

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Original OA/ID Number: 2724				
Document ID: 9903004				
Stack: V	Row: 46	Section: 4	Shelf: 4	Position: 1

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9903004
RECEIVED: 21 APR 99 14

TO: GOBEL, HERSCHEL

FROM: BERGER

DOC DATE: 10 MAY 99
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: VETERANS AFFAIRS
NATO

KOSOVO
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: REPLY TO GOBEL ON VA POSITION ON KOSOVO

ACTION: BERGER SGD LTR

DUE DATE: 03 MAY 99 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: HURLEY

LOGREF:

FILES: PA

NSCP:

CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

BROWN, K
NSC CHRON
SCHULTE

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSEMK

CLOSED BY: NSDMK

DOC 3 OF 3

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9903004

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 HURLEY
002 BERGER
002 BROWN, K
003

Z 99042114 PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER
Z 99043012 FOR SIGNATURE
Z 99043017 FOR REDO
X 99051017 BERGER SGD LTR

DISPATCH DATA SUMMARY REPORT

DOC DATE DISPATCH FOR ACTION

DISPATCH FOR INFO

003 990510 GOBEL, H

UNCLASSIFIED

National Security Council
The White House

5/1/82

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 3004
URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PRS NSC INT ARS
BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG Desk A/O _____

JSB

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
Cosgriff	_____	_____	_____
Rice	_____	_____	_____
Davies	<u>1</u>	<u>G 5/1</u>	_____
Kerrick	<u>2</u>	<u>D 5/1</u>	_____
Steinberg	_____	<u>[Signature]</u>	_____
Berger	<u>3</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	_____
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____
West Wing Desk	<u>4</u>	<u>TTC 5/10</u>	<u>D</u>
Records Mgt.	<u>#5</u>	<u>5/10 DUK</u>	<u>D</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____

A = Action I = Information D = Dispatch R = Retain N = No Further Action

CC:

COMMENTS:

Reply to Henschel Gabel

Exec Sec Office has diskette

Yes

PLS SEND COPY
OF ^{INCOMING} ~~ALTR~~ + SRB
NOTE TO LESLIE DACH
+ LEAVY ✓

**National Security Council
The White House**

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 3004

URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PRS NSC INT ARS

BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG TIC A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
Cosgriff			
Rice	<u>1</u>		
Davies			
Kerrick			
Steinberg			
Berger			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	<u>2</u>	<u>ED 4/30</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
Records Mgt.			
<u>Brown</u>	<u>3</u>		<u>FRO</u>

A = Action I = Information D = Dispatch R = Retain N = No Further Action

CC:

COMMENTS: Reply to Herschel Gobel

Exec Sec Office has diskette yes

National Security Council
The White House

5/1/82

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 3004

URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PRS NSC INT ARS

BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG Duk A/O _____

JSB

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
Cosgriff	_____	_____	_____
Rice	_____	_____	_____
Davies	<u>1</u>	<u>C 5/1</u>	_____
Kerrick	<u>2</u>	<u>D 5/1</u>	_____
Steinberg	_____	_____	_____
Berger	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____
West Wing Desk	<u>4</u>	<u>TIC 5/10</u>	<u>D</u>
Records Mgt.	<u>5</u>	<u>5/10 Duk</u>	<u>D</u>

A = Action I = Information D = Dispatch R = Retain N = No Further Action

CC:

COMMENT:

PLS. SEND COPY
OF ^{INCOMING} LTR + SRB
NOTE TO LESLIE DACH. Gabel
+ LEAVY ✓

Exec Sec Office has discretion _____

National Security Council
The White House

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 3004
URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PRS NSC INT ARS
BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG TIC A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
Cosgriff			
Rice	<u>1</u>		
Davies			
Kerrick			
Steinberg			
Berger			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	<u>2</u>	<u>FD 4/30</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
Records Mgt.			
<u>Brown</u>	<u>3</u>		<u>FRO</u>

A = Action I = Information D = Dispatch R = Retain N = No Further Action

cc:

COMMENTS:

Reply to Herschel Gohel

Exec Sec Office has diskette yes

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 10, 1999

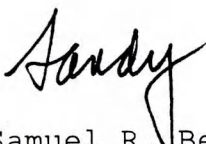
Dear Herschel:

Thank you for your thoughtful note forwarding the VFW press release and the news that this influential veterans organization now officially supports the Administration's policy in Kosovo. This is especially important given the VFW's nationwide influence.

In the wake of the highly successful NATO Summit, I am optimistic that our renewed military and diplomatic strategies will facilitate a path to a negotiated settlement.

Again, thanks for bringing this good news story to my and the President's attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandy", written over the printed name of Samuel R. Berger.

Samuel R. Berger
Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

The Honorable Herschel Gobel
Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs
Department of Veterans Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20420

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

3004

April 26, 1999

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL R. BERGER

THROUGH: GREGORY SCHULTE *JS*
FROM: K. C. BROWN *K*
SUBJECT: Reply to Herschel Gobel

Herschel Gobel, Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs, sent a note advising you that the Veterans of Foreign Affairs had changed its position on Kosovo and now supports the NATO operation in Kosovo. Your reply at Tab A thanks him for forwarding this encouraging bit of news.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Herschel Gobel at Tab I.

Attachments

Tab I Reply to Herschel Gobel
Tab II Incoming correspondence

Leslie D
David L -

Must be
other
groups.

Could we
organize
an event
at WH?

Ⓟ



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Office of the Deputy Secretary

4-20 19 99

SUSP: _____ 19 _____

THRU: To: The President
→ ADD Sandy Berger, NAT'L Security Advisor

☐ PREPARE REPLY FOR
MY SIGNATURE

☐ COMMENTS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS

☐ REPLY-COPY TO ME

☐ FOR STAFF DISTRIBUTION
AND FILE

☐ SIGNED

☐ FOR YOUR INFORMATION
AND FILE

☐ FOR NECESSARY ACTION
(Staff Coordination)
(Staff Distribution)

☐ PLEASE NOTE
AND RETURN

☐ APPROVED-PROCEED

☐ PLEASE SEE ME/PHONE ME

☐ SPECIAL HANDLING-
EXPEDITE

☐ NOTED-THANK YOU

COMMENTS

This is good news. The VFW, the
largest Combat Vet. organization with
2 million members has changed their
position and now supports the
operation in Kosovo. They will
publish a press release. (attached)

Harold Lohr

3004

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES



April 1999

TO: KOSOVO
PRESS
DEFENSERETURN TO
APNSA

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is gravely concerned about the worsening situation in the Balkans. As the combat veterans who for the last 100 years have fought all of our country's wars, we have until now opposed the deployment of U. S. forces to the former Yugoslavia. Our opposition was based on our concern for the safety of our servicemen and women in the midst of the Yugoslav civil war. Also, we have been uncertain what vital U. S. national security interests were at stake in that country's conflict.

Since we took that position, however, the situation has changed. In the past few weeks Serbian leaders have used their military and paramilitary forces to overrun Kosovo, destroy the social and economic fabric of the province and terrorize the populace into flight.

Despite, and in defiance of NATO's diplomatic efforts and its air campaign, Serbia now has achieved its objectives in Kosovo. By doing so it has raised the stakes in this conflict. Having waged unrestricted war on the people and province of Kosovo, NATO's credibility and U. S. leadership have been directly challenged by Serbia. NATO will neither continue as a credible, unified alliance, nor will the U. S. retain its world leadership role if the Serbian challenge goes unmet and Serb aggression is not stopped.

Many of our members are deeply troubled by the situation we face. Some realize the long history of this conflict, the skill of our adversaries, the inhospitable weather and terrain and the political difficulty of maintaining alliance unity are important factors that will affect our actions and their outcomes. Others are mindful of the lessons of past wars. The gradual applications of force that allow adversaries to seize their objectives before our power peaks and the limits placed on the use of our military power which can

COPY

★ WASHINGTON OFFICE ★

VFW MEMORIAL BUILDING • 200 MARYLAND AVENUE, N.E. • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002-4700
AREA CODE 202-543-2239 • FAX 202-543-6719

APR 20 18:21

-2-

prolong conflicts, increase casualties and erode public support are lessons that seem to some to apply equally to today as to yesterday.

Nonetheless, in consideration of the current situation, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is resolved that in order to bring this conflict to a rapid and successful conclusion on terms favorable to NATO, we will support the United States acting as part of the NATO Alliance, taking decisive action with the full range of overwhelming military power to eject, remove or otherwise force the withdrawal of Serbian military and paramilitary forces and to restore Kosovars to their homes.

We also believe that careful consideration should be given to the formation of a NATO peacekeeping force to guarantee Kosovars' freedom from further oppression and the right to its self-determination.

Finally, Mr. President, with such important questions before us we believe and urge you to ensure first that the American people are behind this effort and then to take this issue to the United States Congress for its advice and consent.

Sincerely,

THOMAS A. POULIOT
Commander-in-Chief

ost-It® Fax Note	7671	Date	4/20	# of pages	1
to	Gumma Kent	From	Bill Smith		
Co/Dept	VA	Co.	VFW		
Phone #		Phone #	543-2239		
Fax #	273-4876	Fax #			

Bill Smith
(202) 543-2239

VFW BACKS FULL USE OF NATO MILITARY POWER AGAINST SERBIA

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 19, 1999 -- The Veterans of Foreign Wars today, previously opposed to the deployment of U.S. forces to the former Yugoslavia, advised the president that the VFW would support the NATO alliance taking decisive action "to eject, remove, or otherwise force the withdrawal of Serbian military and paramilitary forces and to restore Kosovars to their homes."

In a letter to President Clinton, VFW Commander in Chief Thomas A. Pouliot, of Helena, Mont., said, "In the past few weeks Serbian leaders have used their military and paramilitary forces to overrun Kosovo, destroy the social and economic fabric of the province and terrorized the populace into flight. Ignoring NATO diplomatic efforts to resolve the issue and instead waging war on Kosovo has changed the situation and raised the stakes in the conflict.

"NATO's credibility and U. S. leadership have been directly challenged by Serbia. NATO will not continue as a credible, unified alliance if the Serbian challenge goes unmet and Serb aggression is not stopped," Pouliot noted.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is resolved that in order to bring this conflict to a rapid and successful conclusion on terms favorable to NATO, we will support the United States acting as part of the NATO alliance, taking decisive action with the full range of overwhelming military power."

The VFW leader said that careful consideration should be given to the formation of a NATO peacekeeping force to guarantee Kosovars' freedom from further oppression and the right to its self-determination.

Pouliot also urged the president to ensure first, that the American people are behind this effort and then, to take this issue to the United States Congress for its advice and consent.

Leslie D
David L -

Must be
other
groups.

Could we
organize
an event
at WH?

B

```

NN      NN  OOOOOOOO  NN      NN  EEEEEEEE
NNN     NN  OOOOOOOO  NNN     NN  EEEEEEEE
NNN     NN  OO        OO  NNN     NN  EE
NNNN    NN  OO        OO  NNNN    NN  EE
NNNN    NN  OO        OO  NNNN    NN  EE
NN NN   NN  OO        OO  NN NN   NN  EEEEE
NN NN   NN  OO        OO  NN NN   NN  EEEEE
NN      NNNN  OO        OO  NN      NNNN  EE
NN      NNNN  OO        OO  NN      NNNN  EE
NN      NNN  OO        OO  NN      NNN  EE
NN      NNN  OOOOOOOO  NN      NNN  EEEEEEEE
NN      NN  OOOOOOOO  NN      NN  EEEEEEEE

```

```

NN      NN  SSSSSS  VV      VV      JJJJJJ  DDDDD
NNN     NN  SSSSSSSS  VV      VV      JJJJJJ  DDDDDD
NNN     NN  SS        SS  VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NNNN    NN  SS        VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NNNN    NN  SSS       VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN NN   NN  SSSSS    VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN NN   NN  SSSSS    VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNNN      SSS  VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNNN      SS  VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNN  SS      SS  VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNN  SSSSSSSS  VVVV      JJJJJJ  DDDDDD
NN      NN  SSSSSS      VV      JJJJ      DDDDD

```

```

NN      NN  SSSSSS  VV      VV      JJJJJJ  DDDDD
NNN     NN  SSSSSSSS  VV      VV      JJJJJJ  DDDDDD
NNN     NN  SS        SS  VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NNNN    NN  SS        VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NNNN    NN  SSS       VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN NN   NN  SSSSS    VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN NN   NN  SSSSS    VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNNN      SSS  VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNNN      SS  VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNN  SS      SS  VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNN  SSSSSSSS  VVVV      JJJJJJ  DDDDDD
NN      NN  SSSSSS      VV      JJJJ      DDDDD

```

SPOOLID: 0058
 CLASS: P
 PRINTER: PRTGRP4L
 SYSTEMID: CUPA
 PRINT DATE: 05/10/1999
 PRINT TIME: 16:48:15

USER/NODEID: NSVJD CUPA
 FILENAME/TYPE: NONE NONE
 FILE CREATE DATE: 05/10/1999
 FILE CREATE TIME: 16:48:06
 DIST: NSVJD

START



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Office of the Deputy Secretary

4-20 19 99

SUSP: _____ 19 _____

THRU: The President
→ ADD Sandy Berger, NAT'L Security Advisor

☐ PREPARE REPLY FOR
MY SIGNATURE

☐ COMMENTS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS

☐ REPLY-COPY TO ME

☐ FOR STAFF DISTRIBUTION
AND FILE

☐ SIGNED

☐ FOR YOUR INFORMATION
AND FILE

☐ FOR NECESSARY ACTION
(Staff Coordination)
(Staff Distribution)

☐ PLEASE NOTE
AND RETURN

☐ APPROVED-PROCEED

☐ PLEASE SEE ME/PHONE ME

☐ SPECIAL HANDLING-
EXPEDITE

☐ NOTED-THANK YOU

COMMENTS

This is good news. The VFW, the
largest Combat Vet. organization with
2 million members has changed the
position and now supports the
operation in Kosovo. They will
publish a press release. (attached)

Harold Lohr

APR 20 1999

```

NN      NN 00000000 NN      NN EEEEEEEE
NNN     NN 00000000 NNN     NN EEEEEEEE
NNN     NN 00      00 NNN     NN EE
NNNN    NN 00      00 NNNN    NN EE
NNNN    NN 00      00 NNNN    NN EE
NN NN   NN 00      00 NN NN   NN EEEEE
NN NN   NN 00      00 NN NN   NN EEEEE
NN      NNNN 00      00 NN      NNNN EE
NN      NNNN 00      00 NN      NNNN EE
NN      NNN  00      00 NN      NNN  EE
NN      NNN  00000000 NN      NNN EEEEEEEE
NN      NN  00000000 NN      NN EEEEEEEE

```

```

NN      NN  SSSSSS  VV      VV      JJJJJJ  DDDDD
NNN     NN  SSSSSSSS VV      VV      JJJJJJ  DDDDDDD
NNN     NN  SS      SS  VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NNNN    NN  SS      VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NNNN    NN  SSS     VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN NN   NN  SSSSS   VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN NN   NN  SSSSS   VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNNN    SSS   VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNNN    SS    VV      VV      JJ      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNN  SS      SS  VV      VV      JJ      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNN  SSSSSSSS  VVVV      JJJJJJ  DDDDDDD
NN      NN  SSSSSS    VV      JJJJ      DDDDD

```

```

NN      NN  SSSSSS  VV      VV      JJJJJJ  DDDDD
NNN     NN  SSSSSSSS VV      VV      JJJJJJ  DDDDDDD
NNN     NN  SS      SS  VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NNNN    NN  SS      VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NNNN    NN  SSS     VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN NN   NN  SSSSS   VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN NN   NN  SSSSS   VV      VV      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNNN    SSS   VV      VV      JJ      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNNN    SS    VV      VV      JJ      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNN  SS      SS  VV      VV      JJ      JJ      DD      DD
NN      NNN  SSSSSSSS  VVVV      JJJJJJ  DDDDDDD
NN      NN  SSSSSS    VV      JJJJ      DDDDD

```

SPOOLID: 0055
 CLASS: P
 PRINTER: PRTGRP4L
 SYSTEMID: CPUA
 PRINT DATE: 05/10/1999
 PRINT TIME: 16:39:48

USER/NODEID: NSVJD CPUA
 FILENAME/TYPE: NONE NONE
 FILE CREATE DATE: 05/10/1999
 FILE CREATE TIME: 16:39:38
 DIST: NSVJD

START