

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 24

Concerning the crisis in the former Yugoslavia.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 26, 1993

Mr. MORAN submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and the Judiciary

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Concerning the crisis in the former Yugoslavia.

Whereas there is worldwide concern over the escalation of violence in the former Yugoslavia, and particularly in Bosnia-Herzegovina;

Whereas over 100,000 people have died and over 1,700,000 others have been rendered homeless in the course of the conflict;

Whereas Serbian attacks have continued unabated against helpless civilians in Bosnia-Herzegovina, both Muslim and Christian alike;

Whereas inhabitants of regions which have fallen under Serbian control have been subjected to the practice of “ethnic cleansing” and massacres reaching genocidal levels not witnessed since World War II;

Whereas Serbian forces in Bosnia-Herzegovina have caused innocent people to be killed, tortured, or driven from their homes in violation of international law and the Geneva Conventions of 1949;

Whereas the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina face the threat of death through starvation or exposure to extreme cold during the winter months;

Whereas Muslim prisoners in Serbian prison camps have been subjected to inhumane conditions, including torture, extreme food deprivation, and inadequate shelter and sanitation;

Whereas the United Nations, particularly the United States and the European Community, must reassess and redouble their efforts to end the crisis and alleviate the suffering of the victims of the civil war;

Whereas preliminary talks on the future of Bosnia-Herzegovina have begun in Geneva between leaders of various factions;

Whereas President Bush and French President Francois Mitterand warned that the United Nations could move quickly to enforce a "no-fly" zone over Bosnia-Herzegovina if the peace talks in Geneva fail;

Whereas the London Conference of August 1992, called on all participants in the conflict to place their heavy weapons under United Nations supervision;

Whereas on August 13, 1992, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 770, which called upon states to facilitate the delivery by relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations of humanitarian assistance to Sarajevo and wherever needed in other parts of Bosnia-Herzegovina;

Whereas the world community, including the United States, has not done enough to absorb or assist refugees displaced and ravaged by the war;

Whereas the recent presidential election in Serbia has not resulted in the election of officials who are committed to a peaceful resolution of the crisis;

Whereas the United States Government has warned that in the event of conflict in the formerly autonomous province of Kosovo, the United States will be prepared to employ military force against the Serbians in Kosovo and in Serbia proper; and

Whereas continued Serbian aggression could produce circumstances in which the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina could explode into a general regional war: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) hostilities, war crimes, and all violations of
4 human rights in Bosnia-Herzegovina should cease
5 immediately;

6 (2) in the event of continued Serbian attacks on
7 defenseless civilians in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the
8 United States and the European Community should
9 persuade the United Nations Security Council to lift
10 the arms embargo against Bosnian Muslims so that
11 they may secure the means to defend themselves;

12 (3) the United Nations should promptly author-
13 ize the enforcement of the “no-fly” zone over

1 Bosnia-Herzegovina to prevent Serbian military air-
2 craft from violating Bosnian airspace;

3 (4) the United States Government and the
4 members of the European Community, under the
5 framework of the United Nations and the Con-
6 ference on Security and Cooperation in Europe,
7 should propose and support decisive international ef-
8 forts to achieve a prompt cessation of hostilities and
9 alleviate the suffering of the civilian population in
10 Bosnia-Herzegovina;

11 (5) United Nations Security Council Resolution
12 770, which authorizes the use of all measures nec-
13 essary to deliver humanitarian relief whenever it is
14 needed to Bosnia-Herzegovina, should be fully imple-
15 mented;

16 (6) the conclusions of the London Conference,
17 including agreements between the parties of the con-
18 flict to collaborate in delivery of humanitarian relief
19 in Bosnia-Herzegovina, should be fully implemented;

20 (7) the United States Government should im-
21 plement the emergency provisions of the Refugee Act
22 of 1980 to admit Bosnian refugees to the United
23 States, with preference given to children, the elderly,
24 and individuals requiring urgent medical attention,

1 while encouraging members of the European Com-
2 munity to initiate reciprocal action;

3 (8) the United Nations and all relevant inter-
4 national relief organizations should be given unre-
5 stricted access to all prisoners of war in the former
6 Republic of Yugoslavia to monitor human rights con-
7 ditions in the camps as demanded by United Nations
8 Security Council Resolution 770 and the Geneva
9 Conventions of 1949; and

10 (9) the United States Government, in conjunc-
11 tion with the United Nations and the European
12 Community, should support and encourage the for-
13 mation and development of an international war
14 crimes commission to assist in the prosecuting of
15 war crimes, including crimes against women, and
16 other human rights violations in Bosnia-
17 Herzegovina.

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