

11-12-1997

Address at Dayton Peace Accords Revisited Forum by U.S. Sen. Biden to Mark Second Accords Anniversary

Follow this and additional works at: https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls

Recommended Citation

"Address at Dayton Peace Accords Revisited Forum by U.S. Sen. Biden to Mark Second Accords Anniversary" (1997). *News Releases*. 8124.
https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls/8124

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Marketing and Communications at eCommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in News Releases by an authorized administrator of eCommons. For more information, please contact frice1@udayton.edu, mschlangen1@udayton.edu.

Nov. 12, 1997

Contact: Cheryl Bratz, bratz@picard.admin.udayton.edu
or Pam Huber, huber@udayton.edu

**ADDRESS AT DAYTON PEACE ACCORDS REVISITED FORUM
BY U.S. SEN. BIDEN TO MARK SECOND ACCORDS ANNIVERSARY**

DAYTON, Ohio — U.S. Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr., the ranking Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, will address the challenges facing Bosnia and the Dayton Peace Accords on Friday, Nov. 21, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

The senator will be in Dayton as part of the Dayton Peace Accords Revisited Forum that will mark the second anniversary of the agreement that ended the war in Bosnia.

Also speaking at the dinner event will be Ejup Ganic, vice president of the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina, who will talk about the city of Brcko. The Dayton Peace Accords left the future of the city unsolved by leaving its status open to arbitration, and Ganic is the federation representative to the Brcko negotiations.

Ambassador Robert S. Gelbard, special representative of the president and secretary of state for implementation of the Dayton Peace Accords, will also offer his views on the peace process. Gelbard's functions include negotiating, coordinating and directing the programs of the administration in Bosnia.

Biden, of Delaware, who visited the war-torn region in late summer, has said the U.S. should "finish the job" in Bosnia.

"I heard the same message everywhere in Bosnia: While serious problems remain, much progress has been made and it would threaten the fragile peace if U.S. troops left next June, as scheduled," Biden said.

The Council of Partners for the Dayton Peace Accords Project — which includes the University of Dayton, the Dayton Council on World Affairs and the Air Force Association — is coordinating the event. The speech will be at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in the Hope Hotel, the site of the peace negotiations led by Ambassador Richard C. Holbrooke in 1995.

-over-

Sponsorships for the event are \$2,000 for ambassador-level support and \$1,000 for diplomat-level support. Individual tickets are \$50 each. For reservations, call University of Dayton Advancement Services at (937) 229-2223. Checks should be payable to: University of Dayton. Mailing address is University of Dayton, Advancement Services, 300 College Park, Dayton, OH 45356-1681.

In addition to Biden's and Ganic's addresses, the Council of Partners will recognize those who, under the umbrella of the Dayton Peace Accords Project, have initiated programs to help Bosnia reconstruction projects. Recognition will include Dayton-area people, businesses, and civic, educational and air and space institutions.

"Efforts to engage Dayton businesses and people exemplify citizen diplomacy," according to R. Bruce Hitchner, director of the Center for International Programs at the University of Dayton. "These efforts have addressed major problems such as war crimes and assistance for war widows and orphans, collaboration between Bosnian and Dayton artists, media and cultural institutions, and exchange visits to Sarajevo."

Biden, the event's keynote speaker, became the ranking Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in January. A member of the committee since 1975, he served as chair and is now the ranking Democrat on the European Affairs Subcommittee. He is also a member of the International Economic Policy Subcommittee for Export and Trade Promotion and previously served on the Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs and the Subcommittee on International Operations. Biden is a member of the Senate Arms Control Observer Group.

In addition to his leadership on foreign policy, crime and drug-control issues, Biden has also been recognized for his work in civil rights, environmental protection, and family and children's policy.

-30-

For media interviews, call **R. Bruce Hitchner** at (937) 229-3652; **David L. Neer**, president of the Dayton Council on World Affairs, at (937) 228-9477; and **John W. McCance**, vice president for programs for the Air Force Association, at (937) 257-5784.