

Conflict in the Balkans;

Balkans Notebook;

Refugees processed for transporting to major U.S. cities

The Atlanta Journal and Constitution

April 25, 1999, Sunday,, Home Edition

Copyright 1999 The Atlanta Constitution

Section: News; Pg. 16A

Length: 721 words

Byline: From our news services

Body

Thousands of Kosovo refugees are being processed in Macedonia by the State Department and U.S. immigration officials and then will be flown to New York and other major American cities.

The United States is taking in 20,000 ethnic Albanians of the estimated 800, 000 to 1 million who fled or were forced to leave Kosovo by Serb troops and police.

Priority is being given to refugees with relatives in the United States. Others will go to a U.S. military base, likely Fort Dix, N.J., before being settled temporarily. Up to 2,000 refugees at a time could be housed at Fort Dix.
AJC

Red Cross seeks access to U.S. prisoners

The head of the International Committee of the Red Cross arrived Saturday in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, to appeal for immediate access to three captured U.S. servicemen and the return of his organization to Kosovo. Cornelio Sommaruga was expected to meet with Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic on Monday.

Environmental damage concerns Gorbachev

Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev expressed strong concern Saturday over the environmental impact of the conflict in Yugoslavia. "The massive destruction of oil refineries, petrochemical plants, chemical and fertilizer factories, pharmaceutical plants and other environmentally hazardous enterprises puts both the population and natural environment in the Balkans under clear threat," said Gorbachev, president of the environmental organization Green Cross International.

Generals reportedly under house arrest

At least 10 fired Yugoslav generals have been placed under house arrest, according to Alastair Campbell, press secretary for British Prime Minister Tony Blair. Campbell said one sacked general was the former head of the army, fired shortly before the NATO air campaign began. NATO spokesman Jamie Shea said he had heard similar reports.

Demographic goal acknowledged in report

Serb authorities in Kosovo say they are trying to remake the demographic balance of the province and sharply reduce Albanian power there, The New York Times reported Saturday, citing an unnamed senior European diplomat who was recently in the province. The Times said the Serb powers hope to have about 600,000 Albanians living in Kosovo when the war is over. That would be two- thirds fewer than previous estimates of the number living in Kosovo.

Conflict in the Balkans; Balkans Notebook; Refugees processed for transporting to major U.S. cities

Ukraine official lobbies for Serb consideration

Declaring that ethnic Albanians are "not just innocent lambs," Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma said any peace force in Kosovo should include Russian troops and respect the Serbian side of the dispute over the province. Kuchma, a former rocket designer who is seeking re-election in October, is attending the NATO summit in Washington as head of one of the larger European countries who remain outside the alliance. Kuchma, who met Saturday with allied leaders to formalize NATO use of a former Soviet military base in western Ukraine, said he is willing to go to Belgrade to try to arrange a settlement.

Republican pushes vote to force U.S. withdrawal

House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) is preparing to move ahead with a House debate on the Kosovo war this week, despite reservations in both parties about votes emphasizing legislators' profound divisions over the nation's involvement in the Balkans. Hastert's hand was forced by Rep. Tom Campbell (R-Calif.), who has complained that President Clinton is waging an unconstitutional, undeclared war. Campbell asserted his rights under the 1973 War Powers Resolution and filed two measures for a vote --- one declaring war and a second requiring the withdrawal of American troops from the Kosovo conflict. The War Powers Act requires that such measures be brought to the floor quickly for a vote.

NATO jets violated airspace, Bulgaria says

Two low-flying NATO aircraft involved in the campaign against Yugoslavia briefly violated Bulgaria's airspace Saturday, state radio reported. The two jets flew 20 miles into Bulgaria over Tran, a town 50 miles west of the capital, Sofia, the report quoted defense officials as saying. After being intercepted by Bulgarian radar, they flew back to Yugoslavia. Bulgaria's Parliament is expected to decide early this week whether NATO should be granted access to the nation's airspace for the bombing campaign on Yugoslavia.

Classification

Language: ENGLISH

Subject: RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS (90%); POLLUTION & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS (90%); REFUGEES (90%); ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES (90%); DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS (89%); POPULATION & DEMOGRAPHICS (89%); LOBBYING (78%); IMMIGRATION (78%); ELECTIONS (78%); RACE & ETHNICITY (78%); TALKS & MEETINGS (78%); STATE DEPARTMENTS & FOREIGN SERVICES (78%); MANUFACTURING FACILITIES (78%); WAR & CONFLICT (77%); ARRESTS (76%); MILITARY OPERATIONS (76%); HOUSE ARREST (74%); HEADS OF STATE & GOVERNMENT (73%); ENVIRONMENTAL & WILDLIFE ORGANIZATIONS (72%); PRIME MINISTERS (69%); BRITISH PRIME MINISTERS (64%)

Company: GREEN CROSS INTERNATIONAL INC (54%); GREEN CROSS INTERNATIONAL INC (54%); INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (56%); INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS & RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT (56%); GREEN CROSS INTERNATIONAL (54%); GREEN CROSS INTERNATIONAL (54%)

Organization: INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (56%); INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS & RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT (56%); GREEN CROSS INTERNATIONAL (54%); GREEN CROSS INTERNATIONAL (54%)

Industry: MANUFACTURING FACILITIES (78%); MILITARY OPERATIONS (76%); OIL & GAS FACILITIES (71%); PETROCHEMICALS (71%); PETROLEUM REFINERIES (66%); FERTILIZERS (66%); PETROCHEMICAL MFG (66%); FERTILIZER MFG (66%); PHARMACEUTICAL PREPARATION MFG (66%)

Conflict in the Balkans; Balkans Notebook; Refugees processed for transporting to major U.S. cities

Person: TONY BLAIR (50%)

Geographic: BELGRADE, SERBIA (92%); ALBANIA (94%); SERBIA (94%); KOSOVO (94%); **UNITED STATES** (94%); UKRAINE (93%); UNITED KINGDOM (92%); MACEDONIA, THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF (79%); RUSSIAN FEDERATION (79%); EUROPE (79%)

Load-Date: April 25, 1999

End of Document