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HELEN DELICH BENTLEY
2d DISTRICT, MARYLAND

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301-337-7222

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

March 9, 1991

The Honorable Slobodan Milosevic
President of Serbia
Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Dear Mr. President:

Many Serbian-Americans are very disturbed to see the rioting scenes taking place in Belgrade today, and hope that a peaceful resolution can be achieved immediately.

I regret that I did not write you earlier in the week as I had intended to do, urging you to open up your media so that every side can be presented to the public. Using force on issues that involve freedom of speech or press cannot survive in this day and age in any part of the world. I would not want to see a most difficult situation made worse because of a refusal by you and/or your people to be willing to compromise or deal with the opposition.

As one who worked in the media for twenty-five years and who, these days, is a subject of the media, I have found that openness works the best for all concerned.

Please consider changing your position because by opening up your press, you would become the true pacesetter in Yugoslavia as the most democratic of all of the Republics. I urge you to think seriously about this opportunity.

If I am able to help in any way bridging this situation between you and others, I would be very happy to come over now rather than wait until March 24, with the Helsinki Commission. Since I have served successfully as the mediator in several tough labor disputes, I have the necessary experience with the interest of Serbia at heart.

I am sure that you realize my concern these days is for Serbia to come out on top. I am convinced that if you will pull back, not only would everything calm down, but your support would be improved and any criticism substantially eased.

Awaiting word from you. My weekend Fax number is 301-561-1868, and telephone 301-561-1777.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Helen", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Helen Delich Bentley
Member of Congress

HDB:mu

HELEN DELICH BENTLEY
2D DISTRICT, MARYLAND

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

July 31, 1991

COMMITTEE ON
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COMMITTEE ON
MERCHANT MARINE
AND FISHERIES
SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING
CAUCUSES:
STEEL
ART
TRADE AND TOURISM
MARITIME
ENERGY TASK FORCE

The Honorable Slobodan Milosevic
President
Republic of Serbia
Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Dear Mr. President:

Considering that we both work for the betterment of the Serbian people, I hope you won't mind sharing some of my recent thoughts about the problems with which the Serbian nation is faced at this time.

I am sure you know how extremely concerned Serbian-Americans are about everything that is happening to Serbians in Yugoslavia at the present moment. Daily reports on the continued armed confrontations in the Serbian parts of Croatia, on Serbian homes being demolished and stores banned with increasing numbers of Serbian refugees, make us more and more worried about the prospect of a potential full-scale civil war in Croatia and possibly on a second front in Kosovo.

I am constantly monitoring the Yugoslav crisis hoping that my limited efforts on behalf of the Serbian people will help ensure that history does not repeat itself. Last week at a Serbian rally in Chicago I and other participants expressed disappointment with the negative public opinion toward Serbians. We also called on the U.S. citizens not to forget that Serbia always has been an ally to the United States, particularly during World Wars I and II, as well as a friend for many, many decades.

It is very discouraging to see the extent to which public opinion in the U.S. has become anti-Serbian because of a constant press hammering of communism leadership in Belgrade.

As far as the U.S. Congress is concerned, you may be aware that Congressman Tom Lantos, California, again has introduced a resolution which expresses support for the Yugoslav secessionist republics and calls for cut-off of all direct assistance to Yugoslavia, while blaming Serbia for not responding to calls for negotiations leading to a peaceful settlement of the Yugoslav crisis.

The Honorable Slobodan Milosevic
July 31, 1990
Page 2 of 2

Considering the fact that we have to obtain much more support in order to defend Serbian interests, I have been endeavoring to determine what could be the best strategy to make Serbia's potential friends and allies more involved in their cause. Many of my colleagues and Serbian-American friends believe it would be much easier to continue our fight for the Serbian voice to be heard, if the American public could see something new happening in Serbia today, so the communist myth could be dismissed once and for all.

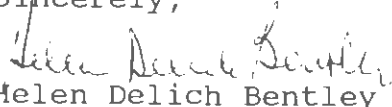
We think that if Americans could see how Serbia is progressing on the path of reforms which it initiated a few years ago in Yugoslavia, they rapidly would change their present negative approach to the problems with which the Serbian nation is faced. It is believed that if some new, prominent public figures would be brought to key positions in your Administration, these aims could be achieved. A real coalition government would be a tremendous boost.

Of course, your position enables you to see much better than I can the possible changes your government could implement in order to obtain the needed support.

Rest assured that I will continue with my efforts to defeat measures that could harm the Serbian people but we need help with some positive moves from Serbia.

Thank you for sharing these thoughts with me.

Sincerely,


Helen Delich Bentley
Member of Congress

HELEN DELICH BENTLEY
2D DISTRICT, MARYLAND

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515
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FAX: 202-225-4251

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

December 23, 1991

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PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

The Honorable Slobodan Milosevic
President
Republic of Serbia
Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Dear Mr. President:

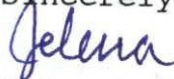
I was in touch with Cyrus Vance over the weekend, and he expressed his fears to me regarding the possible withdrawal of Serbia from the conference in the Hague.

I, therefore, am contacting you to urge you to continue the participation of the Republic of Serbia in the conference in the Hague. This is vital if Serbia is not to isolate itself completely from the rest of the international community, and if there is to be a comprehensive settlement to the current crisis that will address the concerns of the Republic of Serbia.

In addition, I would urge you to use caution in any official recognition of either Serbs in Croatia or Bosnia. This is a two-edged sword, and would force international recognition of the province of Kosovo as an independent republic.

Please realize Serbia's precarious situation vis-a-vis the international community and do all in your power to facilitate a peaceful solution to the current crisis.

Sincerely,



Helen Delich Bentley
Member of Congress

HDB:wvk

RICHARD G. LUGAR
INDIANA

5H 308 SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
202-224-4814

COMMITTEES:
FOREIGN RELATIONS
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1401

December 23, 1991

The Honorable George Bush
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

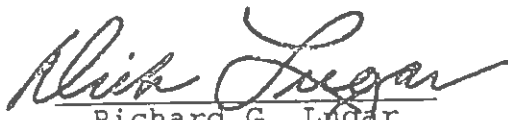
Dear Mr. President:

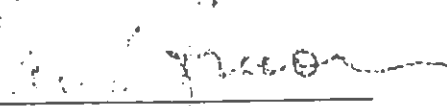
We write as Members of Congress who are deeply concerned about the situation in Yugoslavia. We believe that the best chance for achieving a cease-fire and reducing the suffering is through the negotiations now being conducted by United Nations Secretary General de Cuellar and his personal emissary, Cyrus Vance.

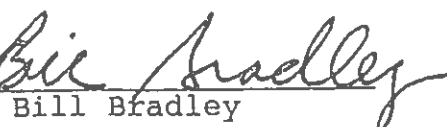
We deeply appreciate that you, Secretary Baker and Deputy Secretary Eagleburger have strongly expressed support for the UN mission. Therefore, we urge you to once again emphatically express United States' unqualified support for this peacekeeping mission.

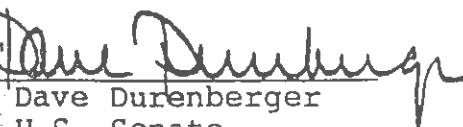
We are sure you concur in our belief that all steps should be taken to stop the killing and suffering.

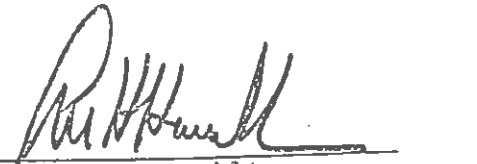
Sincerely,


Richard G. Lugar
U.S. Senate


Paul Simon
U.S. Senate

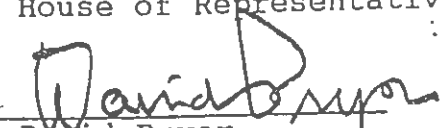

Bill Bradley
U.S. Senate


Dave Durenberger
U.S. Senate


Lee H. Hamilton
House of Representatives


Jim Moody
House of Representatives


Dante Fascell
House of Representatives


David Pryor
U.S. Senate

HELEN DELICH BENTLEY
2D DISTRICT, MARYLAND

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

January 28, 1992

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PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

The Honorable Slobodan Milosevic
President
Republic of Serbia
Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Dear Mr. President:

Allegations have come to my attention that you have recently announced the formation of a Communist Youth Corps with 2 young persons from each Yugoslav ethnic group. It is important that you confirm or deny this. If it is true, you are endangering all efforts I, and other Serbian-Americans have put forth to this date to defend the Republic of Serbia, both in Congress, and to the general public of the United States.

In addition, I would urge you to remove all red star insignia in use by the military and the Republic of Serbia, not just by statute, but also physically. The continual appearance of the red star is not only a public relations bonanza for the Croats, but it also has been seized on by the international media, both who use it to justify their claims of communist Serbian leadership.

Sincerely,



Helen Delich Bentley
Member of Congress

HDB:wvk

February 26, 1992

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

The Honorable Slobodan Milosevic
President
Republic of Serbia
Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Dear Mr. President:

I have given your desire to visit Washington much thought. To be frank, however, I must say that after consulting with a number of key people in Washington power circles, there is still resistance to meetings with you.

Although Serbia is backing the Vance peace plan, which definitely is a positive step in salvaging Serbia's international reputation, Serbia is unfortunately still perceived in the west as a "Bolshevik" or "Communist" state. The individuals with whom I spoke expressed reluctance to your visit because they did not want to be connected with a regime that could be considered even partially totalitarian.

The recent Helsinki Watch reports also went far in exposing problems with both the Serbian and Croatian governments. Now, at least, the Croatian regime does not appear as "innocent" as its proponents have espoused for the last year. However, the reports also exposed some continuing concerns that the west has with the record of human rights in Serbia.

I would strongly urge you to do the following to bolster Serbia's international reputation:

1. Publicly denounce communism and any desire to return to communism after the cessation of hostilities.
2. Remove the red star from official use on flags, uniforms, vehicles, or any other equipment used in an official capacity by the Republic of Serbia, and Yugoslavia if possible.
3. Remove any and all restrictions on the press.
4. Return Shayna Lazarevich's children to their mother. Every court in the U.S. and Serbia has upheld her right to custody.

The Honorable Slobodan Milosevic
February 26, 1992
Page 2 of 2

I realize that lifting press restrictions in Serbia may be undesirable for you, but I believe that it is vital, and that it will have a positive effect in the long run. One of the most, if not the most visible, sign of a true democracy is a free press, with both the good and the bad that comes with it.

I am coming under increasing fire from Congress and from the American public, as are some of my other colleagues, for supporting a country that is considered the last bastion of communism in Europe. These few steps would go far in defusing current criticism and reassuring the west that democratic reform is continuing in the Republic of Serbia.

At the same time I want to assure you we understand that Serbia is ahead of Croatia in the so called free-market economy. However, the perception of a "communist" Serbia is still so strong that that is all people focus on.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

Helen Delich Bentley
Member of Congress



EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

2410 CALIFORNIA STREET, N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C. 20008-1679 (202)462-6566

FAX # (202) 797-9663

TLX # 197690, 248558

Br./No.

Datum

Date 4/21/92

ZA/TO: THE HONORABLE HELEN DELIC-BENTLEY

FAX BR/NO : (410) 337-0021

Na ruke/ Attn.:

Kopija/ CC :

OD/FROM:

VAS BR./RE #:

Broj strana/No.of pages: 3.
(racunajući ovu/ including this one)

U PRILOGU JE VEST O RAZGOVORU S. MILOŠEVIĆ - R. JOHNSON.

SROČAN POZDRAV

Ustvari
(Ivan Zivkovic)

ON THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, THE STATEMENT SET OUT SERBIA'S STAND THAT 'IT MUST NOT BE ACCEPTED THAT THE WILL AND INTERESTS OF ANY OF THE THREE CONSTITUENT NATIONS IN THE REPUBLIC BE IGNORED.'

'SERBIA BELIEVES THAT THE CLASHES IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA CAN STOP AND THAT PEACE CAN BE ENSURED IN THE REGION IF A CONSENSUS OF THE THREE PEOPLES IS REACHED, WHICH IS THE OBJECTIVE OF NEGOTIATIONS LAUNCHED AT THE CONFERENCE ON BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA.'

SARAJEVO, APRIL 21 (TANJUG) - THE YUGOSLAV ARMY HAS NOT FIRED ONE SHOT IN THE FIGHTING WHICH BEGAN EARLY THIS MORNING IN SARAJEVO, AS LIEUTENANT-COLONEL OF THE YUGOSLAV PEOPLE'S ARMY (JNA) 2 MILITARY DISTRICT F.PATACKI TOLD RADIO SARAJEVO.

PATACKI SAID 'THE ARMY UNDERTOOK CERTAIN ACTIONS', BUT DID NOT USE WEAPONS. HE WARNED THAT FIRE WAS OPENED AT MILITARY HOSPITAL AND THAT ONE PATIENT WAS INJURED.

PATACKI CALLED ON BOTH SIDES TO STOP FIGHTING AND BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS.

SARAJEVO, APRIL 20 (TANJUG) - MEMBER OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THE SERB REPUBLIC OF BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA N.KOLJEVIC TOLD RADIO SARAJEVO THAT THE SERBIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY WAS NOT GIVING UP ON FURTHER TALKS ON THE FUTURE OF BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA ON THE GROUNDS OF AGREEMENTS REACHED SO FAR IN SARAJEVO AND BRUSSELS AT SESSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE ON THIS YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC.

KOLJEVIC SAID THAT THE STATE ORGANS OF THE SERB REPUBLIC CONTINUE TO RESPECT THE STATEMENT ON THE PRINCIPLES FOR FURTHER AGREEMENTS ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE REPUBLIC.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SERB REPUBLIC OF BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, KOLJEVIC SAID, DECIDED TO DEMAND THAT TV SARAJEVO BE DIVIDED.

THE DIRECT CAUSE BEHIND THIS DECISION, KOLJEVIC SAID, WERE STATEMENTS BY CERTAIN REPORTERS OF THIS TV STATION WHO SAID THAT, ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, ITEMS THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO READ ON THE AIR WERE MYSTERIOUSLY STOLEN AND THAT PEOPLE WERE STANDING BEHIND THEM WITH WEAPONS WHILE THEY WERE WORKING.

BELGRADE, APRIL 20 (TANJUG) - IN SERBIA THERE ARE ABOUT 44,000 REFUGEES FROM BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, WHICH IS TAKEN BY ETHNIC CONFLICTS, THE RED CROSS HAS SAID.

ON SUNDAY 1,750 REFUGEES FROM BOSNIA ARRIVED IN SERBIA'S NORTHERN VOJVODINA PROVINCE. OFFICIALLY REGISTERED ARE 15,000 PEOPLE WHO FLED BOSNIA, BUT ESTIMATES ARE THAT THEIR NUMBERS ARE MUCH HIGHER, THE VOJVODINA RED CROSS SAID.

PREGLED VESTI

BELGRADE, APRIL 20 (TANJUG) - THE SERBIAN PEOPLE DID NOT PROVOKE THE VIOLENCE IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, BUT WE DEEPLY REGRET THAT SOME WHO CALL THEMSELVES ORTHODOX BELIEVERS HAVE ACTED IN THIS CONFLICT IN SELF-DEFENCE VIOLENTLY, IN A MANNER NOT WORTHY OF EITHER THEIR ORTHODOX RELIGION OR THEIR NAME, WRITES PATRIARCH PAVLE OF THE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AN OPEN LETTER TO THE LEADER OF THE MOSLEM COMMUNITY IN YUGOSLAVIA, REIS-UL-ULEMA HAJI JAKUB SELIMOSKI.

IN THE LETTER, THE SERBIAN PATRIARCH CONDEMNS VIOLENCE AND CRIMES COMMITTED BY ANYBODY ANYWHERE.

AT THE INITIATIVE OF PATRIARCH PAVLE, A CONFERENCE WAS TO BE HELD IN SARAJEVO OF THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF THE THREE MAJOR RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES IN YUGOSLAVIA - CATHOLICS, MOSLEMS AND ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS. PATRIARCH PAVLE WAS COMPELLED TO POSTPONE THE CONFERENCE DUE TO AN 'IMPOSSIBILITY TO OBTAIN TRANSPORT' TO THE CAPITAL OF BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, BUT EXPRESSED A READINESS FOR THE CONFERENCE TO 'BE HELD WHERE AND WHEN POSSIBLE.'

BELGRADE, APRIL 21 (TANJUG) - THE ACCUSATIONS AGAINST SERBIA ARE UNFOUNDED AND IT REJECTS ATTEMPTS AT ACHIEVING POLITICAL GOALS IN THIS MANNER, IT IS SAID IN A STATEMENT ISSUED AFTER TALKS BETWEEN SERBIAN PRESIDENT S.MILOSEVIC AND U.S. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE R.JOHNSON.

IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT SERBIA URGES A LEGAL AND JUST POLITICAL SOLUTION TO THE YUGOSLAV CRISIS WITHIN THE PEACE PROCESS OF THE CONFERENCE ON YUGOSLAVIA, WHICH PRESUPPOSES THE RESPECT OF EQUALITY OF ALL ITS PARTICIPANTS AND UNBIASED TAKING INTO ACCOUNT OF THE WILL AND INTERESTS OF ALL YUGOSLAV NATIONS,' IT IS SAID IN THE STATEMENT.

CONCERNING THE ACCUSATIONS AGAINST SERBIA, IT WAS SAID THAT THEY ARE NOT BASED ON FACTS. SERBIA DOES NOT HAVE ANY TERRITORIAL CLAIMS TOWARDS OTHERS AND HAS, SINCE THE BEGINNING, URGED FOR A PEACEFUL AND LEGAL OUTCOME OF THE YUGOSLAV CRISIS,' THE STATEMENT ADDED.

'SERBIA CANNOT ACCEPT ATTEMPTS TO ACHIEVE POLITICAL GOALS BY UNOBJECTIVE DESCRIPTION OF THE SITUATION, PRESSURE AND IMPOSITION OF WILL,' THE STATEMENT SAID.

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President, Republic of Serbia
Belgrade, Yugoslavia

FROM: Helen Delich Bentley, M.C.

TOTAL PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 4

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HELEN DELICH BENTLEY
2ND DISTRICT, MARYLAND

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2002

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HELEN DELICH BENTLEY
2ND DISTRICT, MARYLAND

COMMITTEE ON
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2002

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TO: Ambassador Warren Zimmerman

FROM: Helen D Bentley

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Confidential, Personal

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DISTRICT OFFICE
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BEL AIR, MD 21014
TELEPHONE (410) 879-2517

April 22, 1992

Helen Delich Bentley, M.C.
408 Chapelwood Lane
Lutherville, Maryland 21093

The Honorable Slobodan Milosevic
President
Republic of Serbia
Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Dear Mr. President:

As per our conversation this morning, I am forwarding to you what I believe, as a member of the Serbian-American community, must be done to salvage Serbia's reputation in the international community.

As you are no doubt aware, the international press has labeled Serbia as the aggressor in the fighting in Bosnia. More recently, the United States government, the European Community, and the Helsinki Commission have adopted the same position. As the attached "Dear Colleague" indicates, this same position is rapidly taking hold among a growing number of Members of Congress as well.

Although you raise a number of points to counter the criticism directed at Serbia, this is not enough, even for a beginning. Serbia's position has never been more precarious, and the time for extraordinary measures has arrived.

You advised me that tomorrow the Serbian Assembly will have under consideration the new Yugoslav constitution. As explained to me, this legislation essentially reconstitutes the nation of Yugoslavia as comprising the republics of Serbia and Montenegro. I urge that at the same time, you publicly adopt the following recommendations to deflect further criticism from Serbia:

1. Publicly appeal, if possible joined by Patriarch Pavle and other political and religious leaders, for an immediate cessation of all hostilities, to be followed by negotiations to ensure the human rights of citizens of all ethnic groups.
2. Call upon the United States, the European Community, and/or the United Nations to participate in these negotiations as unbiased arbitrators for the purpose of ensuring guarantees for the protection of minority rights.
3. Proclaim your support for the inviolability of Bosnia's borders through use of force.
4. Proclaim that the army of the new Yugoslavia has no existence outside the borders of the new federation.

The Honorable Slobodan Milosevic
April 22, 1992
Page 2 of 2

5. Call upon all citizens of the Republic of Serbia serving in the Yugoslav Army in Bosnia to return to Serbia as well as all citizens of Croatia involved in the current unrest in Bosnia to return to Croatia.

6. Renounce any Federal Army units that claim to be the Yugoslav Army, but remain on Bosnian territory. And in the same vein, the Bosnian border should be sealed with respect to movement of troops or armaments from any other republic or state.

7. Invite the people of Bosnia to choose participation in the new federation of Yugoslavia through a plebiscite of voters of all ethnicities.


8. Proclaim that the right of self-determination should apply to Serbs in Bosnia and the Krajina region of Croatia.

9. In conclusion, state that the Republic of Serbia offers and agrees to do the above in a sincere effort to once and for all perfect a peaceful resolution of all problems, in Yugoslavia and/or its parts, by immediate recognition and removal of all embargoes, sanctions of any and all kinds, on it or its parts.

This is what must be done. Time is of the essence, and unless the Republic of Serbia enacts these recommendations as a package in conjunction with the adoption of a new constitution, I believe that Serbia will pay an even heavier price.

I look forward to discussing the points with you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


Helen Delich Bentley
Member of Congress

P.S. Does a Constitution only approved by a Parliament have the same hold and strength as one approved by a full blown voters' referendum?

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 21, 1992

IMPOSE SANCTIONS AGAINST SERBIA

Dear Colleague,

The latest Serbian military aggression against the newly independent Republic of Bosnia continues a pattern of outrageous behavior that violates all of the norms of international relations.

Last fall I introduced bi-partisan legislation in the House to impose economic sanctions against the communist Serbian government. In light of the latest military atrocities and violations of human rights, the adoption of legislation imposing these sanctions is even more urgent. It is important that we take a strong stand against the Serbian-sponsored violence and military action against democratically-elected governments.

Please join in cosponsoring H.R. 3518 to restrict United States assistance to Serbia and impose sanctions until Serbia ceases armed conflict against other ethnic peoples of the former Yugoslavia and respects international borders. To cosponsor this legislation, please have your staff contact Michael Burton of my office at 5-3531.

Cordially,



Tom Lantos

Cosponsors of H.R.3518

David Bonior
Christopher Smith
James Sensenbrenner
John R. Kasich
Guy Vander Jagt
Frank D. Riggs
C. Christopher Cox
Tom Lewis
George E. Sangmeister
William O. Lipinski

Wm. S. Broomfield
Dick Swett
Dennis E. Eckart
Dale E. Kildee
Susan Molinari
Dana Rohrabacher
Christopher Shays
John D. Dingell
Michael R. McNulty

Benjamin A. Gilman
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April 22, 1992

President Slobodan Milosevic
Belgrade, YugoslaviaOur Fax Number : (406)723-5079
Our Phone Number: (406)723-5455

Dear Mr. President:

We American Serbs are deeply concerned with the tragic events that are occurring in Yugoslavia.

We are aware of the fact that there is much mis-information in the reporting by the news media regarding the situation in Yugoslavia and it is obvious there is an adverse relationship developing between the U. S. and Serbia.


After talking with a good number of Serbia's American friends, it appears wise to move tactfully on the diplomatic front.

We realize the enormous difficulties you have had to deal with and it seems to us, that now is the opportune time for you to reiterate that it is time to stop all bloodshed and that the Serbs do not want anything that does not belong to them. Along with this, you would like the major powers to call a peace conference, at which some of the most important issues could be resolved, such as boundries, foreign debts, division of common properties etc.

Mr. President, if this seems wise to you, please let us know what we can do to help.

Thanking you, I remain

Sincerely yours,



Bob Koprivica



END

May 5, 1992

The Honorable Slobodan Milosevic
President
Republic of Serbia
Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Dear Mr. President:

It was with profound disappointment that I learned of recent events in the Shayna Lazarevich child custody case.

As you may recall, I wrote you on March 24th, and then again in an appeal with 14 members of Congress on April 7th, urging you to insure that Ms. Lazarevich gain actual physical custody of her children, in accordance with the ruling of the courts in both Serbia and the United States.

Ms. Lazarevich was in contact with my office today, and informed me that her children were not in school for the past two days. She feels, and I cannot help but believe, that her ex-husband has either fled the country, or is in hiding.

I would urge you once again, to do all in your power to resolve this case, which I now have been involved in for over two years.

Sincerely,

Helen Delich Bentley
Member of Congress

(over)

May 13, 1992

The Honorable Slobodan Milosevic
President
Republic of Serbia
Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Dear Mr. President:

It is with a heavy heart that I am writing you today. The hostilities in Bosnia-Hercegovina are continuing unabated.

Serbia has no friends, no allies, in this senseless killing. The economy of Serbia is in shambles. Serbia is at an all time low, and unless change comes rapidly, Serbia will have no chance to emerge from the ever deepening grave into which it is falling.

From what I understand, extremists from all sides are acting completely outside of government control. Continuation of the hostilities in Bosnia-Hercegovina very probably will lead to an explosion in Kosovo and other majority Muslim areas, and spread war throughout the Balkans.

I am not here to assign blame, there is more than enough to go around. However, all hands are pointing to Belgrade, saying you are the individual that has the power to stop this insanity.

I urge you to do all in your power to encourage Serbian forces in Bosnia-Hercegovina to cease hostilities, and to participate actively in the current forums that exist in order to bring peace to the Balkans. Anything less would be to the detriment of the Serbian people, not only in Balkans, but throughout the entire world.

Sincerely,

Helen Delich Bentley
Member of Congress

FAXED 9:35
5-29-92

Fax to

President Slobodan Milosevic
684-679

from

Congresswoman Helen Delich-Bentley
410-561-1868

Private and Confidential

two pages including this one.

HELEN DELICH BENTLEY
2D DISTRICT, MARYLAND

COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC WORKS AND
TRANSPORTATION
SUBCOMMITTEES:
WATER RESOURCES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

COMMITTEE ON
MERCHANT MARINE
AND FISHERIES
SUBCOMMITTEES:
MERCHANT MARINE
PANAMA CANAL/OUTER
CONTINENTAL SHELF
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

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

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

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

May 29, 1992

President Slobodan Milosevic
Republic of Serbia
Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Dear Mr. President:

The U.S. Embassy advises me that you have said you will meet with Shayna Lazarevich about her two children. For that I am grateful and I hope you will put forth every effort humanly possible to find her ex-husband Dragash Lazarevich and get the two children before something unfortunate happens to them. Incidentally, I am told that Dragash does NOT have an American passport. His passport is Yugoslavian. The children have American passports.

We do have another emergency humanitarian case that I hope you will take a special interest in and keep me advised of the progress.

Marin Pesa, an American, was captured on March 18 at Bileca (spelling may not be correct) by the Serbians. He was moved to Titograd and now is in Belgrade.

It is important that he is released as soon as possible and you can make the condition that he leaves the area altogether. Although he is a New Yorker and, therefore, a constituent of Senator D'Mato's, I still urge that he be freed as it will do a world of good public relations for you without costing you anything.

These two cases outlined above can do a lot of good for Serbia in the humanitarian line if we can get them worked out.

Will appreciate hearing from you on either or both of these in the very near future.

Sincerely,



HelenDelich Bentley
Member of Congress

HELEN DELICH BENTLEY
2ND DISTRICT, MARYLAND

COMMITTEE ON
THE BUDGET
COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC WORKS AND
TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE ON
MERCHANT MARINE
AND FISHERIES
SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2002
August 28, 1992

CAUCUSES:
STEEL
ART
TRADE AND TOURISM
MARITIME
HUMAN RIGHTS
ENERGY TASK FORCE

His Excellency Milan Panic
Prime Minister of Yugoslavia
11,000 Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:


I am pleased to learn that Mr. Dragisa Lazarevic, ex-husband of Ms. Shayna Lazarevic, finally has been found and put behind bars. Thank you.

It is my understanding and fear, however, that he can be held in custody only eight days without cause. Considering his past and continuing atrocious conduct, in particular his threats to do harm to his own children, it is imperative that his children are delivered to the American Embassy BEFORE Mr. Lazarevic is set free. No other alternative will be satisfactory.

Mr. Lazarevic's children must not be exposed to his threats, abuse and volatile temper any longer. It is therefore imperative that the Minister of Justice, who has done a commendable job on this tragic case, is made aware of the urgency of this request, and that under no circumstances is Mr. Lazarevic allowed to leave until the children are delivered safely to the Embassy.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,


Helen Delich Bentley
Member of Congress

HDB:ab

PLEASE REPLY TO:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1610 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2002
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-3061
FAX: (202) 225-4251

DISTRICT OFFICE:
200 EAST JOPPA ROAD
TOWSON, MD 21204
TELEPHONE: (410) 337-7222
FAX: (410) 337-0021

DISTRICT OFFICE:
7458 GERMAN HILL ROAD
DUNDALK, MD 21222
TELEPHONE: (410) 285-2747

DISTRICT OFFICE:
6 NORTH MAIN STREET
BEL AIR, MD 21014
TELEPHONE: (410) 879-2517

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HELEN DELICH BENTLEY
2ND DISTRICT, MARYLAND

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COMMITTEE ON
MERCHANT MARINE
AND FISHERIES

SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2002

CAUCUSES:
STEEL
ART
TRADE AND TOURISM
MARITIME
HUMAN RIGHTS
ENERGY TASK FORCE

August 28, 1992

The Honorable Slobodan Milosevic
President of Serbia
11,000 Belgrade, Yugoslavia

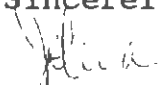
Dear President Milosevic:

I am pleased to learn that finally you have managed to find and put in jail the criminal ex-husband of Ms. Shayna Lazarevic, Mr. Dragisa Lazarevic.

It is my understanding and fear, however, that he can be held in custody only eight days without cause. Considering his past and continuing atrocious conduct, in particular his threats to do harm to his own children, it is imperative that his children are delivered to the American Embassy BEFORE Mr. Lazarevic is set free. No other alternative will be satisfactory.

Mr. Lazarevic's children must not be exposed to his threats, abuse and volatile temper any longer. It is therefore my hope that, after numerous broken promises, you are able to deliver this time, and make sure that this man is kept behind bars until the children are delivered safely to the Embassy. This must not be yet another instance which causes Serbia embarassment by providing false information about the children.

Sincerely,


Helen Delich Bentley
Member of Congress

HDB:ab

PLEASE REPLY TO:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1610 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2002
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-3061
FAX: (202) 225-4251

DISTRICT OFFICE:
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2ND DISTRICT, MARYLAND

COMMITTEE ON
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COMMITTEE ON
MERCHANT MARINE
AND FISHERIES

SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2002

September 1, 1992

The Honorable Slobodan Milosevic
President of Serbia
11,000, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

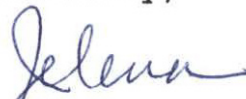
Dear President Milosevic:

As we know, in a war there are many personal tragedies of all kinds. When possible, alleviation of a painful family situation brought about by the conditions of war is beneficial to all parties. I recently have been informed of one such tragic situation which, with your help, could be improved.

Five-year-old Tamara Molnar, a previous resident of Vukovar whose pregnant mother was killed by Serbian forces, is now in a refugee camp in Zagreb, Croatia. Her father Ivan Molnar, a civilian, has been spotted in a Serbian detention camp in Mitrovica, Serbia, as recently as July 1992.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could allow the release of Mr. Molnar so that he could be reunited with his small daughter. Not only would it lessen the tragedy in their lives, but it also would serve to provide the Serbs "with a heart."

Sincerely,



Helen Delich Bentley
Member of Congress

HDB:ab

CAUCUSES:
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ART
TRADE AND TOURISM
MARITIME
HUMAN RIGHTS
ENERGY TASK FORCE

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
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TELEPHONE: (410) 285-2747

6 NORTH MAIN STREET
BEL AIR, MD 21014
TELEPHONE: (410) 879-2517

HELEN DELICH BENTLEY
2ND DISTRICT, MARYLAND

COMMITTEE ON
THE BUDGET
COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC WORKS AND
TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE ON
MERCHANT MARINE
AND FISHERIES
SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2002

September 1, 1992

His Excellency Milan Panic
Prime Minister of Yugoslavia
11,000 Belgrade, Yugoslavia

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Sincerely,



Helen Delich Bentley
Member of Congress

HDB:ab

CAUCUSES:
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TRADE AND TOURISM
MARITIME
HUMAN RIGHTS
ENERGY TASK FORCE

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1610 LONGWORTH BUILDING
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6 NORTH MAIN STREET
BEL AIR, MD 21014
TELEPHONE: (410) 879-2517

HELEN DELICH BENTLEY
2ND DISTRICT, MARYLAND

COMMITTEE ON
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COMMITTEE ON
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TRANSPORTATION

COMMITTEE ON
MERCHANT MARINE
AND FISHERIES

SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2002

September 1, 1992

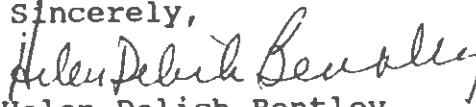
Mr. Michael S. Bozich
1100 North Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Mr. Bozich:

Regarding your interest in the fates of the Molnars, I have made official requests to Belgrade to release Mr. Molnar from the detention camp, and have pleaded for their help in lessening the tragedy of the Molnar family. I cannot predict what the results will be. Sometimes I have luck and they grant my requests, but other times, we lose. Let's just hope that in this instance the reaction is favorable.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,


Helen Delich Bentley
Member of Congress

HDB:ab

CAUCUSES:

STEEL
ART

TRADE AND TOURISM
MARITIME
HUMAN RIGHTS

ENERGY TASK FORCE

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
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DUNDALK, MD 21222
TELEPHONE: (410) 285-2747

8 NORTH MAIN STREET
BEL AIR, MD 21014
TELEPHONE: (410) 879-2517

Date: August 13, 1992

To: Honorable Helen Delich Bentley
1610 Longworth Building
Washington, D.C. 60515

From: Michael S. Bozich
1100 North Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60611
(312) 664-6549

Re: Ivan Molnar (civilian hostage)

I have been in contact with your office over the past two months seeking your help in procuring the release of Ivan Molnar, from a Serbian concentration camp. You have graciously referred me to your aid, Milan Pavlovic, who has requested the following information.

Mr. Ivan Molnar has a 5 year old daughter living in a refugee camp in Zagreb, of whom my wife and I have taken a personal interest in. Her mother who was 8 months pregnant was killed by Serbian forces in Vukovar. Ivan Molnar was last heard from in July 1992, via a short letter from prison camp stating "he was alive".

Subject: Ivan Molar: Croatian civilian, born May 30, 1964; resident of Vukovar. Last known address, concentration camp located in Mitrovica, Serbia.

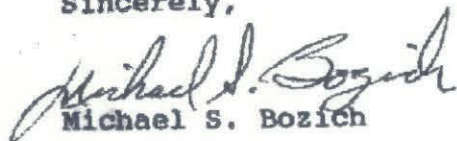
Wife: Sandra Molnar: Deceased, wife of Ivan Molnar; Croatian; resident of Vukovar, 25 years of age and 8 months pregnant, at the time she was killed.

Child: Tamara Molnar: Daughter of Ivan and Sandra Molnar; born June 17, 1987 in Vukovar. Presently a resident of a refugee camp in Zagreb, Croatia.

I would appreciate your effort and use of your personal contacts and influence in Belgrade to have Ivan Molnar, a civilian, released or exchanged so he may be reunited with his baby daughter again. As a former combat veteran, who is familiar with prison camps, I appeal to you as one American to another for your compassion and humanitarian understanding in this situation.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,


Michael S. Bozich

Date: August 13, 1992
To: Honorable Helen Delich Bentley
1610 Longworth Building
Washington, D.C. 60515
From: Michael S. Bozich
1100 North Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60611
(312) 664-6549
Re: Ivan Molnar (civilian hostage)

Original Taped
8/14/92
to
202-224-4251

I have been in contact with your office over the past two months seeking your help in procuring the release of Ivan Molnar, from a Serbian concentration camp. You have graciously referred me to your aid, Milan Pavlovic, who has requested the following information.

Mr. Ivan Molnar has a 5 year old daughter living in a refugee camp in Zagreb, of whom my wife and I have taken a personal interest in. Her mother who was 8 months pregnant was killed by Serbian forces in Vukovar. Ivan Molnar was last heard from in July 1992, via a short letter from prison camp stating "he was alive".

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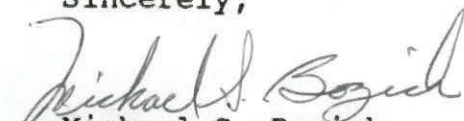
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,


Michael S. Bozich

HELEN DELICH BENTLEY
2ND DISTRICT, MARYLAND

COMMITTEE ON
THE BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC WORKS AND
TRANSPORTATION

COMMITTEE ON
MERCHANT MARINE
AND FISHERIES

SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2002

CAUCUSES
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MARITIME
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ENERGY TASK FORCE

September 22, 1992

The Honorable Slobodan Milosevic
President
Republic of Serbia
Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Dear Mr. President:

I made several attempts to telephone you today, but was unable to get through. I am contacting you via facsimile instead.

The House today passed a bill withdrawing Most Favored Nation (MFN) status from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. This may not seem much on top of the current sanctions that the international community and the United States have already placed on Yugoslavia, but it is going to make life in Serbia and Montenegro just that much harder for the people, and make new Yugoslavia's economic recovery that much more difficult.

Congressman Phil Crane and myself spoke in opposition to this bill, but current Congressional sentiment is overwhelmingly anti-Serbian, and there was no real chance of defeating this bill. It seems that everyday, here and in other legislative forums, that Serbia is taking harder and harder hits. It has reached a stage where it is becoming impossible for me to defend Serbia's actions.

When I visited in May, I came for a specific purpose, and I backed off. Now, however, for the sake of the Serbian people, and of Yugoslavia, I am joining the chorus to request that you step down as President of the Republic of Serbia. The destruction of Serbia must stop, and this is the only way that is acceptable to the international community.

I will do all in my power to ease your transition from power, and to push for removal of sanctions from Yugoslavia. If it is your wish, I am willing to travel to Belgrade to discuss this with you. I understand your concern for the Serbian people, and I share that concern, but now it is time for a radical change to ensure their continued health and viability.

PLEASE REPLY TO:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1810 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2002
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-3061
FAX: (202) 225-4251

DISTRICT OFFICE:
200 EAST JOPPA ROAD
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FAX: (410) 337-0021

DISTRICT OFFICE:
7458 GERMAN HILL ROAD
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TELEPHONE: (410) 285-2747

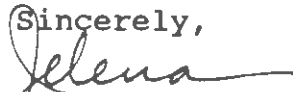
DISTRICT OFFICE:
6 NORTH MAIN STREET
BEL AIR, MD 21014
TELEPHONE: (410) 879-2517

BUY U.S.A. SAVE AMERICAN JOBS!

The Honorable Slobodan Milosevic
September 22, 1992
Page 2 of 2

Please think of the people. With winter approaching, the international sanctions on Serbia will bite even harder, compounding the suffering that the Serbs are already experiencing. Please take this to heart.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Helen".

Helen Delich Bentley
Member of Congress