

Minister of Refugee and Human Rights, and Jadranko Prlić, the former foreign minister and currently Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, are both Croat moderates who are committed to Dayton's full implementation.

Zubak called the Croat People's Assembly "an illegitimate institution" that "cannot take lawful decisions."

Yesterday, in response to this illegal behavior, High Representative Wolfgang Petritsch, an experienced Austrian diplomat, removed Jelavić from his post as Croat Member of Bosnia's collective presidency. Put another way, he said, you are no longer president.

I met with Mr. Petritsch several weeks ago in Sarajevo, and I welcome his resolute action.

I emphasize, Mr. President, that this move by the High Representative was backed by the reformist Mesić/Račan Government of Croatia—which in itself speaks volumes about recent political progress in the Balkans. This is the new leadership in Croatia that came to power in the wake of Franjo Tjudman, a man who was almost, in my view, as bad as Slobodan Milosevic. The new Croatian Government said it does not acknowledge or support Mr. Jelavić's attempt to set up a separate entity.

Positive change is afoot even in the Republika Srpska, where the ultra-nationalist SDS, a party with the dubious honor of having been founded by one of the worst war criminals, in my view—but whether you believe me or not, someone who has been indicted for alleged war crimes—Radovan Karadzic, won a clear plurality of votes in the November elections.

In what had to have been a delicate political dance, the non-nationalist Bosnian Serb Prime Minister, Mladen Ivanic, has succeeded in building a government in which the influence of the SDS has been formally neutralized, although some SDS-leaning individuals have been included in the Cabinet. I met with him for hours when I was recently in Sarajevo.

It took great courage for him to do what he did. After all, the party of Karadzic had won. And what was said at the time by the Muslims, as well as the Croats in attendance, was if, in fact, you do not exclude all those who are active members of the SDS, we will not cooperate, but if you do, we will form a government with you.

Incidentally, Mr. President, much of the credit for these success stories should go to our talented and hard-working Ambassador in Sarajevo, Tom Miller.

In addition, two other dedicated Americans—Ambassador Jacques Klein, the head of the U.N. Mission in Bosnia, and General Michael Dodson, the Commander of SFOR, have greatly improved the cooperation between their respective organizations, which had been sorely wanting for some time after Dayton.

An illustration of this fruitful cooperation is the fact that refugees are returning in record numbers to their pre-war homes. The 2000 total was 65 percent higher than the 1999 total. And the 1999 total was 100 percent higher than 1998. This development is due in large part to the atmosphere of security made possible by the presence of SFOR and the International Police Task Force, run by the United Nations Mission.

Returns are up even in areas where some of the worst ethnic cleansing took place, and even in Srebrenica—the site of Europe's worst massacre since World War II, people are returning.

The other link in the international chain is the United Nations' Office of the High Representative, whose head, Mr. Petritsch, acted so swiftly against the ultra-nationalist Bosnian Croat leader. Had he not, I believe the Dayton accords would be in shambles, and we would be back on the verge of chaos.

This action followed a move in February in which he removed one of the most corrupt Bosnian officials, former Prime Minister Adhem Bićakčić, from his post at the head of the country's largest electric utility, which he was using as his own private little till for his party, and banned him from holding future public office. It is estimated that Bićakčić diverted hundreds of thousands of dollars in public funds to the Party of Democratic Action, the country's largest Muslim political party, and to private bank accounts.

He is a fitting poster-boy for the kind of behavior that can no longer be tolerated in Bosnia if Bosnia is ever going to turn its economy around.

There is more to cheer about on the economic front. Large-scale privatization is finally underway, and the communist-era payment bureaus, long a source of petty corruption, were shut down in early January, a move which should pave the way for a viable banking system to take hold.

Let me again stress that I do not believe by any stretch of the imagination we have definitively turned the corner in Bosnia and Herzegovina. But thanks to the strikingly positive developments that have occurred in the last few months, Bosnia finds itself at an important crossroads, which makes our continued, active engagement there all the more urgent.

As I have said many times, we have come too far and accomplished too much to simply abandon the people of this region to the purveyors of ultra-nationalism and ethnic division who are waiting and hoping that our resolve will dissipate over time.

We need to support those forces—embodied in the Alliance for Change—that are struggling to end the post-war status quo of nationalist party dominance and to implement Dayton's political structures in a meaningful and durable way.

They represent the best hope for Bosnia's full integration into Europe's political and economic structures.

When that day comes, with mission accomplished we and our allies can close up shop and head home secure in the knowledge that we have helped extend the zone of European stability to include another Balkan country.

I thank the Chair and yield the floor. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from the State of Alabama, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SESSIONS. In my capacity as a Senator from the State of Alabama, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:52 p.m., adjourned until Friday, March 9, 2001, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate March 8, 2001:

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL P. JACKSON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, VICE MORTIMER L. DOWNEY, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

KENNETH W. DAM, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, VICE STUART E. EIZENSTAT, RESIGNED.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL CORPS (IDENTIFIED BY AN ASTRISK (*) UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531, 624, AND 3064:

To be lieutenant colonel

JAY M. WEBB, 0000 MS

To be major

*EDWARD K. LAWSON, 0000 JA
SIMUEL L. JAMISON, 0000 DE

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

JAMES G. LIDDY, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

ANTHONY W. MAYBRIER, 0000

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MARC ISALAH GROSSMAN, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE AN UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE (POLITICAL AFFAIRS), VICE THOMAS R. PICKERING.

RICHARD LEE ARMITAGE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE, VICE STROBE TALBOTT.

JOHN ROBERT BOLTON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ARMS CONTROL AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY, VICE JOHN DAVID HOLUM, RESIGNED.

March 8, 2001

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

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GRANT S. GREEN, JR., OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE (MANAGEMENT), VICE BONNIE R. COHEN.

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT, IV. OF VIRGINIA, TO BE LEGAL ADVISER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, VICE DAVID ANDREWS.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

COL. ROBERT G.F. LEE, 0000

To be brigadier general