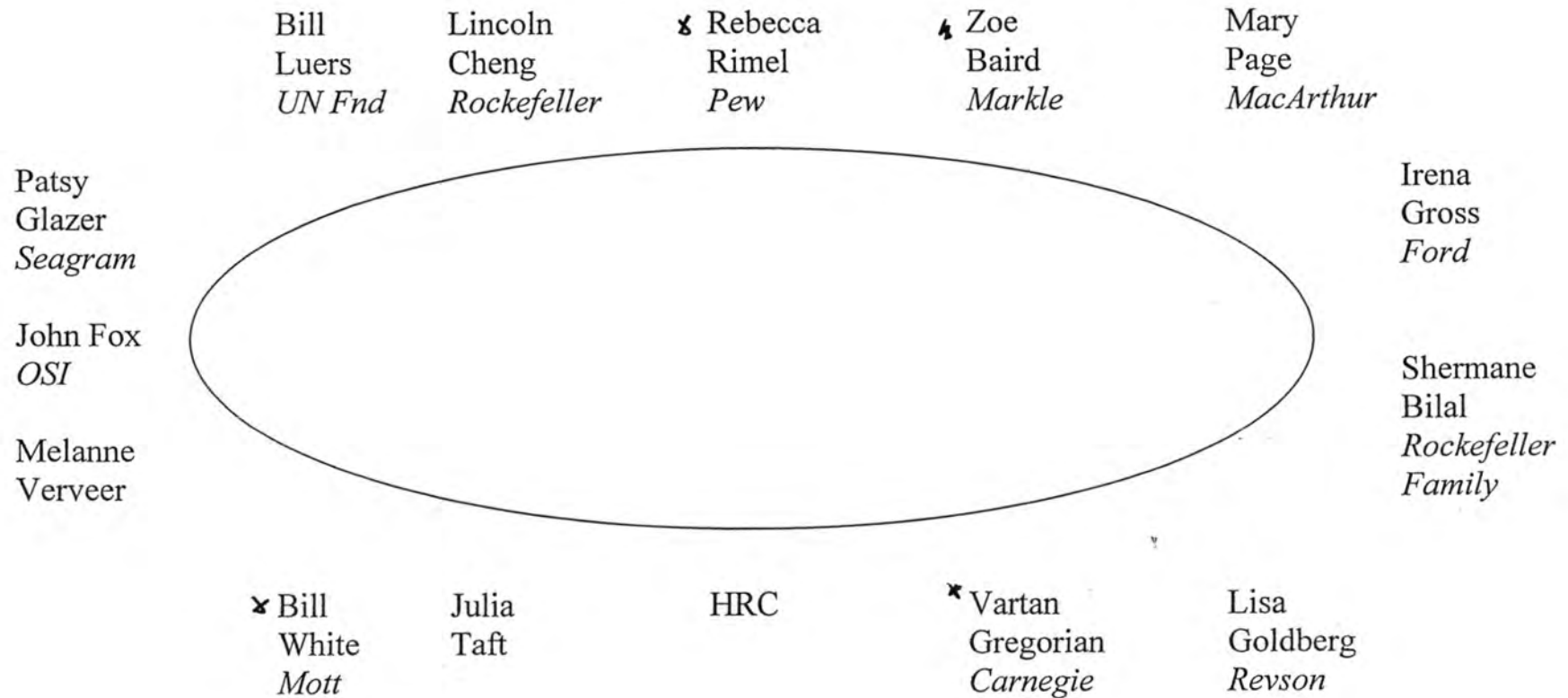
- NGOs are currently on the frontlines of the crisis and need the assistance of all of us. They are doing heroic work on a range of humanitarian needs – supplying refugee camps, assisting in food distribution, water purification and the construction of sanitation facilities. They are providing medical care, vaccinations, trauma counseling and special activities for children. Some organizations are also making efforts at establishing a registration system – many refugees were stripped of their identification papers – as well as a family reunification system and telephone access to contact relatives.

Conclusion

- The scale of the need is tremendous. The most useful assistance we can provide at this time is to fund the NGOs working on the frontlines. Foundations have always understood and supported the critical work of NGOs. InterAction has established a consortium to support U.S. NGOs working in the Balkans.
- Introduce Julia Taft, then open discussion to other participants.

FOUNDATION MEETING ON KOSOVO RELIEF
Monday, April 19, 1999

Seating Chart



Press Guidance on Humanitarian Relief
April 16, 1999

Q: What are we doing to assist refugees?

- Humanitarian situation on the ground in both Macedonia and Albania continues to improve, although recent increases in refugee outflow from Kosovo poses new challenges.
- NATO allies have approved Allied Harbor, under which over 8000 troops, including 2000 US military personnel, will provide humanitarian assistance to refugees in Albania, including managing air operations, transporting and distributing humanitarian supplies and, as needed, providing security for humanitarian assistance activities.
- In Macedonia, NATO is working closely with UNHCR and NGOs to hand over camp administration responsibilities, but will remain on hand to help handle additional out-flows.
- The US has provided \$150 million to the relief effort. We are bringing 1.1 million humanitarian daily rations for refugees. Over the past three weeks, we have delivered humanitarian daily rations, blankets, tents, plastic sheeting, hygiene kits, water bladders and water containers.
- The President has also directed the Department of Defense to establish facilities in Albania for up to 20,000 refugees. These will be "cluster facilities" of not more than 2,500 people each. DoD will be consulting with the Government of Albania, international organizations such as UNHCR and other U.S. agencies on where these should be located.

Q: More refugees are leaving FRY. Are we prepared to handle a growing refugee crisis?

- FRY forces are continuing their campaign to forcibly dispel the ethnic Albanian population from Kosovo. We understand that 12,000 refugees have crossed into Macedonia, Albania and Montenegro in the past day. Underscores the need to proceed with our campaign to destroy Milosevic's capability to wage war on the civilian population .

- Over the past week, NATO and the relief agencies have been improving the camps that NATO set up in Macedonia and have been able to make sure that food and relief supplies reached the refugees. As a result the condition of the refugees has improved. In Albania, U.S. military personnel and our allies are operating an airbridge to move relief supplies to the northern areas (Kukesh).
- The new influxes are being incorporated into the existing camps. At the same time, our field personnel are working with UNHCR to identify new sites for refugees. We also continue to bring in humanitarian daily rations and will bring in additional relief supplies this week, including tents, plastic sheeting, blankets, hygiene kits, water bladders and water jugs.
- We remain open to bringing up to 20,000 refugees to the U.S. Guantanamo is prepared to host 500 immediately and can be upgraded to accommodate more.
- (If asked - We have not precluded the use of Guantanamo as a transit point for bringing refugees into the U.S.)

What can foundations do to help?

- The scale of the need is tremendous, so anything that can be done to help is critical.
- We believe that the most useful assistance is that which goes to the NGOs carrying out on-the-ground relief efforts in the frontline states.
- You can obtain more information about these groups by calling 1-800-USAID-RELIEF.
- One useful consortium to consult with is Interaction, which is located in Washington, DC.



Noa A. Meyer

04/14/99 08:00:45 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: HRC column 4/15/99

TALKING IT OVER

BY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 1999, AND THEREAFTER

"Fifty-four years ago, to the day, a young Jewish boy from a small town in the Carpathian Mountains woke up in a place of eternal infamy called Buchenwald. He was finally free, but there was no joy in his heart. He thought there never would be again."

So began the remarks of Holocaust survivor and Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel at the Seventh Millennium Evening at the White House Monday night, "The Perils of Indifference: Lessons Learned From a Violent Century."

He went on to describe his reaction to the U.S. troops who freed him from the horrors of the concentration camp: "Liberated a day earlier by American soldiers, he remembers their rage at what they saw. And even if he lives to be a very old man, he will always be grateful to them for that rage and also for their compassion. Though he did not understand their language, their eyes told him what he needed to know: that they too would remember and bear witness."

I asked Elie Wiesel to participate in a Millennium lecture more than a year ago. I never could have imagined then that, this week, as people all over the world mark Yom Hashoah -- the day set aside to remember the Holocaust -- we would be seeing children in Kosovo crowded onto trains, separated from their homes and families, and robbed of their childhoods.

How could this be happening again?

The Millennium lecture series is intended to offer us an opportunity to look back on our past and use it as a guide when imagining the future. Our previous evenings have been celebrations of American history, culture and scientific discoveries.

But in order to honor the past, we must learn from it. We must look not just at our noblest achievements but also at our greatest failings. When we choose the path of indifference, we ignore the lessons of the past.

Elie Wiesel understands the horrors that spring from indifference, and he has dedicated his life to bearing witness to them, lest they be repeated. Indifference can be tempting, he warns, even seductive. He senses our reticence and our hesitation: "It can be much easier to look away from victims, to avoid such rude interruptions to our work, our dreams, our hopes. It is, after all, awkward, troublesome, to be involved in another's pain and despair."

But, he explains, "Indifference is always the friend of the enemy. For it benefits the aggressor, never his victim, whose pain is magnified when he feels forgotten. The political prisoners in their cells, the hungry children, the homeless refugees -- not to respond to their plight, not to relieve their solitude by offering them a spark of hope is to exile them from human memory. And in denying their humanity, we betray our own. Indifference, then, is not only sin but also punishment."

In 1999, it isn't enough to refuse to commit crimes against humanity. It isn't enough to look deep into our hearts and say we find them free of hatred. We have to do more. Every time we let a religious or racial slur go unchallenged, or an indignity go unanswered, we are making a choice to be indifferent. We are making a choice to ignore history -- a choice that punishes not just us but our children as well.

This is why we are in Kosovo.

If we choose indifference when we see people forced from their homes at gunpoint and loaded onto train cars, we punish not just them but ourselves. If we choose indifference when we see their identity papers confiscated, their very presence blotted from the historical record, we become the friend of the enemy.

The President knows that any military action we take cannot put an end to ancient grudges or heal freshly opened wounds overnight. But our action can make it more likely that people will resolve their differences by force of argument rather than by force of arms and, in so doing, will learn to live together.

When Elie Wiesel accepted the Nobel Peace Prize, he remembered many years before asking his father how the world could have remained silent. And he imagined that same young boy asking him today, "What have you done with my future? What have you done with your life?" I would tell him, Elie says, that I have tried to keep memory alive and that I have tried to fight those who would forget.

This is what Elie Wiesel has done. He has taught us never to forget. He has made us listen to the victims of hatred and evil. He has helped us understand the perils of indifference.

To find out more about Hillary Rodham Clinton and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS

News

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THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS, GATES FOUNDATION PROVIDE \$2.5 MILLION TO AID VICTIMS OF KOSOVO

PHILADELPHIA, PA--April 1, 1999--The Pew Charitable Trusts and the William H. Gates Foundation announced today that they are giving \$2.5 million in emergency grants to help hundreds of thousands of ethnic Albanians who have been forced to flee their homeland by Serbian troops.

"This is a terrible human tragedy for the refugees of Kosovo. The William H. Gates Foundation hopes that by supporting this initiative it will enable organizations such as CARE, the Red Cross and the International Rescue Committee to move quickly to provide food and shelter," said Bill Gates Sr., director of the William H. Gates Foundation. "This is only a beginning because longer-term recovery efforts will be needed to help people reestablish their lives."

"The catastrophe unfolding in the Balkans will require a special level of compassion," said Rebecca W. Rimel, president and CEO of The Pew Charitable Trusts. "We hope that our contributions will inspire others to join with us to ease the suffering of the Kosovar refugees."

Historians and other analysts are claiming that the refugee exodus out of Kosovo is the largest since World War II.

The Pew and Gates Foundation funds will help to provide immediate assistance such as food, water, blankets, medicine, temporary shelter and aid for other basic human needs. The William H. Gates Foundation is contributing \$1.5 million to the relief effort, and The Pew Charitable Trusts are contributing \$1 million.

The American Red Cross and CARE, two of the world's largest international relief organizations, each are receiving \$850,000 to bring relief to refugees, mostly women and children with little more than the clothes on their backs. The International Rescue Committee, one of the leading nonprofit organizations providing protection and resettlement services for refugees, will receive \$800,000.

--more--

For more information regarding the organizations' activities in response to the Kosovo refugee disaster, call the American Red Cross International Response Fund at 1-800-HELP-NOW, CARE at 800.521.2273 (www.redcross.org) or the International Rescue Committee at 212.551.3000 (www.intrescom.org).

The Red Cross, CARE and the International Rescue Committee are long-standing partners of The Pew Charitable Trusts. The first grant made by the Trusts, in 1948, was to the southeastern Pennsylvania chapter of the American Red Cross to support disaster relief following a flood in Pennsylvania. Since that time, Pew has provided millions of dollars to support the work of relief organizations.

The Pew Charitable Trusts support nonprofit activities in culture, education, the environment, health and human services, public policy and religion. Based in Philadelphia, the Trusts make strategic investments to help organizations and citizens develop practical solutions to difficult problems. In 1998, with approximately \$4.7 billion in assets, the Trusts invested more than \$213 million in 298 nonprofit organizations.

The William H. Gates Foundation gives to initiatives in world health and population, education, and community giving in the Northwest and to special projects such as this from time to time.

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OLCOTT_E@A1

04/16/99 03:45:00 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: 1999-4/16 POTUS remarks to humanitarian/relief organizations

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Dearborn, Michigan)

For Immediate Release

April 16, 1999

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO HUMANITARIAN RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS

Roseville Recreation Center
Dearborn, Michigan

3:11 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you, Dean, for your work and your introduction. Mr. Mayor, thank you for making us feel welcome. I'd like to thank Hattie Babbitt and James Lee Witt, Eric Schwartz, and the other members of our humanitarian team at the federal government level for being here with me today.

I thought the Youth Choir was magnificent. I think we should give them another hand. Thank you. (Applause.) I'd like to thank the members of the Michigan delegation who are here -- Congressman Dingell -- we just left his district; Congressman Levin, Congressman Kildee; Congresswoman Stabenow. I thank Congressman Patrick Kennedy from Rhode Island who has joined us today, and a special word of thanks to our leader, Dick Gephardt; and to your Congressman, Dave Bonior, for their leadership and support in this important endeavor.

I know many people here have very strong feelings about the conflict in Kosovo. In a moment I will meet with a few families who have relatives there. Later tonight, 50 reservists from the area will go to France to support Allied Force. I'm going from here to Selfridge International Guard Base to thank the people there for their service to America and the cause of peace.

The Detroit area has a large number of Albanian Americans, roughly

40,000. Many here today are from here, in Roseville, from Armada, from other communities in the region. Many of you have loved ones in Kosovo -- relatives, friends, kicked out of their homes under pain of death. Our hearts and our prayers, our aid and our arms are with you today.

But I also want to point out, so as to make the larger

point of my remarks, that America is proud to be the home to a large community of Serbian Americans, many of them living in the midwest -- Michigan, Ohio, other places. I believe overwhelmingly they want a democratic Serbia that is a part of Europe, not apart from it. I say that because I think it is very important that the American people not develop some negative feeling or bias against Serbian Americans, or even the Serbian people themselves, because most of them don't even know what has been done in their name in Kosovo, because the state-run media has covered it up. I say that to make the larger point.

We just came, as I said, from a meeting in Representative Dingell's district where we had Albanian Americans who were inside meeting with me, and Serbian Americans who were outside demonstrating against me. And I said that was good, because that was the American way. That is not Mr. Milosevic's way. And that's the point I want to make. Our quarrel is not with the Serbs in Serbia, it is not with the Serbs in Kosovo, it is not with Serbian Americans; it is with the leadership of a person who believes it is all right to kill people and to uproot them and to destroy their family records and to erase any record of their presence in a land simply because of their ethnic heritage.

Most, but not all, are Muslims. So there is an element of religious conflict here as well. But it is not entirely that. And as I have said repeatedly, and I'd like to say one more time, the battle we see in Kosovo today is the harshest example at the moment of what we have seen in Bosnia, what we saw in the slaughter, the tribal slaughter in Rwanda, what we see in the still-unresolved, but hopefully about to be resolved conflict in Northern Ireland, what we see in the Middle East. We have come to the end of the Cold War. People, by and large, have rejected communism. And we now see the prospect of a bright new future for the world in which we can resolve our differences in an orderly way and build a common future -- that future threatened by the oldest problem of human society, our tendency to fear and dehumanize people who are different from ourselves.

And that is why the United States is in Kosovo. That, and the fact that the practical significance of that war there could spread across all the Balkans, all of Southeast Europe, and threaten everything we want for our children in the 21st century world.

I have been very moved by the response of the American people to this crisis. Our men and women in uniform have performed superbly. So many thousands of Americans have donated money and supplies. I was telling our folks before we came in, right after Easter Sunday the minister at the church that Hillary and I attend in Washington called and said, just on the spur of the moment he had called for an Easter offering for the refugees.

And without any prior announcement in a church that is largely quite a middle class church, he raised \$15,000. And he was so proud of that.

Mr. Witt just told me about a person calling in to our 1-800 number and pledging \$1,000, and then calling the next day and said that he'd wrestled with it all night long and he realized he hadn't given enough and he wanted to give another \$1,000. So the heart of America has been engaged by this.

Many hardworking Americans have lent their time and energy to provide food and shelter. Some work for international organizations, like the Red Cross; some work for small NGOs and local charities, including some of the Albanian American groups represented here today. Some are affiliated with the United States military or NATO, who are also working very hard on the humanitarian issues now.

We in the United States, through our government, have contributed \$150 million to humanitarian relief since last year. We've sent more troops to Albania and Macedonia to distribute supplies. We provide now over a million daily rations, over 50,000 blankets, 1,000 tents, tens of thousands of water jugs because dehydration is a terrible, terrible problem now.

I have directed our Defense Department to build a new refugee facility in Albania for up to 20,000 people, to help preserve lives, health, in hope of return. We will do the most we can also to make sure that the innocent families trapped within Kosovo do not go hungry, unprotected or forgotten.

You know, this is a sad chapter, as was Bosnia, in an otherwise remarkable period of Europe in the last decade of this century: the fall of the Berlin Wall; the peaceful reunification of Germany; the enlargement of NATO to include Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic; our partnerships with Russia, Ukraine and two dozen other countries; the increasing unification of Western Europe economically and politically. It all gave us the chance on the continent where the two world wars began to build a Europe that was peaceful, undivided and at peace for the first time in history.

And as I said, it is truly ironic that as we look toward a future where we want every classroom connected to the Internet, all the peoples of the world drawing closer together culturally and economically, that this entire vision is threatened by the most primitive of all human weaknesses: the fear and the tendency to hate those who are different from ourselves.

Now, this is a challenge we still face within the United States. The Mayor of Detroit said at our previous meeting that in Wayne County there are over 150 different languages spoken -- 140 different languages and ethnic groups. Michigan looks very different than it did when Mr. Dingell first went to Congress over 40 years ago. Macomb County looks different than it did when people said in the 1980s that it was the mirror image of emerging America. It probably is, but in a very different way today.

Mr. Bonior, himself, has Ukrainian and Polish roots. In this congressional district, you have not only those who are here, you have Italian Americans, Belgian Americans, Asian Americans, African Americans, Latinos. We

have to say to ourselves as well as to the rest of the world, that there will be a great contest for the next several years between the forces bringing us together and the forces tearing us apart; between our commitment to empower people and those who would suppress them; between the idea that we can only find unity with people who are just like us and the idea that life is richer in every way -- not just materially -- when people can celebrate their own convictions and their own ethnic heritage and their own religious faiths, and still reaffirm their common humanity and draw up a set of rules which permit us all to live together, to pursue our faith and pursue our humanity. (Applause.)

That is why we are in Kosovo, and that is why we must work here at home.

Now, I just want to make one other point. I tried to make it yesterday to the newspaper editors in San Francisco and I want you here who have roots in the region to support our elected officials and to remind us of this. For the moment, we are caught up in a conflict in which we have clear objectives: we want the refugees back in; we want the Serbian forces out; we want an international security force to protect the people, including the Serb minority in Kosovo, as they work toward self-determination. Our objectives are clear and for the moment we must focus on that.

But we must be thinking about tomorrow -- the tomorrow when the conflict is over, the tomorrow when the Kosovars are home. Now, what kind of future do we want? Do we want a future where every ethnic group is confined in smaller and smaller and denser and denser pieces of land, and then, just to be secure, they must be a separate country? Or do we want a future in the Balkans and in Southeastern Europe where they can do what we are struggling to do here in America, where, yes, people can have their own heritage and their own faith and their own traditions, but they are a part of a larger effort to share a bigger future?

I think the answer is clear. If you want people to give up the misery of yesterday, you must give them the hope of a better tomorrow. And that is what we have to focus on. After World War II, that's what we did for Germany, our adversary, as well as France and Great Britain, our allies. After the Cold War, we reached out to Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic with economic and other aid. We reached out to Ukraine and to Russia to try to help to deal with the nuclear problems, to try to help them get started again. And if you look at the success of Central Europe, it's hard to say that it wasn't the right decision.

But if you look at the Balkans and Bulgaria, Romania, Slovenia, if you look at all these countries in Southeastern Europe, we have to say when the fighting is over and the Kosovars go home, what will Albanians, Serbs, Bosnians, Macedonians -- how will they live? What will they do? What happens the next day? Will we have another decade where people carry around all this hatred in their heart and every time they turn a corner in every little village, they look to see who lives on this corner and what they did to them? Or will we challenge them and help them to be involved in a bigger, brighter future?

So I ask you, all of you here today, who have been so involved in this,

we must do for Southeastern Europe, including the Balkans, what was done for Central Europe after the Cold War, and for the battleground nations of Europe after World War II.

This is our competing vision. Mr. Milosevic's vision -- greater Serbia, enforced by paramilitary thugs and propaganda, denying the humanity of people who do not fall within his ethnic group. But our version is democracy -- messy sometimes, yes; votes and arguments and disagreements and demonstrations and religious differences and ethnic differences -- but recognizing that it is better to work together for a brighter tomorrow because, underneath, our common humanity is more important than anything that divides us; that we are all the children of God. And it is hard to imagine that God would have ordained the construction of any religion or political philosophy which would justify the extinction of another of God's children simply because of their religious, racial or ethnic background. It is a very simple statement. (Applause.)

So I thank you for being here. I thank you for your loyalty to your loved ones back home. I ask you to help me in making sure that in this difficult period we do not diminish the humanity of any group of Americans, including the Serbian Americans; that we go out there and tell the world what we're trying to fight for is the fundamental dignity and integrity of all people, and a system of democracy and cooperation which gives all of our children a better tomorrow.

Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

3:29 P.M. EDT

Message Sent To: _____

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THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS

News

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The Red Cross, CARE and the International Rescue Committee are long-standing partners of The Pew Charitable Trusts. The first grant made by the Trusts, in 1948, was to the southeastern Pennsylvania chapter of the American Red Cross to support disaster relief following a flood in Pennsylvania. Since that time, Pew has provided millions of dollars to support the work of relief organizations.

The Pew Charitable Trusts support nonprofit activities in culture, education, the environment, health and human services, public policy and religion. Based in Philadelphia, the Trusts make strategic investments to help organizations and citizens develop practical solutions to difficult problems. In 1998, with approximately \$4.7 billion in assets, the Trusts invested more than \$213 million in 298 nonprofit organizations.

The William H. Gates Foundation gives to initiatives in world health and population, education, and community giving in the Northwest and to special projects such as this from time to time.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Dearborn, Michigan)

For Immediate Release

April 16, 1999

PRESS BRIEFING BY
FEMA DIRECTOR JAMES LEE WITT,
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR OF AID HATTIE BABBITT, AND
SENIOR DIRECTOR FOR MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS FOR NSC ERIC SCHWARTZ

Roseville Recreation Center
Dearborn, Michigan

12:01 P.M. EDT

COLONEL CROWLEY: Good morning. In advance of the President's arrival here, for the next few minutes before he begins his remarks downtown, we thought we'd use the opportunity to bring some of our humanitarian experts in to give you kind of a preview of -- a review of where we are with the humanitarian situation on the ground, the importance of the humanitarian efforts that are being ginned up here in Detroit and elsewhere around the country, and then how that assistance will get to where it needs to be on the ground in places like Albania, Macedonia, the frontline states that are dealing with the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

So we have three briefers for you: Eric Schwartz will start off. He's the Senior Director for Multilateral Affairs at the National Security Council. He'll be followed by Hattie Babbitt, the Deputy Administrator of AID; and then James Lee Witt, the Director of FEMA. So, starting off, Eric Schwartz.

MR. SCHWARTZ: Thanks, PJ. We've all read the reports and the stories of the forced marches, the killings for which Slobodan Milosevic is responsible. What we've seen over the past month is really -- three weeks -- is really a continuation of what we saw throughout 1998, when more than 400,000 Kosovars

were displaced in one manner or another.

The U.S. from the start has been strongly behind the humanitarian assistance effort to try to address the suffering that Milosevic has created. Over the past year we've done about \$150 million in assistance to displaced Kosovars. And the President's supplemental budget request will include substantial additions in the humanitarian area. This is to aid both civilian

organizations like the United Nations High Commission of Refugees, as well as the NATO military and humanitarian effort, which is ongoing in both Macedonia and Albania.

In addition to our own efforts, the U.S. military has performed tremendous service, and will continue to do so. We're in the process of -- beginning construction of facilities for refugees in Albania. The U.S. military is beginning barge transport from Ancona, Italy, into Albania. We will be providing sheeting, blankets, hygiene kits, water, tanks and tents. So both the U.S. military and the Agency for International Development and the State Department Refugee Bureau are all deeply engaged in the effort.

Critical, especially here in Detroit, the non-governmental organizations have been partners in this effort. The President will see them today, right here. And that is a critical element in our overall approach in responding to the humanitarian disaster. And in that respect, we are especially concerned over the past several days not only about the reports of the internally displaced within Kosovo who continue to suffer -- we estimate that there may be several hundred thousand or more inside -- as well as reports over the past 24 hours of additional displacement out of Kosovo. Over the past 24 hours, about 12,000 Kosovars are believed to have fled Kosovo into neighboring countries including Macedonia and Albania.

The President established a coordination council to address this issue, and today we have representatives of two agencies on that council. Brian Atwood, our AID Administrator, is the director, is the chairman of the council, and his deputy, Hattie Babbitt, the Deputy Administrator of AID is here and she will speak to you in a minute. And after Hattie, James Lee Witt, another member of the council, the Director of FEMA. And I think it's especially here in Michigan where there are private voluntary organizations and so much private citizen concern, I think the work that Director Witt and FEMA has done in coordinating the effort of private citizens who want to assist in the humanitarian effort really has been groundbreaking, and we want to offer our most sincere thanks and appreciation to FEMA in this effort.

But before we hear from Director Witt, let me introduce Hattie Babbitt who will talk for the Agency for International Development. We'll be able to take questions after the remarks.

Hattie.

MS. BABBITT: Thank you very much. I'm Deputy Director of USAID. USAID is the home for OFDA, the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance

and coordinates a lot of the nongovernmental

organization and governmental work that goes on in places like Albania and Macedonia. I thought it might be helpful to you to give you some examples of the kinds of things that we're going to be facing in the future. Everybody's read all of your stories about what we're facing now. Eric talked about new refugees coming across the border; that's, of course, one of the things we've been planning for is new influxes, how will those people be handled in the context of the already very crowded camps and conditions, particularly in Albania.

The other issue that will arise, I predict, we are planning for and will certainly be of concern in the near, medium and long-term future are those refugees who are not in the camps who are so visible to everyone, but those who are housed in homes, both in Albania and in Macedonia.

One of the facts about this region is that it is the poorest part of Europe. If you look at the per capita GDP in Albania and Macedonia, it's roughly the per capita GDP of Haiti and significantly below the per capita GDP of Honduras and Nicaragua, the next two poorest countries in our hemisphere. So these are extraordinarily challenged countries, even without these massive influxes of refugees.

The way that the international community handles some of that with host families is to provide mostly through the World Food Program, but through all sorts of NGOs as well. Food and provisions -- wheat, sugar, cooking oil, some beans, perhaps, cheese, additional kinds of food to help with the very tight food supply. You've all seen the influx of blankets and so forth. Those don't just go to camps, they also go to these very generous host families who often will have ten or 15 additional people in their two very small rooms.

The status that I can give you is that we have a DART team in both countries -- those are Disaster Assistance Response Teams -- which go in, and they are very experienced people. The DART team leader in Macedonia is a smoke jumper from Boise, Idaho. These are people who are accustomed to sort of managing camps and managing emergency situations. The DART team leader in Albania is also a very experienced one, and what they do is go in and assess how best under very, very stretched circumstances to move commodities.

Moving commodities in a situation like Albania or in Macedonia is extraordinarily difficult, and those are the folks who decide which NGO has the capacity -- they get bids, they get requests from NGOs and they make an analysis of who is best at camp management, who can best provide additional food, who can best provide additional shelter, who can best coordinate measles and polio vaccinations, who can best provide sanitation, a huge issue.

The sanitation issues up in the Kukes area in Albania I think are a good example. It's no place you want to be, but in fact, we've made enormous progress in recent days in building pit latrines and doing those kinds of things that provide for sanitation under these very taxing circumstances.

What I'd like to do now is pass the microphone on to James Lee Witt that -- he will explain just how extraordinary this partnership is. You all have

heard how NATO has stepped in to help deal with the logistics in Albania and Macedonia. That's a very unusual thing. That was necessitated by the enormous numbers of people coming across the border at once.

The handoff from NATO to the NGOs should be completed sometime next week if the level of refugees remains pretty much the same. If it increases, we'll have to reevaluate exactly how fast that handoff takes. There are NGOs that are very experienced at camp management; CARE out of Atlanta is one of them. But if the circumstances remain more or less stable, we would anticipate a handoff next week. If we don't remain more or less stable, then we'll reevaluate that need.

Another extraordinary part about this has been the very close collaboration that James Lee Witt has offered from FEMA. I'll let him describe that to you, but these are extraordinary circumstances and this is a steadfast national and international team that's working together to approach it.

James Lee.

MR. WITT: Thanks, Hattie. And good afternoon. FEMA's role in the support of the Kosovar refugees is to coordinate the U.S. donations in support of USAID. We have operators that are on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, that are taking donations calls. And what's really amazing is the stories that they are hearing from the people that are calling.

We've taken over 31,000 calls, and it's -- 95 percent of the calls want to make a cash donation to the volunteer organizations that are working in Kosovo for -- or around Kosovo for those refugees and supporting those volunteer organizations.

We have a list of the organizations that Interaction has provided to us, supporting the efforts with USAID. And we will go through that list until someone selects an organization and makes a donation. But what's interesting, one gentleman called; he made a \$1,000 donation to the organization that he selected. The next day he called back and said, I was thinking about this and I don't think that \$1,000 was enough. I want to contribute another \$1,000.

One lady called and said, I want to give \$500 to CARE. Then she said, no, make it \$1,000. One gentleman called and said, I've been up all night long worrying about these refugees, seeing their pictures on television, and I just wanted to call to make a donation to help the effort.

It is overwhelming. The organizations are trying to get us the numbers now so we can share them with you, what the American people have contributed so far. And some of them have said it's been -- they have received now more than they received in the entire response to Hurricane Mitch.

So the American people are responding in an overwhelming way. Some want to give -- some want to be connected where they could be a foster home for a whole family, if they could adopt a family or a child temporarily until they could go back home. Corporations have called wanting to donate huge medical supplies. And then we get them in contact with USAID and also the volunteer organizations doing that type of relief so it can support the effort.

So we're very pleased to be able to work and help the effort. It's

1-800-USAID-Relief. They can go to the Internet with WWW.Interaction.Org. And what's really interesting is 60 percent of the calls have connection to the Internet and have been going to the web page looking up the organizations as well. Schoolchildren have called. They are taking up donations and pick out a volunteer organization they want to contribute to.

So it's very overwhelming to all of us, the amount of aid and the calls that we're getting. Our operators are on duty seven days a week, 24 hours a day. And I was out there Saturday visiting with our operators that are taking these calls, and you should have seen the spirit that they have in talking to all of these people calling. And they, themselves, are overwhelmed with gratitude for what the American people are doing.

So I guess we'll be happy to take any of your questions.

Q The 31,000 calls -- what time period?

MR. WITT: Most of the calls are in the daytime or in the late afternoon. Quite a few calls are late at night, different shifts of people getting off work.

Q You mentioned money in the supplemental for refugees. How much in the supplemental or what portion of the supplemental will be for humanitarian assistance?

MR. SCHWARTZ: I think that's for others to tell you in terms of exact numbers. But what I can say is the President has made it clear to all of us that our response on the humanitarian side must be adequate, generous, and must meet the critical needs -- or at least must meet our fair share of the critical needs.

Q What about a dollar figure --

MR. SCHWARTZ: As a general matter, the U.S. share of the international relief efforts has been in the neighborhood, traditionally, on the civilian side, civilian relief efforts of 20 to 25 percent, usually on the upper end of 25 percent.

Q Out of the supplemental figure?

MR. SCHWARTZ: I think we'll just have to wait and see, precisely. I think, clearly, it will be a not insignificant amount, but I don't want to get into any level of detail.

Q Can you give us a ballpark figure -- because 20 or 25 percent of the number -- we don't know what the number is.

MR. SCHWARTZ: No, no, when I say 20 to 25 percent, I'm talking about the U.S. In international relief efforts, this is a multilateral relief response. And when the United States participates in multilateral relief responses as a general matter, we contribute to civilian relief efforts up to 25 percent of the international total. And as we have put together our thinking

relating to the supplemental, that percentage has guided our thinking.

Q Of the 31,000 calls -- from what period of time?

Q What day to what day?

Q What period of time?

Q Two days? A week?

MR. WITT: This coming Tuesday will be two weeks.

Q Do you know who the President is meeting with now? Do you know exactly who the President is meeting with now?

MR. WITT: At this moment? I do not know at this moment.

Q What are the humanitarian groups for the Albanian Americans that he is meeting with?

MR. WITT: My understanding, there are several different volunteer organizations that are working the humanitarian effort that are going to be here today.

Q -- in this list?

MR. WITT: I do not have the list.

MR. SCHWARTZ: We'll get it for you.

Q What's the average donation from the private -- the cash donations you said?

MR. WITT: One corporation that we linked up with the volunteer organization that they wanted to contribute to was \$100,000.

Q -- internal refugees? The President indicated earlier this week in the Rose Garden that within a couple of days there would be a plan to try and assist these people. Is there?

MR. SCHWARTZ: This is an issue which is being worked actively by a range of countries, as well as the North Atlantic Council of NATO has looked at this issue and explored a range of options. The options for getting food to the displaced in Kosovo are not many. And ultimately, we're prepared to support efforts of private volunteer organizations and appropriate international organizations to try to get food and medicine in. We think, under current circumstances, from our side, that is something that is feasible to do, but it needs the acquiescence or the permission of the Serb authorities, and it needs the agreement of the Serb authorities not to go after civilians, civilian relief deliverers, and the recipients of relief. And that agreement from the Serb authorities is, as yet, forthcoming. We haven't gotten that.

Q -- discussions --

MR. SCHWARTZ: Discussions are taking place on a number of different fronts on that issue, yes. International organizations as well as private volunteer organizations.

Q -- about Michigan and why are you all here today? Is there anything unique about Michigan's efforts?

MR. WITT: I think part of the distinction here is there is a large Albanian population in this area, and also there is considerable relief efforts from the Albanians in this area working with the relief organizations to support the effort.

MS. BABBITT: The only thing I would add to that is the President spoke about Kosovo yesterday in San Francisco; he will be speaking about it today. And he will use opportunities during domestic travel to speak about this issue. And he was in Detroit for other reasons today as well.

MR. SCHWARTZ: Let me also say that the President met a couple of days ago with representatives of the Serbian American community as well. This is -- our efforts are not directed at any nationalities, directed at the policies of Slobodan Milosevic, and in fact, had quite a good meeting in many respects with the Serbian Americans, we understand.

For example, the United States has -- we have provided substantial assistance to displaced Serbs in Serbia, displaced in the Bosnian conflict. So we believe that humanitarian assistance should go to displaced civilians wherever they are, and that is an important part of our overall approach.

Q Would you say that the amount of the donations is unprecedented? Because you said it was bigger than Mitch.

MR. WITT: Some of the volunteer organizations that we're working with, we have gone out to them to try to get a number since we've been doing this, supporting them. They're looking at those now, but they have come back and said that the contributions since we started -- one major organization has received over \$1.5 million; one newer organization just getting started has received \$75,000; one has received already half the amount that they received in the entire Mitch fundraising effort. One organization has raised as much as they did for Mitch, and recently had their most successful fundraising day in its 20-year history.

So it's really, truly an overwhelming response to this. A major brokerage firm is donating \$100,000 to three Interaction members, having learned about the organizations over the Internet, the web site. So it's -- they've responded extremely well and we're very proud of the effort.

MS. BABBITT: The only thing I would add to that is that the First Lady has done a public service announcement which will talk about Kosovo, refer people to 1-800-USAID-Relief, and when they call that number they will get the telephone operators that James Lee Witt has talked about. So we are continuing with this, with the First Lady's help. And they will show the PSA later today as part of this.

COLONEL CROWLEY: I think we have the PSA to air for you right away. I think there is a paper floating around that has some specific representation on the relief organizations here in the Detroit area that will be represented at the event today, including Southeastern Chapter of the American Red Cross; the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit; the Roseville Salvation Army; Mercy International USA; Life for Relief and Development; the Catholic Relief Services, Detroit Archdiocese; the Albanian Islamic Center; and Church World Service, CROP.

But there is a paper, has a little background on each of these organizations. So we'll go ahead with the PSA now.

Q When did this start airing, the PSA? Is this brand new? Today.

MS. BABBITT: But it is up on satellite as of 1:30 p.m. Eastern Standard.

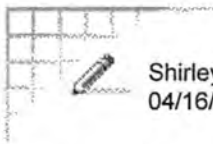
Q Where is it running?

COLONEL CROWLEY: I'm going to hand out a press release with all the details. There are, roughly, I think 40,000 Albanian Americans in the Detroit area. So one of the reasons why -- you have such a concentration of Albanian Americans here in the Detroit, ergo, quite naturally, a great community effort to try to support the relief organizations that are helping provide the necessary supplies overseas.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END 12:40 P.M. EDT

Message Sent To: _____



Shirley S. Sagawa
04/16/99 04:59:14 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Katharine Button/WHO/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: Update for Melanne, revised revised

Yes

Lisa Goldberg, Revson 212-935-3340
Shermane Bilal (and maybe Wade Green, Rockefeller Family office) 212-649-5614
Patsy Glazer (Seagrams, per Lisa Goldberg) 212-572-7928
MacArthur (either Mitch Wallerstein, Dan Martin, or Mary Page, with Global Security) 312-917-0208

Maybe *✓ \$50,000 to Drs. w/out*

Lauren Katzowitz, Foundation Services, advises UJA donors 212-836-1798 rec. Lisa Goldberg

Probably not

Commonwealth Fund
Robert Wood Johnson
Surdna

No

Lilly (making American Red Cross grant)
Mellon
Rockefeller Financial Services (interested, can't attend)
McConnell Clark
Nathan Cummings (interested, can't attend)
Kaiser (interested, can't attend)

The only grants I have sleuthed out are by Revson (\$30,000 to Jewish World Services for their work with the International Rescue Committee) and Nathan Cummings Foundation (2 grants of \$100,000 each to American Jewish World Service and the International Rescue Committee). Seagrams is coming to the meeting because their employees have been asking what the company will do (but I wouldn't put that in the speech).

I have called all of the maybes and yeses with the location info.

*MacArthur \$50,000 to Docs w/out Borders
Matching employee donations*

FLOTUS/ NYC per telecon w/Katy Button 4/16

FLOTUS, around 11:30 am, maybe at Waldorf
hosted by Pew's Rebecca Rimel.

GOAL: Mobilize to support NGOs relief
Rockefeller Fdn - Gordon Conway, Pres. And Lincoln Chen is
VP (second to Conway)
***Colin Campbell heads Rockefeller BROS. Fund
Pew - Rebecca Rimel
Ford - Susan Berresford
UN Foundation, Wirth
New World, Colin Greer
MacArthur, Adele Simmons (she's leaving; her successor has
been appointed, he's in NY, head of New School, John Fanton
or Fantom)
Rockefeller Bros., Susan Sechler new, should
accompany Colin Campbell, she's here

Carnegie Corp. of NY, David Hamberg (GONE for awhile); head
is Vartan Gregorian (formerly Pres. Of Brown, NY Public
Library) Carnegie very focused on Africa; not clear if in
absence of Board assent, they can do relief grantmaking
elsewhere.

Open Society - Arie Neier

ADD per Helen Seidler of Council on Foundations
Mott

Public Welfare (gave big \$\$ to CARE for Bangladesh
tidalwave; Peter Bell formerly with Edna MacConnell Clark
Foundation, made calls and got quick turnaround)

Helen says call some NGOs and ask which foundations are
giving; Melissa Rose at Mercy Corps Intnat. Says foundations
active are: SG (family fdn in CA), Pew, Gates, Nike, Tides
(from Working Assets)

Helen:

- 1, beware preaching to the converted; they are supporting
NGOs; message should be "more, or bring your colleagues in"
2. Council tried to research Kosovo response; Pew is
active, Mott is doing something; hasn't yet been good
info. Sharing; could provide after Conference

DESCRIBE the magnitude of the crisis; logistical support of
the military is now required to help provide relief given

*copy of these
are Helen's
updates*

Remarks on Kosovo Relief Efforts by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

**Dover Air Force Base
Dover, Delaware
April 9, 1999**

Thank you very much, General McDuffie. I am honored to be here and to have a chance to see in action just a brief snapshot of what you're doing on behalf of this mission. I'm pleased to be joined here with those who support our military men and women and their families, and in particular, this base. I want to thank Governor and Mrs. Carper for joining us. I want to thank Congressman Castle. And I particularly want to thank Senator Biden. Because what he said today needs to be said over and over again to remind us why we're doing what we're doing and why each of you is an integral part of fulfilling America's mission of leadership at this point in the world's history.

I'm very grateful for all of the military personnel and the leadership who have pulled together the humanitarian side of this mission. We know very well that there are a lot of men and women who are supporting the bombing and are actually making those flights, and we want to think and pause for a minute to make sure we remember them and their families as well.

General McDuffie and General Handy have worked very hard on the military side to make sure the logistics are handled as well as they can be. And Brian Atwood, the Administrator of USAID, brings his considerable experience to bear on making sure the work you do here actually gets delivered and makes a difference in the lives of the men, women, and children we are trying to help.

But none of this would be possible -- none of the planning, none of the effort -- if it weren't for the men and women on this base. So let me thank Colonel Grieder and the entire Eagle Wing and Liberty Wing for all you're doing to bring the food that I saw being flown in to the people of Kosovo. Your contribution represents almost half of the 1.1 million HDR's that we are providing now. There's no way these people we are trying to help could get a meal because there are no cooking facilities where they're being temporarily placed, were it not for these HDR's. So every time you package one up and load it on a pallet and put it on an aircraft, I hope you'll have in mind the pictures and the faces that I do of the people who are going to be on the other end and receive this gift of the American people that you're making possible.

You know, I went to Bosnia shortly after the peace accords were signed, when it was safe enough to go to our base in Tuzla, but not very safe to go anywhere else. I couldn't get in to Sarajevo. But I was able to fly out of Tuzla into two base camps -- Camp Alicia and Camp Bedrock -- to visit with the men and women who were there on the front lines of America's peace-keeping efforts. And I also had an opportunity to visit with some of the people, principally women, who had survived that first of Milosevic's attempts to bring to bear the full weight of his dictatorial powers -- his use of

propaganda, disinformation, the stirring up of ethnic and religious hatred -- for his own personal, political, partisan advantage. And I remember sitting in a room in Tuzla talking with a group of Bosnians. There were Serbs and Croats and Muslims. I couldn't tell who was who based on my observation of them. I listened to them explain to me how it came to be that all of a sudden, neighbor was turned against neighbor, and paramilitary units were given free reign to round up men and boys and put them in camps and summarily execute them. Or to rape women. Or to turn children into orphans. And one of the people with whom I was speaking said, "You know, when it started in my village, I went to one of my neighbors and I said, 'Why is this happening? We've known each other, we've known our families so long. We've been at each other's weddings; we've attended the funerals of our loved ones. Why is this happening?' And the response that I was given," she told me, "is from the voice of an old friend: 'Well, we were told that if we didn't do this to you, you would do it to us.'" And the woman said, "Well, who told you that?" And the answer was, "Well, we read it in a newspaper or we heard it on the radio." It was the message of hatred, it was the message of ethnic cleansing, that Milosevic and his allies were putting out in order to turn Bosnia into a killing field.

Now what we saw happen in Bosnia was part of a larger plan on the part of Milosevic. And this is a continuation of the plan. It didn't just start a few weeks ago. And these refugees, although they are now coming out in the tens of thousands, they were coming out in smaller numbers on a regular basis over the last year. Last Spring, I met in the White House with a woman who is a pediatrician from Pristina, the capital of Kosova. And she sat and detailed to me what it meant for her to be taking care of the women and children who are being driven into the mountains, who are fleeing before the Serb paramilitary units. She didn't have the medicine to take care of them. They were dehydrated. They were contracting diseases. She came to me to tell me what was going on firsthand, and this was a year ago. And so diplomacy was tried; interventions were tried; common sense, appeals to humanity were tried. In every way we knew how to try to talk to a person who wasn't interested in hearing about the suffering of women and children, but only interested in his own perverted view of what was a political strategy to keep himself and his allies in power.

So the peace efforts were not sufficient. And you know, you learn early enough in life that sometimes after you try everything you know, whether you like it or not, you have to use force to try to bring across a message, and to try to make it clear that you will not tolerate unacceptable behavior and actions that strike at the very core of what it means to be a human being.

So I wanted to come to thank those of you who are on the front lines of fulfilling the need that we as Americans and as members of the NATO alliance feel to send that message as forcefully as we possibly can, but to fulfill also, because of our values, the role of providing humanitarian relief to those who have been driven out of their homes. I know that this has been added to your other regular duties. Many of you have put in enormous extra hours of work in order to make sure that this mission can be accomplished. Many of you even gave up your Easter weekend to come in and do the

work that needed to be done. A couple of the people I spoke with earlier told me that it wasn't even hard to get you to do that. It just took a phone call and you were on your way.

When you think about it, there would hardly be a more relevant way of fulfilling the meaning of Easter than trying to turn darkness and despair into hope and renewal. And that is what you are making possible.

I sometimes try -- when I visit places where terrible atrocities have occurred, where people have seemed to have lost all sense of empathy or compassion with their fellow human beings -- I try to imagine, as hard as it is for Americans to do that, I try to imagine what it would be like if something this terrible were to happen here. Instead of the people I don't know whose faces I see on the television screen, I try to superimpose the faces of people I do know and love, and imagine them being forced out of their homes and villages. Imagine them being pushed at gunpoint to walk into the hills without their belongings or their identity papers. Imagine children that I love and spend time with having to endure sub-freezing temperatures, rain, and even snow. And then I think about all of my friends huddled together in a no man's land, unable to go back home and unable to go forward into a place of refuge and safety.

If you think about it that way, then it's easier to understand that, as blessed as we are here in our country, there are countless people who don't share those blessings and look to us for the very simplest gift, right now, of survival. And when I met the men and women that I shook hands with and thanked, who were loading the HDRs and securing the pallets and getting them on the tonners and getting them into the bellies and I was able to say thank you, I could imagine this human chain from hand to hand to hand here at Dover to our personnel who will be unloading and then distributing this food. And it is such a strong statement against what we are standing up to fight.

You are also representing countless other Americans -- the relief workers, other members of the military, ordinary citizens -- who want to lend a helping hand as well. The United States has already committed \$150 million to this humanitarian operation, and we will stand by the Kosovar refugees until they can once again rebuild their own lives in security. Just this morning the President reiterated that the United States will not accept as permanent the results of this ethnic cleansing, not when a quarter of Kosovo's people are living in refugee camps beyond Kosovo's borders. And not when hundreds of thousands more are trapped inside, afraid to go home but unable to leave. This gift from the people of the United States of America, which is emblazoned on the side of every box and on every HDR, is the way we can fulfill our own values and reach out across this vast ocean to try to alleviate the plight of these refugees.

I know that many Americans are responding. I've been checking on the results of the contacts that have been made at the White House. We've received countless calls, letters and e-mails from people who want to know how they can help. A woman from Indiana wrote the White House saying, "I've watched the refugees on television all evening and I'm deeply concerned. Is there anything the mothers of this country can do

to assist the mothers who have been displaced?" A veteran from Ohio wrote, "I spent 25 years helping to defeat the Soviet Union. What can I do now to help the suffering of the refugees?" And a group of junior high students from Minnesota wrote, "We all feel it is horrible what is going on in Kosovo and we want to help the people who have no food and made it past the border." But I especially like what a woman from Florida wrote when she said, "Tonight I will close my eyes haunted by the image of the refugees fleeing, the looks in the eyes of the children and the elderly. We are so blessed in our beloved country and I really believe the majority of American folks would like to help these folks in some way but really don't know how."

Well, I want Americans to know that you are helping. The relief efforts that our military and relief agencies are doing is an extension of all of us as Americans. But there are ways that individuals, who aren't members of our Armed Forces or aren't a member of a relief agency, can help as well. There's a toll free number that you can call: 1-800-USAID-RELIEF. Already more than 22,000 people have called. And right after this I will be filming a PSA to give more Americans this number so that they can call as well. That is the way to not only help the Kosovar refugees, but to thank the men and women of this Dover team for what you are doing.

You know, I mentioned being in Bosnia and talking to the victims of Milosevic's initial effort to dominate other people and to ethnically cleanse land that he believes should be off limits to them. That made a very big impression on me, but probably an even bigger impression came when I looked into the faces of the men and women in our military who are on the front lines keeping the peace there in Bosnia. I had the same feeling today when I met the members of the Dover team. You know, you go down a line of Americans and you shake hands and somebody says, "I'm from Pennsylvania;" and somebody else says, "I'm from Oklahoma;" and somebody else says, "I'm from Hawaii." And you look into faces that are every shape and color from the whitest white to the darkest black and everything in between, and you hear different accents of people who grew up in the city and grew up in the country, grew up in the north, grew up in the south. And they're all Americans, and they're all part of this Dover team, and they're all part of the United States military.

When I was shaking hands today, just like when I was shaking hands in Bosnia, I couldn't tell you who among those I shook hands with was a Christian, a Muslim, or a Jew. I couldn't tell you what their political beliefs were, what their personal experiences were, because that's what we've worked so hard to overcome in our country. We've made a lot of progress. We have some problems, but year after year, decade after decade, we've tried to fulfill our ideals and values. And here at the end of this century we are the only remaining superpower. And we are not just because of our military mind, and not just because of the stock market going over 10,000. As important as those are, we are because of what we are inside and what we believe. And so every day when you come to work here, you're not only doing what's important to be done on this mission and all the others you are assigned, you are in small ways and large representing what is best in this country. And you are also representing what we are fighting to make possible for other people: that every man, woman, and child can live

up to their own God-given dreams and potential. Thank you for making it possible for these desperate people to have a belief that there is a tomorrow and that they will be able to see once again their own dreams. Thank you very much.

file Kosovo

Secretary's taped remarks
American Jewish Committee dinner

Thank you Bruce and good evening to you all. I very much wanted to be with you in person, but have had to settle for the miracle of videotape. As I speak, it is Tuesday afternoon. And I will be leaving shortly for Europe with the President to meet with NATO leaders.

I have seen, and I know the President has seen, the advertisements your Committee has placed in support of NATO action in Kosovo. That support is deeply appreciated, but it is also typical of the American Jewish Committee.

For more than ninety years, you have served our country well, through advocacy and example.

You have helped us to grasp that true democracy is less a product of theory and documents, than of relationships among human beings.

As a celebrator of Jewish identity, you have shown that true pride in one's own heritage requires respect for the heritage of others.

And as a promoter of Holocaust education and remembrance, you have helped keep before us the lessons of history's most monstrous crime, and reminded us of the intolerable cost of silence.

Further, through the Jacob Blaustein Institute and Felice Gaer, you have been a leader in seeking to hold the perpetrators of war crimes accountable in Bosnia and around the world. And you have led in efforts to establish a properly-constituted, non-politicized international criminal court.

I salute you for all you have done. And I thank you for what you are doing now to aid humanity's cause in Kosovo. For in that place, at this time, the principles cherished by your Committee, and by our country, and by our allies and friends, are under attack.

Sights we hoped never again to see, we see in Europe again:

Families uprooted from their homes and crammed into boxcars;

Children crying for parents they cannot find;

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People deprived of identity papers and told, "Now, you are no one; you can never return home."

Refugees recounting how loved ones were led away to be raped or killed.

And ominous aerial photos of freshly-upturned earth.

Today, as in times past, there are those who say: Well it is just too bad, but there is nothing we can do about it. Our interests are not sufficiently engaged. And besides, we know that we cannot prevent outrages everywhere; so let us, then, be consistent, and not intervene anywhere.

To that, I reply with a venerable term of American diplomacy, "Nuts."

The great lesson of this century is that when aggression and brutality go unopposed, like a cancer, they spread. And what begins as the sickness in one part of the body can become a grave danger to the whole.

NATO's objectives in Kosovo matter not because they will be easy to achieve, but because they are right. That is why the President and other Alliance leaders have made clear—we will persist until the conditions NATO has established are met.

Belgrade's security forces must leave Kosovo so that refugees can return. An international military presence must be permitted. And Kosovars must be given the democratic self-government they have long deserved.

As long as Milosevic refuses to accept these conditions, NATO's air campaign will continue, and we will seek to destroy as much of Belgrade's military capabilities as we can. Clearly, our efforts are having an impact, but that impact is not yet sufficient. We must maintain the pressure.

At the same time, we will continue striving to cope with the humanitarian disaster, to assist governments in the region, care for refugees and find ways to help those internally displaced.

Legally, we will continue to assist the war crimes tribunal in its efforts to document atrocities, obtain evidence and follow the investigative trail however high it may lead.

Politically, we will maintain Alliance resolve, while explaining NATO's actions to the world; including to the people of Serbia, who have been exposed for too long to Milosevic's lies.

3

Economically, we are tightening sanctions to further restrict Milosevic's ability to fuel his military machine.

And diplomatically, we will remain engaged with Russia and others in trying to bring this conflict to an early end on acceptable terms.

One key issue is what kind of international presence in Kosovo is required. We believe that after what Milosevic has done in Kosovo, refugees will be neither willing nor able to return home unless the protective force is credible. This requires that the core of the force come from NATO. As in Bosnia, however, we think that Russia could and should play an important role in that force, and we would welcome the participation of other appropriate countries, as well.

Even as we deal with the crisis in Kosovo, we must look ahead to the future of the entire region. During the NATO Summit, Alliance leaders discussed with the so-called "frontline states" the need for a program to promote stability throughout Southeast Europe.

This is essential to end the cycle of violence and bring this corner of the continent into the democratic mainstream. Such a program will require the assistance of the major European institutions and help from the international banks. It will require a continued willingness on the part of leaders in the region to work together.

And because Serbia's neighbors cannot feel secure with a brutal dictator next door, it will ultimately require democratic leadership in Belgrade. A democratic Serbia, willing to live at peace, could end its isolation and begin immediately the process of reconstruction.

Of course, there are those who say violence is endemic to this region, and that its people will never get along. Partition, they say, is the only answer.

I am no prophet. Certainly, the scars of past conflict are still visible. Certainly, the wounds opened by the current devastation will take much time to heal.

But the evidence is there in the testimony of average people whether in Zagreb or Tirana, Sarajevo or Skopje, that they are far more interested in plugging into the world economy than in slugging it out with former adversaries.

The problems that have plagued the Balkans--of competition for resources, ethnic rivalry and religious intolerance--are by

4

no means restricted to that part of the world. Nor does the region lack the potential to rise above them.

Moreover, it trivializes the stakes in Kosovo to dismiss what has been happening there as just another example of ethnic strife. It is not. It is a carefully planned, ruthlessly executed campaign of war crimes directed against a single, vulnerable ethnic group.

Milosevic thought he could get away with it. His strategy earlier in the year was characterized by NATO Secretary General Solana, as "a village a day keeps NATO away." Milosevic thought that we would not notice if he started on a piecemeal basis and that, in the end, no one would really care about the Albanian Kosovars.

But he was wrong. For it just may be that we are beginning to learn the lessons of this century. And to heed words written by Archibald MacLeish in the fateful year of 1940:

Murder [he argued] is not absolved of immorality by committing murder. Murder is absolved of immorality by bringing men to think that murder is not evil. This only the perversion of the mind can bring about. And the perversion of the mind is only possible when those who should be heard in its defense are silent...

NATO has not been silent, and certainly neither has the American Jewish Committee.

As the President and our military leaders have warned, this struggle may be long. But we must not falter and we cannot fail.

By opposing Slobodan Milosevic's murderous rampage, NATO is playing its rightful role as a defender of freedom and security within the Euro-Atlantic region.

Because our cause is just, we are united. And because we are united, we are confident that in this confrontation between barbaric killing and necessary force; between vicious intolerance and respect for human rights; between tyranny and democracy; we will prevail.

I cannot close without providing an assurance on another very important subject. America's commitment to Israel and to the Middle East Peace Process is unwavering.

As we await the outcome of the Israeli elections, our focus has been on encouraging compliance with the obligations undertaken at Wye, and urging both sides to avoid unhelpful unilateral acts.

On the Palestinian side, we have seen serious efforts to prevent terrorist strikes, to renounce the Palestinian Covenant and to avoid a unilateral declaration of statehood.

On the Israeli side, implementation has stalled and, unfortunately, unilateral settlement activity has persisted. This is a source of real concern to us, because of its destructive impact on the ability to pursue peace.

Once the elections are over, we will urge, without any further delay, implementation of all outstanding Wye obligations by both sides. We will also seek to resume the final status negotiations with the objective of completing them within one year. We will be prepared, in addition, to undertake a new effort to make progress on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks.

Whether dealing with the Balkans or the Middle East, America is on the side of those who are committed to peace, who uphold the law, and who judge others not on the basis of who they are, but on how they act, and whether they respect the rights of others.

I want to thank you again for allowing me to address you tonight and for the truly extraordinary work the American Jewish Committee is doing.

And I look forward to working with you closely--and next time, hopefully in person--in the days to come.

**FAX COVER SHEET**

TO: *Melzane Ver Vee* (FAX ~~456~~ 456-6244)

FROM: *Bruce Woodward*
Office of Speechwriting
U.S. Department of State
Washington, DC 20520
Tel. 202 647 9943
Fax 202 736 7687

RE: *Kosovo blah-blah*

MESSAGE: *As requested*

NUMBER OF PAGES TO FOLLOW: 18

file
Kosovo**Local Humanitarian Activity In Support Of Kosovar Refugees****City****Activity**

Spring Lake, Michigan

"A Michigan humanitarian group is sending \$100,000 in food and relief supplies to refugees who have fled Kosovo. **International Aid Inc., of Spring Lake, Mich.,** has been loading food, blankets, personal care packages and medical supplies into 40-foot containers this week to be shipped to Albania, Macedonia, Montenegro and Greece." [The Detroit News, 4/1/99]

New York, NY

"**War Child USA** today announced it is raising funds to provide aid to the Kosovo refugees, and on Tuesday hopes to begin **sending trucks filled with supplies -- including 'Kid Packs' of food, hygienic items and toys for the thousands of children left homeless by the conflict....** [T]he U.S. organization is seeking monetary donations to fund the transport of supplies being collected throughout Europe. The cost of transportation is about \$5,500 per truck. The transports will include 'Kid Packs' -- small backpacks with food, a toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, a small toy and crayons -- that are designed to provide children not only with basic necessities, but also a few childhood diversions." [War Child USA release, PR Newswire, 4/2/99]

Oklahoma City, OK

In an interview with CNBC Larry Jones of Feed the Children, a Christian nonprofit relief group said: "When they see this baby food, I guarantee you there'll be a lot of smiles on the faces of young mothers... People always ask, 'How do we know it'll get there?' I'm going personally to help unload the trucks and give it to the refugees." According to AP: "**Jones said Feed The Children will receive donations for at least the next two weeks and also is asking area churches to help by accepting relief supplies from their congregations on Easter Sunday...** Jones said supplies collected in Oklahoma City and other parts of the country will be sent to Feed The Children facilities in Amsterdam, Netherlands, and then trucked to the Italian port city of Bari. From there, the supplies will be ferried across the Adriatic Sea to an Albanian port and then on to Tirana, the capital city, for distribution." [CNBC News Transcripts, 3/31/99; AP, 3/31/99]

Kansas City, KS

AP: "Bob Soptic, the chairman of the North American

Croatian Relief Inc., said he has relatives in Croatia but it's what he has been hearing from priests and others in the area that disturbs him and other members of the Church. 'We are hearing about the burning of homes that are taking place,' he said.

'They are killing infants and children.' **The relief group has collected some 150,000 pounds of food, clothes and medicines from the Kansas City, Kan., community to send to Kosovo.**"

KC Star: "North American Croatian Relief Inc. was looking for food, clothing, bottled water, toiletries - anything that might help the refugees who had left or soon would be fleeing their homes. The result? Now packed inside the former St. Mary's Catholic Church at Fifth Street and Ann Avenue are thousands of boxes. Most of them bear hastily scrawled labels, in Croatian and English, indicating the contents: clothes for men, women and children; bedding; nonperishable food." [AP, 3/25/99, KC Star, 4/3/99]

Richmond, VA

"At the request of two United Nations agencies, the **Richmond-based Christian Children's Fund is sending psychologists, social workers and other experts to Albania to help refugee children traumatized by the war in Kosovo.** The request comes from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and UNICEF. The Christian Children's Fund is being asked for assistance in the wake of one of the largest forced exoduses in Europe since the end of World War II, as Yugoslav forces continue to drive ethnic Albanians out of Kosovo." [The Richmond Times Dispatch, 4/1/99]

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The Detroit News

April 1, 1999, Thursday

SECTION: NationWorld; Pg. Pg. A5

LENGTH: 238 words

HEADLINE: Relief:Group collects items for refugees: 3 International Aid
members
will assess need on Albania trip 9900235398:

BYLINE: Mark Truby / The Detroit News

BODY:

SPRING LAKE, Mich. -- A Michigan humanitarian group is sending \$ 100,000
in
food and relief supplies to refugees who have fled Kosovo.

International Aid Inc., of Spring Lake, Mich., has been loading food,
blankets, personal care packages and medical supplies into 40-foot containers
this week to be shipped to Albania, Macedonia, Montenegro and Greece.

An estimated 500,000 ethnic Albanians have taken refuge in those countries
with Serb aggression intensifying since the start of NATO bombing.

On Friday, a three-person team from International Aid will go to Albania and
Macedonia to assess the needs of the Albanian refugees, said Milton Amayun,
vice-president for international aid.

"There are hundreds of thousands of displaced people," Amayun said. "If we
do
not respond now the death toll will come back to haunt us. Some of the things
we
are able to do we should do quickly so the destabilization in the region does
not expand."

Amayun said countries such as Albania are ill-equipped to handle the influx
of refugees.

"Food is an important commodity right now," Amayun said. "People with
families are having a tough time finding food for their small children.
Also, clothing, blankets and household items are needed -- especially blankets

since the weather is cold."

Donations to International Aid can be sent to 17011 W. Hickory, Spring Lake, Mich. 49456 or can be made by calling (800) 251-2502.

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PR Newswire

April 2, 1999, Friday

SECTION: Domestic News

DISTRIBUTION: TO NATIONAL AND FOREIGN EDITORS

LENGTH: 566 words

HEADLINE: War Child USA Seeks Funds to Aid Kosovo Children and Other Refugees

Fleeing War Zone;

- Charity Will Send 'Kid Packs' to Help Children Cope With War -

DATELINE: NEW YORK, April 2

BODY:

War Child USA today announced it is raising funds to provide aid to the Kosovo refugees, and on Tuesday hopes to begin sending trucks filled with supplies -- including "Kid Packs" of food, hygienic items and toys for the thousands of children left homeless by the conflict.

More than 200,000 refugees have fled Kosovo, most of them women and children.

War Child USA will support the humanitarian efforts of its War Child international parent organization, working with the United Nations and local organizations in Albania, Macedonia and Montenegro to help the Kosovar refugees.

Specifically, the U.S. organization is seeking monetary donations to fund the transport of supplies being collected throughout Europe. The cost of transportation is about \$5,500 per truck.

The transports will include "Kid Packs" -- small backpacks with food, a toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, a small toy and crayons -- that are designed to provide children not only with basic necessities, but also a few childhood diversions.

"These Kid Packs will mean the world for the young innocent victims of the conflict, many of whom have arrived in a strange country with nothing but the clothes on their backs," said Thomas Ehr, executive director of War Child USA. "In order for the supplies to reach those children, we need to raise

money quickly to fund the transport."

The transports will also include clothes, blankets, canned food, and vitamins that War Child is collecting throughout Europe to supplement the work of many organizations and governments that are currently addressing medical and shelter

needs. War Child is also gathering supplies, especially fresh fruit and other food which is impossible to get in Kosovo and the refugee camps.

During the next few days, War Child staff members will be undertaking a long-term assessment of the needs of the refugees -- especially the children -- then implementing programs that might include education, counseling, music and art therapy.

War Child USA is the newest member of the five-year-old War Child family, which raises vital funds and public awareness for children around the world suffering from the ravages of war, the legacy of war and all other forms of violence. Known for creative and rapid-fire response initiatives, War Child creates innovative programs that help children in dire circumstances, both during and after conflicts.

Domestically, War Child USA is working with other organizations to identify, devise, and implement new initiatives for at-risk youth in high-violence areas in the U.S., focusing on creative alternatives to violence such as music, arts, sports, and skills training.

War Child was founded in 1993 to provide aid to children in Bosnia and now provides emergency relief in war zones throughout the world. It is supported by many in the entertainment community including official patrons David Bowie, Brian Eno, Tom Stoppard and Luciano Pavarotti.

For more information on War Child USA and its relief efforts for Kosovo refugees:

Visit <http://www.warchildusa.org> or call Heather Harding LaGarde at 212-260-5698.

Tax-deductible donations should be sent to:
War Child USA
2437 15th Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20009

(Checks should be made out to War Child USA)

SOURCE War Child USA

CONTACT: Heather Harding LaGarde of War Child USA, 212-260-5698; or

Scott

Friedman of Manning, Selvage & Lee, 212-213-7172, for War Child USA

PAGE 3

PR Newswire, April 2, 1999

War Child USA is the newest member of the five-year-old War Child family, which raises vital funds and public awareness for children around the world suffering from the ravages of war, the legacy of war and all other forms of violence. Known for creative and rapid-fire response initiatives, War Child creates innovative programs that help children in dire circumstances, both during and after conflicts.

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CONTACT: Heather Harding LaGarde of War Child USA, 212-260-5698; or Scott Friedman of Manning, Selvage & Lee, 212-213-7172, for War Child USA

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: April 3, 1999

The Associated Press State & Local Wire

The materials in the AP file were compiled by The Associated Press. These materials may not be republished without the express written consent of The Associated Press.

March 31, 1999, Wednesday, PM cycle

SECTION: State and Regional

LENGTH: 513 words

HEADLINE: Feed The Children to help Albanian refugees

BYLINE: By PATRICK CASEY, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: OKLAHOMA CITY

BODY:

The president of Feed The Children feels confident Oklahomans, as well as others across the country, will heed his plea for food and clothing to help the tens of thousands of ethnic Albanians fleeing war-torn Kosovo.

"Oklahoma is a very compassionate state. We feel they will jump to the cause," Larry Jones, president of the Christian nonprofit relief organization, said at a news conference Tuesday to announce the relief effort. "There are children in need there. The people have felt phenomenal distress."

Jones called the situation in Kosovo a major disaster and said it was "the worst crisis since World War II."

The Oklahoma City-based relief organization is accepting non-perishable food, over-the-counter medicines, clothing, blankets and tents. Anyone wanting to make monetary donations can call Feed The Children's hotline, Jones said.

Reports of mass killings and forced removals, with entire villages being burned and cities cleared of ethnic Albanians, have increased since NATO forces began the bombing and missile campaign last week.

"This is Bosnia in the early stages," said Jones, who also helped send supplies to that country. "This is definitely ethnic cleansing."

NATO officials said Tuesday that the number of ethnic Albanians who have fled Kosovo in the past six days has grown to 118,000, and Pec, a city of 100,000 residents in western Kosovo, has been "almost totally destroyed."

NATO spokesman Jamie Shea described the situation as "a humanitarian disaster of enormous proportion." About 30 percent of the Kosovo population - some 570,000 people - have been uprooted, Shea said.

The upheaval continues to spread, with waves of refugees further stretching the ability of overburdened neighbors - Albania, Macedonia and Montenegro - to care for them.

Jones said Feed The Children will receive donations for at least the next two weeks and also is asking area churches to help by accepting relief supplies from their congregations on Easter Sunday.

"We hope the bombing ends today but even if it does, there is nothing to come home to," Jones said.

Jones said supplies collected in Oklahoma City and other parts of the country will be sent to Feed The Children facilities in Amsterdam, Netherlands, and then trucked to the Italian port city of Bari.

From there, the supplies will be ferried across the Adriatic Sea to an Albanian port and then on to Tirana, the capital city, for distribution.

Jones acknowledged "there possibly will be danger if we go" but said the agency will take precautions to ensure that the supplies go to the refugees.

"More than likely, we will go with armed guards," Jones said. "This whole area can be considered a war zone."

Jones said the first shipment of supplies is being prepared in Amsterdam now and will be sent to Albania, a three- to five-day trip, today.

Feed The Children started in 1979 as a Christian nonprofit relief group and has provided assistance to 50 states, the District of Columbia and 75 foreign countries.

The toll-free number for contributions is 1-800-328-2122.

The Associated Press State & Local Wire

The materials in the AP file were compiled by The Associated Press. These materials may not be republished without the express written consent of The Associated Press.

March 25, 1999, Thursday, AM cycle

SECTION: State and Regional

LENGTH: 627 words

HEADLINE: Kansans concerned about relatives in Yugoslavia amid airstrikes

DATELINE: WICHITA, Kan.

BODY:

As American and allied warplanes dropped bombs on Yugoslavia, Goran Velickovski was on the phone calling home.

The 24-year-old engineering student at Wichita State is from Macedonia, where his family is just eight miles from the Serbian border.

"I think it was an internal problem that was supposed to be solved between Serbia and Kosovo," said Velickovski, who came to Wichita in 1992. "The UN was there to keep it a low profile. But they (NATO) made this low profile into an act of aggression."

Velickovski, who said his family was fine, was joined across the state Wednesday as Kansans watched closely as NATO forces carried out the first round of air strikes in Kosovo.

The conflict between Serb-led Yugoslavia and ethnic Albanian separatists has killed more than 2,000 people and left over 400,000 homeless. Ethnic Albanians make up 90 percent of Kosovo's 2 million people.

Some members of St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in Kansas City, Kan., gather most Wednesday mornings to pray, and this week their prayers were for a swift end to the NATO military action, said the Rev. Milan Bajich, a retired

pastor.

"It's a civil war," said Bajich, who emigrated from Yugoslavia in 1949. "In civil war, nobody should be able to jump in either side."

Bob Soptic, the chairman of the North American Croatian Relief Inc., said he has relatives in Croatia but it's what he has been hearing from priests and others in the area that disturbs him and other members of the Church.

"We are hearing about the burning of homes that are taking place," he said. "They are killing infants and children. "

The relief group has collected some 150,000 pounds of food, clothes and medicines from the Kansas City, Kan., community to send to Kosovo.

Just days ago, Shea Carpenter saw her father on television lifting wounded people into a car minutes after a terrorist bomb explosion in northern Kosovo.

Her father is not safe, she said. But he's not dead and not hurt, at least not yet.

Roger Carpenter, a Wichita self-defense instructor and trainer of law enforcement officers, has served as a combat observer for the international community in Kosovo since January.

Last week he was pulled out of the combat zone and sent to neighboring Macedonia, she said. She last spoke to him Tuesday.

"He keeps telling me he's all right, but I don't know," said Carpenter, a Sedgwick County sheriff's corrections deputy.

"If it was me standing in the middle of a war zone, I imagine there would be a few people worrying about me."

When Aleksandar Radojevic called his sister Monday in Montenegro, a Yugoslav republic that borders Kosovo, she wasn't worried about the threat of NATO air strikes on Yugoslavia.

So Radojevic, a 7-foot-3 center on the Barton County Community College basketball team, wasn't worried either. Even after the air strikes started Wednesday, he felt his family was safe.

He said the air strikes in Montenegro would be south of his family.

"I'm happy it's far from them," he said.

Radojevic, a Serb, said the Serbs never would stop fighting.

"People from a peaceful nation can never understand," he said. "These beliefs are 650, 700 years old. I hope for peace, but the Serbs will never give in to Albanians. The people will fight for that land."

Robert McCormick, a professor of Eastern European history at Newman University in Wichita, has been watching Kosovo news reports closely. Much of his class time these days is taken up with talking about the history behind the conflict.

McCormick, who is at work on a book about Croatian Nazi war leader Ante Pavelic, was critical of the current bombing.

"The whole idea of NATO moving in to a sovereign country because of an internal problem is new," he said. "Should NATO be doing that?"

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The Richmond Times Dispatch

April 1, 1999, Thursday, CITY EDITION

SECTION: GENERAL, Pg. A-11

LENGTH: 445 words

HEADLINE: UN AGENCIES MOVE TO AID KIDS IN KOSOVO;
ASK CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S FUND FOR HELP

BYLINE: Gary Robertson; Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

BODY:

At the request of two United Nations agencies, the Richmond-based Christian Children's Fund is sending psychologists, social workers and other experts to Albania to help refugee children traumatized by the war in Kosovo.

The request comes from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and UNICEF.

The Christian Children's Fund is being asked for assistance in the wake of one of the largest forced exoduses in Europe since the end of World War II, as Yugoslav forces continue to drive ethnic Albanians out of Kosovo.

Cheri Dahl, director of development for the Children's Fund, said the UN called her agency because it has been recognized for its child trauma programs in other war-torn areas of the world.

"We have put together a team. We have some people on the ground already, . . . [but] we're having trouble getting people into Albania, because all the transportation modes are shut down."

One member of the initial team is Dr. Dan Creson, professor of psychology at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.

"This is more an assessment trip," he said.

"The situation is developing so quickly and it's so overwhelming that this trip is to assess what programs are relevant, what can be done and what is the best way to direct any aid that is available."

Creson said it was critical for the assessment team to go in with an open mind.

"There is no way in a situation like that any humanitarian-aid group can come in and fix it.

"You get yourself stretched so thin, you're not able to succeed at anything. It's more important to determine the limits of your ability."

The CCF's trauma program was developed in consultation with Dr. Mike Wessells, professor of psychology at Randolph-Macon College.

Wessells has an expertise in the psychology of peace and conflict resolution.

The goal of the program is not to hand out assistance, Wessells said, but to train community members in ways they can provide long-term aid to traumatized children.

"We work collaboratively," he said, "treating local people not as victims but as survivors.

"Everyone is shocked, horrified and overwhelmed by the magnitude of the crisis we have now."

Wessells said one of the first ways to help children work through their trauma is to quickly re-establish structure and daily rhythm in their lives, with activities such as games, songs and storytelling.

Along with food and shelter, Wessells stressed that the victims of war need emotional and psychological support.

"If there's too little attention given to healing the [psychological] wounds of conflicts, it's highly likely the cycles of violence will continue."

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THE KANSAS CITY STAR

April 3, 1999 Saturday METROPOLITAN EDITION

SECTION: NATIONAL/WORLD; Pg. A1

LENGTH: 1049 words

HEADLINE: KCK organization hopes to send relief to refugees

BYLINE: MARK WIEBE, The Kansas City Star

BODY:

The flier begins with this direct plea: "Urgent S.O.S. - Kosovo in need."

In January - well before NATO air strikes against Yugoslavia and the forced exodus of ethnic Albanians from their native Kosovo - a nonprofit Kansas City, Kan., organization mailed that flier to its 1,000 members in the United States and Canada.

North American Croatian Relief Inc. was looking for food, clothing, bottled water, toiletries - anything that might help the refugees who had left or soon would be fleeing their homes.

The result? Now packed inside the former St. Mary's Catholic Church at Fifth Street and Ann Avenue are thousands of boxes. Most of them bear hastily scrawled labels, in Croatian and English, indicating the contents: clothes for men, women and children; bedding; nonperishable food.

These days one usually can find volunteers packing and labeling the boxes inside the church's dimly lighted and pewless sanctuary.

Every day the pile grows, now measuring some 60 by 30 feet. The boxes spill onto the altar and, in places, reach as high as 9 feet.

In two to three weeks, if all goes well, as many as four semis will pick up the boxes for the first leg of the long journey to Albania, one of Europe's poorest countries. More than 100,000 Kosovar refugees have entered the country, creating what the United Nations calls a "major humanitarian emergency."

For now, though, the boxes must wait until Croatian Relief raises \$ 20,000 to \$ 30,000 to cover shipping costs. So far, the organization has collected about \$ 10,000.

"When we started this drive, we had no idea it would come to this point," said Bob Soptic, president of North American Croatian Relief.

Soptic, a Shawnee Mission North High School counselor of Croatian descent, was referring not only to the unfathomable generosity spread before him but also to the equally unfathomable number of ethnic Albanians forced to flee their homes.

Soptic, of Roeland Park, said Croatian Relief held five fund-raisers each year and two drives to collect goods to assist refugees in the Balkan region. The push to help Kosovar refugees is taking place during what would normally be this year's first drive.

From February into early March, the donations came in at a steady pace. Then, as speculation increased that a NATO attack could lead to more refugees, the pace of donations picked up. Now, St. Mary's sanctuary is nearly full.

At least one other area organization, Heart to Heart International of Olathe, has been soliciting help for Kosovar refugees. But Croatian Relief is unique because its sole mission is to provide ongoing assistance to people displaced by the conflicts in the Balkans, regardless of their national or ethnic identity.

The organization was founded in the early 1990s by members and associates of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church at Fourth Street and Barnett Avenue. St. John the Baptist is about a block from St. Mary's; both sit atop Strawberry Hill, a Croatian neighborhood in eastern Kansas City, Kan.

Many Croatian Relief members are first- and second-generation Croatians whose ancestors built the church at the turn of the century. When they began hearing reports of displaced Croats in letters from distraught Croatian relatives, they were moved.

"Something had to be done," said Soptic, who grew up in St. John the Baptist parish but now is a member of another Catholic church. "We had to help."

Originally, the organization focused only on Balkan children.

Then in 1993, the parish sent its new pastor, the Rev. Frank Horvat, to Croatia to see how the church could help. What Horvat saw astonished him: Entire towns and cities destroyed. Cemeteries plowed over. Babies and elderly people in orphanages and refugee camps.

After Horvat's visit, the organization's members decided to provide relief to refugees of all ages.

Today, Croatian Relief has members from 17 states, including Missouri. Soptic estimates that over the years the organization has sent more than 900,000 pounds of commodities to the Balkans, trying to ship goods to where the need is most urgent.

To help assess that need, the organization relies on Boris Stancic, who emigrated from Yugoslavia to the United States in 1969.

Stancic, a board vice president, keeps in touch with the Croatian Red Cross, Croatian Catholic Charities and Croatian bishops, priests and nuns. He has made four trips to Croatia since 1992 and has witnessed the same scenes of desperation that Horvat saw.

But unlike Horvat, Stancic, of Kansas City, is able to draw from personal experience to make sense of what he has seen.

In 1957, at the age of 17, Stancic experienced life without home and country himself. Dissatisfied with his life under Yugoslavia's then-Communist regime, he fled to Italy, where he and several hundred other Hungarians and Yugoslavs lived in a former Nazi work camp.

Three months after Stancic arrived, the Italian government, giving no reason, sent Stancic and several others back to Yugoslavia.

The next year, Stancic was jailed after Yugoslav forces caught him and two companions trying to cross the Italian border. A decade later, Yugoslavia relaxed its borders, and Stancic and his family came to Kansas City, Kan., where his brother had been living for several years.

"It's a big deal," Stancic said of his struggle to find a permanent home. "If you move to another country, you have to look for a roof above your head, and love."

Later, inside St. Mary's sanctuary, Stancic motioned to the thousands of boxes before him.

"That right here," he said in his thick Croatian accent, "is love."

About half of NATO's 19 member countries are taking part in the bombing. NATO jets began operating over Yugoslavia from Hungary for the first time Friday, when two dozen U.S. Marine F/A-18 aircraft flew out of Taszar air base.

NATO has approved plans to build up allied forces in Macedonia and Albania to about 50,000 soldiers to prepare for peacekeeping duties and in hope of raising the threat to Milosevic of a ground invasion.

Macedonia indicated it will approve the proposed deployment of 14,000 additional NATO troops if the Western alliance starts paying for the wear and tear on local facilities and reiterates a pledge that the troops will have only defensive or peacekeeping responsibilities, The Washington Post reported Saturday.

Albania, which is not a member of NATO, staged its own show of force Friday on its border with Yugoslavia, assembling 1,200 troops and several tanks for an hourlong live-fire exercise that sent up puffs of smoke and bursts of flame on the nearby hillsides.

The maneuvers prompted warnings from the Geneva-based U.N. Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees that any shooting along the border might prompt reprisals from Yugoslav forces and endanger the about 100,000 Kosovo refugees massed in the area the scene of recent clashes between Milosevic's army and ethnic Albanian guerrillas.

In other developments Friday:

In Washington, Greek Foreign Minister George Papandreou suggested diplomatic efforts to end the conflict would benefit from direct contacts between NATO and Milosevic. He told reporters that Greece, the only Balkans nation that is also member of NATO, would be willing to undertake such a mission if asked. Greece and Serbia also have strong religious and historical ties.

Another 1,400 refugees entered Albania and Macedonia from Kosovo, U.N. officials said, bringing the exodus to nearly 1 million in the past 15 months.

NATO is demanding political autonomy for Kosovo, a withdrawal of Yugoslav forces from the province and introduction of an armed international peacekeeping force to help the refugees return home.

The Group of 8 principles that Milosevic has accepted as a basis for negotiations are similar to NATO's demands but leave open the possibility that some of his troops might remain in Kosovo and do not define the composition of the peacekeeping force.

Those sticking points remained unsettled after negotiations this week among Chemomyrdin, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott and Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari, the European Union's special envoy on Kosovo.

The Clinton administration and its allies insist that the peacekeeping force be essentially a NATO operation. Yugoslavia, backed by Russia, wants to minimize NATO's peacekeeping role and keep at least 12,000 of its own troops in Kosovo as a sign that the province remains part of Serbia.

But the essential difference between the United States and Russia is Milosevic's role in any settlement. Chemomyrdin says any deal must be acceptable to the Yugoslav leader, and this week he threatened to abandon his peace mission if NATO did not halt its airstrikes.

U.S. officials insist they are not negotiating with Milosevic, merely waiting for a war crimes suspect to tell the Russian mediator that he accepts all of NATO's demands.

In Kosovo, Rape Seen As Awful As Death **By Carol J. Williams** **Los Angeles Times**

KUKES, Albania Her body savaged, her family wronged and her future ruined, 13-year-old Pranvera Lokaj has taken off for the mountains of Kosovo to seek the only solace her hidebound clan accords a rape victim: to kill or be killed in pursuit of vengeance.

file Kosovo/Rape
"I have given her to the KLA so she can do to the Serbs what they have done to us," Haxhi Lokaj said of his daughter, who has been sent to fight with the rebels of the Kosovo Liberation Army.

"She will probably be killed, but that would be for the best," the 40-year-old father said with more resignation than sorrow. "She would have no future anyway after what they did to her."

For the untold numbers of Kosovo Albanian women and girls raped by Serbian soldiers in the orgy of hate consuming the southern Yugoslav province, the heartless judgment expected from their backward rural communities may prove the more enduring injury from this most humiliating of war crimes.

While rape has for centuries been committed by soldiers as a tool of terror, its power to destroy women's self-worth in the tradition-bound Balkans is intensified by the patriarchal views of Kosovo villagers who see the savagery as a shame on the victim's entire family.

Even more sophisticated urban Kosovo women say they'd rather die than bear the humiliating brand of a rape victim a view that threatens to compound the efficacy of the Serbian forces' war crimes by driving survivors to suicide and depleting the ethnic Albanian population of women of childbearing age.

"Rape is a powerful taboo in their society. Kosovar men do not accept the women as blameless victims," said Eglantina Gjermeni, head of an international rape relief project to aid the Kosovo victims of sexual violence. "But that has to change, because what has happened in these conditions of war has affected too many women."

Ethnic Albanians like the Lokajs, from poor, rural areas, see death as the only honorable future for those raped by the marauding enemies.

In the second week of April, according to Pranvera's parents, Serbian soldiers herded Pranvera and at least 20 other terrified girls into the cellar of an empty house in the nearby village of Bileg and gang-raped them for four nights.

Their screams pierced the floor above them, torturing their helpless mothers and brothers being held there at gunpoint.

Bleeding and sobbing, the girls were shoved back among their horrified families just before sunrise after the fourth night, when all were loaded into tractor-driven carts for the journey into exile, recalls Pranvera's mother, Ajmane.

"We couldn't do anything because we were surrounded by police," said the dazed mother. "We couldn't do anything except listen to their screams."

For the victim's father, the affront remains as raw as an open wound and fresh inspiration to forever rid Kosovo of the reviled Serbian gunmen. As if the defilement by drunken soldiers and paramilitary thugs had been committed against his own person, Lokaj said he sent his daughter into combat for the greater goal of getting even.

"I, too, have been attacked because of what they did to my daughter," said the farmer, who is taking shelter with his wife and remaining five children in a schoolhouse room in this border town overflowing with 100,000 refugees from Kosovo.

"We will only recover from this when Kosovo is finally free of the Serbs," said Lokaj, who plans to return himself to the rebel front that has so far done little to deter the Serbian gunmen's campaign of "ethnic cleansing."

The wounds inflicted on Kosovo society by the use of rape as a weapon of terror, including reported rapes before the eyes of victims' husbands, brothers and fathers, will leave families and communities in shambles long after the fighting is over.

"When Serb soldiers rape Albanian women, their first aim is to humiliate them. They want to destroy their future and their family lives so they never want to come back to their communities," said Gjermeni, head of the Tirana rape relief project sponsored by the Medica Mondiale group based in Cologne, Germany.

Since 1992, Medica Mondiale has been aiding Balkan rape victims, including those in Bosnia-Herzegovina, where rape was systematically committed against Muslim women to destroy their society and traditions. Bosnian women, however, were less reluctant to share their trauma with fellow victims and rape relief workers than Kosovo women appear to be, because the community was more supportive of the women.

Medica Kosovo, as the current relief effort is known, aims to locate and assist raped women, because its counselors fear that the victims will never recover or return to their native villages if they continue to repress and distort what they've been through.

"So far, we have only been able to let them know we are there for them if they want to talk. But they are afraid to trust us, which is why we are trying to involve more Kosovo Albanian women, because they are closer to their own culture," said Gjermeni, who last week began training Kosovo women volunteers for outreach work with the 430,000-plus refugees scattered throughout Albania.

Mobile rape relief teams have been assembled to visit refugee camps where sexually assaulted women are living in self-imposed isolation and denial. Gynecologists, psychologists and lawyers will be traveling from camp to camp in a specially equipped ambulance donated by the organization's German sponsors to convince victims that they should undergo both physical and psychological examinations.

They are also being asked to provide legal testimony to assist the war crimes tribunal in The Hague in the hope of one day punishing the assailants. In the wake of the atrocities in Bosnia, rape has been classified as a war crime.

Even the most engaged professionals say they have no perspective on the scope of the rape problem, because evidence has been so anecdotal and obscured.

"It is dangerous to speak of rape as being systematic. The incidence does not seem as deliberate and widespread as it was in Bosnia, but that doesn't make it any less of a personal disaster for the victims," said Barbara Hofmann, a German physical therapist who has shuttered her practice in Switzerland to volunteer her time to the Medica Kosovo project. "Each female life is a whole world of its own."

Last month, Human Rights Watch documented one mass rape by Serbian police and soldiers in the village of Dragacin, near Suva Reka.

Serbian Mouthpiece Brings Western Edge to Spin on War

By Richard Boudreaux
Los Angeles Times

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia When NATO bombs wrecked civilian homes in a southern Serbian town last month, Nebojsa Vujovic made the four-hour road trip from this capital city to face TV cameras in the rubble where 10 people died.

His tone was measured, his face like stone, his English fluent. Denouncing what he called "the latest NATO aggressive bestiality against civilians," Vujovic scored another point in his country's propaganda war against the 19-nation alliance.

Belgrade's objective is to persuade the world and its own citizens that ordinary people in Yugoslavia and not the government of President Slobodan Milosevic are the real victims of the 2-month-old Western air assault on the Balkan nation.

It is a campaign that Vujovic, a 41-year-old lawyer-turned-diplomat, is well equipped to lead.

He knows the enemy well, having worked for nine years in Washington. He was the Yugoslav Embassy's charge d'affaires when his government broke diplomatic relations with the United States on March 25 to protest the bombing.

U.S. authorities took away the embassy's keys, and four days later Vujovic was on a plane to Budapest, Hungary. A week after traveling overland to Belgrade

with his family, he was named Foreign Ministry spokesman

his country's answer to NATO spokesperson Jamie Shea.

Like Shea, the British-born NATO official whose daily televised briefings from Brussels, Belgium, make him the voice of the allied offensive, Vujovic is articulate, deeply committed to his side's cause and visible to viewers around the world.

Unlike his rival, Vujovic lives in harm's way. When NATO

struck two abandoned army buildings in central Belgrade last month, the blasts shattered windows in the Foreign Ministry headquarters, where he works, and killed a policeman standing guard outside.

This distinction may explain the plaintive edge to Vujovic's daily spin on the battle over Kosovo the province of Serbia, Yugoslavia's dominant republic, where NATO is backing the ethnic Albanian majority's fight for autonomy.

"Remember the Latin saying: 'Audi alteram partem.' Listen to the other side," the spokesman said. "We are competing against a factory of lies of the Pinocchio type. We're trying to speak out, to tell our story."

Vujovic counters widespread accounts of Yugoslav atrocities in Kosovo he flatly denies them all with details of civilian casualties from NATO bombing throughout Yugoslavia.

By Belgrade's count, more than 1,200 civilians have been killed by the bombs many as a result of what NATO calls pilot error, others in deliberate strikes at civilian facilities such as the Serbian state television studios.

Vujovic has stepped forward to wring maximum propaganda value from each such incident, sometimes rushing to the scene of shattered buildings.

While he makes the debatable claim that all NATO's killing is deliberate, he is careful not to overstate the number of victims of each strike or even resort to estimates.

"I'm not going to be the one caught lying," he said.

Vujovic's credibility is being tested in other ways. Two days after the spokesman declared that freedom for three captured U.S. soldiers was "not on the agenda," Milosevic surprised everyone by sending them home after meeting with the Rev. Jesse Jackson. Standing by as the soldiers boarded a bus for Croatia, Vujovic spun the event as a "goodwill gesture of our firm commitment to reach a political solution."

It is war, however, that feeds the most acerbic exchanges with Shea.

Take the April 23 bombing of the television studio, which killed 16 employees, including journalists. Shea said the TV network is "supporting the power structure and war propaganda machine of Mr. Milosevic."

Vujovic countered that NATO "wants to silence us and become the monopoly channel ... so when Jamie Shea claims that we have concentration camps in Kosovo, we cannot say it's a lie."

In fact, Vujovic's voice is as loud as ever. Hundreds of Western journalists here cover his pronouncements; hundreds outside Yugoslavia call his ministry seeking visas to cover the war.

When ABC News anchor Ted Koppel sought visas for himself and his crew, including a makeup artist, Vujovic pointedly reminded him that Jelica Munitlak, 27, the woman who made up the faces appearing on Serbian TV, was killed in the bombing.

"Was ABC ever bombed for telling lies?" he asked.

The bombs that dictate Vujovic's work have caused upheaval in the lives of his wife and two children.

In March, his 13-year-old daughter was playing Lady Macbeth on stage at Westland Junior High in Bethesda, Md. Now she roller-skates with friends to one of Belgrade's bridges over the Sava River to join symbolic "human shield" demonstrations against the bombing.

His son, who lived 9 of his 11 years in Washington, has had more trouble adjusting. Other kids taunt him for speaking Serbo-Croatian with an American accent.

MAY-27-1999 17:27

P.02/03

To: internet[<aformal@schein-rx.com>]
From: ELISE W. STORCK@LPA
Cc:
Bcc: George Havens@BHR.OFDA
Subject: Re: Schein donation for Kosovo
Attachment:
Date: 05/27/1999 5:09 PM

Dear Allison,

Thank you for your email. I'm glad to provide you with the following information:

* the OFDA medications advisor is George Havens. It is he who provided some of the information I sent in my last email. George is on 202-712-4181.

* the person with whom I spoke at Northwest Medical Teams who expressed interest in your potential donation is Matt Baxter, on 503-624-1035. He also provided some of the information regarding the kinds of meds. that are most needed at present.

Thank you again for your generosity. Please don't hesitate to contact me again if I can be of assistance, and if you are not already doing so, you may wish to check the Kosovo factsheets that are updated daily on the USAID website at www.info.usaid.gov.

Sincerely,
Elise Storck

P.S. Did you once work for INMED? Back in my NGO days, I was on the InterAction Forum planning committee when Linda Pfeiffer was conference chair.

Original text

From: <aformal@schein-rx.com>, on 05/27/1999 4:50 PM:
To: Elise W. Storck@LPA@AIDW

Dear Elise:

I have had a moment to review the information you forwarded and I will contact North West Medical Teams about making a donation of Captopril used for heart disease and perhaps a couple other medicines. Can you tell me your contact person's name and number?

In your email- you mentioned the opportunity to discuss needs with your OFDA pharmacist, who is that now? I heard that Kathleen Downs was posted elsewhere now.

I look forward to your response.
Thank you,

Allison Formal
Schein Pharmaceutical, Division of Humanitarian Aid

✠

To: Internet[afomal@schein-rx.com]
From: Elise W. Storck@LPA
Cc: Alicia R. Bambara@LPA, Jill Buckley@LPA
Bcc:
Subject: Schein donation for Kosovo
Attachment:
Date: 05/13/1999 10:48 AM

Dear Ms. Formal,

I hope this email finds you well. I have been unable to reach you by phone this week, and there's been no answering machine to leave a voicemail message.

Here is preliminary information in response to Schein's generous offer to donate pharmaceutical products for Kosovo relief. Our Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DARTs) in the field are still waiting for a full pharmaceutical assessment to be conducted. However, the DARTs, our staff here in the USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, and a U.S. nongovernmental organization have provided the following information:

- * Supplies of acute medications are "ample," but chronic medications are needed, particularly for asthma, diabetes, heart disease and other existing conditions.
- * In Macedonia, the organization to which you could donate such meds, and which is helping the Government of Macedonia to coordinate the central warehouse, is PSF, Pharmacists Sans Frontiers (Pharmacists Without Borders). Their contact folks in Skopje are Mr. Sebastian Fouquet and Mr. Jen Kumuska. Both can be reached by cell phone at: 011-99-33-686-667-353.
- * I have been in touch with a U.S. nongovernmental organization, Northwest Medical Teams, that is working in Albania, and that expressed great interest in accepting your contribution of meds. I can give you the contact folks there if you'd like to pursue this. They concur with the need for chronic meds. such as insulin, and asthmatic and cardiac meds. They would distribute these meds. at a refugee center in Tirana that they are servicing with U.S. volunteer health professionals. Although we did not discuss this, it might be possible for one of their teams (which tend to go over every few weeks) to take the meds. with them.

Please let me know how you wish to proceed, and if you would like to discuss any of this with our new OFDA pharmacist, who provided the information on Macedonia above. Thank you again for your generosity and your patience in awaiting this information. I can be reached on 202-712-4408.

Elise Storck
Public Liaison Officer

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In a Place Of Desolation, A Fleeting Touch of Hope

By David Finkel
Washington Post Staff Writer
Saturday, May 15, 1999; Page C01

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SKOPJE, Macedonia, May 14—It is six hours after Ziza Shehu met Hillary Rodham Clinton. It is six hours after someone urged her, "Get closer," and she got so close she was able to stand next to Clinton and take the first lady's right hand and hold on to it with both of her own and keep holding it as Clinton said to the world, "These people all want to go home." It is six hours later, and Clinton is on her way back to Washington, and Shehu, 27, is still here in the refugee camp called Stenkovec One, wondering how long the optimism that comes with the touch of a hand can last.

"When she held my hand, it felt so right, and so comfortable," she is saying.

It is a hot day. It is even hotter inside her tent, the tent in front of which Clinton held her hand, so hot it's as if even the air itself can't muster the energy to move around.

There is a small window, but no air is moving through it, only the sound of the man in the tent next door turning the hand crank on a wind-up radio passed out to refugees yesterday. There is no electricity in the tents and no batteries, and there weren't enough radios to go around. Several men who didn't get radios decided to beat up one man who did, but he wasn't the man next door. On comes the sound of music. Off goes the radio. The refugees don't want to hear music. It's just too sad, they say. Better silence. Better stillness. "I'm very homesick," Shehu is saying now.

This is where Hillary Clinton came, and Ziza Shehu wanted very much to tell Clinton her story, about seeing her home in Kosovo burned, about living in the mountains for a month, about making it safely to Macedonia, about learning the name "Stenkovec," about living in a refugee camp with 20,000 other people, about living in a tent with eight other people, about losing hope, about realizing there is no end in sight. Two days ago, word spread that someone important was coming. Yesterday came word that it was Clinton. Early this morning, someone said she might be stepping into Shehu's tent, so Shehu and her mother and sister-in-law began cleaning.

The few clothes they own were put in plastic bags and placed against the side of the tent so there would be ample floor space. The donated blankets were folded. The donated cans of tuna they had for breakfast at 6 in the morning--which is when they always have breakfast

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because they can't sleep--were taken to the trash. Which was taken to a huge pit just outside the camp fence and set on fire.

Shehu prepared, and so did the organizations that run the camp. The trash was easy. Less so were the flatbed trucks that had to be brought in to hold photographers and camera crews. And the roped-off areas that had to be established so Clinton wouldn't be rushed by either the press or refugees. And the kids jumping into a dirty-looking water hole, who had to be shooed away so they wouldn't be inadvertently run over when Clinton's motorcade came through.

Finally, there were the decals for Catholic Relief Services and the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees that, by someone's order, had to be slapped onto every tent in camera range, as if they weren't tents at all but something entered in a NASCAR race.

In front of her own tent, Shehu lined up the shoes in a neat row by the entrance and waited.

That was at 8 a.m.

It was already hot.

Noon: Here came Clinton. Past the smoldering trash pit. Past the empty swimming hole. Into the rows of tents, walking, looking, stopping, talking, moving on, until she came to Feti Pronaj, whose tent is directly behind Shehu's, two rows away. They kept talking.

Later, Pronaj would explain that she told Clinton she is the mother of three daughters and two sons. That she and the children fled Kosovo when Serbian soldiers came into their village and "burned our houses. They killed a lot of people. I saw the bodies."

That they went to the train station in Pristina, and the soldiers began saying things about her two oldest daughters, and she held on to them tightly while her brother-in-law held on to her three youngest, and she and her two oldest made it onto the train, and she was looking around for her other three when the doors closed and the train began to move and that was March 31 and she hasn't seen the three since.

One is a 13-year-old girl. One is an 11-year-old boy. The third is an 8-year-old boy. "They were crying," she would say of the last time she saw them, and in saying this she would begin crying herself, that's who Clinton had in mind when she walked past Shehu's tent and approached the waiting rows of reporters and photographers.

"Thank you all for being out here today," she began.

"Get closer," one of Shehu's relatives said to her, and as Clinton continued, Shehu moved from where she had been waiting, and made her way toward Clinton, and found herself suddenly next to her, and reached for her hand.

First she held it with only one hand.

And then she held on with both hands, and instead of pulling away, Clinton held Shehu's hands as well as she continued to talk, saying,

"These people all want to go home," and when she was done talking, Shehu hugged her and Clinton hugged her back.

Not that she understood anything Clinton said. Not even a word.

"I wish I had a translator," she is saying now, six hours later, wondering what the strange words meant, trying to guess.

"It sounded like she was saying good things," she says.

Through the window comes the sound of the radio next door being wound again.

"Maybe because she was holding my hand like that, I thought she was saying good things."

This time, no music.

"I was hoping that she was saying we'll be home soon."

This time, it's the news. Which, of course, has nothing to do with going home.

Rather it's that Hillary Clinton visited the refugees in Stenkovec.

One of whom is now saying, "I am back to being homesick, and worried about my relatives, and wondering if they have something to eat, and whether they are alive.

"In the time she was here, I forgot about that. But now I am back."

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2005 Market Street, Suite 1700
Philadelphia, PA 19103-7017

Telephone: 215.575.9050
Facsimile: 215.575.4924

Date: April 16, 1999

To: Melanne Verveer, Chief of Staff for the First Lady

Fax: (202) 456-6244

From: Jill C. Schiager, Chief of Staff, Programs

Phone: (215) 575-4704

Number of pages including cover sheet: 7

Dear Melanne:

As we discussed, here is contact information for the major national foundations (assets over \$3 billion) and the major New York foundations (assets over \$500 million). Let David or me know if you have any questions. I hope we can generate a super turnout!

Many thanks.

Sincerely,



cc: David J. Morse

National Foundations

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Rte. 1 and College Rd. E.
P.O. Box 2316
Princeton, NJ 08543-2316
Telephone: (609) 452-8701
Steven A. Schroeder, M.D., Pres.
Assets, \$8,300,000,000

W.K. Kellogg Foundation
1 Michigan Ave. E.
Battle Creek, MI 49017-4058
Telephone: (616) 968-1611
William C. Richardson, Ph.D., Pres. and C.E.O.
Assets, \$7,800,000,000

Lilly Endowment Inc.
2801 N. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN 46208
Telephone: (317) 924-5471
N. Clay Robbins, Pres.
Assets, \$15,400,000,000

John D. And Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
140 S. Dearborn St., Ste. 1100
Chicago, IL 60603
Telephone: (312) 726-8000
Adele Simmons, Pres.
Assets, \$4,100,000,000

*1enton c B
adele ?*

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
300 2nd St., Ste. 200
Los Altos, CA 94022
Telephone: (650) 948-7658
Susan Packard Orr, Chair
Colburn S. Wilbur, Exec. Dir.
Assets, \$9,600,000,000

*mott
810 238-5651*

Robert W. Woodruff Foundation, Inc.
(Formerly Trebor Foundation, Inc.)
50 Hurt Plz., Ste. 1200
Atlanta, GA 30303
Telephone: (404) 522-6755
Charles H. McTier, Pres.
Assets, \$3,680,536,964

William H. Gates Foundation
4765 University Village, Suite 379
Seattle, WA 98105
William H. Gates, Sr., Pres.
Assets, \$5,200,000,000

Called - CB

Hewlett Foundation
525 Middlefield Road, Ste. 200
Menlo Park, CA 94025
Telephone: (650) 329-1070
Assets, \$1,400,000,000

New York Foundations

Carnegie Corporation of New York

437 Madison Ave.

New York, NY 10022

Telephone: (212) 371-3200

FAX: (212) 754-4073

Vartan Gregorian, * Pres.; — *coming*

Assets, \$1,543,371,778 (M);

The Edna McConnell Clark Foundation

250 Park Ave., Rm. 900

New York, NY 10177-0026

Telephone: (212) 551-9100

FAX: (212) 986-4558

Michael A. Bailin, * Pres.;

Assets, \$567,853,326 (M);

The Ford Foundation

320 E. 43rd St.

New York, NY 10017

Telephone: (212) 573-5000

Susan V. Berresford, * Pres.; — *in New Orleans*

Assets, \$10,700,000,000

Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation

375 Park Ave., Ste. 1602

New York, NY 10152

Telephone: (212) 319-8700

James C. Slaughter, C.E.O.;

Assets, \$569,274,421 (M);

The Henry Luce Foundation, Inc.

111 W. 50th St., Rm. 4601

New York, NY 10020

Telephone: (212) 489-7700

FAX: (212) 581-9541

Henry Luce III, * Chair. and C.E.O.;

John Wesley Cook, * Pres.

Financial data: (yr. ended 12/31/97); Assets,

\$692,888,311 (M);

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
140 E. 62nd St.
New York, NY 10021
Telephone: (212) 838-8400
William G. Bowen, * Pres.
Financial data: (yr. ended 12/31/96): Assets,
\$2,714,725,000 (M);

The New York Community Trust
2 Park Ave., 24th Fl.
New York, NY 10016-9385
Telephone: (212) 686-0010
FAX: (212) 532-8528
Lorie A. Slutsky, * Pres. and Dir.;
Financial data: (yr. ended 12/31/96): Assets,
\$1,385,229,096 (M);

The Rockefeller Foundation
420 5th Ave.
New York, NY 10018-2702
Telephone: (212) 869-8500
Gordon Conway, Pres. — *in New Orleans*
Financial data: (yr. ended 12/31/96): Assets, —
\$2,738,774,253 (M);

MD/VP?

CB / Susan Sechels

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation
630 5th Ave., Ste. 2550
New York, NY 10111-0242
Telephone: (212) 649-1649
FAX: (212) 757-5117
Ralph E. Gomory, * Pres.;
Financial data: (yr. ended 12/31/96): Assets,
\$1,003,375,395 (M);

The Starr Foundation
70 Pine St.
New York, NY 10270
Telephone: (212) 770-6882
FAX: (212)425-6261
Ta Chun Hsu,* Pres.;
Financial data: (yr. ended 12/31/96): Assets,
\$1,659,251,905 (M);

Surdna Foundation, Inc.
330 Madison Ave., 30th Fl.
New York, NY 10017-5001
Telephone: (212) 557-0010
FAX: (212) 557-0003
Frederick F. Moon III,* Chair. and Treas.;
Edward Skloot, Exec. Dir.
Financial data: (yr. ended 06/30/97): Assets,
\$534,354,525 (M);

DeWitt Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund, Inc.
(Formerly DeWitt Wallace Fund, Inc.)
2 Park Ave., 23rd Fl.
New York, NY 10016
Telephone: (212) 251-9700
FAX: (212) 679-6990
M. Christine DeVita,* Pres.;
Financial data: (yr. ended 12/31/96): Assets,
\$946,876,700 (M);

Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund, Inc.
(Formerly L.A.W. Fund, Inc.)
2 Park Ave., 23rd Fl.
New York, NY 10016
Telephone: (212) 251-9800
FAX: (212) 679-6990
M. Christine DeVita,* Pres.;
Financial data: (yr. ended 12/31/96): Assets,
\$734,604,587 (M);

Nathan Cummings Foundation
1926 Broadway, Ste. 600
New York, NY 10023
Telephone: (212) 787-7300
Charles R. Halpern, Pres.

KATY BUTTON
 * TO: WHCA
 USHERS

WHSO LAYOUT DRAFT 1

a/o 8/1/99; L. Schwartz, K. Widdess

KOSOVO COMIC BOOK EVENT

Monday, August 2, 1999

East Room

Please note, this event
 has moved from the
 Roosevelt Room to the
 East Room.

Guest Times

NW Gate Opens: 2:45 p.m.

FR: LAURA SCHWARTZ
 KIM WIDDISS

Principal Times

Brief:	3:00 p.m.	Map Room
Meet:	3:10 p.m.	Blue Room
Event:	3:15 p.m.	East Room

Approx. 100 guests/Open Press/Business Attire

2:45 p.m. Guests arrive to the NW Gate.
 Contact: Katy Button

3:00 p.m. **THE FIRST LADY** receives briefing in the Map Room.

3:10 p.m. **THE FIRST LADY** proceeds to the Blue Room for a Meet and Greet.

Blue Room Participants

Tehnaz Dastoor, *UNICEF Global Coordinator/Landmines*
 Lt. General Michael Davison, *Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency*
 Jenette Kahn, *President, DC Comics*
 Others (t)
 Members of Congress (t)

3:15 p.m. **THE FIRST LADY**, accompanied by Tehnaz Dastoor, Lt. Gen. Michael Davison and Jenette Kahn, is announced into the East Room and proceeds to the stage.

PROGRAM

THE FIRST LADY

Tehnaz Dastoor
 Lt. General Michael Davison
 Jenette Kahn

THE FIRST LADY

3:55 p.m. **THE FIRST LADY** departs.

Guests depart East Gate.

SETUP NOTES: 10x16 stage at south end East Room; toast lectern on stage; 4 chairs on stage; easel on stage for comic book blow-up; brass quintet in tbd corner East Room for before/entrance/after music; announce from Green Room; 100 chairs in audience; 4 press risers rope & stanchioned at north end.

Public-Private Partnerships to Fight Landmines

Superman Mine Awareness Comics

Adopt-a-Minefield

Canine Demining Corps

CD-ROM on Landmines

Global Landmine Survey

Landmine Survivors Network

Superman Mine Awareness Comics

A key goal of our anti-landmine programs is to educate children around the world to the threat from the 60-70 million landmines planted in some 70 countries. We are supporting actions by host governments, UNICEF, NGOs, and other groups to alert children on these dangers through teaching programs in schools, radio and television messages, dance troupes, theater groups, and related activities. One project has been production by DC Comics of more than a million comic books, in which Superman and Wonderwoman walk children through the lesson. The first version, in Serbo-Croatian, was distributed in Bosnia; the First Lady hosted the roll-out for this edition. Next came a Spanish version for use in Central America. The third version, in Albanian language, has just been field-tested, and 500,000 copies will be transported to the region by July 30, where it will be distributed by UNICEF and the World Food Program. This has been a model partnership: DC Comics provides the art work and printing facilities, the Defense Department supplies funding and logistical support, and UNICEF provides technical assistance. A fourth version, in Portuguese for Mozambique and Angola, is already on the drawing board. Jenette Kahn, President of DC Comics, has been tireless in her support for this activity.

Adopt-a-Minefield

Launched on March 9, Adopt-a-Minefield is a project of the U.N. Association, the Humpty Dumpty Institute, and the U.N. Mine Action Service. Under the program, groups throughout the U.S. are raising money to pay for the demining by the U.N. and host countries of the worst minefields in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Cambodia, Croatia and Mozambique. Schools, church groups, companies, and individuals have adopted some 30 minefields at a cost of \$25,000+ each. The Adopt-a-Minefield program is raising awareness in the U.S. on the global tragedy of landmines, and creating lasting bonds of friendship between Americans and people abroad who benefit from mine clearance activities. The U.S. Government is supporting this effort through grants totaling about \$370,000 from the State Department (PM) and through wide-ranging promotional efforts with potential sponsors. The U.N. Foundation (Ted Turner) has also provided up to \$500,000 in matching grants.

Canine Demining Corps

The Canine Demining Corps is a program of the Marshall Legacy Institute, the U.S. Humane Society, U.N. Development Program and DC Comics to purchase, train, and deploy mine-detecting dog teams to mined countries around the world. Dogs have a unique capacity to detect explosives found in landmines, and are an efficient, safe, and cost-effective tool now in use in many countries. Under this program, individuals, civic groups and corporations can

sponsor dogs for as little as \$250. The Humane Society strongly supports this effort, in part because landmines kill up to 500,000 animals around the world each year. We are supporting this effort through a grant of \$250,000 from State Department (PM). We are also helping the program directors to arrange corporate sponsorship, including a possible tie-in with dog food producers. A five-city promotion tour is planned for later this year.

CD-ROM on Landmines

The Rockefeller Foundation and other groups are collaborating on production of a comprehensive CD-ROM on landmine issues, which will be distributed to thousands of schools, civic groups, media, and other outlets around the United States and abroad. The CD-ROM will be hosted by a variety of public figures, including government officials, musicians, athletes, and other celebrities. It will provide visitors with wide-ranging, impartial information on landmines and the global humanitarian demining effort. It will include footage from CNN International -- which we have arranged for the project to receive pro-bono -- and other sources. The State Department (PM) expects to provide financial support for this activity.

Global Landmine Surveys

Humanitarian demining requires comprehensive surveys of the landmine problems in a dozen of the world's most highly mined countries in order to improve planning of existing and future programs, better target scarce international resources, and measure progress achieved in mine action. The U.N. Mine Action Service has designated Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation (VVAF) to manage this process, which brings together NGOs from many countries to conduct surveys on the general location of minefields and their socio-economic impact. VVAF is about to begin such a survey in Kosovo. The State Department (PM) is providing more than \$2 million for the over-all program. Ted Turner's U.N. Foundation and the Canadian and British Governments are also contributing substantial funding to this program.

Landmine Survivors Network

The only international organization of landmine accident victims, Landmine Survivors Network (LSN) was founded by two Americans, Jerry White and Ken Rutherford. LSN is now moving beyond its traditional advocacy role for survivors to launch programs to assist landmine survivors. New programs in Mozambique, Jordan, Bosnia, and perhaps Ethiopia and Eritrea will focus on peer counseling, rehabilitation and socio-economic reintegration support for survivors. These programs will be similar to the activities at the rehabilitation center visited by the First Lady in Slovenia. The U.S. Government is supporting these programs through matching grants for funds raised elsewhere and through promotional activities around the United States.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. list	re: Invitation List [partial] [10 U.S.C. 424] (1 page)	08/02/1999	P3/b(3)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Melanne Verveer
●A/Box Number: 20040

FOLDER TITLE:

Kosovo

2013-0534-S

rc1605

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Event: 2:00 - August 2, 1999 - Roosevelt Room

- \$500 million
being announced
this week (supplement)

Program Participants (order TBD)

First Lady

~~UNICEF~~ General Michael Davison

Jenette Kahn, President, DC Comics

Tehnaz Dastoor, Focal points for Mine Action, UNICEF

Backdrop: Blow-Up of comic book in Albanian (Maureen working with DC Comics and George)

Question: If we have some Albanian children there, do we want to include them?

PRESS: TOBY

Packets: Comic Book - Poster- Background on land mine efforts

Fact sheet on Kosovo (NSC to prepare)

Dag Vega: ethnic and religious press

Briefing following event

AUDIENCE: 40-45

INVITATION LIST

US GOVERNMENT (12)

DEFENSE

Mr. John Heaphy, Humanitarian Demining Program Manager, Defense Security
Cooperation Agency

PM/HDP Director Patierno

Brian E. Sheridan-Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low
Intensity Conflict

Dr. James A. Schear-Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Peacekeeping and
Humanitarian Assistance

Colonel Harold T. Stott, Jr. Demining Policy Assistant, Humanitarian Assistance
and Anti Personnel Landmine

(b)(3)

[002]

AID

Deputy Administrator Hattit Babbitt

STATE

Assistant Secretary of State Newsom
Special Representative Donald Steinberg
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Beecroft

Julia Taft

PEACE CORPS (2)

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY (8)

UNICEF Director Carol Bellamy (will not be able to attend)
UN Assistant Secretary General Bernard Miyet
UNHCR Executive Director Ogata
World Food Program Executive Director Bertini
Ambassadors from Albania, Bosnia, Macedonia, ~~Mozambique~~



Ralph Cwerman, President, Humpty Dumpty Institute
Paul Irwin, CEO, U.S. Humane Society
Benjamin Kahn, DC Comics
Lillian Laserson, DC Comics
Day Layton, Program Director, Marshall Legacy Institute
Bill Leurs, President and CEO, UN Association of the USA
Hon. Tim Wirth, UN Foundation
Andrew Young, Goodworks Foundation

CARE International
Catholic Relief Services
International Medical Corps
International Rescue Committee
Mercy Corps International
Rotary International
Save the Children
World Vision

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS – TBD – (5)

ETHNIC ALBANIANS - TBD - (10)

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
003. list	re: SSNs and DOBs (1 page)	n.d.	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Melanne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 20040

FOLDER TITLE:

Kosovo

2013-0534-S
rc1605

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Kosovo

Information Regarding the US/NATO Action In Kosovo

Friday, April 9, 1999

CONTENTS

- ☐ **Our Objectives, Interests And Perspectives
On The Conflict In Kosovo**
- ☐ **Maps Of The Kosovo Region**
- ☐ **The United States And Its NATO Allies Stand United
In Support For Action To Preserve Peace In Europe
And Prevent Further Serb Atrocities**
- ☐ **Distinguished Americans Support US/NATO Action**
- ☐ **Humanitarian Situation:**
 - Fact Sheet On Humanitarian Situation In Kosovo**
 - USAID: Public Donation Information For Crisis In Kosovo
(Call 1-800-USAID RELIEF)**
- ☐ **Intelligence Community Paper On Ethnic Cleansing In Kosovo**
- ☐ **American Newspaper Editorials Support NATO Action**

OUR OBJECTIVES, INTERESTS AND PERSPECTIVES ON THE CONFLICT IN KOSOVO

Our objective in Kosovo is to achieve a durable peace that prevents further repression and provides for democratic self-government for the Kosovar people.

We have important interests at stake in the Kosovo conflict: halting the humanitarian catastrophe and preserving stability in a key part of Europe. We must also maintain the credibility of NATO as guarantor of peace and stability in Europe.

The current NATO military action is intended to inflict such damage that either:

- Milosevic will change his calculations and accept NATO conditions; or
- We will seriously diminish his capacity to maintain his grip and impose his control on Kosovo.

Overall, NATO's goal is to help secure a peaceful, multi-ethnic, and democratic Kosovo.

Putting the Conflict in Kosovo into Perspective

The rampage of Belgrade's security forces through Kosovo is creating a humanitarian crisis of staggering dimension:

- Up to 1.2 million Kosovar Albanians are now displaced.
- The recent FRY government closure of Kosovo's borders with Albania and Macedonia reportedly forced thousands of refugees fleeing Serb atrocities to return to the interior of Kosovo. Their whereabouts are unknown, as they join tens of thousands of other internally displaced Kosovars.
- Over 60,000 are displaced in Montenegro;
- Over 300,000 refugees are in Albania;
- Nearly 120,000 refugees are in Macedonia.
- Throughout Kosovo Serb security forces have looted homes, burned entire villages and laid waste to the ethnic Albanian sectors of larger cities.
- Credible reports indicate that Serb forces have killed thousands of ethnic Albanian civilians since March 24. Refugees in Albania consistently report that upon entering villages, Serb troops separate out males, most likely for summary execution.

This is only the latest chapter in Milosevic's campaign of repression in Kosovo. It is important to remember that between February and October 1998, Belgrade's actions in Kosovo resulted in:

- More than 2,000 killed;
- 250,000 displaced; and
- Over 50,000 refugees.

Instability in Kosovo directly threatens peace in the Balkans region and stability throughout Europe. There is no natural boundary to this violence. Continued Serb repression, the cause of the fighting in Kosovo, has the potential to:

April 9, 1999

- Spread to other regions of the FRY
- Re-ignite chaos in Albania;
- Destabilize Macedonia;
- Draw in neighboring states;
- Create tens of thousands more refugees; and
- Create a breeding ground for international crime and terrorism.

The Use of Force and Belgrade's Choices

Last October, NATO's threat of force was decisive in obtaining Milosevic's agreement to a cease-fire and to establishment of the OSCE and NATO verification regimes. That enabled tens of thousands of Kosovars to come down from the hills and return to their homes as winter approached. But soon thereafter Milosevic resumed his campaign of repression, as Serb security forces:

- Repeatedly and blatantly violated the cease-fire;
- Refused to cooperate with, and impeded the work of, the Kosovo Verification Mission and international relief agencies;
- Deployed to intimidate the Kosovar Albanian population;
- On January 15, massacred 45 innocent ethnic Albanians, including women and children, in Racak;
- On January 29 slaughtered 25 ethnic Albanian males at Rogovo;
- By mid-March had built up to more than 40,000 troops and 300 tanks in and around Kosovo.

Our preference has been to achieve our objectives through peaceful means. Since the eruption of fighting in February 1998, we have been engaged actively seeking resolution of the conflict through diplomacy under the auspices of the Contact Group backed up by NATO. Those intensive efforts led to the Rambouillet and Paris talks which produced a fair agreement, one that keeps Kosovo in Serbia, demilitarizes the KLA, but gives Kosovars the self-government they deserve. The Kosovar Albanians accepted the agreement.

Belgrade has refused to sign and has to date rejected out of hand all efforts to achieve a peaceful solution. The Contact Group clearly assigned exclusive responsibility for failure to reach agreement to Belgrade. While we recognize the responsibility of the Kosovo Liberation Army for frequent violations of the cease-fire and provocations that added to the overall tensions, it is the Belgrade regime that systematically followed a policy of undermining last October's agreements and thwarted all efforts to arrive at a just solution.

Milosevic can end the bombing and end the suffering of the refugees at any time by:

- Withdrawing his military, police and paramilitary forces from Kosovo;
- Accepting the deployment of an international security force; and
- Allowing the unconditional return of all refugees and unimpeded access for humanitarian aid.

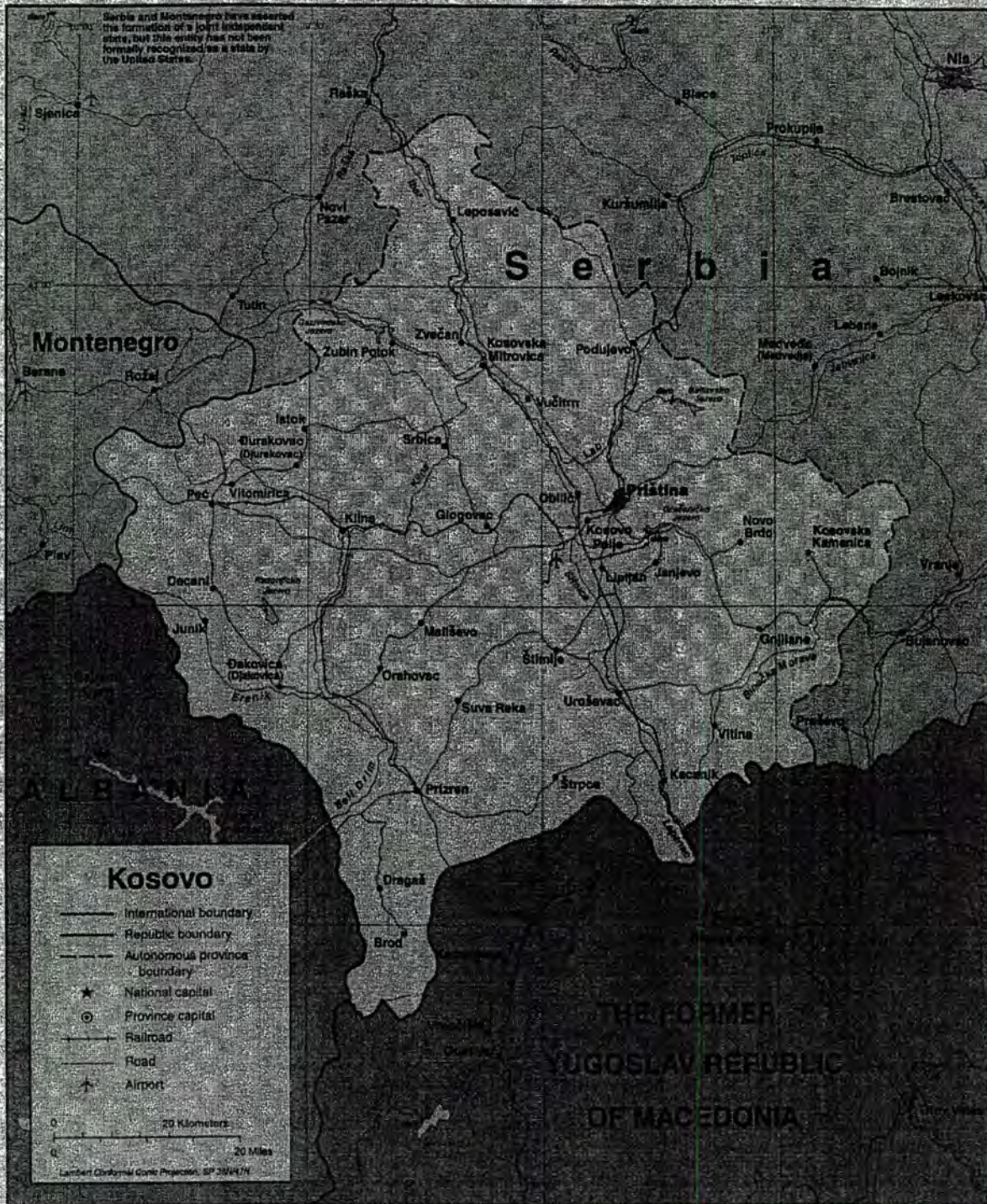
Milosevic must take these essential steps as we move toward a peaceful, multi-ethnic, democratic Kosovo in which all people live with security and self-government.

April 9, 1999

Former Yugoslavia



Serbia and Montenegro have asserted the formation of a joint independent state, but this entity has not been formally recognized as a state by the United States.





The United States And Its NATO Allies Stand United In Support For Action To Preserve Peace In Europe And Prevent Further Serb Atrocities

NATO STANDS UNITED ON DIPLOMACY

NATO -- January 30, 1999: *"...The crisis in Kosovo remains a threat to peace and security in the region.... NATO is ready to take whatever measures are necessary in the light of both parties' compliance with international commitments and requirements. NATO's strategy is to halt the violence and support the completion of negotiations on an interim political settlement for Kosovo... The Council has therefore agreed today that the NATO Secretary General may authorize air strikes against targets on [Federal Republic of Yugoslavia] territory." -- Statement by NATO's North Atlantic Council on Kosovo, January 30, 1999*

NATO -- February 23, 1999: *"We are very concerned by the violence in Kosovo in recent days. We remain ready to use whatever means are necessary to bring about a peaceful solution to the crisis in Kosovo and to prevent further human suffering. Those who prevent the achievement of an interim agreement, provoke violent incidents or threaten the security of the Kosovo Verification Mission personnel will be held fully responsible for their actions." -- Statement by NATO Secretary General Javier Solana, February 23, 1999*

NATO -- March 24, 1999: *"...NATO Air Operations against targets in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia have commenced. In the last months the international community has spared no efforts to achieve a negotiated solution in Kosovo. But it has not been possible. Clear responsibility for the air strikes lies with President Milosevic who has refused to stop his violent action in Kosovo and has refused to negotiate in good faith. The time has now come for action." -- Statement by NATO Secretary General Javier Solana, March 24, 1999*

NATO -- April 6, 1999: *"The unilateral ceasefire proposed by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the government of Serbia is clearly insufficient. Before a ceasefire can be considered President Milosevic must meet the demands established by the international community." -- Statement by NATO Secretary General Javier Solana, April 6, 1999*

NATO STANDS UNITED ON MILITARY ACTION

□ THE UNITED STATES: President Clinton

"Ending this tragedy is a moral imperative. It is also important to America's national interest... America has a responsibility to stand with our allies when they are trying to save innocent lives and preserve peace, freedom and stability in Europe. That is what we are doing in Kosovo." -- President Clinton's Address to the Nation, March 24, 1999

"At the end of the 20th Century, after two world wars and a Cold War, we and our allies have a chance to leave our children a Europe that is free, peaceful and stable. But we must act now to do that. Because if the Balkans once again become a place of brutal killing and massive refugee flights, it will be impossible to achieve." -- March 24, 1999

"We are determined to stay united and to persist until we prevail. It is not enough now for Mr. Milosevic to say that his forces will cease fire in Kosovo, denied its freedom and devoid of its people. He must withdraw his forces, let the refugees return, permit the deployment of an international security force. Nothing less will bring peace with security to the people of Kosovo."
-- President Clinton's Foreign Policy Address, April 7, 1999

❑ **GREAT BRITAIN: Prime Minister Tony Blair**

"For every act of barbarity, every slaughter of the innocent, Milosevic must be made to pay a higher and higher price. I hope no one who has seen the utter, callous brutality with which the Kosovo Albanian people have been treated is under any remaining illusions about the nature of the Serb regime. The proper answer to it is not weakness but strength." -- Blair Address to the House of Commons, March 29, 1999 (USIA web site)

"Kosovo is right on Europe's doorstep. As previous Balkan crises have shown, the effects are felt far and wide.... The forces ranged against Milosevic are truly international. NATO is united." -- Blair Press Conference from Berlin, March 24, 1999 (USIA web site)

❑ **GERMANY: Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder**

"NATO began launching air strikes against military targets in Yugoslavia this evening. In doing so, the Alliance wants to stop further serious, systematic human rights violations and prevent a humanitarian catastrophe in Kosovo.... This operation is jointly supported by all Alliance partners. By conducting it, we are also defending our common fundamental values of peace, democracy and human rights. We cannot allow these values to be trampled on just one hour by air away from here.... There can be no doubt about our determination to end the killing in Kosovo. It is in the hands of Belgrade's leaders alone to end this NATO operation by deciding in favor of peace." -- Schroeder Statement to the German People, March 29, 1999 (USIA web site)

❑ **FRANCE: President Jacques Chirac**

"In view of the barbarity of the Serbian authorities...(we) have a moral duty to act."
-- The Chicago Tribune, April 1, 1999

❑ **ITALY: Prime Minister Massimo D'Alema, Italy**

"I share the view of our allies. Belgrade's temporary truce appears insufficient to start a peaceful resolution of the conflict." -- Rome ANSA, April 6, 1999 (USIA)

❑ **CANADA: Prime Minister Jean Chretien**

"The failure of exhaustive diplomatic efforts has given NATO no choice but to initiate military action against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia." -- Calgary Herald, March 24, 1999

❑ **POLAND: President Aleksander Kwasniewski and The Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

"Poland is prepared to accept its share of responsibility for NATO operations aimed at solving the conflict in Kosovo." -- President Aleksander Kwasniewski, Polish News Bulletin, April 1, 1999 (USIA)

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland calls on the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to completely and immediately halt this vile practice of ethnic cleansing, which violates all norms of behavior recognized by the international community. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland declares that complete responsibility and legal consequences for these acts of violence and hatred fall upon the authorities of the Federal Republic Yugoslavia." -- Declaration by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the Republic of Poland, March 30, 1999 (USIA web site)

❑ **TURKEY: President Suleyman Demirel And Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit of Turkey**

"I believe that we should urgently take measures against the humanity calamity which is caused by the bloodthirsty ethnic cleansing applications of Milosevic." -- President Demirel, Ankara Anatolia, April 6, 1999 (USIA)

"We should carry out our efforts against this inhumane violence in solidarity. The foundation principle of NATO is the preservation of freedoms. This is a holy goal. NATO, which is the last hope of millions of people who long for freedom, should carry out its strong and resolved attitude to fulfill its goal wholly." -- President Demirel, Ankara Anatolia, April 6, 1999 (USIA)

❑ **CZECH REPUBLIC: President Vaclav Havel**

"Milosevic has now turned against the citizens of his own country -- the Kosovo Albanians from whom he first withdrew autonomy, restricted for years their freedom, and then started to implement a policy of ethnic cleansing which provoked a mass exodus and a humanitarian catastrophe... The international community, especially the Alliance, decided that it would not ignore this in silence... President Milosevic refused to sign the peace agreement, setting himself in opposition to the entire democratic world, which was then left with no choice but to intervene, in the interest of protecting human lives and ending human suffering." -- Havel Statement, March 25, 1999 (USIA web site)

❑ **DENMARK: Prime Minister Nyrup Rasmussen**

"We are at the beginning -- not the end. It is taking time. With the cynicism and brutality Milosevic and his people have exhibited, it is impossible and irresponsible to question NATO's aerial bombings. There will be no wringing of the hands when it comes to continuing." -- Viby Jyllands-Posten (Internet Version) in Danish, April 6, 1999

❑ **HUNGARY: Prime Minister Viktor Orban**

"Naturally, Hungary agrees with the goals of NATO. Although peace in Yugoslavia is important for all of Europe, it is particularly so for our country, in view of the large ethnic Hungarian community there." -- BBC Summary of World Broadcasts, March 27, 1999

INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR NATO'S ACTION

- ❑ **THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE (OSCE):**
Chairman-in-Office, Norwegian Foreign Minister Knut Vollebaek
"This is absolutely necessary to prevent a further deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Kosovo.... [Yugoslav authorities] must now give peace a chance." -- USIA Fact Sheet, March 26, 1999 (USIA web site)
- ❑ **AUSTRIA: Chancellor Viktor Klima and Vice Chancellor Wolfgang Schuessel**
"In view of this dramatically aggravating situation, there was no other choice but to stop the actions of the Yugoslav army and the Serbian para-military alliances with air strikes. The point is not to take sides but to prevent a further aggravation of a humanitarian catastrophe that has become absolutely unbearable.... The international community has been trying for a year to achieve a political solution for the Kosovo crisis, and for a year, Belgrade has been preventing such a solution.... Now that all conceivable peaceful means have been exhausted, the use of force is the only way to prevent a worsening of the situation." -- Joint Austrian Federal Chancellery Statement, March 25, 1999 (USIA web site)
- ❑ **ALBANIA: Prime Minister Majlko And The Albanian Parliament**
"I believe that by now all words that can be used to describe what is happening in Kosovo have been used up. The horrible crimes against humanity, the unprecedented genocide and the ethnic cleansing in Kosovo, calculated by the regime of Belgrade in cold blood, has reached extraordinary dimensions." -- Statement by Prime Minister Pandeli Majko, March 29, 1999 (USIA web site)

"The Parliament of Albania highly appreciate and fully support the efforts made by the NATO member countries, with USA in the lead, to inhibit and put an end to the crimes undertaken by the Serb military-police machinery and terrorists in Kosovo..." -- Declaration by the Albanian Parliament, March 29, 1999 (USIA web site)
- ❑ **BULGARIA: Premier Ivan Kostov**
"The source of the problems in Yugoslavia is the ethnic cleansing ... and the ethnic oppression." -- AP Worldstream, March 30, 1999
- ❑ **UNITED NATIONS: Secretary General Kofi Annan**
"I urgently call upon the Yugoslav authorities to undertake the following commitments: to end immediately the campaign of intimidation and expulsion of the civilian population; to cease all activities of military and paramilitary forces in Kosovo and to withdraw these forces; to accept unconditionally the return of all refugees and displaced persons to their homes; to accept the deployment of an international military force to ensure a secure environment for the return of refugees and the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid; and to permit the international community to verify compliance with the undertakings above." -- Statement Of The Secretary-General, April 9, 1999

Distinguished Americans Support US/NATO Action

- **Bob Dole, Former Senate Majority Leader**
CNN's "Larry King Live," April 7, 1999

"...[M]y view is that we're doing the right thing now. We ought to all get behind this for the right reasons."

"...[W]e can't afford to be the world's policeman, make that very clear. But we can't afford to stand by -- call it ethnic cleansing, call it genocide. We did that in world war. We stood by while 6 million, 7 million, 8 million Jews lost their lives, and we promised we'd never let that happen again. It will cost money, no question about it. But again, you know, we're part of NATO. We're the dominant force in NATO. This is NATO's decision. And in my view, it's the right decision."

- **Colin Powell, Retired General And Former Chairman of The Joint Chiefs Of Staff**
Roanoke Times & World News, March 31, 1999

"[T]he attacks clearly must continue...President Milosevic is responsible for this tragedy, and he is the culprit and the villain, and we shouldn't forget that.... The point we are at now is, NATO has put its credibility on the line."

- **Jeane Kirkpatrick, Former Reagan U.N. Ambassador**
Federal News Service, March 31, 1999

"I would emphasize that the conduct of the Serb government with regard to Kosovo, is absolutely unacceptable. It is uncivilized, and it is not acceptable by civilized people in this end of the 20th century. And for this reason, I think NATO is entirely wise, that our U.S. government, and the governments who are participating in this NATO drive, have taken the right step in undertaking to bring about an end to ethnic cleansing and murder, and this almost incredible mistreatment of all the Kosovars. This is the closest thing to genocide that we have seen since Pol Pot's killing fields in Cambodia or Hitler's gas ovens in Auschwitz. It is simply not tolerable, and for this reason I think that the NATO governments were right. I think they took a necessary step and that they must continue until they have, in fact, prevailed."

- **William Howard Taft IV, Former Reagan Deputy Secretary of Defense;
Bush NATO Ambassador**
Federal News Service, March 31, 1999

"I would just underscore that the alliance -- and the United States as part of that alliance -- has chosen the right objectives here, the only possible objectives that we could choose for stabilizing Europe and bringing peace and vindicating the political rights of the people living in Kosovo. It's up to the American people and the people of the other countries of the alliance to support their governments in achieving those objectives. And whatever means are necessary to do that, we should support that."

- **Helmut Sonnenfeldt, Former Nixon National Security Council Advisor**
Federal News Service, March 31, 1999

"The only part of Europe which has the potential not only for enormous human suffering but also for wider warfare, is in ex-Yugoslavia and, at the moment, specifically in Kosovo, but potentially still in Bosnia as well. So if one asks, 'What is the American interest in addition to the humanitarian concern?' it is that all of Europe should be like the Western and Central European part of Europe so that the United States does not find itself again as it did in World War I and World War II, drawn into a spreading war. Europe as a source of warfare should have been removed by the end of this century. Unfortunately, at this point it has not, at least in the Balkans. So I think that, if you are looking for an overriding set of reasons, interests as well as values combined, that is it."

- **Zbigniew Brzezinski, Former Carter National Security Advisor**
Washington Post Op-Ed "To Stop The Serbs," March 30, 1999

"If the words 'never again' are to have any meaning, a civilized Euro-Atlantic community cannot tolerate genocidal barbarity in its own midst."

- **George Joulwan, Former Allied Supreme Commander**
ABC "Nightline," March 23, 1999

"I think that the U.S. and NATO stands for more than ships and tanks and planes, more than collective defense. They have shared ideals and values and those shared ideals and values are what are being violated right now in Kosovo. And so, you know, I think we need to make a statement as a nation and as an alliance and yes, I do think our interests are involved."

U.S. HUMANITARIAN RELIEF EFFORTS FOR KOSOVAR ALBANIANS
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- Since the eruption of hostilities in Kosovo in February 1998, the United States has been at the forefront of international efforts to address the humanitarian needs of persons displaced within Kosovo and refugees fleeing Kosovo.
- The U.S. and its NATO allies directed NATO to take a lead role in organizing refugee relief efforts in Macedonia and Albania, in consultation with the host governments and international and non-governmental organizations. NATO has established five camps in Macedonia, hosting an estimated 45,000 refugees,
- The Administration has deployed additional U.S. forces to Albania and Macedonia to deliver food and relief supplies, construct shelter and otherwise support refugee assistance efforts. Approximately 600 U.S. military personnel have deployed to Macedonia and Albania.
- The United States has agreed to provide temporary asylum to up to 20,000 Kosovar refugees. We are consulting with UNHCR and others to determine when and how this might be best implemented.
- To date, the United States has contributed an estimated \$150 million to the humanitarian relief efforts for the Kosovar Albanians.
- This sum includes \$50 million announced by the Clinton Administration on March 31:
 - Half of these funds (\$25 million) comes from the Refugee Emergency and Migration Account (ERMA) and will be used to support international organizations such as the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees as well as non-governmental organizations. On April 7, the State Department announced a donation of \$3 million to the International Committee of the Red Cross for Kosovar refugee assistance.
 - The other \$25 million is comprised of goods and services, including transport, shelter and logistical support, to be provided by the Department of Defense pursuant to Section 552(c)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act.
- The Department of Defense has contributed 1.1 million humanitarian daily rations (HDRs) to help address refugee food needs, while cooking facilities are being established in the camps. DoD and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) are working together to airlift 600,000 of the HDRs to Macedonia and 500,000 HDRs to Albania.
- USAID has also delivered 54,000 blankets, 1000 tents, 700 rolls of plastic, 18,400 water containers, and 4-10,000 liter water bladders to Macedonia; and 700 tents and 19,600 water jugs to Albania. USAID Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DART) are in both countries, evaluating needs and coordinating the U.S. response.

April 9, 1999



Public Donation Information for Crisis in Kosovo Call 1-800-USAID RELIEF

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the lead U.S. government agency for international humanitarian response, working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), has re-established the 1-800 hotline first used for Hurricane Mitch. Now the hotline is being used to assist with the overwhelming generosity of the American people for the humanitarian needs in the Balkans.

To ensure that the most urgent needs are met, we encourage concerned citizens to provide monetary contributions to appropriate organizations rather than collect clothing and other items for donation.

Transportation of privately-collected relief goods or volunteers to the Balkans is extremely difficult at this time. Monetary donations to private voluntary organizations (PVOs), currently working in or with local affiliates in the affected countries are the best means to assure that assistance reaches those in need. Organizations experienced in disaster relief can provide critically needed material and assistance in the most coordinated and effective manner.

The hotline is working successfully to accommodate an average of 500 calls an hour. FEMA has staffed the operation with twenty-four hour operators who have been reaching 99 percent of the calls within 20 seconds even at the highest volume levels.

For information on how to help or how to ensure a financial contribution is routed effectively:

Call USAID: 1-800-USAID RELIEF (1-800-872-4373) or go to the USAID website at www.info.usaid.gov.

ETHNIC CLEANSING IN KOSOVO

Reports of Serb war crimes in Kosovo—including forced expulsion of the majority of the ethnic Albanian civilian population, the detention and summary execution of military-aged men, rapes, and the destruction of civilian housing—continued to escalate over the past week. Serb forces, including Yugoslav Army (VJ) and Serbian Interior Ministry (MUP) units augmented by armed civilians and paramilitaries engaged in a systematic effort to deport the Kosovar population from the larger towns and cities. Especially in the provincial capital of Pristina, where the population was swollen by ethnic Albanians who had fled the destruction of their homes in the countryside during Serbian attacks over the past year, the Serbs began to use railroad boxcars to more efficiently transport their victims out of the cities. Many of these refugees have reported that Serb authorities forced them to surrender all of their money and sign over title to their property in the guise of “purchasing” their transportation out of the province.

We have clear indications of the magnitude and intensity of the Serbian effort against the ethnic Albanian majority in Kosovo. At least 560,000 Kosovar Albanians—over a quarter of the province’s pre-conflict population—have left the province since the Serb security crackdown that began in March of last year. Over half of these refugees have been forcibly expelled into neighboring countries in the last two weeks. We have incontrovertible evidence of widespread burning in residential areas of most of the larger towns and cities as well as in numerous villages, and we have confirmed that thousands of dwellings and cultural symbols such as mosques have been torched. The world has now seen videotape corroboration of at least one of the many massacres reported to have been perpetrated by Serb security forces since 24 March. According to a survivor who later filmed the scene, the ethnic Albanian residents of the village of Velika Krusa were removed from their homes at gunpoint, the men separated from their families, and the approximately one hundred adult males summarily executed at point-blank range.

Because the Serbs expelled international observers and most of the nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and journalists from the province, it has been difficult to obtain independent corroboration of many of the specific allegations of violations of international humanitarian law reported in Kosovo. Nonetheless, the overwhelmingly consistent nature of the thousands of reports from official observers across the border in Albania and Macedonia, from journalists and NGOs still in contact with their local staff in Kosovo, and from Kosovar Albanians themselves (both refugees and the Kosovo Liberation Army—KLA) paint an unambiguous picture of a continuing campaign of brutal ethnic cleansing by Serbian forces.

The following types of war crimes or violations of international humanitarian law have been reported in Kosovo:

Forcible Displacement of Ethnic Albanian Civilians

The Serbs are conducting a campaign of forced population movement on a scale not seen in Europe since the Second World War. They appear to have already driven the bulk of

the ethnic Albanian population from their homes, even though many of them have not yet been forced out of Kosovo. The Serb claim that this unprecedented population outflow is the result of voluntary flight in fear of NATO airstrikes is absurd. Refugees consistently report being expelled from their homes by Serb forces at gunpoint—in contrast to the fighting last year, when the bulk of the IDPs and refugees fled voluntarily to escape the crossfire or to avoid reprisals by Serb security forces.

In contrast to the past year, when Serb tactics in Kosovo were dominated by attacks by the security forces on small villages, Yugoslav Army units and armed civilians have now joined the police in systematically expelling ethnic Albanians at gunpoint from both villages and the larger towns of Kosovo. There are numerous reports from refugees and the press of Serb forces going house-to-house to rob the residents before looting and burning their homes. Despite expulsion from their homes at gunpoint, Serbian authorities have been forcing these refugees to sign disclaimers saying they left Kosovo of their own free will. Refugees also report that the Serb forces have been confiscating their documentation—including their national identity papers—and telling them to take a last look around because they will never return to Kosovo. Many of the places targeted had not been the scene of any previous fighting or KLA activity, which indicates that the Serb expulsions are not part of a legitimate security or counter-insurgency operation, but instead a plan to cleanse the province of its ethnic Albanian population.

Based on the scope and intensity of Serb activities throughout the province to date, at least 800,000 Kosovars probably are internally displaced persons (IDPs). Many of them either are on railroad sidings in Pristina or in other cities awaiting Serb deportation, are force-marching—sometimes at gunpoint—towards the nearest border, or have fled for their lives to the remaining—and fast shrinking—areas still controlled by the KLA. At least 560,000 Kosovars have become refugees in Albania, Macedonia, and Montenegro. Over half of these refugees arrived in the past ten days, with columns of refugees awaiting processing into Albanian and Macedonia reportedly stretching back nearly ten miles.

Looting of Homes and Businesses

Prior to forced expulsion, Serb forces reportedly looted the homes and businesses of ethnic Albanians in many towns and villages throughout the province. Serb civilians in the town of Vucitrn painted a Cyrillic “S” on their doors so that Serb forces would not attack their homes by mistake.

Widespread Burning of Homes

We have incontrovertible evidence of the burning of residential areas in most of the larger towns and cities of Kosovo and in many villages. This activity is not only more extensive than Serb destruction last summer, it is more thorough. Many settlements are being totally destroyed in an apparent attempt to ensure that the ethnic Albanian population cannot return. Serb forces have reportedly burned all houses previously rented to the OSCE in Vucitrn, Stimlje, and Mitrovica.

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Detentions

Refugees have claimed that Serb forces are systematically separating military-aged men from the groups, and the vast majority of refugees crossing international borders out of Kosovo—especially into Albania—have been women and children. We are gravely concerned about the fate of the missing men. Their number ranges from a low of tens of thousands—looking only at the men missing from among refugee families in Albania—up to several hundred thousand, if reports of widespread separation of men among the IDPs within Kosovo are true.

According to information received by Western human rights organizations, Serb security forces have also begun taking Kosovar women prisoner in Pristina. There are also unconfirmed reports that several of the trainloads of IDPs that departed Pristina on 1 April were headed north to Serbia.

The following locations within Kosovo have been reported as the sites of mass detention facilities:

- Glodjane: An undetermined number of Kosovars are known to be detained here.
- Glogovac: The Ferro-nickel factory in this town is reportedly being used as a detention center for a large number of Kosovars, and reportedly was used by the Serbs as a detention and execution site for ethnic Albanian men and boys during last year's security operation.
- Pec: Serb forces are reportedly using the soccer stadium as a detention center.
- Pristina: An NGO reported that 10,000-20,000 Albanian men were being detained in the Sports Stadium Complex, although some ethnic Albanian reports claim it is a temporary transit center.
- Srbica: The press and refugees report that as many as 20,000 ethnic Albanians—including women and children--were force-marched from the town of Cirez to Srbica as human shields for Serb tanks before being detained in a munitions factory.
- Vucitrn: An unknown number of Albanians were reportedly herded into a school here.

Summary Executions

Refugees have provided accounts of summary executions in at least 50 towns and villages throughout Kosovo. Even with scanty media or outside government access to Kosovo, at least one report—the summary executions at Velika Krusa—appears to have been corroborated. In addition to random executions, the Serbs appear to be targeting members of the Albanian Kosovar intelligentsia including lawyers, doctors, and political leaders. KLA political leaders who attended the Rambouillet talks may have been singled out along with ethnic Albanians employed by Western media or the Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM) and Kosovo Diplomatic Observer Mission (KDOM).

Atrocities and War Crimes by Location

The following is a partial list of what appear to be war crimes or violations of international humanitarian law reported throughout Kosovo since late March 1999:

Acareva

Serb forces reportedly burned this village in the Drenica region on 30 March.

Bela Cervka

Serb forces reportedly killed 35 people, then dumped their bodies near the Bellaja River between the Rogova and Bela Cervka railroad. By March 28, Serb forces reportedly had killed as many as 500 civilians in this town.

Cirez

20,000 Albanian Kosovars were reportedly used as human shields against NATO bombings.

Dakovica

Over 100 ethnic Albanians were reportedly executed by MUP and paramilitary units in this city. Seventy bodies were reportedly found in two houses and 33 were found in a nearby river. A prominent local surgeon, Dr. Izet Hima, was murdered. The men are reportedly being separated from the women and children. All Albanian Kosovars remaining in the town were warned to leave by 29 March, and Serb forces began burning ethnic Albanian homes, shops, and markets. Serb snipers reportedly have taken up positions in downtown buildings.

Glodjane

A large concentration of Kosovar IDPs has been observed in this town under guard by Serb forces.

Glogovac

The Albanian residential area has been burned, sending displaced persons into the Cicavica mountains. Glogovac also reportedly houses a mass detention and execution center for Kosovar men.

Goden

Serb forces executed 20 men, including schoolteachers, on 25 March before burning the village.

Klina

The expulsion of the entire ethnic Albanian population began on 28 March, with Serb forces removing the villagers from their homes and ordering them out of the country.

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Kosovo Polje

Refugees report that some families from this town were burned alive in their homes.

Kosovska Mitrovica

Serb forces reportedly expelled all Kosovar Albanians from this town on 23 March. In addition, over 200 Albanian homes and shops have been torched, and Serb forces reportedly have killed several prominent ethnic Albanians. Latif Berisha, a poet and President of the Democratic Alliance of the Mitrovica Municipality, was executed in his home, and Agim Hajrizi, Chairman of the Assembly of the Independent Workers' Union, reportedly was murdered along with his mother and 12-year-old son.

Kuraz

Serb forces reportedly killed 21 schoolteachers in this village near Srbica. Refugees also claim that as many as 200 ethnic Albanians are being detained there by Serb security forces.

Likovac

Serb forces reportedly burned this village south of Srbica on 30 March.

Malakrusa (Krusa-e-Vogel)

One hundred twelve men were shot and their bodies burned in an apparent attempt to conceal the evidence, according to a wounded and burnt survivor of the executions.

Malisevo

Serb forces reportedly executed approximately 50 men in this town on 27 March. Part of the town was set on fire on 30 March. By April 1 the Serbs appear to have completed their cleansing, and refugees report that the 50,000-140,000 IDPs in the Malisevo-Dulje area have been bombed and strafed by Serb aircraft and helicopters.

Mitrovica

Serb forces reportedly looted Kosovar Albanian shops and burned Albanian homes around a barracks that was targeted by NATO airstrikes in an apparent attempt to blame NATO for the damage.

Orahovac

Refugees have reported that an unknown number of ethnic Albanian civilians were killed during the ethnic cleansing of the city.

Orlate

According to refugees, this small village located on the crossroads between Pristina, Pec, and Malisevo was set on fire by Serbian forces on 30 March after some 200 ethnic Albanian men had been executed.

Pastasel

The bodies of some 70 ethnic Albanians ranging in age from 14-50 were discovered by IDPs on 1 April. A survivor who sought medical treatment nearby was reportedly executed by Serb authorities.

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Pec

At least 50 ethnic Albanians were reportedly killed and buried in the yards of their homes on the evening of 27 March. Refugees claim that indicted war criminal Zeljko Raznijatovic (aka Arkan) was responsible for the atrocities. On that same day, ethnic Albanians were reportedly herded into a five-story building in the center of town, where MUP forces loaded them on buses and transported them out of the city. On 28 March, 200 ethnic Albanians who sought sanctuary in the Albanian Catholic Church of Pec were removed and forced out of town. To further terrorize ethnic Albanians, Serbs reportedly looted and burned homes and shops throughout the town. Serb forces may have expelled 50,000 Albanian Kosovars from Pec by 31 March.

Podujevo

Serb forces may have executed some 200 military-age Kosovar Albanian men. In addition, Serbs reportedly removed ethnic Albanians from their cars and shot them on the spot. Ninety percent of the town reportedly has been burned.

Pristina

Serb forces appear to have completed military operations in the city and are now focusing on ethnically cleansing the IDP-swollen city. Male ethnic Albanians, including prominent human rights lawyer Bjram Kelmendi and his two sons, reportedly have been executed. Serb paramilitary units have burned and looted Albanian homes and stores throughout the city. Mixed Serb police and paramilitary units are separating men from women and children, and Serbs have distributed pamphlets admonishing Kosovars to leave or be killed. Approximately 25,000 ethnic Albanians were sent by rail from Pristina to Macedonia on 1 April, and over 200,000 are reportedly detained pending transport. Most of these IDPs are reportedly without food, water, medicine, or shelter.

The civilians are reportedly being processed at the Pristina Sports Complex and then marched to the train station. Buses and large cargo trucks have also been used to transport IDPs to within 3-6 miles of the border, where they are left to make their way out on foot. Refugees report that the ethnic Albanian neighborhoods of Pristina resemble a ghost town. Pristina police reportedly have arrested as many as 20 former OSCE/KVM local employees, and authorities are said to be searching for any Kosovar Albanian who held an official government position, worked for an international organization, or worked with foreign journalists.

Prizren

Serb forces reportedly executed 20 to 30 civilians and transported other ethnic Albanians to the border. Serb forces reportedly shelled the downtown area of this southern Kosovar town. Serb paramilitary units are reportedly operating freely throughout the town, and, according to refugee accounts, Serb authorities are having difficulty controlling them.

Srbica

Serb forces reportedly emptied the town of its Kosovar inhabitants and executed 115 ethnic Albanian males over the age of 18. Twenty thousand prisoners are reportedly housed in an ammunition factory in town.

Rezalla

Serb forces reportedly burned this village south of Srbica on 30 March.

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Rogovo

Serb forces reportedly executed at least 50 ethnic Albanians.

Stimlje

Serb forces reportedly burned the headquarters of a human rights committee and the Democratic League of Kosovo. Serb forces also reportedly burned Kosovar Albanian homes, stores, and vehicles, and some 25,000 civilians were driven out of the city to villages to the south. In addition, the building housing the former OSCE mission reportedly was burned.

Suva Reka

On 25 March, Serb forces reportedly massacred at least 30 Kosovar Albanians, most by burning them alive in their homes. By 28 March, Serb forces reportedly burned 60 percent of the town. Serb military and police forces reportedly killed as many as 350 ethnic Albanians in this town, and Suva Reka reportedly has been "cleansed" of its Albanian population.

Velika Hoca

Two paramilitary units, Arkan's "Tigers" and the "White Eagles," are reportedly based in a housing complex in the town and control the area between Orahovac and Suva Reka.

Velika Krusa (Krushe-e-Madhe)

Reports from refugees in late March that Serb forces had killed 150-160 Albanian Kosovars and dumped 50 bodies in a mass grave appear to be corroborated in a videotape shot by a survivor, who also gave the names of two dozen of the victims. Some refugees allege that homes were set ablaze, burning to death over 60 Kosovars—including women and children. Police reportedly told residents of the nearby villages of Lashec, Kobanje, and Atmanxha that "as a gift, we will only kill ten of you," and then told the survivors to "go to NATO."

Vucitrn

On 27 March, Serb forces reported killed four young Albanian Kosovars, including a 14-year-old girl. By 29 March, Serb forces had reportedly herded Albanian Kosovars into a school in the city, and refugees from the town claim that the men were being separated from their families. Snipers reportedly have taken up positions downtown.

Zhuri

On 28 March, local police reportedly ordered all ethnic Albanians to leave town, and as many as 7,000 Kosovars may have been displaced as a result.

Zulfaj

Serb forces reportedly expelled all the ethnic Albanian population, then burned the village.

Zym

Serb forces reportedly have burned this southern Kosovo town.

April 5, 1999

American Newspaper Editorials Support NATO Action To Preserve Peace In Europe And Prevent Further Serb Atrocities

□ **The New York Times:**

"...NATO must muster all the air power it can and use it against Mr. Milosevic's murderous troops." -- March 31, 1999

"Mr. Milosevic's butchery in Kosovo was not caused by the bombing. It began long before the air attacks commenced. It now calls for a sharp escalation in NATO bombing.... NATO must either bend Mr. Milosevic to accept the international peace agreement or destroy his capacity to terrorize the people of Kosovo, kill their leaders and drive them from their land." -- March 30, 1999

"...Serbian forces...have deliberately targeted civilians in their brutal march across Kosovo. NATO reconnaissance photographs and numerous accounts from refugees suggest the Serbian units have executed hundreds of ethnic Albanians as they have forced the people of Kosovo from their homes." -- April 7, 1999

□ **The Washington Post:**

"The barbarity of the Milosevic onslaught is appalling. Whole towns are in flames. Tens of thousands of men, women and children are being forced at gunpoint to flee their homes and trudge through snow to Kosovo's borders. There are reports of summary executions, of mass killings, of rapes....NATO cannot allow this ethnic cleansing to stand." -- March 31, 1999

"What matters most now is that NATO...make clear that it will undo Mr. Milosevic's brutal handiwork, no matter how long it takes... It must respond with steadiness and a determination to prevail..." -- April 6, 1999

□ **USA Today:**

"With diplomatic options exhausted and inaction unacceptable, the U.S. and its 18 NATO allies had no viable option other than to bomb." -- March 26, 1999

□ **Baltimore Sun:**

"President Clinton's challenge is to maintain unity and understanding. If it cannot undo the slaughter under way, NATO must ensure that it is the last such atrocity Mr. Milosevic undertakes." -- March 30, 1999

"NATO should stay the course, and shows every determination to do so. The depopulation of Kosovo must end, and must be Mr. Milosevic's last atrocity." -- April 2, 1999

□ **Chicago Tribune:**

"[T]he best path for America is to intensify the bombing campaign. It is time the eight years of war the Serbian dictator initiated in the former Yugoslavia be brought home to the Serbian heartland whose ethnic hatred sparked and fueled it from the start." -- April 2, 1999

- ☐ **San Francisco Chronicle:**
"A war has begun that could no longer be avoided. President Clinton has clearly enunciated the reasons for the NATO attack on Serb forces in Kosovo.... The war is an overdue punch at Milosevic, a prime malefactor in a European pivot point." -- March 25, 1999
- ☐ **Atlanta Constitution:**
"[S]ome Americans are wondering whether the attack by the United States and its NATO allies is necessary. The sad answer is yes. All attempts to peacefully resolve problems created by Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic have failed. He is an evil dictator who has presided over and encouraged genocide. His corrupt regime is destabilizing southeastern Europe and creating conditions that could lead to a much broader war." -- March 26, 1999
- ☐ **Pittsburgh Post-Gazette:**
"...President Clinton made a persuasive case in the address to the nation Wednesday night that ending the carnage in Kosovo is a 'moral imperative.... [U]sing air power is also, and maybe even primarily, defensible as a way to restore stability to a part of Europe that has been the source of continent-wide conflict in the past, and threatens to be so again." -- March 26, 1999
- ☐ **Buffalo News:**
"Halting the spread of Serbian terror in Kosovo is in the best interest of the United States because of the destabilizing effect of continued fighting in Europe." -- March 27, 1999

"This tyrant must be made to see that neither the capture of U.S. soldiers nor the plight of refugees will dissuade NATO from mounting a wide-ranging attack that will wipe out the Belgrade command centers that he relies on and values so highly. That will take longer than a week, and means Americans must have more than a week's worth of willpower." -- April 2, 1999
- ☐ **St. Louis Post-Dispatch:**
"Milosevic's extremism can't go unchallenged. For this reason, there is a strong moral and humanitarian case for NATO's military intervention." -- March 28, 1999
- ☐ **Seattle Times:**
"Halting the spread of Serbian terror in Kosovo is in the best interest of the United States because of the destabilizing effect of continued fighting in Europe....Protecting American interests by helping Europe stop Milosevic in Kosovo means putting U.S. forces into action." -- March 25, 1999
- ☐ **Columbus Dispatch:**
"Americans are understandably anxious as NATO bombings against Serbian targets begin in Yugoslavia. But for the West to have done nothing would have been to condone Slobodan Milosevic's ruthless slaughter of ethnic Albanian civilians. President Clinton says the attacks will be 'substantial.' They should be." -- March 25, 1999

Kosovo*Embassy of the United States of America*

Paris
April 6, 1999

Dear Madeleine:

For the last few days I have been watching, with increasing horror, the happenings in Kosovo. At the risk of appearing presumptuous, and because you and I have lived through similar events a few decades ago, I thought I might share my views with you. I will make this brief.

We are fighting a moral war against a war criminal guilty of genocide. We are fighting not only for the soul of Europe but for the soul of the Western world. There can be no possible compromise on such moral issues; no deals, no signatures or treaties. The only acceptable outcome for this war is Milosovic on trial in The Hague. If his own generals want to hand him over, so much the better. If not, we will have to do it on the ground and if it takes armored divisions driving into Belgrade, so be it.

If we take the lead, on moral grounds, we can level with the American people, and we have the best chance of getting most of the Europeans to follow. The French are not a sure thing, but at this time I do believe they would be there because of the atrocities. In a week it may be different.

If we take this position it should be accompanied with an explicit, big-time commitment to reconstruction and resettlement in Kosovo and elsewhere. It will cost many, many billions but there is no way around it. It could be given as a special fund for the World Bank or possibly the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). The more we wait, the more difficult Kosovo resettlement will be.

We should call for a Balkan conference, to include the Russians, and elevate this to the regional and Central European level. This would be the political complement to the economic commitment for reconstruction.

06/04/99

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- 2 -

If we are not prepared to lead this fight, we should take the best deal we can get when Milosovic makes his inevitable offer. We should recognize that if he remains in power after it is over, any deal we make will be a loss, but it will not get better with time.

You have my deepest sympathy having to deal with these choices. The first involves immediate danger; the alternative involves longer term danger. Neither is attractive. But, having lived through the 1930's here, I would not feel right if I did not put pen to paper. A week or ten days ago I might very well have said that if you can get a reasonably decent deal from Milosovic to take it. I know he has made a cease fire proposal. I believe it is too late for that.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Felix", is written over a large, stylized checkmark or flourish.

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Printed By: Andrew G Hyde 04/21/99 12:38:03 PM

TIRANA 1413

From: AMEMBASSY TIRANA
 Subject: LETTER TO FIRST LADY HILLARY
 CLINTON FROM ALBANIAN FIRST LADY
 LIDRA MEIDANI

MRN: 1413
 ICNbr: TED3556

Date/Time: 211409Z APR 99
 Precedence: IMMEDIATE

Cable Text:

TED3556

ACTION EUR-01

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	ACQ-01	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	INL-01	DODE-00
	SRPP-00	DS-00	FBIE-00	UTED-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00
	L-01	ADS-00	MOFM-04	MOF-03	M-00	AC-01	NSAE-00
	OMB-01	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00	SCT-00
	SP-00	SSO-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	SA-01	SNIS-00	NISC-00
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 FM AMEMBASSY TIRANA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8230
 WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 INFO NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TIRANA 001413

DEPT FOR EUR/SCE - HYDE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, AL, SR

SUBJECT: LETTER TO FIRST LADY HILLARY CLINTON FROM
 ALBANIAN FIRST LADY LIDRA MEIDANI

1. FOLLOWING IS A LETTER SENT TO THE EMBASSY APRIL
 21 BY ALBANIAN FIRST LADY MEIDANI TO BE FORWARDED
 TO FIRST LADY CLINTON. THE LETTER WAS WRITTEN IN
 ENGLISH AND IS DATED APRIL 19.

BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MRS. CLINTON,

IT HAS BEEN WITH SPECIAL PLEASURE I HAVE HEARD OF
 YOUR PERSONAL ACTIVITY TO ALLEVIATE THE SUFFERINGS
 OF THE DEPORTEES FROM KOSOVA THROUGH COLLECTION OF
 AIDS FOR THEM AND THE SENSIBILIZATION OF THE PUBLIC
 OPINION ON THEIR DRAMA.

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THIS CONTRIBUTION OF YOURS HELPS MILLIONS OF PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD TO BECOME AWARE OF THE DIMENSIONS AND NATURE OF THE CONFLICT TAKING PLACE IN THE BALKANS, WHERE YOUR COUNTRY IS LINED WITH THE GOOD, THE HIGHEST HUMAN VALUES OF DEMOCRACY AGAINST THE BAD, THE VIOLATION OF THESE VALUES AND THE DICTATORSHIP.

THIS CONTRIBUTION REVEALS ALSO THAT THIS CRIMINAL REGIME WHICH IS BEING HIT BY AN ALLIANCE PROTECTIVE OF PEACE AND STABILITY, IS BRINGING ABOUT A MASSACRE SEVERE AND BASE AGAINST WOMEN, CHILDREN AND THE ELDERLY. YOU HAVE HAD THE CHANCE TO LEARN MORE ON IT AT THE MEETING YOU HAD WITH TWO REPRESENTATIVE WOMEN OF KOSOVA CIVIL SOCIETY WHO HAD JUST ESCAPED THE WAR.

DEAR LADY,

MY PEOPLE AND I ARE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR THE SENSITIVITY YOU HAVE COHERENTLY SHOWN TO THIS HUMAN TRAGEDY WHICH OCCURS AT THE VERY HEART OF THE DEMOCRATIC EUROPE. I PERSONALLY BEAR TESTIMONY TO THIS SENSITIVITY DEMONSTRATED IN THE "WOMEN OF THE 21ST CENTURY" CONFERENCE IN SOFIA. MY COUNTRY WHICH IS RECENTLY UNFOLDING THE HIGHEST HUMAN VALUES IS CLOSELY FEELING THE SUPPORT OF YOUR COUNTRY AND ESPECIALLY OF PRESIDENT CLINTON.

FINALLY, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY HOPE THAT THE CONFLICT WHICH FINDS ON THE SAME SIDE OF THE FRONT THE USA AND MY COUNTRY - THE OPEN ALBANIA ASPIRING FOR DEMOCRACY - WILL PUT AN END TO THE ATROCITIES, THE ETHNIC CLEANSING AND WILL ENABLE THESE PEOPLE TO GO BACK TO THEIR HOMES TO REBUILD A NEW LIFE IN A DEMOCRATIC MULTIETHNIC SOCIETY IN THEIR KOSOVA.

((LOOKING FORWARD TO HOSTING YOU IN MY COUNTRY,))

SINCERELY,

/s/

LIDRA MEIDANI

END TEXT.

LINO

NNNN

End Cable Text

Printed By: Andrew G Hyde 04/21/99 12:36:03 PM

UNCLASSIFIED

April 21, 1999

KOSOVO REFUGEE PROCESSING

(NOTIONAL) STEP-BY-STEP OPERATIONAL PLAN

- U.S. based relative of Kosovar refugee calls InterAction 800 number to register interest in sponsoring relative(s) to come to U.S. from refugee camps in Macedonia and/or Albania. Relative is informed that first priority is being given to persons in Macedonia but information on persons in Albania is being collected for possible future admission. "Relative" is defined broadly to include: spouses, sons and daughters, parents, siblings, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, and cousins of persons permanently residing in the United States.
- U.S.-based relative is directed to one of ten resettlement NGOs to file sponsorship documents. Sponsorship assurance is developed and all available biographic and camp locator information on Kosovar refugee is recorded and forwarded to Refugee Data Center and IOM in New York. (day 1)
- Sponsorship and locator information on refugees in Macedonia is forwarded to IOM Macedonia where refugee is contacted by IOM, with NGO support, and informed of his/her relative's sponsorship offer in the U.S. If refugee agrees to U.S. refugee processing, he/she will be transported by bus to the U.S. processing site near Thessaloniki, Greece.* (day 7)
- Refugee's biographic information is forwarded to Washington for security namechecks. (day 1+)
- At U.S. processing site in Greece, IOM, with NGO support, prepares documentation for refugee's INS interview. Refugee is interviewed by INS. IOM completes refugee medical screening. (day 17)
- IOM Greece arranges refugee air transport to U.S. and forwards flight manifest to IOM New York for dissemination to Refugee Data Center and resettlement NGOs who notify relatives. (day 18)
- Refugee arrives in United States and is met by relative and/or voluntary agency representative. Upon admission, refugee is eligible for standard resettlement benefits (integration assistance, medical and social services, public assistance. (day 19-20)

* If processing site in Greece is unavailable, an alternative location in the region (such as Bulgaria or Turkey) will be sought. If no such site is available, case preparation and INS interview will be conducted in Macedonia. Refugees will then be transported to the United States where medical screenings will be completed at a military facility (such as Ft. Dix in New Jersey). Refugees would be expected to remain there for about a week before joining relatives. HHS would serve as DOD's implementing partner for a stateside processing facility. (days 14 – 21)

file Kosovo

**Secretary's written testimony
On Kosovo
HIRC, April 21, 1999**

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Committee, I am pleased to appear before you concerning U.S. and NATO policy towards the crisis in Kosovo.

My intention is to lay out concisely America's stake in the outcome of this crisis; the events that brought us to this point; the status of our military, diplomatic and humanitarian efforts; and our vision for the future.

As you know, Mr. Chairman, the potential dangers of the situation in Kosovo have been recognized throughout this decade. Slobodan Milosevic first vaulted to prominence by exploiting the fears of ethnic Serbs in this province. A decade ago, he catered to those fears by robbing Kosovo Albanians of their cherished autonomy. For years thereafter, the Kosovo Albanians sought to recover their rights by peaceful means. And in 1992, after fighting had broken out elsewhere in the Balkans, President Bush issued a warning against Serb military repression in Kosovo.

Meanwhile, President Milosevic was the primary instigator in three wars, attacking first Slovenia, then Croatia, and finally triggering a devastating and prolonged conflict in Bosnia.

Early last year, he initiated a more extensive and violent campaign of repression against ethnic Albanians in Kosovo. One result was a humanitarian crisis, as tens of thousands of people fled their homes. A second consequence--unforeseen by him--was the strengthening of the Kosovar Liberation Army (KLA), which contributed to the unrest by committing provocative acts of its own.

With our NATO Allies and partners, including Russia, the United States sought to end this cycle of violence by diplomatic means. Last October, President Milosevic agreed to a ceasefire, to the withdrawal of most of his security forces, and to the entry of a verification mission from the OSCE.

It soon became clear, however, that Milosevic had never intended to live up to this agreement. Instead of withdrawing, his security forces positioned themselves for a new offensive.

Early this year, they perpetrated a massacre in the village of Racak. And at Rambouillet, Belgrade rejected a plan for peace that had been accepted by the Kosovo Albanians, and that included provisions for disarming the KLA, and safeguarding the rights of all Kosovars, including ethnic Serbs.

Even while blocking our plan for peace, Milosevic was preparing a plan for barbarism; a plan for the ethnic cleansing of the entire Kosovo Albanian community. First, his security forces threatened and then forced the withdrawal of the OSCE mission. Then, a new rampage of terror began.

We have all seen the resulting images of families uprooted and put on trains, children crying for parents they cannot find, refugees recounting how loved ones were separated and led away, and ominous aerial photos of freshly-upturned earth.

Behind these images is a reality of people no different in their fundamental rights or humanity than you or me--of children no different than yours or mine--cut off from their homes, deprived of their families, robbed of their dreams. And make no mistake, this campaign of terror was the cause, not the result, of NATO action. It is a Milosevic production.

Today, our values and principles, our perseverance and our strength, are being tested. We must be united at home and with our Allies overseas.

The stakes are high.

To understand why that is, we need, as President Clinton has repeatedly urged, to consult the map. Kosovo is a small part of a region with large historic importance and a vital role to play in Europe's future.

The region is a crossroads where the Western and Orthodox branches of Christianity and the Islamic world meet. It is where World War I began, major battles of World War II were fought, and the worst fighting in Europe since Hitler's surrender occurred in this decade.

Its stability directly affects the security of our Greek and Turkish allies to the south, and our new allies Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic to the north. Kosovo itself is surrounded by small and struggling democracies that are being overwhelmed by the flood of refugees Milosevic's ruthless policies are creating.

Today, this region is the critical missing piece in the puzzle of a Europe whole and free. That vision of a united and democratic Europe is critical to our own security. And it cannot be fulfilled if this part of the continent remains wracked by conflict.

Further, Belgrade's actions constitute a critical test of NATO, whose strength has defended freedom and ensured our security for five decades, and whose leadership is essential to building the kind of future we want.

For all of these reasons, NATO's decision to use force against the Milosevic regime was necessary and right. And the conditions the Alliance has set for ending its campaign are clear, just and firm.

There must be a verifiable stop to Serb military action against the people of Kosovo. Belgrade's military, police and paramilitary forces must leave so that refugees can return. An international military presence must be permitted. And the people of Kosovo must be given the democratic self-government they have long deserved.

As President Clinton has said, as long as Milosevic refuses to accept these conditions, NATO's air campaign will continue, and we will seek to destroy as much of Belgrade's military capabilities as we can. Each day, Milosevic's capacity to conduct repression will diminish.

It is evident that the efforts of our courageous military forces are having a significant impact on Milosevic's options and abilities. But that impact is not yet sufficient. We must maintain the pressure until an acceptable outcome is achieved.

At the same time, we will continue to help those in the region cope with the humanitarian disaster Milosevic has created.

We do not know with any certainty how many people are now homeless inside Kosovo, but officials estimate as many as 800,000. Belgrade has made a terrible situation worse by interfering with efforts to provide food and other basic necessities. We are exploring every possible option for helping these people before it is too late. And we welcome efforts by Greek NGOs and the International Committee of the Red Cross to

open up a relief lifeline, which we hope will move desperately needed supplies to the population at risk.

In addition to the internally displaced, more than half a million Kosovars have fled the region since the latest violence began. Of these, the vast majority are now in Albania and Macedonia, where the terrain is rugged, the weather harsh and the infrastructure limited. Feverish efforts are underway to build camps and provide services. With local officials, the UNHCR, WHO, UNICEF, our allies and partners, and nongovernmental organizations, we are struggling to save lives, maintain health and restore hope.

Thus far, we have contributed \$150 million to this effort. On Monday, the President submitted an emergency supplemental request that includes \$386 million in additional State Department and USAID humanitarian assistance funds, and \$335 million in Defense Department humanitarian assistance. Last week, NATO approved Operation Allied Harbor, under which 8,000 troops will work with relief agencies in Albania to establish camps, deliver aid and ensure security. The U.S. Information Agency is participating in an effort to provide internal communications facilities at refugee camps in order to help reunify families.

Many of the refugees streaming out of Kosovo have reported Serb war crimes and crimes against humanity. These reported abuses include the widespread and systematic destruction of entire settlements, the burning of homes, the seizure of civilians for use as human shields and human blood banks, the rape of ethnic Albanian women and girls, and the systematic separation and execution of military-aged men.

For example, there have been reports of the killing of 60 men in Kacanik; and of the burial of 24 people at Glavnik, 30 in Lapastica, 150 in Drenica, 34 in Malisevo, 100 in Pristina; and other suspected mass burials at Pusto Selo and Izbica, where refugees reported that victims were first tortured and then burned to death.

There should be no misunderstanding. When it comes to the commission of war crimes or crimes against humanity, "just following orders" is no defense. In the prosecution of such crimes, there is no statute of limitations. And the international war crimes tribunal has rightly indicated that it will follow the evidence no matter where it leads.

The tribunal has already put Milosevic and 12 other FRY or Serbian officials on notice that forces under their command have committed war crimes, and that failure to prosecute those responsible can give rise to criminal charges against them. The United States has publicly identified nine military commanders whose forces may have been involved in the commission of such crimes.

By helping to document refugee accounts, and by compiling and sharing other evidence, we are and will continue to assist the tribunal in its effort to hold perpetrators accountable.

Mr. Chairman, in dealing with Kosovo prior to the last week of March, we were engaged in diplomacy backed by the threat of force. Since that time, we have used diplomacy to back NATO's military campaign.

Our diplomacy has several objectives. The first is to ensure that NATO remains united and firm. To this end, I met with Alliance foreign ministers in Brussels last week. And the President will meet with his counterparts here in Washington at the NATO Summit on Friday and Saturday. To date, we have been heartened by the broad participation and strong support the military campaign has received. In one way or another, every Ally is contributing.

Our unity has been strengthened by the knowledge that Milosevic refused a diplomatic settlement and by revulsion at his campaign of ethnic cleansing. No country in NATO wanted to have to use force against Serbia. But no country in NATO is willing to stand by and accept in Europe the expulsion of an entire ethnic community from its home.

Our second diplomatic objective has been to help leaders in the countries directly affected to cope with the humanitarian crisis, and to prevent a wider conflict. To this end, I have been in regular contact with my counterparts from the region. Their leaders will participate as partners in the NATO Summit. And the President's supplemental request includes \$150 million in emergency and project assistance to these nations and to democratic Montenegro.

Our third objective is to work constructively with Russia. We want to continue to make progress in other areas of our relationship, and to bring Russia back into the mainstream of international opinion on Kosovo.

When I met with Foreign Minister Ivanov last week, he was clear about Russia's opposition to the NATO air campaign. But we did agree on the need for an end to the violence and repression in Kosovo; the withdrawal of Serb forces; the return of refugees and internally displaced persons; and unimpeded access for humanitarian aid.

Where we continue to differ is over the kind of international presence required to achieve these objectives. As I told Foreign Minister Ivanov, after Milosevic's depredations in Kosovo, refugees will not be able to return home unless the protective force is credible, which requires that its core must come from NATO. As in Bosnia, however, we think that Russia could and should play an important role in that force, and we would welcome the participation of NATO's other partner countries, as well.

Our fourth diplomatic objective has been to ensure that NATO's message is understood around the world. We are engaged in a vigorous program of public diplomacy, and have provided information on a regular basis to nations everywhere.

We have been encouraged by strong statements from the European Union and UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, and by the participation in relief efforts of diverse countries such as Egypt, Jordan and Ukraine.

Moreover, last week, the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva voted 44 to 1 to condemn Belgrade's campaign of ethnic cleansing in Kosovo and called upon Serb authorities to accept a peace agreement. Supporters of this Resolution came from every continent.

We have also tried to pierce the veil of propaganda and ignorance with which Milosevic has tried to shroud the people of former Yugoslavia. Radio Free Europe, Radio Liberty and other broadcasts are reaching the country 24 hours a day. As President Clinton and other NATO leaders have stressed, our actions are directed against Belgrade's policies, not against the region's people. And our effort to broadcast the truth is designed to counteract Belgrade's Big Lie that the refugees from Kosovo are fleeing NATO and not the Serb forces.

In the days and weeks to come, we will press ahead with our military, diplomatic and humanitarian strategies. Our purpose will be to steadily bring home to Milosevic the reality that this confrontation must end on the terms we have stated.

Our desire is to begin as soon as possible the vital work of returning, reuniting and rebuilding in Kosovo. But we are not interested in a phony settlement based on unverifiable assumptions or Milosevic's worthless word. The only settlement we can accept is one we have the ability to verify and the capability to enforce.

Mr. Chairman, I want to emphasize at this point the importance of Congressional support for the Allied operation. If we are to succeed, Milosevic must understand that he cannot simply wait us out.

The Administration is committed to a regular, sustained dialogue with Congress about our policy, actions and plans. We believe your role is critical. We have welcomed Member visits to NATO headquarters and to the region. We have consulted and reported consistent with the War Powers Resolution and the Roberts amendment. And we will continue to work closely with you.

In this spirit, we hope you will strongly oppose legislation that purports to mandate the withdrawal of U.S. forces from the NATO operation, or that would otherwise raise doubts about America's commitment to the Allied cause. It is vital that we not let issues that have long been the subject of disagreement between the legislative and Executive branches detract from our unity in supporting justice and opposing terror in Kosovo.

Even as we respond to the crisis in Kosovo, we must also concern ourselves more broadly with the future of the region. The peaceful integration of Europe's north, west and center is well advanced or on track. But, as I said earlier, the continent cannot be whole and free until its southeast corner is also stable.

Some say violence is endemic to this region, and that its people have never and will never get along. Others say that stability is only possible under the crushing weight of a dominant empire such as the Ottoman, Hapsburg and Communist regimes that once held sway.

I am no prophet. Certainly, the scars of the past are still visible. Certainly, the wounds opened by the current devastation will take much time to heal. But the evidence is there in the testimony of average people whether in Zagreb or

Tirana, Sarajevo or Skopje, that they are far more interested in plugging into the world economy than in slugging it out with former adversaries.

If you look at the region today, you will see Greeks and Turks operating side by side as NATO Allies; you will see Macedonians and Albanians and Montenegrins answering the humanitarian call. You will see Christians and Muslims and Jews united in their condemnation of the atrocities being committed.

In Bosnia, NATO and its partners are working with ethnic Serbs, Croats and Bosniaks to implement the Dayton Accords.

And through our own Southeast European Cooperative Initiative, you will see leaders and citizens from throughout the region engaged in joint efforts and cooperative planning.

The problems that have plagued the Balkans--of competition for resources, ethnic rivalry and religious intolerance--are by no means restricted to that part of the world. Nor does the region lack the potential to rise above them.

During the NATO Summit, the President and our partners will discuss the need for a coordinated effort to consolidate democracy in Southeast Europe, promote economic integration and provide moral and material support to those striving to build societies based on law and respect for the rights and dignity of all.

Our explicit goal should be to transform the Balkans from the continent's primary source of instability into an integral part of the European mainstream. We do not want the current conflict to be the prelude to others; we want to build a solid foundation for a new generation of peace--so that future wars are prevented, economies grow, democratic institutions are strengthened and the rights of all are preserved.

This will require a commitment from us. It will require the involvement of the European Union and the international financial institutions. It will require a continued willingness on the part of local leaders to work together on behalf of the common good. And it will require, ultimately, a change in leadership in Belgrade so the democratic aspirations of the Serb people may be fulfilled and the isolation of the former Yugoslavia can come to an end.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would like to add just a few words about the crisis in Kosovo and the future of NATO. For the challenge we currently face has dramatized the need for precisely the kind of adaptations the Alliance has already initiated, and which we will take to a new level at the Summit here in Washington later this week.

In Kosovo, we are responding to a post-Cold War threat to Alliance interests and values. We are seeing the need for military forces that are mobile, flexible, precise and interoperable. We are seeing the value to the Alliance of its new members and partners. And we are reaffirming the unshakable strength of the trans-Atlantic bond.

Having said that, I want to emphasize that although we are focused now on Kosovo, the future of NATO is a much larger issue.

The current fighting notwithstanding, NATO's core mission remains collective self-defense. NATO's relationship to Russia is a key to Europe's future security and will be determined by many factors in addition to Kosovo. The Alliance must be ready to respond to the full spectrum of missions it may face, including the perils posed by weapons of mass destruction. And the United States will continue to welcome efforts to strengthen the European pillar of our Alliance in a way that bolsters overall effectiveness and unity.

Mr. Chairman, I understand that the Congressional leadership will be hosting a reception this week for our visitors from NATO countries. I hope that you will thank them for their efforts and stress to them the importance of standing together and standing tall until the current confrontation is settled.

As the President and our military leaders have made clear, this struggle may be long. We can expect days of tragedy for us as well as for the people of the region. But we must not falter and we cannot fail.

By opposing Solobodan Milosevic's murderous rampage, NATO is playing its rightful role as a defender of freedom and security within the Euro-Atlantic region.

Because our cause is just, we are united. And because we are united, we are confident that in this confrontation between barbaric killing and necessary force; between vicious

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intolerance and respect for human rights; between tyranny and democracy; we will prevail.

To that essential objective, I pledge the full measure of my own efforts, and respectfully solicit both your wise counsel and support.

Thank you very much, and now I would be pleased to respond to any questions you might have.

NOTES

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Letter on the door. Many doors and storefronts bear a spray painted Christian Cross with a cyrillic "C" in each quadrant; the "S" of Roman script, a widely understood sign that the owners and occupants are serbs.

Identity papers, you do not exist. You cannot come back.

She has met with refugees, plus seen accounts

Solana: a village a day keeps nato away

Rather answer these questions, than try to explain why we stood by and did nothing.

Kosovo was serb until conquered by Murad I in 1389, when it became part of the Ottoman empire. Serbs reconquered during balkan wars of 1912, and became part of Yugo after 1918. Serbs started to control, but this turned around when area came under control of Italian greater Albania during 2nd world war; then became independent republic within Yugo.

Can't blame albanians for Murad I.

Some of the poorest nations in Europe are now forced to provide for hundreds of thousands of helpless people.

NYT, 4/23 : Shehadjie Mustafa, who family of six took in a family of four in Lisec Mac; "These people are our brothers and sisters. If we don't help them, who will?"

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When you see your own kind being beaten and torured, you must do something. We do not have much, but what we have we will share.

Village of 120 homes, roofs of tin, walls of stone or cement; every family if of albanian stock, and each has taken in refugees.

The refugees are a varied lot, some young and healthy with Nike sneakers and nylon sweat pants. Others are old, walking bent over like rows of apostrophes. But all uprooted.

Horror stories, a gilir being pushed in front a truck, an infant ripped from a maother's arms.; girls being dragged from cars; left homeswith no belongings a few pictures, only memories; documents etc.

What games will the children play? What dreams will they have?

Mrs. Murati (the refugee) "I pray tht God rewards the people of this village who have shown us a kindness that is beyond words. And I hope that God punishes the Serbs and Macedonians for the bad things they do. Such hate, they have. That hate us, and it makes us hate them.

NYT 4/26/99:

Refugee in Macedonia: Ardian Arifaj: "Life is not only a biophysical concept. My life is the place where I grew up, where I live, my desk, my books, my music, my computer, the people I know and the places I go to have fun. This swhat I am and wihtout it, I do not exist. I am no longer the same I was. I have lost my personality. And now I am merely surviving.

15

Can they live with Serbs again? Arfaj repeated story he heard as a child:

There was a naughty boy whose father would hammer a nail into a piece of wood each time his son did something wrong. One day the boy asked why and when it was explained, the boy decided he would do better. Each time he did something good, he wanted his father to remove one of the nails. Eventually all the nails came out. "Yes the nails were gone, but the holes always remained."

76 Wells

Let us never forget--actions have consequences. The world we will have tomorrow depends on the actions we take today. Looking ahead, we can certainly be optimistic, but we cannot be complacent. For history reminds us that this twentieth century, which is about to end, began in peace, and with a burst of technological innovation. It evolved into the bloodiest 100 years in human history.

796-7--In the 13th and 14th centuries, the general population of Europe was religious and only vaguely patriotic; by the 19th, it had become wholly patriotic...perplex "how in the community of Western Europe, consisting everywhere of very slight variations of a common racial mixture of Nordic and Iberian peoples and immigrant Semitic and Mongolian elements, speaking nearly everywhere of very modifications of the same Aryan speech having a common past in the Roman Empire, common religious forms, common social usages, and a common art and science and intermingling so freely that no one could tell with certainty the "nationality" of any of his great-grandchildren, men could be moved to the wildest excitement upon the question of the ascendancy of France, the rise and effacement of Germany, the rival claims of Russia and Greece to possess Constantinople. These conflicts will seem as reasonless and insane as those dead, now incomprehensible feuds of the reds and blues that once filled the streets of Byzantium with shouting and bloodshed.

959-962--what is a nation? What is nationality? If our story of the world has demonstrated anything, it has demonstrated the mingling of races and peoples, the instability of human divisions, the swirling variety of human groups and human ideas of association...we may suggest that a nation is any assembly, mixture or confusion of people which is either afflicted by or wishes to be afflicted by a foreign office of its own...

All men are by nature partisans and patriots, but the natural tribalism of men in the 19th century was unnaturally exaggerated...nationalism was taught in the schools, emphasized and preached and mocked and sung into men. Men were brought to feel they were as improper without a nationality as without their clothes in a crowded assembly...

The essential claim of 19th century nationalism was the legitimate claim of every nation to manage all its affairs within its own territory, regardless of any other nation. The flaw in this idea is that the affairs and interests of every modern community extend to the uttermost parts of the earth. The assassination in Sarajevo in 1914, for example, which caused the great war, produced the utmost distrust among the Indian tribes of Labrador

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

File
Kosovo
Staff
who
don't

October 27, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR MELANNE VERVEER

THROUGH:

GREG SCHULTE
ERIC SCHWARTZ

I recommend that
you invite Jamie Metzl
to the meeting.

FROM:

JAMIE METZL

SUBJECT:

FLOTUS October 28, 1998 Meeting with George Soros
Regarding FRY Independent Media Crackdown

Background:

With assistance from international donors, a nascent independent media has developed in the FRY over recent years. While State-controlled media remains the primary information outlet, independent media has become a crucial source of unbiased and unofficial reporting to the population of FRY. This summer, Milosevic launched a renewed attack on free media in the FRY, closing TV and radio stations throughout the country. This crackdown has intensified in recent weeks.

On October 7, the FRY Information Minister imposed a regulation obligating mass media to "safeguard the Republic of Serbia" by barring these media from disseminating foreign programs or articles or other information "directed against the interests of [Serbia] or spreading fear, panic, or defeatism." Under this regulation, three leading Belgrade independent daily newspapers, *Danas*, *Nasa Borba*, and *Dnevi Telegraf*, were shut down. On October 20, the Serbian parliament passed a restrictive information law which establishes massive fines on media outlets for not publishing information the FRY authorities deem important and for carrying foreign programming. This law was first applied on October 24, when a \$244,000 fine was levied against the editor of the Belgrade weekly *European*, and its founder, editor-in-chief, and executive director. *Danas* and *Nasa Borba* have since reopened, although *Dnevi Telegraf* remains closed.

USG Support for Independent Media:

The USG has taken significant action to build up independent media in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Since April 1996, USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI) has awarded 567 grants, valued in excess of \$7.6 million to 158 independent media organizations in the former Yugoslavia. These grants have supported the development of fifty-nine independent newspapers and magazines, eight-two independent television and radio stations, and nine independent journalists associations and centers. OTI has also funded extensive media training, and has been a major supporter of the Open Broadcast Network (OBN) in Bosnia, and ANEM TV and Radio in Serbia.

Collaboration with Soros Foundation:

USAID/OTI has worked closely with the Soros Foundation's Open Society Institute (OSI) in Bosnia, Croatia, and Serbia and Montenegro. This partnership has been a natural one given the emphasis of both organizations on the support of free and independent media and civil society groups in the former Yugoslavia. In addition to co-funding projects, there is a significant informal working relationship between USAID/OTI and OSI on the ground. In Bosnia, for example, OTI and OSI have directly collaborated and matched funds in twelve projects totaling \$320,000. Almost half of OTI's portfolio in Serbia-Montenegro contains grants co-funded with the Soros Foundation. USAID and OSI have also been the two most consistent and largest donors to the ANEM radio and Television networks.

Response to Media Crackdown:

The USG has taken numerous steps to condemn Milosevic's crackdown on Serb media and to keep independent media voices alive. These have included:

- Issuing State Department and White House statements condemning the crackdown;
- Encouraging similar statements by NATO SYG Solana, OSCE Chairman Geremek, European allies, NGOs and others;
- Demarching FRY authorities regarding the closings;
- Working to enhance indigenous radio capabilities in Kosovo;
- Enhancing indigenous radio broadcast capabilities in the RS and Montenegro, particularly to allow the rebroadcast of VOA and other international programs into Serbia;

- Supporting other forms of expression by banned Serb journalists, including leafleting and postering.
- Further developing internet and e-mail listserve systems to maintain and develop networks to provide reliable alternative information to the population of the FRY;
- Pushing to establish Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM) radio station.

Additional Issues:

The Soros Foundation's Washington office has called on the USG to "draw the line" with Milosevic regarding his attacks on the free media. While we have taken a number of significant steps, we realize that independent media outlets in Serbia remain vulnerable. We would welcome Mr. Soros's view on what more we might consider doing.

Following up on the First Lady's meeting with Radio B-92 Chief Veran Matic and Soros foundation head John Fox, we have asked Ambassador Elizabeth Bagley to begin seeking programming support for ANEM TV. (Ambassador Bagley arranged for 5,000 hours of virtually free programming to be provided to the Open Broadcast Network in Bosnia.) According to Ambassador Bagley, limited funding may be needed to pay for programming at a reduced rate. If this is the case, USAID/OTI has expressed its willingness to match funds with the Soros Foundation, if the Soros Foundation is willing to do so.

Attachments

- Tab A October 21 Statement by the Press Secretary on FRY Media Crackdown
- Tab B Talking Points for Meeting with George Soros

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This marker identifies the place of a tabbed divider. Given our digitization capabilities, we are sometimes unable to adequately scan such dividers. The title from the original document is indicated below.

Tab A

Divider Title: _____

Talking Points for Meeting with George Soros

- Like you, we believe that independent media and civil society organizations are crucial to fostering democratic development in the former Yugoslavia, and around the world.
- Through USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI), we have supported many such organizations in the former Yugoslavia.
- OTI has worked closely with the Soros Foundation's Open Society Institute in Bosnia, Croatia, and Serbia and Montenegro. I understand that almost half of OTI's portfolio in Serbia-Montenegro contains grants co-funded with the Soros Foundation.
- The partnership between OTI and the Soros Foundation has been a natural one given the emphasis of both organizations on supporting independent media and civil society groups.
- Like you, we are extremely concerned by the recent crackdown on the independent media in Serbia.
- We have condemned this crackdown in the strongest terms, and have actively encouraged our allies, NGOs, NATO, and OSCE to do the same.
- Through OTI, we are increasing our support for independent media outlets in Serbia.
- We are also working to enhance independent media in the RS, Montenegro, and Kosovo, which can "spill over" into Serbia.
- We welcome your advice on what further actions we might consider taking in this regard.
- Following my recent meeting with Veran Matic from the ANEM network, and John Fox, we have asked Ambassador Elizabeth Bagley to begin seeking program support for ANEM TV.
- According to Ambassador Bagley, limited funding may be needed to pay for programming at a reduced rate. If this is the case, USAID/OTI has expressed its willingness to match funds with the Soros Foundation, if you are willing to do so.

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Tab B

Divider Title: _____

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 21, 1998

STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

The United States condemns the draconian law on Information passed yesterday by the Serbian parliament. This law establishes massive fines on media outlets for failing to publish information the FRY authorities deem important and for carrying foreign programming. It also requires publishers to forward copies of each issue to the public prosecutor and the Ministry of Information. This repressive law follows a series of hostile actions taken against independent media outlets in the FRY over the past weeks, including the closure of newspapers Danas, Dnevni Telegraph, and Nasa Borba and Radio Index in Belgrade, and Radio Senta in Vojvodina.

The government's actions are clearly designed to intimidate Serbia's independent media and to prevent them from reporting the truth about President Milosevic's campaign of repression in Kosovo. Milosevic is also trying to hide from his own people the substantial concessions he has been forced to make under the threat of NATO air strikes. This includes an unprecedented international presence in Kosovo, that until now he had steadfastly resisted, with 2,000 OSCE verifiers on the ground and NATO surveillance in the air.

The United States is committed to promoting free and open media across the globe, including in the FRY. We are actively supporting the courageous work of civil society and independent media organizations in the FRY who are struggling to keep independent media voices alive. We have expanded Voice of America's Serbian and Albanian broadcasts, and have begun broadcasting medium wave transmissions which can be received on AM radios throughout the FRY. We are also utilizing the Internet to enhance the level of information flowing in and out of the country.

In the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, independent radio stations and newspapers have provided valuable perspectives to the population of Yugoslavia about issues which strongly affect these citizens' lives. Without independent media voices, the people of FRY will be less able to make the informed decisions that will determine their future.

The Belgrade leadership should immediately halt its repression of independent media. Developing a vibrant civil society with free and independent media will be a crucial step in building the type of civil society which can return the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to its place among nations. Unfortunately, the current leadership in Belgrade seems determined to keep that country a pariah and to deny its citizens the benefits of democracy and integration into Europe.



Matt Gobush
06/02/99 06:01:15 PM

file Kosovo -
Page
MV
I'm
to
full
report
-
Kosovo

Record Type: Record

To: Katharine Button/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: an update

FYI. As discussed.

----- Forwarded by Matt Gobush/NSC/EOP on 06/02/99 06:02 PM -----



JORDANDEY@aol.com

06/02/99 04:46:27 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Matt Gobush/NSC/EOP, leslie_dach@edelman.com

cc:

Subject: an update

Leslie and Matt, you have to get your hands on a new report entitled "Assessment Report on Sexual Violence in Kosovo". The report was prepared by a consultant for the UN.

In terms of building the case for the "moral imperative" for the war - the stories in this report certainly do that.

It's unbelievable.

Bear with me, but here's a short excerpt. While some stories of rape have been reported in the media, this is the first comprehensive review done by an expert.

The consultant (a french woman) interviewed refugees for 12 days in Albania.

"It is primarily the young women who are rounded up in villages and small cities. The soldiers take groups of 5 to 30 women to unknown places in trucks or they are locked up in houses where the soldiers live. Any resistance is met with threats of being burned alive.

Gjakova, Pec and Drenitza were often indicated as places where kidnaping and collective rapes took place. The women were individually raped by many men, during a few hours but sometimes even for days. Women who were released have lacerations on their chests, evidence of beating on their arms and legs.

Their backs also show signs of beatings and they were covered in dirt. Agonizing screams could be heard for many hours. Kosovar men who tried to interfere were killed on the spot. One woman was beaten to death in front of the door of the house where her daughters were being tortured.

All of the victims interviewed by the consultant were raped or sexually violated in Kosovo, and none of the women interviewed were locked up for more than three days. Some of the kidnapped women who were taken to unknown places have not yet reappeared, according to their families and neighbors.

In general, the rapists wear masks although this is not always the case. They separate the women from the men. They form a circle around the naked women and force them to do humanly degrading acts.

OTHER ACTS OF TORTURE

In Berlenitz, women told of soldiers separating the men from the others. Soldiers wearing masks encircled the young boys and women. The young boys had their throats slit one at a time, but only after their ears and sometimes their noses had been cut off. The torturers sharpened their knives in front of the women and terrorized children. They then cut open the stomachs of many pregnant women and skewered the fetus on their blades.

One of the witnesses was 32 years old. She was spared because her pregnancy was not yet visible. She is currently in a clinic trying to carry out her pregnancy in spite of severe contractions that began during the scene of the torture.

In the same city a group of 30 young girls was forced to follow the soldiers into a house while the mothers waited outside. For two hours the mothers listened to the screams of the young victims who then came out one by one. Some were covered in blood, others were crying and their heads were hanging low.

Husbands and older brothers were killed separately. Female soldiers burned their bodies in a house. Speaking in Serbian, the soldiers made racist insults about their victims and spoke with vengeance about the help being given to the refugees on the other side of the border."

Leslie and Matt: There is more if you'd like me to fax you the whole thing. It is short and well-written.

It also calls for a two-tier media strategy, including having "internationally recognized women with high political and media profiles to speak out publicly and ask the press to maintain respect for the victims."

Perhaps there is a role for Mrs. Clinton.

I believe the report is being released tomorrow in Tirana. I can be reached at 355-42-466-02 (Tirana) or via email.

My best to you,
Jordan Dey

free Kosovo

140 South Dearborn Street
Suite 1100

Chicago, Illinois 60603-5285
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THE JOHN D. AND CATHERINE T.
MACARTHUR FOUNDATION

April 21, 1999

First Lady Hillary Clinton
Office of the First Lady
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington DC 20500-2000

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

I am sending an addendum to Monday's funders' meeting with you on Kosovo in hopes that some of MacArthur's contribution to knowledge creation can make a contribution to present urgent needs. While we have almost no presence in the Balkans, the Foundation's investment in the growing body of work on international responses to conflict aftermath might be helpful to you in the short term. Michael Doyle, Terje Rod-Larsen, and John Ruggie are leaders in this field, blending scholarship and field experience in excellent analyses of lessons learned over the past decade in international efforts to stabilize fractured societies. Their work focuses on practical issues like the coordination of donors, governments, and militaries and the effective sequencing of forms of assistance. Below is their contact information.

Michael Doyle
Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs
Center for International Studies
Princeton University
Bendheim Hall
Princeton, NJ 08544
(609) 258-4851

John Ruggie
Former Dean of Columbia University
School of International Affairs
1998-99 Assistant Secretary General (Senior advisor to Annan)
(212) 963-9082

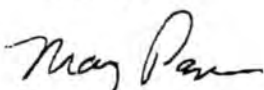
First Lady Hillary Clinton
April 21, 1999
Page 2

Terje Rod-Larsen
Fafo Institute for Applied Social Science
PO Box 2947 Toyen
N-0608 Oslo
Norway
Tel: +47 22 67 60 00

If you'd like more information about ongoing work or expertise in this field, please let us know.

Thank you for bringing funders together, and for your insights into and efforts on behalf of this crisis.

Sincerely,



Mary Page
Area Associate Director
Program on Global Security and Sustainability

MRP/ts

FAX: (312) 917-0334
E-MAIL: mpage@macfdn.org

cc: Julia Taft
Adele Simmons

Kosovo

April 22, 1999
9:00 AM

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Kosovo Humanitarian Coordination Council

FROM: USAID Humanitarian Response

SUBJECT: "Gaps" Analysis - Summary

This paper provides information requested by the Humanitarian Coordination Council on the current "gaps" or weaknesses in the system of relief for Kosovar refugees in Albania and Macedonia. Input was provided by the two USAID DART teams in the region, the State Department Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), the RMA office in Geneva, and the US Embassy in Albania. Due to the late receipt of most of this material at USAID on 4/21, this paper is presented in draft form.

This summary information is expanded on in the attached document.

Current "gaps" in the relief effort:

1. Need for stronger civilian leadership.

UNHCR has the leadership role in responding to this crisis. The US needs to monitor and recommend improvements in operations as well as assure that UNHCR has the tools it needs (e.g., personnel) to do the job. On a related note, the US also needs to assure that UNHCR implementing partners (e.g., NGOs) also have sufficient skilled staff and materials to run programs.

2. Need for improved contingency planning and a regional perspective on operations.

Relief operators in the field are overwhelmed with current crisis conditions and are working largely on a bilateral basis. A more regional perspective needs to be adopted to ensure more standardized policies and procedures, and better contingency planning. Plans for both increased refugee outflows as well as an eventual return must be considered now. The potentially explosive situation in Montenegro needs greater consideration.

3. Need for improved civil-military relations among NATO, various national military units, and the civilian relief community.

The development of civilian military coordination units in Macedonia (similar to the CMOC in Albania) will be an important first step in this regard.

4. Need to address host country-refugee tensions.

Addressing food and non-food needs of host country populations will be important to reduce tensions. In-country purchases of supplies to support local economies should also be a priority for the USG and relief partners.

5. Security concerns on a variety of fronts

Refugees in Kukes, Albania need to be moved more quickly away from the border where they are vulnerable to cross-border attacks from Serb forces.

Refugee camps require security mechanisms to assure the safety and protection of the residents.

6. Critical gaps in shelter provision

There is insufficient shelter to accommodate the current refugee populations, let alone additional influxes of refugees. This may be the single largest challenge currently facing relief operators. The problem is particularly acute in Albania, where land tenure issues are adding to the challenge of identifying new refugee sites. Alternative measures such as housing in unoccupied storage structures are now being pursued by NGOs.

7. Food Gaps

While current stocks are sufficient for the present refugee populations, there are insufficient buffer stocks to accommodate a large influx of new refugees. Stockpiling of HDRs and high protein biscuits for up to an additional 250,000 persons is needed. Standardization of food rations across camps and between camps and host families is also a priority.

8. Logistics Weaknesses: Communications, Warehouses, Road Repair

Better communications networks are needed to improve logistics and communications among relief providers. First steps are being taken in Tirana where an NGO central communications point is being set up. Adequate warehouse space is a problem in both Albania and Macedonia; additional Rubhall tents are needed as well as improved coordination to avoid bottlenecks in the port and at other locations.

Road repair is urgently needed in Albania to facilitate movement of relief supplies and people. NATO should be immediately engaged to address road repair issues. Other actions, such as enhanced airlift capacity, development of alternative transport routes and movement of refugees to more accessible locations need to be undertaken.

9. Non-food gaps

Additional supplies – e.g., plastic sheeting, blankets, hygiene kits and cooking facilities – are needed to serve existing refugee populations as well as to create buffer stocks in anticipation of new arrivals.

10. Water/Sanitation

Additional water/sanitation experts are urgently needed, especially in Albania. DART recommends seconding Centers for Disease Control staff to UN and other agencies.

11. Communications services for refugees

Refugees need to have greater access to phone service and news.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kosovo Humanitarian Coordination Council

FROM: USAID Humanitarian Response

SUBJECT: "Gaps" analysis as of April 21, 1999

This paper provides information requested by the Humanitarian Coordination Council on the current "gaps" or weaknesses in the system of relief for Kosovar refugees in Albania and Macedonia. Input was provided by the two USAID DART teams in the region, the State Department Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), the RMA office in Geneva, and the US Embassy in Albania. Due to the late receipt of most of this material at USAID on 4/21, this paper is presented in draft form.

■ STRONGER CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP

The international response to the Kosovo refugee crisis has suffered from some evident shortcomings. The speed and scale of the exodus overwhelmed the international relief community as well as the front-line states. While the humanitarian response has improved in the last two weeks, critical weaknesses remain.

Gap: UNHCR has the lead civilian coordination role in the current crisis. However, they continue to have difficulty in providing the leadership necessary to manage this crisis. Shortcomings include insufficient liaison with host governments, failure to institute a clear and uniform registration process, poor coordination of assistance among actors, weak management of relief commodities distribution, poor collection and dissemination of information, poorly conceived transport options for refugees, and slow establishment and weak administration of collective sites and/or camps. There is a sense that UNHCR is beginning to respond to the myriad challenges of this emergency, but they still need to do better.

Recommendations:

- ◆ Continue USG careful monitoring and pressure to assure that UNHCR continues to enhance its operations. When we identify shortcomings, they should be effectively communicated to UNHCR and other implementing agencies.
- ◆ Assure UNHCR's (and other UN partners) staffing needs are fully met. For example, USAID/DART in Macedonia indicates 30 additional staff persons are required for UNHCR to operate adequately there. State/PRM has also identified specific staffing needs for UNHCR (Attachment 1).

- ◆ Encourage improved coordination and decentralization of decision-making to field staff.
- ◆ Recommend to UNHCR that their emergency coordinators in Macedonia and Albania attain a higher profile in the field with quick access to high level decisionmakers at UNHCR headquarters and senior host country officials.
- ◆ Second technical staff, such as FEMA logisticians, to UNHCR and other UN entities as needed.

■ CONTINGENCY PLANNING AND A REGIONAL APPROACH

Gap: Overwhelmed by the current conditions, relief workers are working largely on a bilateral basis. A regional approach is critical to more standardized policies and procedures and better contingency planning. Plans for both increased refugee outflows as well as an eventual return must be finalized now. The potentially explosive situation in Montenegro requires greater attention.

Note: USAID/BHR has already begun contingency planning for both food and non-food items. BHR/FFP has plans to provide 50% of the food needs for 700,000 people. BHR/OFDA is purchasing additional non-food items for storage in Pisa. BHR/OFDA is conducting a feasibility study of setting up a regional command center for USAID relief operations.

Recommendation: The USG's contingency planning must include all possible scenarios: 1) expansion of conflict; 2) refugee return in the near term; and 3) long-term refugee assistance — through the winter — in the frontline states.

■ CIVIL-MILITARY COORDINATION

Gap: Since the beginning of the relief effort, there has been a gap in coordination of civilian and humanitarian relief activities. Although working relationships between the military (both NATO and non-NATO) and civilian implementing agencies have improved, they remain weak.

Recommendations:

- ◆ Encourage expanded use of the CMOC (civil-military coordination centers) in Macedonia.
- ◆ Foster further development of the NGO-led crisis information centers to link up with expanded CMOC operations.
- ◆ Ensure that UNHCR's role as overall coordinator for the relief effort is understood among all players in the field and that UNHCR is included in decisions that affect the relief effort.

■ HOST COUNTRY NEEDS

Gap: As the international community floods Macedonia and Albania with relief supplies for refugees, the discrepancy between the assistance for refugees and the needs of vulnerable host country citizens grows. The current crisis is straining the local economies and prices have risen 80 percent in some areas of Macedonia. Tensions are bound to increase between the hosts and the incoming refugees. It is critical for the international community to find ways to support governmental structures and host families as they struggle to accommodate refugees.

Recommendations:

- ◆ The US should support UN and NGO efforts to provide food and non-food assistance to host country populations affected by the refugee influx in an effort to reduce tensions. Assistance through government structures (such as government health facilities) that both refugees and host country citizens can access might be an option in Macedonia. However, the Albanian government is encouraging aid exclusively through NGOs and UN agencies to reduce temptations for corruption in the public sector.
- ◆ The USG should encourage UN agencies and NGOs to procure both food and non-food items as much as possible from local suppliers in order to support local economies.
- ◆ Provide FAO resources to coordinate and ensure that local production is strengthened through the provision of seeds and other inputs.
- ◆ The US should second technical experts on a short-term basis to the governments of Macedonia and Albania, as requested by them. (OFDA is dispatching a contingency planner to assist the Albanian government now.)

■ IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

Gap: While there appear to be sufficient private voluntary organizations (PVO) on the ground to work with UN agencies on implementation of relief effort, in some cases PVO capacity is weak.

Recommendation: Bolster material and human resource requirements of already-established NGOs in order to optimize their performance/productivity.

■ SECURITY

Gap: Despite the responsibility of the host government to provide protection to the refugees, there are a range of security issues that have and will hamper relief operations. In Albania, lawlessness – particularly in the north – affects security of refugees, relief workers and supplies. Location of refugees close to the border with Kosovo makes them vulnerable to further Serb aggressions. In Macedonia, there are fears of both security in

refugee camps (where reports of gangs have already cropped up) and the larger concern of UNHCR's inability to provide protection services to refugees in host families in a country that has so grudgingly accepted them.

Recommendations:

- ◆ Move refugees in and around Kukes, Albania away from the border as soon as possible.
- ◆ Ensure UNHCR is able to undertake all measures necessary to ensure that camps retain their civilian character; the camps should be managed by UNHCR (and their implementing partners) and maintained for a purely civilian population.
- ◆ Discuss with refugees and camp manager's options (such as community watch) for ensuring safety in the camps and implement agreed-upon procedures ASAP.
- ◆ Consider training for Macedonian and Albanian police to increase their understanding of how to deal with refugees in a professional manner.

■ SHELTER

Gap: There is insufficient shelter to accommodate the current or anticipated refugee populations. In Macedonia, all camps are currently filled to capacity and most do not meet international standards for housing of refugees. Additional camps are under construction but would serve more to alleviate current overcrowding than accommodate any large influx of new arrivals.

In the Kukes area of Albania, there are approximately 40,000 refugees with host families in Kukes town; 20,000 in collective centers (e.g. warehouses, stadium, etc.); 10,000-20,000 in tented sites; and another 40,000 living in improvised settings, such as plastic sheeting spread over a wagon. The Albanian authorities are moving about 5,000 each day to other prefectures of Albania. Current and planned camp facilities are not sufficient to house the current number of refugees let alone a large influx of new arrivals. Land tenure issues have complicated the opening of new sites.

Recommendations:

- ◆ Macedonia: Continue identification and building of new transit sites along with a proactive program of transferring refugees to Albania and other states.
- ◆ Albania: Continue identification and building of new sites. The UN and other donors should be prepared to lease land directly from landowners if the government is unable to identify new sites.
- ◆ In both countries, continue to identify and provide appropriate shelter for both short- and medium-term use. Contingency planning for winterization of shelter is needed., including winterization of shelter currently in use.

■ COMMUNICATIONS

Gap: Refugees - particularly those in camps and collective sites – have insufficient means to communicate with their relatives or get access to outside news and information. Improved communications is critical to reconnecting refugees with both friends and relations and could facilitate temporary reunification with family outside Albania and Macedonia.

Recommendations:

- ◆ Distribute AM/FM and short-wave radios to refugees.
- ◆ Install cellular telephone charging stations in the camps for those who have cellular phones.
- ◆ Expand the IOM/USIA when and where possible, including establishing communications centers with telephones and access to the Internet, where refugees would be able to send and receive e-mail and make a limited number of telephone calls every few days.

■ LOGISTICS

Gap: Inadequate information flow among all involved relief actors (both civilian and military) to identify needs and coordinate responses. Weak communications networks within Albania make the problem there particularly acute.

Recommendation: OFDA should deploy ASAP a telecommunication system, including equipment and technical staff, to improve logistics and coordination of delivery and distribution of relief supplies. Such a system can also support network communications services for the DART/NGOS/GOA/UN agencies.

Gap: Both Albania and Macedonia lack adequate secure warehouse space to accommodate the immediate expansion of the food and commodities pipeline if/when needed to meet an expanded and sudden outflow of refugees from Kosovo. Warehousing requirements at the Albanian port of Durres are particularly urgent.

Recommendations:

- ◆ Ensure adequate quantities of Rubhall tents are available for relief operations. Ensure sufficient security to protect relief supplies in these temporary structures.
- ◆ Ensure close coordination of relief supplies into Albanian ports in order to reduce logistical bottlenecks.
- ◆ Fund procurement of additional trucking fleet, if required by WFP/NGOs, to move relief supplies

Gap: In Albania, inadequate and poorly maintained road infrastructure inhibits transfer of refugees from the northern border as well as movement of food and other relief supplies up to this area. Conditions are rapidly deteriorating under the heavy truck traffic transporting commodities around the country. (Road transport is not yet reported as a problem in Macedonia.)

Recommendations:

- ◆ Engage NATO to begin urgently needed road repairs in Albania. The first priority should be repair of the road from Tirana to Kukes.
- ◆ Identify alternative transport routes in Albania to reach beneficiaries.
- ◆ Improve airlift capacity by increasing use of both helicopter and high capacity aircraft to move both people and commodities (this is primarily an issue in Albania).
- ◆ Move refugees to areas that are more accessible.

■ FOOD ISSUES

Gap: There are insufficient buffer stocks to feed a sudden, large scale influx of refugees into Albania and Macedonia.

Recommendation: Ensure the creation of an adequate, pre-packaged buffer stock (HDRS and high protein biscuits) to cover the needs of up to 250,000 new arrivals.

Gap: There is a discrepancy between WFP and ICRC concerning rations offered by the Red Cross (feeding of refugees living with host families and host families themselves) and those offered by the WFP (feeding all refugees in the camps and collective centers) in Albania.

Recommendation: Urge WFP and the Red Cross, in coordination with UNHCR, to quickly agree on a uniform ration.

Gap: The lack of a true regional “staging point” for WFP and NGO food commodities. With storage constraints in Albania and uncertainty as to where/when/if refugee movements will occur, it is difficult for NGOs and WFP to position their stocks effectively.

Recommendation: Continue to encourage WFP to identify an appropriate location for the storage of buffer stocks. We have indicated that, given the possibility for rapid changes in the numbers and locations of refugees, “US Port” is not an acceptable point for the positioning of commodities available for shipment to the region.

Gap: There is a critical lack of cooking facilities to prepare hot food.

Recommendation: Increase the use of either field kitchens for food preparation to serve large numbers or the distribution of individual gas cooking stoves. The provision of individual stoves gives the refugees some autonomy over their own affairs which would help in boosting self-esteem.

■ NON-FOOD ITEMS

Gap: Four weeks into the relief operation in Albania and Macedonia, the need for non-food items (NFIs) continues for existing refugee populations and buffer stocks are required in anticipation of new arrivals.

Recommendation: Additional tents and plastic sheeting, blankets, hygiene kits, and cooking facilities are needed. USAID/OFDA should immediately dispatch non-food items in sufficient quantities to cover the continuing needs.

■ WATER/SANITATION

Gap: Inadequate access to sufficient clean water for bathing and drinking in some locations. This is particularly true for Kukes and Kruma, Albania. There is an urgent need for bottled water at the border crossings into Albania. In addition, there is inadequate sanitation, especially related to human waste disposal and garbage collection.

Recommendations:

- ◆ In Albania, urge UNICEF to get a water/sanitation expert to the northern region.
- ◆ OFDA should second Center for Disease Control (CDC) experts to both UNICEF and UNHCR to improve health, water and sanitation activities.
- ◆ USAID/OFDA should provide additional hygiene kits for camps in Macedonia and Albania.
- ◆ USG should encourage UNHCR and their implementing partners to provide adequate bathing facilities in the camps. UNHCR should also ensure that sufficient water is available to refugees as they cross the border from Kosovo.
- ◆ USG should encourage UNHCR to ensure there is sufficient garbage collection within the camps and host towns/villages and contract for garbage disposal services with a local entity or NGO.

■ USG PERSONNEL

Gap: STATE/PRM/Washington currently has 30 people working full or part-time on Kosovo and 2 persons with the DARTS. RMA/Geneva is also stretched and will likely need additional staffing during the summer months. USAID has a similar staffing crunch especially with regards to adequately staffing the DARTs.

Recommendation: STATE/PRM and USAID will review staffing requirements and determine how best to meet them as quickly as possible.

Drafted USAID/BHR: E. Kvitashvili, D. Esposito, D. Costello, C. Kim

Reviewed by:

H. Parmer/USAID
R. Williams/USAID
C. MacCaffrey/USAID
H. Babbitt/USAID
A. Kreczko/STATE/PRM

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Kosovo Humanitarian Coordination Council

FROM: USAID Humanitarian Response

SUBJECT: "Gaps" Analysis - Summary

This paper provides information requested by the Humanitarian Coordination Council on the current "gaps" or weaknesses in the system of relief for Kosovar refugees in Albania and Macedonia. Input was provided by the two USAID DART teams in the region, the State Department Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), the RMA office in Geneva, and the US Embassy in Albania. Due to the late receipt of most of this material at USAID on 4/21, this paper is presented in draft form.

This summary information is expanded on in the attached document.

Current "gaps" in the relief effort:

1. Need for stronger civilian leadership.

UNHCR has the leadership role in responding to this crisis. The US needs to monitor and recommend improvements in operations as well as assure that UNHCR has the tools it needs (e.g., personnel) to do the job. On a related note, the US also needs to assure that UNHCR implementing partners (e.g., NGOs) also have sufficient skilled staff and materials to run programs.

2. Need for improved contingency planning and a regional perspective on operations.

Relief operators in the field are overwhelmed with current crisis conditions and are working largely on a bilateral basis. A more regional perspective needs to be adopted to ensure more standardized policies and procedures, and better contingency planning. Plans for both increased refugee outflows as well as an eventual return must be considered now. The potentially explosive situation in Montenegro needs greater consideration.

3. Need for improved civil-military relations among NATO, various national military units, and the civilian relief community.

The development of civilian military coordination units in Macedonia (similar to the CMOC in Albania) will be an important first step in this regard.

4. Need to address host country-refugee tensions.

Addressing food and non-food needs of host country populations will be important to reduce tensions. In-country purchases of supplies to support local economies should also be a priority for the USG and relief partners.

5. Security concerns on a variety of fronts

Refugees in Kukes, Albania need to be moved more quickly away from the border where they are vulnerable to cross-border attacks from Serb forces.

Refugee camps require security mechanisms to assure the safety and protection of the residents.

6. Critical gaps in shelter provision

There is insufficient shelter to accommodate the current refugee populations, let alone additional influxes of refugees. This may be the single largest challenge currently facing relief operators. The problem is particularly acute in Albania, where land tenure issues are adding to the challenge of identifying new refugee sites. Alternative measures such as housing in unoccupied storage structures are now being pursued by NGOs.

7. Food Gaps

While current stocks are sufficient for the present refugee populations, there are insufficient buffer stocks to accommodate a large influx of new refugees. Stockpiling of HDRs and high protein biscuits for up to an additional 250,000 persons is needed. Standardization of food rations across camps and between camps and host families is also a priority.

8. Logistics Weaknesses: Communications, Warehouses, Road Repair

Better communications networks are needed to improve logistics and communications among relief providers. First steps are being taken in Tirana where an NGO central communications point is being set up. Adequate warehouse space is a problem in both Albania and Macedonia; additional Rubhall tents are needed as well as improved coordination to avoid bottlenecks in the port and at other locations.

Road repair is urgently needed in Albania to facilitate movement of relief supplies and people. NATO should be immediately engaged to address road repair issues. Other actions, such as enhanced airlift capacity, development of alternative transport routes and movement of refugees to more accessible locations need to be undertaken.

9. Non-food gaps

Additional supplies – e.g., plastic sheeting, blankets, hygiene kits and cooking facilities – are needed to serve existing refugee populations as well as to create buffer stocks in anticipation of new arrivals.

10. Water/Sanitation

Additional water/sanitation experts are urgently needed, especially in Albania. DART recommends seconding Centers for Disease Control staff to UN and other agencies.

11. Communications services for refugees

Refugees need to have greater access to phone service and news.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kosovo Humanitarian Coordination Council

FROM: USAID Humanitarian Response

SUBJECT: "Gaps" analysis as of April 21, 1999

This paper provides information requested by the Humanitarian Coordination Council on the current "gaps" or weaknesses in the system of relief for Kosovar refugees in Albania and Macedonia. Input was provided by the two USAID DART teams in the region, the State Department Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), the RMA office in Geneva, and the US Embassy in Albania. Due to the late receipt of most of this material at USAID on 4/21, this paper is presented in draft form.

■ STRONGER CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP

The international response to the Kosovo refugee crisis has suffered from some evident shortcomings. The speed and scale of the exodus overwhelmed the international relief community as well as the front-line states. While the humanitarian response has improved in the last two weeks, critical weaknesses remain.

Gap: UNHCR has the lead civilian coordination role in the current crisis. However, they continue to have difficulty in providing the leadership necessary to manage this crisis. Shortcomings include insufficient liaison with host governments, failure to institute a clear and uniform registration process, poor coordination of assistance among actors, weak management of relief commodities distribution, poor collection and dissemination of information, poorly conceived transport options for refugees, and slow establishment and weak administration of collective sites and/or camps. There is a sense that UNHCR is beginning to respond to the myriad challenges of this emergency, but they still need to do better.

Recommendations:

- ◆ Continue USG careful monitoring and pressure to assure that UNHCR continues to enhance its operations. When we identify shortcomings, they should be effectively communicated to UNHCR and other implementing agencies.
- ◆ Assure UNHCR's (and other UN partners) staffing needs are fully met. For example, USAID/DART in Macedonia indicates 30 additional staff persons are required for UNHCR to operate adequately there. State/PRM has also identified specific staffing needs for UNHCR (Attachment 1).

S. DANIEL ABRAHAM

*cc: Melanne
Kosovo*

April 21, 1999

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

You were inspiring today.

There isn't a day that goes by that I don't wake up and give thanks to the Lord for the blessing of being and living in America.

When you watch the scenes of the horror and neediness of the poor Kosovo refugees, you can't help but think "there for the grace of God go I."

This morning I was visiting with our people in our manufacturing facility in Covington, Tennessee. We talked about the suffering of the people in Kosovo and they asked me to come to your USAID meeting and make two contributions: \$180,000 cash and 500,000 SLIM•FAST nutritional MEAL-on-the-GO bars.

It was wonderful to see you. Thank you for all you do to help make the world a better place.

Warmest Regards,

Dan Abraham

P.S. Thousands of SLIM•FAST Ready to Drink meals are already on their way to Kosovo through our European company.

777 SOUTH FLAGLER DRIVE • WEST TOWER, SUITE 1400
WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA 33401

TEL 561-822-2800

FAX 561-832-3006

Kasov

● Maureen T. Shea

08/02/99 11:55:03 AM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc: Joseph D. Ratner/WHO/EOP@EOP

Subject: As of now

Event: 3:00 - August 2, 1999 - Roosevelt Room

Guests will come to NorthWest gate and proceed to North Portico of the White House and then to the East Room. They will exit after the program to East Executive Drive.

Kim Widdess has made arrangements for a wheelchair to be there in case it is needed by Rabbi Kahn (father of Jenette Kahn of DC Comics).

Program Participants

First Lady – Welcome and update on humanitarian aid

✓ Tehnaz Dastoor, Office of Emergency Programs, UNICEF –

Lt. General Michael Davison

Jenette Kahn, President, DC Comics

First Lady – Closing remarks

Backdrop: Blow-Up of comic book

Briefing Participants (Blue or Red Room)

First Lady

✓ Tehnaz Dastoor, Office of Emergency Programs, UNICEF

✓ Lt. General Michael Davison

✓ Jenette Kahn, President, DC Comics

Sen. Patrick Leahy

✓ Dr. Vjosa Dobruna

✓ Special Representative Donald Steinberg

Melanne Verveer

Scott Busby – NSC

Briefing
Matt
Scott

✓ Julia Taft
✓ Hattie Ballitt

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
004. email	Maureen Shea to Katharine Button [partial] [10 U.S.C. 424] (1 page)	08/02/1999	P3/b(3)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Melanne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 20040

FOLDER TITLE:

Kosovo

2013-0534-S

rc1605

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Kosovo

● Maureen T. Shea

08/02/99 11:42:06 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Katharine Button/WHO/EOP@EOP, Kim B. Widdess/WHO/EOP@EOP, Daniel E. O'Brien/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc: Joseph D. Ratner/WHO/EOP@EOP

Subject: List Etc/

The following is the participant and guest list for 3:00 - a total of 79 - NSC is bringing an additional 10 staff and Danny has additional ethnic calls out.

Danny will bring blow-up, comic books - both Albanian and English translation - to Katy at 2:00 to take over to East Room.

Intern has sent second WAVES list to Joe for processing. As we found two we had sent in who were not on WAVES copy, I suggest Joe run another copy at 1:30 and Danny and intern doublecheck again.

I've just had a call from Jenette Kahn's office about making arrangements for a car to pick her up - the company is faxing me the information which I will get to Danny.

GUEST LIST AUGUST 2, 1999

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS (3)

Tehnaz Dastoor, Office of Emergency Programs, UNICEF
Lt. General Michael Davison
Jenette Kahn, President, DC Comics

US GOVERNMENT

DEFENSE (6)

Mr. John Heaphy, Humanitarian Demining Program Manager, Defense Security
Cooperation Agency
Dr. James A. Schear-Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Peacekeeping and
Humanitarian Assistance
Col. Harold T. Stott, Jr. Demining Policy Assistant, Humanitarian Assistance
and Anti Personnel Landmine

(b)(3)

Michael Ritchie
Col. Paul Hughes

60047

AID (1)

Acting Administrator Hattie Babbitt

STATE (10)

Bureau of Political and Military Affairs/Humanitarian Demining Programs Director
Donald Patierno

Special Representative for Global and Humanitarian Demining Donald Steinberg

Assistant Secretary of State Julia Taft

Laurie Zimmerman – Office of Global and Humanitarian Demining

PM/HDP Staff

Katharine Ahern

Natasha Franceschi

James Lawrence

Shante Moore

Maria Raphael

Edmund Trimakas

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY (10)

Chief of UN Mine Action Service Tore Skedsmo

Senior Advisor to UNICEF Alejandro Palacios

Joseph Mettimano/UNICEF

Martin Rendon/UNICEF

Joseph Scalise/World Food Programme

Her Excellency Julia Lubica Acevska

Embassy of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

His Excellency Petrit Bushati

Embassy of the Republic of Albania

3 staff

NGOs (17)

Ralph Cwerman, President, Humpty Dumpty Institute

Paul Irwin, CEO, U.S. Humane Society

Jean Irwin, U.S. Humane Society

Andrew Rowan, U.S. Humane Society

Rabbi Benjamin Kahn, DC Comics

Lillian Laserson, VP & General Counsel DC Comics

Perry Baltimore, Executive Director, Marshall Legacy Institute

Bill Leurs, President and CEO, UN Association of the USA

Lil Shevitz – DC Comics

CARE International - Mary Ann Leach

Catholic Relief Services – Kathleen Carlisle and Jennifer Nazaire

International Medical Corps – Nancy Aossey, Pres. & CEO

International Rescue Committee – Annike Buche

Mercy Corps International – Sarah Petzak

Save the Children – Lauren Landis

World Vision – Adrienne Paul

STATE DEPARTMENT GUESTS (23)

Clark Adams

Elizabeth Bailey

Barbara Bishop

James Bishop

Jody Buckneberg

Sandy Dean

Mara Dublin

Laurie Dundon

Alan van Egmond

Amy Eichenberg

Ali Gallagher

Jan Hartke

Norman Hastings

Cynthia Henderson

James Lawrence

Bonnie Lilienfeld

Claudio Lilienfeld

Daniel Sharfman

Elisa Skelton

G. Marshll Smith

Victoria Stack

Kirsten Stainsen
John Zavales

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS (1)

Sen. Patrick Leahy

ETHNIC ALBANIANS (8)

Ilir Zherka, Executive Director - National Albanian American Council

Aferdita Rakipi, Communications Director - National Albanian American Council

Avni Mustafaj, COO, Kosova Relief Fund and President of NAAC

Elza Zagreda

Dr. Anna Kohen, President - Albanian American Women's Organization

Shqipe Malushi, Founder, Former President - Albanian American Women's Organization

Dr. Vjosa Dobruna, Pediatrician from Kosova, co-founder of Council for Human Rights, founder of the Center for the Protection of Women and Children (USAID grantee)

Michael Gregory, NAAC Board Member, Regional Representative in Massachusetts

Kosovo

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
SUPERMAN COMIC EVENT
THE WHITE HOUSE
AUGUST 2, 1999

It's a great pleasure to welcome all of you to the White House. We've come together today in part to celebrate the end of the terrible conflict in Kosovo – and the return of the refugees to their homes. But we're here as well to talk about the new challenges facing the people of Kosovo, and the new role that we can play as they begin to put their lives back together, and rebuild their communities.

The victory in Kosovo has been the triumph of a united international community over the forces of inhumanity and hatred. And today, we will be hearing from some of those same partners who are now making this hard fought peace a reality – in the homes and fields and playgrounds of Kosovo. I want to welcome our participants today: Lt. General Michael Davison, director of the Defense Security Cooperation Agency; Tehnaz Dastoor [Ten-AZ Dass-TURE] from UNICEF, who has just returned from Kosovo; and Jenette Kahn, President of DC Comics. I also want to welcome other key partners today, including Ambassador Donald Steinberg from the State Department, who is now serving as Special Representative of the President and Secretary of State for Global Humanitarian Demining; Assistant Secretary of State Julia Taft; and Acting Administrator of AID, Hattie Babbit.

We are honored today to have with us today Her Excellency Julia Lubica Acevska [], from the Embassy of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and his excellency Petrit Bushati [] from the Embassy of the Republic of Albania. I welcome as well the members of Congress, and representatives of the many NGOs, humanitarian groups, and government agencies who have joined us this afternoon.

Let's think together for a moment about the remarkable changes that have taken place in such a short time. A few months ago, we watched with horror at the haunting images on television and in the newspapers of Kosovars being crowded into trains; parents being separated from their children; refugees wandering through a landscape of desolation and despair; and people weeping as they recalled unspeakable atrocities.

When I visited a refugee camp in Macedonia ^{in May} ~~more than a month ago~~ – I spoke with a 63-year old woman who told me she didn't know where her daughter and grandchildren were. Serb police had stormed the house, held guns to their throats, and ordered them to leave. I met with another woman who was forced by the authorities to board a train. She held tightly to the hand of her oldest daughter – who was holding on to the younger children. But in the crush, she felt her daughter's hand slip away – and she realized her girls and her husband were lost.

Those heart-wrenching scenes are now thankfully being replaced with images and stories of hope. We've seen refugees returning home to the joyful embraces of relatives they feared dead. Families who thought they would never see their homeland again instead returning to find crowded streets; open stores and bustling markets; and unexpected acts of kindness. And where

Scott
there was before only silence, the air is filled again with the sound of children playing.

But the refugees are also returning home, unfortunately, not just to the new challenges of reconstruction but to new dangers – including land mines. Helping them deal with that problem is why we're all here this afternoon.

It is my pleasure today to introduce to you one of the newest members of our international humanitarian community: A hero who wears a red cape and has a large "S" emblazoned across his chest. Superman has been the beloved hero of America's children for generations – armed with special powers, and a big heart. Now he will be both a hero and a guide to the children of Kosovo – as he educates them about the dangers of land mines. As we speak, 500,000 of these Superman Mine Awareness comic books are being flown to Kosovo, to be distributed to children through their schools and communities.

Tragically, land mines continue to pose a significant threat to the citizens of Kosovo – particularly children. About 200 mine and unexploded ordinance accidents have occurred over the past six weeks – a problem that the people of Kosovo will face again and again, for at least the next five years.

Like children everywhere, the children of Kosovo deserve to grow up – free from fear, and filled with hope in the future. But they can't do so when countless land mines remain hidden in bombed out houses or old trench lines, or still litter familiar paths and bridges. Thanks to these comic books – which are part of a larger educational campaign that includes posters, radio and television messages, and dance and theater groups -- children will learn to avoid such places until the mines are cleared, and people can once again live in safety.

These Superman Mine Awareness Comic books are the result of a model public/private partnership: DC Comics provides the art work and printing facilities; the Department of Defense supplies funding and logistical support; and UNICEF, which helped get input from Kosovars on the comic book – and will help with its distribution. As many of you know, the Superman comics we are unveiling today are the third in a series of comic books which have been distributed – first in Bosnia, and later in Central America – to raise land mine awareness.

I want to especially thank Jenette Kahn, president of DC Comics, who has been such a driving force behind this remarkable humanitarian partnership. [I know her father, Rabbi Benjamin Kahn, is in the audience today, and I'm sure he must take great pride in the remarkable work his daughter is doing to save innocent lives around the world.]

I had the opportunity to see for myself the devastating toll that land mines take on people's lives during a recent trip to Slovenia. While that country doesn't have a land mine problem, it is helping victims of all faiths from across the region to recover from land mine accidents – including creating prosthetic limbs. I was horrified when I picked up two different types of land mines and saw how tiny they really are and how easily they could be hidden in the grass, on a playground, or in a home. So I want to thank everyone here today for helping to save innocent lives.

All of you know better than anyone the enormous challenges facing the people of Kosovo today. Educating people about the threat of land mines is an urgent challenge. So is rebuilding homes. Fixing schools, and hospitals, and clinics that have been destroyed or damaged. Restoring electricity, and water systems. And perhaps most importantly – helping to create the conditions for lasting peace, by promoting tolerance and mutual respect.

I'm proud that since March of 1998, the U.S. government has provided more than \$291 million in humanitarian assistance for Kosovo – and this year, the State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration has contributed \$78.5 million to the UN High Commission on Refugees emergency program. The United States was also pleased to participate in a recent donors conference in Brussels, at which more than \$2.1 million was pledged for immediate humanitarian needs for Kosovo. While the European donors will provide the bulk of the funding – the United States will do its part as well – helping to provide food and shelter, as well as clear land mines and unexploded ordinances.

The United States, in cooperation with our European allies, also remains strongly committed to enhancing the stability of the entire southeastern European region. The President has just returned from Sarajevo, where he met with European leaders – including those from Southeastern Europe. There, he affirmed our nation's commitment to the themes of the Southeastern Europe Stability Pact: the promotion of democracy and human rights, and the implementation of the Dayton accords. At the meeting, the President announced key financing and private investment initiatives aimed at spurring investment and easing trade restrictions in the region.

Thanks to so many partners here and around the world, the images of Kosovo are changing from despair to hope, from destruction to reconstruction. But if we are to help the people of Kosovo continue to move forward, we must continue to work as a team – not only at every level of government, but with international relief agencies and other charitable organizations, with our businesses, and with concerned citizens everywhere. I want to thank all of you here today for your commitment to help the people of Kosovo rebuild their lives. But more so for your faith that respect and tolerance among people can replace strife and hatred in that region of the world.

It is my pleasure now to introduce to you someone who has just returned from Kosovo – and who can tell us about the recovery efforts there – and the very real challenges that lie ahead: Tehnaz Dastoor [Ten-AZ Dass-TURE] from UNICEF. UNICEF has been a partner from the very beginning on this comic books series – and we are deeply grateful as well for their contributions over the years to creating a safer, healthier world for our children.