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SPEECH OF

ROBERT RADE STONE

President, SERB NATIONAL FEDERATION

Permit me to say, at the outset, that, I as a former elected official, cannot lay claim, in the past or now, of being a paid lobbyist, nor a paid Public Relations person, nor can I lay claim to election contributions to my past U.S. Presidential Campaign, from any person or group, represented here today.

I am an American and proud of that! I am of Serbian parentage, and proud of that!

This hearing today, as I understand it, is a fact finding REVIEW, and intended to be fair and unbiased.

We sincerely hope Senator Biden, that, unlike a prior U.S. Congressional Human Rights Caucus meeting, that some predetermined resolution has not already been prepared by you, or through you or by this Committee before this Hearing - today, for presentation - to the Senate - tomorrow!

Since this is a fact finding hearing, permit me to stick to the facts!

Unlike our Western Press and Media, which tends to paint the SERBIANS as "Communists", "and the worst", let us, without taking sides, review some facts.

Call SERBIA, or its leader, as you might, it is a fact that 40% of Yugoslavia is SERBIAN.

Unlike the USA, Yugoslavia is the only place, except South Africa, where the majority is not permitted to be in majority.

In fact, even with 40% of the population, political Gerrymandering, by Communists. Tito, a Croatian, and Kardelj, a Slovene, the Serbians were so disbursed that they control only one (1) Republic and have one-sixth (1/6) of the power, to date, even with 40% of the population.

Recently, the Republics of Croatia and Slovenia demand "independent States" as opposed to Serbia, which demands a Federation.

In fact, Serbia was the leader - demanding a Federal Law prohibiting discrimination - anywhere in Yugoslavia.

Sound familiar? It ought to. It is the United States of America System - a Democratic Government.

SERBIA and SERBIANS are accused of being too ethnic and/or nationalistic. But - the facts are - they were the last in Yugoslavia to lay claim to their Serbian, rather than Yugoslav, ethnic national identity and pride but it was forced upon them.

For example, in Zagreb - the Banks were Zagreb Banks, in Belgrade they were Yugo Banks, the language of Zagreb, Croatia - was "Croatian" and in Belgrade - Serbo Croatian. In Zagreb, they claimed to be Croatian, but in Belgrade, until recently, they were Yugoslavs.

When one ethnic group pushes theirs, the other - demands theirs!

The Serbians have no protest to self-determination, but when Mr. Tudjman, the President of the Republic of Croatia invites the Ustashi back to his "Independent State of Croatia", he rekindles the fear, peril, and genocide of Serbians, Jews and Gypsies in Croatia.

Nazi Germany, in exchange for Croatia's and Croatian alliance in WW II, declared an "Independent State of Croatia."

That "Independent State of Croatia" - the State of Ustashi (Fascist Croatia) provided a blood bath of genocide - in that Ustashi State; and 700,000 plus Serbian Orthodox, Jews and Gypsies were massacred in that "Forgotten Holocaust". Regretfully, the Church in Croatia did not cry out, but rather paid homage to it. A shame!

Today, 600,000 plus Serbians, living in the Republic of Croatia are in jeopardy of another Holocaust in the Republic of Croatia - with President Tudjman's call for the Ustashi (Fascist Croatians) to return to his and their Croatia.

In 1984, I led a fundraising program to reconstruct a Serbian Orthodox Church in Jasenovac, where the Croatian Ustashi had their Concentration Camp, and one (1) year prior to that, using ultraviolet rays, they found additional mass graves, so now, in excess of one million Serbian Orthodox, Jews and Gypsies lost their lives, due to genocide, in that "Forgotten Holocaust" in the Republic of Croatia.

Relative to the area known as Kosovo in the Republic of Serbia, it is commonly said that 90% of that area today is Albanian, but it is more commonly and universally forgotten, ignored, or deliberately passed over that the Serbians, Allies of the United States in 2 World Wars, and the Savior of 600 U.S. Airmen shot down over Yugoslavia during World War II, got as their "reward" - first - from Nazi Germany, with its Axis ally, Albania - displacement of the Serbians, from Kosovo, where the Serbians, were the majority and where that area for centuries was the "Cradle of Serbian Orthodoxy", leading back to the 12th Century. Secondly - from same Axis forces, with their Axis ally, Albania, hundreds of thousands of illegal aliens, from the country of Albania, were imported to Kosovo, to reduce the Serbian majority and to begin an Albanian majority, with and without, Yugoslav Albanians. And their

final "reward" - was, at the hands of the Communistic and Atheistic leaders, Marshall Tito and Kardelj, who first systematically gerrymandered the Republics - to cut the country's Serbian majority, and more importantly - refused to permit the displaced Serbian majority, after the War's end, to return to their own prior homes and to their ancestral home - their Vatican ... their Jerusalem ... their Canterbury, and ... their Mecca.

But - you Senators, must stop to wonder what the Serbians feel, as allies of the USA and its allies - then, but - today, they are treated ^{AS} if the enemy and without even a fair consideration, let alone a just regard.

Our Western Press and many of this Senate and Congress, overlook a very obvious and glaring fact - that all of the present day leaders, in all of the Republics of Yugoslavia were Communistic governmental leaders - yesterday.

When does a Communist become a democratic advocate ... a day, a week, a year, or when it serves his needs, or when by rhetoric, they use the key catch words, we, Americans, like to hear "freedom, democracy, human rights".

There is a Serbian saying Ko to Kaze Ko to Laze (Who is saying, who is lying).

My law school professor once said, "You can put a sign on the side of a horse and say it is a cow, but - it is still a horse."

Need I explain further?

Let us factually look at the recent elections.

In Slovenia and Croatia, 7 or 8 candidates, all admitted Communistic Governmental functionaries, were candidates, in a quick election. Mr. Tudjman, an admitted Communist won in the Republic of Croatia.

That election was neither multi party, nor democratic by any sketch of the imagination.

Some don't care for the results!

Disregard the results, then, in the elections in the Republic of Serbia. There we find 32 parties, and an almost equal amount of candidates.

That - was truly multi party and multi candidate!

Like it or not, it was a fair election!

I was an observer! The Republican Institute (not of my political persuasion), also were observers, and also agreed!

It is noteworthy to mention that the Serbians of the Republic of Serbia, chose as its leader Mr. Milosevic, not because he was a Socialist or a Communist, but rather they chose him as an individual rather than a party person because he was a tested leader and considering the present complex and traumatic problems that existed in that country today - they believed that he was the best candidate to lead them - today.

I have attempted to make a point to request you Senators to address the facts.

You U.S. Senators are not naive, nor were you born yesterday. You have heard facts, and you have heard rhetoric, and idly words, many times before.

You are to use that common God given sense, given you!

I believe the U.S. of America is the greatest country in the world. It is great and will be great, so long as, we deal fairly and justly with all objectively; and without prior prejudice, directed "targets", predetermined conclusions and/or support of "paying or contributing clients".

The situation that exists in Yugoslavia, today, is a complex one and needs more than a cursory review.

Let us honestly, justly and fairly judge this situation,
before decision.

It is the American way, only if you Senators do it that way!