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NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9805730
RECEIVED: 12 AUG 98 17

TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: SMITH, CHRISTOPHER H
AMATO, ALFONSE M

DOC DATE: 04 AUG 98
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: KOSOVO
HUMAN RIGHTS

ALBANIA
CO

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: CONFLICT IN KOSOVO

ACTION: SEE 9805208 FOR FINAL ACTION

DUE DATE: 24 AUG 98 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: DOWLING

LOGREF: 9804704 9805208

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

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

COMMENTS: _____

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DOC 1 OF 1

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ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9805730

DOC ACTION OFFICER

001 DOWLING
001

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

Z 98081217 PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER
X 98082009 SEE 9805208 FOR FINAL ACTION

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

FOR ACTION
DOWLING

FOR CONCURRENCE
COVEY
FLANAGAN
RUDMAN

FOR INFO
NAPLAN
SCHWARTZ

Answered in 5208

COMMENTS: IF FINAL REPLY CANNOT BE PREPARED BY DUE DATE, AN INTERIM RESPONSE
MUST BE PREPARED FOR MARA RUDMAN'S SIGNATURE.

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OPENED BY: NSSWD

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DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED

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5730

**COMMISSION ON
SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE**

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August 4, 1998

AUG 7 1998

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We urge you to take immediate and decisive action to stop the conflict in Kosovo before the ethnic cleansers win.

Yugoslav/Serbian forces using tanks and other heavy weapons are attacking Albanian-inhabited towns and villages in several regions of Kosovo. Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic is engaged in a major escalation of the conflict, despite his personal assurances to the contrary to U.S. officials just last week. The dead numbers at least in the hundreds, though the actual number may be much higher. The displaced population has climbed rapidly to 200,000, and humanitarian organizations face mounting difficulties obtaining access to them as winter approaches, threatening the largest humanitarian catastrophe to date in the Balkan wars.

We believe that strong action to stop the fighting is urgently needed. We need a forceful response to these Yugoslav/Serbian attacks, or a new crisis in the Balkans will result. This crisis cannot be avoided by additional aid, but only by stopping its cause, Milosevic's use of armed force to pursue his political ambitions. Moreover, we know Milosevic's record not only in Bosnia-Herzegovina from 1992 to 1995 but now in Kosovo as well. Milosevic will only cooperate with our diplomatic efforts when he can no longer freely use force to attain his goals.

Therefore, Mr. President, we urge you to seek an agreement within NATO to act directly against those within Kosovo who are attacking civilian populations. We understand that the Alliance is planning for action in Kosovo. Furthermore, unless attacks against innocent civilians are halted, the continued slaughtering and displacement of innocent people will preclude a viable negotiated agreement on Kosovo's future. The Serbian ethnic cleansers will have prevailed.

The Honorable William J. Clinton
August 4, 1998
Page 2

Dozens of Senators and Members of Congress have already written to you urging a variety of responses to Kosovo. We support these efforts. An active and direct response, however, is what is needed most right now. It is strongly in our interest to prevent this conflict from escalating further rather than to wait until massive atrocities, or the flow of fighting and refugees across international borders brings other parties into the conflict, and compel our involvement under even more difficult conditions. As with Bosnia-Herzegovina, delay will prove costly and reduce the chance for success.

Mr. President, the Balkan wars have presented the greatest challenge to internationally protected human rights in Europe since the end of World War II. If the ethnic cleansers win, even while the spotlight of international attention is turned on them, hope for a peaceful future for all of mankind where each individual's rights are respected under the rule of law will be diminished for the foreseeable future. The promise of Nuremburg will have been repudiated by Milosevic's successful aggression. The time for action is now.

Sincerely,



Christopher H. Smith, M.C.
Co-Chairman



Alfonse D'Amato, U.S.S.
Chairman

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 12, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR GLYN DAVIES
NSC Executive Secretariat

FROM: JANET MURGUIA
Legislative Affairs

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Attached are copies of letters sent to the President by various Members of Congress. Since these letters address national security issues, we would appreciate your assistance in drafting the responses.

Thank you very much for your assistance. If you have any questions, please call Eli Joseph at x67500.

The following is a brief description of the letters:

- 1) Rep. Michael Bilirakis (R-FL), regarding the present situation in Cyprus and American interests in the Eastern Mediterranean region;
- 2) Rep. Tom Campbell (R-CA) and fifteen other Representatives, urging that Congress be involved in any plans to send U.S. troops to the Kosovo region of Yugoslavia;
- 3) Rep. Bob Clement (D-TN), thanking the Administration for its efforts in obtaining the release of several Christians imprisoned by the Saudi Arabian government;
- 4) Rep. Mike Doyle (D-PA), requesting the release of Lori Berenson, an American citizen being held in Peru on political charge;
- 5) Rep. Eliot L. Engel (D-NY), concerning the current situation in the Kosova region of Yugoslavia;

AUG 12 14:27

- 6) Rep. Richard A. Gephardt (D-MO) and thirty-six other Representatives, regarding the current political and economic situation in Indonesia, and the safety of the ethnic Chinese community;
- 7) Rep. Benjamin A. Gilman (R-NY) and eight Representatives, concerning proposals to increase U.S. food assistance to North Korea;
- 8) Rep. Lee H. Hamilton (D-IN) and sixteen other Representatives, expressing concern at the prospect that Russia intends to proceed with its planned sale of S-300 missiles to the Republic of Cyprus;
- 9) Rep. Lee H. Hamilton (D-IN), supporting the full implementation of the United Nations Settlement Plan for the Western Sahara region;
- 10) Rep. Karen McCarthy (D-MO), on behalf of two constituents, Burton and Ingeborg Richardson, requesting the release of Lori Berenson, an American citizen being held in Peru on political charges;
- 11) Rep. John Joseph Moakley (D-MA) and Rep. James P. McGovern (D-MA), urging direct involvement by the Administration to ensure full compliance by all U.S. agencies to their request for the complete and uncensored release of all documents regarding the 1980 killings of four U.S. missionaries in El Salvador;
- 12) Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) and sixteen other Representatives, requesting Deferred Enforced Departure for thousands of Honduran nationals who have sought safety and freedom in the United States; and,
- 13) Rep. Christopher H. Smith (R-NJ) and Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R-NY), urging the President to take immediate and decisive action to stop the conflict in the Kosovo region of Yugoslavia.

ENCLOSURES

PRESIDENTIAL/NSA CORRESPONDENCE

IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED

ACTION OFFICER: Dowling

LOG NUMBER: 5730

DUE DATE: 24 Aug

DATE STAFFED: 12 Aug

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:



PRESIDENT



NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR

FROM: Rep Smith, Sen D'Amato

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.