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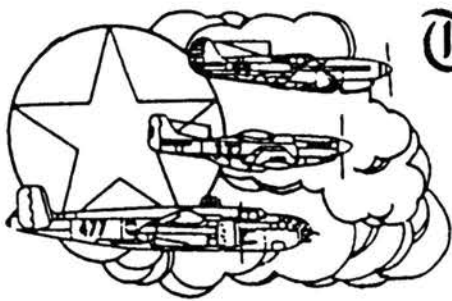
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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
3-30-99

3-30-99
To Burkhardt
for Reply





Tuskegee Airmen, Inc

EAST COAST CHAPTER
Post Office Box 62404
Washington, D.C. 20029-2404



24 March 1999

President William J. Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the officers and members of the East Coast Chapter - Tuskegee Airmen, Incorporated, we wish to extend to you our heartfelt thanks for hosting the pinning ceremony of General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. It was a great day for General Davis but an even greater historical marker for our Nation to have him recognized for his dedication and service.

We are equally pleased that you are now an honorary member of the East Coast Chapter - Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. and wish to present to you a lithograph done by a gifted and talented historical artist, John D. Shaw. In addition to General Davis' signature, we are sure you will recognize the names of others that served with honor and distinction, to include fellow Arkansan LtCol, retired Woodrow W. "Woody" Crockett.

In closing, we thank you for all that you have done and continue to do in preserving the living legacy of Tuskegee Airmen. We wish you and your family God's continued blessings and peace, and may God bless America.

Very truly,

Cora M. "Tess" Spooner
President - ECCTAI



Red-Tail Angels

BY
JOHN D. SHAW

A SALUTE TO THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN



The Signatures



The Tuskegee Experience

THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN WROTE A MAGNIFICENT page in American history during the turbulent days of World War II. Due to the racial segregation during the war years, black military aviators were trained at an isolated military facility near the now legendary town of Tuskegee, Alabama.

The first squadron to become operational was the "fighting 99th". Under the command of Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., the 99th was eventually joined by the 100th, 301st and 302nd squadrons, forming the 332nd Fighter Group. Their aircraft identified by their distinctively-painted bright red tails, the Tuskegee Airmen soon became well-respected, for not one American heavy bomber would be lost to enemy fighter attack, earning them the nickname, "Red-Tail Angels".

In addition to the 332nd, the 477th Composite Group was formed, comprised of B-25 bombers and P-47 fighters. Significantly, the 477th's recognition as military professionals, combined with the 332nd's outstanding wartime combat record, led to a review of the U.S. War Department's racial policies and hastened the integration of the U.S. armed forces. The elevation to Flag rank of former Tuskegee Airmen Lt. General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. and the late General Daniel "Chappie" James, the nation's first, black 4-star General, is testament to the caliber of professional found in this august group.

Today, there are 26 chapters of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. located throughout the U.S., Europe and Japan. The legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen is now stronger than ever and truly an inspiration to people of all backgrounds.

Squadron emblems
of the 332nd Fighter Group;
99th, 100th, 301st, 302nd.

About Red-Tail Angels

SHAW'S LATEST SUBJECT, RED-TAIL ANGELS, is a tribute to the famed Tuskegee Airmen, and depicts P-51 Mustangs piloted by the 99th Fighter Squadron in World War II. The lithograph features the original signatures of many members of this elite group.

SHAW REFLECTS

"During the planning stage, I mentioned the project to a WWII veteran friend who had served as a navigator in a B-24 squadron. He vividly remembered a day when his ship had taken flak after a mission and was limping home alone on 2 engines. As they approached an area known for heavy enemy fighter activity, he said they were so thankful to see several beautiful P-51s with red tails pull alongside. They brought them all the way home.

The 332nd's incredible record of escorting bombers was impressive to me, and after discussing the project with Colonel Bill Holloman, it was decided that a crippled American heavy bomber being escorted home would be appropriate. I portrayed my friend's 456th BG Liberator in the painting, escorted by P-51s of the 99th, led by 'Wild Bill' Campbell in his D-model, #A25.

Through my artwork, I hope to honor the rich contribution made by the Tuskegee Airmen to our nation's history."

John D. Shaw



SHAW CREATES PAINTINGS depicting not only the aircraft and machinery of World War II, but also the patriotism and romance of the era. Lithographs of his work have been created, involving famous groups such as Jimmy Doolittle's Tokyo Raiders, the American 'Eagle' squadrons, the 475th Fighter Group and now the Tuskegee Airmen.

John, his wife Keli, and three children reside in central California.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
3-30-99

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 29, 1999

The Lockhart

Mr. President:

As we discussed today, the record is clear that a major reason the KVM monitors evacuated Kosovo was because they were unable to do their job due to increasing harassment by Serb forces.

I thought you might want to see the attached press reports.

Copied
Lockhart
Podesta
Berac ✓

Jandy

At TABA, I have also included
a sample of stories of atrocities
that were occurring before
the NATO air campaign

LEVEL 2 - 29 OF 86 STORIES

Copyright 1999 Agence France Presse
Agence France Presse

March 20, 1999 12:52 GMT

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 600 words

HEADLINE: Fighting explodes in Kosovo as international observers evacuate

BODY:

(RECASTS with fighting, evacuation completed. CHANGING DATELINE)

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia, March 20 (AFP) - Fighting exploded Saturday in Kosovo after the hurried exit of international observers, as the threat of NATO air strikes loomed ever larger.

Kosovo Albanian sources reported Serbian offensives on villages in the north and center of the province, where the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) is deeply entrenched.

Operations were underway near Podujevo, Kosovska Mitrovica and Vucitn in the north, and Glogovac and Srbica in the center, said the Kosova Information Center and Kosovo Albanian human rights committee in Pristina.

Kosova Press, the KLA's news agency, reported fighting in the center near Komorane and Glogovac where, it said, 85 vehicles had arrived overnight to begin a morning bombardment of villages.

Earlier, the Serbian-run Pristina media center said the KLA attacked police with mortars and automatic weapons in Srbica and in the northern town of Luzane.

The violence broke out as the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) withdrew its 1,381 observers to Macedonia in a matter of hours.

"There are a lot of people there (in Kosovo) with guns, and I am afraid that those who do not have guns should be afraid," OSCE mission chief William Walker said.

"The violence is getting worse," Walker said at the Kosovo-Macedonia border as the OSCE's distinctive orange vehicles streamed south to Skopje.

"We are unable to do what we came to do as effectively and efficiently as we were able to do a few weeks ago," he said. "There has been increasing harassment, increasing problems."

The observers -- deployed in October to monitor a US-brokered ceasefire that has all but broken down -- got their marching orders after the suspension of peace talks in Paris.

Kosovo Albanians, including the KLA, signed a draft peace accord on Thursday



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which Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic and his Serbian-dominated government refuse to accept.

They suspect the accord will lead to Kosovo's independence, and fiercely reject the idea that 26,000 NATO troops go into the province to enforce the peace.

The six-nation Contact Group on the former Yugoslavia, which is sponsoring the peace process, has given Belgrade a few more days to accept change its mind.

If it does not, then the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) is poised with some 400 warplanes plus cruise missiles to begin attacking Serbian targets.

"If there is no progress, then we are looking at a time scale of a matter of days in which action can begin," British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook said.

"Those preparations are now underway," he said, adding that it was now up to Milosevic "to come to the table and agree to the peace package."

In Washington, US President Bill Clinton said "the threshold has been crossed" for air strikes, with French President Jacques Chirac saying "the entire responsibility" now rested with Milosevic.

While the western powers rattled sabres, Russia -- Serbia's only ally in the Contact Group -- called for a fresh diplomatic push to head off NATO attacks.

"We believe that united efforts should be undertaken in order to help to bring about a political solution to the situation," foreign ministry spokesman Vladimir Rakhmanin told AFP.

He warned of "very negative humanitarian consequences" if air strikes go ahead.

Serbia's parliament was to meet Tuesday to review a report from Belgrade's delegation to the peace talks that began at Rambouillet chateau near Paris last month, the Tanjug news agency reported.

bur/rom/pvh

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 20, 1999



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FM: Reuters

a1100

^BC-YUGOSLAVIA-KOSOVO-WALKER

^Kosovo peace monitor says violations creeping up
BRUSSELS, March 11 (Reuters) - William Walker, the chief Kosovo peace monitor, on Friday painted a bleak picture of increased ceasefire violations, a steady rise in Yugoslav troop deployments and bureaucratic **harassment** by Belgrade.

The Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) was also guilty of breaching the truce by carrying out deliberate provocations, Walker said.

Briefing reporters after talks with NATO's permanent representatives, the head of the Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM) said he did not know the motives behind the Yugoslav army's recent deployments, but they were in violation of Belgrade's pledges.

"The level of non-compliance has gone up and is going up... both sides have been out and about looking for trouble and finding it for the past four months, and with increasing intensity in recent weeks," he said.

KVM observers were being denied access by both sides and the verification mission, operated by the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), was facing "every kind of example" of bureaucratic meddling by the Yugoslav government.

In spite of Belgrade's violation of pledges made to U.S. Balkans envoy Richard Holbrooke last October, Walker said the KVM presence had given Kosovo's two million people a level of confidence and security they would not enjoy otherwise.

The KVM currently has a total staff of about 3,000, of whom 1,380 are international.

Walker said NATO ambassadors had expressed their concern about the mission's safety, especially in light of recent incidents of blatant **harassment**.

But he said the operation would continue for as long as the OSCE believed it was able to carry out its core tasks.

Asked if Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic was deliberately restraining his forces to avoid a "humanitarian catastrophe" that could trigger NATO air strikes, Walker said: "I wish I knew...what sort of a leash is attached...and just exactly what President Milosevic is thinking of doing."

Milosevic is refusing to accept a NATO-led peacekeeping force in Kosovo, threatening to scupper a political settlement giving autonomy to Kosovo's ethnic Albanian majority.

NATO says it is prepared to use air strikes to get an agreement, but the NATO allies would not be prepared to bomb Yugoslav military targets simply to force Milosevic to the negotiating table.

"The only basis for the use of force is to avert a humanitarian catastrophe," one NATO diplomat said.

By NATO's own measure, the Yugoslav security forces have

certainly reneged on promises to keep their presence lower but have not repeated last summer's all-out offensive which sparked a flood of refugees.

RB-- 03/12/99 07:02:00

LEVEL 1 - 70 OF 103 STORIES

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AP Worldstream

February 22, 1999; Monday 05:21 Eastern Time

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 339 words

HEADLINE: Serbian police roughs up two peace officials in Kosovo

DATELINE: PRISTINA, Yugoslavia

BODY:

Two unarmed peace monitors, from Lithuania and Luxembourg, were punched by two angry Serbian policemen in Kosovo, but were not seriously hurt, the international peace mission in Kosovo said Monday.

With the deadline approaching for agreement in Kosovo peace talks, the monitors were on their regular patrol in the Serbian province late Sunday, observing Yugoslav troop movements, said Jorgen Grunnet, spokesman for the Organization for Cooperation and Security in Europe that runs the mission of monitors.

The two policemen confronted them and after a brief argument "roughed up" the observers, said Grunnet.

The OSCE Kosovo Verification Mission considers this "aggressive behavior on the part of the police ... a serious case of indiscipline" and a strong protest was sent to the authorities, he added.

The two peace verifiers were "a bit shaken but not seriously hurt," the spokesman said. The incident occurred some 32 kilometers (20 miles) north of capital Pristina. Names of the assaulted peace workers were not immediately available.

The observed movement of Yugoslav army troops has somewhat intensified over the last days, Grunnet said, apparently "a general show of alertness." The army has been under threat of NATO strikes if the country rejects a peace deal for Kosovo, currently negotiated in France, that would give broad autonomy to the province and allow deployment of NATO forces here.

Grunnet said the police also harassed an unspecified number of other OSCE personnel, when they were entering the country from neighboring Macedonia on Sunday. The Yugoslav border authorities insisted on searching their vehicles which, Grunnet said, was against an international convention on treatment of the peace officials.

Early Monday, the police checked the identities of a number of locally hired OSCE employees, apparently ethnic Albanians, who were aboard an OSCE bus taking them to work in the mission's headquarters in Pristina. Grunnet said this was also against the rules.



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LEVEL 1 - 56 OF 103 STORIES

Copyright 1999 Agence France Presse
Agence France Presse

February 23, 1999 17:41 GMT

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 227 words

HEADLINE: OSCE protests "harassment" in Kosovo

DATELINE: PRISTINA, Yugoslavia, Feb 23

BODY:

The OSCE pressed Yugoslavia on Tuesday to investigate and punish police and soldiers involved in no fewer than nine incidents of harassment in the past four days against its ceasefire observers in Kosovo.

In a statement, the OSCE Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM) said members of the security forces had either been "directly involved" in the incidents, or idly stood by when civilians harassed OSCE observers.

In the most serious case, last weekend as peace talks between Serbian authorities and Kosovo Albanians continued in France, "two uniformed and armed MUP (interior ministry) policemen physically assaulted two KVM personnel," it said.

Such incidents were either "a clear and extremely serious violation" of a US-brokered agreement last October that brought the OSCE into Kosovo, or "a purposeful provocation," it said.

"In either case, KVM feels that the conduct of the Yugoslav security forces is unacceptable, and asks that the government conduct an investigation to identify and punish those responsible," it said.

The Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) has deployed 1,200 unarmed "verifiers" from Europe, Canada and the United States to deter a return to the extensive fighting seen last year in Kosovo, a province of Yugoslavia's dominant republic of Serbia that is 90 percent ethnic Albanian.

rom/mec

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: February 23, 1999



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LEVEL 3 - 140 OF 750 STORIES

The Associated Press

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February 12, 1999, Friday, PM cycle

SECTION: International News

LENGTH: 605 words

HEADLINE: Serbs, Albanians accuse each other of kidnappings

BYLINE: KATARINA KRATOVAC, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: PRISTINA, Yugoslavia

BODY:

Serbs and ethnic Albanians blamed each other today for the disappearance of at least two mourners on their way to a funeral for victims of an alleged massacre in a Kosovo village.

The rebel Kosovo Press agency said that Serb police had arrested the ethnic Albanian men, ages 32 and 30, as they made their way to the funeral in Racak, southwest of the provincial capital of Pristina.

Serb officials accused ethnic Albanians of abducting three people because the rebels thought they were loyal to the province's Serbian government, said Jorgen Grunnet, spokesman for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

At least two of the men were believed to have been residents of Racak, which has been deserted since police killed at least 43 people in a mid-January attack. The two men were relatives of some of the dead, according to the rebel press.

More than 2,000 people have died and hundreds of thousands left homeless in a year of fighting in Kosovo, the southern province in Serbia, the main republic in Yugoslavia.

Thousands attended Thursday's funeral for 40 of the slain. OSCE teams patrolled the area to make villagers feel safe enough to return, Grunnet said.

Taking advantage of the safety in numbers and the heavy international presence, many villagers used the occasion to collect belongings from their abandoned houses.

The burials came 26 days after the bodies of the ethnic Albanian villagers were found in a nearby gully following a Serb police assault on Racak.



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The Serbs recovered 40 of the bodies but delayed releasing them to relatives. It was unclear what happened to the remaining three.

William Walker, the American diplomat who heads the monitoring team, has accused Serb forces of a massacre. The government claims the victims were Kosovo Liberation Army rebels killed in battle.

Walker told the mourners there was "no justification for what happened here in Racak. The graves before me represent the madness, the waste, the futility of unrestrained violence."

He said the deaths served as a catalyst for the Kosovo peace talks under way at Rambouillet, France.

"Today the world will see your grief, but also images of hope," Walker said. "Racak and Rambouillet are directly connected. We must not lose sight of this hope for a better future."

The Racak burials ended a weeks-long dispute over the bodies, finally returned late Wednesday from the morgue in Pristina following two weeks of autopsies and bureaucratic haggling. Serb authorities had insisted on releasing a few bodies at a time, apparently to avoid a highly publicized funeral during the Rambouillet talks.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: February 12, 1999



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Copyright 1999 Times Mirror Company
Los Angeles Times

January 30, 1999, Saturday, Home Edition

SECTION: Part A; Page 1; Foreign Desk

LENGTH: 1220 words

HEADLINE: WARRING SIDES IN KOSOVO GET ULTIMATUM;
BALKANS: U.S., ALLIES THREATEN FORCE IF PEACE PLAN IS IGNORED. SERBS KILL 24
ETHNIC ALBANIANS IN RAID.

BYLINE: NORMAN KEMPSTER, TIMES STAFF WRITER

DATELINE: LONDON

BODY:

The United States and its major European allies Friday bluntly ordered the warring factions in Kosovo to accept a peace plan giving wide self-rule to the ethnic Albanian majority in the separatist province by Feb. 19 or face a likely NATO military campaign.

The ultimatum by the six-nation Contact Group coordinating peace efforts in the Balkans was extraordinarily specific, dictating the time and place for negotiations and the intended outcome of the talks.

The allies' action came on another bloody day in Kosovo. In the worst violence, Serbian police killed 24 ethnic Albanians in what they called a raid on a suspected rebel hide-out. An international monitor denounced the raid as a "mass killing," but the circumstances of the attack were unclear.

U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and the foreign ministers of Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Russia issued their demand Friday after losing patience with the refusal of Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic and ethnic Albanians in Kosovo to start serious talks about ending a conflict that has left hundreds dead.

"Without strenuous efforts on our part, the parties cannot or will not stop the spiral of violence that is building toward renewed humanitarian catastrophe and all-out war," Albright said.

The Contact Group said it will "hold both sides accountable" if they fail to make peace in three weeks. It did not specify the consequences, but Albright said the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is ready to put its military muscle behind the ultimatum.



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"We will maintain the credible threat of force, which has proven again and again to be the only language that President Milosevic understands," Albright said.

In Washington, President Clinton said the allies' "goal is not merely to respond to the recent atrocities in Kosovo but to help resolve the conflict so that the violence can end for good."

He made clear that could include the use of force against the Serbs.

On Thursday, NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana said the alliance "stands ready to act and rules out no option" to coerce the warring factions to accept a political settlement. Now that the Contact Group has acted, NATO is expected to issue a more specific threat of airstrikes on Serbian targets if Milosevic drags his feet. Although the alliance does not plan to bomb the ethnic Albanians, U.S. officials said NATO will take action to force them to the table if they try to hold back.

The two-track strategy was necessary because Russia, a member of the Contact Group but not NATO, opposes the use of force in Kosovo. The plan allowed Moscow to vote for the Contact Group's political declaration without having to formally approve military action.

That's a transparent fig leaf--NATO's plans are well-known--but Russian officials made clear that it was enough to win their support at the London meeting.

At the United Nations in New York, the Security Council late Friday threw its support behind the Contact Group's plan.

Rival Factions Are Summoned to France

The Contact Group summoned the Yugoslav government and representatives of the ethnic Albanians who make up 90% of the province's population to meet no later than Feb. 6 at Rambouillet, a chateau about 30 miles southwest of Paris.

After seven days of talks, the Contact Group foreign ministers will assess the situation to determine whether enough progress has been made to continue. If so, the parties will be given another week, until Feb. 19, to wrap up the negotiations.

The major-power consortium also dictated the outcome of the talks. It said the two sides must agree on broad autonomy for the ethnic Albanians, in effect accepting a plan that U.S. mediator Christopher Hill has been trying--without success--to get the sides to accept for months. The self-rule would last for three years, with the parties negotiating on a permanent solution during that time. Kosovo is the southernmost province of Serbia, the dominant republic of what remains of Yugoslavia.

Up to now, both sides have rejected the plan--Milosevic because it goes too far in loosening the government's grip on the province, and the ethnic Albanians because it stops short of meeting their demand for total independence. U.S. officials say the parties may go along with the compromise now because they face the threat of military force if they do not.



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NATO and the Contact Group also demanded that Milosevic honor an agreement he reached in October with U.S. envoy Richard Holbrooke to withdraw much of his military and special police forces from the province and end a crackdown on ethnic Albanian guerrillas. NATO was ready to start bombing in October but suspended the planned attack when Milosevic and Holbrooke reached their agreement.

The Contact Group also ordered Milosevic to stop blocking efforts by the war crimes tribunal in The Hague to investigate the killing of more than 40 ethnic Albanians in the town of Racak earlier this month. U.S. diplomat William Walker has accused **Serbian** security forces of conducting a **massacre**, but Milosevic said the victims died as a result of combat between government forces and the rebel Kosovo Liberation Army, or KLA.

Serbs' Raid Decried as 'Mass Killing'

In Friday's violence, British Gen. John Drewienkiewicz, deputy chief of international peace monitors in Kosovo, denounced the "mass killing" in the village of Rogovo as "another heavy blow to our efforts" to set the stage for peace talks.

One Serbian police officer was also killed in the morning raid in Rogovo, 45 miles southwest of Pristina near the Albanian border.

Drewienkiewicz said five of the dead were older men "in peasant dress" and reported that the local KLA commander said he had only four armed guerrillas in the village and did not know the others' identities.

Late Friday, two homemade bombs exploded in Pristina, the province's capital. One was hurled into a downtown Serb-owned cafe, injuring seven people, one critically.

Another device exploded outside a group of shops in a district on the southern edge of the city, shattering windows but causing no injuries. Police said they found a note at the downtown cafe claiming responsibility in the name of the KLA.

The guerrilla army is vehemently opposed to the West's autonomy plan. The Contact Group hopes to marginalize the KLA, which it accused of repeated "provocations."

U.S. State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said the Contact Group believes that a "critical mass" of ethnic Albanians will back the talks, enough to provide a representative delegation.

The rebel army can take part, he said, if it agrees to negotiate seriously, but "we are not going to let the KLA be spoilers."

British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook, chairman of the Contact Group, plans to visit Belgrade, the Yugoslav and Serbian capital, and Kosovo today to deliver the ultimatum in person.

Although Washington is the leading advocate of coercive bombing to bring



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Milosevic to the bargaining table, the United States is far less eager to commit ground troops to a peacekeeping force if the autonomy plan is accepted. Britain and France have already offered to participate but only if all fighting has stopped and both sides have signed an agreement.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

GRAPHIC: PHOTO: Serbian officer guards slain ethnic Albanians at suspected rebel site. PHOTOGRAPHER: Associated Press

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: January 30, 1999



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LEVEL 3 - 296 OF 750 STORIES

Copyright 1999 The New York Times Company
The New York Times

January 26, 1999, Tuesday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section A; Page 4; Column 3; Foreign Desk

LENGTH: 865 words

HEADLINE: U.S. Presses Kosovo Rebels as Violence Claims More Civilians

BYLINE: By STEVEN ERLANGER

DATELINE: PRISTINA, Serbia, Jan. 25

BODY:

American diplomats pressed ethnic Albanian leaders today to unite behind a realistic negotiating position for the future of Kosovo, even as another grisly killing of Albanian civilians, including two children, emphasized the urgency of their task.

The American envoy, Christopher Hill, met with Ibrahim Rugova and other ethnic Albanian leaders of this southern Serbian province that has been ripped by an armed Albanian uprising and repression from the Serbian authorities.

Mr. Hill presented the Albanian leadership with a set of principles for Kosovo's future endorsed last Friday by the United States, Britain, Germany, France, Italy and Russia, which form the so-called contact group for the former Yugoslavia.

Mr. Hill has waited months for the divided ethnic Albanians to unite around a plan for Kosovo's future, which could then be taken up with the Yugoslav President, Slobodan Milosevic. Mr. Hill's job has been complicated by a cycle of attacks on Serbs by ethnic Albanian guerrillas and disproportionate responses from Serbian forces, all in violation of an October cease-fire. But after the massacre last Friday of 45 Albanians by Serbian forces in the village of Racak, the West has concluded that a negotiated solution must be found quickly before the province is again torn by open warfare.

The urgency of the task -- and the difficulty of compromise -- was underlined today by the discovery of the five dead Albanians, riddled with bullets, by the side of the road near Rakovina, a village some 35 miles southwest of Pristina.

The dead -- two men, a woman and two boys -- were found early this morning by international monitors. The Albanians appeared to have been shot at close range by heavy machine-gun fire as they rode in a tractor trailer from a cornfield off the main road.

A husband and his wife were found slumped in the cab of the tractor. Half the



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man's head was blown away. Empty shell casings littered the ground nearby. On the trailer, piled with hay and grain, lay the bodies of a father and his two sons, about 10 and 12 years old.

The ethnic Albanian Kosovo Information Center, quoting unidentified local residents, said Serbian police officers fired at the victims from an armored vehicle. But the Serb Media Center said that the village was controlled by ethnic Albanian guerrillas known as the Kosovo Liberation Army and that the police rarely patrolled there. The Serb center also said police officers were attacked 15 miles west of Pristina and returned fire, wounding one person.

The contact group, with NATO and the European Union, is pressing for a rapid sequence of negotiations. The ethnic Albanians are being pressured to accept effective self-rule for Kosovo, within the Yugoslav Federation, until its final status can be determined in three or more years. To that end, the Albanians will be invited by the contact group to a meeting outside the province. NATO officials say they are working on plans to restrict the flow of arms to the Kosovo Liberation Army fighters.

Mahmut Bakalli, the influential former Communist leader of Kosovo, said today that "independence from Serbian jurisdiction and republican status for Kosovo within Yugoslavia," as an equal with Serbia or Montenegro, should be acceptable to the Albanian side, even to the fighters, with a referendum on Kosovo's final status later on.

Mr. Milosevic, who currently rejects autonomy for Kosovo, even within Serbia, and who has expanded his forces in Kosovo in violation of the October agreement, will be invited to negotiate with the Albanians, just as he took part in the talks that ended the Bosnian war. NATO is threatening to bomb Serbia if Mr. Milosevic does not comply with the October agreement or accept a new political status for Kosovo.

NATO's legal justification will be the same as it was in October, the last time bombing was threatened: to prevent a catastrophe in Kosovo.

Mr. Milosevic is sure to have doubts that all 16 NATO countries would be willing to bomb a sovereign European state. But with strong sanctions already in place against Yugoslavia, there are a few other levers with which to pressure him.

The outlines of that plan were endorsed today by European Union foreign ministers, meeting in Brussels. They urged the Albanians to "form a broad-based and truly representative team" to take part in internationally brokered talks with Belgrade. "The Kosovo Albanian leadership's failure to unite risks serious harm to the people of Kosovo," they said in a statement.

Robin Cook, the British Foreign Secretary, said the two sides had to compromise to avoid further bloodshed. The contact group's principles "would give real self-government to Kosovo and would give Serbia an opportunity to get out of a conflict that is increasingly isolating it from the world," he said.

A political settlement in Kosovo could be guaranteed by peacekeeping troops, either arranged through NATO or the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which currently has some 800 unarmed monitors in the province.



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Foreign ministers of the contact group, which oversees the former Yugoslavia, are expected to meet at the end of the week.

GRAPHIC: Photo: The killing of more ethnic Albanian civilians emphasized the urgency of efforts to negotiate an end to the Kosovo conflict. Bodies of a woman, a man and two children lay on a farm trailer near Rakovina yesterday. (Agence France-Presse)

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 26, 1999



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LEVEL 3 - 594 OF 750 STORIES

Copyright 1999 Associated Press
AP Online

January 18, 1999; Monday 12:16 Eastern Time

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 804 words

HEADLINE: 3,500 Flee Serb Attacks in Kosovo

BYLINE: MELISSA EDDY

DATELINE: PRISTINA, Yugoslavia

BODY:

Serb security forces backed by tanks and artillery today pounded the hills surrounding an ethnic Albanian village where dozens were massacred, ignoring NATO demands for an end to the onslaught.

Yugoslav border guards, meanwhile, refused today to allow the chief U.N. war crimes prosecutor to enter the country from Macedonia to probe the weekend massacre.

In Geneva, the U.N. relief agency said about 3,500 civilians were fleeing the latest fighting in villages in and around Racak, scene of last week's massacre.

Serb and ethnic Albanian sources in Kosovo today reported heavy mortar and machine gun fire near Racak, where the bodies of 45 ethnic Albanians were found Saturday.

Although people in the area said the gunfire had died down by midday, the clashes near Racak raised fears that the fragile U.S.-brokered cease-fire in Kosovo was near collapse.

In a separate confrontation, ethnic Albanian guerrillas fired a rocket today at a Serb patrol near Kosovska Mitrovica, 25 miles northwest of the provincial capital, Pristina, wounding five policemen, the Serb Media Center said.

Ethnic Albanian sources confirmed the attack but had no casualty report.

Louise Arbour, the chief U.N. war crimes prosecutor, flew today to the Macedonian capital of Skopje and drove to the border accompanied by officials of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

However, immigration officials on the Yugoslav side told the party they would not be allowed to enter.

One OSCE official was overheard insisting they be allowed to proceed because Arbour had a mandate from the U.N. Security Council to investigate alleged atrocities.



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The guard firmly but politely refused the group permission to enter the country. Arbour and the others returned to the Macedonian side where they were waiting, presumably to see if the Yugoslavs could be convinced to reverse their decision.

"I will not know who is responsible, and by that I mean who is criminally responsible, for the massacre that was committed in Racak, until my investigation is completed and until my investigators are granted access," Arbour told reporters.

In Racak, Serb forces unleashed sporadic tank and artillery barrages. The barrages continued intermittently through the day as Serb fighters moved into positions on key hills. Most of the firing appeared to be from the Serb side.

Late this afternoon, about 15 ethnic Albanians, mostly women, asked international verifiers in Malopolje, a village near Racak, to escort them to safety.

The women said they had fled into the hills after their men were killed but were afraid of traveling alone because they had escaped without their identification cards and feared arrest.

NATO met Sunday to demand that Serb-led government forces stop their assault against ethnic Albanian rebels and that Yugoslavia allow the U.N. tribunal to investigate the killings in Racak.

Gen. Wesley Clark, the alliance's commander for Europe, and Gen. Klaus Naumann were to fly to Belgrade today to warn Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic to honor a cease-fire agreed to in October under threat of NATO airstrikes.

But sources in the international verification force, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Milosevic told diplomats he was too busy to meet the generals today.

NATO officials said Clark and Naumann were still in Brussels this afternoon and would not go to Belgrade unless they had a confirmed appointment with Milosevic.

NATO's Secretary-General Javier Solana said Sunday that Milosevic is "personally responsible for the behavior of his security forces."

Mutilated bodies were found Saturday in a gully outside Racak, 15 miles south of Pristina. Serb officials said the victims were KLA guerrillas killed in combat, although they included three women and a 12-year-old boy.

Solana made no specific threats and set no deadlines. He noted, however, that an "activation order" which put 400 allied aircraft on alert for possible strikes against Yugoslavia _ remained in effect.

NATO threatened airstrikes last year to pressure Milosevic to call off his offensive against rebels fighting for independence for Kosovo, a province of Yugoslavia's main republic, Serbia. Ethnic Albanians form about 90 percent of



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Kosovo's 2 million people.

In related developments today:

_International verifiers will remain in Kosovo despite the increased dangers they face, OSCE officials said in Vienna, Austria.

_The U.S. ambassador to the OSCE, David Johnson, expressed outrage not only at the massacre but at Yugoslav authorities' "'scandalous attempt to present the cold-blooded slaughter and mutilation of civilians as a military operation against terrorists.'"

In New York, the U.N. Security Council scheduled emergency consultations on Kosovo this afternoon.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 18, 1999



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LEVEL 3 - 469 OF 750 STORIES

The Associated Press

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January 20, 1999, Wednesday, AM cycle

SECTION: International News

LENGTH: 615 words

HEADLINE: Fighting erupts in northern Kosovo after Milosevic rejects NATO warning

BYLINE: MELISSA EDDY, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: SIPOLJE, Yugoslavia

BODY:

Serb forces battled ethnic Albanian rebels in northwestern Kosovo on Wednesday as both sides ignored NATO warnings to halt the fighting. At least two guerrillas were killed and a Serb mother and her two children were reported injured.

The deaths came in a gunbattle that broke out near Kosovska Mitrovica, 25 miles northwest of Pristina, the capital of the separatist province. There were no reports of Serb casualties.

Each side blamed the other for starting the fighting. Serb police said the Kosovo Liberation Army rebels began shooting when officers entered a nearby village to search for guerrillas who wounded five policemen two days earlier.

Reporters saw the bodies of two ethnic Albanians, including one covered with ammunition belts with a machine gun at his side. The other was carrying a pistol.

Rebels said they opened fire after Serb forces shelled the nearby village of Vraganica. Dozens of frightened ethnic Albanian civilians fled the fighting aboard horse-drawn carts.

Serb media reported a Serb mother and her two children were injured before dawn Wednesday when a mortar exploded on their home in a village near here. A 14-year-old girl was reported to be in serious condition.

In Brussels, Belgium, NATO's supreme commander, Gen. Wesley Clark, and German Gen. Klaus Naumann admitted they made little progress during more than seven hours of talks Tuesday with Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic.



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Clark told alliance ambassadors Wednesday that Milosevic showed "no flexibility."

With diplomacy making little headway, NATO's policy-making body, the North Atlantic Council, ordered the USS Enterprise, currently in the Aegean Sea, to steam into the Adriatic Sea and moved an eight-vessel Mediterranean naval force to Brindisi, Italy.

The council also reduced the notice to pilots and others for carrying out airstrikes from four to two days.

In London, British Prime Minister Tony Blair said that Milosevic "risks a rapid military response from NATO" if he fails to abide by the Oct. 12 cease-fire, which temporarily ended seven months of fighting.

Milosevic also showed no sign of backing down on a decision to expel the American head of the international peace verification team, William Walker.

But late Wednesday, the new Yugoslav deputy prime minister indicated a resolution might be nearing for Walker, the former U.S. ambassador to El Salvador.

Vuk Draskovic, named to the post Monday, was quoted by the independent Fonet agency as saying: "The case of Ambassador Walker will be solved through compromise and to the mutual satisfaction."

Meanwhile, the chief U.N. war crimes prosecutor, Louise Arbour, left neighboring Macedonia on Wednesday for The Hague, Netherlands, after having been refused permission twice in two days to enter Yugoslavia to investigate the massacre of 45 ethnic Albanians near the village of Racak.

On Monday, Walker, who accused Serb police of the Racak massacre, was given 48 hours to leave the country. The deadline was extended Tuesday by 24 hours. Walker told reporters Wednesday that he was remaining in Yugoslavia but did not explain how.

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which oversees the verification mission, is demanding the government rescind the expulsion order.

After a meeting Wednesday with Milosevic, Russia's deputy foreign minister, Alexander Avdeyev, told reporters that as long as the verifiers remain in Kosovo "there won't be any bombing."

There has been concern that the 750 or so verifiers could be held as hostages if NATO carries through with airstrikes. A French-led NATO rapid reaction force is stationed in Macedonia to evacuate the mission if necessary.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 20, 1999



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Los Angeles Times

January 17, 1999, Sunday, Home Edition

SECTION: Part A; Page 1; Foreign Desk

LENGTH: 1822 words

HEADLINE: AT LEAST 45 VILLAGERS IN KOSOVO ARE MASSACRED;
BALKANS: U.S. ENVOY ACCUSES SERBIAN FORCES OF MASS MURDER IN PROVINCE. NATO WILL
DISCUSS RESPONSE TODAY.

BYLINE: PAUL WATSON, TIMES STAFF WRITER

DATELINE: RACAK, Yugoslavia

BODY:

Black-hooded attackers wearing Yugoslav army and police uniforms massacred at least 45 ethnic Albanian villagers, including a child, in the breakaway Serbian province of Kosovo in what appears to have been the worst such rampage in a nearly year-old conflict.

U.S. Ambassador William Walker, who heads a multinational team trying to monitor Kosovo's collapsing cease-fire, accused Serbian security forces of mass murder after seeing more than 20 of the dead lying on a hillside Saturday, most of them old men shot in the head at point-blank range.

In Washington, President Clinton condemned the killings "in the strongest possible terms" and called them "a clear violation" of the Serbs' cease-fire agreement with NATO.

"This was a deliberate and indiscriminate act of murder designed to sow fear among the people of Kosovo," Clinton said Saturday.

Also Saturday, U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright called for a meeting of NATO ambassadors in Brussels today.

Albright conferred with fellow NATO foreign ministers and demanded that Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic bring those responsible to justice, State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said.

Rubin declined to say what options Washington will pursue when the NATO session convenes today. Milosevic agreed to let the monitors in after the North Atlantic Treaty Organization threatened airstrikes if he did not pull most of his security forces from Kosovo, where ethnic Albanian guerrillas are fighting for independence.



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NATO has authorized its forces since October to hit Yugoslav military targets if the government in Belgrade violates pledges to seek a peaceful solution to the conflict with ethnic Albanian separatists.

In the wake of the massacre, Rubin said, Albright is demanding that Milosevic "identify who gave the orders and who took this action, and ensure that those perpetrators are then brought to justice."

Speaking to reporters after touring the grisly scene, Walker said he had no doubt that Serbian government forces had committed a crime "against humanity."

As Walker picked his way among the scattered corpses, villagers seething with rage or shocked into numb silence searched the bloodied faces to identify their missing relatives and friends.

One man found his brother's decapitated corpse and then went in search of the head.

Walker called on the international war crimes tribunal at The Hague to send investigators to Kosovo, even if Belgrade refuses to give them visas.

"Although I am not a lawyer, from what I personally saw, I do not hesitate to describe the event as a massacre, obviously a crime very much against humanity," Walker told reporters. "Nor do I hesitate to accuse the government security forces of responsibility."

U.N. Mission to Head to Province

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan demanded a full investigation. In Amsterdam, U.N. spokesman Christian Chartier said that chief war crimes prosecutor Louise Arbour will head a mission to Kosovo.

"Arbour has launched an investigation into the most recent massacre in Kosovo. She is making arrangements to head a field mission," Chartier said Saturday, adding that she expected to depart for Kosovo within the next 48 hours.

The Yugoslav government has blocked previous attempts by U.N. investigators to secure visas that would allow them into Kosovo.

"The time of stalling over visas and jurisdiction is past. This is a time for legal action," Chartier said.

A massacre survivor, an elderly woman named Sandije Ramadani, wept as she related how she took cover in the locked basement of a farmhouse with 25 women and children after shells started falling about 7 a.m. Friday.

Three police officers in blue camouflage uniforms came into the basement and demanded to know where guns were stashed, Ramadani said. One of the men wore a black mask and gloves and spoke fluent Albanian, but the others were Serbs, she said.

"I told the police: 'If you find any weapons here, you are free to do



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whatever you want with us. You can execute all of us,' " she said.

The police looked everywhere, even in sacks of flour, but found no guns, Ramadani added. Then they left and locked the door behind them.

About 26 men sought shelter in a cattle pen nearby. One of them was Ramadani's brother, Sadik. She later found him dead.

"They told the men to put their hands above their heads, and then we just heard the men screaming," Ramadani said. "It sounded like animals."

After a few hours, when all seemed quiet, Ramadani used a knife to cut through a cloth covering on the only window and climbed out into the yard. She could hear gunshots in the distance.

Evidence Supports Albanian Claims

By witnessing the horrific aftermath of Friday's massacre, Walker's team has damning evidence of atrocities such as those ethnic Albanians say they have been suffering for years.

Walker heads a mission of more than 700 unarmed civilian monitors that the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe sent to Kosovo to watch for cease-fire violations in the province.

NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana said he is outraged by the killings and warned in Brussels that NATO "will not tolerate a return to all-out fighting and a policy of repression in Kosovo."

Racak is a tiny village just southwest of the town of Stimlje, which is about 16 miles south of Kosovo's capital, Pristina.

Most of the homes and shops in the area are scarred with shell and bullet holes from last year's battles between ethnic Albanian rebels and government forces. Only the bravest villagers had returned, believing that the threat of NATO airstrikes made it safe.

Their village sits at the mouth of a narrow river valley surrounded by high hills that permit few escape routes.

The massacre victims were trying to flee a barrage of shells from army tanks and antiaircraft guns that soldiers aimed at farmhouses, apparently in retaliation for the killing of a police officer five days earlier, Walker said.

Ilaz Ymeri said he heard shells exploding early in the morning Friday. He ran to hide in a neighbor's house with many other villagers.

About 8 a.m., police surrounded the house and ordered everyone to come outside, Ymeri said through an interpreter. They told the women and children to run but kept the men under gunpoint, he added.

The police forced the men to line up in front of a house belonging to one of his neighbors, Ajeta Emini, who was already dead, Ymeri said.



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Los Angeles Times January 17, 1999, Sunday,

"They separated some of us from the line and said, 'You are the guys we are looking for,' " Ymeri said. "Then a policeman said to his colleague, 'All of them are the same.'

"They told us to start running up the hill. As soon as we did, they started shooting at us from all sides."

Ymeri said he and another man fell into a ditch and acted dead, hoping that the police would leave them there. They crawled out at 5 that evening, half a day after their terror began.

Survivors Lead Envoy to Corpses

Other survivors of the massacre led Walker up the side of a gully, where he saw first one body, then another and finally a group of about 15 corpses sprawled across the ground.

From the gaping wounds in the fronts, backs and tops of the victims' heads, it appeared that the killers had fired their guns at "extremely close range," Walker said.

There was "every appearance" that the men had been slain where they lay, he added.

Walker did not go any farther, but other peace monitors fanned out to look for more dead in the small villages overlooking Racak and reached a count of 45, including three women and a child.

"Unfortunately, I do not have the words to describe my personal revulsion, or that of all who were with me, at the site of what can only be described as an unspeakable atrocity," Walker told reporters.

He ordered several of his unarmed monitors to spend the night in the villages to protect the crime scene and guard against more attacks. The monitors expected to find more bodies when the search resumes today.

Until full-scale war broke out in Kosovo last spring, the Kosovo Liberation Army was a small group of fighters overshadowed by a peaceful campaign for independence led by a popular pacifist, Ibrahim Rugova.

However, last year's Serbian offensive, which was supposed to crush the guerrillas, only made them stronger, with many fresh recruits now among the young men who once worked on the farms and in shops that the security forces destroyed.

U.S. envoy Christopher Hill is trying to negotiate a lasting peace agreement, but neither the Serbian government nor the guerrillas are in the mood to compromise. Friday's massacre makes a return to all-out war more likely.

Walker said he phoned the Yugoslav president's foreign affairs advisor to tell him what he had seen and demand an investigation, but the official told him that Milosevic could not be reached Saturday night.

However, Serbian President Milan Milutinovic blasted Walker today, accusing

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Los Angeles Times January 17, 1999, Sunday,

him of taking sides with guerrillas in the province. Serbia is the dominant of the two republics that make up Yugoslavia.

"You're acting as a prosecutor and a judge at the same time," Milutinovic said of Walker in a statement broadcast by Serbian state television.

The government's version of events came in a one-page press release from Serbia's Ministry of Interior Affairs, which controls the paramilitary police forces that waged eight months of warfare last year.

Serbian Version of Grisly Events

According to the ministry, fighting broke out early Friday when police entered Racak to look for gunmen suspected of killing police officer Svetislava Przic five days earlier.

The police blocked off Racak, and, as they entered the village, "terrorists from trenches, bunkers and fortifications attacked them using automatic weapons, rocket-propelled grenades and mortar bombs," the Interior Ministry's statement said.

The police fired back, and "several dozens of terrorists were killed, most of whom were in uniforms with the insignia of the terrorist, so-called Kosovo Liberation Army," it said.

Police found one Browning machine gun, two other machine guns, 36 automatic rifles, two sniper rifles, ammunition, a field radio and other equipment, the press release said.

Immediately after the fighting, an investigative judge from Pristina and a deputy public prosecutor for the district tried to visit the site, but "terrorists that concentrated in the hills in the vicinity opened fire and prevented the investigation," the statement said.

Walker insisted that the government provide the names of police officers and soldiers involved in operations in the area to help track down the killers and deliver them for trial at the international war crimes tribunal.

"We must know who gave the orders," he said. "We must know who executed those orders. And justice must be done."

Times wire services contributed to this report.

GRAPHIC: PHOTO: Ethnic Albanian man with villagers found slain on a Kosovo hillside. PHOTOGRAPHER: Reuters PHOTO: Relatives grieve over the bodies of ethnic Albanians who were slain in Kosovo, apparently by Serbian forces. PHOTOGRAPHER: Agence France-Presse GRAPHIC-MAP: (2 maps, no caption / Kosovo, Yugoslavia), VICTOR KOTOWITZ / Los Angeles Times

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: January 17, 1999



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The Associated Press

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February 20, 1999, Saturday, AM cycle

SECTION: International News

LENGTH: 460 words

HEADLINE: Security stepped up, fighting reported in Kosovo

BYLINE: By ELLEN KNICKMEYER, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: PRISTINA, Yugoslavia

BODY:

Hundreds of women and children fled new fighting Saturday in southwest Kosovo, while ethnic Albanians in the provincial capital boarded buses for the countryside fearing Serb reprisals if NATO launches airstrikes.

With negotiations for a peace agreement continuing past a noon deadline in Rambouillet, France, Serb security forces and ethnic Albanians fought in at least two locations Saturday.

Tanks, mortars and automatic weapons fire rocked the village of Studencane about 1 miles northwest of Suva Reka, said Beatrice Lecoste, a spokeswoman for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

OSCE verifiers said 300 to 400 women and children were seen fleeing the village. OSCE sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Serb authorities told them they launched the attack after a police convoy came under fire while passing through the area Saturday morning.

The village is also located near where two Serb brothers were found dead Saturday - apparently kidnapped and murdered by ethnic Albanians. The OSCE sources said the clash lasted for at least five hours and involved a "serious exchange of fire."

Fighting was also reported Saturday near Podujevo, about 25 miles north of Pristina.

"We are afraid the Serbs will make a massacre of civilians," said one ethnic Albanian commander near Podujevo, who gave his name only as Isak. "We are ready."

In the provincial capital, Pristina, Serb police stopped vehicles and checked

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papers in the center of the city for the first time in months. They also set up new checkpoints on highways leading into the province.

Dozens of ethnic Albanian students were crowding aboard buses heading for home villages where they feel safer.

"The possibility of NATO attack is real," one student, Ymet Veliu, said. "I'm worried what is going to happen after that, especially because of the threat from the Serb side to retaliate against Albanians for NATO attacks."

Others loaded cars to drive to nearby Macedonia.

Serbs were also frightened that NATO airstrikes, which could follow the collapse of the Rambouillet talks, might encourage the Kosovo Liberation Army to target members of their minority community. The KLA is fighting Kosovo's independence.

In the Serbian town of Mdalenovac, 25 miles south of Belgrade, speakers told a gathering of the Serbian Radical Party that the United States was using the Rambouillet conference to extend its control to Serbia.

"The Americans' only goal is to have NATO troops stationed in Kosovo," one speaker, Stevo Dragisic, said. "They do not care about the fate of Kosovo ... All they care about is fulfilling their own national goals."

He said the Americans were "Nazis," and said American policies toward Serbia were worse than Hitler's.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: February 20, 1999



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The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20566-0001
202 416-8000

March 29, 1999

Phil - 3-30
will send
to Burkhardt

Deb

'99 MAR 30 AM 9:01

TO: Phil Caplan
Melanne Verveer

FR: Ann Stock A.S.

RE: A Letter from the President for the
Kennedy Center Spring Gala Booklet

As you probably know, our Spring Gala is on April 18th. I am writing to request that a letter from the President and Mrs. Clinton be written for the program booklet. I will go to print on Wednesday, April 7th. I have attached a copy of last year's letter that appeared in the program booklet. You should note that the proceeds from the benefit this year go to the Kennedy Center's Artistic Education and Community Outreach Programs. Also, this year we have raised over \$2.3 million. It is the biggest amount of money we have raised so far.

Again, thanks for your help. Any thing you can do to expedite this would be greatly appreciated.

@/t/athmore

To Dan Burkhardt -

I assume we
should do this, right?

Phil
3/30

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 20, 1998

Warm greetings to everyone gathered in our nation's capital for the sixth annual gala of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Hillary and I are delighted to serve once again as Honorary Patrons of this event, and we are pleased to congratulate Andrea Bocelli on his American debut.

Each year, this gala reminds us anew of the significant role the Kennedy Center plays in the cultural life of our nation. At the Center itself, in more than 3,100 performances a year, the finest performers and productions of our time share with us the gifts of music, drama, dance, and so much more. Kennedy Center education programs in schools, colleges, and performing arts centers across our nation touch the lives of millions of Americans of all ages. And through the annual American College Theater Festival and the Fund for New American Plays, the Kennedy Center empowers new artists to bring their energy and fresh perspective to the American stage.

I commend the dedicated staff, artists, volunteers, and supporters of the Kennedy Center for providing your fellow Americans with access to the finest in performing arts. In this age of rapid change and exciting possibility, we need you more than ever to remind us of the riches of our past and to help us envision a still more glorious future.

Hillary joins me in extending best wishes for a memorable gala and continued success.

Bill Clinton

The Kennedy Center

THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20566-0001



Mr. Phillip Caplan
Deputy Assistant to the President
And Deputy Staff Secretary
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New Castle, DE 19720
Phone: (302) 323-9116 FAX: (302) 323-9679

**The
Jefferson
Awards**

Fax

Dan —
Here are the
materials we
discussed; please
let me know what
up! David

199 MAR 30 PM 3:47

To: David Goodfriend**From: Nancy F. Leonard****Fax: (202) 456-2215****Total Number of Pages: 4 (four)****Phone:****Date: March 30, 1999****Re:****CC:**

☐ Urgent ☐ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply

• Comments:

David,

The organizations involved in this project are:

- The Corporation for National Service (Harris Wofford)
- The Points of Light Foundation
- Youth Service America
- American Institute for Public Service

Following are copies of both the old letter from President Clinton and the new proposed text. You will notice that the old letter is on White House letterhead. Just for your information, I have also sent a copy of the certificate that accompanies the award.

I really appreciate anything you can do to expedite this process. We have several schools and organizations waiting for their awards, and with the school year ending quickly, we will soon be desperate.

Thanks so much.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 14, 1993

Congratulations on being selected as a
President's Youth Service Award winner.

America has a long history of service, established by the founders of our nation, who came to this land in search of freedom. In order to maintain that freedom, all citizens had to take responsibility for themselves, their families, and their communities. Today, the importance of accepting that responsibility is greater than ever. The strength of our nation rests on the fact that regardless of our backgrounds, we have chosen freely to come together as a people -- people bound by ideas and a willingness to help one another.

Your service honors those who came before us and continues the tradition of using freedom to shape communities that will reflect the values we hold dear. I commend you for taking a leadership role in helping others. Through your efforts, you have proven that young people can make a difference. You are establishing an ethic of community service and laying the foundation for a nationwide effort. Thank you, and keep up the good work.

Bill Clinton

DRAFT - President's letter for PSSA

January 1, 1999

On behalf of the nation, I would like to personally congratulate you for achieving the President's Student Service Awards.

America's foundation is based on the belief that by helping one another, we can improve our own lives as well as the lives of those around us. This is evident in our country's success, which has been made possible by citizens who felt a great responsibility and willingness to provide for their community. Throughout our nation's history it has become evident that our prosperity can be attributed to the service we give our fellow citizens in good times, and more importantly in times of hardship. We know that our community can only prosper from such activity that in turn betters our nation and its citizens.

This public service that you have contributed is seen as a freedom of choice to assist others, yet your sensibility views it as a responsibility to your community. It is your valuable service that enhances the great effects of public service. This can only be done when we take the initiative to set aside time to help in whatever way we can. It is not uncommon that such selfless acts go unsung in the eyes of many, so I am honored to applaud you for the commendable service that you have contributed to society.

Bill Clinton

President's Student Service Award

Presented to

on

in recognition of outstanding service and commitment to strengthening America.



Bill Clinton
President of the United States

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The Butters
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Podesta



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Dear Mr. President:

I drew the picture of you with Buddy because of what Harry Truman once said about living in Washington: "If you want a friend in Washington, get a dog!"

The drawing of your family members, however, came to me simply because I like those particular pictures of you and your family, especially the one of your Mother. Frankly, I feel kind of bad that your Mom isn't around for you to lean on. I'm all of 38 and even though my mother gets on my nerves, I know I can always count on her.

Still, I take comfort knowing your Mom's spirit thrives in the loyalty of those who really matter. I saw that at the state dinner for Ghana a few weeks ago. (I write for The Washington Times.) I was standing about 30 feet away from you while you were in the receiving line, and I could tell by the look in your eyes and the way you were nodding to people that there plenty of those who are as grateful to you as I am.

I have been with The Times for 10 years and before you came along it was like a desert. And I wasn't the only one who felt that way. In fact, I was posting signs for both of your presidential candidacies; during the first, one of the editors, who has long since gone, quietly asked me for one. You have more support at that place than you could ever imagine.

But my support extends beyond the here and now and into history. I've studied the presidents and I know history will take a broader view of your administration than what some of the amateurs are saying now. In fact, on a recent tour of the west wing of the White House, I noticed busts of FDR and Truman on your desk. (By Robert Berks, I think.) I found those pretty appropriate.

You definitely have FDR's love of the office, his joie de vivre. But more importantly, from the very beginning, you began doing things, particularly when it came to social reform. While I never believed that Presidents Reagan and Bush lacked compassion, they didn't seem that concerned for the underprivileged. Like FDR, you eschew ideological rigidity for the great experiment.

And, like FDR, you've taken your share of hits. FDR biographer Hugh Gallagher once told me he hasn't seen such a reaction since Roosevelt. I tend to think of your being in stellar company. ("I welcome their hatred," FDR said of his detractors.)

And like Truman, you definitely appreciate history. I saw Ted Morgan's "FDR" and David McCullough's "Truman" on your shelf. Truman knew that talking heads can't decide history, no more than they could decide the outcome of the '48 election. That's what you



get, I think, from people who make their living talking about things instead of doing them.

I believe that, like Truman, you will see your stock rise higher in the annals of history as events unfold. Even in times when, as in the case of gays in the military or health care reform, taking on an unpopular and controversial issue at least brought them to the table.

I know you don't need me to remind you how good you've been for this country. But if I have a chance to say so, I want to say thanks and I'm really proud of you.

Sincerely,

Patrick Butters