

Case Number: 2016-0205-F

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Original OA/ID Number: 2733				
Document ID: 9904279				
Stack: V	Row: 46	Section: 4	Shelf: 7	Position: 1

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9904279
RECEIVED: 04 JUN 99 10

TO: BERGER

FROM: SCHWARTZ
BUSBY

DOC DATE: 16 JUN 99
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: REFUGEES
KOSOVO

CM

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: CONDITIONS AT REFUGEE VILLAGE IN FORT DIX NEW JERSEY

ACTION: NFAR PER EXEC SEC

DUE DATE: 10 JUN 99 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: BUSBY

LOGREF:

FILES: PA

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
BUSBY
NSC CHRON

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSGP

CLOSED BY: NSTSM

DOC 2 OF 2

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ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9904279

DOC ACTION OFFICER

001 SCHWARTZ
001
001 BUSBY
002 BERGER
002

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

Z 99060410 PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER
Z 99060415 ACTION TRANSFERRED
Z 99060415 PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER
Z 99061613 FWD TO PRESIDENT FOR INFORMATION
X 99061717 NFAR PER EXEC SEC

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UNCLASSIFIED

PKg is OBE. MKA
memo will be sent
with Daily Col report.

(R)

Per Eric Schwartz,
this memo was delayed
pending determination of
the future of the operation

at Ft Dix.

(R)

**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
THE WHITE HOUSE**

PROOFED BY: _____ LOG # 4277
 URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PR9 INT ARS
 BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG TIC A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
SARGENT JACOBSON	<u>4</u>		
POWELL			
RICE	<u>1</u>	<u>R 6/17</u>	<u>File</u>
DAVIES			
KERRICK	<u>2</u>	<u>6/17</u>	
STEINBERG	<u>copy</u>	<u>NO/08E</u>	
BERGER	<u>copy</u>		
SITUATION ROOM			
WEST WING DESK	<u>3</u>	<u>6/17 DAK</u>	<u>st</u>
RECORDS MGMT	<u>4</u>	<u>R 6/17</u>	<u>N/R</u>

A = ACTION I = INFORMATION D = DISPATCH R = RETAIN N = NO FURTHER ACTION

CC: ✓

COMMENTS:

EXEC SEC OFFICE HAS DISKETTE yes

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

THE WHITE HOUSE

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 URGENT NOT PROOFED: _____ SYSTEM PRS INT ARS
 BYPASSED WW DESK: _____ DOCLOG TIC A/O _____

	SEQUENCE TO	INITIAL/DATE	DISPOSITION
cc Sargeant JACOBSON	<u>4</u>		
POWELL			
RICE	<u>1</u>	<u>(R) 6/17</u>	<u>H/17</u>
DAVIES			
KERRICK	<u>2</u>	<u>(R) 6/17</u>	
STEINBERG	<u>copy</u>	<u>NO/OBE</u>	
BERGER	<u>copy</u>		
SITUATION ROOM			
WEST WING DESK	<u>3</u>	<u>6/17 OAK</u>	<u>st</u>
RECORDS MGMT.	<u>4</u>	<u>(R) 6/17</u>	<u>N/R</u>

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

4279

June 16, 1999

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL R. BERGER *(K) R*

THROUGH: ERIC SCHWARTZ *SB R*

FROM: SCOTT BUSBY *SB*

SUBJECT: Memorandum from Secretary Albright on Fort Dix

Attached is a memorandum to the President covering a memorandum from Secretary Albright regarding the refugee processing facility at Fort Dix.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached memorandum.

Attachments

Tab I Memorandum to the President

Tab A Memorandum from the Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
THE SECRETARY

JUN 3 1999

Mr. President,

I am sending this report
to you for two reasons:

1) you have taken such an
interest in the treatment of the
refugees.

2) You may remember that
Hawthorne was one of the harshest
critics of the Maud boat lift and
Guantanamo.

llkA

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

SAMUEL BERGER

② m

SUBJECT:

Memorandum from Secretary Albright on Fort Dix

Attached is a memorandum from the Secretary of State praising the Kosovar refugee facility at Fort Dix as "a model for the humanitarian treatment of refugees." She notes that Assistant Secretary Harold Koh, who before entering government was one of the sharpest critics of our policies toward Haitian migrants at Guantanamo, visited Fort Dix and found conditions laudable.

To date, we have relocated over 6,000 Kosovars to the United States, approximately 4,000 of whom have been processed through Fort Dix. Although some 2,000 refugees remain at Dix, we suspended its use as an initial U.S. reception and processing site earlier this month. This came about after we developed the ability to fully process refugee applicants in Macedonia, and transport them directly to their host families or communities in the United States.

For the time being, and consistent with the views of UNHCR and the Government of Macedonia, we and our allies are continuing with our relocation efforts both to relieve overcrowded conditions in Macedonia and to provide refugees with better living conditions while they await return. Nevertheless, refugee interest in this program is declining as the prospects for safe return grow. In consultation with UNHCR and our allies, we will be closely evaluating the merits of continuing the relocation effort as circumstances on the ground evolve.

Attachment

Tab A Memorandum from the Secretary of State

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

4279

JUN 3 1999

UNCLASSIFIED

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Madeleine K. Albright *mwA*

SUBJECT: Conditions at the "Refugee Village" in Fort Dix,
New Jersey

My Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Harold Koh traveled to the Fort Dix refugee facility recently to evaluate the camp's conditions. He found the housing, information, education, religion, recreation and health needs of the refugees were being met by an impressive interagency effort. The contrast between Fort Dix and the camps in Macedonia (or the conditions for Haitian and Cuban refugees on Guantanamo from 1992-1995) could not have been more striking. In many ways, Fort Dix represents a model for the humanitarian treatment of refugees.

The "village," as it is known, currently houses approximately 3500 refugees. Approximately 500 refugees have already departed Fort Dix with another 127 scheduled to depart June 3. The current plan is to shut down the Fort Dix operation once the current refugees have been relocated, and to have future refugees go directly to host communities from Macedonia. We have not yet decided whether Fort Dix will remain partially staffed as a contingency option, should we need again to move a large group of refugees.

Our people have also been conducting war crimes interviews at Fort Dix. The team has completed dozens of interviews, and has contacted the ICTY with several names of refugees identified as potentially important witnesses.

There are steps we can take to make conditions for this and future American refugee centers even better. Interagency efforts have already begun to arrange for more Albanian-language publications; develop more daily activities for adults; provide a more coordinated system of family visits for

JUN 4 8:46

those with relatives already in the U.S.; and increase the speed at which refugees are placed with families and host communities.

Thus far, Fort Dix is emerging as a model refugee facility. We plan to draft a white paper on best practices in refugee camps based on the services and procedures at Fort Dix. We intend to promote these best practices as standards to be adopted by other countries currently hosting Kosovars in camp-like facilities, and for future refugee crises that might require a similar response by the international community.

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STAFF OFFICER: SCHWARTZ

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FOR CONCURRENCE

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COMMENTS: _____

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DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

INFORMATION

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FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

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