

FOIA MARKER

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

Original OA/ID Number: 2054				
Document ID: 9805651				
Stack: v	Row: 45	Section: 5	Shelf: 8	Position: 1

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9805651
RECEIVED: 10 AUG 98 13

TO: BANG-JENSEN, NINA

FROM: PRESIDENT

DOC DATE: 12 NOV 98
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: KOSOVO HUMAN RIGHTS
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: LTR ON HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN KOSOVO FM NINA BANG-JENSEN &
COALITION FOR INTL JUSTICE

ACTION: FOR DISPATCH DUE DATE: 09 OCT 98 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: HURLEY

LOGREF:

FILES: WH NSCP: CODES:

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

FOR ACTION
WH STRIPPING DESK

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO
HURLEY
NSC CHRON

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY 2P DATE 11/13 BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSTSM

CLOSED BY: NSGP

DOC 4 OF 4

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9805651

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 SCHWARTZ	Z 98081014 PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER
001	Z 98092818 ACTION TRANSFERRED
001 SCHULTE	Z 98092818 PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER
002 BERGER	Z 98102718 FWD TO PRESIDENT FOR SIGNATURE
002 SCHULTE	Z 98102809 FOR REDO
002 BERGER	Z 98110208 FWD TO PRESIDENT FOR SIGNATURE
002 HURLEY	Z 98110515 FOR REDO
002 BERGER	Z 98110515 FWD TO PRESIDENT FOR SIGNATURE
002 HURLEY	Z 98110515 FOR REDO
003 PRESIDENT	Z 98110921 FOR SIGNATURE
004	X 98111307 PRESIDENT SGD LTR
004 WH STRIPPING DESK	X 98111307 FOR DISPATCH

DISPATCH DATA SUMMARY REPORT

DOC DATE DISPATCH FOR ACTION

DISPATCH FOR INFO

003	981109		VICE PRESIDENT
003	981109		WH CHIEF OF STAFF
004	981112	BANG-JENSEN, NINA	
004	981112	WH STRIPPING DESK	

UNCLASSIFIED

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

TO: Greg Schulte

Need to update in same
fashion as letters returned
yesterday.

Thx-

AL

]

National Security Council
The White House

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 5651
URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PRS NSC INT ARS
BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG SMD A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
Cosgriff	<u>1</u>	<u>KC 11/12</u>	
Rice			
Davies			
Kerrick			
Steinberg			
Berger			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	<u>2</u>	<u>SMD 11/12</u>	<u>D</u>
Records Mgt.			<u>D</u>

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

cc:

Date November 12, 1998

COMMENTS:

'98 NOV 12 am 8:36

Exec Sec Office has diskette _____

National Security Council
The White House

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 5651-Pad
URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PBS NSC INT ARS
BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG TTC A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
Cosgriff	<u>2</u>	<u>Pa</u>	<u>edit</u>
Rice			
Davies			
Kerrick	<u>3</u>	<u>Pa</u>	<u>edit</u>
Steinberg	<u>8</u>	<u>Pa</u>	<u>edit</u>
Berger			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	<u>4</u>	<u>8/11/9</u>	<u>D</u>
Records Mgt.			<u>edit</u>
<u>Brown</u>	<u>1</u>		

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

cc:

138 NOV 8 1997

COMMENTS: POTUS reply Muna Berg-Jasa
re KOSOTO

Exec Sec Office has diskette yes

National Security Council
The White House

PROOFED BY: _____

LOG # 5651 REDO

URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____

SYSTEM PRS NSC INT ARS

BYPASSED WW DESK: _____

DOCLOG SM A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
Cosgriff			
Rice	<u>1</u>	<u>11/5</u>	<u>224</u>
Davies			
Kerrick	<u>2</u>		
Steinberg			
Berger			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk			
Records Mgt.			

Cosgriff

Rice

Davies

Kerrick

Steinberg

Berger

Situation Room

West Wing Desk

Records Mgt.

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

cc:

COMMENTS:

Reply to Nina Bang Jensen

98 NOV 4 00 AM '17

Exec Sec Office has diskette yes

National Security Council
The White House

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 5651 7500

URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM (PRS) NSC INT ARS

BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG (13) A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
<i>J</i> Cosgriff	_____	_____	_____
Rice	_____	_____	_____
Davies	<u>1</u>	<u>g 10/31</u>	_____
Kerrick	<u>2</u>	_____	_____
Steinberg	_____	_____	_____
Berger	_____	_____	_____
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____
West Wing Desk	_____	_____	_____
Records Mgt.	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

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

cc:

COMMENTS: *POTUS Reply to Nina Bang-Jensen
and Coalition for Civil Justice
on Kosovo*

138 OCT 31 1998 7:40

Exec Sec Office has diskette 1/1

National Security Council
The White House

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 5651
URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PRS NSC INT ARS
BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG TTC A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
 Cosgriff	<u>1</u>	<u>✓</u>	
Rice			
Davies			
Kerrick	<u>2</u>		
Steinberg			
Berger			
Situation Room			
West Wing Desk	<u>2</u>	<u>TTC 10/28</u>	<u>\$ Schulte</u>
Records Mgt.			
<u>Schulte</u>	<u>3</u>		<u>A</u>

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

cc:

COMMENTS:

13 OCT 28 1997 POTUS Reply letter to
Dina Bang-Jensen
Kosovo - Humanitarian Crisis
Exec Sec Office has diskette Yes

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 12, 1998

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice about the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo. I appreciate your description of the important work international relief agencies are doing to provide needed assistance. Just as you suggested, we've worked very hard to ensure that humanitarian organizations can safely carry out their vital work without interference.

Just a few weeks ago, tens of thousands of Kosovars were facing the onset of winter without shelter and the basic necessities of life. I am heartened that our close cooperation with NATO allies has brought about calmer conditions on the ground and facilitated international relief operations to the people of Kosovo.

From the beginning, one of our principal objectives has been to prevent a humanitarian crisis from becoming a catastrophe, and I believe we have made real progress. The credible threat of NATO force has led to a cease-fire and a substantial reduction of Serb security forces in Kosovo.

I do not underestimate the difficulties that lie ahead, but I believe we are headed in the right direction. We have ended the cycle of violence, and I am hopeful that we are getting closer to a political solution to the conflict. As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a critical role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo.

Again, thank you for writing on this very important issue. I appreciate your untiring efforts to provide vital humanitarian assistance to the long-suffering people of Kosovo.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Clinton", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

98 NOV 9 PM 9:11

signed 11-12-98

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER (K) *fm*

SUBJECT: Letter on Humanitarian Situation in Kosovo from
Nina Bang-Jensen and the Coalition for
International Justice

Purpose

Respond to a letter from Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen and the Coalition for International Justice, an organization representing relief agencies including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and Doctors Without Borders among others, who wrote to express concern about the escalating humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

Background

Your reply details the NATO pressure on Milosevic that has resulted in improved access and freedom of movement for humanitarian organizations and relief workers and increased deliveries of food and other necessities to Kosovar Albanians.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Ms. Bang-Jensen at Tab A.

Attachments

Tab A Letter to Ms. Bang-Jensen
Tab B Incoming correspondence

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

Protocol II, Article 13 of the Geneva Conventions

Protection of the civilian population— 1. The civilian population and individual civilians shall enjoy general protection against the dangers arising from military operations. To give effect to this protection, the following rules shall be observed in all circumstances. 2. The civilian population as such, as well as individual civilians, shall not be the object of attack. Acts or threats of violence the primary purpose of which is to spread terror among the civilian population are prohibited. 3. Civilians shall enjoy the protection afforded by this part, unless and for such time as they take a direct part in hostilities.

Protocol II, Article 14 of the Geneva Conventions

Protection of objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population—Starvation of civilians as a method of combat is prohibited. It is therefore prohibited to attack, destroy, remove or render useless for that purpose, objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population such as food-stuffs, agricultural areas for the production of food-stuffs, crops, livestock, drinking water installations and supplies and irrigation works.

Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

We, the undersigned humanitarian and human rights organizations, urgently appeal to you concerning the dramatically escalating humanitarian crisis in Kosovo. The situation is dire and has deteriorated severely in recent days. In direct violation of Protocol II, Article 13 of the Geneva Conventions, unarmed civilians are systematically targeted through a campaign of indiscriminate attacks and atrocities, as they were just three short years ago in Bosnia. Our local partners in Kosovo and the region are pleading desperately for access, protection, and resources to meet the basic needs of the besieged, displaced and attacked civilian population, already close to one million people. Thousands of civilians, overwhelmingly women, children, and elderly, are being forcibly expelled from their villages and towns every day. Brutal attacks on civilians continue to escalate.

As large numbers of newly homeless people crowd in with already poor Kosovo Albanian families, winter food supplies are being consumed. A food crisis looms, particularly as cold weather approaches in the foothills and mountains where tens of thousands of civilians have been forced to flee. Unless urgent action is taken, an enormous crisis—requiring a massive and expensive humanitarian response—is inevitable. Current relief efforts and resources are woefully inadequate.

*President Clinton**Page Two*

Our representatives and partners on the ground report that hundreds of thousands of people have now been forced out of their homes and are wandering, terrorized, looking for any shelter, food, and medical care they can find. Humanitarian organizations on the ground cannot reach many of the people who need help because of blockades, shelling and harassment. Serbian authorities have intermittently seized or diverted humanitarian relief supplies away from victims.

Local humanitarian organizations attempting to provide emergency assistance to the homeless, wounded and hungry are under attack. We have received credible reports that many local humanitarian workers and medical personnel have recently been arrested and interrogated. Other humanitarian workers have been killed, wounded, or gone missing after abductions by Serbian authorities. Serbian authorities have plundered food warehouses, most recently seizing more than 12 metric tons of grain from the Mother Theresa Society's facility in Vuciturn/Vushtri.

In addition to the killing and abduction of Kosovo's civilians, which has been widely reported, we are gravely concerned by the increasingly systematic use of food and access to rudimentary medical care as tools of war. Serbian paramilitaries and soldiers are burning food stock and crops and killing livestock. Snipers regularly fire on civilians attempting to harvest their wheat crops. Belgrade has imposed strict food controls on Kosovo, not only stopping the transport of goods to many Kosovo Albanian communities altogether, but allowing only state stores, run by ethnic Serbs, to buy and sell food staples. Using food as a weapon in internal armed conflict is explicitly prohibited under Protocol II, Article 14 of the Geneva Conventions.

With your leadership, the international community can and must ensure that the civilian victims of Kosovo find protection within Kosovo, and obtain secure access to food, shelter, and basic medical care. These desperate people are on the run and have nowhere safe to go, as thousand of homes have already been shelled and burned. International and local humanitarian groups—such as the Mother Theresa organization—must be able to distribute food and medical supplies to the hundreds of thousands of unarmed people who need their help. Local health professionals, aid workers, and human rights monitors, who are particularly at risk of arrest and abuse, need protection and access to the regions where internally displaced populations are moving.

*President Clinton**Page Three*

We urge you to do everything in your power to stop Belgrade's military onslaught against civilians in Kosovo. The international community cannot wait for a cease-fire or political solution to the war in Kosovo before taking necessary action to address this immediate humanitarian disaster. The lives of the mass of unarmed, defenseless people are at stake in Kosovo, just as they were in alarmingly similar circumstances in Bosnia.

Respectfully,

Amnesty International, USA
Balkan Action Council
Bosnian Action Coalition
Codman Square Health Center
Coalition for International Justice
Domovina Net
Freedom House
Friends of Bosnia
The Foundation for a Civil Society
Human Rights Watch
Hunt Alternatives
InterAction
International Crisis Group
International Human Rights Law Group
International League for Human Rights
International Rescue Committee
Lasiewicz Foundation

Lawyers Committee for Human Rights
Medicins Sans Frontieres USA /
Doctors Without Borders, USA
Mercy Corps
Network Bosnia
Nonviolence International
Open Society Institute
Physicians for Human Rights
Public International Law and Policy Group
Refugees International
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
U.S. Committee for Refugees
Women's Commission for Refugee Women
and Children
World Vision Relief and Development

cc:

Hillary Clinton
The First Lady
The White House
Washington, DC

Madeleine Albright
Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D.C.

William S. Cohen
Secretary of Defense
Department of Defense
Washington, D.C.

Samuel Berger
Assistant to the President for National
Security Affairs
National Security Council
Washington, D.C.

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9805651
RECEIVED: 10 AUG 98 13

TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: BANG-JENSEN, NINA

DOC DATE: 06 AUG 98
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: KOSOVO
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

HUMAN RIGHTS

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: LTR FM COALITION FOR INTL JUSTICE RE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN
KOSOVO

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER

DUE DATE: 21 AUG 98 STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: SCHWARTZ

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCP:

CODES:

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

FOR ACTION
SCHWARTZ

FOR CONCURRENCE
SCHULTE

FOR INFO
BAKER
RAGAN

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSTSM

CLOSED BY:

DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED

*DORA - PLEASE
PUT INTO
system, for
response.*

COALITION FOR INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE

740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-1009

*Copies ~~to~~ to
Rasan
Shulte*

FAX	Date: 8/6/98 # of pgs. including cover: 6.
TO: Eric Schwartz Fax: 456-9141 Phone: cc:	FROM: COALITION FOR INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE John Heffernan: (202) 662-1595 Nina Bang-Jensen: (202) 662-1684 ✓ Fax: (202) 662-1597 E-mail - coalition@cij.org

REMARKS:

Eric -
Would you please see that
Mr. Berger sees this as soon
as possible? Thanks very much.
Nina Bang-Jensen

Schulte? or us?

PRESIDENTIAL/NSA CORRESPONDENCE

IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED

Schulte → *Mike For your action*

ACTION OFFICER: *~~Schulte~~*

Rajan?

LOG NUMBER: 5651 ✓

DUE DATE: 21 AUG

DATE STAFFED: 10 AUG

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:



PRESIDENT



NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR

FROM: Bark-Jensen

PREPARE A RESPONSE FOR THE PRESIDENT'S OR NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR'S SIGNATURE WITHIN 10 DAYS. IF A LETTER DOES NOT REQUIRE A RESPONSE, PLEASE RETURN IT TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT (RM 379) WITH THIS FORM, ANNOTATED ACCORDINGLY.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice about Kosovo. As you point out, only a few weeks ago, prospects for Kosovars were bleak. Tens of thousands, driven from their homes by Serb forces, were facing the onset of winter without shelter and the basic necessities of life. I am heartened that our close cooperation with NATO allies and the unity of purpose we achieved has dramatically changed that situation for the better.

From the beginning, we have had three overriding objectives in Kosovo. First, to end the violence that threatens the fragile stability of the Balkans. Second, to prevent a humanitarian crisis from becoming a catastrophe. And third, to help the Kosovar people achieve a high degree of self-government.

We have made substantial progress toward each of these objectives. NATO determination backed up by the credible threat of force has led to a cease-fire that has held for five weeks. I am encouraged that substantial numbers of Serb security forces in Kosovo have withdrawn (more than 4,000 police departed the province on October 27). Now that the shooting has stopped and security checkpoints have been dismantled, about 40,000 displaced people have returned to their homes. About 10,000 remain in peril. While this is still too many, the conditions are being created for all of them to return to their homes. At present, 40 NGOs are operational in Kosovo, their movement and access is unimpeded, and more vital supplies are arriving every day to those in need.

Since the eruption of the conflict in February we have been aggressively pushing both sides towards a political settlement and we are pressing even harder now. The current draft agreement offers the Kosovars a high degree of autonomy, an indigenous police force, and complete control over education, health and other institutions that most affect their daily lives. We are working hard to convince armed insurgent groups in Kosovo that they, too, must cooperate to bring about a peaceful settlement.

There will be much work ahead to make this settlement last. We know that Milosevic ended his campaign of hatred only because he fears NATO. NATO has retained authority and has the forces to act if he backslides. In order to verify Belgrade's compliance, NATO has implemented an intrusive air surveillance regime. And we are rapidly building up a 2,000-person verification mission, with personnel and funds contributed by OSCE nations, headed by Bill Walker, an experienced American diplomat.

In support of the Kosovo Verification Mission, NATO is establishing a force in Macedonia that will be close at hand to extract verifiers in the event of hostilities. Its very presence will have a deterrent effect on aggressive Serb operations in Kosovo. We expect that the bulk of the personnel for the force will be supplied by our European allies. The United States will primarily provide administrative personnel and support for the force's headquarters.

Our longer-term aim, shared by our NATO allies, is a democratic FRY that aspires to European integration. In this regard, we continue to support political pluralism and free and independent media in the FRY. Further efforts in these areas are an important part of our broader strategy.

I do not underestimate the difficulties that lie ahead, but I believe we are on the right road. We have ended the cycle of violence, and I am hopeful that we are getting closer to a permanent political resolution of the conflict. As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. We are committed to ensuring that their courageous personnel on the ground are able to carry out their life-saving work without fear of personal harm. Again, thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with me on this issue. I appreciate your willingness to work with my Administration to provide vital aid to the long-suffering Kosovar people.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

There will be much work ahead to make this settlement last. We know that Milosevic ended his campaign of hatred only because he fears NATO. NATO has retained authority and has the forces to act if he backslides. In order to verify Belgrade's compliance, NATO has implemented an intrusive air surveillance regime. And we are rapidly building up a 2,000-person verification mission, with personnel and funds contributed by OSCE nations, headed by Bill Walker, an experienced American diplomat.

In support of the Kosovo Verification Mission, NATO is establishing a force in Macedonia that will be close at hand to extract verifiers in the event of hostilities. Its very presence will have a deterrent effect on aggressive Serb operations in Kosovo. We expect that the bulk of the personnel for the force will be supplied by our European allies. The United States will primarily provide administrative personnel and support for the force's headquarters.

Our longer-term aim, shared by our NATO allies, is a democratic FRY that aspires to European integration. In this regard, we continue to support political pluralism and free and independent media in the FRY. Further efforts in these areas are an important part of our broader strategy.

I do not underestimate the difficulties that lie ahead, but I believe we are on the right road. We have ended the cycle of violence, and I am hopeful that we are getting closer to a permanent political resolution of the conflict. As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. We are committed to ensuring that their courageous personnel on the ground are able to carry out their life-saving work without fear of personal harm. Again, thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with me on this ~~serious~~ issue. I appreciate your willingness to work with my Administration to provide vital aid to the long-suffering Kosovar people.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice about the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo. As you point out, the dimension of human suffering there has been enormous. I appreciate your description of the important work international relief agencies are doing to provide needed assistance. Just as you suggested, a key objective of the international community has been to create the conditions on the ground that allow humanitarian organizations to carry out their vital work without interference.

As you ~~point out~~ ^{correctly cited [but]} only a few weeks ago, prospects for Kosovars were bleak. Tens of thousands, driven from their homes by Serb forces, were facing the onset of winter without shelter and the basic necessities of life. I am heartened that our close cooperation with NATO allies and the unity of purpose we achieved has dramatically changed that situation for the better.

From the beginning, one of our principal objectives has been to prevent a humanitarian crisis from becoming a catastrophe. We have made substantial progress toward achieving that goal. NATO determination backed up by the credible threat of force has led to a cease-fire that has held since early October followed by a substantial reduction of Serb security forces in Kosovo. Now that the shooting has stopped and security checkpoints have been dismantled, more than 40,000 displaced people have returned to their homes.

With calmer conditions on the ground, a major international relief operation involving dozens of NGOs is well underway. Each day convoys are carrying essential supplies to Kosovars. By all accounts, since early October, relief agencies have had freedom of movement throughout the province and unfettered access to those in need. I am deeply concerned about any Serb security force interference with or threats to the safety of international aid workers. The establishment of an international verification mission with 2,000 personnel will

help ensure that aid workers are able to carry out their work without such interference; and the presence of a NATO force in Macedonia should deter aggressive Serb operations in Kosovo.

I do not underestimate the difficulties that lie ahead, but I believe we are on the right road. We have ended the cycle of violence, and I am hopeful that we are getting closer to a political resolution of the conflict.

As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. We are committed to ensuring that their courageous personnel on the ground are able to carry out their life-saving work without fear of personal harm. Again, thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with me on this serious issue. I appreciate your willingness to work with my Administration to provide vital aid to the long-suffering Kosovar people.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice about the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo. As you point out, the dimension of human suffering there has been enormous. I appreciate your description of the important work international relief agencies are doing to provide needed assistance. Just as you suggested, a key objective ~~of the international community has been to create the conditions on the ground that allow humanitarian organizations~~ ^{in our deliberations we do insure} ~~to~~ carry out their vital work without interference. ^{can}

As you correctly cited, prospects for Kosovars were bleak but a few weeks ago. Tens of thousands, driven from their homes by Serb forces, were facing the onset of winter without shelter and the basic necessities of life. I am heartened that our close cooperation with NATO allies and the unity of purpose we achieved has dramatically changed that situation for the better.

From the beginning, one of our principal objectives has been to prevent a humanitarian crisis from becoming a catastrophe. We have made substantial progress toward achieving that goal. NATO determination backed up by the credible threat of force has led to a cease-fire that has held since early October followed by a substantial reduction of Serb security forces in Kosovo. Now that the shooting has stopped and security checkpoints have been dismantled, more than 40,000 displaced people have returned to their homes.

With calmer conditions on the ground, a major international relief operation involving dozens of NGOs is well underway. Each day convoys are carrying essential supplies to Kosovars. By all accounts, (since early October) relief agencies have had freedom of movement throughout the province, ^{allowing them} ~~and~~ unfettered access to those in need. I am deeply concerned about any Serb security force interference with international aid workers, or

threats to their safety. The establishment of an international verification mission with ~~2,000 personnel~~ will help ensure that aid workers are able to carry out their work ~~without such~~ *unimpeded* ~~interference~~; and the presence of a NATO force in Macedonia should deter aggressive Serb operations in Kosovo.

headed in the right direction.
I do not underestimate the difficulties that lie ahead, but I believe we are ~~on the right road~~. We have ended the cycle of violence, and I am hopeful that we are getting closer to a political resolution of the conflict.

efforts As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. We are committed to ensuring that their courageous personnel on the ground are able to carry out their life-saving work without fear of personal harm. Again, thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with me on this serious issue. I appreciate your *unbring* ~~willingness to work with my Administration~~ to provide vital aid to the long-suffering ~~Kosovar~~ *people of Kosovo.*

Sincerely,

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice about the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo. ~~As you point out, the dimension of human suffering there has been enormous.~~ I appreciate your description of the important work international relief agencies are doing to provide needed assistance. Just as you suggested, a key objective in our deliberations was to ensure humanitarian organizations ~~can~~ carry out their vital work without interference.

~~As you correctly cited, prospects for Kosovars were bleak but a few weeks ago, Tens of thousands, driven from their homes by Serb forces, were facing the onset of winter without shelter and the basic necessities of life. I am heartened that our close cooperation with NATO allies and the unity of purpose we achieved has dramatically changed that situation for the better.~~ ^{of Kosovars} ^{Just} ¹⁰⁰
~~We people of Kosovo.~~

From the beginning, one of our principal objectives has been to prevent a humanitarian crisis from becoming a catastrophe. We have made substantial progress toward achieving that goal. NATO determination backed up by the credible threat of force has led to a cease-fire that has held since early October followed by a substantial reduction of Serb security forces in Kosovo. Now that the shooting has stopped and security checkpoints have been dismantled, more than 40,000 displaced people have returned to their homes.

With calmer conditions on the ground, a major international relief operation involving dozens of NGOs is well underway. Each day convoys are carrying essential supplies to Kosovars. By all accounts relief agencies have had freedom of movement throughout the province since early October allowing them unfettered access to those in need. I am deeply concerned about any Serb security force interference with international aid workers, or threats to their safety. The establishment of an ^{the} international verification mission will help ensure that aid

workers are able to carry out ~~their work~~ unimpeded; and the presence of a NATO force in Macedonia should deter aggressive Serb operations in Kosovo.

I do not underestimate the difficulties that lie ahead, but I believe we are headed in the right direction. We have ended the cycle of violence, and I am hopeful that we are getting closer to a political resolution of the conflict.

As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. ~~We are committed to ensuring that their courageous personnel on the ground are able to carry out their life-saving work without fear of personal harm.~~ Again, thank you for writing ~~and sharing your~~ ~~to concerns with~~ me on this serious issue. I appreciate your untiring efforts to provide vital aid to the long-suffering people of Kosovo.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

SUBJECT: Letter on Humanitarian Situation in Kosovo from
Nina Bang-Jensen and the Coalition for
International Justice

Purpose

Respond to a letter from ~~the Coalition for International Justice~~
~~expressing concern about the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.~~

Background

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen and the Coalition for International Justice, an organization representing relief agencies including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and Doctors Without Borders among many others, ~~writes~~ ^{who wrote} to express ~~deep~~ concern about the escalating humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

Your reply details the NATO pressure on Milosevic that has resulted in improved access and freedom of movement for humanitarian organizations and relief workers and increased deliveries of food and other necessities to Kosovar Albanians.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Ms. Bang-Jensen at Tab A.

Attachments

Tab A Letter to Ms. Bang-Jensen
Tab B Incoming correspondence

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice about the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo. I appreciate your description of the important work international relief agencies are doing to provide needed assistance. Just as you suggested, ~~a key objective in our deliberations was to ensure humanitarian organizations remain free to carry out their vital work, without interference.~~ *we've worked very hard*

Just a few weeks ago, tens of thousands of Kosovars were facing the onset of winter without shelter and the basic necessities of life. I am heartened that our close cooperation with NATO allies has ~~ensured~~ *worked closely* calmer conditions on the ground and facilitated international relief operations to the people of Kosovo.

From the beginning, one of our principal objectives has been to prevent a humanitarian crisis from becoming a catastrophe. *and I believe*
~~We have made substantial progress toward achieving that goal. NATO determination backed up by the credible threat of force has led to a cease-fire that has held since early October followed by a substantial reduction of Serb security forces in Kosovo. Now that the shooting has stopped and security checkpoints have been dismantled, more than 40,000 displaced people have returned to their homes.~~ *NATO*

I do not underestimate the difficulties that lie ahead, but I believe we are headed in the right direction. We have ended the cycle of violence, and I am hopeful that we are getting closer to a political ~~resolution of~~ *to* the conflict. As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a ~~key~~ role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo.

critical

Again, thank you for writing ~~to me~~ on this ^{very important} ~~serious~~ issue. I appreciate your untiring efforts to provide vital ~~aid~~ ¹ to the long-suffering people of Kosovo.

Sincerely,

humanitarian assistance

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

SUBJECT: Letter on Humanitarian Situation in Kosovo from
Nina Bang-Jensen and the Coalition for
International Justice

Purpose

Respond to a letter from the Coalition for International Justice expressing concern about the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

Background

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen and the Coalition for International Justice, an organization representing relief agencies, including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and Doctors Without Borders among many others, writes to express deep concern about the escalating humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

Your reply details the NATO pressure on Milosevic that has resulted in improved access and freedom of movement for humanitarian organizations and relief workers and increased deliveries of food and other necessities to Kosovar Albanians.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Ms. Bang-Jensen at Tab A.

Attachments

Tab A Letter to Ms. Bang-Jensen

Tab B Incoming correspondence

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice concerning the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

NATO's willingness to use force in Kosovo compelled Milosevic to agree to the demands of the international community. In particular, Milosevic agreed to comply fully with U.N. Security Council Resolution 1199. The resolution requires that he maintain a cease-fire; withdraw recently deployed military and special forces from Kosovo and return the rest to garrison; provide freedom of access and movement to relief workers to aid those in need; and accept a specific timetable for completing negotiations with Kosovar Albanians on their political future.

To ensure compliance, the international community will deploy a 2,000-person verification mission to Kosovo. A strong NATO air surveillance regime, that has already begun to operate, will allow us to confirm the withdrawal of Serb forces.

To date we have confirmed some compliance, although not full compliance, in several key areas. First, the cease-fire has largely been maintained for almost three weeks, although some skirmishing between Serb security forces and the UCK continues. Second, humanitarian agencies have returned to Kosovo and have enjoyed free movement. Third, Serb police presence is less obtrusive. But Milosevic has yet to comply fully with the requirement to withdraw military forces deployed to Kosovo at the start of the crisis

NATO will remain ready to act to ensure Milosevic's compliance; its activation order to use force is in effect but on hold until October 27. If Milosevic fails to make substantial progress by that date, NATO will be positioned to begin airstrikes to compel compliance and hurt his capability to further damage the Kosovars.

As your letter compellingly states, a humanitarian crisis exists in Kosovo. Since the cease-fire, conditions have begun to show improvement. We estimate that thousands of Kosovars have returned to their homes. But approximately 35,000 are still living in the open. NATO allies working with international humanitarian organizations are helping refugees return and convoys delivering vital supplies are increasing. The presence of the verifiers will help ensure the personal safety of relief workers. There is more to do, but there is reason for optimism that many thousands of lives will be saved.

Our desired end-state in Kosovo is clear. Our immediate objective is to achieve full compliance with UN Security Council resolution 1199. Our mid-term objective is to secure a political settlement that grants a high degree of autonomy to the Kosovars, while keeping Kosovo within the FRY. In particular, the agreement should ensure that the Kosovars have their own local governing institutions and police. Our longer term objective is a FRY that is democratic and on the path to European integration.

The United Nations, the Contact Group, NATO and my Administration all agree that Milosevic bears primary responsibility for the current situation. Not only has he displaced a quarter million of his own citizens, but he has also suppressed the human rights of all citizens of the FRY and forced them to bear the burden of the current conflict, of UN economic sanctions and of isolation from the rest of Europe.

I want to assure you that we are determined to end the tragedy Milosevic has inflicted on the Kosovar people. As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. We are committed to ensuring that these organizations have freedom of movement and that their courageous personnel on the ground in Kosovo are able to carry out their lifesaving work without fear of personal harm. I appreciate your willingness to work with my Administration to provide vital aid to the long-suffering Kosovar people.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

SUBJECT: Letter on Humanitarian Situation in Kosovo from
Nina Bang-Jensen and the Coalition for
International Justice

Purpose

Respond to ^a letter from the Coalition for International Justice
expressing concern about the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo. ✓

Background

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen and the Coalition for International Justice, an organization representing relief agencies including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and Doctors Without Borders among many others, write to express deep concern about the escalating humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

Your reply details the NATO pressure on Milosevic that has resulted in improved access and freedom of movement for humanitarian organizations and relief workers and increased deliveries of food and other necessities to Kosovar Albanians.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Ms. Bang-Jensen at Tab A.

Attachments

Tab A Letter to Ms. Bang-Jensen

Tab B Incoming correspondence

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice concerning the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

NATO's willingness to use force in Kosovo compelled Milosevic to agree to the demands of the international community. In particular, Milosevic agreed to comply fully with U.N. Security Council Resolution 1199. The resolution requires that he maintain a cease-fire; withdraw recently deployed military and special forces from Kosovo and return the rest to garrison; provide freedom of access and movement to relief workers to aid those in need; and accept a specific timetable for completing negotiations with Kosovar Albanians on their political future.

To ensure compliance, the international community will a
2,000-person verification mission to Kosovo. A stron r
surveillance regime, which has already begun to opera
allow us to confirm the withdrawal of Serb forces.

To date we have confirmed some compliance, although n
compliance, in several key areas. First, the cease-f
largely been maintained for almost three weeks, altho
skirmishing between Serb security forces and the UCK (.
Second, humanitarian agencies have returned to Kosovo and have
enjoyed free movement. Third, Serb police presence is less
obtrusive. But Milosevic has yet to comply fully with the
requirement to withdraw military forces deployed to Kosovo at
the start of the crisis

NATO will remain ready to act to ensure Milosevic's compliance;
its activation order to use force is in effect but on hold until
October 27. If Milosevic fails to make substantial progress by
that date, NATO will be positioned to begin airstrikes to compel
compliance and hurt his capability to further damage the
Kosovars.

As your letter compellingly states, a humanitarian crisis exists in Kosovo. Since the cease-fire, conditions have begun to show improvement. We estimate that thousands of Kosovars have returned to their homes. But approximately 35,000 are still living in the open. NATO allies working with international humanitarian organizations are helping refugees return and convoys delivering vital supplies are increasing. The presence of the verifiers will help ensure the personal safety of workers. There is more to do but there is reason for optimism, *but here* that many thousands of lives will be saved.

Our desired end-state in Kosovo is clear. Our immediate objective is to achieve full compliance with UN Security resolution 1199. Our mid-term objective is to secure a political settlement that grants a high degree of autonomy to the Kosovars, while keeping Kosovo within the FRY. In particular, the agreement should ensure that the Kosovars have their own local governing institutions and police. Our long-term objective is a FRY that is democratic and on the path to European integration.

The United Nations, the Contact Group, NATO and my Administration all agree that Milosevic bears primary responsibility for the current situation. Not only has he displaced a quarter million of his own citizens, but he has suppressed the human rights of all citizens of the FRY and forced them to bear the burden of the current conflict, of economic sanctions and of isolation from the rest of Europe.

I want to assure you that we are determined to end the tragedy Milosevic has inflicted on the Kosovar people. As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. We are committed to ensuring that these organizations have freedom of movement and that their courageous personnel on the ground in Kosovo are able to carry out their life-saving work without fear of personal harm. I appreciate your willingness to work with my Administration to provide vital aid to the long-suffering Kosovar people.

Sincerely,

*one word
lifesaving*

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice concerning the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo. Only a few weeks ago tens of thousands of Kosovars, driven from their homes by Serb forces, were facing the onset of winter without shelter and the basic necessities of life. As a result of U.S. leadership and the involvement of the international community, the situation has changed dramatically and a humanitarian catastrophe has been averted.

NATO determination backed up by the credible threat of the use of force has compelled Milosevic to implement a cease-fire, withdraw substantial numbers of security forces from Kosovo (more than 4,000 police left Kosovo on October 27), allow relief agencies unimpeded access to resupply Kosovars, and agree to hold meaningful talks with Kosovars on a political settlement.

The cease-fire has held for thirty days. Now that the shooting has stopped and Serb security checkpoints have been dismantled, about 40,000 displaced people already have returned to their homes. About 10,000 remain in peril. The conditions are being created for all of them to return to their homes. At present, 40 NGOs are operational in Kosovo and more vital supplies are arriving every day.

But we are not going to accept Milosevic's word; his agreement is not compliance. We have made clear to him that we will look to his deeds, not his words. NATO has retained authority and has the forces ^{to} act if he backslides. In order to verify Belgrade's compliance, NATO has implemented an intrusive air surveillance regime. Moreover, we are rapidly building up a 2,000-person verification mission, with personnel and funds contributed by OSCE nations, headed by Bill Walker, an experienced American diplomat.

In support of the Kosovo Verification Mission, NATO is rapidly moving to establish a force in Macedonia that will be close at hand to extract verifiers in the event of hostilities. Its very presence will have a deterrent effect on aggressive Serb operations in Kosovo. We expect that the bulk of the personnel

spell out
 for the force will be supplied by our European allies, with the
 US primarily providing headquarters administrative ~~personnel~~ and
 support. *staff*

Since the eruption of the conflict in February we have been aggressively pushing both sides towards a political settlement. We are pressing even harder now. The current draft agreement offers the Kosovars a high degree of autonomy, an indigenous police force, and complete control over education, health and other institutions that most affect their daily lives. We have made it clear to armed insurgent groups in Kosovo that they must also cooperate to bring about a peaceful settlement.

The international community's longer-term objective is a FRY that is democratic and on the path to European integration. In this regard, we continue to support political pluralism and free and independent media in the FRY. Further efforts in these areas are an important part of our broader strategy.

I want to assure you that we are determined to end the tragedy Milosevic has inflicted on the Kosovar people. As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. We are committed to ensuring that their courageous personnel on the ground in Kosovo are able to carry out their lifesaving work without fear of personal harm. I appreciate your willingness to work with my Administration to provide vital aid to the long-suffering Kosovar people.

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
 Coalition for International
 740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
 Washington, D.C. 20005-10

*again, Thank you for writing
~~to me on this important~~
 and sharing your concerns
 with me on this serious
 crisis. I appreciate* — — —

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
DISTRIBUTION RECEIPT

LOG 9805651
DATE 12 NOV 98

SUBJECT: LTR ON HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN KOSOVO FM NINA BANG-JENSEN &
DOCUMENT CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION:

DATE

TIME

SIGNATURE

WH STRIPPING DESK

PRINT LAST NAME: _____

COPY: 1

DATE, TIME, SIGN THE RECEIPT AND RETURN TO: NSC RECORDS MGNT, ROOM 379 OEOB

PAGE 01 OF 01 PAGES

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ID 9805651

REFERRAL

DATE: 13 NOV 98

MEMORANDUM FOR: WH STRIPPING DESK

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: TO: BANG-JENSEN, NINA

SOURCE: PRESIDENT

DATE: 12 NOV 98

SUBJ: LTR ON HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN KOSOVO FM NINA BANG-JENSEN &
COALITION FOR INTL JUSTICE

REQUIRED ACTION: FOR DISPATCH

DUE DATE: 14 NOV 98

COMMENT:

FOR



JOHN W. FICKLIN

NSC RECORDS MANAGEMENT OFFICE

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice about Kosovo. As you point out, only a few weeks ago, prospects for Kosovars were bleak. Tens of thousands, driven from their homes by Serb forces, were facing the onset of winter without shelter and the basic necessities of life. I am heartened that our close cooperation with NATO allies and the unity of purpose we achieved has dramatically changed that situation for the better.

From the beginning, we have had three overriding objectives in Kosovo. First, to end the violence that threatens the fragile stability of the Balkans. Second, to prevent a humanitarian crisis from becoming a catastrophe. And third, to help the Kosovar people achieve a high degree of self-government.

We have made substantial progress toward each of these objectives. NATO determination backed up by the credible threat of force has led to a cease-fire that has held for five weeks. I am encouraged that substantial numbers of Serb security forces in Kosovo have withdrawn (more than 4,000 police departed the province on October 27). Now that the shooting has stopped and security checkpoints have been dismantled, about 40,000 displaced people have returned to their homes. About 10,000 remain in peril. While this is still too many, the conditions are being created for all of them to return to their homes. At present, 40 NGOs are operational in Kosovo, their movement and access is unimpeded, and more vital supplies are arriving every day to those in need.

Since the eruption of the conflict in February we have been aggressively pushing both sides towards a political settlement and we are pressing even harder now. The current draft agreement offers the Kosovars a high degree of autonomy, an indigenous police force, and complete control over education, health and other institutions that most affect their daily lives. We are working hard to convince armed insurgent groups in Kosovo that they, too, must cooperate to bring about a peaceful settlement.

There will be much work ahead to make this settlement last. We know that Milosevic ended his campaign of hatred only because he fears NATO. NATO has retained authority and has the forces to act if he backslides. In order to verify Belgrade's compliance, NATO has implemented an intrusive air surveillance regime. And we are rapidly building up a 2,000-person verification mission, with personnel and funds contributed by OSCE nations, headed by Bill Walker, an experienced American diplomat.

In support of the Kosovo Verification Mission, NATO is establishing a force in Macedonia that will be close at hand to extract verifiers in the event of hostilities. Its very presence will have a deterrent effect on aggressive Serb operations in Kosovo. We expect that the bulk of the personnel for the force will be supplied by our European allies. The United States will primarily provide administrative personnel and support for the force's headquarters.

Our longer-term aim, shared by our NATO allies, is a democratic FRY that aspires to European integration. In this regard, we continue to support political pluralism and free and independent media in the FRY. Further efforts in these areas are an important part of our broader strategy.

I do not underestimate the difficulties that lie ahead, but I believe we are on the right road. We have ended the cycle of violence, and I am hopeful that we are getting closer to a permanent political resolution of the conflict. As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. We are committed to ensuring that their courageous personnel on the ground are able to carry out their life-saving work without fear of personal harm. Again, thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with me on this issue. I appreciate your willingness to work with my Administration to provide vital aid to the long-suffering Kosovar people.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

There will be much work ahead to make this settlement last. We know that Milosevic ended his campaign of hatred only because he fears NATO. NATO has retained authority and has the forces to act if he backslides. In order to verify Belgrade's compliance, NATO has implemented an intrusive air surveillance regime. And we are rapidly building up a 2,000-person verification mission, with personnel and funds contributed by OSCE nations, headed by Bill Walker, an experienced American diplomat.

In support of the Kosovo Verification Mission, NATO is establishing a force in Macedonia that will be close at hand to extract verifiers in the event of hostilities. Its very presence will have a deterrent effect on aggressive Serb operations in Kosovo. We expect that the bulk of the personnel for the force will be supplied by our European allies. The United States will primarily provide administrative personnel and support for the force's headquarters.

Our longer-term aim, shared by our NATO allies, is a democratic FRY that aspires to European integration. In this regard, we continue to support political pluralism and free and independent media in the FRY. Further efforts in these areas are an important part of our broader strategy.

I do not underestimate the difficulties that lie ahead, but I believe we are on the right road. We have ended the cycle of violence, and I am hopeful that we are getting closer to a permanent political resolution of the conflict. As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. We are committed to ensuring that their courageous personnel on the ground are able to carry out their life-saving work without fear of personal harm. Again, thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with me on this ~~serious~~ issue. I appreciate your willingness to work with my Administration to provide vital aid to the long-suffering Kosovar people.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice about the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo. As you point out, the dimension of human suffering there has been enormous. I appreciate your description of the important work international relief agencies are doing to provide needed assistance. Just as you suggested, a key objective of the international community has been to create the conditions on the ground that allow humanitarian organizations to carry out their vital work without interference.

As you ^{correctly cited [but} ~~point out, only~~ a few weeks ago, prospects for Kosovars were bleak. Tens of thousands, driven from their homes by Serb forces, were facing the onset of winter without shelter and the basic necessities of life. I am heartened that our close cooperation with NATO allies and the unity of purpose we achieved has dramatically changed that situation for the better.

From the beginning, one of our principal objectives has been to prevent a humanitarian crisis from becoming a catastrophe. We have made substantial progress toward achieving that goal. NATO determination backed up by the credible threat of force has led to a cease-fire that has held since early October followed by a substantial reduction of Serb security forces in Kosovo. Now that the shooting has stopped and security checkpoints have been dismantled, more than 40,000 displaced people have returned to their homes.

With calmer conditions on the ground, a major international relief operation involving dozens of NGOs is well underway. Each day convoys are carrying essential supplies to Kosovars. By all accounts, since early October, relief agencies have had freedom of movement throughout the province and unfettered access to those in need. I am deeply concerned about any Serb security force interference with or threats to the safety of international aid workers. The establishment of an international verification mission with 2,000 personnel will

help ensure that aid workers are able to carry out their work without such interference; and the presence of a NATO force in Macedonia should deter aggressive Serb operations in Kosovo.

I do not underestimate the difficulties that lie ahead, but I believe we are on the right road. We have ended the cycle of violence, and I am hopeful that we are getting closer to a political resolution of the conflict.

As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. We are committed to ensuring that their courageous personnel on the ground are able to carry out their life-saving work without fear of personal harm. Again, thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with me on this serious issue. I appreciate your willingness to work with my Administration to provide vital aid to the long-suffering Kosovar people.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice about the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo. As you point out, the dimension of human suffering there has been enormous. I appreciate your description of the important work international relief agencies are doing to provide needed assistance. Just as you suggested, a key objective of ~~the international community~~ ^{in our deliberations was to insure} has been to create the ~~conditions on the ground that allow~~ humanitarian organizations ^{can} ~~to~~ carry out their vital work without interference.

As you correctly cited, prospects for Kosovars were bleak but a few weeks ago. Tens of thousands, driven from their homes by Serb forces, were facing the onset of winter without shelter and the basic necessities of life. I am heartened that our close cooperation with NATO allies and the unity of purpose we achieved has dramatically changed that situation for the better.

From the beginning, one of our principal objectives has been to prevent a humanitarian crisis from becoming a catastrophe. We have made substantial progress toward achieving that goal. NATO determination backed up by the credible threat of force has led to a cease-fire that has held since early October followed by a substantial reduction of Serb security forces in Kosovo. Now that the shooting has stopped and security checkpoints have been dismantled, more than 40,000 displaced people have returned to their homes.

With calmer conditions on the ground, a major international relief operation involving dozens of NGOs is well underway. Each day convoys are carrying essential supplies to Kosovars. By all accounts, ~~(since early October)~~ ^{allowing them} relief agencies have had freedom of movement throughout the province, ~~and~~ unfettered access to those in need. I am deeply concerned about any Serb security force interference with international aid workers, or

threats to their safety. The establishment of an international verification mission ~~with 2,000 personnel~~ will help ensure that aid workers are able to carry out their work ~~without such~~ *unimpeded* interference; and the presence of a NATO force in Macedonia should deter aggressive Serb operations in Kosovo.

headed in the right direction
I do not underestimate the difficulties that lie ahead, but I believe we are ~~on the right road~~. We have ended the cycle of violence, and I am hopeful that we are getting closer to a political resolution of the conflict.

efforts As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. We are committed to ensuring that their courageous personnel on the ground are able to carry out their life-saving work without fear of personal harm. Again, thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with me on this serious issue. I appreciate your *unfiring* ~~willingness to work with my Administration~~ to provide vital aid to the long-suffering ~~Kosovar~~ *people of Kosovo*.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

has ensured
calmer conditions on the
ground and facilitated
international relief operations
to the people of Kosovo.

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice about the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo. ~~As you point out, the dimension of human suffering there has been enormous.~~ I appreciate your description of the important work international relief agencies are doing to provide needed assistance. Just as you suggested, a key objective in our deliberations was to ensure humanitarian organizations ~~can~~ carry out their vital work without interference.

~~As you correctly cited, prospects for Kosovars were bleak but a few weeks ago, Tens of thousands, driven from their homes by Serb forces, were facing the onset of winter without shelter and the basic necessities of life. I am heartened that our close cooperation with NATO allies and the unity of purpose we achieved has dramatically changed that situation for the better.~~ ^{of Kosovars} ^{Just} ~~the people of Kosovo.~~

From the beginning, one of our principal objectives has been to prevent a humanitarian crisis from becoming a catastrophe. We have made substantial progress toward achieving that goal. NATO determination backed up by the credible threat of force has led to a cease-fire that has held since early October followed by a substantial reduction of Serb security forces in Kosovo. Now that the shooting has stopped and security checkpoints have been dismantled, more than 40,000 displaced people have returned to their homes.

With calmer conditions on the ground, ~~a major international relief operation involving dozens of NGOs is well underway.~~ Each day convoys are carrying essential supplies to Kosovars. ~~By all accounts relief agencies have had freedom of movement throughout the province since early October allowing them unfettered access to those in need.~~ I am deeply concerned about any Serb security force interference with international aid workers, or threats to their safety. ~~The establishment of an~~ ^{the} international verification mission will help ensure that aid

workers are able to carry out their work unimpeded; and the presence of a NATO force in Macedonia should deter aggressive Serb operations in Kosovo.

I do not underestimate the difficulties that lie ahead, but I believe we are headed in the right direction. We have ended the cycle of violence, and I am hopeful that we are getting closer to a political resolution of the conflict.

As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. ~~We are committed to ensuring that their courageous personnel on the ground are able to carry out their life-saving work without fear of personal harm.~~ Again, thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with me on this serious issue. I appreciate your untiring efforts to provide vital aid to the long-suffering people of Kosovo.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

SUBJECT: Letter on Humanitarian Situation in Kosovo from
Nina Bang-Jensen and the Coalition for
International Justice

Purpose

Respond to a letter from ~~the Coalition for International Justice~~
~~expressing concern about the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.~~

Background

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen and the Coalition for International
Justice, an organization representing relief agencies including
Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and Doctors Without
Borders among many others, ~~writes to express deep concern~~
the escalating humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

Your reply details the NATO pressure on Milosevic that has
resulted in improved access and freedom of movement for
humanitarian organizations and relief workers and increased
deliveries of food and other necessities to Kosovar Albanians.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Ms. Bang-Jensen at Tab A.

Attachments

Tab A Letter to Ms. Bang-Jensen
Tab B Incoming correspondence

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice about the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo. I appreciate your description of the important work international relief agencies are doing to provide needed assistance. Just as you suggested, ~~a key objective in our deliberations was to ensure humanitarian organizations remain free to carry out their vital work without interference.~~ *we've worked very hard*

Just a few weeks ago, tens of thousands of Kosovars were facing the onset of winter without shelter and the basic necessities of life. I am heartened that our close cooperation with NATO allies has ~~ensured~~ *been a success* calmer conditions on the ground and facilitated international relief operations to the people of Kosovo.

From the beginning, one of our principal objectives has been to prevent a humanitarian crisis from becoming a catastrophe. *I believe* ~~We have made substantial progress toward achieving that goal. NATO determination backed up by the credible threat of force has led to a cease-fire that has held since early October followed by a substantial reduction of Serb security forces in Kosovo. Now that the shooting has stopped and security checkpoints have been dismantled, more than 40,000 displaced people have returned to their homes.~~ *and*

I do not underestimate the difficulties that lie ahead, but I believe we are headed in the right direction. We have ended the cycle of violence, and I am hopeful that we are getting closer to a political ~~resolution of~~ *to* the conflict. As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a ~~key~~ *crucial* role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo.

Again, thank you for writing ~~to me~~ on this ^{very important} serious issue. I appreciate your untiring efforts to provide vital ~~aid~~ ¹ to the long-suffering people of Kosovo.

Sincerely,

hera *amr*

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

SUBJECT: Letter on Humanitarian Situation in Kosovo from
Nina Bang-Jensen and the Coalition for
International Justice

Purpose

Respond to a letter from the Coalition for International Justice expressing concern about the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

Background

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen and the Coalition for International Justice, an organization representing relief agencies including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and Doctors Without Borders among many others, writes to express deep concern about the escalating humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

Your reply details the NATO pressure on Milosevic that has resulted in improved access and freedom of movement for humanitarian organizations and relief workers and increased deliveries of food and other necessities to Kosovar Albanians.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Ms. Bang-Jensen at Tab A.

Attachments

Tab A Letter to Ms. Bang-Jensen
Tab B Incoming correspondence

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice concerning the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

NATO's willingness to use force in Kosovo compelled Milosevic to agree to the demands of the international community. In particular, Milosevic agreed to comply fully with U.N. Security Council Resolution 1199. The resolution requires that he maintain a cease-fire; withdraw recently deployed military and special forces from Kosovo and return the rest to garrison; provide freedom of access and movement to relief workers to aid those in need; and accept a specific timetable for completing negotiations with Kosovar Albanians on their political future.

To ensure compliance, the international community will deploy a 2,000-person verification mission to Kosovo. A strong NATO air surveillance regime, that has already begun to operate, will allow us to confirm the withdrawal of Serb forces.

To date we have confirmed some compliance, although not full compliance, in several key areas. First, the cease-fire has largely been maintained for almost three weeks, although some skirmishing between Serb security forces and the UCK continues. Second, humanitarian agencies have returned to Kosovo and have enjoyed free movement. Third, Serb police presence is less obtrusive. But Milosevic has yet to comply fully with the requirement to withdraw military forces deployed to Kosovo at the start of the crisis

NATO will remain ready to act to ensure Milosevic's compliance; its activation order to use force is in effect but on hold until October 27. If Milosevic fails to make substantial progress by that date, NATO will be positioned to begin airstrikes to compel compliance and hurt his capability to further damage the Kosovars.

As your letter compellingly states, a humanitarian crisis exists in Kosovo. Since the cease-fire, conditions have begun to show improvement. We estimate that thousands of Kosovars have returned to their homes. But approximately 35,000 are still living in the open. NATO allies working with international humanitarian organizations are helping refugees return and convoys delivering vital supplies are increasing. The presence of the verifiers will help ensure the personal safety of relief workers. There is more to do, but there is reason for optimism that many thousands of lives will be saved.

Our desired end-state in Kosovo is clear. Our immediate objective is to achieve full compliance with UN Security Council resolution 1199. Our mid-term objective is to secure a political settlement that grants a high degree of autonomy to the Kosovars, while keeping Kosovo within the FRY. In particular, the agreement should ensure that the Kosovars have their own local governing institutions and police. Our longer term objective is a FRY that is democratic and on the path to European integration.

The United Nations, the Contact Group, NATO and my Administration all agree that Milosevic bears primary responsibility for the current situation. Not only has he displaced a quarter million of his own citizens, but he has also suppressed the human rights of all citizens of the FRY and forced them to bear the burden of the current conflict, of UN economic sanctions and of isolation from the rest of Europe.

I want to assure you that we are determined to end the tragedy Milosevic has inflicted on the Kosovar people. As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. We are committed to ensuring that these organizations have freedom of movement and that their courageous personnel on the ground in Kosovo are able to carry out their lifesaving work without fear of personal harm. I appreciate your willingness to work with my Administration to provide vital aid to the long-suffering Kosovar people.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

SUBJECT: Letter on Humanitarian Situation in Kosovo from
Nina Bang-Jensen and the Coalition for
International Justice

Purpose

Respond to ^a letter from the Coalition for International Justice
expressing concern about the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo. ✓

Background

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen and the Coalition for International Justice, an organization representing relief agencies including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and Doctors Without Borders among many others, write to express deep concern about the escalating humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

Your reply details the NATO pressure on Milosevic that has resulted in improved access and freedom of movement for humanitarian organizations and relief workers and increased deliveries of food and other necessities to Kosovar Albanians.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Ms. Bang-Jensen at Tab A.

Attachments

Tab A Letter to Ms. Bang-Jensen

Tab B Incoming correspondence

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

that has
already

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice concerning the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo.

NATO's willingness to use force in Kosovo compelled Milosevic to agree to the demands of the international community. In particular, Milosevic agreed to comply fully with U.N. Security Council Resolution 1199. The resolution requires that he maintain a cease-fire; withdraw recently deployed military and special forces from Kosovo and return the rest to garrison; provide freedom of access and movement to relief workers to aid those in need; and accept a specific timetable for completing negotiations with Kosovar Albanians on their political future.

To ensure compliance, the international community will deploy a 2,000-person verification mission to Kosovo. A strong NATO air surveillance regime, which has already begun to operate, will allow us to confirm the withdrawal of Serb forces.

To date we have confirmed some compliance, although not full compliance, in several key areas. First, the cease-fire has largely been maintained for almost three weeks, although some skirmishing between Serb security forces and the UCK continues. Second, humanitarian agencies have returned to Kosovo and have enjoyed free movement. Third, Serb police presence is less obtrusive. But Milosevic has yet to comply fully with the requirement to withdraw military forces deployed to Kosovo at the start of the crisis.

NATO will remain ready to act to ensure Milosevic's compliance; its activation order to use force is in effect but on hold until October 27. If Milosevic fails to make substantial progress by that date, NATO will be positioned to begin airstrikes to compel compliance and hurt his capability to further damage the Kosovars.

, but here

longer (not) longer

one word
lifesaving

As your letter compellingly states, a humanitarian crisis exists in Kosovo. Since the cease-fire, conditions have begun to show improvement. We estimate that thousands of Kosovars have returned to their homes. But approximately 35,000 are still living in the open. NATO allies working with international humanitarian organizations are helping refugees return and convoys delivering vital supplies are increasing. The presence of the verifiers will help ensure the personal safety of relief workers. There is more to do but there is reason for optimism that many thousands of lives will be saved.

Our desired end-state in Kosovo is clear. Our immediate objective is to achieve full compliance with UN Security Council resolution 1199. Our mid-term objective is to secure a political settlement that grants a high degree of autonomy to the Kosovars, while keeping Kosovo within the FRY. In particular, the agreement should ensure that the Kosovars have their own local governing institutions and police. Our longer-term objective is a FRY that is democratic and on the path to European integration.

The United Nations, the Contact Group, NATO and my Administration all agree that Milosevic bears primary responsibility for the current situation. Not only has he displaced a quarter million of his own citizens, but he has also suppressed the human rights of all citizens of the FRY and forced them to bear the burden of the current conflict, of UN economic sanctions and of isolation from the rest of Europe.

I want to assure you that we are determined to end the tragedy Milosevic has inflicted on the Kosovar people. As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. We are committed to ensuring that these organizations have freedom of movement and that their courageous personnel on the ground in Kosovo are able to carry out their life-saving work without fear of personal harm. I appreciate your willingness to work with my Administration to provide vital aid to the long-suffering Kosovar people.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Bang-Jensen:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Coalition for International Justice concerning the humanitarian crisis in Kosovo. Only a few weeks ago tens of thousands of Kosovars, driven from their homes by Serb forces, were facing the onset of winter without shelter and the basic necessities of life. As a result of U.S. leadership and the involvement of the international community, the situation has changed dramatically and a humanitarian catastrophe has been averted.

NATO determination backed up by the credible threat of the use of force has compelled Milosevic to implement a cease-fire, withdraw substantial numbers of security forces from Kosovo (more than 4,000 police left Kosovo on October 27), allow relief agencies unimpeded access to resupply Kosovars, and agree to hold meaningful talks with Kosovars on a political settlement.

The cease-fire has held for thirty days. Now that the shooting has stopped and Serb security checkpoints have been dismantled, about 40,000 displaced people already have returned to their homes. About 10,000 remain in peril. The conditions are being created for all of them to return to their homes. At present, 40 NGOs are operational in Kosovo and more vital supplies are arriving every day.

But we are not going to accept Milosevic's word; his agreement is not compliance. We have made clear to him that we will look to his deeds, not his words. NATO has retained authority and has the forces to act if he backslides. In order to verify Belgrade's compliance, NATO has implemented an intrusive air surveillance regime. Moreover, we are rapidly building up a 2,000-person verification mission, with personnel and funds contributed by OSCE nations, headed by Bill Walker, an experienced American diplomat. ✓

In support of the Kosovo Verification Mission, NATO is rapidly moving to establish a force in Macedonia that will be close at hand to extract verifiers in the event of hostilities. Its very presence will have a deterrent effect on aggressive Serb operations in Kosovo. We expect that the bulk of the personnel

again, Thank you for writing
~~to me on this important~~
and sharing your concerns
with me on this serious
crisis. I appreciate ———

— — —

spell out
for the force will be supplied by our European allies, with the US primarily providing headquarters administrative ~~personnel~~ *staff* and support.

Since the eruption of the conflict in February we have been aggressively pushing both sides towards a political settlement. We are pressing even harder now. The current draft agreement offers the Kosovars a high degree of autonomy, an indigenous police force, and complete control over education, health and other institutions that most affect their daily lives. We have made it clear to armed insurgent groups in Kosovo that they must also cooperate to bring about a peaceful settlement.

The international community's longer-term objective is a FRY that is democratic and on the path to European integration. In this regard, we continue to support political pluralism and free and independent media in the FRY. Further efforts in these areas are an important part of our broader strategy.

I want to assure you that we are determined to end the tragedy Milosevic has inflicted on the Kosovar people. As we move forward, the multitude of humanitarian organizations in the Coalition for International Justice will continue to play a key role in alleviating the pain and suffering in Kosovo. We are committed to ensuring that their courageous personnel on the ground in Kosovo are able to carry out their lifesaving work without fear of personal harm. I appreciate your willingness to work with my Administration to provide vital aid to the long-suffering Kosovar people.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nina Bang-Jensen
Coalition for International Justice
740 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-1009