

FOIA MARKER

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Folder Title:

Kosovo - Situation / Assessments [1]

Staff Office-Individual:

Kosovo Office-Schulte, Gregory

Original OA/ID Number:

1708

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39	1	7	1	V

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. paper	Considering a NATO Ground Force in Kosvo--A very Unofficial Discussion Paper. (4 pages)	1/24/1999	P1/b(1)
002. report	Kosovo: Analysis of Counterinsurgency Operations. (8 pages)	01/14/1999	P1/b(1)
003. report	[Numerical Disposition of Police] (19 pages)	10/19/1998	P1/b(1)
004. paper	Managing the Impact of Air Strikes.... (3 pages)	10/04/1998	P1/b(1)
005. draft	Gaining VJ Compliance. (2 pages)	10/10/1998	P1/b(1)
006. report	Kosovo Humanitarian Update #4. (6 pages)	09/25/1998	P1/b(1)
007. report	Kosovo Humanitarian Update #2. (6 pages)	09/04/1998	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Kosovo Office (Schulte, Gregory)
OA/Box Number: 1708

FOLDER TITLE:

Kosovo - Situation / Assessments [1]

2008-0994-F

vz6334

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]
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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]
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WASHFAX
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SITE

4

'98 OCT 11 PM 10:09

OCT 11 1998

8

00013640

Message No. _____ Classification CONFIDENTIAL No. Pages Attached 2From: PETER HINZ EUR/RPM 647-3405 6513
(Officer name) (Office symbol) (Phone number) (Room number)MESSAGE DESCRIPTION KOSOVO VERIFICATION MISSION
PENALTIES REGIME

TO: (Agency)	DELIVER TO: (Person/Office)	Phone no.	Room no.
<u>NSC</u>	<u>GREG SCHULTE</u>	<u>456-9102</u>	
<u>JCS/J-5</u>	<u>RICH DIXON/ROB BLANDFORD</u>	<u>614-4435</u>	<u>2D956</u>
<u>OSD/BTF</u>	<u>THERESA WHELAN/BEAR MCCONNEL</u>	<u>697-1980</u>	<u>SITE 12</u>
	<u>DOWLING</u>		

FOR: CLEARANCE ☒ INFORMATION ☐ PER REQUEST ☐ COMMENT ☐REMARKS: For 10/12 DC and future IWG.

S/S Officer: _____

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECL: 10/11/08

(1)

PENALTIES REGIME

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 13526

Department of State Guidelines, November 6, 2015

By VR NARA, Date 4/25/20242008-094-F.3**I. VERIFYING COMPLIANCE**

- Verification Monitoring Team (VMT) reports violation of UNSCR 1199 to OSCE Verification Monitoring Headquarters (VM HQ).
- OSCE VM HQ clarifies, validates with VMT.
- OSCE VM HQ notifies FRY authorities who must respond to joint NATO/OSCE team.
 - Response sent to NATO and OSCE for coordinated penalty decision. | no!

II. AIRSTRIKES PENALTY OPTION

- Airstrikes -- a blunt instrument, most likely used only in cases of major violation.
 - Requires building international consensus for airstrikes through active public diplomacy and concerted Alliance consensus building.
 - Allies must be kept briefed with timely reports on compliance/non-compliance to promote consensus building for ACTORD. Sources for this information include NATO surveillance, the Verification Monitoring Team and national intelligence sources.
 - Standing ACTORD would permit timely strikes, but unlikely Allies would agree to give up political control; building consensus for new ACTORD would be time consuming unless noncompliance is blatant and widespread.

III. LIMITED STEPS PENALTY OPTION

- Limited steps -- to increase the pressure on Milosevic to remain in compliance with UNSCR 1199.
 - In some cases unenforceable, but could help bring cumulative pressure on Milosevic to comply.
 - Relatively easy to implement, but puts monitors with little to no force protection in confrontational situations.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Classified by EUR/RPM Director Barbro Owens-Kirkpatrick
E.O. 12958 Reasons: 1.5 (b) and (d)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(2)

2

- Uses verification monitoring regime (air (NATO) and ground (OSCE)) to harass FRY instruments of repression or entities which are involved in noncompliance in Kosovo:
 - Increase number of monitors and/or number of permanently stationed VMTs in areas where VJ or MUP units are violating UNSCR 1199.
 - Ban particularly offensive FRY VJ and/or MUP units from their normal operating region.
 - Conduct increasingly intrusive compliance inspections.
 - Target noncompliant activities/units with increased numbers of inspections.
 - Increase the number and intrusiveness of aerial surveillance flights.
- Seek further public statements condemning the FRY in the UN or OSCE and other international public fora.
- Encourage media scrutiny in Kosovo in response to noncompliant activities or events.

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United States Department of State

Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

Washington, D.C. 20520-5824

FAX MESSAGE COVER SHEET

TO:

NAME:

Guy Schulte
Eric Schwartz

OFFICE:

NSC

FAX:

456-9140; 456-9150

FROM:

NAME:

Nicole M. Bibbins

OFFICE:

Department of State - Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration

FAX:

202-663-1061 or 663-1530

PHONE:

202-663-3068

DATE:

10/6/98

Number of Pages, including cover sheet:

4

NOTES:

Attached are:

- 1. Julia's benchmarks - an unclear, unofficial document*
- 2. INR-prepared 'status of compliance with 1199' as of Friday pm.*

There is significant overlap. Let me know if you need additional info.

Nicole

Benchmarks for FRY actions

1. *Implementation of 11 site Serbian plan (building materials, fuel, food, electricity – reduced security presence)
2. *Expedite (3 day turnaround) aid agency visas via UNHCR.
3. *Streamline customs processing for NGOs.
4. *Provide radio authorization for NGO's.
5. *Lift embargo for commercial supply of wheat flour, oil, salt, sugar, milk, detergent.
6. Stop aggressive shelling, looting, shelter destruction.
7. Stop burning of fields.
8. *Allow immediate access to detainees by ICRC.
9. Withdraw MUP and VJ presence to pre-conflict time.
10. *Allow unfettered access by relief agencies throughout Kosovo.

* - Items promised by Serbs.

Compliance with UNSCR 1199

1. Cease Hostilities and Maintain Ceasefire.

Despite the September 28 announcement from the "FRY" Prime Minister declaring a cessation of offensive operations and a withdrawal of security forces, there is evidence that counterinsurgency operations continued at least until September 30. There were unconfirmed reports from Albanian sources of attacks by Serbian security forces in at least four municipalities October 1.

2. Cease Security Forces' Actions Affecting Civilians and Withdraw Forces Used in Repression of Civilians. Serbian security forces have not been withdrawn to pre-conflict levels. Some VJ forces brought into Kosovo since March have been withdrawn from the province and some military units have been replaced by police. Other units have withdrawn to deployment areas inside Kosovo. MUP units are maintaining defensive positions. MUP forces reportedly captured a large number (500) of insurgent fighters during counterinsurgency operations and are holding them as POWs. Unconfirmed reports allege the presence of civilian paramilitary elements in the north of Kosovo.

3. Provide Security for international monitors.

Adequate security conditions for KDOM observers has not been provided, though incidents are termed "minor." "FRY" security forces have responded promptly to KDOM calls for assistance.

4. Allow Freedom of Movement for International Monitors.

Full and free access for international monitors has been limited by roadblocks and other restrictions. Access has been at Serb forces' discretion.

5. Improve the Humanitarian Situation. Shifting Serb military operations as late as September 30 have continued to uproot new groups of Kosovars and keep relief efforts off balance. Serb forces during their security operations have continued to delay relief convoys to populations in need until they have deemed an area "secure," have conducted protracted shelling of targets in close proximity to large groups of IDPs, and have displayed extremely heavy-handed behavior when dealing with IDPs. Serb security elements have attempted to force IDPs to return to their villages, further creating an environment of turmoil and fear.

6. Facilitate Return of Refugees and Displaced Persons; Permit Free Access for Humanitarian Organizations. International relief agencies reportedly delivered supplies to warehouses in Suva Reka, Djakovica, and Prizren. IDPs in the Kisna Reka mountains indicated they would return to their homes without security guarantees, as winter approaches. Continued threat of fighting and intimidation by a heavy MUP presence inhibits the willingness of IDPs to return. The MUP reportedly declined to

provide a security escort for a 19 vehicle aid convoy on October 1. Some security forces units have been accused of demanding money to permit passage of IDPs.

7. Establish and Abide by Timetable for Talks on Confidence Building Measures and a Political Solution. No timetable has been established.

8. Enter into a Meaningful Dialogue on a Political Solution.

Milosevic has indicated a willingness in principle to negotiate with "Shadow President" Rugova on the terms of an interim arrangement which could lead to an enhanced autonomous status for Kosovo. No direct negotiations are now underway. Draft settlement proposals have been circulated by Ambassador Hill, with the Kosovars providing their comments about two weeks ago, and the Serbs providing their comments on Wednesday. A draft was presented to the Contact Group in meetings yesterday, which endorsed the text with some modifications. Ambassador Hill will present the new draft to both sides next week. A provisional Serb government for Kosovo was named September 28 by Belgrade—immediately rejected by Kosovar Albanian political leaders.

9. Cooperate with War Crimes Tribunal.

Visas were denied to three members of the ICTY the week of September 21. Belgrade continues to reject the ICTY's jurisdiction over events in Kosovo. Serb forces murdered at least 14 Kosovar civilians in Gornje Obrinje on September 26, and possibly as many as 23 Kosovar civilians on September 27 near Golubovac. A UCK "killing field" where ethnic Serbs may have been executed was discovered near the village of Glodane in mid September.

10. Bring to Justice Members of the Security Forces Involved in Mistreatment of Civilians and Destruction of Property. Despite claims by Serbian President Milutinovic to US officials that members of the Serb security forces guilty of excesses have been punished, no specifics have been provided. We know of no case in which reported charges have been brought against any member of the "FRY" or Serbian security forces for crimes committed against civilians.

Schulte, Gregory L.

From: WHSR
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 1998 7:18 AM
To: Bouchard, Joseph F.; Braden, Susan R.; Butler, Lawrence E.; Clarke, Richard A.; Davidson, Leslie K.; Flanagan, Stephen J.; Hurley, C. Michael; McEldowney, Nancy E.; Schulte, Gregory L.
Subject: OBSERVATIONS FROM THE U.S. TEAM IN KOSOVO

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
DTG: 011059Z OCT 98
MSGTO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9437
ORIG: AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
PREC: IMMEDIATE
SSN: 6644
TOR: 981001070334 M3490251

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 04 BELGRADE 006644

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR DAS MALLOY, EUR/SCE AND IO/PPC; DOD
FOR BTF

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MARR, PINS, PGOV, PREL, ASEC, SR

**SUBJECT: OBSERVATIONS FROM THE U.S. TEAM IN KOSOVO
DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER MISSION (KDOM)**

1. THIS TELEGRAM CONVEYS THE SEPTEMBER 30 DAILY REPORT FROM THE U.S. OBSERVERS IN THE KOSOVO DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER MISSION (KDOM) BASED IN PRISTINA. THE REPORT WAS RECEIVED BY POST ON OCTOBER 1 AND FAXED EUR/SCE AND IO/PPC BEFORE OOB WASHINGTON TIME.

2. BEGIN TEXT

KDOM DAILY REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 30

SUMMARY

KDOM CONDUCTED MISSIONS TO GOLUBOVAC, KISNA REKA AND THE PAGARUSA VALLEY IN CENTRAL KOSOVO, THE SUVA REKA REGION IN SOUTHERN KOSOVO AND VUCITRN IN NORTHERN KOSOVO. TODAY'S MISSIONS FOCUSED ON DETERMINING THE STATUS OF IDPS IN CENTRAL KOSOVO AND ASSESSING THE CURRENT SECURITY SITUATION IN SOUTHERN KOSOVO. U.S./RUSSIAN KDOM ALSO RE-VISITED GOLUBOVAC AS A FOLLOW-UP OF THE CONTACT GROUP VISIT SEPTEMBER 29, AND VIEWED THE SITE OF AN ALLEGED MASSACRE OF 14 ALBANIAN MEN BY THE SERBIAN POLICE.

EU KDOM HEARD ARTILLERY FIRE AT 1015 IN THE SUVA REKA AREA. IDPS FROM GOLUBOVAC CLAIMED TO U.S. KDOM THAT THEY WERE SHELLED FOLLOWING THE KDOM/CONTACT GROUP VISIT OF SEPTEMBER 29. AN ICRC VEHICLE WAS DESTROYED BY A LAND MINE; THERE WAS ONE FATALITY, AN ETHNIC ALBANIAN PHYSICIAN. TWO OTHER ETHNIC ALBANIAN VOLUNTEER WORKERS WERE SERIOUSLY INJURED. AT U.S. KDOM'S REQUEST, A VJ HELICOPTER EVACUATED THE SURVIVORS TO THE PRISTINA HOSPITAL. KDOM HEARD OF, AND OBSERVED, SOME SUPPORTING EVIDENCE OF ALLEGED ATROCITIES IN THE GOLUBOVAC AND SUVA REKA AREAS. END SUMMARY

A. ICRC MINE INCIDENT

-- ABOUT 10:30 AM LOCAL TIME, AN INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC) VEHICLE STRUCK A LAND-MINE AT (DN

828224) TWO KM SE OF LIKOVAC. AN ALBANIAN ANESTHESIOLOGIST WAS KILLED, ONE ALBANIAN SURGEON WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED WITH SPINAL DAMAGE, AND ONE NEW ZEALAND DOCTOR WAS INJURED BUT REMAINS AMBULATORY. EU KDOM WAS NEAR THE AREA ON A SEPARATE MISSION AND WAS ABLE TO OFFER ASSISTANCE. EU KDOM, TOGETHER WITH U.S. KDOM BASE, COORDINATED THE QUICK EXTRACTION OF THE INJURED SURVIVORS WITH THE SERBIAN AUTHORITIES. THE MFA LIAISON OFFICE IN PRISTINA RESPONDED IMMEDIATELY TO U.S. KDOM REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE AND KOSOVO GOVERNOR ODALOVIC HIMSELF ORDERED VJ HEADQUARTERS TO DISPATCH ASAP A VJ MEDEVAC HELICOPTER (MI-17 HIP) FROM PRISTINA TO PICK UP THE INJURED. THEY WERE TAKEN TO PRISTINA WHERE A TEAM OF VOLUNTEER ALBANIAN MEDICAL PERSONNEL TREATED THEM. THE ALBANIAN ANESTHESIOLOGIST DIED BEFORE THE VJ HELICOPTER ARRIVED ON THE SCENE.

-- COMMENT. THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED VERY CLOSE TO WHERE THE CANADIAN KDOM VEHICLE STRUCK A MINE ON SEPTEMBER 14 AND WHERE FIVE SERBIAN POLICE WERE KILLED WHEN THEIR VEHICLE STRUCK A MINE ON SEPTEMBER 26. ALL THREE MINE INCIDENTS OCCURRED WITHIN AN APPROXIMATE ONE SQUARE MILE AREA. BOTH THE CANADIAN AND SERBIAN POLICE MINE INCIDENTS WERE MADE PUBLIC AND ALL CANADIAN MINE STRIKE INFORMATION WAS SHARED WITH ALL HUMANITARIAN AND NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS. KDOM HAS, SINCE THE CANADIAN INCIDENT, DECLARED THIS AREA OFF LIMITS FOR KDOM MISSIONS. END COMMENT

B. SECURITY

-- OVERALL SECURITY FOR KDOM WAS POOR. A SERBIAN POLICE VEHICLE OVERTOOK U.S. KDOM VEHICLE AND ORDERED IT TO STOP IN THE SUVA REKA AREA WHERE SERBIAN MILITARY OPERATIONS APPEARED TO BE IN PROGRESS. SERBIAN POLICE ORDERED U.S. KDOM PERSONNEL OUT OF THEIR VEHICLE TO IDENTIFY THEM. U.S. KDOM REFUSED AND WERE DETAINED FOR A SHORT TIME BEFORE BEING RELEASED. UPON RELEASE, SERBIAN POLICE ADVISED U.S. KDOM THAT THEY SUSPECTED U.S. KDOM OF BEING IMPOSTORS. (COMMENT. GIVEN THAT THE POLICE SMELLED STRONGLY OF ALCOHOL, WE BELIEVE THE SERBIAN POLICE MAY HAVE BEEN DRUNK.)

-- SERBIAN POLICE ALSO DELAYED A U.S./CANADIAN MISSION FROM PROCEEDING AT STIMLJE DUE TO AUDIBLE SMALL ARMS FIRE IN THE AREA. THE KDOM TEAM WAS ENROUTE TO SUVA REKA AND WAS EVENTUALLY ALLOWED TO CONTINUE ON ITS PLANNED MISSION.

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 04 BELGRADE 006644

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR DAS MALLOY, EUR/SCE AND IO/PPC; DOD FOR BTF

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MARR, PINS, PGOV, PREL, ASEC, SR

SUBJECT: OBSERVATIONS FROM THE U.S. TEAM IN KOSOVO
DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER MISSION (KDOM)

-- VILLAGERS OF GLOGOVAC CLAIMED TO U.S. KDOM THAT ALBANIAN CITIZENS WERE "ROUTINELY BEATEN" BY SERBIAN POLICE AND DETAINED IN THE POLICE STATION IN THE CENTER OF TOWN AND IN THE FERRO-NICKEL FACTORY JUST OUTSIDE THE TOWN. (COMMENT. THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL CLAIMS OF THE SERBS USING THE FACTORY AS AN AD-HOC PRISON.) THE SERBIAN POLICE DID NOT ALLOW KDOM ACCESS TO THE BUILDING BUT TEAM REMAINED IN THE AREA AND DID NOT NOTICE ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY. KDOM THEREFORE CANNOT CONFIRM THE ABOVE ALLEGATIONS BUT WILL MONITOR THIS SITE REGULARLY.

C. FREEDOM OF ACCESS/FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

-- KDOM FREEDOM OF ACCESS WAS ADEQUATE. SERBIAN POLICE DELAYED U.S./CANADIAN KDOM FOR AT LEAST 10 TO 45 MINUTES AT THREE SEPARATE CHECKPOINTS ALONG THE STIMLJE-SUVA REKA ROAD. ON ONE OCCASION, U.S./CANADIAN KDOM WAS DETAINED AT A CHECKPOINT (APPROXIMATELY FIVE KM NE OF SUVA REKA) FOR 45 MINUTES WITH 20 OTHER VEHICLES. OTHER VEHICLE DRIVERS TOLD U.S. KDOM THAT EVERYONE WAS STOPPED BECAUSE OF KDOM'S PRESENCE.

-- FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT FOR CIVILIANS APPEARED ADEQUATE ALTHOUGH SEVERAL STATED TO KDOM THAT THEY WERE HESITANT TO TRAVEL BECAUSE THEY FEARED SERBIAN POLICE HARASSMENT. FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT OF HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS WAS NOT OBSERVED.

D. HUMANITARIAN

-- UNHCR TEAMS REPORTED THEY WERE IN LIKOVAC, PEC, PRIZREN AND ORAHOVAC. A SMALL CONVOY DELIVERED FOOD AND OTHER SUPPLIES TO IDPS IN THE AREA EAST OF KOMORANE.

-- A SENIOR LDK OFFICIAL AND SEVERAL OTHER PARTY MEMBERS FROM THE STRZE AREA (SOUTHEAST OF UROSEVAC) CLAIMED TO U.S. KDOM THAT THEIR VILLAGES HAD BEEN ATTACKED BY SERBIAN POLICE AND VJ UNITS IN THE PAST THREE DAYS. THE VILLAGES -- VIC, KASTANEVO, BITI, AND IZHANCE -- ARE ALL SW OF UROSEVAC, IN AN AREA THAT HAS RECENTLY BEEN SUBJECT TO AGGRESSIVE VJ AND SERBIAN POLICE ACTION. ACCORDING TO THE LDK REPRESENTATIVES, IZHANCE AND KASTANJEVA WERE ATTACKED "WITHOUT WARNING" ON SEPTEMBER 28. THE ATTACKS REPORTEDLY BEGAN AT 7:00 AM LOCAL TIME WITH ARTILLERY SHELLING FOLLOWED BY A COMBINED VJ INFANTRY AND ARMOR ASSAULT. HOWEVER, VIC AND BITI WERE REPORTEDLY GIVEN A FEW MINUTES WARNING BEFORE THE SERBIAN POLICE AND VJ UNITS BEGAN THEIR ASSAULT. LDK REPRESENTATIVES TOLD KDOM THAT 2500 RESIDENTS OF THESE TOWNS FLED TO UROSEVAC.

-- THE GERMAN NGO KINDERBERG MADE A DETAILED SURVEY OF THE MEDICAL CLINIC IN THE PARAGUSA VALLEY. THE CLINIC SERVES APPROXIMATELY 45,000 PEOPLE, OF WHOM 35,000 ARE IDPS. THERE IS AN ACTIVE ONGOING VACCINATION PROGRAM THERE BUT SUPPLIES OF OTHER VACCINES ARE LOW. KINDERBERG'S U.S. TRAINED NURSES AND MEDICAL OFFICERS LISTED DIARRHEA, PEDICULOSIS, SCABIES AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES AS THE MOST PREVALENT MEDICAL PROBLEMS.

-- KINDERBERG ALSO SURVEYED THE TOWN OF SRBICA. IT REPORTED AN ESTIMATED 20,000 PEOPLE LIVING IN THE AREA WITH 3000 IDPS LIVING WITH HOST FAMILIES AND 1000 LIVING WITHOUT SHELTER IN LAUSA. THE RESIDENTS REPORTED TO KINDERBERG THAT THEY FEARED TO CROSS ROADS BECAUSE OF SERBIAN POLICE PATROLS AND WERE TOO AFRAID TO GO TO SRBICA TO RECEIVE SUPPLIES FROM THE FRY RED CROSS BECAUSE OF THE INCREASED SERBIAN POLICE PRESENCE IN THE TOWN. THE FRY RED CROSS REPORTEDLY SHOWED KINDERBERG A LIST OF LESS THAN 300 FAMILIES THAT HAD RECEIVED AID DISTRIBUTIONS. THE FRY HEALTH HOUSE IN SRBICA IS ONLY OPEN "ONE" DAY PER WEEK AND REPORTED SHORTAGES OF ALL MEDICATIONS AND ORAL REHYDRATION SOLUTION. KDOM CANNOT CONFIRM THE KINDERBERG REPORTS.

-- U.S. KDOM VISITED A SERBIAN-RUN HUMANITARIAN CENTER IN GLOGOVAC. ITS DIRECTOR SAID IT HAD BEEN IN OPERATION FOR "THREE MONTHS". HE SAID THAT THE CENTER PROVIDES FLOUR, SUGAR, SALT AND OIL TO 30 TO 50 FAMILIES PER DAY UPON PROOF OF IDENTIFICATION. U.S. KDOM NOTED THAT AT 0955L SEVEN PEOPLE HAD SIGNED FOR SUPPLIES FROM THE CENTER AND ALL HAD ETHNIC ALBANIAN NAMES.

-- U.S. KDOM, ACCOMPANIED BY SEVERAL UCK SOLDIERS, INSPECTED THE VILLAGE OF GLADNO SELO (DN 9324). U.S. KDOM OBSERVED THAT VIRTUALLY EVERY HOUSE IN THE VILLAGE WAS DESTROYED BY FIRE. U.S. KDOM DID NOT OBSERVE ANY FURNITURE OR POSSESSIONS REMAINING IN ANY OF THE HOUSES. UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 04 BELGRADE 006644

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR DAS MALLOY, EUR/SCE AND IO/PPC; DOD FOR BTF

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MARR, PINS, PGOV, PREL, ASEC, SR

SUBJECT: OBSERVATIONS FROM THE U.S. TEAM IN KOSOVO
DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER MISSION (KDOM)

U.S. KDOM OBSERVED NO EVIDENCE OF FIGHTING IN THE VILLAGE: NO FIGHTING POSITIONS, NO BULLET HOLES IN WALLS, ETC.

E. INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS AND REFUGEES

-- U.S./RUSSIA KDOM OBSERVED APPROXIMATELY 300 IDPS LIVING IN THE OPEN IN THE VICINITY OF THE VILLAGE OF GOLUBOVAC. KDOM OBSERVED IDPS NEARBY AND SAW NO CHANGES IN THE VILLAGE SINCE THE CONTACT GROUP'S VISIT ON SEPTEMBER 29. U.S./RUSSIAN KDOM ALSO OBSERVED APPROXIMATELY 200 IDPS LIVING IN THE FIELDS AND ON THE HILLSIDES NEAR NOVO SELO. IDPS TOLD KDOM THAT THEY WERE FROM LAPUSNIK.

-- U.S. KDOM OBSERVED SEVERAL FAMILIES MOVING THROUGH THE GLADNI POTOK VALLEY NE OF GLOGOVAC. VILLAGERS FROM THE GLADNO SELO (DN 9324) AREA CLAIMED TO U.S. KDOM THAT ABOUT 1500 RESIDENTS HAD FLED INTO THE CICAVIDA MOUNTAINS. THEY CLAIMED THAT SERBIAN FORCES TOOK OR BURNED ALL THEIR BELONGINGS, INCLUDING GRAIN AND FODDER. VILLAGERS ALSO TOLD U.S. KDOM THAT THEY WERE IN CONSTANT FEAR OF CONTINUING REPRISALS BY SERBIAN SECURITY FORCES AND WERE AFRAID TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES.

F. OTHER SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS

THE GOLUBOVAC "MASSACRE"

-- THE U.S./RUSSIAN KDOM TEAM PERFORMED A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION OF A REPORTED MASSACRE OF 14 ALBANIAN MEN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 22 TO 46. THE INCIDENT REPORTEDLY OCCURRED ON SEPTEMBER 26 OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE OF GOLUBOVAC IN A FARMHOUSE (UTMCOORD: 34TDN8094416253). AN INDIVIDUAL WHO CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN AN EYEWITNESS SAID THAT WHILE SERBIAN POLICE WERE ATTACKING GOLUBOVAC, ANOTHER GROUP OF SERBIAN POLICE DETAINED 14 ALBANIAN MEN WHO WERE PART OF A LARGE GROUP OF IDPS HIDING IN THE WOODS EAST OF THE VILLAGE. SERBIAN SPECIAL FORCES REPORTEDLY APPREHENDED THE 14 MEN. THEY WERE REPORTEDLY WEARING SERBIAN POLICE BLUE, POLICE TIGER STRIPES AND VJ CAMOUFLAGE UNIFORMS.

-- ONCE IN THE COMPOUND, THIS SOURCE CLAIMED TO U.S./RUSSIAN KDOM THAT THE MEN WERE LINED UP IN A SQUATTING POSITION WITH THEIR HANDS BEHIND THEIR HEADS. SERBIAN SPECIAL FORCES THEN REPORTEDLY BEGAN TO BEAT THEM WITH STICKS AND STABBED THEM USING PITCHFORKS. ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE, SOME MEN WERE STABBED THROUGH THE EYES WITH A STICK AND SOME WERE "MUTILATED" WITH A KNIFE. SOURCE CLAIMED MOST OF THE VICTIMS WERE DEAD BY THIS TIME AND THAT THE SERBIAN SPECIAL POLICE THEN BEGAN TO FIRE ON THE VICTIMS (BOTH DEAD AND ALIVE) USING RIFLES AND

FINALLY A "MACHINE GUN".

-- THIS SOURCE CLAIMED THAT AFTER THE "MASSACRE", THE BODIES WERE BURIED IN THE WOODS TWO KM TO THE EAST OF GOLUBOVAC. THE U.S./RUSSIAN KDOM TEAM DID OBSERVE AT THE SITE OF THE ALLEGED MASSACRE THE FOLLOWING: SIGNIFICANT POOLS OF BLOOD IN THE DIRT WHERE THE "MASSACRE" ALLEGEDLY OCCURRED BLOOD COVERED PIPES AND OTHER TOOLS, AND APPROXIMATELY 100 SMALL CALIBER SHELL CASINGS. THE U.S./RUSSIAN TEAM ALSO OBSERVED THAT THE STICK REPORTEDLY USED TO STAB THE VICTIMS AND THE PITCHFORK USED TO STAB THEM HAD NO VISIBLE BLOOD ON THEM, HOWEVER.

-- GOLUBOVAC RESIDENTS CLAIMED TO U.S./RUSSIAN KDOM THAT THE HILLS OUTSIDE OF THE GOLUBOVAC AREA ARE "LITTERED" WITH LARGE NUMBERS OF BODIES. RESIDENTS CLAIMED THAT SOME BODIES WERE "MUTILATED" AND THAT SERBIAN SPECIAL POLICE KILLED WOMEN AND CHILDREN, INCLUDING A ONE YEAR OLD BABY WHO WAS REPORTEDLY HUMG. KDOM CANNOT SUBSTANTIATE ANY OF THESE ALLEGATIONS.

ALLEGED ATROCITIES IN THE SUVA REKA REGION

-- IDPS IN THE VRANIC AND BUSKOS AREA (SE OF SUVA REKA) CLAIMED TO U.S. KDOM THAT SERBIAN OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS IN THEIR AREA STARTED SEPTEMBER 26. THEY CLAIMED THE VILLAGES OF VRANIC, BUKOS, SAVROVA, BUZAL, BUDAKOVA, MATIQEVA, PAPAŽ, MULAN AND KRUSICA WERE ATTACKED FIRST WITH ARTILLERY, THEN INFANTRY BACKED BY MECHANIZED VEHICLES. AN ESTIMATED 20,000 VILLAGERS WERE REPORTEDLY DRIVEN FROM THEIR HOMES TO THE MOUNTAINS.

UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 04 BELGRADE 006644

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR DAS MALLOY, EUR/SCE AND IO/PPC; DOD FOR BTF

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MARR, PINS, PGOV, PREL, ASEC, SR

SUBJECT: OBSERVATIONS FROM THE U.S. TEAM IN KOSOVO
DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER MISSION (KDOM)

-- THE IDPS CLAIMED TO U.S. KDOM THAT ON SEPTEMBER 27, THE SERBIAN MILITARY INFORMED THE IDPS THAT IT WAS SAFE TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES. AS THE IDP CONVOY OF 240 VEHICLES AND AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF IDPS ENTERED THE VILLAGE OF VRANIC, SERBIAN POLICE, VJ AND PARAMILITARY FORCES REPORTEDLY STOPPED IT, ATTACKED IT, SEARCHED IT AND LOOTED IT (REPORTEDLY FOR MONEY, GOLD AND JEWELRY). U.S. KDOM LOCATED THE CONVOY ALONG THE ROAD TO VRANIC AND OBSERVED THAT MORE THAN HALF OF ITS VEHICLES (150 PLUS) WERE BURNED OR DESTROYED.

-- IDPS FROM VRANIC CLAIMED TO U.S. KDOM THAT MEN AND WOMEN/CHILDREN IN THE CONVOY WERE SEPARATED AND DETAINED IN SEPARATE LOCATIONS BY SERBIAN POLICE. THE POLICE REPORTEDLY DETAINED THEM FOR MORE THAN 24 HOURS WITHOUT FOOD, WATER, OR ACCESS TO BATHROOMS IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN THE VILLAGES OF BUKOS AND SAVROVO. U.S. KDOM WENT TO BUKOS AND OBSERVED CONSIDERABLE HUMAN WASTE OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL THERE.

-- IDPS ALSO CLAIMED TO U.S. KDOM THAT SOME OF THE WOMEN WERE SEDATED, BEATEN AND "RAPED". (COMMENT. RAPE ANYWHERE IS A DIFFICULT FOR A WOMAN TO ADMIT, BUT FOR A TRADITIONAL ALBANIAN WOMAN IS ESPECIALLY DISHONORABLE. IT IS EXTREMELY UNUSUAL FOR AN ETHNIC ALBANIAN FEMALE TO ADMIT TO HAVING BEEN RAPED AS THAT ENDS ANY PROSPECT OF MARRIAGE AND HAVING A FAMILY. THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL

RUMORS IN THE DECANE AREA OF RAPE, BUT NO ALBANIAN WOMEN HAVE COME FORWARD TO CONFIRM SUCH ALLEGATIONS.) IDPS ALSO CLAIMED THAT SOME OF THE MEN WERE TORTURED AND THAT THREE CHILDREN AND ONE OLD WOMAN DIED AS A RESULT OF THIS DETAINMENT. U.S. KDOM COULD NOT CONFIRM ANY OF THESE ALLEGATIONS.

-- FURTHERMORE, IDPS CLAIMED TO U.S. KDOM THAT THE VJ KILLED FOUR MEN IN THE HILLS NEAR VRANIC. TWO WERE REPORTEDLY KILLED AND BURNED IN THE VILLAGE OF MACITEVO. U.S. KDOM OBSERVED TWO DEAD MALES (IN THEIR TWENTIES) ON A HILLSIDE OVERLOOKING THE CONVOY BUT CANNOT CONFIRM THE IDPS' ALLEGATIONS.

-- IN ADDITION, THE SAME IDPS CLAIMED THAT THE WOMEN IN THE CONVOY WERE EVENTUALLY TRANSPORTED BY BUS TO OTHER VILLAGES. SOME MEN WERE REPORTEDLY RELEASED AND OTHERS WERE REPORTEDLY TRANSPORTED TO THE PRINTEX AND PRELANKA FACTORIES IN PRIZREN. U.S. KDOM CANNOT CONFIRM THESE REPORTS.

-- U.S. KDOM RAISED THE ABOVE CLAIMS WITH KOSOVO GOVERNOR ODALOVIC ON SEPTEMBER 30. HE CLAIMED NO KNOWLEDGE OF THEM AND SAID HE DID HIS BEST TO ENSURE THAT SUCH THINGS DID NOT HAPPEN BUT DID NOT EXCLUDE THAT THE SERBIAN POLICE AND MILITARY ENGAGED IN OCCASIONAL EXCESSES; "WAR IS NEVER CLEAN," HE ACKNOWLEDGED.

END TEXT

3. TIRANA MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

ZETKULIC

Schulte, Gregory L.

From: WHSR
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 1998 10:55 AM
To: Bouchard, Joseph F.; Butler, Lawrence E.; Clarke, Richard A.; Davidson, Leslie K.; Dowling, John N. (Nick); Hurley, C. Michael; Schulte, Gregory L.
Subject: SERBS SAY MUP DRAWDOWN IN KOSOVO HAS BEGUN

CLASS: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
DTG: 301312Z SEP 98
MSGTO: SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6671
ORIG: AMEMBASSY SKOPJE
PREC: IMMEDIATE
SSN: 2619
TOR: 980930104438 M3488324

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 13526
Department of State Guidelines, November 6, 2015
By VZ NARA, Date 4/25/2014
2008-0994-63

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 03 SKOPJE 002619

NODIS

PLEASE PASS TO BELGRADE FOR COM MILES
TIRANA FOR AMB LINO
USNATO FOR AMB VERSHBOW
US MISSION USUN FOR AMB SODERBERG
PASS ALSO TO JCS (CASEY) AND OSD (MCCONNELL)

E.O. 12958 DECL: DECL 09/30/08

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, SR

SUBJECT: SERBS SAY MUP DRAWDOWN IN KOSOVO HAS BEGUN

CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR CHRISTOPHER R. HILL, REASONS
1.5 (B) AND (D).

1. (C) SUMMARY: IN A SEPTEMBER 29 MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR HILL AND EUR/SCE DIRECTOR LARRY ROSSIN, SERBIAN PRESIDENT MILUTINOVIC REITERATED CLAIMS THAT THE OFFENSIVE IN KOSOVO IS OVER AND ASSERTED THAT THE MUP PULLOUT FROM KOSOVO HAS ALREADY BEGUN. FRY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAINOVIC TOLD HILL AND ROSSIN THE SAME THING LATER IN THE DAY AND PROVIDED MORE SPECIFICS ON THE MUP WITHDRAWAL THUS FAR. MILUTINOVIC AND SAINOVIC ADMITTED THAT THE IDP SITUATION IN CENTRAL KOSOVO IS STILL BLEAK, BUT POINTED TO THE REPOPULATION OF VILLAGES IN THE PEC-DECANI-DJAKOVICA CORRIDOR AS AN XAMPLE OF POSITIVE MOVEMENT. MILUTINOVIC ALSO PASSED AMBASSADOR HILL SOME COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT KOSOVO AGREEMENT AND PROMISED TO HAVE A MORE FORMAL RESPONSE BY SEPTEMBER 30. HILL AND ROSSIN URGED QUICK ACTION ON BOTH THE DRAWDOWN OF FORCES AND THEEGOTIATING TRACK, NOTING THAT THE SERBS HAD VERY LITTLE TIME TO CONVINCE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THEY WERE ON THE RIGHT PATH. END SUMMARY.

MILUTINOVIC: THE OFFENSIVE IS OVER

2. (C) MILUTINOVIC OPENED THE MEETING WITH HILL AND ROSSIN BY PRESENTING A COPY OF SERBIAN PM MARJANVIC'S SEPTEMBER 28 SPEECH ON KOSOVO TO THE SERBIAN PARLIAMENT. "NOW I'VE DONE THE PROPAGANDA JOB," MILUTINOVIC SAID. "LET ME TELL YOU WHAT IS REALLY GOING ON." THE SERBS, HE CLAIMED, HAVE BEGUN A SERIOUS

PULLOUT OF MUP FORCES FROM KOSOVO, WITH THOSE TROOPS BROUGHT IN FROM BELGRADE, NIS AND KRAGUJEVAC BEING THE FIRST TO GO. MILUTINOVIC ADMITTED THAT THE UCK NO LONGER POSES ANY KIND OF REAL THREAT, PARTICULARLY AFTER THE MUP WIPED OUT ONE OF THE LAST REMAINING UCK "HEADQUARTERS" NEAR SUVA REKA SEPTEMBER 26-28. WITH AN END TO THE VIOLENCE AND THE BEGINNING OF A MILITARY DRAWDOWN, MILUTINOVIC CLAIMED, THE IDP SITUATION WOULD SOON IMPROVE DRAMATICALLY.

3. (e) HILL AND ROSSIN UNDERScoreD TO MILUTINOVIC THAT ACTION, NOT WORDS, WOULD DETERMINE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY'S RESPONSE OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. BRUSHING ASIDE MILUTINOVIC'S LAME AND OFT-REPEATED CLAIM THAT THE UCK, AND NOT THE MUP, WAS PREVENTING ALBANIAN RETURNS TO VILLAGES, HILL STRESSED THAT HE HAD PERSONALLY WITNESSED HUNDREDS OF IDP'S TERRIFIED TO COME HOME BECAUSE OF THE CONTINUING SECURITY PRESENCE. "I'M NOT INTERESTED IN PLAYING GAMES," HILL TOLD MILUTINOVIC BLUNTLY.

4. (c) MILUTINOVIC HATILY BACKED DOWN, ASSURING HILL THAT THE SERB LEADERSHIP WAS INTENT ON CREATING CONDITIONS FOR IDP RETURNS. HE ADMITTED THAT THERE WAS TRUTH TO HILL'S ACCUSATION THAT THE MUP HAD KEPT ALBANIANS OUT OF VILLAGES SITUATED NEAR THE MAIN ROADS IN CENTRAL KOSOVO, IN ORDER FOR THE MUP TO MAINTAIN COMPLETE CONTROL OVER KEY ARTERIES. HE ALSO COMPLAINED THAT THE MUP HAD BEEN SECRETIVE ABOUT ITS STRATEGIES AND TATICSKEEPING HIM AND OTHER SERB LEADERS IN THE DARK ABOUT WHAT WAS REALLY HAPPENING IN KOSOVO.

5. (e) FOR THAT REASON, MILUTINOVIC SAID, HIS OWN VISIT TO KOSOVO THE PREVIOUS WEEK HAD BEEN VERY IMPORTANT. WHILE THE SCALE OF DESTRUCTION WAS NOT AS BAD AS THE KDOM HOUSING SURVEY INDICATED, HE CLAIMED, THERE WERE OBVIOUSLY SOME AREAS THAT HAD SUFFERED EXTENSIVE DAMAGE. MILUTINOVIC DEFENDED POLICE ACTIONS OVERALL, POINTING OUT THAT 14 POLICEMEN HAD BEEN KILLED IN ONLY A FOUR-DAY PERIOD DURING THE RECENT SUVA REKA OFFENSIVE. (HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE POLICE HAD CONFISCATED A NUMBER OF LARGE-CALIBER RECOILESS RIFLES AND SHOULDER-HELD ANTI-TANK WEAPONS AFTER THE UCK SURRENDER.) MILUTINOVIC ACKNOWLEDGED, HOWEVER, THAT INDIVIDUAL MUP OFFICERS HAD "OVERSTEPPED THE BOUNDS" AND SAID THAT THESE OFFICERS HAD BEEN DISCIPLINED AND IN SOME CASES DISMISSED. EUR/SCE DIRECTOR ROSSIN COUNTERED THAT THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE TO SHOW THAT ANY MUP OFFICER WAS EVER FIRED FOR BAD BEHAVIOR, ONLY STRONG WORDS OF SUPPORT FROM THE SERB LEADERSHIP FOR THE MUP AND THE VJ IN PUBLIC FORA.

6. (e) TWO THINGS WOULD HELP RESTORE THE SITUATION IN KOSOVO TO NORMAL, MILUTINOVIC ARGUED: FIRST, THE CREATION OF LOCAL ALBANIAN SECURITY FORCES, STARTING
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 02 OF 03 SKOPJE 02619

NODIS

PLEASE PASS TO BELGRADE FOR COM MILES
TIRANA FOR AMB LINO
USNATO FOR AMB VERSHBOW
US MISSION USUN FOR AMB SODERBERG
PASS ALSO TO JCS (CASEY) AND OSD (MCCONNELL)

E.O. 12958 DECL: DECL 09/30/08
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WITH ROUGHLY 70 VILLAGES NEAR DECANI AND DJAKOVICA (HE PROVIDED A LIST OF THE VILLAGES -- FAXED TO EUR/SCE AND U.S. KDOM -- ALONG WITH A SAMPLE BADGE AND A COPY OF THE CREDENTIALS LETTER CARRIED BY EACH ALBANIAN SECURITY OFFICER), AND SECOND, THE FORMATION OF A TEMPORARY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR KOSOVO, AS ANNOUNCED BY MARJANOVIC SEPTEMBER 28. THE COUNCIL WOULD ONLY BE AN INTERIM MEASURE, MILUTINOVIC STRESSED, DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN GOVERNMENT EFFORTS AT RECONSTRUCTION AND NORMALIZATION. HE CHARACTERIZED ZORAN ANDJELKOVIC, THE COUNCIL'S HEAD (AND MILUTINOVIC'S FORMER CAMPAIGN MANAGER), AS CAPABLE AND EFFICIENT. AMBASSADOR HILL AGREED ON THE NEED FOR CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES TO ENCOURAGE IDP RETURNS, BUT AGAIN EMPHASIZED THAT RESULTS -- AND SPEED -- WERE WHAT COUNTED.

SAINOVIC: 1000 MUP TROOPS OUT OF KOSOVO

7. (S) IN A MEETING LATER THE SAME DAY, FRY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER NIKOLA SAINOVIC MADE MANY OF THE SAME POINTS AS MILUTINOVIC BUT PROVIDED MORE SPECIFICS ON THE EXTENT OF THE MUP PULLOUT. SAINOVIC CLAIMED THAT FIVE OUT OF TEN ANTI-TERRORIST UNITS OPERATING IN KOSOVO HAD ALREADY BEEN SENT BACK TO BARRACKS. OF THE FIVE UNITS NO LONGER ON ACTIVE DUTY, 1000 MUP SOLDIERS HAD BEEN SENT OUT OF KOSOVO ALTOGETHER, BACK TO THEIR BASES IN BELGRADE, KRAGUJEVAC, NIS AND ELSEWHERE. SAINOVIC MADE NO CLAIMS ABOUT A VJ DRAWDOWN, ALTHOUGH HE SAID THAT ONLY VJ AND NOT MUP WAS ACTIVE IN THE BORDER AREAS.

8. (S) FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, SAINOVIC SAID, THE SERBS COULD NOT PUBLICIZE WHICH UNITS THEY WERE WITHDRAWING. NEVERTHELESS, HE UNDERSTOOD THE NEED TO PROVIDE CONCRETE EVIDENCE OF A SERB PULLBACK AND ACKNOWLEDGED AMBASSADOR HILL'S POINT THAT THE U.S. WOULD EASILY BE ABLE TO VERIFY THE EXTENT OF THE WITHDRAWAL. SAINOVIC CAUTIONED THAT FURTHER DRAWDOWNS WOULD HAVE TO FOLLOW AN ORDERLY PROCESS, NOTING THAT THE MUP COULD NOT SIMPLY LEAVE ISOLATED OFFICERS TO MAN CHECKPOINTS AND BECOME OPEN TARGETS FOR THE UCK.

9. (S) SAINOVIC POINTED TO THE PEC-DECANI-DJAKOVICA CORRIDOR AS AN EXAMPLE OF SUCCESSFUL IDP REPATRIATION, NOTING THAT ONE MONTH AFTER THE END OF HOSTILITIES IN WESTERN KOSOVO, VILLAGES WERE BEING REPOPULATED AND LIFE WAS RETURNING TO NORMAL. SAINOVIC PREDICTED THAT A SIMILAR PROCESS WOULD TAKE PLACE IN CENTRAL KOSOVO NOW THAT THE LAST MAJOR CLASH IN SUVA REKA WAS OVER. HE ASSERTED THAT RETURNS IN CENTRAL KOSOVO POSED A MORE DIFFICULT CHALLENGE BECAUSE, IN CONTRAST TO WESTERN KOSOVO, LOCAL ALBANIAN CIVILIANS HAD BEEN HEAVILY INVOLVED IN FIGHTING AGAINST THE MUP. SEVERAL HUNDRED ALBANIAN MEN HAD BEEN ARRESTED AFTER THE SUVA REKA OFFENSIVE, SAINOVIC SAID, AND WERE NOW BEING DETAINED IN "REGULAR" SERBIAN JAILS. AMBASSADOR HILL ASKED WHETHER ALL DETAINEES HAD BEEN REPORTED TO THE ICRC AND COULD BE VISITED. SAINOVIC CLAIMED THAT THE ICRC WOULD HAVE FULL ACCESS TO ALL PRISONERS AFTER THE 3-DAY MUP INTERROGATION PERIOD. SAINOVIC ALSO COMMENTED ON THE LOCAL ALBANIAN SECURITY FORCES BEING SET UP, SAYING THAT HE ENVISIONED THEM ENGAGED IN PRIMARILY A HUMANITARIAN MISSION -- COUNTING RETURNEES, ASSESSING NEEDS, AND CREATING HUMANITARIAN "SUB-CENTERS" IN SMALLER VILLAGES.

10. (S) SAINOVIC ASKED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL

COMMUNITY GIVE THE SERBS THE NECESSARY TIME TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND. HE ALSO NOTED THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THERE WAS AN OPEN EXPRESSION OF CONCERN AND SYMPATHY FOR THE SERB MASS GRAVES DISCOVERED AT KLECKA AND GLODJANE. FINALLY, HE URGED THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO CUT OFF THE KLA'S TIES TO OUTSIDE SUPPORTERS IN EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES. IN RESPONSE, HILL AND ROSSIN TOLD SAINOVIC THAT SERB MOVES OVER THE COMING DAYS WOULD BE CLOSELY SCRUTINIZED AND THAT TIME WAS OF THE ESSENCE. THE SOLUTION TO THE IDP PROBLEM MUST BE A DURABLE ONE, THEY EMPHASIZED, AND MUP FORCES MUST BE WITHDRAWN FOR GOOD. THE ANSWER IS NOT TO FORCE IDP'S TO GO HOME, BUT TO MAKE CONDITIONS RIGHT FOR THEM TO WANT TO RETURN. THE MUP WITHDRAWAL, HILL SAID, WILL BE THE KEY TO THIS PROCESS.

SERB RESPONSE TO THE DRAFT AGREEMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 03 OF 03 SKOPJE 002619

NODIS

PLEASE PASS TO BELGRADE FOR COM MILES
TIRANA FOR AMB LINO
USNATO FOR AMB VERSHBOW
US MISSION USUN FOR AMB SODBERG
PASS ALSO TO JCS (CASEY) AND OSD (MCCONNELL)

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/30/08
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11. (S) ALTHOUGH SERBIAN PRESIDENT MILUTINOVIC PROMISED TO HAVE WRITTEN COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT AGREEMENT READY BY SEPTEMBER 29, HE WAS UNABLE TO PROVIDE THEM DURING THE MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR HILL. INSTEAD, HE GAVE HILL A MARKED-UP SERBIAN VERSION OF THE TEXT WITH HIS HANDWRITTEN NOTES ON THE SIDE AND PROMISED TO GIVE HILL THE FORMAL RESPONSE, IN ENGLISH, THE NEXT DAY (SEPTEMBER 30). (NOTE: A TRANSLATED VERSION OF MILUTINOVIC'S HANDWRITTEN NOTES HAS BEEN FAXED TO JIM O'BRIEN.)

12. (S) MILUTINOVIC EXPRESSED PARTICULAR CONCERN OVER THREE AQEXT: POLICE, COURTS, AND "THE REPRESENTATIVE" OR "PRESIDENT" OF KOSOVO. MILUTINOVIC OBJECTED TO THE CREATION OF A KOSOVO-WIDE POLICE FORCE, ARGUING THAT THE MUP HAD TO MAINTAIN A PRESENCE IN KOSOVO AND THAT ALBANIAN POLICE COULD ONLY EXIST AT THE COMMUNAL LEVEL. HE EXPRESSED SIMILAR RESERVATIONS ABOUT ALL-ALBANIAN COURTS, SAYING THAT KOSOVO COURTS WOULD HAVE TO BE INTEGRATED INTO THE SERBIAN LEGAL SYSTEM AND THAT SERBS IN KOSOVO COULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO SUBMIT THEMSELVES TO ALBANIAN COURTS. FINALLY, MILUTINOVIC CLAIMED THAT THE POSITION OF A "REPRESENTATIVE" FOR KOSOVO (AKIN TO A PRESIDENT) WAS NOT IN LINE WITH THE SERBIAN CONSTITUTION. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY TAKE ON THE PRIMARY EXECUTIVE FUNCTION. HE ALSO HAD SMALLER, LESS SIGNIFICANT OBJECTIONS TO OTHER PARTS OF THE TEXT.

COMMENT

13. (S) THE SERBS HAVE CLEARLY GOTTEN THE MESSAGE THAT

WE NEED TO SEE AN IMPROVEMENT ON THE GROUND FAST. THE MUP WITHDRAWAL WILL NEED TO BE VERIFIED, BUT IT IS LIKELY TO PROCEED AT A MEASURED PACE OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

14. (S) WHILE THESE SIGNS ARE MILDLY ENCOURAGING, THE KEY NOW IS TO KEEP THE PRESSURE ON FOR PROGRESS ON THE NEGOTIATING TRACK. MILUTINOVIC'S OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAFT TEXT WERE PREDICTABLE AND EXPECTED. DESPITE THEIR OBJECTIONS, THE SERBS WILL HAVE TO SWALLOW SOME UNPLEASANT THINGS -- A KOSOVO-WIDE POLICE FORCE AMONG THEM. IF WE CAN KEEP UP THE MOMENTUM AND MAINTAIN A UNIFIED FRONT WITH OUR CONTACT GROUP PARTNERS, WE CAN PRESENT BOTH THE SERBS AND THE ALBANIANS WITH A DRAFT AGREEMENT THAT NEITHER WILL FULLY LIKE BUT WHICH THEY WILL BOTH HAVE TO ACCEPT. THIS WILL REQUIRE CAREFUL CONSULTATION WITH THE CG, MAKING THE LONDON MEETING LATER THIS WEEK AN IMPORTANT FORUM. WE MUST MAKE SURE THAT WE GET THE KEY ELEMENTS IN THIS AGREEMENT RIGHT -- BYPASSING THE STATUS ISSUE, ESTABLISHING DURABLE DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS IN KOSOVO, CREATING A KOSOVO-WIDE POLICE THAT PROTECTS ALL CITIZENS, EMPOWERING LOCAL COMMUNITIES, AND PROVIDING ADEQUATE AS (##) OR ALL ETHNIC GROUPS. END COMMENT.

HILL

Schulte, Gregory L.

From: WHSR
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 1998 12:34 PM
To: Bouchard, Joseph F.; Braden, Susan R.; Butler, Lawrence E.; Clarke, Richard A.; Davidson, Leslie K.; Flanagan, Stephen J.; Hurley, C. Michael; Schulte, Gregory L.; Sigler, Ralph H.; Weiss, Andrew S.
Subject: KOSOVO UPDATE - SEPTEMBER 30

CLASS: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
DTG: 301622Z SEP 98
MSGTO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9430
ORIG: AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
PREC: IMMEDIATE
SSN: 6609
TOR: 980930122908 M3488539

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 13526
Department of State Guidelines, November 6, 2015
By VR NARA, Date 4/25/2024
2008-0944-F.3

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ BELGRADE 006609

ROME ALSO FOR EMBASSY VATICAN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 9/30/08

TAGS: PGOV, PREL, PHUM, PREF, PINS, ASEC, SR
SUBJECT: KOSOVO UPDATE - SEPTEMBER 30

REF: BELGRADE 6590

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY TANDY BARRETT, POLITICAL SECTION, REASON 1.5 (B) AND (D).

ICRC VEHICLE HITS MINE: ONE DEAD, THREE INJURED

2. (c) AN ICRC VEHICLE HIT A LAND MINE NEAR DONJE OBRINJE AT APPROXIMATELY 10 A.M. TODAY. TRAVELING NORTH FROM DONJE OBRINJE TOWARD LIKOVAC THE FIRST OF A TWO VEHICLE CONVOY RAN OVER THE MINE. THE VEHICLE, WHICH WAS NOT ARMORED, WAS CARRYING FOUR DOCTORS, THREE ALBANIANS AND ONE SERB. ONE OF THE DOCTORS, A 38 YEAR OLD ALBANIAN, WAS KILLED, AND TWO OTHERS WERE SERIOUSLY INJURED. AN EU KDOM TEAM TRAVELED TO THE SITE AND A VJ HELICOPTER, AT THE REQUEST OF US KDOM, ASSISTED IN THE EVACUATION OF THE WOUNDED TO THE MAIN HOSPITAL IN PRISTINA. IN SEPARATE INCIDENTS, A CANADIAN KDOM TEAM AND A MUP VEHICLE HIT LAND MINES IN THE SAME VICINITY RECENTLY. THE CANADIAN CAR WAS BADLY DAMAGED AND ALL FIVE OCCUPANTS OF THE MUP VEHICLE WERE KILLED.

KDOM REPORTS CONTINUED SERB OFFENSIVE

3. (c) U.S. KDOM REPORTED ARMS FIRE NEAR STIMIJE THIS MORNING AND EU KDOM REPORTED MACHINE GUN FIRE IN LIKOVAC. U.S. KDOM ALSO REPORTED SHELLING SOUTH-EAST OF SUVA REKA AND ADDITIONAL ARTILLERY FIRING IN EAST KOMORANE THIS AFTERNOON. DESPITE OBVIOUS EVIDENCE TO THE CONTRARY, A SERBIAN POLICE SPOKESMAN IN KOSOVO, COLONEL BOZIDAR FILIC, INFORMED THE PRISTINA MEDIA CENTER THAT KOSOVO WAS CALM ON THE FIRST DAY AFTER THE END OF CONFLICT.

AGANI: ALBANIANS WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN COUNCIL

4. (U) FEHMI AGANI, THE COORDINATOR OF THE KOSOVO ALBANIAN NEGOTIATING TEAM, DISMISSED THE POSSIBILITY OF KOSOVO ALBANIANS PARTICIPATING IN THE WORK OF THE KOSOVO TEMPORARY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (TEC) ESTABLISHED AS A RESULT OF MONDAY'S PARLIAMENTARY ACTION. A SOURCE CLOSE TO SERBIAN AUTHORITIES SAID THE TEMPORARY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL'S MAIN TASK WILL BE TO ORGANIZE A CENSUS IN KOSOVO AND TO PREPARE LOCAL ELECTIONS. AGANI EXPLAINED HIS REJECTION OF THE TEC NOTING "THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO POSSIBILITY OF OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE WORK OF THE TEC BECAUSE THAT IS AN ORGAN OF THE SERB GOVERNMENT IN KOSOVO, NOT AN ORGAN OF ALBANIAN SELF-GOVERNMENT. I DO NOT EXPECT ANY KOSOVO PARTY TO ACCEPT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK OF THAT BODY."

5. (U) TIRANA MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

ZETKULIC

Schulte, Gregory L.

From: WHSR
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 1998 5:53 AM
To: Bouchard, Joseph F.; Butler, Lawrence E.; Clarke, Richard A.; Davidson, Leslie K.; Dowling, John N. (Nick); Hurley, C. Michael; Schulte, Gregory L.
Subject: OBSERVATIONS FROM THE U.S. TEAM IN KOSfVO

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
DTG: 300925Z SEP 98
MSGTO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9424
ORIG: AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
PREC: IMMEDIATE
SSN: 6590
TOR: 980930052945 M3487954

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 BELGRADE 006590

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR DAS MALLOY, EUR/SCE AND IO/PPC; DOD
FOR BTF

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MARR, PINS, PGOV, PREL, ASEC, SR

SUBJECT: OBSERVATIONS FROM THE U.S. TEAM IN KOSfVO
DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER MISSION (KDOM)

1. THIS TELEGRAM CONVEYS THE SEPTEMBER 29 DAILY REPORT FROM THE U.S. OBSERVERS IN THE KOSOVO DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER MISSION (KDOM) BASED IN PRISTINA. THE REPORT WAS RECEIVED AT POST ON 9/30 AND FAXED TO EUR/SCE AND IO/PPC BEFORE OOB WASHINGTON TIME.

2. BEGIN TEXT

KDOM DAILY REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 29

SUMMARY

THE U.S., EU AND RUSSIAN KDOM ELEMENTS TOOK THE CONTACT GROUP AMBASSADORS INTO DRENICA AND CENTRAL KOSOVO TO MEET WITH IDPS AND TO SEE A HUMANITARIAN AID CENTER. THE AMBASSADORS SAW SOME 3500 IDPS NEAR LAPUSNIK AND SAW VILLAGES IN DRENICA RECENTLY BATTERED BY SERBIAN POLICE FORCES. THE AMBASSADORS CALLED ON LDK PRESIDENT RUGOVA FOLLOWING THEIR SIX HOUR TOUR OF THE COUNTRYSIDE. END SUMMARY

B. SECURITY

-- SECURITY FOR THE JOINT KDOM/CONTACT GROUP MISSION WAS GOOD. THE JOINT MISSION SAW NO EVIDENCE OF CLASHES IN THE AREAS VISITED. HOWEVER, KDOM HAS HEARD UNCONFIRMED REPORTS OF CONTINUING AGGRESSIVE SERBIAN ACTIONS IN THE AREA SOUTH OF SUVA REKA.

C. FREEDOM OF ACCESS/FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

-- FREEDOM OF ACCESS WAS GOOD FOR THE KDOM/CONTACT GROUP CONVOY.

-- FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT WAS GOOD. HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS AND NGOS REPORTED TO KDOM THAT THEIR MOVEMENT WAS UNHINDERED.

D. HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

-- JOINT KDOM/CONTACT GROUP MISSION OBSERVED AN INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC) CONVOY RETURNING TO PRISTINA LATE IN THE EVENING. THE EIGHT VEHICLE CONVOY CONSISTED OF FIVE LARGE LORRIES AND THREE 4X4 TRUCKS.

-- MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERS (MSF) PRESENTED A LETTER THROUGH KDOM TO THE CONTACT GROUP AMBASSADORS THAT EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT WHAT MSF TYPED THE "ALARMING TREND" OF "SERB SECURITY FORCES TARGETING DOCTORS AND HEALTH STAFF IN KOSOVO." A PARTIAL TEXT OF THE LETTER FOLLOWS:

"FOLLOWING INTENSE FIGHTING IN THE DRENICA, CENTRAL AND PEC REGIONS DURING THE LAST TWO WEEKS, THE WHEREABOUTS OF SEVERAL DOCTORS WHO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROVIDE MEDICAL CARE TO THE DISPLACED HAVE BECOME UNKNOWN, SOME HAVE BEEN ARRESTED AND OTHERS KILLED."

THE LETTER LISTS A DOZEN DOCTORS WHO ARE MISSING OR KNOWN TO BE DEAD AND SEVERAL OTHERS WHO ARE IN HIDING. KDOM OBTAINED OTHER DETAILS IN SPEAKING WITH MSF STAFF ON 28 SEPTEMBER BEFORE RECEIVING THE LETTER. ACCORDING TO MSF, ONE OF THE DOCTORS WHO WAS KILLED, WAS ALSO "TORTURED AND MUTILATED".

-- THE JOINT KDOM/CONTACT GROUP MISSION ALSO VISITED MALISEVO WHERE IT OBSERVED THE SERBIAN HUMANITARIAN AID CENTER (WHICH IS LOCATED IN THE MAIN POLICE STATION) TO BE CLOSED. THE MISSION ONLY OBSERVED SERBIAN POLICE IN THE VICINITY.

E. INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS AND REFUGEES

-- THE JOINT KDOM MISSION TOOK THE CONTACT GROUP AMBASSADORS (THOSE OF GERMANY, AUSTRIA, ITALY, POLAND, PLUS THE U.S. CHARGE, THE UK AND RUSSIAN DCMS, A FRENCH FIRST SECRETARY AND THE EU COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE) TO A SITE ON THE KISNA REKA MOUNTAIN SW OF KOMORANE. THE JOINT MISSION HIKE NEARLY TWO KILOMETERS UP THE MOUNTAIN TO MEET THE IDPS WHO LIVE PACKED INTO SMALL, MAKESHIFT SHELTERS OF WOOD SLATS, SAPLINGS AND PLASTIC ALONG A MEANDERING MOUNTAIN STREAM. A FEW SHELTERS HAD RUDIMENTARY STOVES.

-- THE JOINT MISSION SAW AN ESTIMATED 3500 IDPS AND SPENT UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 BELGRADE 006590

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR DAS MALLOY, EUR/SCE AND IO/PPC; DOD FOR BTF

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MARR, PINS, PGOV, PREL, ASEC, SR

SUBJECT: OBSERVATIONS FROM THE U.S. TEAM IN KOSOVO
DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER MISSION (KDOM)

OVER AN HOUR TALKING WITH THE IDPS. SOME SAID THEY HAD BEEN LIVING AT THE SITE FOR AS LONG AS SIX MONTHS, OTHERS FOR LESS THAN A MONTH. THE MAJORITY WITH WHOM THE JOINT MISSION SPOKE REPORTED THAT THEY WERE FROM VILLAGES IN THE AREA BOUNDED BY GLOGOVAC, LAPUSNIK, KOMORANE AND NEKOVCE. THEY ENJOYED WHAT APPEARED TO BE CLEAN RUNNING WATER AND HAD RECEIVED SOME INTERNATIONAL RELIEF SUPPLIES, LARGELY THROUGH MOTHER TERESA. HOWEVER, THEY COMPLAINED OF THE LACK OF SUFFICIENT FOOD SUPPLIES, WARM CLOTHES, BLANKETS, SHOES FOR CHILDREN AND SOAP AND OTHER HYGIENIC ITEMS.

-- IN THEIR CONVERSATIONS WITH JOINT MISSION MEMBERS, THE IDPS STRESSED THE FOLLOWING ISSUES: THEIR DESIRE FOR SECURITY GUARANTEES BEFORE THEY RETURN TO THEIR VILLAGES; THEIR BELIEF THAT ONLY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WOULD BE ABLE TO RESOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS, AND THE KOSOVO CRISIS; THE IMPORTANCE OF NATO INTERVENTION; THEIR UNCERTAINTY OVER WHAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WILL REALLY DO FOR THEM; THEIR FEAR OF E SERBS AND WHAT AWAITS THEM SHOULD THEY RETURN TO THEIR VILLAGES; AND, THEIR FEAR OF WINTER.

-- WHILE THE IDPS GAVE THEIR VISITORS A WARM RECEPTION, SOME ASKED WHY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WAS NOT DOING MORE AND POSED THE QUESTION WHETHER THE WORLD WOULD JUST WATCH IF THE CHILDREN ON THE MOUNTAIN WERE "GERMANS." ONE MAN, WHO CALLED FOR NATO INTERVENTION, ALSO ASKED THAT THE AMBASSADORS RELAY AN APPEAL THAT ANY NATO ACTION NOT BE TARGETED AGAINST "SERBIAN CIVILIANS." SOME WOMEN SAID THEY WOULD RETURN TO THEIR VILLAGES IN THE WINTER EVEN IF THEY HAVE NO GUARANTEES OF THEIR SECURITY FOR THE SAKE OF THEIR CHILDREN. MOST APPEARED DISAPPOINTED WITH THE EFFORTS OF ALL KOSOVAR ALBANIAN POLITICIANS TO END THE CRISIS.

-- SEVERAL IDPS CLAIMED THAT SERBIAN POLICE FORCES HAD FIRED ON INDIVIDUALS THIS MORNING WHILE THEY WERE ATTEMPTING TO RETURN TO THEIR HOME VILLAGES. IDPS FEARED THAT THE JOINT TEAM'S AND CONTACT GROUP'S PRESENCE WOULD BRING REPRISALS FROM SERBIAN FORCES. SOME CLAIMED THAT THEY WOULD NO LONGER BE THERE WITHIN A WEEK BECAUSE OF ANTICIPATED AGGRESSION BY SERBIAN FORCES.

-- A TWO-MAN UCK PATROL APPEARED SHORTLY AFTER THE JOINT MISSION ARRIVED IN THE VILLAGE BELOW THE IDP SETTLEMENT BUT WERE FRIENDLY AND APPEARED TO BE PLEASED WITH THE DIPLOMATS' VISIT.

-- THE JOINT KDOM/CONTACT GROUP MISSION ALSO VISITED VILLAGES IN SOUTHERN DRENICA NORTH OF KIJEVO AND LAPUSNIK, INCLUDING DOBRI DOH, DOBRI VODA, CABIC, CEROVIK, MUCUBELJ AND GOLUBOVAC. ALL HAD BEEN BATTERED RECENTLY BY SERBIAN POLICE AND VJ ACTION DIRECTED AGAINST THE KLA IN THIS AREA.

-- NEAR GOLUBOVAC, THE JOINT MISSION OBSERVED IDPS AND THEIR MAKESHIFT SHELTERS IN A RAVINE BELOW. VILLAGERS CLAIMED THAT GOLUBOVAC' POPULATION HAD SWELLED FROM 400 TO 1500 BECAUSE OF THE ARRIVAL OF IDPS FROM OTHER POINTS IN THE AREA FOLLOWING AGGRESSIVE SERBIAN POLICE AND VJ ACTION LAST WEEK IN THE DRENICA/CICAVICA AREAS.

-- IN ONE OF THESE VILLAGES, LOCALS CLAIMED TO THE JOINT MISSION THAT 16 TO 23 OF THEIR YOUNG MEN HAD BEEN "EXECUTED" BY SERBIAN SPECIAL POLICEMEN WEARING BLACK BANDANAS AND WITH DARKENED FACES ON SEPTEMBER 27. THE VILLAGERS CLAIMED THAT THEY HAD FLED INTO THE NEARBY HILLS AS SERBIAN POLICE ARRIVED THAT MORNING. LATER THAT AFTERNOON THE SERBIAN POLICE "SURROUNDED" THE VILLAGERS IN THE HILLS, SEPARATED OUT THE MEN FROM THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND FORCED THE LATTER TO RETURN TO THE VILLAGE, WHERE THEY WERE ALLEGEDLY COMPELLED TO WATCH THE POLICE TORCH THEIR HOMES.

-- VILLAGERS (TWO OF WHOM MAINTAINED THEY WERE WITNESSES) ALSO CLAIMED THAT THE POLICE SEPARATED 16 TO 23 (ACCOUNTS VARY) OF THE MEN, MARCHED THEM TO THE EDGE OF THE VILLAGE AND FORCED THEM TO LIE IN A DITCH WITH THEIR HANDS BEHIND THEIR HEADS. THEN ONE SERBIAN POLICEMAN REPORTEDLY "SPRAYED" THEM TWICE WITH AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE. AFTERWARDS, THE SERBIAN POLICE CHECKED TO ENSURE THEIR VICTIMS WERE DEAD. ONE REPORTEDLY WAS NOT AND WAS

THEREFORE SHOT THROUGH THE HEAD. VILLAGERS CLAIMED THAT THE SERBIAN POLICE FORCED THEM TO BURY THE MEN IMMEDIATELY OR FACE EXECUTION THEMSELVES. VILLAGERS ALSO CLAIMED THAT THE POLICE THREATENED THEM WITH "EXECUTION" IF THEY FLED AGAIN TO THE HILLS.
UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 BELGRADE 006590

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR DAS MALLOY, EUR/SCE AND IO/PPC; DOD FOR BTF

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MARR, PINS, PGOV, PREL, ASEC, SR
SUBJE: OBSERVATIONS FROM THE U.S. TEAM IN KOSOVO
DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER MISSION (KDOM)

-- KDOM COUNTED AT LEAST TWELVE FRESH GRAVES IN ALBANIAN CEMETERIES WHILE TRANSITING THIS AREA.

END TEXT.

3. TIRANA MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

ZETKULIC

Schulte, Gregory L.

From: WHSR
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 1998 11:31 AM
To: Bouchard, Joseph F.; Braden, Susan R.; Butler, Lawrence E.; Clarke, Richard A.; Davidson, Leslie K.; Dowling, John N. (Nick); Flanagan, Stephen J.; Hurley, C. Michael; McEldowney, Nancy E.; Schulte, Gregory L.; Sigler, Ralph H.
Subject: OBSERVATIONS FROM THE U.S. TEAM IN KOSOVO

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
DTG: 291421Z SEP 98
MSGTO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9410
ORIG: AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
PREC: IMMEDIATE
SSN: 6574
TOR: 980929104939 M3486244

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 04 BELGRADE 006574

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR DAS MALLOY, EUR/SCE AND IO/PPC; DOD
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TAGS: MARR, PINS, PGOV, PREL, ASEC, SR
SUBJECT: OBSERVATIONS FROM THE U.S. TEAM IN KOSOVO
DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER MISSION (KDOM)

1. THIS TELEGRAM CONVEYS THE SEPTEMBER 28 DAILY REPORT FROM THE U.S. OBSERVERS IN THE KOSOVO DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER MISSION (KDOM) BASED IN PRISTINA. THE REPORT WAS RECEIVED BY POST ON 9/29 AND FAXED EUR/SCE AND IO/PPC BEFORE OOB WASHINGTON TIME.

2. BEGIN TEXT

KDOM DAILY REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 28

SUMMARY

-- KDOM VISITED DJAKOVICA AND PRILEP IN WESTERN KOSOVO, ORAHOVAC, MALISEVO, OBILIC, VASILJEVO, DOBROSEVAC, KRISNA REKA, AND SEDLARE IN CENTRAL KOSOVO, AND STUDECAN AND SUVA REKA IN SOUTHERN KOSOVO. U.S., EU, AND RUSSIAN TEAMS FOCUSED ON DETERMINING THE STATUS OF IDPS IN THE PAGARUSA VALLEY AND THE DRENICA AREA.

-- SERBIAN FORCES CONTINUE THEIR OFFENSIVE FOR THE FIFTH DAY SINCE THE U.N. RESOLUTION. U.S. KDOM OBSERVED APPROXIMATELY 50 ACTIVELY BURNING FIRES IN THE AREA SIX KM TO THE SOUTH AND EAST OF SUVA REKA (FROM MUSUTISTE (DM 9183) TO MOVJANE (DM 9293). EU AND U.S. KDOM CONFIRMED A MASSACRE SITE AT GORNJE OBRINJE WITH 14 CONFIRMED DEATHS: TWO ELDERLY MALES, FOUR WOMEN, AND SIX CHILDREN. FREEDOM OF ACCESS WAS POOR AS SERBIAN POLICE DENIED U.S. KDOM ACCESS NORTH OUT OF SUVA REKA TOWARDS STIMLJE. UNHCR TEAMS REPORTED TO U.S. KDOM THAT THEY WILL BEGIN TO CARRY FRY MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) OFFICIALS ON THEIR MISSIONS. KDOM OBSERVED THE FRY-RUN HUMANITARIAN DISTRIBUTION CENTERS IN ORAHOVAC AND MALISEVO CLOSED. U.S. KDOM FOUND SEVERAL LARGE CONCENTRATIONS OF IDPS IN CENTRAL KOSOVO. MOST IDPS ARE IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF WARM CLOTHING AND ALL WERE LIVING ON THE GROUND WITH ONLY THE MOST rudimentary shelter. END SUMMARY

A. THE GORNJE OBRINJE STORY

-- JOINT EU AND U.S. KDOM VISITED A "MASSACRE SITE" AT THE VILLAGE OF GORNJE OBRINJE (DM 8121). JOINT KDOM CONFIRMED 14 CONFIRMED DEATHS: TWO ELDERLY MALES, SIX WOMEN (ONE PREGNANT), AND SIX CHILDREN.

-- FOLLOWING A REPORT FROM THE KOSOVO ALBANIAN COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNING AN ALLEGED KILLING OF 20 KOSOVO ALBANIAN IDPS, A JOINT EU/U.S. KDOM TEAM MOVED TO GORNJE OBRINJE IN THE CENTRAL DRENICA AREA, SIX KM WEST OF GLOGOVAC. A LOCAL KOSOVO ALBANIAN GUIDED THE JOINT TEAM ON FOOT TO AN AREA APPROXIMATELY TWO KM NW OF GORNJE OBRINJE WHERE IT APPEARED THAT A GROUP OF DISPLACED WOMEN, CHILDREN AND ELDERLY HAD FOUND SHELTER.

-- JOINT EU/U.S. KDOM FOUND AN OLD COUPLE UNDER A PRIMITIVE TENT, MADE OF PLASTIC AND BLANKETS, AND OBSERVED THAT BOTH WERE HEAVILY MUTILATED. THE MAN WAS DECAPITATED, HIS BRAIN REMOVED, AND LEFT "DISPLAYED" BESIDE HIS WIFE'S CORPSE. KDOM ALSO OBSERVED THAT THE WOMAN'S THROAT HAD BEEN SLIT AND HER LEFT FOOT WAS MUTILATED IN AN APPARENT ATTEMPT TO CUT IT OFF (COMMENT: IT WAS DETERMINED THAT THE WEAPON USED WAS MOST LIKELY WITH THE KNIFE THAT HAD BEEN LAYING ON HER CHEST.) KDOM OBSERVED A SECOND ELDERLY MALE OF THE GROUP LYING FACE UP WITH HIS THROAT SLASHED AND AN APPARENT HEAD SHOT WOUND ORIGINATING UNDER THE THROAT WITH THE EXIT WOUND AT THE TOP OF THE HEAD.

-- TO THE WEST, THE TEAM FOUND A FURTHER GROUP OF FIVE WOMEN (ONE WAS OBSERVED AS PREGNANT) AND SIX CHILDREN, APPARENTLY KILLED WHILE TRYING TO ESCAPE.

-- THE TEAM SAW THE REMAINS OF A 4-YEAR-OLD BOY WHO HAD BEEN SHOT IN THE BACK. NEARBY, TEAM OBSERVED A GIRL BETWEEN THE AGES OF 6-10 WITH A GUNSHOT TO THE MOUTH.

-- JOINT EU/U.S. KDOM OBSERVED THAT MOST OF THESE VICTIMS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN EXECUTED WITH SHOTS TO THE HEAD. VILLAGERS INFORMED KDOM THAT FOUR OF THE CHILDREN WERE UNDER THE AGE OF TEN WITH THE TWO YOUNGEST BEING FOUR YEARS OLD. ONE INFANT, AGE ONE AND A HALF YEARS, WAS ALLEGEDLY FOUND ALIVE SUCKING FROM A BABY BOTTLE FILLED WITH ITS MOTHER'S BLOOD.

-- AS KDOM LEFT THE SITE, A GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY EIGHT ARMED KOSOVO ALBANIANS JOINED THE 20 OR SO ALREADY AT THE SITE. THE LOCALS SAID THAT THE OFFENSIVE STARTED FIVE DAYS AGO, AND THEY ALLEGED THAT THE UCK LEFT THE AREA TWO UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 04 BELGRADE 006574

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR DAS MALLOY, EUR/SCE AND IO/PPC; DOD FOR BTF

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MARR, PINS, PGOV, PREL, ASEC, SR

SUBJECT: OBSERVATIONS FROM THE U.S. TEAM IN KOSOVO DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER MISSION (KDOM)

DAYS AGO.

-- LOCAL VILLAGER CLAIMED TO EU/U.S. KDOM THAT, FIVE DAYS AGO, ON THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 23, THE VILLAGE CAME UNDER SIEGE BY VJ, SERBIAN POLICE AND SPECIAL FORCES WHO SURROUNDED THE AREA WITH LARGE NUMBERS OF TROOPS AND HEAVY NUMBERS OF TANKS AND PRAGAS. THE UCK, HAD BEEN ENTRENCHED IN THE AREA, DEPARTED TWO DAYS AFTER THE OFFENSIVE BEGAN. AFTER TWO MORE DAYS OF SHELLING, FOOT SOLDIERS REPORTEDLY ENTERED THE AREA, BEGAN LOOTING, BURNING HOUSES AND KILLING CATTLE AND OTHER ANIMALS.

(COMMENT: THE VICTIMS APPEARED TO BE HIDING FROM THE ATTACK.)

-- VILLAGERS ALSO CLAIMED TO KDOM THAT THERE ARE AT LEAST 20 TO 25 OTHER IDPS THAT HAVE SIMILARLY BEEN MASSACRED.

B. SECURITY

-- SERBIAN FORCES CONTINUE THEIR OFFENSIVE FOR THE FIFTH DAY SINCE THE U.N. RESOLUTION. U.S. KDOM OBSERVED APPROXIMATELY 50 ACTIVELY BURNING FIRES IN THE AREA SIX KM TO THE SOUTH AND EAST OF SUVA REKA (FROM MUSUTISTE (DM 9183) TO MOVJANE (DM 9293)). LOCAL RESIDENTS FROM STUDENCANE REPORTED TO KDOM THAT THEY HEARD SHELLING COMMENCE AT 9 8 AND CONTINUE UNTIL 12 NOON LOCAL TIME. UNHCR AND PRESS REPORTED TO U.S. KDOM THAT THEY HEARD SHELLING FROM STIMLJE IN THE AFTERNOON THROUGH 3 PM LOCAL TIME.

-- U.S./RUSSIAN KDOM FOUND THE TOWN OF VASILJEVO (EN 9520) ALMOST COMPLETELY DESTROYED BY BOTH DIRECT FIRE AND ARSON. KDOM OBSERVED THAT APPROXIMATELY 80 PERCENT OF THE HOMES ARE UNINHABITABLE. KDOM ALSO OBSERVED CATTLE APPARENTLY KILLED BY RIFLE FIRE. RESIDENTS CLAIMED TO KDOM THAT SERBIAN MILITARY KILLED THE LIVESTOCK. RESIDENTS OF DOBROSEVAC TOLD KDOM THEY WERE RELUCTANT TO RETURN TO THEIR VILLAGE DUE TO THE DESTRUCTION OF THEIR HOMES AND ALLEG POISONING OF THEIR CATTLE.

-- KDOM TEAM SECURITY WAS GOOD. U.S./RUSSIAN KDOM ENCOUNTERED IN THE VASILJEVO AREA A THREE-MAN GROUP OF UCK MEMBERS WHO DEMANDED TO SEE TEAM MEMBERS' IDENTIFICATION, AND OBSERVED TWO ADDITIONAL ARMED UCK MEMBERS IN THE SAME AREA.

C. FREEDOM OF ACCESS/MOVEMENT

-- FREEDOM OF ACCESS WAS POOR AS SERBIAN POLICE DENIED U.S. KDOM CESS NORTH OUT OF SUVA REKA TOWARDS STIMLJE. UNHCR OFFICIALS SUBSEQUENTLY REPORTED TO U.S. KDOM THAT THERE WAS SUBSTANTIAL SHELLING FROM STIMLJE TOWARDS THE WEST.

-- FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT WAS ALSO POOR. UNHCR AND PRESS REPORTED TO U.S. KDOM THAT VJ FORCES DENIED THEIR FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AT SELOGRAZDE (DM 8783) AS THEY WERE ATTEMPTING TO GET CLOSE TO THE SHELLED AND BURNING AREA AROUND MUSUTISTE. IDPS OF FUSTICA (DN 9411) AND NEKOVCE (DN 9209) TOLD U.S. KDOM THAT SERBIAN POLICE FORCES HAVE REPEATEDLY DENIED IDPS FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT TO EXIT THE VALLEY TO GO TO GLOGOVAC OR PRISTINA.

D. HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

-- UNHCR TEAMS REPORTED TO U.S. KDOM THAT THEY WILL BEGIN TO CARRY FRY MFA OFFICIALS ON THEIR MISSIONS. UNHCR STATED THAT THEIR INTENTION IS TO PROVIDE THE MFA OFFICIALS WITH A VIEW OF THE SITUATION IN KOSOVO. UNHCR ALSO STATED TO U.S. KDOM THAT THE FRY OFFICIALS WILL TRAVEL IN UNHCR VEHICLES UNANNOUNCED TO THE SERBIAN POLICE AND GO WHERE THE UNHCR TEAMS USUALLY GO.

-- U.S. KDOM FOUND THE FRY-RUN HUMANITARIAN DISTRIBUTION CENTER IN ORAHOVAC CLOSED AND OBSERVED APPROXIMATELY 35 TO 40 PEOPLE STANDING OUTSIDE THE FACILITY WAITING FOR THE OWNER TO RETURN. (COMMENT: THIS IS THE THIRD TIME IN THREE VISITS OVER SIX DAYS THAT THIS DISTRIBUTION CENTER WAS OBSERVED CLOSED.)

-- U.S. KDOM ALSO OBSERVED THE FRY-RUN HUMANITARIAN

DISTRIBUTION CENTER IN MALISEVO TO BE CLOSED AS WELL. U.S. KDOM ALSO OBSERVED THE ENTIRE TOWN AS DESERTED AND NOTED THAT VJ WERE MANNING A CHECKPOINT TO THE SOUTHEAST OF TOWN TOWARDS THE SUVA REKA AREA.

-- VILLAGERS FROM STUDENCANE CLAIMED TO U.S. KDOMHAT UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 04 BELGRADE 006574

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR DAS MALLOY, EUR/SCE AND IO/PPC; DOD FOR BTF

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MARR, PINS, PGOV, PREL, ASEC, SR
SUBJECT: OBSERVATIONS FROM THE U.S. TEAM IN KOSOVO
DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER MISSION (KDOM)

218 HOUSES IN THE STUDENCANE AREA WERE BADLY DAMAGED OR DESTROYED. VILLAGERS ALSO CLAIMED THAT SERBIAN POLICE STILL DRIVE BY EVERY TWO HOURS TO HARASS THE LOCALS WHO HAVE REMAINED IN THE VILLAGE.

-- VILLAGERS FROM DOBROSEVAC TOLD U.S./RUSSIAN KDOM THAT THEY ARE CONCERNED ABOUT OUTBREAKS OF ILLNESS DUE TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF DEAD CATTLE IN THE VILLAGE AND POSSIBLE CONTAMINATION OF WATER WELLS. RESIDENTS OF VASILJEVO (EN 9520) TOLD U.S./RUSSIAN KDOM THAT THEY WERE SUFFERING FROM SHORTAGES OF FOOD AND POTABLE WATER, AND THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED NO VISITS FROM HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS.

E. INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS AND REFUGEES

-- U.S. KDOM LOCATED SOME 3,000 IDPS LIVING IN ROUGH SHELTERS ON THE GROUND APPROXIMATELY TWO KILOMETERS WEST OF KISHNA REKA (SOUTH OF KOMORANE). THE CAMP'S MOTHER TERESA SOCIETY (MTS) REPRESENTATIVE TOLD U.S. KDOM THAT MANY RESIDENTS HAD BEEN LIVING IN THE WOODS FOR TWO MONTHS, BUT SOME HAD BEEN THERE FOR AS LONG AS FIVE MONTHS, FOLLOWING THE EARLIEST ATTACKS ON KOMORANE.

THE CAMP IS LOCATED HIGH IN THE HILLS WEST OF KISHNA REKA. THE ROAD LEADING TO THE CAMP WAS TOO STEEP, NARROW AND MUDDY FOR U.S. KDOM'S ARMORED FOUR-WHEEL-DRIVE VEHICLE AND THE TEAM HIKE THE FINAL 1,200 METERS. U.S. KDOM OBSERVED THAT SOME FAMILIES IN THE CAMP HAD BUILT SHELTERS COMPRISED OF WOODEN SLATTED WALLS PACKED WITH MUD, WITH HARD ROOFS. OTHER SHELTERS WERE MADE OF SAPLINGS AND PLASTIC SHEETING. AT LEAST SOME SHELTERS HAD HANDMADE FURNITURE, RUDIMENTARY STOVES, SMALL PORCHES, STEPS, AND WALLS OF BRANCHES TO CREATE TINY COMPOUNDS SIMILAR TO THEIR TRADITIONAL HOMES. CATTLE AND SHEEP WERE SHELTERED. (COMMENT: THE CAMP CONSTRUCTION, INCLUDING STEPS CUT INTO TRAILS ALONG STEEP SEGMENTS, IS UNIQUE IN U.S. KDOM'S EXPERIENCE, AND INDICATES TO U.S. KDOM THAT THE IDPS HAVE NO INTENTION OF RETURNING TO THEIR HOMES THIS WINTER.) THE CAMP HAS WATER SANITATION EQUIPMENT (SOURCE UNKNOWN) BUT THE IDPS WERE IN NEED OF WARM CLOTHING AND SHOES. MANY CHILDREN WERE BAREFOOT AND MOST ADULTS HAD ONLY SLIPPERS IN THEIR FEET.

U.S./RUSSIAN KDOM ENCOUNTERED LARGE CONCENTRATIONS OF IDPS IN THE HILLS BETWEEN THE VILLAGES OF VASILJEVO AND DOBROSEVAC. THE LARGEST CONCENTRATION WAS APPROXIMATELY 700 PERSONS. U.S./RUSSIAN KDOM OBSERVED IN THE DISTANCE ME 10 OTHER CONCENTRATIONS OF UP TO 50 PERSONS EACH. THE IDPS REPORTED THAT THEY HAD BEEN LIVING IN THE WOODS FOR THE PAST SIX DAYS. U.S./RUSSIAN KDOM OBSERVED THAT THE CAMP LIVING CONDITIONS WERE CROWDED, WITH UP TO THREE FAMILIES AND 15 PERSONS IN EACH MAKESHIFT SHELTER. THE CAMP WATER SUPPLY WAS MUDDY AND U.S./RUSSIAN KDOM RECEIVED REPORTS OF SICK WOMEN AND CHILDREN. THE IDPS IN

THE CAMP APPEARED ILL PREPARED FOR THE RAINY CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED. THE IDPS SAID THAT THEY CAME FROM THE VILLAGES OF VASILJEVO, DOBORSEVAC, POKLEK, GODANCE, AND GLADNO SELO. CAMP RESIDENTS REQUESTED SPECIFIC SUPPLIES OF FOOD, CLOTHING, WATER, PLASTIC SHEETING, AND MEDICINES.

SOUTH OF FUSTICA, IN THE LIPOVICA NATIONAL FOREST, KDOM FOUND ANOTHER GROUP OF SOME 450 IDPS LIVING ON THE GROUND UNDER PLASTIC SHELTERS. THIS GROUP HAS BEEN IN THE HILLS FOR ABOUT TWO MONTHS, ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL MTS REPRESENTATIVE. THE SHELTERS IN THIS VALLEY WERE MARKEDLY DIFFERENT THAN THOSE SEEN IN PAGARUSHA OR KISHNA REKA: THEY HAD BEEN CAMOUFLAGED WITH BRANCHES COVERING THE TOPS AND SIDES. RESIDENTS TOLD KDOM THAT BRANCHES WERE A FORM OF CONCEALMENT FROM OVERHEAD OBSERVATION.

-- KDOM MET WITH THE MTS REPRESENTATIVE IN SEDLARE. THE MTS REPRESENTATIVE TOLD US THAT THERE ARE CURRENTLY 1000 RESIDENTS AND 1500 IDPS IN SEDLARE. KDOM OBSERVED THAT HOMES IN SEDLARE ARE APPROXIMATELY 75 PERCENT CATEGORY II OR HIGHER DAMAGED.

F. OTHER SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS

-- U.S. KDOM ATTEMPTED TO OBTAIN FROM LOCAL RESIDENTS INFORMATION ABOUT ALLEGED MINES NORTH OF DONJE FUSTICA. THE RESIDENTS COULD NOT STATE DEFINITELY THAT THE MINES HAD BEEN REMOVED.

END TEXT

3. TIRANA MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.
UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 04 BELGRADE 006574

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR DAS MALLOY, EUR/SCE AND IO/PPC; DOD
FOR BTF

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: MARR, PINS, PGOV, PREL, ASEC, SR
SUBJECT: OBSERVATIONS FROM THE U.S. TEAM IN KOSOVO
DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER MISSION (KDOM)

ZETKULIC

Schulte, Gregory L.

From: WHSR
Sent: Monday, September 28, 1998 5:46 PM
To: Bouchard, Joseph F.; Braden, Susan R.; Butler, Lawrence E.; Clarke, Richard A.; Davidson, Leslie K.; Dowling, John N. (Nick); Flanagan, Stephen J.; Hurley, C. Michael; McEldowney, Nancy E.; Metz, Jamie F.; Schulte, Gregory L.; Sigler, Ralph H.; Weiss, Andrew S.
Subject: MILOSEVIC TO CONTACT GROUP AMBAS@DORS: NOT

CLASS: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
DTG: 282118Z SEP 98
MSGTO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9403
ORIG: AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
PREC: IMMEDIATE
SSN: 6559
TOR: 980928172055 M3485054

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 13526
Department of State Guidelines, November 6, 2015
By VR NARA, Date 4/26/2024
2008-1994-F.3

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 BELGRADE 006559

ROME ALSO FOR VATICAN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/28/08

TAGS: PREL, PREF, UNSC, PHUM, SR

SUBJECT: MILOSEVIC TO CONTACT GROUP AMBAS@DORS: NOT
TO WORRY, KOSOVO IS GETTING BETTER EVERY DAY

REF: STATE 177450

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY CHARGE JACK ZETKULIC. REASON:
1.5(B) (D) .

2. (C) SUMMARY. MILOSEVIC SEPTEMBER 28 SHRUGGED OFF THE WARNING FROM CONTACT GROUP FOREIGN MINISTERS DELIVERED BY AMBASSADORS IN BELGRADE. CITING THE SERBIAN PARLIAMENT'S STATEMENT OF THE SAME DAY, MILOSEVIC CLAIMED THAT THE ACTIVITIES OF SECURITY FORCES IN KOSOVO ARE OVER. ALWAYS WILLING TO PLAY THE NUMBERS GAME, HE CLAIMED THAT INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS ARE FEW AND FAR BETWEEN IN THE PROVINCE. "LOYAL CITIZENS" SHOULD FEAR NOTHING FROM A GOVERNMENT THAT WANTS ONLY TO HELP THEM. END SUMMARY.

3. (C) LATE IN THE EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 28, CHARGE JOINED CONTACT GROUP AMBASSADORS PLUS EU ENVOY PETRITSCH IN A ONE-HOUR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MILOSEVIC, WHO WAS JOINED BY FRY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAINOVIC, FOREIGN POLICY ADVISER BUGARIC, AND CHEF DU CABINET MILINOVIC. FRENCH AMBASSADOR FILLIOL READ A PREPARED STATEMENT WITH THE GIST OF REFTEL POINTS. MILOSEVIC, LOOKING SALLW AND A BIT GRUMPY, SAID THAT THE CONTACT GROUP'S CONCERNS HAD LARGELY BEEN OVERCOME BY EVENTS. HE REFERRED TO TODAY'S SERBIAN PARLIAMENT STATEMENT ANNOUNCING AN END TO ANY SIGNIFICANT SECURITY ACTIVITIES IN KOSOVO. HE ASSURED THE GROUP THAT, WITH THE END OF FIGHTING, THE OVERALL SITUATION WOULD BE NORMALIZED. TENSIONS ALREADY ARE DECREASING; INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS HAVE ALMOST ALL RETURNED TO THEIR HOMES; THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IS NOT DIRE; HIS GOVERNMENT STANDS READY TO NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY IN THE ONGOING TALKS FACILITATED BY AMBASSADOR HILL. IT IS ONLY THE ALBANIAN SIDE IN THESE TALKS THAT IS UNREADY OR UNWILLING TO SHOW FLEXIBILITY.

4. (C) MILOSEVIC EXPRESSED SYMPATHY FOR THE "LOYAL CITIZENS OF SERBIA AND YUGOSLAVIA" IN KOSOVO WHO HAD BEEN LED BY THEIR IRRESPONSIBLE LEADERS TO TAKE UP ARMS

AND OTHERWISE OPPOSE THE GOVERNMENT. REFERRING TO TODAY'S STATEMENT BY THE SERBIAN PARLIAMENT, HE SAID ALL SUCH INDIVIDUALS, "IF INNOCENT," WOULD BE AMNESTIED. HE STRESSED, AS HE HAS IN THE PAST, THAT IF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY GENUINELY WANTS TO HELP THE SITUATION IN KOSOVO, IT SHOULD LIFT SANCTIONS. HE QUOTED STANDARD SERBIAN PROPAGANDA ABOUT NINE THOUSAND CHILDREN DYING IN THE FRY DUE TO A LACK OF MEDICINE DURING THE TIME OF THE EARLIER SANCTIONS REGIME.

5. (C) MILOSEVIC SAID HE HAD BUDGETED A "GENEROUS ONE HOUR" FOR THE CONTACT GROUP AMBASSADORS AND ASKED IF THEY HAD ANY QUESTIONS. FRENCH AMBASSADOR FILLIOL ASKED ABOUT THE EXACT ROLE THAT SERBIAN MINISTER ANDJELKOVIC WOULD PLAY IN KOSOVO. MILOSEVIC EXPLAINED THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S GOAL WAS TO INCREASE AND ELABORATE ON CIVILIAN STRUCTURES. ANDJELKOVIC WOULD PLAY A LEADING ROLE ON THE GROUND IN KOSOVO. HIS FIRST TASK WILL BE IMPROVING THE ECONOMY. A FUTURE TASK MAY BE LOCAL ELECTIONS. EU ENVOY PETRITSCH ASKED IF "EXTRA" SECURITY FORCES WOULD BE WITHDRAWN FROM KOSOVO. MILOSEVIC RESPONDED THAT THE MILITARY WOULD REMAIN BECAUSE KOSOVO IS ITS STANDARD BASE. HE STATED FLATLY THAT NO NEW TROOPS HAD BEEN SENT TO KOSOVO. MEANWHILE, HOWEVER, POLICE FORCES WOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY DECREASED, BUT THIS WITHDRAWAL WOULD BE BASED ON WHETHER OR NOT TERRORIST ELEMENTS WOULD REFRAIN FROM ATTACKS. GERMAN AMBASSADOR GRUBER ASKED IF THE YUGOSLAV ARMY ELEMENTS WOULD RETURN TO GARRISON. MILOSEVIC RESPONDED THAT THEIR MAIN PRIORITY WOULD BE TO PROTECT THE BORDER AND THAT THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO DO SO. BRITISH AMBASSADOR DONNELLY COUNTERED THIS CLAIM, SAYING THAT THE VJ HAD BEEN ACTIVE IN THE INTERIOR. MILOSEVIC RESPONDED, "NOT AS MUCH AS YOU WOULD THINK," AND SAID THAT IN ANY CASE HE EXPECTED NO REASON FOR THE MILITARY TO BE ACTIVE UNLESS IT IS ATTACKED.

6. (C) MILOSEVIC WENT ON TO EXPLAIN WHAT HE CALLED A "NEW PLAN" AIMED AT CREATING CONDITIONS FOR LOCAL ADMINISTRATION IN KOSOVO, SAYING THAT IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE BETWEEN THIRTY AND FIFTY PERCENT OF THE TOWNS AND VILLAGES WOULD BE LOCALLY ADMINISTERED. THIS PLAN IS TO BE PUBLISHED SOON. HE CLAIMED, AS HAVE OTHER GOVERNMENT SPOKESMEN, THAT SEVENTY VILLAGES ARE NOW POLICED BY LOCALLY RECRUITED SECURITY FORCES AND ADMINISTERED BY LOCALLY APPOINTED LEADERS. CHARGE NOTED THAT KOSOVO DIPLOMATIC OBSERVER MISSION PERSONNEL HAD HAD A VERY HARD TIME LOCATING SUCH VILLAGES AND ASKED FOR A LIST OF THE NAMES OF THESE MUNICIPALITIES. MILOSEVIC SAID THAT A LIST WOULD BE FORTHCOMING.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 02 OF 02 BELGRADE 006559

ROME ALSO FOR VATICAN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/28/08

TAGS: PREL, PREF, UNSC, PHUM, SR

SUBJECT: MILOSEVIC TO CONTACT GROUP AMBASSADORS: NOT TO WORRY, KOSOVO IS GETTING BETTER EVERY DAY

REF: STATE 177450

7. (C) ITALIAN AMBASSADOR SESSA, REFERRING TO THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION, NOTED WHAT HE CALLED THE "DISCREPANCIES" BETWEEN SOME STATEMENTS BY HIGH OFFICIALS IN BELGRADE AND THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND. HE ASKED IF THE SITUATION IN KOSOVO WAS A "CATASTROPHE" OR "JUST AN EMERGENCY." MILOSEVIC, IN HIS ONLY REAL SHOW OF EMOTION IN THE MEETING, ENERGETICALLY RESPONDED THAT THE "BIG NOISE ABOUT THE SUPPOSED HUMANITARIAN

CATASTROPHE" HAD BEEN GENERATED OUTSIDE YUGOSLAVIA. WITH THIS HE BEGAN TO PLAY THE NUMBERS GAME, WHICH WE IN BELGRADE HAVE HEARD REPEATEDLY IN PAST WEEKS, CLAIMING VARIOUS UNBELIEVABLE STATISTICS ABOUT THE NUMBER OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS AND THE NUMBER OF IDP'S WITHOUT SHELTER. HE ALLOWED THAT PERHAPS TWO THOUSAND TO TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED IDP'S STILL ARE WITHOUT SHELTER, BUT NO MORE THAN THAT NUMBER. WITH THIS, HE HALF JOKINGLY REFERRED TO USAID PLANS TO BUY BUILDINGMATERIALS IN SERBIA PROPER AND IN KOSOVO FOR DISTRIBUTION TO IDP'S, SAYING, "THIS IS WONDERFUL. YOU HELP THESE POOR PEOPLE AND YOU ALSO HELP MY ECONOMY."

8. (C) EU ENVOY PETRITSCH AND CHARGE EMPHASIZED THAT THE MAIN FACTOR KEEPING IDP'S FROM RETURNING TO THEIR HOMES IS THE FEAR OF SERB SECURITY FORCES AND THE MILITARY. CHARGE URGED MILOSEVIC TO PUBLICLY PULL BACK AS MANY FORCES AS POSSIBLE FROM KEY VILLAGES AND TOWNS. MILOSEVIC RESPONDED THAT ANY PUBLIC DECLARATION OF SUCH WITHDRAWALS WOULD ONLY CREATE A SECURITY VACUUM WHICH TERRORISTS WOULD FILL. WHAT IS NEEDED, HE SAID, IS A "CAREFUL PROCESS" ALLOWING THE GOVERNMENT TO PROTECT ITS "LOYAL CITIZENS."

9. (C) AT THE END OF THE MEETING, SAINOVIC NOTED WHAT HE CALLED THE "MISUNDERSTANDING REGARDING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE OBSERVATION OF SPOT EVENTS AND AN OVERALL ANALYSIS OF THE BROADER PROCESS." KDOM AND OTHER OBSERVERS MAY SEE TROUBLING INCIDENTS, BUT THESE ARE EXCEPTIONS. THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SHOULD NOT LOSE SIGHT OF THE OVERALL IMPROVEMENT OF THE SITUATION IN KOSOVO.

10. (C) IN A BRIEF INTERCHANGE AFTER THE BROADER MEETING, CHARGE, JOINED BY PETRITSCH AND DONNELLY, STRESSED TO MILOSEVIC AND SAINOVIC THAT PLAYING THE NUMBERS GAME, WITH GOVERNMENT SPOKESMEN PRODUCING UNBELIEVABLE STATISTICS, WAS NOT IN ANY WAY HELPING THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION. WITH KDOM ON THE GROUND, IO'S AND NGO'S IN MUCH OF KOSOVO, AND A LARGE NUMBER OF JOURNALISTS FOCUSING ON THE SITUATION IN THE PROVINCE, IT DID NO GOOD FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO PRODUCE NUMBERS THAT HAVE QUANTIFIED THE INTELLIGENCE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S AUDIENCE. IN MANY INSTANCES, LOCAL OFFICIALS HAD PRODUCED RELATIVELY DECENT FIGURES REGARDING INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS -- AND THEIR REAL NEEDS -- BUT THE NUMBERS THAT HAVE BEEN PRODUCED IN BELGRADE HAVE NOT COINCIDED WITH THE FACTS. SAINOVIC JUMPED IN QUICKLY IN FRONT OF HIS BOSS TO INSIST THAT HIS NUMBERS ARE "PERHAPS 99 PERCENT CORRECT."

11. (U) TIRANA MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

ZETKULIC

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
006. report	Kosovo Humanitarian Update #4. (6 pages)	09/25/1998	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Kosovo Office (Schulte, Gregory)
OA/Box Number: 1708

FOLDER TITLE:

Kosovo - Situation / Assessments [1]

2008-0994-F
vz6334

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]

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
007. report	Kosovo Humanitarian Update #2. (6 pages)	09/04/1998	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Kosovo Office (Schulte, Gregory)
OA/Box Number: 1708

FOLDER TITLE:

Kosovo - Situation / Assessments [1]

2008-0994-F
vz6334

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