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BC-YUGOSLAVIA-WIESENTHAL
WIESENTHAL SAYS YUGOSLAV AND NAZI CAMPS NOT COMPARABLE
 By Mike Esterl

VIENNA, Aug 11, Reuter - Veteran Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal rejected comparisons between detention camps in Bosnia and World War Two Nazi concentration camps on Tuesday, saying they trivialized Nazi Germany's treatment of Jews. "ETO call the camps 'concentration camps' is a minimization of Nazi concentration camps, because not even the (Soviet) gulag camps could be compared with the Nazi camps," Wiesenthal told Reuters from his Vienna-based Jewish Documentation Centre. "EIt trivialises the Nazi camps, just like when one calls something that happens 'a Holocaust' at the first opportunity," he added.

Wiesenthal, 83, has helped bring over 1,100 Nazi war crimes suspects to trial for their role in the killing of an estimated six million Jews during World War Two.

Shook headlines referring to concentration camps in Bosnia appeared around the world after journalists and aid workers reported scenes of emaciated and frightened people peering through barbed-wire fences from internment camps.

Bosnian Muslims say Serbs are keeping more than 130,000 prisoners in 100 camps and claim 17,000 have been killed. Serbs -- who deny the figures and charges of cruelty and killings -- list more than two dozen alleged Muslim camps where they say more than 8,000 Serbs have been killed.

While rejecting comparisons with infamous Nazi concentration camps such as Auschwitz, Treblinka and Dachau, Wiesenthal said human rights abuses in detention camps in the former Yugoslavia could escalate.

"When the foundation is hatred -- and that is the foundation on all sides in this war -- then one can't predict how it will end," he said.

Wiesenthal, who spent four and a half years in German concentration camps during World War Two, also criticized the West for blaming only the Serbs for human rights abuses.

"The first refugees (in the Yugoslav conflict) were the 40,000 Serbs who fled Croatia after a constitutional amendment defined them as a minority," said Wiesenthal.

He said Serbs themselves had legitimate fears following the killing of hundreds of thousands of their people under the Croatian Ustascha regime, a fascist puppet government set up by pro-Nazis in World War Two.

Wiesenthal also rejected Serb suggestions that Nazi concentration camp survivors make inspections of Serb-held camps to determine if the Nazi comparisons are accurate.

"That wouldn't lead to anything. It's just an attempt to gain extra time by those making the offer," said Wiesenthal.

"One would have to see all the camps, not just the ones they want to show, and that would take weeks during which time the war would continue," he added.

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No. 30,878

FORWARD

National Edition

Published at New York City

July 3, 1992

Letter to the Editor

Recalling Serbian-Jewish Amity

It is with great sadness that I noted the Forward's recent publication, in editorial-size form, of the letter from Margaret Casman-Vuko (May 1) and the letters from Katarina Mijatovic and Jason Feer (April 3). Ms. Casman-Vuko, described as "an American who has been a member of the Jewish community of Croatia for the past 20 years," sounds to me to be a "good Croatian" indeed. She dismisses facts from numerous Jewish and non-Jewish sources and refers to "Serb-backed Yugoslavia" and "Serbian expansionist designs." She exploits the sensitivity of Jewish readers in particular by citing the existence of "Serbian concentration camps" presently in operation and states that the Serbian people were partners with the Nazis in the Holocaust! She defends Croatia's Franjo Tudjman, who, in his recent book "Wastelands of Historical Reality," diminishes and condones genocide, and even blames its victims for their fate! Finally, Ms. Casman-Vuko accuses the remaining Serbian enclaves, survivors of the Holocaust, of "aggression upon sovereign states." She does not mention that several sources have accused these sovereign states of embarking upon their goal by first attempting to rid their population of "foreign" elements, i.e., Serbs. When the Jewish community first noted the neo-fascist character of Croatia and its allies, they blew the whistle. Croatia

and its allies, specifically Germany, know they must never again tread upon Jewish lives or sensibilities. Because of this, they have sought to distort history and prey upon our

*One should examine
Jewish sources before
judging the Serbs.*

good will. We are not so dumb.

Equally disturbing are letters from Ms. Mijatovic and Mr. Feer. Ms. Mijatovic accuses the Serbian people, citing obscure sources, of being "one of the most anti-Jewish" in the world. She freely refers to "Serbo-communists" and suggests that Serbs, not Croats, ran the death camps. She does not refer to Croatia's foreign minister, Zvonimir

Separovic, who has attributed the current Serbian-Croatian war to a "Jewish-Serbian conspiracy" (source: The Wiesenthal Center). Nor does she address other disturbing facts that the Wiesenthal Center has cited over the past year.

Mr. Feer, who has been reporting from Croatia, is doing an excellent job of presenting Croatian aspiration and know-how. We should all be pleased that "no evidence" of anti-Semitism is "widespread" in Croatia. And we should not wonder about the motivations of pouring "2 million German marks" into the Croatian-Jewish community.

Unfortunately, the American community, and to a lesser extent the Jewish community, has been unaware or in denial of the facts about Yugoslavia and its history, both Jewish and non-Jewish. It should not be distorted or forgotten. Remembrance does not mean war, unless peace is distorted and one-sided. One should examine the evidence detailed extensively from Jewish sources before judging the Serbs, who historically have been allies, both politically and culturally, of the Jewish people.

*Betsy Lalkch
Acting President
Chicago Chapter
The Jewish-Serbian
Friendship Society
Chicago*

Please address letters intended for publication to the Editor, Forward, 45 East 33rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10016, and provide your name, address and telephone number. Letters may be sent via fax to (212) 447-6406. Shorter letters stand a better chance of being printed. Letters may be edited for space and style.

FORWARD

FOUNDED APRIL 22, 1967

Letters to the Editor

Witnessing Serbian Terror

Unfortunately for Betsy Lalich, in her letter to the editor (Forward, July 3), she exhorts the readers to "examine the evidence detailed extensively from Jewish sources before judging the Serbs." Such evidence (i.e., Slavko Goldstein's "Jews in Yugoslavia" and Harriet Friedenreich's "The Jews of Yugoslavia") uncovers the following facts: that Serbia implemented the first anti-Jewish legislation during World War II; that the first concentration camp was in Serbia; that only approximately 1,000 Serbian Jews survived the war; that Serbia was proudly declared the first republic to be "judenfrei"; that Serbia, alone among the other republics, had a Fascist Party; that it printed virulently anti-Semitic stamps, and that it used its position of political dominance after the war to cover up its own atrocities. If this does not constitute Serb alliance with the Nazis, what does? Croats do not deny that a small percentage of

Serbian policies of 'ethnic cleansing' have been amply documented in recent weeks.

Croats allied themselves with the Germans. However, 37 of 80 Partisan units were Croatian. What Croats do object to is the intentional omission by Serb apologists of the pro-fascist war activities of Serbs and of Croatian anti-fascist sentiment and actions.

As for today, Serbian policies of "ethnic cleansing" — wholesale expulsions of non-Serb populations from areas that the Serbs have forcefully occupied, the transporting of thousands upon thousands of

civilians in closed cattle cars, the massacres, rapes, concentration camps throughout Serbia and Serb-occupied territories (yes, Ms. Lalich, they do exist) — have been amply and graphically documented in recent weeks by international human-rights organizations, fact-finding missions, United Nations officials, and by witnesses who have escaped the Serb terror. Evidence from Jewish sources within Croatia indicates as well that Croatian Jews support the government of Franjo Tudjman, deny that it is anti-Semitic, and deplore the Serb aggression and expansionism, all does the rest of the international community. Perhaps Ms. Lalich should use her energies to bring a halt to Serbian aggression instead of attempting weak rationalizations for internationally condemned and documented Serb criminality.

J.E. Busic
Office of Croatian Affairs
San Francisco



THE JEWISH-SERBIAN FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY OF AMERICA
CHICAGO CHAPTER
1872 North Clybourn, Chicago, Illinois 60614
(312) 327-8621

August 10, 1992

The American Jewish Committee
American Jewish Congress
Anti-Defamation League

RE: THE NEW YORK TIMES open letter, dated
August 5, 1992

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Jewish-Serbian Friendship Society (JSFS) shares in your condemnation of the alleged existence of "concentration camps" and the concept of "ethnic cleansing" in the former Yugoslavia. We vigorously support investigation into all reports and call for all those found guilty to be held accountable. We categorically denounce all acts of inhumanity on all sides - Serbian, Croatian and Bosnian.

However, we are extremely disappointed that your letter singles out the Serbs. For months we have repeatedly attempted to have a meaningful dialogue with various representatives of the Jewish community. All such attempts have been met with the same response: The American Jewish community has decided not to enter into a public posture.

We are disturbed by the form in which your ultimate position was presented. On the basis of unconfirmed reports about Serbian "death camps" and in light of the number of reliable sources who charge all sides with atrocities, why does the language of your open letter all but convict the Serbs without conclusive evidence or a trial?

Of course we must remember Auschwitz and Treblinka. We must also remember Jasenovac, the Croatian death camp, in which hundreds of thousands of victims, including Serbs, Jews and Gypsies perished. We have heard that many Jewish Holocaust survivors, including one of our members, are outraged at the suggestion that there is a meaningful parallel between the Nazi death camps of WWII and the current Serbian P.O.W. and detention camps.

The general tenet of our society is to preserve, strengthen and further the historical friendship and cooperation between Jewish and Serbian people. This relationship should not be carelessly disregarded. The Jewish community should not forget the succor and protection that Serbs have historically bestowed upon them.

One of the principal aims of our society is to lead a constant battle against racism as well as national, religious, and political discrimination and hatred. The foremost Yugoslav writer and dissident against the former Communist regime, who is now the President of Yugoslavia, Dobrica Cosic, was the founder of JSFS. We have approximately ten thousand members with chapters in Belgrade, Israel, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago and Toronto.

Enclosed is material that points to another side of the story. Should you wish to learn more, we would welcome a meeting with your representatives.

Very truly yours,



Betsy Lalich, President



Susan M. Klein, Vice-President

Endorsed by:

Misha Milosavljevic, Chairman - Los Angeles Chapter
Dusica Benghiat, President - Los Angeles Chapter
William Porazic, President - San Francisco Chapter
George Popadic, President - Canadian Chapter

Conflict could lay foundations for Islamic state in Europe

COMMENTARY by John Zametica

THE future of Bosnia-Herzegovina is of interest and concern to both the European Community and the Islamic world, not only because of the raging civil war, but more significantly because of the very real possibility of an Islamic state being founded in Europe.

There are no Bosnians or Herzegovinians in the former Yugoslav republic. The population is made up of Croats (17 per cent), Serbs (33 per cent) and Muslim Slavs (44 per cent). Uniquely, the religious identity of the Muslim Slavs was, in Yugoslavia, recognised as constituting nationhood.

But these Slavs are no different from other Slavs: they are racially either Serb or Croat, and they speak Serbo-Croat. What sets them apart is their adherence to Islam, embraced by their ancestors when the Turks invaded the Balkan pen-

insula. And since religion is their sole defence for nationhood, it is that much more important to them. When the media report that the "Bosnians" are defending and dying for the independence of Bosnia-Herzegovina, this should read "Muslims". They are doing so for the creation of the first Islamic state on the soil of Europe. The continent already has, in Albania, a country with a majority Muslim population. But the Albanians are nationalists first and Muslims second. In Bosnia-Herzegovina, Muslims do not identify with anything other than religion. Naturally, the Islamic world has paid great attention. Since coming to power in 1990, Bosnian Muslim politicians have been touring the Middle East seeking support. Turkey is regularly making noises about its duty to "protect" the

vic, the Muslim president of Bosnia-Herzegovina, as a skilful, moderate politician. Mr Izetbegovic, by all accounts a deeply religious man, wrote in 1970 a pamphlet entitled *Islamic Declaration*. He has never renounced this work, despite being imprisoned by the communists for it. It may be helpful to examine it in some detail as an indication of what he stands for. This is clear from the first page: "The creation of united Islamic community from Morocco to Indonesia". The tone of the pamphlet is imbued with praise for Islam. A British reader would be interested to note that "only a few thousand genuinely Islamic fighters forced England in the 1950s to withdraw from Suez". Turkey receives special contempt: "Turkey as an Islamic country used to rule the world. Turkey

Muslims in Yugoslavia, and there are indications that Saudi Arabia might pay for a United Nations force in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Bosnian Muslims widely sympathised with Iraq during the Gulf war. According to a recent report, they used a Libyan credit last year to buy arms on the black market. Their brothers, in other words, are fellow-Muslims, not the Serbs and Croats from whom they are racially and linguistically indistinguishable.

The Bosnian Muslims also have the highest birth rate. It is only a question of time before they command the absolute majority. Then what? The scenario of a militant Muslim state in Europe is not a likely one. Theirs is not a mullah-ridden society. Except in rural

as an imitation of Europe represents a third-rate country."

He goes on: "There can be no peace or coexistence between Islamic faith and non-Islamic social and political institutions". A few more passages are worth quoting: "The Islamic movement must and can take power as soon as it is morally and numerically strong enough not only to destroy the existing non-Islamic power, but also to build up a new Islamic one." He stresses that "the Islamic order is the unity between faith and the social and political system."

It would be premature to sound alarm bells, but the Muslim leadership in Bosnia-Herzegovina has yet to prove it accepts western standards of democracy.

● John Zametica is a Research Fellow in European Security at the Polytechnic of Central London.

ISLAMIC AFFAIRS

ANALYST



By private subscription only

Editor: J. de Courcy

Muslim fundamentalism in Bosnia-Herzegovina

An Islamic Affairs Analyst special correspondent writes:

There is a great reluctance in the West to recognize that the fighting in Bosnia is a resurgence of the conflict between Islam and Christendom which shaped five centuries of Balkan history.

Disbelief in the West regarding Muslim fundamentalism in Bosnia stems from several causes, among which there is the pervasive, compulsive, complacency which holds that things can never be as bad as they seem, hence European officialdom refused to believe that Hitler meant what he wrote in *Mein Kampf*.

President Alija Izetbegovic's *Islamic Declaration*, first published in 1970 when it earned him a prison sentence, demanded a fully-fundamentalist Muslim state in Bosnia without scope for non-Muslim institutions or any division between religion, politics, and economics. The book was republished in 1990 in Sarejevo (by Mala Muslimanska Biblioteka). It scathingly attacks Attaturk's reforms and holds up Pakistan as a model to be followed.

Traditionally, Bosnians were among the most militant in the Muslim world. A ruling minority, they were proud of being the spearhead of the jihad into Europe, part of the two-pronged drive along the Sava and Danube with Rome as its final objective. Occupation by the Habsburgs in 1878 caused some of them to emigrate, but others waited for fate to redeem them. In post-Versailles Yugoslavia, a few became free-thinkers, communists, or "South Slavs of Muslim faith", but most remained waiting in their closed world.

The German role

The Germans and their Croat Ustasa allies inspired Muslim hopes of a separate polity in 1941. Then Tito raised their status from religion to nationality in the 1950s and made many political concessions to them, in order to win the support of the Muslim world for his so-called non-aligned movement.

The Germans have again played a major part in the chain of events which created an independent Bosnia with the Muslims as its largest grouping. They ensured them Croatian support against the Serbs in return for tacit agreement to Croatian de facto annexation of Western

Herzegovina and areas adjacent to Slavonia.

For the third time this century, the Germans are fuelling the drive against the Serbs, but on this occasion with British support. The change in British policy over recent months does not appear to reflect an evolution inside the Foreign Office departments concerned. Rather, it reflects pressures from above to support Germany for the sake of the European common policy and as a quid pro quo from John Major to Chancellor Kohl for having helped make the Maastricht agreement verbally more acceptable to Tory MPs.

So Croatia was recognized without the safeguards for minorities originally demanded by the EC, and Bosnia was hurriedly recognized in spite of warnings that this would lead to bloodshed, because, in British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd's words, the Germans would have gone ahead anyway.

The EC-inspired embargo against Serbia - which even if all the accusations against it were true would rank low on the list of international criminals - can only be understood in the context of the interaction between Germany's growing hegemony inside the EC, its *Drang Nach Osten*, *realpolitik*, the increased weight of oil-rich Muslim states in world affairs, and the decreased influence of Russia.

Wider implications

All this has implications for the rest of the Balkans, in particular - now that the Muslim world is flexing its muscles - for Albania's conflicts with Serbia, Macedonia, and Greece; and it has implications for Danubia in general.

Hungary is already embroiled with Yugoslavia and Romania over its minorities. Without Prague's restraining hand, the lot of the large, compact, Hungarian minority in Slovakia will give added cause for friction. The condition of the Hungarian minority in Cis-Carpathian Ukraine, which historically enjoyed Moscow's solicitude and ruled the Ukrainian peasantry for centuries, will also exercise Budapest.

Hungary will consider seeking German support, while Romania, Serbia, and Greece will huddle together - and in turn seek outside help.

1028

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
Belgrade

From: OFFICE OF MR. PANIC'

Date: 8/6/'92.

To: MRS. BENTLEY HELEN

Sender's fax: 637-185

Fax N-R: 202-225-4251

OR 635-836

N-R of pages: 6

SUBJECT: _____

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UNITED NATIONS



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/24365
31 July 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 29 JULY 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

It is with great grief that I present the attached lists of concentration
camps and prisons in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro.

All are under the control of the Belgrade regime and its surrogates.
They are holding tens of thousands of innocent citizens of Bosnia and
Herzegovina, most of whom are women, children and elderly persons.

We humbly request that the United Nations Security Council take all
necessary steps to secure the safety of and make available basic needs to
these innocent victims, so they can eventually return to their homes, as
agreed in the London Agreement of 17 July.

We ask that this letter and the attached lists be circulated as a
document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SAGIBBY
Ambassador and
Permanent Representative

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LE HAUT COMMISSAIRE
POUR LES REFUGIES



UNITED NATIONS
THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR REFUGEES

Case postale 2800
CH-1211 Genève 2 Suisse
Suisse

17 July 1992

Sir,

During my visit to Yugoslavia in the week of 6 July, I had the opportunity to witness at first hand the terrible consequences of the conflict which has produced the largest number of refugees and displaced persons in Europe since the Second World War. In addition to the some two million people already displaced, thousands more are fleeing each day. The burden on the host countries is becoming unbearable. The plight of the displaced is increasingly desperate as solutions, and notably hope of return, become more elusive with the passage of time.

My visit left me deeply impressed by the generosity of Yugoslavia and the other host countries as well as by that of the tens of thousands of families who have received the refugees. I was equally impressed by the fortitude and resilience of the refugees themselves. I felt ready to be proud of the humanitarian efforts of UNHCR and other organizations, strongly supported by UNDPFOR, all of whom are working under extremely dangerous security conditions. But, at the same time, the dimension and complexity of the refugee problem made it clear to me that there is a need for the international community to take a decisive humanitarian initiative to contain the current crisis and to reactivate the search for lasting solutions to the plight of refugees.

His Excellency
Mr. Vladislav Jovanovic
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Yugoslavia
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Kneza Milosa 24
11000 Belgrade, Yugoslavia

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Since my return, I have consulted the Secretary-General of the United Nations and a number of countries on what further action we might take. Following these consultations, I should now like to invite you to an International Meeting on Humanitarian Aid for Victims of the Conflict in the Former Yugoslavia. The meeting, to be held at ministerial level, will bring together on an open-ended and informal basis all Governments concerned and other interested parties. It will be held in Room XIX at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland on 29 July 1992. Its objectives would be:

- (i) to review the feasibility of solutions as originally envisaged, i.e. return, and devise further measures for their pursuit as well as for the protection of refugees and displaced persons; and
- (ii) to mobilize international support for the relief programme and draw attention to future reconstruction needs.

I hope that the meeting would agree on a follow-up mechanism that would allow my Office to pursue the humanitarian objectives immediately, in close consultation and cooperation with the most affected countries and a few other Governments.

Humanitarian action cannot be a substitute for a political settlement. But decisive humanitarian efforts may, in addition to relieving human suffering and burdens on host countries, help promote initiatives in other arenas. I trust that the proposed meeting on 29 July will serve such a purpose, and I count on your participation to make this possible.

... The attached annex provides information on arrangements for the meeting. In view of the need to make the necessary conference arrangements at such short notice, I would be most grateful for an early indication of your intention to participate. In due course, my Office will be providing you with relevant documentation.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sadako Ogata



САВЕЗНА РЕПУБЛИКА ЈУГОСЛАВИЈА

Савезна влада
Председник

Belgrade, August 6, 1992.

RE: List of alleged concentration camps presented to the United Nations Security Council from Muhamed Sacirbey, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, July 28, 1992.

I have visited two of the alleged concentration camps, Batajnica and Subotica together with the press corp. Where we found nothing in Batajnica, we found in Subotica, a refugee camp of approximately 300 Moslems, Bosnian Serbs and Croats. There are approximately 3,700 refugees living in private homes.

Where the living quarters were very modest, it appeared that they had the basic needs of life. Since I was in a refugee camp in Germany in 1955, I found the conditions to be very similar.

The most astonishing thing I found, was the hospitality of the Serbs living in Subotica who received the Croats, Moslems and Bosnian Serbs into their homes which were very small and modest. I was very touched.

I did not find any trace of any concentration camps. I asked everyone in the press corp to help me look for them. I even offered a reward. I am not saying that they don't exist somewhere, but I can at least tell you that they don't exist in Batajnica or Subotoca.

Sincerely,

Milan Panić
Prime Minister
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

S/24365
English
Page 3

Annex II

List of concentration camps and prisons in the territory of Serbia and Montenegro in which citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina are captive

	Present number of prisoners
1. Leznica - Sports recreation centre	1 300
2. Beograd - Batajnica	2 200
3. Beograd - Barracks "4th July"	2 500
4. Nis - Military camps	1 500
5. Subotica - Assembly point	5 000
6. Aleksinac - Closed mine	4 000
7. Sabac	1 460
8. Mokra Gora - Vicinity of Uzice	3 000
9. Prijepolje	480
10. Herceg Novi - Baosici	350
11. Niksic	640

Српска Православна Црква у Великој Британији

Mr. Slobodan Petrović,

199 Hullbridge Road,
South Woodham Ferrers,
Chelmsford, Essex, CM9 5LL.

Tel & Fax 44-(0)245-321113

Trafalgar Square
London,
11th July 1992

Draga Braćo i Sestre Srbi,

počasćen sam da Vam prenesem iskrene pozdrave i Arhijerejski blagoslov Preosvećenog Episkopa Zapadnoevropskog Gospodina Damaskina.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I sincerely hope that the previous speakers have managed to convey the strength of feeling and frustration of Serbian community of Great Britain.

As a member of the Serbian Orthodox Diocese for Western Europe, Metropolitanate of New Gracanica I would, also, like to remind you that only recently **THE HOLY ASSEMBLY OF BISHOPS OF THE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH** has issued **THE MEMORANDUM** to the Serbian Orthodox people and to the international public with its message of responsibility and concern, but also with words of comfort and encouragement.

Please allow me to quote only few statements from the Memorandum :

1.- Yugoslavia as a country, such as it has been, was not created by her own peoples only. She was created by that same Europe which today is so unmercifully destroying her, accepting as true the accusation that the Serbian people are exclusively to blame for her old and new evils. Furthermore, the European Community, judging by its present day behaviour, apparently identifies the Serbian people with the regime which ruled over them, and in a large part still rules today. It should not be lost from sight that it was that same West which for decades has supported the post-war Communist regime in Yugoslavia, both politically and economically.

2.- The Serbian Orthodox Church is for the unity of the Serbian people and Serbian lands, but also for a just solution of the national rights and existential problems of all peoples with whom they live or with whom they are neighbours.

3.- The Serbian question in Croatia, Slavonia, Dalmatia, Bosnia and Hercegovina does not exist from yesterday.

Does the international community truly wish to help in finding a just and lasting solution or rather to impose unjust and unnatural solutions, in accordance with the momentary interests of the so called new world order? Such solutions would inevitably become the cause of new calamities and more graves.

4.- With sorrow of hearts and bitterness of soul we direct our protest as much against those in power in the lands of former Yugoslavia, as well as to the address of the European Community which in such a brutal and thoughtless manner instigates the destruction of almost everything which has brought us together and bonded us as men and as civilised peoples.

6.- It is a tragic fact indeed that the Serbian Christian people are marking the 50th Anniversary of their sufferings (genocide) in the infamous Nazi "Independent State" of Croatia and on the territories of Kosovo and Metohija, precisely with their new sufferings.

7.- We condemn every killing and every crime committed by those who belong to whatever army or whatever armed formations, Serbian, Croatian or Muslim. And above all we condemn the attacks upon humanitarian convoys of the Red Cross or those delivering food and medicine to the besieged and surrounded populations.

8.- As men and Christians, and especially as bishops of the Church of Christ, we are astonished by the fact that certain governments of Europe and of the world were unaware of the sufferings of the Serbian Church and Serbian Orthodox people from fascism and communism. Those governments have never given Christian protection, particularly the Orthodox, either in Yugoslavia nor anywhere in Eastern Europe during the decades of communist dictatorship. So also are we deeply pained today by the inhuman attitude of official Europe towards the problem of the existential, spiritual and cultural identity and survival of the Serbian people who were assaulted by fascism, then communism and today by the totalitarian mentality of the so called new world order.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

upon the distribution of this Memorandum and the unprecedented anti serb campaign I can say that in this moment when Serbs feel alone and abandoned by all, our true friends came and send us their help in these distressing times. Amongst the other messages of support and understanding I would like to read to you a couple of sentences from the letter we have received from our brother in Christ The Greek Archbishop Gregorios:

-Dear Brother in Christ, Subdeacon Petrovic,

As always, His Eminence Archbishop Gregorios, prays for the wellbeing of your Church, its shepherds and their flocks, and has expressed his deep concern when matters relating to the sad political state of affairs in Yugoslavia has arisen. You will probably be aware of the fact that His All Holiness The Ecumenical Patriarch, has expressed his dismay at the behavior of those obedient to the pope of Rome in their dealings with our Orthodox brothers and sisters in Christ who have already extensively suffered under the tyranny of communism.

Please be assured of our care and love for the shepherds and flock of your Holy Orthodox Church in its distress.

With fraternal greetings in Christ,

Gregory C. Askin, B.D. (Hons)

The Secretariat, The Greek Archdiocese

Ladies and Gentlemen,

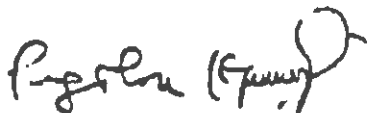
as a citizen and taxpayer of this country I wish to appeal to the Prime Minister and Government of this country (for whom I have casted my vote) to do everything possible that is in their power to stop unjust and cruel war in Yugoslavia, that no solution be imposed under military pressure from any source, but that a truly humane and just democratic order be supported which will protect all the people of former Yugoslavia.

I would like to use this opportunity to appeal to the British Media and British Public to suport us in this just cause, help us in helping thousands of suffering people, thousands of refugees and show mercy through our christin and charitable deeds.

These are the deeds from the Serbs (as requested by Mr. Baker yesterday) and not the deeds donated to the Croatian and Moslem fascist/communists by the loudest mouthpiece of European Community, the deeds stamped and approved by NATO and used in killing innocent people of former Yugoslavia.

Thank you. Hvala.

I have, today, instructed the Serbian forces around the town of Gorazde, to begin an immediate unilateral ceasefire. I have ordered the Serbian forces in that region not to react to outside provocation, even if the Serbian inhabitants are still prevented from leaving the town. I have informed Lord Carrington and the UN Secretary General of my orders. I have also told them that I would welcome the deployment of UN-observers to Gorazde, in order to monitor the ceasefire.



Radovan Karadzic

London, 16 July 1992

Bonn, Bucharest Cement Accord To Repatriate Romanian Gypsies

By Marc Fisher

Washington Post Foreign Service

BERLIN, Sept. 24—Germany and Romania today signed a treaty allowing Germany to deport thousands of Romanian refugees, most of them Gypsies, while paying Romania \$21 million in "return and reintegration aid."

In Bucharest for the signing ceremony, German Interior Minister Rudolf Seiters hailed the agreement as "a great success in my efforts quickly to return rejected asylum seekers to their homelands." About 20 percent of the 280,000 foreigners who have sought asylum in Germany this year came from Romania, and about 60 percent of those are Gypsies.

The treaty was immediately attacked by human rights groups and Gypsy organizations, which accused Germany of sending thousands of people to face political persecution in the country they fled. "Gypsies in Romania have been the target of increasingly violent attacks since the revolution that toppled Nicolae Ceausescu," the director of the human rights monitoring group Helsinki Watch, Jeri Laber, said in a letter to German Chancellor Helmut Kohl. "The German government's decision to single out Romanian Gypsies for deportation is discriminatory treatment."

Germany, which has accepted more refugees than any other European country, has defended the deportation program as an important step in streamlining an asylum system overloaded by more than a half-million refugees since Germany reunified and opened its eastern borders two years ago.

German media reports tonight referred to the \$21 million aid program for Romania as a form of compensation to the Bucharest government for taking back its fleeing citizens. A German Interior Ministry statement announcing the program said the return of Romanian refugees to their country "stands in the context of" Germany's agree-

ment to spend \$21 million over three years to build job-training schools in Romania. Later, the ministry said the aid program was not a form of compensation but had been in the works for several months.

The leader of Germany's main Gypsy group, the Central Council of German Roma and Sinti, accused the German government and news media of inciting a fear campaign against Gypsies. "It is frightening how quickly during the present crisis in Germany our minority is being used politically . . . to divert attention from the real problems we have—high unemployment, housing shortages, health care," said Romani Rose.

In a letter to Germany's ambassador in Washington, the International Romani Union, which says it represents Gypsies worldwide, accused Germany of making "a move which will have absolutely disastrous consequences. You are sending thousands of people to Hell."

The letter, signed by Ian Hancock, a member of the group's presidium, said that Gypsies in post-communist Romania face "murders, pogroms and police brutality." In Germany, he said, Gypsies "are despised for being poor, different and powerless."

In a recent report on abuse of Gypsies in Romania, Helsinki Watch concluded that both vigilante mobs and Romanian police have beaten Gypsies, chased them from their villages and denied them work. The Romanian government denies any persecution of Gypsies and said it

welcomes the opportunity to return the refugees to their homes.

Romanian Interior Minister Victor Babeu said his government is ready to find a solution if Romanians residing illegally in Germany were causing problems there, according to the German press agency DPA. Germany has rejected nearly all asylum claims from Romanians, granting asylum to only 0.2 percent of those seeking it, Seiters said.

Gypsies are perhaps the most visible of the foreigners who have migrated to Germany in recent years. Whether in cities or villages, they are often seen in large groups, cooking, eating and even sleeping outdoors. In interviews and on television talk shows, Germans complain that Gypsies are dirty, steal and kill household pets for food.

Relations between Germans and Gypsies have been strained for more than a century, and at least a half-million Gypsies were rounded up and killed in Nazi concentration camps before and during World War II.

German officials stressed that only those asylum seekers whose requests have been rejected or those who have no valid passports will be deported. Seiters said that about 70 percent of asylum seekers appear to have no valid papers.

In street interviews around Germany, some Gypsies say they are fleeing political persecution, but others say they left their homes to seek a better job or living conditions. As many as 3 million Gypsies are believed to live in Romania, most of them descendants of slaves liberated from Romanian estates in the mid-19th century.

Former Prisoners Allege Wholesale Serb Atrocities

By Mary Battiata
Washington Post Foreign Service

KARLOVAC, Croatia, Oct. 5—The former prisoner, a slightly built Slavic Muslim plumber with dark bloodshot eyes, would not give his name, but his face became slick with sweat as he began talking about the 75 days he spent at the Serb-run Omarska detention camp in northwestern Bosnia.

"The guards made us go out behind a small shed where there was a truck and a bulldozer," he said. "We saw the bodies, and then we understood everything."

"There were 26 bodies. Some had half their heads missing; others were missing eyes. They told us to put the bodies on the bulldozer, but it was hard to walk; we were stepping

on human brains. Then they took us to a field and made us pick up two more bodies. When we were done, the guard cocked his machine gun and said, 'Do you want to be next?'

"We didn't say anything; there was never any use to say anything. He looked at us, and, as if he was being merciful, he said, 'Okay, go wash.' My jeans were full of blood. I couldn't clean them."

The plumber told his story at the makeshift barracks here where more than 1,500 former inmates of Serb prison camps in Bosnia are being held under U.N. auspices until asylum can be found for them. Most of them had spent time in several Serb camps before being released to the Red Cross last Thursday and brought here in a convoy of 31 buses. They were the first large group of prisoners re-

leased under terms of an accord among Bosnia's three warring factions and the first able to speak freely about their experiences.

Their accounts describe a hellish gulag archipelago across Serb-held Bosnian territory where beatings, torture and execution have been daily occurrences. Although their stories could not be independently verified, they provide some of the most detailed testimony yet to support widespread charges that Serb nationalist forces in Bosnia have engaged in wholesale atrocities against camp inmates—most of them men of military age imprisoned to prevent armed resistance to Serb militia forces.

The camps, one former prisoner said, are places where a Serb guard "will kill you for your

Freed Muslim Prisoners Allege Abuse by Serb Guards

BOSNIA, From A1

wristwatch," and where prisoners forced to gather up the dead cannot keep their balance on ground slick with human gore. Since the men arrived here last week, the barracks have been the scene of tearful reunions with family members, but they also have resounded with the grief-stricken cries of relatives who had just learned that their sons, husbands or fathers did not survive the camps.

One alleged instance of mass murder occurred at the Serb-run Keraterm prison camp in northwestern Bosnia on the night of July 24, according to a Muslim locksmith who said he was in the room that night. Just after dark, he said, Serb guards with automatic weapons systematically killed scores of Muslim men who were locked inside a cramped, stifling enclosure known as Room 3.

Serbs positioned just outside the room fired burst after burst through the thin metal door, as other guards working within the room heaved each prisoner in turn up against the inside of the door. "It was dark. [The guards] were cursing and walking on us, sitting on [our] heads and strangling anyone who moved," the locksmith said.

As many as 160 men in the room died that night, according to the locksmith and three other Muslims who were imprisoned in the adjacent room. They said another 50 prisoners were killed the next morning

when a fresh shift of Serb guards entered Room 3. Ten more prisoners disappeared and never returned, they said, after they were forced to load the corpses onto a truck and leave the camp with them.

The killing continued the next night against an outside wall, and on many nights after that, the locksmith said. "In the morning, they would collect the remains in a wheelbarrow—brains, blood, pieces of flesh."

At both Omarska and Keraterm, up to 400 prisoners were jammed together in stifling rooms, and beatings were a daily occurrence, released prisoners here said. At Keraterm, they said, the beatings were carried out at various times by Serb military police, unidentified men dressed in camouflage uniforms and Serb civilians who came from nearby villages to participate in the violence. "They would beat us for about a half-hour, until you started to bleed. They gave us broken ribs, broken hands. They were cutting off ears and noses," said a 24-year-old man from near the north Bosnian city of Prijedor.

At Omarska, some said, the beatings began at lunch, which consisted of a foul rice dish served in a building adjacent to the one in which the prisoners were held. After being ordered to bolt their food in two or three minutes, the prisoners said, they were forced to return to the prison barracks through a gantlet of guards who beat them with thick wooden bats, metal pipes and wire hoses. One guard, they said, a man nicknamed "Prevara," used a mountain-

eer's axe to bash the prisoners as they passed.

At both Omarska and Keraterm, Muslim men who had been policemen were targeted for special abuse, and many were shot to death immediately on arrival at the camps, released prisoners here said. One young man, Emsoud Bahonic, a grocery store owner and part-time policeman, was beaten for six days until his arms and legs were broken and paralyzed, according to an uncle who said he was with Bahonic at Omarska. He died soon after, the uncle said.

At the same camp, two young Muslim men, Enir Karabasic and Jasmin Hrnica, a reserve policeman and a civilian, were taken to a basement room below the prisoners' quarters and savagely abused, according to a former prisoner. First, he said, the two men were hung from a auto-repair crane and severely beaten, then taken down and forced to perform degrading sexual acts on each other. Both men were then castrated and died soon afterward, the prisoner said.

"The screaming was terrible," said another man who was being held directly above the basement room and who said he later spoke with prisoners who had been faked by guards to witness the abuse of the two Muslims.

At Keraterm, housed in an abandoned ceramics factory near Prijedor, some former prisoners reported seeing 25 half-naked men being beaten, including the former Muslim

mayor of Prijedor, Muhamed Celajic. They said he did not survive.

According to conservative estimates by the Red Cross and other independent sources, a violent new effort by Serb militia forces to expel all non-Serbs from territory they control in northwestern Bosnia has left as many as 3,500 people dead—mostly Muslims—forced tens of thousands of women and children south to central Bosnia and swept all males of fighting age into detention camps.

International pressure on Bosnia's Serb nationalist leadership forced closure of the Omarska and Keraterm camps in August, and most of the inmates there were transferred to the nearby Trnopolje camp, which was then opened to Red Cross inspection. The Serbs have promised to close all the camps and turn the prisoners over to international supervision, but relief officials estimate that more than 10,000 prisoners are still in Serb prisons across Bosnia, including several hundred at Trnopolje.

There have been countless allegations of atrocities by all sides in Bosnia's nearly six-month-old factional war, but in most cases independent verification has been impossible. Nevertheless, U.N. officials have pointed to a consistent pattern in the atrocity claims of former Serb-held prisoners. Recently, the U.S. government has announced it has reliable accounts of the killing of up to 3,500 people by Serb militiamen in northeastern Bosnia.

Slayings In Bosnia Confirmed

Detainees in Convoy Killed, Police Say

By Mary Battiata
Washington Post Foreign Service

BANJA LUKA, Bosnia, Sept. 27—A top police official in a Serb-controlled area of Bosnia has confirmed the Aug. 21 killing of dozens of Muslim men and boys being taken by bus from the Serb-run Trnopolje detention camp to promised safety in the Muslim-held city of Travnik.

"A certain number of the people who were heading for Travnik lost their lives that day," Stojan Zupljanin, chief of security services here, said.

Zupljanin, a Serb who commands the 6,000-square-mile area that includes the steep canyon where the mass execution occurred, said "about 50 or more bodies" had been found. "I have information that there are [still] some corpses in that area," he said, adding that the mountainous terrain was slowing investigation.

But sources in the Banja Luka police department said at least 188 bodies have been found in the canyon at a place known as Varjanta, on Vlasic Mountain, 40 miles south-east of here.

Survivors' descriptions of a massacre of more than 200 Muslim men and boys were reported last week in *The Washington Post*. The survivors said a group of 10 Serb policemen separated buses carrying more than 200 men and boys—some as young

as 16—from other vehicles carrying family members. They then forced the Muslims off the buses, lined them up at the canyon rim, shot them at close range and pushed them over the edge.

The survivors, who gave their accounts after wandering for weeks behind Serb lines before reaching Travnik, said they had escaped being shot by jumping into the canyon as soon as they got off the buses.

The Post has located at least five more survivors whose accounts closely match those of the previous witnesses. The newest survivors are unknown to the others and have had no contact with them.

Zupljanin said he did not yet know who was responsible for the killings. "An investigation is in progress," he said. "We will find those who are guilty in this case, and we will bring them to justice."

Many of the survivors, as well as family members who reached Travnik, have identified the police officer who allegedly supervised and participated in the mass execution as a Bosnian Serb who had a reputation for lawlessness and cruelty even before the republic's civil war among its Slavic Muslim, Serb and Croat communities began six months ago. He is said to be a member of the Bosnian Serb police based in the town of Prijedor, about 20 miles west of Banja Luka, where Serb extremists have been expelling non-Serbs in a violent relocation campaign known as "ethnic cleansing."

Bosnian government authorities in Travnik said they believed the killings may have been carried out by extremist Serb policemen without knowledge of the senior Serb militia command at Vlasic.

Bosnian Serb television reported earlier this month that police units in Prijedor had been reprimanded by their superiors in Banja Luka and that 416 members of the Prijedor police were transferred briefly to the front lines of the Serb forces besieging Sarajevo, Bosnia's capital.

The Prijedor force is said to be under the authority of the Banja Luka authorities, but on Saturday Prijedor police told Western reporters that they did not answer to authorities here.

Many of the men on the Aug. 21 convoy had been held in Trnopolje since May, when they had been picked up in Serb police sweeps of Muslim villages. When they were released from the camp and loaded onto buses, the Muslims—all of them civilians—were told they would be exchanged later that day for Serb prisoners of war on Vlasic Mountain and then would be free to make their way on foot through areas of intense combat into Travnik, according to witnesses. The prisoners' buses joined a convoy that included trucks and buses carrying many of their wives and children, themselves fleeing "ethnic cleansing."

U.S. Says 3,000 May Have Died In Serbian-Run Detention Camps

By MICHAEL R. GORDON
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25 — The United States has obtained reliable information that "as many as 3,000" Muslim men, women and children were killed in May and June at Serbian-run detention camps near the Bosnian town of Brcko, several senior Administration officials said today.

Reports of mass killings in Bosnia have been circulating since July, but Administration officials said that this was the first time that they had developed independent information corroborating such reports.

The officials said the United States turned over evidence to the United Nations this week detailing alleged war crimes in Bosnia and Herzegovina; and Acting Secretary of State Lawrence S. Eagleburger said this week that Washington was supporting a United Nations resolution to create a war-crimes commission.

Today, Mr. Eagleburger told reporters that the United States had heard other "disturbing reports," which it is in the process of investigating. "If in fact they prove to be true we want to move the resolution as fast as we can," he said.

Mr. Eagleburger did not publicly describe the new evidence. But Administration officials who insisted on not being identified said it pertained to new information on the killings at Brcko.

Beatings and Torture

"We believe we have good information," a senior Administration official said. "It needs to be looked into some more, and we are turning the information over to the U.N. Human Rights Commission for investigation. It leads to the conclusion that in various camps and detention centers in May and June as many as 3,000 people were killed."

The new information on the killings

is based on interviews with survivors and other intelligence sources. The officials said that the information indicated that most of the killings occurred during May and June, when Serbian

forces took over and occupied the town of Brcko.

The officials said they believed the Serbs moved into Brcko in April, taking over a police station and dismissing the Muslim policemen and other Muslim officials. Then roving bands of Serbs went through the town arresting and detaining the Muslims. The Muslims were held in a number of centers. Some were held in a brick factory and others were kept in a pig farm. The conditions in the detention camps were bad and the Muslims were beaten and tortured.

The officials said that according to some accounts, as many as 50 Muslims were killed at a time. The bodies were reportedly transported at night. Some were said to have been dumped in the nearby Sava River, others buried in a mass grave. Other bodies were destroyed at a rendering plant, where animal remains are boiled to produce lard.

One American official said the Serbian forces believed to be responsible for the killings were controlled by two warlords. One was identified as Zeljko Raznjatovic, a Serbian leader who is known by the nickname Arkan and is wanted in a number of Western European countries for bank robbery. The other was identified as Vojislav Seselj, a nationalist militia leader from Serbia.

"They lead the shock troops of ethnic cleansing," a Government expert said, using the term by which the Serbian forces in Bosnia have described their campaign to expel non-Serbs from large areas of Bosnia.

The Washington Times reported this week that the United States had received reports that thousands of Muslims had been killed in Serbian camps. First Today, Administration officials

discussed the new information on the Serbian occupation of Brcko and the killing there in detail, explaining that they planned to take the information to the United Nations soon.

U.S. Military Role

After the press reports about the camps, the Security Council passed a resolution insisting that the International Committee of the Red Cross be given immediate access to the detention centers and asking nations to provide information on possible "violations of humanitarian law."

The initial press reports about Serbian detention centers also led the Democratic Presidential candidate, Gov. Bill Clinton of Arkansas, to urge the consideration of American military action in the Balkans.

The Bush Administration favors the use of military action to deliver humanitarian aid, but has not supported the use of military force to protect the beleaguered Bosnian Muslims or to try to stop the fighting.

The United States and its allies are currently considering establishing a ban on combat flights over Bosnia, which would stop the Bosnian Serbs and the Yugoslav Air Force from launching air strikes on the Muslims and Croats in Bosnia. But it is unclear when such a ban might be put into effect or how it would be enforced.

More recently, the Bush Administration had said it has credible reports of human-rights abuses. On Tuesday, the Administration submitted a report on the violations, as requested by the Security Council resolution.

The State Department spokesman, Richard A. Boucher, said the report included "allegations of willful killing, torture of prisoners, abuse of civilians in detention centers, deliberate attacks on non-combatants, wanton devastation and destruction of property, and others including mass, forcible expulsion and deportation of civilians."