

Bosnian Serbs, are able to receive television and radio broadcasts that depict the true reasons for their isolation and poor standing in the international community, it is less likely that meaningful progress will be made in the implementation of the civilian aspects of the Dayton accords.

Mr. President, the European Stars and Stripes reported last week that many Bosnian Serbs have refused to accept copies of a free publication called the Herald of Peace that is handed out throughout Bosnia by SFOR. I am sure that they are reluctant to be seen accepting this publication for fear that they will be reported to Karadzic and his henchmen. The beauty of Commando Solo is that its radio and television broadcasts will go into the homes of the Bosnian Serbs where they can receive it away from prying eyes. Karadzic can't stop the broadcasts—they override his transmissions. It is time to put this valuable tool to work for peace in Bosnia and for the security of our forces.

EXHIBIT 1

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, July 24, 1997.

Mr. SAMUEL R. BERGER,
Assistant to the President for National Security
Affairs, National Security Council, Wash-
ington, DC.

DEAR MR. BERGER: I am writing in connection with the lack of progress in implementing the civilian aspects of the Dayton peace accords, particularly the problem of war criminals. I am deeply disturbed about the failure of the Bosnian parties, particularly the Republika Srpska, to cooperate in the investigation and prosecution of war crimes and other violations of international humanitarian law as required by Article IX of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Recent press reports regarding the influence of former Bosnian Serb president and indicted war criminal Radovan Karadzic, establish that his and his party's control of all Bosnian Serb media, particularly Bosnian television, consistently presents a distorted picture as to the cause of the Republic's isolation and poverty.

Until the Bosnian people, particularly the Bosnian Serbs, are able to receive television broadcasts that depict the true reasons for their isolation and poor standing in the international community, it is doubtful that any meaningful progress will be made in the implementation of the civilian aspects of the Dayton accords.

I am concerned that the local media's distorted reporting is inflaming the situation in Republika Srpska and encouraging the Bosnian Serbs to take reprisal action against personnel of the Stabilization Force (SFOR), the International Police Task Force (IPTF), and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). It seems to me that those actions and other less dramatic, but improper, actions by the Bosnian Serbs and their political leadership are impeding the ability of the SFOR Commander to protect the SFOR and to carry out its responsibilities under the accords.

Paragraph 5 of Article VI of the Agreement on the Military Aspects of the Peace Settlement gives the SFOR Commander the authority to do all that he judges necessary and proper to protect the SFOR and to carry out its responsibilities. I believe that it would be appropriate for the SFOR Com-

mander to determine that the presentation of distorted reports about SFOR, the inflaming of emotions, and the encouragement of reprisal action by the Bosnian Serb media controlled by Karadzic and the ruling Serb Democratic Party, are impeding his ability to protect SFOR and to carry out SFOR's responsibilities.

The U.S. military has the capability through the EC-130E Commando Solo aircraft to broadcast television and radio messages to the Bosnian people. I strongly recommend that, once the SFOR Commander makes the above determination, he be authorized to utilize Commando Solo to conduct television and radio broadcasts in Republika Srpska to inform the Bosnian Serbs of the true facts.

It may also be necessary to take similar action with respect to the other Bosnian parties. I fear that without such action war criminals will not be brought to justice, reconciliation will not take place, and the human and material investment of the United States and its allies will have been in vain.

I am sending a similar letter to the Secretary of Defense.

Sincerely,

CARL LEVIN,
Ranking Minority Member.

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, July 24, 1997.

Hon. WILLIAM S. COHEN,
Secretary of Defense,
The Pentagon, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I am writing in connection with the lack of progress in implementing the civilian aspects of the Dayton peace accords, particularly the problem of war criminals. I am deeply disturbed about the failure of the Bosnian parties, particularly the Republika Srpska, to cooperate in the investigation and prosecution of war crimes and other violations of international humanitarian law as required by Article IX of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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I am sending a similar letter to the National Security Adviser.

Sincerely,

CARL LEVIN,
Ranking Minority Member.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, July 29, 1997, the Federal debt stood at \$5,373,127,138,499.91. (Five trillion, three hundred seventy-three billion, one hundred twenty-seven million, one hundred thirty-eight thousand, four hundred ninety-nine dollars and ninety-one cents)

One year ago, July 29, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,182,455,000,000. (Five trillion, one hundred eighty-two billion, four hundred fifty-five million)

Five years ago, July 29, 1992, the Federal debt stood at \$3,995,312,000,000. (Three trillion, nine hundred ninety-five billion, three hundred twelve million)

Ten years ago, July 29, 1987, the Federal debt stood at \$2,298,353,000,000. (Two trillion, two hundred ninety-eight billion, three hundred fifty-three million)

Fifteen years ago, July 29, 1982, the Federal debt stood at \$1,089,771,000,000 (One trillion, eighty-nine billion, seven hundred seventy-one million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,283,356,138,499.91 (Four trillion, two hundred eighty-three billion, three hundred fifty-six million, one hundred thirty-eight thousand, four hundred ninety-nine dollars and ninety-one cents) during the past 15 years.

U.S. FOREIGN OIL CONSUMPTION
FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 25

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the American Petroleum Institute reports that for the week ending July 25, the U.S. imported 8,138,000 barrels of oil each day, 585,000 barrels more than the 7,553,000 imported each day during the same week 1 year ago.

Americans relied on foreign oil for 56.3 percent of their needs last week, and there are no signs that the upward

spiral will abate. Before the Persian Gulf War, the United States obtained approximately 45 percent of its oil supply from foreign countries. During the Arab oil embargo in the 1970's, foreign oil accounted for only 35 percent of America's oil supply.

Anybody else interested in restoring domestic production of oil? By U.S. producers using American workers?

Politicians had better ponder the economic calamity sure to occur in America if and when foreign producers shut off our supply—or double the already enormous cost of imported oil flowing into the U.S.—now 8,138,000 barrels a day.

TRIBUTE TO CHRIS YODER

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to take a few moments to recognize Mr. Chris Yoder, a fellow Idahoan, who will be leaving his professional staff position at the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs to accept a new challenge with the Commission on Service Members and Veterans Transition Assistance.

A veteran, himself, of the Vietnam War in Army Intelligence, he continued his dedication to the colleagues by serving 13 years with the Veterans Administration in Boise, ID. There he worked in various capacities as a benefits counselor, claims examiner and education specialist.

Except for the 102d Congress when he worked for the Veterans Affairs, in Washington DC as a staff assistant to the Deputy Secretary, Mr. Yoder has been with the committee for 12½ years. During that time he served with distinction, helping to fashion policies that serve America's veterans.

He has always accepted challenges, faced them head on and worked diligently in providing the critical answers that have shaped the positive direction the Veterans Committee has taken.

Mr. Yoder's efforts have always represented his personal commitment to constituents, the veterans service organizations and members of the committee. His timely initiatives and extraordinary abilities will have lasting results for years to come.

I have high praise for Chris's leadership, dedication, professionalism and accomplishments. On behalf of myself and the veterans of Idaho, we wish him well in his new endeavor, and wholeheartedly thank him for his outstanding service.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting treaties and sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 1:31 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 430. An act of June 20, 1910, to protect the permanent trust funds of the State of New Mexico from erosion due to inflation and modify the basis on which distributions are made from those funds.

S. 670. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of 1994 to eliminate the special transition rule for issuance of a certificate of citizenship for certain children born outside the United States.

At 5 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2015) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to subsections (b)(1) and (c) of section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1998.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following measure was read the second time and placed on the calendar:

S. 1085. A bill to improve the management of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on July 30, 1997, he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bills:

S. 430. An act to amend the Act of June 20, 1910, to protect the permanent trust funds of the State of New Mexico from erosion due to inflation and modify the basis on which distributions are made from those funds.

S. 670. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of 1994 to eliminate the special transition rule for issuance of a certificate of citizenship for certain children born outside the United States.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-2639. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, five rules received on July 24, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2640. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transpor-

tation, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule received on July 17, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2641. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, six rules received on July 21, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2642. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, twelve rules received on July 21, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2643. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule received on July 29, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2644. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, twenty-eight rules received on July 29, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2645. A communication from the Performance Evaluation and Records Management, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, seven rules received on July 22, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2646. A communication from the Performance Evaluation and Records Management, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule received on July 28, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2647. A communication from the Performance Evaluation and Records Management, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, one rule received on July 29, 1997; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2648. A communication from the Director, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to the threatened Southern Oregon/Northern California coast (RIN0648-AG56), received on July 21, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2649. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to fresh cut flowers and greens, received on July 29, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2650. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule relative to releasing information (RIN3052-AB77), received on July 29, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2651. A communication from the Acting Administrator, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to a schedule of fees to be charged, received on July 29, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2652. A communication from the Administrator, Farm Service Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule relative to Disaster Set-Aside Program (RIN0560-AE98), received on July 25, 1997; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2653. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, a notice regarding the "Balanced Budget Act of 1997"; which was ordered to lie on the table.

EC-2654. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries,