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Original OA/ID Number: 2756				
Document ID: 9907871				
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UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9907871
RECEIVED: 25 OCT 99 15

TO: BERGER

FROM: GUARNIERI
SCHWARTZ

DOC DATE: 12 NOV 99
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: KOSOVO
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE
MEDIA

UN .
POTUS QUESTIONS

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: KOSOVO WINTERIZATION EFFORTS

ACTION: OBE PER RECORDS MANAGEMENT

DUE DATE: 27 OCT 99 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: GUARNIERI

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

COMMENTS: _____

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DOC 3 OF 3

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UNCLASSIFIED
ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9907871

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

001 SCHWARTZ	Z	99102515	PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER
001	Z	99102517	ACTION TRANSFERRED
001 GUARNIERI	Z	99102517	PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER
002 BERGER	Z	99110417	FOR SIGNATURE
002 GUARNIERI	Z	99111113	FOR REDO
003	X	00021513	OBE PER RECORDS MANAGEMENT
003 BERGER	Z	99111223	FWD TO PRESIDENT FOR INFORMATION

UNCLASSIFIED

**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
THE WHITE HOUSE**

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GIRE	_____	_____	_____
JACOBSON	_____	_____	_____
POWELL	_____	_____	_____
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RUDMAN	_____	_____	_____
STEINBERG	_____	_____	_____
BERGER	_____	_____	_____
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A = ACTION I = INFORMATION D = DISPATCH R = RETAIN N = NO FURTHER ACTION

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**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
THE WHITE HOUSE**

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KOSOVO WINTERIZATION EFFORTS

EXEC SEC OFFICE HAS DISKETTE

yes

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
THE WHITE HOUSE

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BRADTKE	<u>2</u>	<u>W 11/5</u>	_____
RUDMAN	_____	_____	_____
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BERGER	<u>4</u>	_____	_____
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<u>Guarnieri</u>	<u>6</u>	_____	<u>see SRB note</u>

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COMMENTS:
99 NOV 4pm 1:45

Kosovo Winterization Efforts

EXEC SEC OFFICE HAS DISKETTE

Yes

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

THE WHITE HOUSE

11/3
11/10

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POWELL			
SARGEANT	<u>D</u>		
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<u>Guarnieri</u>	<u>6</u>		<u>SRB note</u>

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Kosovo Winterization
Efforts

EXEC SEC OFFICE HAS DISKETTE Yes

Millison, Cathy L. (EXSEC)

From: Millison, Cathy L. (EXSEC)
Sent: Monday, November 15, 1999 6:35 PM
To: @EXECSEC - Executive Secretary
Subject: FW: #7871 - Kosovo Winterization Efforts [UNCLASSIFIED]

Diskette updated and new memo added to package.

-----Original Message-----

From: Crocker, Bathsheba N. (NSA)
Sent: Monday, November 15, 1999 4:51 PM
To: Millison, Cathy L. (EXSEC); @EXECSEC - Executive Secretary
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Attached for Mr. Berger/Mr. Steinberg review. I'll fax copy of attachments to you.



7871 potus mmo winterization.d...



7871 srb mmo.doc

*Add to folder -
New original
printed on
road. Never
returned
12/30*

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November 12, 1999

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MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL R. BERGER

THROUGH: ERIC SCHWARTZ

FROM: VALERIE GUARNIERI

SUBJECT: Kosovo Winterization Efforts

After reading a Washington Post article entitled "Kosovo Homeless Shudder as Balkan Winter Threatens," the President asked whether we could do more to help. A New York Times article on November 2 also highlighted winterization problems. The attached memorandum outlines our ongoing emergency shelter winterization efforts, including difficulties that we and other donors have faced.

While Kosovars would have preferred that the international community rebuild all damaged and destroyed homes before winter, this was impossible given limited time and logistical difficulties, not to mention the slow flow of donor reconstruction money. Even our basic essential shelter strategy has proven difficult to implement. We are, however, doing what we can and believe that our efforts, combined with those of other donors, will provide sufficient, albeit tight, shelter for all Kosovars.

Concurrence by: Rod von Lipsey

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached memorandum to the President.

Attachments

Tab I Memorandum to the President

Tab A Washington Post article

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12/30/99
Package
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ROAD -
Cathy has
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instructions
from
Deputies.
June

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Bartlett, L. June (EXSEC)

Redo 7871

From: Bartlett, L. June (EXSEC)
Sent: Wednesday, November 10, 1999 9:37 PM
To: Guarnieri, Valerie N. (MULTI)
Cc: @EXECSEC - Executive Secretary; Sutphen, Mona K. (NSA); @MULTILAT - Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs
Subject: PCKG 7871 - Kosovo [UNCLASSIFIED]

Re: Information memorandum to the President, Kosovo Winterization Efforts

Valerie:

Package returned from upstairs, with a note from Mr. Berger:

"Val -- would be more credible if conceded something; e.g., UNMIK slow to get organized, not forward-leaning. These are illustrative but there is a Panglossian quality to this."

Package and diskette will be returned to you.

June

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

November 12, 1999

ACTION

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While Kosovars would have preferred that the international community rebuild all damaged and destroyed homes before winter, this was impossible given limited time and logistical difficulties, not to mention the slow flow of donor reconstruction money. Even our minimal essential shelter strategy has proven difficult to implement. We are, however, doing what we can and believe that our efforts, combined with those of other donors, will provide sufficient, albeit tight, shelter for all Kosovars.

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Tab A Washington Post article

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

SUBJECT: Kosovo Winterization Efforts

After reading a Washington Post article on UN efforts to winterize homes in Kosovo, you asked whether we could do more to help. A New York Times article on November 2 also highlighted the winterization issue.

We are making a major effort to ensure adequate shelter for the over 800,000 Kosovars whose homes were damaged or destroyed by the conflict. The task is enormous, involving at least 128,000 destroyed or damaged houses. Together with other donors, we have focused on rudimentary repairs to the estimated 79,000 homes that were damaged but are repairable. We are providing Kosovars with the materials they need to ensure that at least one room in their house is adequately heated and insulated through the winter. In addition, we are delivering roofing kits to households that are willing to host some of the almost 300,000 people whose homes were completely destroyed. More substantial reconstruction, including fully repairing damaged houses and rebuilding destroyed homes, will begin in the spring.

Constraints: This approach to shelter was necessary due to the enormity of the task, difficulties in transportation, and limited time available before winter's arrival. The supply of necessary building materials in the immediate region fell far short of demand. Shelter items competed with critical KFOR materiel and equipment, commercial supplies, and other priority relief cargo for entry into Kosovo via one small border crossing in Macedonia. KFOR efforts to build a bypass road were delayed by land dispute issues.

UNMIK and the international community also made miscalculations. While we and other donors provided significant funding to NGOs in July for shelter efforts, we did not initially foresee the magnitude of the problems related to border transit and procurement. However, once we realized that our shelter efforts

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

were in jeopardy, we and others worked hard to address and overcome the problems. After clearing and repairing rail lines, KFOR brought in locomotives and cars for the existing rail system, allowing humanitarian cargo and shelter material to move more regularly into Kosovo by late September. KFOR is now dedicating one train daily to USAID for the movement of shelter supplies. Moreover, KFOR has established a depot for building supplies for USAID-engaged military contractors with experience in procuring and moving vast amounts of cargo quickly. Assistance is now reaching villagers throughout Kosovo and repairs are underway.

U.S. Assistance: The U.S. component of emergency shelter winterization efforts is sizeable, comprising over \$30 million in USAID bilateral contributions. Through NGOs, USAID is providing over 20,000, or one-quarter, of the dry room kits needed, and is supplementing these with stoves, carpeting, and insulation materials. With our support, UNHCR is delivering an additional 20 percent of the needed kits. In addition, USAID is providing the necessary materials to repair over 5,600 roofs for households that agree to take in two additional families, and is providing materials to repair an estimated 25 percent of damaged urban homes. Finally, there were thousands of homes under construction prior to the conflict that sustained little damage during the war; USAID is working through an NGO to complete 260 such homes this month, enabling them to host three families each through the winter.

Contingency Plans: While most Kosovars will be accommodated in homes, some may be unwilling to leave their land or stay in the homes of others. UNHCR has identified space for 20,000 in communal shelters, purchased 45,000 stoves, distributed winter clothing and blankets, and ordered 15,000 winterized tents as contingency measures. A winter emergency team will deliver food and shelter materials to remote villages throughout the winter, including by helicopter if necessary.

This will be a difficult winter for many Kosovars, and conditions will be more crowded than we would have liked. However, despite formidable constraints and competing priorities within Kosovo, our efforts have made a significant difference in ensuring the availability of shelter for all Kosovars through the winter, until rebuilding can begin in earnest in the spring.

Attachments

Tab A Washington Post Article

Tab B New York Times Article

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

10-19-99

Sandy
can we do
more on this -
BC

copied
Berger
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Sandy
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BC

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

INFORMATION

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Tab A Washington Post Article

Tab B New York Times Article

Kosovo's Foreshadowing Shudder As Balkan Winter Threatens

U.N. Officials Race to Provide Temporary Shelter, Heat, Food

By PETER FINN and R. JEFFREY SMITH
Washington Post Foreign Service

OBRIJE, Yugoslavia—Sitting on a stool on a wind-swept hill, wrapped in three sweaters and a man's jacket and dragging deeply on a cigarette as if for warmth, Faza Hysenaj, 98, is tired of foreign visitors.

"Are you here to talk, or are you going to do something?" she barks at a reporter, waving away the looks of consternation of younger family members.

Behind Hysenaj are three tents, two for the nine members of the Hysenaj family to sleep in, and one for living and cooking. Beside the tents is Hysenaj's ruined home, which was first burned in September 1998, when Serbian police forces swept through this former stronghold of the Kosovo Liberation Army. Tahir Hysenaj, Faza's 45-year-old son, managed to rebuild one room to shelter the family through last winter, but the house was burned again this spring when Belgrade government forces launched a brutal military operation to purge Kosovo of its ethnic Albanian majority.

Today, the dwelling is roofless, and only one room has four standing walls. "It's very, very cold at night," Faza Hysenaj said. "I'm very worried about the winter."

Kosovo's unforgiving winter is fast approaching, and Western agencies, led by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, are in a race to patch together a shelter system that will protect families from ice, snow and freezing temperatures.

It is not everything the people of Kosovo had hoped for,

and the coming months will be difficult for hundreds of thousands of ethnic Albanians whom Yugoslav army and Serbian police forces drove from their homes this spring in a 2½-month campaign of shelling, burning and killing.

"There will be enough shelter," declared Dennis McNamara, head of the U.N. refugee agency's office in Kosovo, who said U.N. workers will be distributing shelter kits to winterize sections of gutted homes through the end of November. "It won't be very pleasant, and it won't be very comfortable, but there will be enough shelter."

Others are not so sanguine, saying they fear that a lack of food and shelter could provoke social disorder in Kosovo this winter, particularly if rural residents move into the province's already overcrowded cities, where electricity and water systems are already breaking down. Since NATO peacekeeping troops entered Kosovo on June 12, the prewar population of its capital, Pristina, has doubled to 200,000, and the city is often without power.

"We are facing a real risk that winter will bring huge problems, driving more and more people into the cities, especially Pristina," said Paloke Berishaj, a senior official with a local charity, the Mother Teresa Society. "Everything is running very late, and we believe that 500,000 people still don't know where they will spend the winter."

Among them are the Hysenaj family, which has still not received a shelter kit from agencies contracted by the U.N. refugee agency to provide them. As the nights grow colder, the family is growing frantic.

"Look where we're sleeping," said Tahir Hysenaj, pointing to a porous tent. "The cold is getting in, and we're shivering. I thought we might have our house rebuilt."

Like many Kosovo Albanians, Hysenaj had huge—and unrealistic—expectations of their Western benefactors. Many believed their homes would be immediately rebuilt this fall, but the massive reconstruction of the 100,000 homes destroyed or heavily damaged in the Serb-led Yugoslav offensive will not begin until spring. Instead, the West, through the U.N. refugee agency, is supplying stoves and the winterizing kits, roofing some houses and creating a system of large, collective shelters across the province.

But the backbone of the West's winter-survival plan—drawing on the experience of Kosovo Albanians through 16 months of conflict that reached a crescendo last spring—will be the willingness of those who have shelter space to take in the hundreds of thousands of people who don't.

Some U.N. officials believe that catastrophic winter scenarios painted by some ethnic Albanians are more a reflection of their disappointment that there was not an immediate reconstruction effort, rather than a real fear that some people will freeze.

"Expectations were very high," said McNamara, who noted that there was neither enough time nor money from donor countries to begin rebuilding this year. Even obtaining plastic sheeting for the winterizing kits has been a slow, logistically demanding task. Some families, believing their homes would be rebuilt swiftly, cut up the sheeting to cover floors, forcing the U.N. agency to provide them with more.

Although aid agencies plan to continue distributing shelter materials for several more weeks, some fear they will still come up short and that tens of thousands of people who have been living outdoors or in partially repaired houses will be forced to find warmer shelter in cities.

In Pristina, U.N. officials are worried that an aged heating plant that supplies steam heat to 40 percent of the city may not operate reliably through the winter. "Everything will be fine, as long as winter does not arrive," joked Thomas Koenigs, head of the U.N. civil administration effort here. If the heating plant fails, he said, and "every one puts on an electric heater, then the transformers [at Kosovo's main power plant] will fail," and the entire province will be plunged into darkness.

The power plant is already operating precariously, which became all too evident when electrical service failed repeatedly over the last two weeks. The plant has two transformers that W. Hillary Lee, the U.N. official overseeing electricity, water and heating matters here, says the Belgrade government operated for more than a decade without making needed repairs.

One of the turbines could explode at any time, some officials have warned. Moreover, when Serbian plant managers withdrew, they took with them all the operation manuals and disabled the facility's computerized system, he said. British engineers have been able to get the turbines to function intermittently, providing roughly a third of the electricity Kosovo needs this winter, but they are not sure how long they can maintain operation.

U.N. officials say additional electricity will be supplied through transmission lines recently recon-

nected to neighboring Macedonia and Albania, but funds have not been donated yet to pay for the power purchase, and the lines themselves are in poor condition. "I am not optimistic," Lee said. "The situation is significantly better than it was in August, but electricity is a big worry."

Kosovo Aid Groups Fall Short as Winter Nears

By CARLOTTA GALL

STUDENCANE, Kosovo, Oct. 31 — A damp, heavy fog already envelops Kosovo daily, and with winter just a few weeks away, the United Nations and myriad relief organizations are falling to meet the expectations of the hundreds of thousands of homeless Albanians.

Although aid agencies have been trying to prepare for winter since June, when NATO's bombing war ended and Kosovo's Albanians streamed back into their ruined province from neighboring Albania and Macedonia, a European Union commission survey says, about 300,000 people "face the possibility of winter without adequate accommodation."

Hanife Gega and her family of 12 are living in a tent in their garden beside the burned-out shell of their house. The tent is where they will spend the winter. Despite the United Nations promises that every family in Kosovo will have a dry room for the winter, many families, the Gegas included, will be camping outside.

One Gega family member is Zejnife, 27, who is expecting a child any day now. Her husband was killed in the war, and she is left with two small children and one more on the way. She seems sad and worried, and wears a constant frown. She will live in the tent, along with her baby, as soon as she returns from the maternity hospital, she said, adding, "We will do with whatever they give us."

Their house, like many in the village of Studencane, in southern Kosovo, was burned with such ferocity that aid organizations have categorized it as fifth class — irreparable and fit only for demolition. Relief workers have ruled out rebuilding such houses this year and are concentrating only on partly damaged ones that can be fixed quickly. In the meantime, the family has been given a large green tent made of rubberized canvas, which can ward off only some of the cold weather.

"Shelter is by far our most acute problem in the village," said Hamzi Gega, 47, Mrs. Gega's brother. Grabbing folds of the canvas tent in his hand, he says: "It's not enough; it's not good for winter. We get 80 centimeters of snow in this courtyard."

"Winter is not going to be easy," agreed Peter Kessler, spokesman for the United Nations refugee agency in Kosovo.

Studencane, lying among the foothills of Kosovo's southern range of mountains, is just one of hundreds of villages that were shelled and then torched by Serbian forces during their yearlong rampage to root out the Kosovo Liberation Army, which was fighting Serbian rule. Some 80 percent of the buildings here were destroyed.

The upper part of the village is a jumble of burned walls and rubble, dotted with a patchwork of bright blue United Nations tarpaulins and white canvas tents among the debris. According to Mr. Gega, of 1,818 houses in the village, only 13 are habitable. Only a few new roofs have emerged amid the mess.

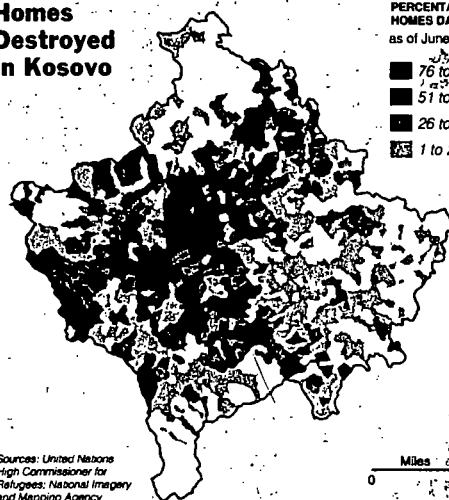
Some 120,000 houses — about half the homesteads of Kosovo — have been damaged in some way, aid organizations estimate. But the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which is coordinating the relief effort, says it will be able to repair only 50,000 of those houses this winter, and even that task has them at full stretch.

The United States Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and the European Union's relief agency, ECHO, are responsible, together with the United Nations refugee agency, for Kosovo's multimillion dollar shelter program. Each agency has been dogged with criticism for shortsightedness and delays, especially in



Members of the Gega family entering their courtyard in Studencane, Kosovo. The family is now living in tents since its houses were destroyed by Serbian shelling of the village, where the Kosovar rebels had their front line.

Homes Destroyed In Kosovo



300,000 Kosovars are expected to be without adequate shelter.

the local press.

In the village of Zociste, just a few miles west of Studencane, every house seems to have been scorched, including the 14th-century Serbian monastery at the top of the village. Amid such devastation, villagers expressed frustration at how slow the aid is coming.

"I have only half the roof tiles I need and no wood," said Malush Shala, a retired postman. "They keep saying: 'In 10 days, in 10 days.' If I had the money myself, I could finish it in eight."

Hedije Kabashi, 36, mother of four, did not wait for the aid organizations. Her father stripped the roof off his house in another village and used it to build her a new roof, providing her

with at least one dry room for the family of nine. Last week, an Italian organization brought the materials for a roof for a second room.

The aid agencies talk of what they are achieving: Nearly 30,000 shelter kits have been distributed, and some 7,000 all-weather tents and several hundred prefabricated houses have been brought in. Kosovo residents have received about 11,000 stoves, and today a transport plane flew into Pristina, bringing 80 tons of clothing for women and children.

The housing assistance given so far represents only a sliver of what the aid organizations set out to do. Less than half of the emergency roofing kits have gone out to villages, and only 1,500 of the planned 12,000 kits of heavy-duty housing materials. The United Nations refugee agency has distributed only a third of its beams and heavy plastic. The United States Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance has yet to distribute any heavy-duty kits, and is only now bringing the lumber into Kosovo.

Mr. Kessler, of the United Nations agency, blamed the sheer logistical difficulty of bringing so much material into Kosovo, an impoverished

region even before the war and now so destroyed that everything has to be imported. With Kosovo's main road and rail links through Serbia and Montenegro closed, and neighboring Albania possibly even poorer than Kosovo, everything has had to be shipped through a single narrow border post from Macedonia. Competing with NATO military convoys, returning refugees and all the province's commercial traffic, aid trucks stand backed up for a mile and can be stuck at customs for up to six days.

The United Nations agency has finally managed to bring in everything it needs, Mr. Kessler said, but is now battling to get goods out of warehouses and to the villages before mud roads become impassable.

The agency is no longer talking of housing people before the onset of winter, but "during the winter months," Mr. Kessler said. "There is no cutoff date for this. People will be working on their houses all winter."

Many of the 300,000 homeless are going to have to fend for themselves. "We are telling people that relatives are going to have to support each other, neighbors are going to have to take people in, as they have done before," he said. "If people do, everyone will get through the winter."

Tens of thousands of villagers have swarmed into Pristina, Kosovo's capital, and other towns, taking over the abandoned homes of Serbs and Gypsies who have fled the province, or staying with relatives. Local journalists estimate that the population of Pristina has swelled to double the prewar population, and may be as high as 400,000.

For the most vulnerable — the old, young and sick who cannot survive the winter in tents — there will be about 11,000 places in buildings like sports halls or community centers in main towns, the United Nations agency says.

Yet not everyone likes the idea of moving again. Hanife Gega, who fled to Albania during the war, says she cannot rely on her neighbors since they all are in tents too. But asked if she would leave to go to a collective center, she said no.

"The problem is I cannot turn my back on this place," she said. "We have to stay here — if only we had the chance to rebuild."

U.S. B. To Sen

Continued F

diplomatic isolation, importantly one to airlines to resupply, the Serbian.

A delegation of an opposition leader visiting the United Nations pressing for American aid to the shipments of are also trying to clarify before Washington Mr. Milosevic's leader.

Members of the expected to meet Madeleine K. Albright officials this is needed to prevent.

"Without it, peace, death," said Mayor of Nis, a delegation beating oil is not a great victory for Mr. it will just reinforce the West hates all.

The delegation is Avramovic, a former Central Bank and prime minister in government in Serbia was far weaker he was often ported.

"The economic service is desperate," said. "Prices are increasing a week, which month, and it is difficult the regime will survive the obstacle to the.

The president of Party, Zoran Djindjic convinced that Mr. soon be ousted from his willingness in resistance to put down.

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Russian Businessman Under Investigation Is Detained in Hungary

By MICHAEL R. GORDON

MOSCOW, Nov. 1 — One of Russia's most prominent businessmen

seeking his extradition.

Russia has a dismal track record in arresting and convicting corrupt

Mr. Bykov has often been in the public eye.

He emerged as a political rival to

education at home. He has given television interviews from undisclosed locations negotiating his extradition.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

November 3, 1999

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL R. BERGER

THROUGH: ERIC SCHWARTZ *ES*

FROM: VALERIE GUARNIERI *VG*

SUBJECT: Kosovo Winterization Efforts

After reading a Washington Post article entitled "Kosovo Homeless Shudder as Balkan Winter Threatens," the President asked whether we could do more to help. A New York Times article on November 2 also highlighted winterization problems. The attached memorandum outlines our ongoing emergency shelter winterization efforts, including difficulties that we and other donors have faced.

While Kosovars would have preferred that the international community rebuild all damaged and destroyed homes before winter, this was impossible given limited time and logistical difficulties, not to mention the slow flow of donor reconstruction money. Even our minimal essential shelter strategy has proven difficult to implement. We are, however, doing what we can and believe that our efforts, combined with those of other donors, will provide sufficient, albeit tight, shelter for all Kosovars.

Concurrence by: Rod von Lipsey *vg*

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached memorandum to the President.

Attachments

Tab I Memorandum to the President
Tab A Washington Post article
Tab B New York Times Article

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

SUBJECT: Kosovo Winterization Efforts

After reading a Washington Post article on UN efforts to winterize homes in Kosovo, you asked whether we could do more to help. A New York Times article on November 2 also highlighted the winterization issue.

We are making a major effort to ensure adequate shelter for the over 800,000 Kosovars whose homes were damaged or destroyed by the conflict. The task is enormous, involving at least 128,000 destroyed or damaged houses. Together with other donors, we have focused on rudimentary repairs to the estimated 79,000 homes that were damaged but are repairable. We are providing Kosovars with the materials they need to ensure that at least one room in their house is adequately heated and insulated through the winter. In addition, we are delivering roofing kits to households that are willing to host some of the almost 300,000 people whose homes were completely destroyed. More substantial reconstruction, including fully repairing damaged houses and rebuilding destroyed homes, will begin in the spring.

Constraints: This approach to shelter was necessary due to the enormity of the task, difficulties in transportation, and limited time available before winter's arrival. The supply of necessary building materials in the immediate region fell far short of demand. Shelter items competed with critical KFOR materiel and equipment, commercial supplies, and other priority relief cargo for entry into Kosovo via one small border crossing in Macedonia. KFOR efforts to build a bypass road were delayed by land dispute issues.

We and others have worked hard to address and overcome these problems. After clearing and repairing rail lines, KFOR brought in locomotives and cars for the existing rail system, allowing humanitarian cargo and shelter material to move more regularly

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

into Kosovo by late September. KFOR is now dedicating one train daily to USAID for the movement of shelter supplies. Moreover, KFOR has established a depot for building supplies for USAID-engaged military contractors with experience in moving vast amounts of cargo quickly. Assistance is now reaching villagers throughout Kosovo and repairs are underway.

U.S. Assistance: The U.S. component of emergency shelter winterization efforts is sizeable, comprising over \$30 million in USAID bilateral contributions. Through NGOs, USAID is providing over 20,000, or one-quarter, of the dry room kits needed, and is supplementing these with stoves, carpeting and insulation materials. With our support, UNHCR is delivering an additional 20 percent of the needed kits. In addition, USAID is providing the necessary materials to repair over 5,600 roofs for households that agree to take in two additional families, and is providing materials to repair an estimated 25 percent of damaged urban homes. Finally, there were thousands of homes under construction prior to the conflict that sustained little damage during the war; USAID is working through an NGO to complete 260 such homes this month, enabling them to host three families each through the winter.

Contingency Plans: While most Kosovars will be accommodated in homes, some may be unwilling to leave their land or stay in the homes of others. UNHCR has identified space for 20,000 in communal shelters, purchased 45,000 stoves, distributed winter clothing and blankets, and ordered 15,000 winterized tents as contingency measures. A winter emergency team will deliver food and shelter materials to remote villages throughout the winter, including by helicopter if necessary.

This will be a difficult winter for many Kosovars, and conditions will be more crowded than we would have liked. However, despite formidable constraints and competing priorities within Kosovo, our efforts have made a significant difference in ensuring the availability of shelter for all Kosovars through the winter, until rebuilding can begin in earnest in the spring.

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UNMIK and the international community also made miscalculations. While we and other donors provided significant funding to NGOs in July for shelter efforts, we did not initially foresee the magnitude of the problems related to border transit and procurement. However, once we realized that our shelter efforts

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

were in jeopardy, we and others worked hard to address and overcome the problems. After clearing and repairing rail lines, KFOR brought in locomotives and cars for the existing rail system, allowing humanitarian cargo and shelter material to move more regularly into Kosovo by late September. KFOR is now dedicating one train daily to USAID for the movement of shelter supplies. Moreover, KFOR has established a depot for building supplies for USAID-engaged military contractors with experience in procuring and moving vast amounts of cargo quickly. Assistance is now reaching villagers throughout Kosovo and repairs are underway.

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Constraints: This minimal approach to shelter was necessary due to the enormity of the task, difficulties in transportation, and limited time available before winter's arrival. The supply of necessary building materials in the ^{immediate} region fell far short of demand. Shelter items competed with critical KFOR materiel and equipment, commercial supplies, and other priority relief cargo for entry into Kosovo via one small border crossing in Macedonia. KFOR efforts to build a bypass road were delayed by land dispute issues.

We and others have worked hard to address and overcome these problems. After clearing and repairing rail lines, KFOR brought in locomotives and cars for the existing rail system, allowing humanitarian cargo and shelter material to move more regularly

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

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above,

for further delay of supplies

finally

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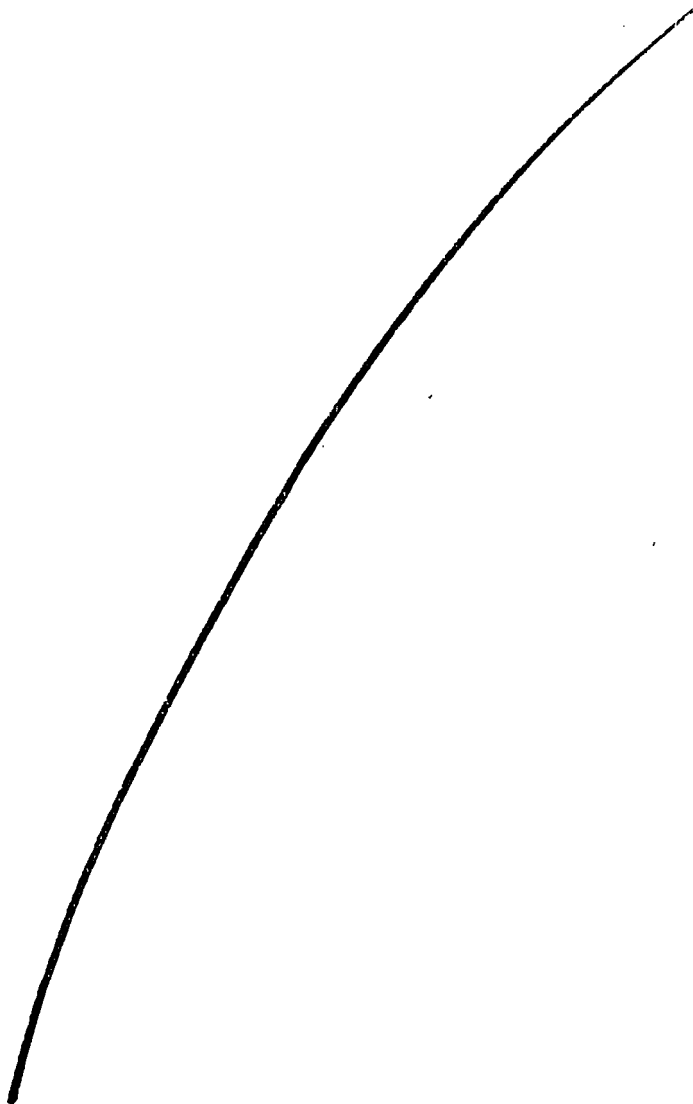
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Attachment

Tab A Washington Post Article

TAB B New York Times Article

move to
page 2



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RECORD ID: 9907871
RECEIVED: 25 OCT 99 15

TO: NATL SECURITY COUN

FROM: PRESIDENT

DOC DATE: 25 OCT 99
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: KOSOVO
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE
MEDIA

UN
POTUS QUESTIONS

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: POTUS QUESTION RE WP ARTICLE RE WINTERIZING HOMES IN KOSOVO

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER

DUE DATE: 27 OCT 99 STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: SCHWARTZ

LOGREF:

FILES: PA

NSCP:

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