

U.S. WANTS SERBIA OUT OF CSCE, EMERGENCY TALKS TO START

By Fredrik Dahl

HELSINKI, May 6, Reuter - The United States, denouncing what it said was Serbian aggression, said on Wednesday that Serbia should be excluded from all the activities of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Senior officials of the 52-nation security forum, which groups European countries, the United States and Canada, were meeting later in the day to consider a fresh appeal from Bosnia for military aid to help end the violence in the former Yugoslav republic.

U.S. ambassador John C. Kornblum told delegates that if the situation did not improve in Bosnia stronger actions should be considered.

"Serbian representatives should be excluded from all CSCE activities until we reach consensus that they should be re-admitted," Kornblum said.

Saying words were no longer enough, he declared: "A further shock treatment is needed...The time has come for (CSCE) participating states to demonstrate that they will not sit still in the face of aggression."

The United States is expected to win support from at least some other countries at the later meeting of the conference's Committee of Senior officials (CSO). But it was not clear whether the support would be enough to exclude Serbia as most CSCE decisions require consensus.

Kornblum said the old Yugoslavia had disappeared.

"The state which now lays claim to its name and to its seat in the CSCE can in no way be described as meeting CSCE standards or commitments," he said.

"Until it does we do not believe that even the provisional participation agreed on May 1 is any longer justified," Kornblum told a plenary session.

"If matters improve we should say so. If they do not, we should consider even more drastic action."

CSCE nations agreed on May 1 that Yugoslavia could stay at the conference pending the outcome of a European Community peace conference in Brussels.

Bosnian Foreign Minister Haris Silajdzic appealed for outside military help at the CSCE.

"...The government of Bosnia-Herzegovina has no choice but to ask this forum to name the aggressor which is the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (and) to extend military aid to the government of Bosnia-Herzegovina in order to stop further loss of life, human suffering and destruction," Silajdzic said.

The United States has ruled out sending in American forces, saying U.N. peace-keepers should be considered.

The CSCE has no military power of its own, although there has been proposals for it to have a peace-keeping role in the future, possibly in cooperation with NATO.

More than 300 people have been killed in two months of fighting in Bosnia between local Croats and Moslems backing the republic's declared independence and Serbs supported by the Serb-led Yugoslav federal army.

Austria, which called for CSCE emergency talks this week, said Yugoslavia should be suspended from all CSCE decisions.

"Those who sit on the benches of the accused no longer

should be given the opportunity of casting judgment about their own crimes and negotiating about them," Martin Vukovich, head of the Austrian delegation, said.

He demanded that the Yugoslav delegation not take part in the later meeting of senior officials.

Vukovich also said the officials should decide on political and economic measures, including the cancellation of oil-deliveries.

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