

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. CON. RES. 85

Calling for an end to the violent repression of the people of Kosovo.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 18, 1998

Mr. NICKLES (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. HELMS, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KYL, Mr. KERREY, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. CLELAND, and Mr. COVERDELL) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Calling for an end to the violent repression of the people
of Kosovo.

Whereas ethnic Albanians constitute 90 percent of the population of the province of Kosovo;

Whereas the human rights situation in Kosovo has recently deteriorated, culminating in the killing of more than 70 ethnic Albanians, including innocent women and children, by Serbian police and paramilitary forces controlled by Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic;

Whereas Serbian authorities controlled by Milosevic have attempted to thwart efforts by international forensic experts to determine the cause of death of recent victims by burying the dead against the wishes of their families;

Whereas the current conflict in Kosovo threatens to reignite war in the Balkans, and is thereby a potential threat to regional peace and security;

Whereas the six-nation Contact Group established to monitor the situation in the former Yugoslavia has requested that the Serbian authorities controlled by Milosevic grant International Red Cross personnel access to areas where recent violence and killing have been reported;

Whereas the Contact Group has called upon Milosevic to withdraw special police units from Kosovo and enter into unconditional negotiations with ethnic Albanian political leaders in order to find a peaceful political solution to the conflict or face additional international sanctions; and

Whereas a peaceful resolution of the conflict in Kosovo must respect the rights of members of all ethnic and religious groups in Kosovo, all of whose representatives should be involved in negotiations about the resolution of that conflict: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress—

3 (1) the United States should condemn the Ser-
4 bian government controlled by Slobodan Milosevic in
5 the strongest possible terms for the gross human
6 rights violations against its citizens, including the in-
7 discriminate use of Serbian paramilitary police units
8 against the Albanian population of Kosovo;

9 (2) the United States should condemn any ter-
10 rorist actions by any group or individual in Kosovo;

1 (3) the international community should respond
2 affirmatively to the call of the Contact Group for the
3 imposition of broad-based sanctions against the gov-
4 ernment of Serbia if it fails to prevent additional
5 atrocities by the police and paramilitary units under
6 its control or does not otherwise comply immediately
7 with the terms set forth by the Contact Group;

8 (4) the United States should freeze funds of the
9 governments of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
10 and Serbia if the government of Serbia fails to com-
11 ply by March 25, 1998, with the terms set forth by
12 the Contact Group;

13 (5) pursuant to the terms set forth by the Con-
14 tact Group, the United States should demand that
15 the Serbian government and the ethnic Albanian
16 leadership and the representatives of all ethnic and
17 religious groups in Kosovo immediately begin uncon-
18 ditional talks to achieve a peaceful resolution to the
19 conflict in Kosovo and to provide for the exercise of
20 the legitimate civil and political rights of all persons
21 in Kosovo; and

22 (6) the United States should demand that inter-
23 national human rights monitors, especially personnel
24 of the International Red Cross who were forced to
25 withdraw from Kosovo, be allowed to return imme-

- 1 diately to Kosovo in order to be able to report on all
- 2 human rights violations.

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