

Index of State Department Archives on
Ethnic Conflict and Bosnia-Herzegovina
1993-1995

Available at: <http://dosfan.lib.uic.edu/ERC/index.html>

unless otherwise noted.

- 1/21/93 **Bill Clinton** inaugural speech (“**ancient hatreds**”)
<http://vcepolitics.com/usa/clinton/speeches/inaug93.shtml>
- 2/10/93 **Warren Christopher** opening statement at a news conference (Those circumstances have deep roots. The death of President Tito and the end of the communist domination of the former Yugoslavia raised the lid on the **cauldron of ancient ethnic hatreds**. This is a land where at least three religions and a half-dozen ethnic groups have vied across the centuries.... It has long been the cradle of European conflict, [and] it remains so today.)
Archives: NEW CONFERENCE ON THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, 2/10/93
- 2/26/93 **Clinton** speech at American University (“The world clearly remains a dangerous place. **Ethnic hatreds**, religious strife, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the violation of human rights flagrantly...” “...and we have seen the enduring power of **ethnic hatred**, the incredible power of **ethnic divisions**—even among people literate and allegedly understanding—to splinter democracy and to savage the nation state.”)
Archives: VOLUME 4, NUMBER 9, MARCH 1, 1993
- 2/26/93 **Christopher** to NATO (“NATO must improve its ability to deal with the disorder of **ethnic conflict and aggressive nationalism**.”)
Archives: VOLUME 4, NUMBER 9, MARCH 1, 1993
- 5/21/93 **Spokesperson Bucher:** Press Briefing (on end of the Vance-Owen plan, no “ancient hatreds” but “ethnic cleansing” used as well as neo-primordial application of ethnic adjectives/nouns)
Archives: DAILY PRESS BRIEFING, DPC #73, May 21, 1993, 1:00 PM
- 6/2/93 **Tim Wirth**, World Conference on Human Rights in response to a question on ethnic cleansing and human rights, (“one of those [ways] is this emergent issue of **ethnic conflict and conflict resolution**. How do you get minorities and how do you get different ethnic groups to respect each other, and what kind of tools can we put into place to do that?”) – no “ethnic hatreds”
Archives: VOLUME 4, NUMBER 23, JUNE 7, 1993
- 8/11/93 **Christopher** Interview with Roger Mudd, “MacNeil/Lehrer on air strikes: (“In Bosnia, there are such **ancient hatreds** that evidently the ethnic groups want to

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try to divide it and be in separate enclaves. That will be a decision that they will have to make, and it's very hard to dictate that from a distance.”)

Archives: U.S. Department of State 93/08/11 Interview with Roger Mudd, “MacNeil/Lehrer,” Office of the Spokesman

9/7/93 **Strobe Talbott** Senate hearing on Russia and former Soviet Union (“**age-old ethnic tensions, ancient ethnic hatreds**”)

Archives: VOLUME 4, NUMBER 38, SEPTEMBER 20, 1993

9/21/93 **Clinton** address to the UN Assembly (“Indeed, it simply removed the lid from many **cauldrons of ethnic, religious, and territorial animosity.**” And in conclusion: “Let us ensure that the tide of freedom and democracy is not pushed back by the fierce winds of **ethnic hatred.**”)

Archives: VOLUME 4, NUMBER 39, SEPTEMBER 27, 1993

9/21/93 **Christopher** on the Middle East (“if **ethnic conflict** in Europe widens... - then our ability to focus on domestic renewal will be put at risk..”)

Archives: VOLUME 4, NUMBER 39, SEPTEMBER 27, 1993

9/21/93 **Anthony Lake** to Johns Hopkins on “Containment to Enlargement.” Mentions “ethnic conflict” or synonym eleven times. Crucial paragraph: (“The third notable aspect of this era is an explosion of **ethnic conflicts.** As Senator Moynihan and others have noted, the end of the Cold War and the collapse of various repressive regimes have removed the lid from numerous **cauldrons of ethnic, religious, or factional hatreds.** In many states of the former Soviet Union and elsewhere, there is a tension between the desire for **ethnic separatism** and the creation of liberal democracy, which alone can safely accommodate and even celebrate differences among citizens. A major challenge to our thinking, our policies, and our international institutions in this era is the fact that most conflicts are taking place within rather than among nations. These conflicts are typically highly complex; at the same time, their brutality will tug at our consciences. We need a healthy wariness about our ability to shape solutions for such disputes, yet at times our interests or humanitarian concerns will impel our unilateral or multilateral engagement.”)

Archives: VOLUME 4, NUMBER 39, SEPTEMBER 27, 1993

11/30/93 **Christopher** to the CSCE: (“Nations have been reborn and **ethnic identities vigorously asserted.** But aggressive and often myopic nationalism has emerged, and **vicious ethnic conflicts** have erupted.”)

Archives: 93/11/30 Remarks at CSCE, Italy, OFFICE OF THE SPOKESMAN

1994

1/28/94 **Christopher** on “legacy of State Dept.” (no mentions)

Archives: VOLUME 5, NUMBER 6, FEBRUARY 7, 1994

5/12/94 **Madelaine Albright** Address at US Holocaust Museum (“We have a stake in seeing that the embers of **ethnic conflict** are cooled and that models for easing

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fear, reconciling ambition, and clarifying principle are established.” Mentions “ethnic cleansing” five times.)

Archives: VOLUME 5, NUMBER 16, APRIL 18, 1994

12/14/94 **Spokesperson Michael McCurry** Press Briefing on situation in FSU and Russian Federation: (“Q My question is the **ethnic aspect** of it. Is this the way to deal with what is, in part, an **ethnic conflict**—to use force? In fact, to start what could be a long-term military conflict? MR. McCURRY: Is this a wise course of action on the part of the Russian Government? That certainly remains to be seen.

Archives: DAILY PRESS BRIEFING, DECEMBER 14, 1994, 12:54 PM, Office of the Spokesman

1995

11/1/95 **Talbott** at Town Hall Meeting (heavy use of neo-primordial “ethnic” and adjectives plus “ethnic cleansing” three times.)

Archives: U.S. Department of State, 95/11/01, Office of the Spokesman

Remarks by Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott, State Department Town Meeting

11/9/95 **Talbott** at National Press Club on Balkans (debunks “ancient ethnic hatreds”: “Can those values and institutions ever take hold in the former Yugoslavia? I realize there is a lot of skepticism if not cynicism on that point. Many assert, or at least imply, that the **conflict among Serbs, Croats and Muslims** is, quite simply, insoluble; that the region is a permanent and hopeless quagmire—a word intended to have, in our ears, cautionary echoes of Vietnam. Listen carefully and you sometimes will sometimes hear in the current debate a hint that there’s something in the air or the water of the Balkans that dooms those wretched people to slaughter each other. That’s often the subliminal message, I believe, of the cliché about “**ancient hatreds**.”

Having lived in Yugoslavia for two years—and having seen how the South Slavs could live harmoniously with each other—I find this view wrong-headed in the extreme. There was nothing predestined about the horror that has been raging in the Balkans for the past four years. It was foolish, demagogic local politics, along with short-sighted international diplomacy, that helped trigger, in the late 1980s and early ‘90s, the Third Balkan war of this century.

Archives: U.S. Department of State, 95/11/09 Remarks: Strobe Talbott on the Balkan Challenge, Office of the Spokesman