

**March 24, 1999**

**Statement of U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky on NATO Airstrikes in Yugoslavia**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. U. S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) issued the following statement on NATO airstrikes in Yugoslavia.**

**"I will always be very reluctant to put American service men and women in harm's way. But one of the lessons that we learned in this century is that we cannot let mad men run free to commit genocide.**

**"As a Jewish person, I am particularly sensitive on this point. If, when my one year old granddaughter Isabel grows up and asks me what I did to stop the murder of thousands of innocent people, I want to be able to tell her that I took forceful steps to stop it.**

**"Milosevic is responsible for NATO's actions because of his refusal to stop the killing and to seriously engage in negotiations for a diplomatic and peaceful resolution to this conflict. It is my fervent hope that this operation will convince him that "ethnic cleansing" and the displacement of hundreds of thousands of people will not be tolerated by the international community.**

**"I join all Americans in wishing for our troop's safe return."**