

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 104

Relating to Bosnia and Herzegovina's right to self-defense.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 29 (legislative day, APRIL 19), 1993

Mr. DECONCINI (for himself and Mr. LIEBERMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Relating to Bosnia and Herzegovina's right to self-defense.

Whereas Bosnia and Herzegovina is a sovereign and independent State, a member of the United Nations, and a participating State of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe;

Whereas the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina have been and remain the target of armed aggression by Serbia, Serbian-backed forces, and other irregular forces which have subjected civilians to organized, systematic, and pre-meditated war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide;

Whereas the armed aggression and "ethnic cleansing" in Bosnia and Herzegovina have resulted in human suffering and loss of life which has reached an unprecedented scale in post-World War II Europe;

Whereas diplomacy has not worked and negotiations have consumed significant time during which the situation on the ground in Bosnia has further deteriorated;

Whereas the United States shares with Europe not only a moral and legal obligation, but a genuine strategic interest in ending aggression and genocide in Bosnia and Herzegovina before it spreads elsewhere in the former Yugoslavia and beyond; and

Whereas as a sovereign member of the United Nations, Bosnia and Herzegovina has the right, under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, to individual or collective self-defense, if attacked: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the Sense of the Senate that (1)
2 the United States should, without further delay, assemble
3 and lead a multinational coalition to undertake resolute
4 action in order to prevent the wholesale slaughter and fur-
5 ther “ethnic cleansing” of innocent civilians in Bosnia and
6 Herzegovina

7 (A) by taking immediate steps to neutralize
8 heavy arms in the hands of irregular forces and
9 their supply lines in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in-
10 cluding through the use of military air force;

11 (B) by ensuring the immediate, effective, and
12 unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid to all civil-
13 ian populations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, includ-
14 ing through the use of military force, if required;

15 (C) by ensuring unimpeded access to all camps,
16 prisons, and detention centers in Bosnia and

1 Herzegovina by the International Committee of the
2 Red Cross and other international humanitarian or-
3 ganizations and facilitate the release of all detainees
4 from such facilities maintained by irregular forces;
5 and

6 (D) by seeking the immediate lifting of the
7 international arms embargo as it applies to Bosnia
8 and Herzegovina, thus enabling that country to ob-
9 tain defensive weapons.

10 (2) The President should promptly consult with Con-
11 gress concerning specific steps to be taken and necessary
12 legislative measures of support and authorization for the
13 actions outlined above.

○