

HELEN DELICH BENTLEY
2D DISTRICT, MARYLAND

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1610 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
202-225-3061

DISTRICT OFFICES:
200 EAST JOPPA ROAD
TOWSON, MD 21204
301-337-7222

7458 GERMAN HILL ROAD
DUNDALK, MD 21222
301-285-2747

6 NORTH MAIN STREET
BEL AIR, MD 21014
301-879-2517

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

September 7, 1989

COMMITTEE ON
THE BUDGET
COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC WORKS AND
TRANSPORTATION
(ON LEAVE)
COMMITTEE ON
MERCHANT MARINE
AND FISHERIES
SUBCOMMITTEES:
MERCHANT MARINE
PANAMA CANAL/OUTER
CONTINENTAL SHELF
COAST GUARD & NAVIGATION
SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
AND LONG TERM CARE
TASK FORCE ON WOMEN
AND SOCIAL SECURITY

Dear fellow Serbian-Americans:

As the only Serbian-American member of the United States Congress, I feel it is my duty to tell you of an injustice being perpetrated against the Serbian people in the U.S. Congress.

You are no doubt aware of the battle being waged in Kosovo by ethnic Albanians to force the Serbian people out of their homeland of one thousand years. The weapons being used are terror and fear, designed to force Serbs to flee the province. Unfortunately, these tactics have been very effective and over 100,000 Serbs have fled from Kosovo since 1981.

What you may not be aware of, however, is the battle being waged in the U.S. Congress to support the actions of the Albanians and condemn the Serbians for protecting the territorial integrity of Serbia.

This past June, while I was in Serbia to commemorate the 600th Anniversary of the Battle of Kosovo, the House of Representatives voted to include a resolution condemning the Serbs for the unrest in Kosovo in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1989. This measure was originally sponsored by Rep. Tom Lantos, (D-CA). Three weeks later U.S. Sen. Larry Pressler introduced the same measure into the State Department Authorization Act of 1989. I was able to block the offensive language from being included in the bill by calling upon U.S. Sen. Paul Sarbanes (D-MD).

But the battle has just begun. As the Congress returns to Session this month, both bills will again be taken up in Conference Committees. I need your help to block the inclusion of anti-Serb language in both of these crucial bills.

To block this language, Serbs around the country must contact their Senators and Congressman. I urge you to do so without delay. Write to both your U.S. Senators and your U.S. Congressman and ask them to help me block the anti-Serb sections of the Foreign Aid and State Department Bills.

(more)

In addition, it is very important that Serbs from around the country contact members of the Senate Foreign Relations and House Foreign Affairs Committees as well.

For your convenience, I have included a list of members of these two important committees, as well as the name of the Congressman from your area.

I hope that you will join me in organizing your friends and the Serbian-American community in your area on this very important issue.

When you write to your elected officials, please ask them to specifically:

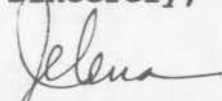
OPPOSE Sec. 862. (Fascell Language) from being included in H.R. 2655 and S. 1347, the Foreign Aid Bill

SUPPORT Amendment 281 (Sarbanes Language), for inclusion in S. 1160 and H.R. 1487, the State Department Bill

I know I can count on each of you to join my effort to stop this injustice against Americans of Serbian heritage. If you have any questions, please contact Michael Kosmas in my office at (301) 337-7222.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely,



Helen Delich Bentley
Member of Congress

HDB:mk

Enclosure

Key Members of the U.S. Congress

Address for all U.S. Senators: Address for all U.S. Congressmen

Senator _____
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Congressman _____
United States Congress
Washington, D.C. 20515

Senate Foreign Relations Committee

Democrats

Claiborne Pell (RI)
Joseph R. Biden (DE)
Paul S. Sarbanes (MD)
Alan Cranston (CA)
Chris Dodd (CT)
John F. Kerry (MA)
Paul Simon (IL)
Terry Sanford (NC)
Daniel P. Moynihan (NY)
Charles S. Robb (VA)

Republicans

Jesse Helms (NC)
Richard G. Lugar (IN)
Nancy L. Kassebaum (KS)
Rudy Boschwitz (MN)
Larry Pressler (SD)
Frank H. Murkowski (AK)
Mitch McConnell (KY)
Gordon J. Humphrey (NH)
Connie Mack (FL)

House Foreign Affairs Committee

Democrats

Dante B. Fascell (FL)
Lee H. Hamilton (IN)
Gus Yatron (PA)
Stephen J. Solarz (NY)
Gerry E. Studds (MA)
Howard Wolpe (MI)
George W. Crockett, Jr. (MI)
Sam Gejdenson (CT)
Mervyn M. Dymally (CA)
Tom Lantos (CA)
Peter H. Kostmayer (PA)
Robert G. Torricelli (NJ)
Lawrence J. Smith (FL)
Howard L. Berman (CA)
Mel Levine (CA)
Edward F. Feighan (OH)
Ted Weiss (NY)
Gary L. Ackerman (NY)
Morris K. Udall (AZ)
James McClure Clarke (NC)
Jamie B. Fuster (PUERTO RICO)
Wayne Owens (UT)
Harry Johnston (FL)
Eliot L. Engel (NY)
Eni Faleomavaega (AMER. SOMOA)

Republicans

William S. Broomfield (MI)
Benjamin A. Gilman (NY)
Robert J. Lagomarsino (CA)
Jim Leach (IO)
Toby Roth (WI)
Olympia J. Snowe (ME)
Henry J. Hyde (IL)
Doug Bereuter (NE)
Chris H. Smith (NJ)
Michael DeWine (OH)
Dan Burton (IN)
Jan Meyers (KS)
John Miller (WA)
Donald E. "Buz" Lukens (OH)
Ben Blaz (GUAM)
Elton Gallegly (CA)
Amo Houghton (NY)
Porter J. Goss (FL)

Democrats Cont'd.

Douglas H. Bosco (CA)
Frank McCloskey (IN)
Donald M. Payne (NJ)