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December 16, 1993

President Franjo Tudjman
Republic of Croatia
FAX 011-41-444532

Dear President Tudjman:

Thank you for your recent letter, via Dr. Zeljko Matic, regarding Mr. Dobroslav Paraga and court system of the Republic of Croatia. I was pleased to learn that the Military Court in Zagreb cleared Mr. Paraga and the Croatian Party of Rights of charges of high treason on November 4, 1993.

It is my sincere hope that the Republic of Croatia will become a truly democratic nation, a country in which opposition to the party in power is both protected and tolerated. I was disheartened at the news that several measures have been taken to prevent Mr. Paraga from fulfilling his duties as President of the Croatian Party of Rights as he was elected to do. I believe it is the responsibility of the Croatian government to maintain a steadfast policy against intolerance and to promote the democratic ideals of free speech, individual rights and representation by the people.

Once again, thank you for responding to my concerns. Please be assured that I will continue to monitor Mr. Paraga's situation and urge you to take the necessary steps to ensure his rights under the law.

Respectfully,


James A. Traficant, Jr.
Member of Congress

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