

YELTSIN ADVISOR PROCLAIMS
YELTSIN REFORM ERA OVER

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the record the text of Boris Yeltsin's human rights advisor Sergei Kovalev's letter of resignation.

Mr. Speaker, this devastating critique of the Yeltsin regime is most timely, considering the IMF's current considerations of a \$9 billion infusion into the Russian treasury. It also comes at a time when Prime Minister Chernomyrdin is here in the United States assuring the administration and other officials that all is well in Russia. All is not well Mr. Speaker, and those, like the administration, who still don't get it are plainly referred to by Mr. Kovalev as naive. I urge all Members to read this critical letter.

THE CASE AGAINST YELTSIN

(By Sergei Kovalev)

For the past six years I have considered it my duty to promote in every way possible the policy that can fairly be called the "democratic transformation of Russia" notwithstanding many reservations. For a long time that policy was closely linked with your name. You were the head of a country on the road to democracy, and at first, you were even considered the leader of the democrats. As long as you remained headed in that direction. I considered myself your ally, or, in those instances when you departed from the overall course or drastically slowed the tempo of advance, a member of the loyal opposition.

Russia's road to freedom never promised to be easy. Many difficulties were obvious from the very beginning. Many others cropped up unexpectedly. To overcome them, all of us—the government, society, each individual—had to make complicated and sometimes tragic decisions. The main things the country expected from you were the will to make changes and honesty. Especially honesty. In electing you, Russia saw not only a politician ready to demolish the former state structure, but a person who was sincerely trying to change himself, his views, his prejudices and his habits of rule. You convinced many—myself included—that humane and democratic values could become the foundation of your life, your work and your policies. We weren't blind. We saw the typical traits of a Communist Party secretary preserved in your behavior. But all Russia, like a man striving to overcome a serious defect, was struggling with itself. We understood you even when we did not love you.

In recent years, however, even though you continue to proclaim your undying devotion to democratic ideals, you have at first slowly, and then more and more abruptly, changed the course of government policy. Now your government is trying to turn the country in a direction completely contrary to the one proclaimed in August 1991. . . .

Beginning in late 1993 if not even earlier, you have consistently taken decisions which—instead of strengthening the rule of law in a democratic society—have revived the blunt and inhuman might of a state machine that stands above justice, law and the individual. . . .

During the tragic days of the fall of 1993 [when Yeltsin dissolved the Supreme Soviet], I decided to stand by you despite my serious inner doubts. I don't deny my responsibility for that support. I believed that the use of force was a tragic necessity given the immi-

nent threat of civil war. Even then I understood that the events of October might encourage the top leaders to perceive force as a convenient and familiar instrument for resolving political problems. But I hoped for a different outcome, that by overcoming the crisis of legitimacy and creating a basis for the rule of law in Russia, the president and the government would do everything possible for our country's peaceful and free development. To a very great extent, the outcome depended on you, Boris Nikolaevich. I believed that you would choose the second path. I was wrong.

The 1993 Constitution confers enormous powers on the president, but it also places enormous responsibilities on him: to be the guarantor of the rights and liberties of citizens, to safeguard their security and to protect law and order in the country. How have you discharged these duties? How have you fulfilled your responsibilities?

You have virtually halted judicial reform, which was designed to make the administration of justice truly independent from the other branches of government. You openly professed the principle: "Let the innocent suffer as long as the guilty are punished."

You loudly proclaimed the launching of a war on organized crime. In order to implement this, you granted exceptional, extralegal authority to the security ministries. The result? The criminals continue to roam freely, while law-abiding citizens have to tolerate the abuse of the uniformed forces without gaining the security they were promised.

You stated that your goal was the preservation and strengthening of the Russian Federation's territorial integrity. The result? A shameful and bungled civil war which has been raging in the North Caucasus for more than a year. Under the guise of strengthening Russia's defense capability, you've blocked all military reforms which would give Russia an effective modern army. The result? Spending on the army is growing, and the number of generals has increased to an indecent figure. In order to justify their existence, the term of service has been increased and draft deferments have been ended. Meanwhile, soldiers and officers are impoverished, ragged and hungry. And the degradation, ill-treatment and corruption, traditional in our army, are as prevalent as ever. Not surprisingly, tens of thousands of young men are evading this medieval recruitment like the plague.

You speak of a policy of openness, of transparency and of public accountability, yet at the same time you sign secret decrees concerning the most important matters of state. You create closed institutions, and you classify as secret ever more information about government operations and the state of the country. Presidential decisions are made almost in the same backroom fashion as in the era of the Politburo. It's no secret that you increasingly depend on the security services and on their system of clandestine information. Isn't it obvious to you how unreliable and tendentious this information is?

The thrust of your personnel policy is becoming clearer with each passing day. At first there were quite a few competent, honorable people around you. But you also enthusiastically welcomed individuals whose only virtue consisted in their personal loyalty to you. Gradually such loyalty has become your primary demand when recruiting staff, just as it was in the heyday of the Community Party. . . .

You began your democratic career as a forceful and energetic crusader against official deceit and party disposition, but you are ending it as the obedient executor of the will of the power-seekers in your entourage. You took an oath to build a government of the people and for the people, but instead you

have built a bureaucratic pyramid over the people and against the people. Moreover, having rejected democratic values and principles, you haven't stopped using the word "democracy" so that naive people may well believe that "democrats" remain in power in the Kremlin. Your policies have compromised the very word, and if democracy is fated to someday exist in Russia (and I believe it will), it will exist not because of you, but in spite of you.

HARRY KUBO CELEBRATES 25
YEARS AT HELM OF THE NISEI
FARMERS LEAGUE

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 1996

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, on March 8, 1996, the Nisei Farmers League will celebrate its 25th anniversary. This will be the closing of an era with Harry Kubo at the helm and the dawning of a new era with him handing over the reins to Manuel Cunha, Jr. Harry will be stepping down as president but will remain on the board as president ex-officio.

AND THE DOVE OF PEACE WEPT,
TOO

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 1996

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Marilyn Krantz of Philadelphia, in response to the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, was moved to pen the following poem entitled "And the Dove of Peace Wept, Too."

Feelings * * * shared by countless many,
Amidst the shock and grief,
In prayers and prose and poetry
Expressing horror and disbelief
That Israel's leader, Yitzhak Rabin
Had so mercilessly been slain—
And by one of his countrymen
Whose deed marked the return of Cain!
With the word "Peace" still on his lips
And his heart filled with hope anew
This Great man fell, and tears did flow,
And the Dove of Peace wept, too.
Reaching beyond Israel's boundaries,
This was a loss to all the world,
Leaders gathered from near and far
To join as mournful words unfurled
For this man who'd struggled to ensure
The survival of one small nation
And worked tirelessly to bring peace
In the Mideast—a great revelation!
Soldier, statesman, family man.
In his wisdom, he'd come to see
That war was no solution
And killing brings no victory.
May his memory be for a blessing,
Others will carry his ideas through;
This was promised amidst the tears,
And the Dove of Peace wept, too.
Yitzhak Rabin is with us yet:
He lives in every believing heart
That peace must and will be achieved,
And each dawn offers a new start.

KIOWA WARRIORS PROTECTING U.S. TROOPS IN BOSNIA

HON. PETE GEREN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 1996

Mr. PETE GEREN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in the Department of Defense authorization and appropriations bills for fiscal year 1996, Congress added \$140 million to the Army's procurement budget to buy 20 armed OH-58D helicopters, better known as Kiowa Warriors. The proof that Congress made the right decision is demonstrated in the attached article from the January 15, 1996, edition of *Inside the Army*.

Mr. Chairman, you will note that the Kiowa Warrior—with its mast-mounted sight and day-night, all weather surveillance capability—is deployed to monitor military peacekeeping movements in the zone of separation between Bosnia and Serbia. It is proving its mission effectiveness by protecting the lives of thousands of American servicemen and women moving into dangerous territory.

As Army Major General John Suttle of the 1st Armored Division's Task Force Eagle states: "The Kiowa is uniquely suited [for Bosnia] because of its stealth capability, its high maneuverability and its ability to protect itself with a variety of weapons systems."

The Army has a valid requirement for 507 Kiowa Warriors, but through this fiscal year, fewer than 400 OH-58D's have been funded. I hope that my colleagues in Congress will continue to act wisely and show support for further acquisition of Kiowa Warriors for the Army until the requirement for this outstanding military aircraft is fully met.

The full text of the *Inside the Army* article follows.

U.S. TROOPS ROLLING INTO BOSNIA UNDER COVER OF APACHES, KIOWA WARRIORS

As U.S. troop move into Bosnia at a rate of 500-600 a day—6,600 servicemembers arrived by Friday—Army aviators are flying continuous protection missions to help protect the flow of deployment.

Maj. John Suttle, spokesman for the 1st Armored Division's Task Force Eagle, said hundreds of troops have been deployed with the Apache AH-64 attack helicopters and OH-58D Kiowa Warrior scouts to monitor military peacekeeping movements into the Zone of Separation between Bosnia and Serbia.

"The Kiowa is uniquely suited [for Bosnia] because of its stealth capability, its high maneuverability and its ability to protect itself with a variety of weapons systems," Suttle said.

The Kiowas are being flown by members of the 2nd Brigade's 4th Cavalry Division who are "conducting routine reconnaissance in addition to providing quick reaction by placing their eyes on 'hot spots' as the command deems necessary," said Suttle. He said their recon maneuvers have been important to the Sava River Bridge building and crossing of troops into Bosnia.

The Apache units are staged with the 4th Brigade in both Tazar, Hungary and in Tuzla, Bosnia. "The Apaches can do the same types of missions as the Kiowas, but they're much more of a heavy hitter," said Suttle. The Apaches are also flying continuous reconnaissance missions to allow pilots to "get a feel for the surrounding area."

Apaches are also serving as a protective measure for arriving VIPs such as Defense

Secretary William Perry, who took a holiday visit to the troops, and for President Bill Clinton, who at press time was preparing for a trip to the region.

Suttle said the river crossing has become a "piece of cake" since flooding of the Sava River was stopped by the Army Corps of Engineers. During a Pentagon briefing for reporters last week, officials said peacekeeping vehicles are moving over the bridge at a rate of 230 per day.

Earlier this month the same officials said they planned to build a second span across the Sava River to help expand the flow of personnel and equipment into the Zone of Separation. But in a Pentagon press briefing Thursday, Ken Bacon, assistant to the secretary of defense public affairs, said "we believe we're getting enough flow across the Sava River now. We believe that the time of the engineers could be better spent improving the quality of the life for the troops there, and we'll delay the second bridge for about a month."

Quality-of-life matters are a concern for the soldiers settling in to areas like Camp Harmon, where Army officials expect to house 2,500 troops by March 1.

According to Capt. Tom Evans, Army spokesman stationed in Zupanja, near the Sava River Bridge, the Army will house "about 10 people per tent at Camp Harmon." He said nearly 100 tents with temporary wood floors, reinforced with straw, have been erected in the camp. As Army units cross the Sava Bridge, they are being asked if they have enough supplies for the areas in which they are assigned; cold weather gear and heating units top the list.

Evans said soldiers are issued heating units that have been on supply in the European theater for some time. According to U.S. Army Europe, the heaters are the standard Army stoves that can use a variety of fuels including the standard Army fuel JP-8, wood, diesel or coal.

Concerns about the diesel-fueled heaters have been voiced by soldiers housed in tents in Germany, where countermining training is conducted before they are deployed in the Bosnian mission.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FERROALLOY ASSOCIATION

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 1996

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 25th anniversary of the Ferroalloy Association representing U.S. producers of Ferroalloy products. It is an industry that has supported America's economic engine through wars, depression, and into the information age. You have seen its products in the shiny metal surface of a new car, or the armor plating of an M1A1 tank patrolling the streets of Bosnia. It is a product critical to the production of steel, iron, aluminum, and silicon, as well as newer applications in chemicals, semiconductors, solar cells, coatings and catalysts. As a collection, the over 50 different alloys and metals ferroalloys are critical to the economic well being of the United States.

Apart from its pivotal position within our commercial economy the ferroalloy industry has long been a strategic asset in the defense of our Nation. Begun just over 100 years ago with the introduction of the electric-arc furnace in 1892, the industry expanded rapidly 7 years later when it was called on to meet the needs

for projectiles and armor plate during the Spanish American War. Since that time, domestic producers have seen major expansions during every war period up to the last expansion during the Vietnam war. Each time the industry met the challenges placed upon it as part of the defense industrial base.

However, in recent years, U.S. manufacturers have watched capacity and jobs sharply decline, due primarily to increased foreign imports and increased regulatory requirements. During the 1970's there were 15 companies with 26 plants operating 97 furnaces. By 1990 there were only 12 companies with 16 plants operating 42 furnaces. In a matter of two decades, a more vibrant domestic industry had lost 60 percent of its work force and was expected to cease to exist completely by the end of the century.

But, in response to these difficulties, management and workers joined together to meet the challenge once again. Through the use of U.S. trade remedies against illegal predatory pricing, the industry has recovered market share and increased profits. The industry has invested in new technology and has improved the capital infrastructure of existing facilities. Management and workers have continued to work together to increase competitiveness by improving productivity and improving the manufacturing process. The result has been the resurrection of the industry.

Quality, productivity, and world-class technology are the watchwords for the U.S. ferroalloy industry as it continues to provide our Nation with the tools it needs to grow and defend itself.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID R. ELLEMAN

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 1996

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute today to an outstanding elected official and public servant from Onondaga County in my home district. David Elleman served the people of the Greater Syracuse area and the entire County of Onondaga as its comptroller since 1967.

He has played an important role in keeping Onondaga County at the highest level of financial stability, with an excellent credit rating, through challenging economic times.

Recently retired, he is a respected and warmly regarded man of integrity; a civic leader with an enviable career.

Since serving as his senior high school class president in Syracuse, Dave Elleman has been a leader of his community and his Nation. A retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force, he is a decorated veteran of combat in Berlin and Korea. Returning home, he has served on numerous foundations and boards including Blue Shield Central Board, New York Regional Planning Board, and the Syracuse/Onondaga County Planning Board.

Dave Elleman founded the New York State Government Finance Officers Association and he has served as New York State representative of the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

His family, and his community, are very proud of him. I would ask my colleagues to join me in wishing David Rundel Elleman and