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FOR EARLY RELEASE TO NEW YORK TIMES

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Today, I want to talk about how we as a nation must respond to the new challenges facing families in the new economy. We must reshape our institutions in ways that give parents more time with their children. No government can raise a child. Mothers and fathers do. But we have a duty to help parents -- to give them the tools they need to meet their responsibilities at home and work; and to pass on their values to their children.

The vast majority of today's parents are doing everything they can to give their children whole and happy childhoods. But no matter how hard they try, they worry that it is still not enough. They worry that waking up early and staying up late to make time for a child might not be enough, when that child still has to go home alone to an empty house after school. They worry that all those Sunday morning sermons about a world of love might not be enough, when the movies their children watch, the music they listen to, the video games they play show a world of hate and violence. They worry that all those nights working overtime to buy a computer so that a child can visit some of the world's finest libraries on the Internet might not be enough, when that same Internet can also lead them to recipes for pipe bombs and explosives.

We must think bigger. On the eve of the 21st Century, we should set a goal that all working Americans can take the time they need to care for their families without losing the income they need to support their families. ~~And we must have paid family leave.~~

5-21-99

Financial FrontIn Kosovo, the KLA
Can't Seem to Win
The Battle for FundsModerate Rivals Command
The Lion's Share; Swiss
Freeze a Bank Account

Shady Deals Alarm NATO

By ANDREW HIGGINS
And A. CRAIG COPETAS

Staff Reporters of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

The Kosovo Liberation Army has evolved from outlaw status to ad hoc ally in Yugoslavia. So why is it still parleying with drug dealers, panhandling from compatriots and wrangling with Swiss authorities in a constant battle to make ends meet?

Regarded only last year by Western officials as a terrorist group, the KLA now is accepted as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's partner, fighting the ground war against Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic's forces. Moreover, allied officials believe the KLA must figure in Kosovo's political picture once the fighting ends. The army already has a substantial governmental apparatus and the fealty of many Kosovar refugees. What the KLA doesn't have is much money.

Not that it hasn't been scrambling. The KLA has tried to tap the many generous and patriotic Kosovars who live abroad, but much of that money has been going to Kosovo's more moderate unofficial government. Deep-seated friction between the two factions has denied the KLA access to these funds, and a lot of what little it has collected has been frozen in a Swiss bank account. That leaves sources like Princ Dobrosli, who styles himself a quartermaster—or supply specialist—for the KLA but whose claims may be as bogus as his counterfeit passport and the surgically altered face glowering through the bars of an interview room in Prague's Pankrac Prison. Perhaps the only genuine item is his Cartier watch, scuffed and scratched by the clunky handcuffs he wears. Czech police believe the 35-year-old ethnic Albanian has been supplying the KLA with weapons financed by illicit drug trading.

NATO Says No

The idea that the KLA may not be too choosy about where it gets funds and guns isn't surprising. Renegade armies tend not to rely on conventional methods for anything. But the suspicion of criminal associations taints the KLA's newly acquired legitimacy and clouds its recent efforts to press NATO for money, guns and other supplies. NATO so far has said no, despite

concern that the refusal will only entrench the KLA's reliance on murky groups and make it less suitable for a role in a postwar Kosovo government.

Founded in 1993, the KLA began as a rallying cry rather than a real army. Long on slogans but short on cash and arms, it included leftist radical groups such as the Red Front and bands of brigands or freedom fighters. It was so ill-defined that many Kosovars doubted its existence and suspected that Serb security forces had invented it as a pretext for repression. Jashar Salihu, who manages funds abroad for the KLA, says it remains, to some extent, a loose amalgamation rather than a unified organization.

Other Trappings

Today, on paper at least, the KLA has the trappings of not only an army, but a government — an elaborate command structure, a long list of designated ministers, envoys in foreign capitals and its own Web site. It also has the sympathy — though not yet the military assistance — of Washington: KLA leader Hashim Thaci, an urbane, multilingual university graduate, boasts of phone conversations with State Department spokesman James Rubin. On the ground, Mr. Thaci's hard-line leadership commands the loyalty of most of the 15,000 or so fighters in north-eastern Albania and the support of many of the more than 700,000 refugees mostly in Macedonia and Albania.

But Mr. Thaci's moderate rivals control most of the money. A diaspora of more than 600,000 Kosovars living elsewhere in Europe and 300,000 in North America has contributed tens of millions of dollars to support ethnic-Albanian culture and the hope of an independent homeland. Little of this has reached the KLA leadership. Current stocks of guns — mostly light arms seized from Albanian military arsenals during rioting in 1997 — are stretched to the limit, and ammunition and other supplies will run out in the next two months, says one of Mr. Thaci's front-line lieutenants.

The KLA itself has raised some money from legitimate sources, but a big chunk of this sits frozen in a Swiss bank account. "We are scavenging around the world for food and equipment," says Visar Reka, a senior KLA political officer.

A Bank in Tirana

The war chest Mr. Thaci needs can be found in the Albanian capital of Tirana, inside the modest but modern offices of the Dardania Bank, a depository for much of the cash remitted over the years by Kosovars working abroad. Founded in 1994 in Pristina, the Kosovo capital, Dardania was the only bank inside Yugoslavia owned and controlled by ethnic Albanians, who saw it as the embryo of a future central bank for an autonomous or even independent Kosovo.

With Pristina now largely emptied of its ethnic-Albanian population, Dardania Bank has moved its headquarters to Tirana. Its goal, though, remains much the same. Says Managing Director Bequir

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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1999

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Continued From First Page
Mezeli xhiu: "We handle the funds of the Kosovo government."

But which one? Most of the money held by the bank belongs to the Fund for the Republic of Kosovo, the fund-raising arm of a moderate nationalist movement spearheaded by Ibrahim Rugova, a pacifist writer. Mr. Rugova's Democratic League of Kosovo formed an unofficial government after elections in May 1992. Belgrade refused to recognize the poll. Kosovo's Serbian population boycotted it, but ethnic Albanians, most of whom did vote, overwhelmingly endorsed Mr. Rugova and his allies.

Once hailed as Kosovo's Mahatma Gandhi, Mr. Rugova alienated many Kosovars when he was shown on Serb television last month—apparently under duress—shaking hands with Mr. Milosevic. A month later, Mr. Rugova flew to Italy on May 5 with his family. The handshake may have cost him politically, but Mr. Rugova and his moderates still control substantial sums of cash.

The funds come from a voluntary but widely observed 3% levy on the earnings of Kosovo emigres. Mr. Rugova's movement introduced the effective tax in 1992 to raise money for ethnic-Albanian schools, hospitals and other branches of a parallel government in Kosovo. The money, channeled through Dardania and major banks in Vienna, Frankfurt, Turin and New York, is controlled from Bonn by Bujar Bukoshi, a 52-year-old urologist appointed by Mr. Rugova in 1991 to head Kosovo's unofficial "government."

The KLA says Dr. Bukoshi has between \$250 million and \$300 million at his disposal and accuses him of hoarding the money to the detriment of the armed struggle. "We are begging him to stop this and open the money flow," says Mr. Reka.

Dr. Bukoshi, who visited Washington earlier this month to rally support for his unofficial government and was in Brussels this week for talks with NATO commander Gen. Wesley Clark and NATO Secretary General Javier Solana, won't say how much cash he has, but he denies hampering the military effort. He released 40 million marks (\$21.8 million) last month to support his own self-styled "defense ministry," which operates a 2,000- to 3,000-strong force called the Army of the Republic of Kosovo, known by its Albanian acronym as FARK. Like the KLA, FARK operates from northern Albania, with occasional forays into Kosovo. Dr. Bukoshi says he also has released over a longer period a further 30 million marks to support individual commanders within the KLA. But Jakup Krasnici, a KLA official at the organization's cluttered headquarters in Tirana, denies receiving any such payments.

Also covered by Dr. Bukoshi's funds until last year were the bills of Ruder Finn Inc., a Washington-based public-relations agency. Although the contract has been severed, the KLA is still angry about the

deal. "Our people are being killed and Bukoshi spends money on advertising instead of guns and medicine," Mr. Reka grouches.

On the ground, FARK and the KLA often cooperate, but bitter rivalry among their leaders has prevented a general pooling of resources. Dr. Bukoshi says he is willing to share all the cash, but only if the KLA accepts political supervision from outside its own ranks and provides proper accounting. "I would give 98% to buy arms, but . . . even during a war, somebody has to take care of how the money is spent," Dr. Bukoshi says.

Political Crimes

Nonetheless, six senior members of Dr. Bukoshi's command team earlier this month resigned their posts and signed on with Mr. Thaci. "Bukoshi is now a criminal," Mr. Reka says.

The squabbling has baffled and dispirited many of the emigres who contribute money. Ismajli Zejdi, a former construction worker who now runs an Albanian social and sports club in Zurich, says he and his wife pay 3% of their salaries, for a total of around 2,500 Swiss francs (\$1,667), every year. Each evening, Mr. Zejdi and scores of fellow Kosovars gather in the club's converted warehouse to watch a satellite-television transmission from Tirana about the war with Serbia.

Albanians, he says, "should be fighting the enemy, not each other." Long a bastion of support for Mr. Rugova, the club now displays KLA flags, posters and pamphlets. "We see now that only the KLA defends our people," Mr. Zejdi says.

The KLA also has tried to tap Kosovars working abroad. The headquarters of its foreign fund-raising is in Villmergen, a sleepy village near Zurich, in a spartan flat that belongs to Mr. Salihu, 46, the nationalist militant and manager of the KLA's Homeland Calling fund. The fund was set up in 1993, soon after the KLA made its first armed attack and killed two Serb police officers in the central Kosovo region of Drenica, the KLA's principal stronghold.

A veteran of clandestine politics who spent four years in Yugoslav prisons for his political beliefs, Mr. Salihu still relishes the rituals of underground intrigue, even in Switzerland. Arranging a meeting, he tells a visitor to wait for a man with a mustache at platform 18 of the Zurich train station. They travel in a burgundy Mercedes to a safe house provided by a family of ethnic-Albanian KLA sympathizers.

A Few Million

Mr. Salihu was once an admirer of Enver Hoxha, Albania's Marxist leader from 1944 until 1985; now he plays by capitalist rules. Over the years his fund has raised "a few million dollars," but he says the war in Kosovo has led to a surge in donations, though he won't say how much. One of the men responsible for handling the money in Tirana is Ramiz Lladrovici, a senior KLA finance officer, who deals only in

cash. Other than that, Mr. Salihu says, Homeland Calling follows the conventions of global banking and has accounts with banks in most West European countries, Australia, the U.S. and Canada.

But it isn't conventional enough, apparently. Swiss authorities last August blocked Homeland Calling's principal bank account, held by a small Swiss institution called Alternative Bank, which normally specializes in environmentally friendly investment projects. Mr. Salihu says the frozen account contains around 1.5 million Swiss francs. A spokesman for Switzerland's federal prosecutor's office in Bern, says the money will stay frozen until Mr. Salihu provides guarantees that it will be "used for humanitarian ends and not arms procurement," which would violate Swiss law.

A month after Swiss authorities blocked Homeland Calling's account, Swiss police dismantled what they say was a major arms-trafficking network supplying weapons to Kosovo through Albania. Ten people were charged. Mr. Salihu wasn't among those arrested, and the police haven't linked Homeland Calling to this case. Authorities say the arms ring, dominated by ethnic Albanians, purchased 195 guns, 45 bullet-proof vests and six tons of ammunition, and was negotiating for the delivery of antitank weapons and grenade launchers worth \$33 million.

Card-Playing Patriot

Back in the Prague prison, Mr. Dobrosi also hasn't been definitively tied to the KLA. The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency says claims that the KLA raises money from drugs "have not been corroborated and may be politically motivated." Noel Malcolm, a visiting scholar at Harvard University and author of an authoritative history of Kosovo, traces many such claims to Serbian propaganda. Lennart Davidsson, head of a Swedish task force specializing in Balkan-related drug traffic, says the KLA is "not a criminal organization but . . . is certainly supported by some criminals."

Hailing from the Kosovo town of Pec, Mr. Dobrosi is regarded by Czech police as one of Europe's biggest and most ruthless heroin barons. He escaped from a Norwegian prison in 1996, just two years into a 14-year sentence for heroin smuggling. Mr. Dobrosi insists that he is a professional card player, an honest patriot and a zealous booster of Kosovo's guerrilla fighters. "I support them with everything," he says. "I give them my whole life."

Mr. Dobrosi says he was on his way to place a bulk order for bullet-proof vests when police grabbed him from his black BMW at a traffic light outside Prague's Hilton Hotel in February. Czech officials, however, say a document found in his possession points to a larger purchase—of Chinese-made antitank weapons, machine guns and six other categories of armaments—that they believe was meant for the KLA.

From his jail cell, where he is now awaiting extradition to Norway, Mr. Dobrosi says he still wants to help. He follows the war on the radio and a small TV set in his maximum-security cell. "If you don't fight, you don't win," he says. "People who fight for the KLA are not drug dealers. They are good people."

In Zurich, Mr. Salihu says the KLA wants nothing to do with people like Mr. Dobrosi. "He doesn't think about the nation but only for himself," he says. "In jail he can say he does it all for his people but this is idiotic."

Closer to the fighting, the KLA's Mr. Reka says he "doesn't deny" that drug dealers are underwriting his group's activities and that they are skilled in the black arts required to smuggle arms. "We can't account for every penny," he says. "Drug dealers can be patriots, too."

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

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THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1999
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Belgrade Says Cash to Rebuild Is a Prerequisite for Peace Deal

By ROBERT BLOCK

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia — Political leaders here insist ever more loudly that a crucial part of any deal with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to end the Kosovo conflict must include large sums of cash for reconstructing the country's bomb-shattered economy.

Belgrade's demand for some kind of Western-funded reconstruction program comes as the government feels mounting pressure to end the war. Such aid was reportedly a main theme of talks yesterday between Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic and Russian envoy Viktor Chernomyrdin. Mr. Chernomyrdin arrived in Belgrade yesterday to brief Mr. Milosevic on his Kosovo peace talks with U.S. officials in the Finnish capital Helsinki.

The U.S.-Russian-Finnish talks have yet to yield a breakthrough. But the Yugoslav government called after the Milosevic-Chernomyrdin meeting for United Nations-sponsored talks based on a peace plan drafted by the so-called Group of Eight nations. Belgrade, however, hasn't shown that it will accept the terms of NATO, which includes six of the eight states in the G-8. NATO has insisted that Yugoslavia withdraw all its troops from Kosovo and let in a NATO-led peacekeeping force.

Clashes With Police

The latest diplomatic maneuverings come as pressure on Mr. Milosevic to end the war is growing each day.

According to local news reports, parents and other relatives of soldiers drafted from the central Serbian town of Krusevac to serve in the war-torn Kosovo province

have held two days of protests, demanding the return of their sons from the front and an end to the war.

People contacted by telephone in Krusevac and the nearby town of Aleksandrovac, which has also been rocked by protests, confirmed the demonstrations and said there had been some clashes with police. In response to the reports, hundreds of soldiers from the region have deserted and returned home, according to local people.

The Yugoslav army described the departure of the soldiers as part of the military's announced partial withdrawal from Kosovo, not desertions. It also said it plans to charge organizers of the protests in Krusevac and Aleksandrovac with treason.

In Washington, Pentagon officials seized on word of this unrest as evidence NATO's military campaign may finally be paying off. Pentagon spokesman Ken Bacon said NATO had reports as many as 500 Serb soldiers in Kosovo had deserted. In the Krusevac protest, he said, NATO received reports that authorities used water hoses against women and children demonstrators.

'A Fair Political Agreement'

Yugoslav officials, while long insisting on an end to NATO bombing as a precondition to any truce with NATO, are also thinking beyond the war. Yugoslavia's Foreign Ministry spokesman, Nebojsa Vujovic, said this week that Belgrade expected the West to compensate for the destruction of the country's economy, estimated at more than \$70 billion.

"We want a fair political agreement. . . . We want this region to be reconstructed and for those responsible for the destruction of our economy to pay the damages," he said.

Serbia's powerful nationalist deputy prime minister, Vojislav Seselj, added his voice to the issue in an interview published yesterday in a Belgrade newspaper. "Any peaceful solution without a clause providing for total compensation for the damage suffered by Yugoslavia in this war is unthinkable," he was quoted as saying.

But many diplomats and political analysts in Belgrade question whether Yugoslavia would be offered much assistance under the continued leadership of Mr. Milosevic, who is widely held responsible for the wars in Croatia, Bosnia and Kosovo since 1991. In Washington, two senior U.S. officials said they can't imagine the U.S. offering aid to Belgrade after the war.

"We're not saying [Milosevic] has to go, but I don't think any of us are going to want to deal with him after this—not even the Europeans," said one top official, adding, "When there's democracy in Serbia everything will be possible."

For now, officials seem more interested in the vulnerability that these demands coming out of Belgrade apparently signal. "His economic people are clearly feeling the pain," said another top official. "That's the most interesting news."

Indeed, in Belgrade, a Western-funded economic plan is considered vital to Mr. Milosevic's political survival. "In order to be able to claim victory, Mr. Milosevic will have to show people more than words," said Predrag Simic, a political analyst and adviser to Serbian opposition leader Vuk Draskovic. "It's literally a matter of life and death, and not just for him. Next winter, if money does not come to repair damaged power plants, thousands of people will freeze and die."

U.S. leaders are left increasingly puzzled by the many signals coming out of Belgrade. President Clinton, in New York yesterday on a fund-raising trip, spent a half-hour in his limousine with veteran U.S. Balkans diplomat Richard Holbrooke, quizzing the envoy on his interpretations.

UNDER THE ICE

PART 2 OF A THREE-PART SERIES

Ice station pieces together Arctic's global sway

by Peter N. Spotts

Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

APL ICE STATION, ARCTIC OCEAN cluster of plywood and fabric hootches huddle as if for warmth on an ice floe 130 miles north of Barrow, Alaska.

Inside one 8-by-20-foot box, Peter Mikhalevsky is using the undersea travel time of sound across the Arctic Basin to take the Arctic Ocean's temperature.

Before his two-week tour is up, Dr. Mikhalevsky will spend 1.4 minutes gathering data those 41.4 minutes, however, confirm that during the past five years, the ocean has warmed by nearly 1 degree F. This comes on the heels of ice-breaker and acoustic measurements in 1994 that found a similar increase over what would have been expected given historical records.

Meanwhile, deep under the ice, the US Navy's nuclear attack submarine USS Hawkbill is launching probes as it traverses the Arctic Ocean, measuring the temperature, density, and, indirectly, the saltiness of the water along the sound's path.

The temperatures it measures will test the acoustic system's accuracy already in good agreement with '98 probe results. Density and salinity data will help interpret and confirm temperature calculations based on the sound's travel time from a source the Russians installed last year between Franz Joseph and the Svalbard Archipelago. The set-up is part of a three-year US-Russian program to track ocean temperatures at the top of the world.

The APL ice camp and the USS Hawkbill form the dual research platform for SCICEX 99, the last annual installment in a five-year pact among the US Navy, the National Science Foundation, and other federal offices interested in giving civilian scientists unparalleled access to the least understood marine and atmospheric system on the planet.

The system is seen by many climatologists as an early indicator of, and perhaps catalyst for, long-term climate change.

The chief scientist for the project is Margo Edwards, director of the mapping research group at the University of Hawaii's Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Science at Manoa. Under Navy rules, Dr. Edwards couldn't remain aboard the sub for the entire voyage. The ice camp, unique to this year's cruise, serves as a port from which Edwards and visitors could embark for key parts of the Hawkbill's cruise. The camp, run by the University of Washington's Applied Physics Laboratory (APL), opened an opportunity to expand SCICEX 99's agenda to include experiments such as Mikhalevsky's.

As Mikhalevsky, a marine scientist with the San Diego-based research firm Science Applications International, surveys the initial results from his acoustic thermometer - an early preview



ICE CAMP: About 130 miles north of Barrow, Alaska, the station is a crude cluster of plywood huts perched on a white wasteland.

of what to expect from a larger system the US and Russians have installed - he exclaims, "The data are really beautiful! But more challenging than getting precise measurements is answering: What do they mean?"

At first blush, SCICEX evidence points to potentially ominous trends. During the 1990s,

the Arctic ice cap has lost 20 percent of its mass, although only 5 percent of its surface area. The glistening ice that supports our camp melts from underneath. Arctic sea ice is an important player in climate for two reasons, says Andrew Weaver, a climate modeler at the University of Victoria at Victoria, British Columbia: "Ice is white, and ice is made of fresh water."

Because it already floats in the ocean system, a melting Arctic ice cap would have little direct effect on sea level. The seasonal loss of ever-larger portions of the cap, however, could strip the ocean of its reflective cover, allowing the water to absorb and retain solar heat. Warmer waters would, in turn, speed melting. The buoyant fresh water

patterns around the globe.

During the SCICEX program's trial cruise in 1993, James Morrison of the APL's Polar Science Center gathered data that showed warm Atlantic water pushing ever farther into the Arctic Basin. A layer of water insulating the ice from the Atlantic layer had thinned compared with measurements taken in 1991. By '95, that insulating layer had disappeared, says Michael Steele, a senior oceanographer at APL who took the measurements on that year's SCICEX cruise.

Yet, he adds, initial studies of similar data from the 1998 SCICEX cruise suggest that the ice's insulating layer may be growing. "1998 is looking like 1993 again," Mr. Steele says.

The data hint at a notion dawning on researchers: The Arctic is a more dynamic region than anyone thought. Nowhere does that show up more clearly than in the climate record.

Last fall, University of Washington researchers David Thompson and John Wallace published an analysis of nearly 100 years of wintertime Arctic temperatures and sea-level air pressure. They uncovered what they say is a periodic swing in conditions they dubbed the Arctic Oscillation. These changes at the surface reflect more pronounced shifts in the stratosphere, at altitudes of roughly 12 miles, says Dr. Wallace.

When the oscillation peaks, surface air pressures at high latitudes fall, and storm tracks - the battlegrounds where warm air and cold air meet - shift farther north. When the oscillation ebbs, the surface pressure in the Arctic rises and storm tracks push farther south, leading to cold-air outbreaks in Siberia and North America.

These swings occur on time scales ranging from weeks to a decade and represent what Dr. Weaver calls a principal mode of climate variation in the atmosphere - and a driver of North Atlantic climate swings that once were thought to be governed by their own oscillation.

"Some of the people who study the Arctic like this notion because it's a way of unifying changes in river runoff, ice drift and thickness, and ice-edge positions," Wallace says.

Superimposed on the oscillation's shorter-term swings, however, is another trend: The oscillation's wintertime peaks have strengthened during the past 30 years. Some climate models, including a simulation published last year by NASA atmospheric physicist Drew Shindell, suggest that global warming could strengthen the oscillation. Others trigger stronger peaks through ozone loss in the Arctic stratosphere.

If these peaks continue to strengthen, Mr. Thompson and Wallace hold that the next century could see changing rain and snowfall patterns in Eurasia, a shift in North Atlantic fishing grounds, even the disappearance of Arctic ice in the summer.

"Interestingly, theories predict that we should see a cooling of the Arctic starting about now," says Mikhalevsky, referring to swings in the Arctic Oscillation.

In the absence of future sub missions like SCICEX, Mikhalevsky says, acoustic sensors like the one at the ice camp could provide the stream of data needed to test those theories.

■ Part 1 ran May 13. On Tuesday, May 25, Peter Spotts will explore life on a submarine in The Home Forum's Kidspage.

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Very good - some republican

OPINION

Some Serbs do back NATO

Bombs aside, once a Milosevic opponent, always an opponent

By Vladimir Petrovic

IT HAS been almost a month since the NATO bombings of Serbia started, and every morning I have to take a good look at my face in the mirror. Because, even at its worst, with black rings under the eyes and three days' stubble, it is still irrefutable proof that I exist.

I am an ethnic Serb, and - contrary to the laws of Serbian nature as portrayed by the Western media - I am still pro-NATO and anti-Milosevic. In fact, though my family and friends remain in Belgrade, I strongly support the current NATO bombardment of my country, if only as a necessary precondition for a ground attack aimed at removing the malignant source of almost all the evils that have befallen Serbia and its neighbors during the past 12 years - the dictatorship of Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic.

From childhood, if I thought of myself as a Serb, it was exclusively in terms of belonging to some kind of European, or Western context, not the Eastern, or communist context. This, incidentally, was the main reason, notwithstanding considerable qualms and practical difficulties, I left Belgrade a month ago and came to Prague. I simply didn't want to find myself on the wrong side of the border, or, should I say, on the wrong side of the front line when NATO came marching in.

What's more, I'm neither alone nor a rare exception to the media stereotypes about tribal Serbs. Those who share my convictions aren't some tiny, well-educated cabal estranged from the "common people." Yes, I admit, I'm a writer and translator, presumably an intellectual. But what about my cab-driver friend who, in downtown Belgrade on the first night of NATO air strikes, hurt his leg in a fight with a security guard after spray-painting graffiti like "WELCOME NATO" and "MILOSEVIC IS A TERRORIST"?

I suspect that, in case of a landing by NATO ground troops, if openly and unambiguously directed at the regime in Belgrade and not against "the Serbs," many of my compatriots will be able to appreciate the difference.

Of course, it's only natural that even the pro-Western segment of Serbian society is infuriated by the airstrikes. The bombing is perceived as a meaningless exercise of indiscriminate power. It's unrealistic to expect any other reaction, con-

sidering the media-fueled nationalist frenzy and overwhelming pressure in society to conform. Anyone who speaks out now, and maintains pro-Western leanings, is branded a traitor.

But once the West lays its cards on the table, this is bound to change. Given a clear choice between "Fight for Milosevic and be rewarded with more oppression and poverty" or "Give it up now, and we'll help you get rid of Milosevic's lot" many Serbs will think twice. (Let me remind you, it has been years since Milosevic's party managed to pull in more than 35 percent of the vote.) At least, decisive NATO action may substantially raise the rate of desertions and surrender.

The story of newfound Serbian unity and willingness to fight to the last is likely to go down as the single most successful invention of Milosevic's propaganda, a bait wholeheartedly swallowed by both the Western general public and self-proclaimed experts.

Indeed, as I've scanned the Western news and commentary over the past month, I haven't found a single exception to the rule. Analysts, journalists, diplomats have rushed to do their part in fear-mongering and hyping various doomsday scenarios, stereotyping all Serbs as somewhat of a cross between SS divisions and poison spiders.

THESE foreign observers fail to notice an obvious fact: Even in a society so lightly burdened with rationality, it's quite impossible for such a radical change of fundamental political attitude to happen overnight. There are, in fact very few people able to perform a mental somersault that would suddenly turn them from bitter opponents of Milosevic and his henchmen into avid supporters. These opponents will return to the scene, emboldened, only if the West demonstrates resolve to remove Milosevic.

As the world is confronted with tragic images of Kosovo Albanians flushed from their homes - stirring still-fresh memories of massive bloodshed in Bosnia - it is easy to forget the Western-orientated Serbs who also feel victimized by more than a decade of Milosevic's national-socialist tyranny.

That's why we urge NATO not to stop, until the job is done.

■ Vladimir Petrovic is a Yugoslav freelance writer and translator living temporarily in Prague.

HARLEY SCHWADRON

Lepica
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of US colleges

A NEW MYTHOLOGY has arisen concerning the intellectual status of American colleges. That mythology - which has gone largely unchallenged - contends that the typical campus is heavily politicized, doctrinaire, obsessed with race and gender, and contemptuous of all things white and Western. To put it bluntly, that is not an accurate description of the reality of the university campus at which I've been teaching for more than 30 years, nor of the many other colleges and universities (large and small, public and private, religious and secular) where I've guest-lectured during this long period.

I happen to be male, white, conservative, and a known Republican, having taken leaves of absence to serve in the Nixon and Reagan administrations. I should be a natural target for the supposedly doctrinaire radicals who allegedly dominate the college scene these days. Sorry to disappoint the unprepared reader, but - without exception - I have never suffered pickets, insults, threats, or other actions that, to use an ancient phrase, would violate my academic freedom.

Quite to the contrary. On every campus I have visited, I have been treated with courtesy and given full and unhampered opportunity to present my views. If on occasion the questions are especially tough, that attests to my ability to keep the students awake!

Far more important, in each campus - and particularly my own - I have encountered a wide variety of viewpoints among the faculty and the students. I may have been the "show" conservative when I joined the Washington University economics department in 1964, but today I have a great

As is customary these days, many colleges offer courses in nontraditional fields. For example, Washington University has set up programs in African and Afro-American Studies, environmental studies, Jewish and near-Eastern Studies, and women's studies. Frankly, I haven't been the most enthusiastic supporter of these innovations.

Nevertheless, I must acknowl-

edge that the somewhat less-than-incendiary courses these programs present to our students include beginning Swahili, African civilization to 1800, the black church in America, critical issues in the environment, Islamic civilization, classical Jewish philosophy, women and technology, and women and social change.

The faculty involved includes some truly outstanding scholars, including a recent winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award.

Far more compelling - and universally ignored in the current mythology about campus life - is that most students at most colleges most of the time take the same conventional courses their parents and grandparents took.

The majority of faculty teach courses that aren't exactly "race- and gender-oriented" - chemistry, physics, economics, history, composition, and literature in English and a variety of other Western languages, as well as mathematics, music, and philosophy.

As for student activism, on most campuses there is an abundance of student groups representing virtually every political, social, and cultural interest.

However, at any time when one of those groups is trying to get students to protest on some current issue, you usually will find

MURRAY
WEIDENBAUM

Contrary to
unchallenged belief,
the average campus
isn't contemptuous
of all things white
and Western.

5-21-99

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Apache Copters Inspire Awe in Balkans, But They May Be Wrong Birds for Job

By A. CRAIG COPETAS

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

TIRANA, Albania—On this city's pot-holed streets, children use felt-tip markers to tattoo "Apache" on their arms and T-shirts.

In the Italian-style cafes, armchair warriors drink beer and swap tall tales of secret Apache missions that NATO says never took place. Radio stations broadcast Apache sightings with the frequency of incorrect weather reports.

"Every helicopter in the sky is an Apache, and everyone believes they are invincible," says Zeneli Orhani, a professor of psychology at the University of Tirana who has spent the past seven weeks counseling ethnic Albanian refugees.

"The Apache is the only faith the Kosovars can turn to, their only hope of returning to their homes."

Near-Mythic Status

Almost from the moment North Atlantic Treaty Organization commanders requested them for the Yugoslavian campaign, the AH-64A Apache helicopters have taken on near-mythic status in the Balkans. Equipped with 16 Hellfire anti-tank missiles and 1,200 rounds of 30mm armor-piercing ammunition, the sleek black birds are awe-inspiring fighting machines.

But since 24 Apaches last month landed in the Rinas Airport mud flats known as Tirana Beach, the mystery surrounding their role has only deepened. Two Apaches have crashed during separate training missions—killing two pilots in one incident—for reasons the Army hasn't explained. Washington has yet to give the go-ahead to unleash the beasts, and some wonder if it will ever come. Some military experts believe the Army may have even sent in the wrong copter for the job.

Nonetheless, the Army is hyping the Apache as the phantom menace of the war. Though the AH-64A emerged from the Gulf War virtually unscathed, the easy pickings the now 15-year-old copter had in the desert flatlands of southern Iraq are unlikely to arise in Kosovo.

A growing number of soldiers here are wondering why the Army has declined the offer of the helicopter's manufacturer, Boeing Co., to send in specialists to help maintain the aircraft and lend their expertise to the crash investigations. Executives at Boeing's Apache plant in Mesa, Ariz., are also mystified over not being called in, particularly since the firm remains under contract to train Apache pilots and maintenance personnel. "We had field representatives with the Apaches in the Gulf War, and I don't know why we don't have them in Albania," says Boeing spokesman Ken Jensen.

Publicly, the Army is gung-ho on the AH-64A and hasn't commented on why

Boeing hasn't been brought in. "The [AH-64A] Apaches are here, and I have no doubt they will make a huge difference," says Gen. Henry Shelton, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Nevertheless, some critics charge that the accident-prone AH-64A is outdated for its Balkan mission, and that the two



AP photo/Mark Peters

U.S. soldiers working on an Apache helicopter at Tirana airport in Albania earlier this week.

Apache crashes may have resulted from pilot error based on the outmoded radar technology employed by the AH-64A. One retired U.S. military officer, a decorated Vietnam veteran familiar with the Apache, claims the AH-64A model is a "hangar queen," a term used to describe military aircraft that look better than they work.

"Those birds are stiffed up and polished for a public-relations war," the retired officer says. "The only thing they're good for is cannibalization."

Fires back Lt. Col. Garrie Dornan, chief spokesperson for the Apache task force, "the Army issues it, we use it."

The Wrong Apache

Indeed, some attack-helicopter specialists suggest the Army has given its pilots here the wrong Apache. Gunter Endres, editor of the rotorized-aircraft bible Jane's Helicopter Yearbook, says the Army should have deployed its active squadron of 24 AH-64D Longbows, its new generation of Apaches reconfigured with digital technology, better avionics and more advanced firepower.

After the Army's 1996 field tests of the Longbow, conducted with Boeing, a joint exercise report said the Apache Longbow is "the quintessential example" of how to dominate a battlefield.

Some senior NATO military officers here privately suggest the odds are stacked against any Apaches ever flying into battle because the U.S. isn't prepared to accept the casualties almost certain to occur.

But the question that nobody in the Army so far has been willing to answer is why its 24 Apache Longbows are sitting on the ground in Fort Hood, Texas, instead of flying combat-training missions over the Balkan badlands. Mr. Endres suspects he knows the reason. "The Longbow is clearly the weapon of choice," he says. "But it was developed under a black program, and I'm certain the Army doesn't want to see one of them shot down in Yugoslavia, and all that sensitive technology winding up in the hands of the Russians."

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1999

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Sandy
What about
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was it?
R

and then

ROSALIE M. GRATTAROTI

May 20, 1999

'99 MAY 21 PM 1:15

17R Conant Road

Ms. Betty Currie
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Marblehead, MA

Dear Ms. Currie:

01945

Many, many citizens are concerned about NATO's policy of continued bombing of Yugoslavia. Because of my concern for the situation and for our fine President, I am again taking the liberty of writing.

781 631 6507

Would you kindly give my letter to President Clinton. Thank you once again for your courtesy and your kindness.

Respectfully,


Rosalie M. Grattaroti

5-21-99

To Burkhardt +
for Reply

yes

no

ROSALIE M. GRATTAROTI

'99 MAY 21 PM1:15

May 20, 1999

President William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

17R Conant Road

Dear Mr. President:

Marblehead, MA

I am again taking the liberty of writing to express my concerns about the war in Yugoslavia. It appears that the escalation of the bombing raids has only intensified Milosevic's resistance, while at the same time causing much more pain and grief to countless innocent victims.

01945

As stated in my previous letter, I hope I don't seem presumptuous in writing to express my strongly held opinions and beliefs about this major tragedy. I hope you will look into your heart and find the solution that is best for all concerned.

781 631 6507

Violence in any form, however justified one's intentions and beliefs are, is never the answer to a problem; particularly where millions of lives are affected. I noted your grief and true empathy for those harmed by the situation in Littleton, Colorado. But then was disappointed that you could, at the same time, call for the escalation of bombing in a situation that does not warrant the extraordinary military might that is being exercised on this fragile and war-torn country.

Such escalation without full knowledge or recognition of the irreparable harm that is done to so many is not justified in the moral order of the universe. As a student of philosophy, theology, history and government, you surely are aware of all the grief this situation is, and must be, causing to so many. And not only to those citizens immediately affected, but to countless millions around the world who see a mighty power "take on" a smaller, seemingly defenseless nation. The proportionality of the situation is beyond one's reason.

Because of the intensity on both sides, it may be only a matter of time (and possibly a short time) that catastrophic events could occur that may produce results now unforeseen. At that time it may be too late to "save face" and orchestrate a peaceful, yet graceful, solution to this extraordinary effort.

President William Jefferson Clinton

May 20, 1999

Page Two

I hope that you and your advisers will look into your hearts, and not just your minds, and see that *real* people are being severely affected by an intellectually planned out military policy. In my opinion, and that of many, many others, the plan is not working even though the NATO and military spokesmen tell us otherwise.

The faces of human misery and the cruel devastation of towns and communities tell the true story. *Please*, for the sake of the world and your own dreams of being a "peacemaker," stop the bombing and find a peaceful solution that restores respect and dignity to all concerned.

Again, forgive me if I come across as too passionate about this--but I am. As one involved in healing work, I see how people are suffering who live in normal and even comfortable conditions. So for me, and many others involved in helping people, to see such needless misery caused to so many is difficult to accept, especially as a citizen of a country that is so richly blessed.

I continue to pray for you and all concerned each day, and hope that God will guide you and the other decision-makers to bring an end to this great tragedy.

Respectfully,



Rosalie M. Grattaroti

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Fax

① John Podesta
To: ② Betty Currie From: Jesse Jackson
Fax: (202) 456-1210 Pages:
Phone: Date:
Re: Kosovo CC:
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• Comments:

Rev. Jackson can be reached
at 233 21 667 546

5-20-99

1 NSC/ ~~for reply?~~Yes ☒ No ☐

B.

- FYI
- ① Room 621
 - ② American Embassy
Control Room
 - ③ Room 501 (from 11⁰⁰ AM -
1⁰⁰ PM)



621

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA
FEDERAL MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Belgrade, 19 May 1999

Dear Reverend Jackson,

Further to our tonight's telephone conversation, I would like to sum up the following points:

1) Yugoslavia is for peace and open to dialogue;
2) Yugoslavia is for a political, peaceful solution in Kosovo and Metohija, based on wide autonomy, self-governance, equality of all citizens and national communities (Albanians, Serbs, Moslems, Turks, Romanies, Goranies, etc) and sovereignty and territorial integrity of Serbia and Yugoslavia;

3) The Government forces have stooped all their activities against the KLA terrorist organization as of 6 April 1999.

Except individual or very small terrorist groups in Kosovo and Metohija majority of terrorists are found presently in Albania trying from time to time to cross the border and attack our border guards.

4) The Government has invited the refugees and displaced persons who had left their homes after 24 March of NATO aggression, to return in safety and dignity. Many of them have shown readiness to do so, some have already been returning, but several NATO attacks and even massive killings of returning refugees (on the Prizren-Djakovica road, Korisa with more than 80 dead, mostly women and children, etc) has been badly hindered the process.

5) We are open to continuing full cooperation in alleviating humanitarian problems and encouraging the return of refugees, issues all of which are being discussed right now with a UN humanitarian inter-agency delegation currently on a ten-day tour in Yugoslavia, led by UN Under-Secretary Carlos de Mello.

6) As of 6 of May, following the order of the Supreme Command, the withdrawal of our military forces from Kosovo and Metohija has been under way, hindered only by NATO air raids.

We are ready to reduce military and security forces presence in Kosovo and Metohija to peace-time level necessary for security of the international border and maintenance of law and order.

Reverend Jesse Jackkson
Co: Marie Nelson
(Room No. 534)
A c c r a
GHANA

TOTAL P. 02

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
5-21-99

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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Podesta

'99 MAY 21 PM 1:08

May 21, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BRUCE REED

SUBJECT: POLICY ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR GRAMBLING SPEECH

Your Grambling State University commencement address this Sunday focuses on the need to empower parents with greater tools to balance their responsibilities to their jobs and their families. You will release a new study by the Council of Economic Advisors that analyzes the "time crunch" that parents increasingly feel. In addition, you will announce a new policy that addresses this challenge for federal workers. You will direct the Office of Personnel Management to revise its regulations to allow federal workers to use up to 12 weeks of accrued sick leave to care for a spouse, child, or parent with a "serious health condition," as defined under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). Currently, federal workers are allowed to use only 13 days of sick leave to care for an ill relative. This new policy will enable federal workers to use the sick leave they have earned on the job to take care of a loved one with a serious health condition.

The DPC also has led a policy process to examine non-legislative options for action to enable states on a voluntary basis to use their Unemployment Insurance systems to provide benefits to workers on some form of FMLA-covered leave. This year, in part responding to UI trust fund surpluses, four states – Massachusetts, Vermont, Maryland, and Washington – had bills introduced in their state legislatures that would do this. Three of the four states, anticipating conformity problems, have asked for comment from the Department of Labor (DOL). While many question the prospects of State legislative efforts, DOL has been pressured by Senators Kennedy, Dodd, Leahy, and Murray, the AFL-CIO, and women's groups to allow states this flexibility; business groups have weighed in strongly against opening up UI for this purpose.

Taking a non-legislative step to advance paid leave for American workers would be a way to enable more workers to spend time with their families during important times. The 1996 FMLA Study, *A Workable Balance*, found that lost wages are a significant barrier to taking leave, particularly for lower income workers. Even if no state immediately elected to use its UI system in this way (as many argue is very likely), advancing a proposal that would allow State experimentation would send a strong message that making leave affordable for workers is a new priority and that states should consider creative ways to provide paid leave benefits.

However, the challenges and risks to embracing an expansive change to the UI system are considerable. First, the expense of such a system, if ever fully implemented in all states, would

be significant. It is not deficit neutral in the short term since taxes will not match benefit spending which is estimated to begin at \$2 billion annually, but will likely be deficit neutral in the long term (10-20 years). Second, the breadth of purposes covered by the FMLA raises concerns. The majority of FMLA-covered leave is taken by workers caring for their *own* serious health conditions, and advancing a policy of providing UI benefits for this category of leave might transform the UI system into a paid sick leave program and lead to significant and regressive substitution effects (employers might abandon their sick leave benefit programs). Third, while today most UI tax collection is "experience rated" (meaning that employers pay into the system based on their workers' use of it), the cost of this new policy should be borne as broadly as possible to guard against possible employer discrimination against women of child-bearing age.

Your advisors have come to a consensus recommendation that would enable you to advance the policy of paid leave, while mitigating the potential for unintended negative consequences. You would direct the Department of Labor (1) to issue regulations and (2) develop model legislation that together would guide the states to confine the allowance of new UI benefits to parents following birth or adoption (and, perhaps, other analogous categories) and that would ensure that these new benefits are not "experience rated." Limiting these new benefits primarily to leave following birth and adoption would alleviate concerns about expanding the uses of the UI system while responding to the area of greatest need. The 1996 FMLA report found that maternity-disability leave tends to be unpaid or partially paid, while all other types of leave are significantly more likely to be fully paid.

Ideally, DOL's regulation would be able to limit states to using UI only for parental leave (and, perhaps, other analogous categories). The DOL Solicitor's Office is still reviewing whether it has the legal authority to impose these limits; there is a question whether it can distinguish between parental leave and other FMLA categories. If the Department cannot do so, we would rely on model legislation to guide states toward this relatively modest expansion. This course has some risk; states, after all, could choose to ignore our direction and guidance. We are relatively confident, however, that few states would elect to impose far greater burdens on their own UI systems than we would recommend in our model legislation.

This general approach would allow you to send a very clear signal about moving forward on unpaid leave for new parents, while also making clear that you will not countenance other, less appropriate uses of UI benefits. The action, however, will not be uncontroversial. Business groups and Republican allies on the Hill may object even to this limited expansion of the UI system and attempt to halt the regulatory process through appropriations riders.

All of the offices involved in this process – the DPC, NEC, OMB, DOL, the Department of Treasury, CEA, and First Lady's Office – agree that the recommendation presented in this memorandum is an innovative and responsible approach to addressing this issue.



☒ PROCEED

☐ HOLD OFF AT THIS TIME

☐ LET'S DISCUSS

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THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1999

The New York Times

U.S. Charges Ex-Soldier, Calling Him Plotter With bin Laden

By BENJAMIN WEISER

The Government indicted a former United States Army sergeant yesterday on charges of collaborating with Osama bin Laden in a global conspiracy to kill Americans abroad, and asserted publicly for the first time that the group linked to Mr. bin Laden had plotted to attack the United States Embassy in Kenya as early as 1993.

In announcing the charges against the former sergeant, Ali A. Mohamed, whose last lived in California, the authorities also acknowledged that he is the unnamed suspect who has been held in secret custody in New York since his arrest eight months ago by the F.B.I.

Offering many new details about Mr. Mohamed, the indictment portrays him as a crucial figure in Mr. bin Laden's organization as early as 1990, just one year after his honorable discharge from the United States Army. He served as a supply sergeant assigned to a Special Forces unit at Fort Bragg, N.C.

The indictment does not accuse Mr. Mohamed of a role in the embassy bombings in Africa last August, but it does assert that in the early 1990's, he offered guerrilla training to Haroun Fazil, who was charged last year with leading the Nairobi bombing and remains at large.

Mr. Mohamed, 46, has been held under highly restrictive conditions in the Metropolitan Correctional Center in lower Manhattan since he was

taken into custody in a secret court proceeding last September. For the last eight months, the Government had been negotiating with him to win his cooperation in the broad investigation of Mr. bin Laden and his organization.

But those talks ultimately broke down, and the indictment yesterday suggests that the chief Federal prosecutor in Manhattan, the United States Attorney Mary Jo White, has concluded that Mr. Mohamed will not cooperate, or has provided a tainted mixture of truths and lies that disqualifies him from receiving a formal deal with her office.

Mr. Mohamed's lawyer, James Roth, who had previously not commented on the case or even acknowledged that Mr. Mohamed was his client, said, "We will certainly challenge the charges in court, and we have grave concerns about his ability to get a fair trial, given the Government's campaign to demonize bin Laden."

Mr. Roth refused further comment, and would not respond to questions about any negotiations that might have taken place.

Ms. White's office has also refused to comment on any negotiations.

If Mr. Mohamed is convicted, the authorities said, he could face life in prison without the possibility of parole.

The prosecution appears likely to be complicated and intriguing. If the charges are true, they suggest that Mr. Mohamed, a former major in the Egyptian Army who immigrated to the United States in 1985, had long been living a shadowy double life, even before going to work for Mr. bin

Laden.

In 1984, for example, Mr. Mohamed made contact with the C.I.A. in Egypt, seeking to work as a spy, officials have said.

The agency ultimately branded him untrustworthy and his name was put on a State Department "watch list" intended to prevent terrorists and other security threats from getting visas, the officials said.

Yet, within a year, Mr. Mohamed obtained a visa and moved to the United States, where he served three years in the Army, obtained citizenship and developed a relationship with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, acting as an informant on the

**Former sergeant is
accused of working
with terrorist group
since 1990.**

West Coast.

It was during that period, the indictment contends, that he was also serving Mr. bin Laden as a logistics and training expert. It says he trained members of Mr. bin Laden's group, called Al Qaeda, in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Sudan in urban and guerrilla fighting, and how to evade surveillance.

In 1991, the indictment says, Mr. Mohamed helped to arrange for Mr. bin Laden to move from Peshawar, Pakistan, to Sudan, where Mr. bin

Laden was relocating his base of operations.

Within two years, the indictment says, Mr. Mohamed was plotting with other Al Qaeda members to carry out "a possible attack" against the American Embassy in Nairobi in retaliation for the United States intervention in the civil war in Somalia.

In late 1993 and early 1994, Mr. Mohamed traveled twice to Nairobi, the charges say, and on the second trip entered the United States Embassy in what appears to have been a surveillance operation, carrying his American passport.

Later that year, the indictment says, Mr. Mohamed and other Al Qaeda members reviewed plans about "a possible attack" on the embassy.

Other buildings were also to be attacked, including one that housed the United States Agency for International Development, and British, French and Israeli interests in Nairobi.

Mr. Mohamed also traveled that year to Khartoum, Sudan, the indictment charged, where he provided communications equipment and security training to Mr. bin Laden's bodyguards and to members of the Sudanese intelligence service.

The Government also charged that Mr. Mohamed lied to a Federal grand jury last year that was investigating the bombings, and that he possessed "terrorist training manuals," including documents on planting explosives in buildings and assassination techniques.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL AND CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

THE CHIEF FINANCIAL AND CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

March 24, 1999

President William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

S-21-99

To Burkhardt for reply?
Yes ☒ No ☐
B.

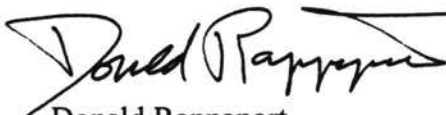
Dear President Clinton,

First, let me say, I really appreciate your affording me the opportunity as the Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Education. The opportunity to serve as part of your Administration and it is with mixed emotion that I must inform you of my departure after one half years.

During my tenure at the U.S. Department of Education, I believe I led both the Chief Financial Officer's Office and the Chief Information Officer's Office in exemplary fashion. Attached is a copy of the resignation letter I sent to Secretary Riley, together with a list of ten of my most important accomplishments. In short, both offices were in critical need of sound management and guidance when I arrived, and I think they now are off the ropes.

Thank you again for this extraordinary opportunity.

All the best,
Sincerely,


Donald Rappaport

P.S. I have your picture on my office wall. I wonder if you would sign one for my scrap book.

cc: Richard W. Riley
Attachments



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL AND CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

THE CHIEF FINANCIAL AND CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

March 4, 1999

Secretary Richard W. Riley
U.S. Department of Education
600 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Secretary Riley,

First, let me say, I really appreciate the President, the Senate and you affording me the opportunity to again serve my country as the Chief Financial Officer of the U.S. Department of Education. I also appreciate your appointing me as the Department's Chief Information Officer.

I believe I have led those offices in exemplary fashion and have attached to this letter a list of ten of my most important accomplishments. In short, both offices were a disaster about to happen before I arrived, and I think they now are at least off the ropes.

But it is time for me to step down. At your pleasure, I will be pleased to remain for six weeks from the date of this letter to assure an orderly transition. And, of course, I look forward to talking with you about the reasons for my decision.

All the best,
Sincerely,


Donald Rappaport

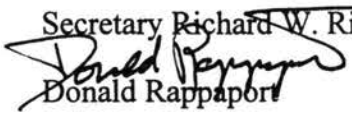


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL AND CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

THE CHIEF FINANCIAL AND CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

Memorandum

To: Secretary Richard W. Riley

From:  Donald Rappaport

Date: March 4, 1999

Subject: Highlighted accomplishments

As I near the close of my tenure at the Department of Education, I think it is important to highlight some of the major accomplishments we achieved in the Office of the Chief Financial and Chief Information Officer over the last two and a half years. This list is in no way complete, but rather notes ten highlights of my term in the Department and demonstrates the significant achievements of the office as a whole. Each example can be directly linked to Goal 4 of the Department's strategic plan which challenges us to, "make ED a high-performance organization by focusing on results, service, quality, and customer satisfaction."

Ten important accomplishments of Don Rappaport and his organization over the last two and one half years:

1. Secured the first clean financial audit opinion in the Department's history (for FY 1997).
 - Relates directly to objective 4.6 in the Department's strategic plan—ensure financial integrity.
2. Salvaged a failed EDCAPS implementation, and ultimately brought on-line the Department's first integrated financial system.
 - Relates directly to objective 4.6 in the Department's strategic plan—ensure financial integrity by providing timely and reliable financial data through EDCAPS.
3. Significantly streamlined the Department's grants process. Lead the Department's successful endeavor to award all grants in a timelier manner (for the first time, grants were awarded early: by August 31st in 1998; and projected by May 31st in 1999). Increased customer service and flexibility by developing expanded authority regulations.
 - Relates directly to objective 4.2 in the Department's strategic plan—provide our partners with improved customer service and flexibility.
4. Developed the Department's first performance based contract (for Direct Loans).
 - Relates directly to objective 4.6 in the Department's strategic plan—ensuring quality, cost control, and timeliness in contracts issued by the Department.
5. Provided leadership and direction to the CIO office operations—CIO had been without successful, continuous leadership since its inception.
 - Relates directly to objective 4.4 in the Department's strategic plan—ensuring sound and efficient information technology for the Department.

6. Led the development of the Department's Y2K compliance tracking system, hiring Booz Allen Hamilton to get the project off the ground.
 - Directly relates to strategic plan goal 4.4—all major information systems will be Y2K compliant.
7. Established and chartered the Department's first Information Technology Investment Review Board, addressing requirements of the Clinger Cohen Act that had previously been overlooked by the Department.
 - Directly relates to strategic plan goal 4.4—ensuring that information systems are mission-driven, and cost effective.
8. Provided leadership to the Data Coordination Committee (DCC): despite longstanding history of no progress, the DCC is now, for the first time, actively working on streamlining the Department's data collection efforts.
 - Directly relates to strategic plan goal 4.4—data reporting burden on the public will be reduced.
9. Secured the operational capacity of EDNET, and saved the Department \$1.6 million by negotiating a favorable deal with CISCO to replace unsatisfactory equipment still in boxes.
 - Directly relates to strategic plan goal 4.4—ensuring that the Department has a cost-effective, efficient, accessible, and reliable network infrastructure.
10. Lead and managed daily operations for two offices: hired critically needed key personnel; negotiated a major functional reorganization, improving efficiency and functional structure within OCF&CIO; and replaced three GS-15 managers in CIO and three in CFO who were not performing their duties adequately. Established comprehensive training programs for both CIO and CFO: implemented an office-wide training effort to train staff on how their work relates to the Department's strategic goals and objectives.
 - Directly relates to objective 4.5 in the Department's strategic plan—ensuring that Department employees are highly skilled and high-performing

He has now left the Department, so the letter should be addressed to his home.

1619 31st Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007

Mr. Donald Rappaport
Office of the Chief Financial and
Chief Information Officer
Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, Southwest
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Mr. Rappaport:

Thank you for your service to the Administration. By making the Department of Education more efficient and by focusing on customer service, you have set a high standard for how government can -- and should -- work.

With your commitment to improving services and eliminating inefficiency, you have set an example for your colleagues as well. Your contributions to the Department of Education's smooth operation have helped the Administration focus on my top priority -- making sure that all American children have access to a world-class education.

Your leadership brought the Department of Education its first-ever clean financial audit opinion, demonstrating that the difficult work of the federal government can be done economically. You have worked to implement a new financial management system that has improved accountability for taxpayers' dollars and allowed the Department to better serve customers all across the nation. And, by streamlining the Department's grants process, you have helped make the federal government a place where people can go to find ways to strengthen their communities. Through all these technical and administrative improvements, you have helped the Administration accomplish our goals and objectives.

Thank you for your invaluable contributions to the Administration and for your commitment to serving the American people. Please accept my thanks for your contribution to our nation and my best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton