

28. 28/6/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: In its weekly summary, UNPROFOR reported that the general situation in Sarajevo was relatively quiet but tense during the week. Some explosions were reported each day but in numbers of 20 or less. There was speculation that this was due to the fact that the factions might be waiting for the results of the Geneva meetings. 2804/ Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 21 killed and 211 wounded in the last week. It also reported to date 8,934 killed or missing (of which 1,418 were children) and 52,518 wounded (of which 13,738 were children). Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

2135. No reported incidents.

(b) Local reported events

2136. UNPROFOR commented in its weekly summary that the lack of water and the risk of epidemic were the most important problems facing the city. 2805/

2137. The BiH Health Ministry reported that the epidemic situation was worsening due to a lack of essential goods and services. During the last five months, 500 cases of enterocolitis, 80 cases of viral hepatitis A and 60 cases of bacilar dysentery were registered in Sarajevo alone. The Health Ministry also reported that the city received food aid which covered only 36 per cent of daily needs and distribution was hampered due to a shortage of fuel. 2806/

(c) International reported events

2138. The peace conference co-chairmen met with members of the BiH Presidency in Geneva. 2807/

29. 29/6/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Not specified

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2139. No reported incidents.

30. 30/6/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: In its monthly report UNPROFOR reported that the most important events of the month were the cessation of hostilities in the whole of BiH, which was promulgated on 18 June, so that the number of registered impacts and confirmed cease-fire violations had considerably decreased; and, at the end of the month, the announcement of the arrival of reinforcement coming from France no later than 20 July. According to UNPROFOR, sniper fire, especially at the airport, remained a constant problem. The total number of airport crossings for the month was 5,384. 2808/ Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2140. No reported incidents

(b) Local reported events

2141. Mayor Muhammed Kreševljaković and 11 other members of the city government started a hunger strike. In conjunction with the hunger strike they made the following demands: delivery of 50 per cent of the food that the people would normally eat, 30 per cent of regular water supplies, and minimal electricity and fuel. Dr. Zulfikar Alatas of Doctors Without Borders reported that the average person in Sarajevo had already lost 30 to 40 pounds since the war began and to date received 1,000 calories a day, half of the normal intake. 2809/

2142. It was reported that Serbs let three aid trucks into Sarajevo but seized three others carrying diesel fuel and oil. The situation was described as critical, with warfare in central BiH blocking regular supply routes. 2810/

(c) International Reported Events

2143. United Nations Security Council Resolution 847 was passed, extending UNPROFOR's mandate by three months. 2811/

P. July 1993

1. 1/7/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The city was described as relatively quiet

overnight with small arms fire in the New Town and three shells hitting the western Stup area. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: The western Stup area (three shells). Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2144. Sarajevo radio said that the city was relatively quiet overnight with some small arms fire in the New Town district. It said that three shells smashed into the western Stup area. 2812/

(b) Local reported events:

2145. A spokeswoman for the UNHCR reported that Serbian commanders introduced road tolls ranging from \$140 to \$350 per vehicle for UNHCR trucks, trailers, buses and cars driving on roads in Serbian controlled territories in BiH. "The decision is completely unacceptable and we totally deplore it", said spokeswoman Lyndall Sachs. An eight-truck convoy carrying 38 tons of food for Sarajevo stopped at the Serbian checkpoint of Karakaj, on the BiH side of the Drina River west of Zvornik, and was asked to pay the toll. 2813/

2. 2/7/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Several shells reportedly hit the city during the night. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Six Serb soldiers were reported killed near the front line in the centre of the city. Source(s): Reuters.

Narrative of Events:

2146. Several shells reportedly hit Sarajevo during the night and the BiH army said its men killed six Serb soldiers near the front line in the centre of the city. 2814/

(b) Local reported events

2147. UNHCR announced that food stocks at its warehouses in Sarajevo were down to two day supplies and could not be distributed because there was no fuel for the trucks. There was fuel at Sarajevo airport, where 16 to 17 relief flights a day continued to arrive, but trucks were unable to get into the city, due to a Serb roadblock, UNHCR said. 2815/

(c) International reported events

2148. On the first anniversary of the start of the Sarajevo airlift, a UNHCR spokesman in Geneva admitted that the humanitarian operation in BiH, which faced growing threats and the imposition of tolls at Serb roadblocks, had never been more difficult. 2816/

3. 3/7/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The UN reported that more than 1,000 shells hit Sarajevo in one of the heaviest shelling days in almost a month. 2817/
Source(s): Agence France Presse; Reuters.

Targets Hit: Žuč and Rastović (main areas of concentration); Sarajevo generally; central and eastern parts of the city; Stup; Dobrinja; Vogošća; Rajlovac; Ilidža; Nedžarići. Source(s): Agence France Presse; Reuters.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: A Reuters photographer witnessed six dead and 27 wounded brought into a city hospital and Sarajevo radio reported three wounded and one killed in the Novigrad area after it came under heavy shelling. 2818/ UN and hospital sources said that more than 1,000 artillery shells hit Sarajevo, killing seven people and wounding approximately 20 in the heaviest attack in nearly a month. 2819/ Source(s): Reuters; Agence France Presse.

Narrative of Events:

2149. Two differing reports described the day's events in Sarajevo. In one report, mortar and rocket fire was heard in Sarajevo at dawn. Much of the artillery fire, which began early in the morning, appeared to be outgoing from BiH government positions in the centre of the city. Reporters surveying the city from the top of the Holiday Inn could not see any shells landing in the city. Regular mortar fire continued two hours later, with small-arms and machine-gun fire audible across the city. 2820/

2150. In another report, UN and hospital sources said that more than 1,000 artillery shells hit Sarajevo, killing seven people and wounding approximately 20 in the heaviest attack in almost a month. It was reported that Serb forces opened up with a pre-dawn tank and artillery barrage that lasted three and a half hours, according to UNPROFOR. The attack continued throughout the day but the shelling became more sporadic and spread to the central and eastern part of the city, UN officials said. They added that it was the heaviest shelling to hit Sarajevo in almost a month. 2821/

2151. Sarajevo radio reported shelling in Vogošća. The radio also reported shelling in the Stup and Dobrinja districts. The Bosnian Serb news agency said that the Serb-held suburbs of Vogošća, Rajlovac, Ilidža and Nedžarići came under BiH army assault. 2822/

2152. A BiH army unit (the 10th Mountain Brigade), led by a 29 year-old musician known as Čačo (Musan Topalovi), attacked three police stations, seizing 30 officers and taking them off to dig trenches at the front-line positions held by Čačo's men on Trebević mountain. (Čačo was the commander who led an ill-fated attack on the Serb-held Mount Trebević on 30 May in which

many were killed). Gun battles broke out around the police stations and one police unit fired mortars at Čačo's positions on Trebević. Before the battle ended it had involved machine-guns, armoured cars, and mortars, and at least one policeman was killed. For much of Saturday, traffic in the heart of the city was blocked by barricades. The Serbian forces looking down from mountainside positions opened up with a barrage of shelling on the city after the mortar volleys on Čačo's positions ended. 2823/

4. 4/7/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The city reportedly came under intermittent bombing, with shells concentrated on the airport area. UNPROFOR reported that some 630 artillery rounds fell near the airport and in the western part of the city. 2824/ Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Targets Hit: The airport area; an UNPROFOR armoured vehicle on the road link between the city and the airport; the Stup district; the western part of the city. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Description of Damage: Three people were reportedly killed during the shelling of the Stup district. Source(s): Agence France Presse

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Three people were reportedly killed during the shelling of the Stup district. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Narrative of Events:

2153. A spokesman for UNPROFOR said that the city came under intermittent bombing, with shells concentrated on the airport zone. The road link between the city and the airport was reportedly cut during the day after an UNPROFOR armoured vehicle was disabled by a mortar round. The UNPROFOR spokesman reported that no one was injured in the explosion. 2825/

2154. Three people reportedly died during shelling on the Stup district of Sarajevo, Sarajevo radio said. 2826/

(b) Local reported events

2155. It was reported that over 60 severely wounded patients were rushed to the Koševo Hospital after one of the heaviest Serbian bombardments in months. Without power for lights in the operating theatre, surgeons reportedly moved to a small room with picture windows looking toward the mountains, where they worked by natural light without monitors or x-rays. Operating theatres were described as running as they did at 19th century battlefronts with amputations by paraffin lamps; anaesthetists hand-pumping oxygen with rubber bladders; chest, abdominal and head surgery without x-rays; and surgeons wearing the same bloodstained gowns for days. 2827/

2156. French General Jean Cot, who took over as commander of UNPROFOR on 1 July planned to land in Sarajevo and drive to the UN BiH headquarters at nearby Kiseljak. "The General flew to Split instead and will take a helicopter to Kiseljak", said Colonel Marcel Valentin, commander of UN peacekeepers in Sarajevo. UN bases in Kiseljak were being blockaded by Croat forces in response to the actions of Muslim troops who had sealed off a Canadian UN base

at Visoko since Saturday. General Phillipe Morillon, Commander of UN forces in BiH, was inside UNPROFOR's headquarters at Kiseljak when the Croats surrounded it on Sunday morning, and he was unable to leave, UN officials said. The Muslim forces around the Visoko base aimed to prevent the departure of two senior Croat officers including Ivica Rajić, Commander of the Croat forces in central BiH. The United Nations had been trying to negotiate the safe passage of the two Croat officers to defuse the crisis. "This is just one of those pointless exercises which I hope won't last long", said a UN source. 2828/

2157. It was reported that from the outset of the city's siege, United Nations officials decided that all aid reaching the Sarajevo area would be divided, with Serbian nationalist forces being given between 20 per cent and 25 per cent, about equal to the proportion of the population in areas under their control. But for several weeks, Serbian leaders in Ilidža, the Serbian-held suburb straddling the route into the city used by relief convoys, had demanded that they be given 50 per cent of all fuel. For a month, the impasse reportedly blocked all fuel convoys. Then last week Serbian forces pledged to allow a United Nations-escorted fuel convoy unimpeded passage and greeted the trucks at the first Serbian roadblock north of the city with glasses of slivovitz, the plum brandy favoured in the Balkans. However, at the next roadblock, the convoy was surrounded by 100 Serbian troops who demanded half of the 120 tons of fuel. After a standoff lasting several hours, United Nations officials surrendered one of the four trucks of diesel fuel. When the convoy advanced to the airport, still several miles from the city, Serbian commanders allegedly demanded one of the three remaining trucks. United Nations officials refused and more than 70 tons of fuel, enough to power essential services in Sarajevo for two weeks, remained blockaded at the airport for seven days. 2829/

2158. United Nations officials expressed concern with the collapse of the city's water system. With summer temperatures rising to nearly 100 degrees Fahrenheit, the city reportedly was receiving less than 2 per cent of its normal water supply and there were increasing fears of water-borne epidemics as people resorted to drawing water from polluted rivers, wells and springs. 2830/

5. 5/7/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Shells reportedly hit the Buča Potok area where children were playing. In its weekly summary UNPROFOR reported that the general situation in Sarajevo was relatively tense and on 3 July the area suffered a significant increase of activity with approximately 1,500 rounds reported. Main areas of concentration were Žuč and Rastović. The attack came from the north of the city and was a result of Serb observation of BiH troops regrouping in the town. Fighting between the BiH army and BiH police was reported, resulting in the establishment of many check points throughout the city. It was further reported that the 9th and 10th Brigades tried to take the Ministry of the Interior near the Presidency. 2831/ Source(s): Agence France Presse; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: The Buča Potok district (where children were playing). Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Christine Wikutt, a 52 year-old British aid worker was killed by sniper fire. Wikutt, who worked for Direct Aid, a relief

organization based in Edinburgh, was killed as she travelled aboard an unescorted relief truck on "snipers alley" leading from the centre of the city toward the airport, Direct Aid officials said. (Convoys organized by private agencies were not escorted by armoured UN personnel carriers). A CNN television crew close by in an armoured Landrover went to her aid and took her, accompanied by her husband Alan, to a UN military hospital in the nearby Post and Telegraph building. 2832/ Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Casualties: Hospital sources reported that Shelling in Sarajevo killed at least four persons and wounded 31 including 12 children. 2833/ It was later reported that 11 children were wounded and one 11 year-old girl was killed. Doctors reported that the mortar rounds appeared to have contained phosphorous. 2834/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 40 killed and 229 wounded in the last week. It also reported 8,983 killed (of which 1,430 were children) and 52,747 wounded (of which 13,795 were children). 2835/ Source(s): Reuters; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

2159. Croat forces lifted a blockade of two UN bases, including the BiH headquarters of UNPROFOR in Kiseljak. UNPROFOR spokesmen said that the Croat Defence Force (HVO) pulled back its men after getting assurance that negotiations would continue for the release of two senior Croat officers trapped by Muslim fighters at a Canadian UN base at nearby Visoko. 2836/

2160. Shells were reported to have hit the district of Buča Potok where children were playing. 2837/

(b) Local reported events

2161. UNPROFOR reported in its weekly summary that the Serb attitude towards the United Nations and UNHCR convoys had deteriorated and the number of restrictions of movements increased. As an example, on 30 June a UNHCR convoy was stopped in Blažuj at 9:00 a.m.. 2838/

6. 6/7/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Dobrinja was heavily shelled during the night and mortar as artillery attacks were reported in the city, especially near the airport and western sections. Fighting between BiH and Serbian forces was reported in Stup and around Vogošća. Source(s): Reuters; Agence France Presse.

Targets Hit: Dobrinja (overnight); the city (concentrated near the airport and western sections). Source(s): Reuters; Agence France Presse.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The Serbian news agency Srna reported that 10 Serb soldiers had been killed in overnight fighting with BiH forces in Vogošća. 2839/ Source(s): Reuters.

Narrative of Events:

2162. Sarajevo radio reported that the suburb of Dobrinja was heavily shelled

during the night ahead of military talks between the three warring sides at the nearby airport. It reported the bombardment began before midnight Monday and lasted until the early hours Tuesday but that there were no immediate reports of casualties. 2840/

2163. Fighting between Muslim and Serb forces also took place in the Stup suburb and around Vogošća. 2841/

2164. Mortar and artillery attacks were reported in the city, especially near the airport and western parts, UNPROFOR said. 2842/

(b) Local reported events

2165. Peace conference co-chairman Stoltenberg traveled to Zagreb where he met with the UNPROFOR commander General Cot and UNPROFOR staff. 2843/

2166. The new commander of the UN forces in the former Yugoslavia, French General Jean Cot, was to have met with Bosnian Serb leader Ratko Mladić and his Croat and Muslim counterparts, Milivoj Petković and Rasim Delić, to discuss the military situation. A UN spokesman said that Cot and the new UN commander for BiH, General Francis Briquemont of Belgium, arrived in Sarajevo late Monday, but that the Serb and Croat military chiefs told the UN on Tuesday that they had "problems to attend" the talks. Instead, a "low level" meeting was held at Sarajevo airport by a "mixed military working group" representing UNPROFOR and the three factions. 2844/

2167. It was reported that the birth rate in Sarajevo plummeted and an increase was found in the number of abortions since the start of the war. According to Srećko Šimić, chief of Obstetrics at the Koševo Hospital, before the war the hospital delivered 9,000 to 10,000 babies per year as compared to a present rate of 2,000 to 3,000. Dr. Ljiljana Masleša, of Doctors Without Borders was quoted as saying that before the war, there were two deliveries for every abortion and that now there were two abortions for every delivery. 2845/

(c) International reported events

2168. UN Commission of Experts Rapporteur for On-Site Investigations, William Fenrick in Sarajevo stated that a "considerable amount of evidence" about war crimes in BiH had been collected by a UN probe. "I have a pretty reasonable chance of conviction", Fenrick said. The investigation covered the rape of women, a general study of war crimes, and specific incidents such as the mortar attack on a football game on 1 June in which 11 people were killed. "I don't think any side in this conflict is entirely innocent", Fenrick remarked. He said there was "a lot of material" to bring the suspects to court. "I think it can be done, but I don't know if it would be done", he said, adding: "Progress in this area is extremely slow". His assistant, Lieutenant-Colonel Kim Carter, said it was important to carry out inquiries now, without waiting for the war to end, since "evidence can disappear very quickly, you can lose witnesses". 2846/

7. 7/7/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Sarajevo was reportedly quiet at night with some anti-aircraft artillery and small arms fire in the city and some sporadic

shelling of Stup and the New Sarajevo areas. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: Stup; New Sarajevo. Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2169. Croatian radio said Croat forces were holding their positions in the morning after a fierce BiH army attack on Kiseljak, near Sarajevo which killed 15 and wounded 15 others on Tuesday. UNPROFOR spokesman Commander Barry Frewer described the situation in Kiseljak and nearby Visoko as "very difficult". 2847/

2170. BiH radio reported a relatively quiet night in Sarajevo with some anti-aircraft artillery and small arms fire in the city and some sporadic shelling of Stup and the New Sarajevo areas. 2848/

(b) Local reported events

2171. United Nations envoy Thorvald Stoltenberg was in Zagreb in a new round of shuttle diplomacy to persuade the three warring factions in BiH to agree to a peace plan. He was expected to be joined by co-mediator Lord David Owen, who Tuesday urged the Muslims to talk directly to the Serbs and Croats about their joint plan for a three-sided BiH confederation along ethnic lines. Owen and Stoltenberg were due to go to Belgrade to meet Serbian leader Slobodan Milošević. 2849/

2172. UN envoy Thorvald Stoltenberg, speaking after he and co-mediator Lord Owen met Croatian President Franjo Tudjman, said he was still waiting for a response from the BiH leadership on whether to open talks. "If this will be negative, that we cannot go on with negotiations, there is much concern about the continued development", he told reporters. Owen urged BiH Tuesday to enter talks with the Serbs and Croats. He said that the partition proposal was the only one currently on offer. 2850/

2173. The bulk of the BiH collective Presidency met to consider an inquiry commission report recommending that the country should be a federal state or a protectorate under international control. Both ideas appeared to be at odds with the joint Serb-Croat proposal being pushed by the international mediators for a confederal division of BiH into Serb, Croat and Muslim mini-states. Muslim leaders said that such a partition would reward military aggression and crowd the Muslims into ghettos with little freedom of movement or economic opportunity. Mirko Pejanović, a Serb member of the BiH Presidency, said that the commission formed last month to consider the partition plan would recommend a federal state with "substantial provincial, cultural and social autonomy". This would fall well short of the Serb-Croat confederal proposal, implying three autonomous states in charge of all their own affairs with a weak central government. 2851/

8. 8/7/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Not specified

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2174. UNPROFOR spokesman, Commander Barry Frewer said that there was continued tension in Kiseljak where the road linking the town to Sarajevo had been mined. 2852/

(b) Local reported events

2175. The peace conference co-chairmen traveled to Belgrade, where they met with UNPROFOR and UNHCR representatives. They also met with representatives of the SPO Party and the Farmer's Party, and doctors treating SPO party leader Draškovi. Meetings were also held talks with Yugoslav President Lili, and Foreign Minister Jovanovi, and later with President Milošević and Bosnian Serb leaders Karadžić and Krajišnik. 2853/

2176. The BiH Presidency continued its talks on proposals put forward by the Serbs and Croats that would see the Republic divided up along ethnic lines. BiH President Alija Izetbegović and others of the 10 member Presidency met in Sarajevo with different BiH political parties to discuss the proposals. According to Presidency member Serb Miro Lazović, a working group had come out in favour of dividing BiH into four to 18 provinces of federal units, with four being the most likely number. He said that the Presidency had on Wednesday refused the idea that the four provinces be created along ethnic lines. 2854/

9. 9/7/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Not specified

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2177. No reported incidents.

(b) Local reported events

2178. BiH President Alija Izetbegović said that the Presidency had already decided to refuse the Serb-Croat proposal being promoted by international mediators. "The ethnic division of Bosnia has been refused", he told a news conference, adding that a meeting of seven out of the Presidency's 10 members had agreed unanimously on the issue. Izetbegović said that six of the Presidency members would travel to Zagreb on Saturday, where they would join up with three others traveling from Croat-controlled areas, for a formal vote before meeting with co-mediators Stoltenberg and Owen. Izetbegović said he would stay behind in Sarajevo "because of urgent business". Officials in Sarajevo said that the final vote was little more than a formality. He proposed reconvening the London Conference, saying the government's conditions for participating were a complete cease-fire and free passage of humanitarian convoys. Izetbegović rejected suggestions that the BiH army was on its last legs saying: "the fight is only finished once you capitulate". Mediators felt that this decision would lead to further bloodshed. Peace mediator Thorvald Stoltenberg said earlier that the alternative to negotiations was an intensified war. 2855/

2179. International peace mediator Lord Owen left Belgrade for Zagreb following talks with Serb President Slobodan Milošević and Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić. Owen's co-mediator Thorvald Stoltenberg, who also attended the talks was to leave Belgrade later in the day. 2856/

2180. Bosnian Serb and Croat military leaders for the second time refused to attend a meeting convened in Sarajevo to sign an accord confirming the city as a "safe area", UNPROFOR spokesman Barry Frewer said. Bosnian Serb army chief Ratko Mladić said some work was still needed before he could sign and his Bosnian Croat counterpart Milivoj Petković found the road to the city "too dangerous", Frewer reported. Frewer admitted the rejections were disappointing and that, without Mladić's cooperation, it would be difficult for the UN to implement its resolution naming Sarajevo as one of six "safe areas" in BiH. 2857/

2181. The UN command awaited the arrival of 150 French reinforcements called into the city to help implement the "safe areas". The troops were reportedly still waiting for authorization to cross a Serb roadblock between Kiseljak and Sarajevo, a French officer said. 2858/

(c) International reported events

2182. In Geneva, the head of the UNHCR, Sadaka Ogata warned that Sarajevo was on the brink of disaster as a result of the tightening blockade by Bosnian Serbs. Ogata said the amount of water available to each person in the city was down to two and a half litres per day and was expected to drop further as the remaining pump ran out of fuel. "The danger of epidemics grows with each passing day", Ogata said. "The city sewage system has broken down and rubbish is piling up in the streets. Many people are already using contaminated water". "For more than a year now UNHCR and its partners have struggled against all odds to help the people of Sarajevo stay alive", Ogata said. "I condemn the actions of those who are blocking the delivery of food, medicine, fuel, water, power, gas, and other humanitarian assistance in a cowardly attempt to starve and kill innocent victims". 2859/

2183. Another UNHCR official said that the Bosnian Serb forces blocked some 75 tons of diesel fuel for the water pumps at the Sarajevo airport, demanding to keep half for themselves before allowing the rest to reach the city. 2860/

10. 10/7/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The morning was reported as relatively calm in the city with snipers aiming at passersby and sporadic mortar explosions in the valley. A total of 67 artillery shell impacts were recorded in the BiH controlled areas, seven between the airport and Butmir on the southern side of the airfield. 2861/ Source(s): United Press International; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: BiH-controlled areas, including the area between the airport and Butmir on the southern side of the airfield. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: As more than 1,000 French troops began arriving at a former Olympic complex in the city to begin a United Nations military buildup, snipers opened fire, wounding one in the neck. 2862/ Small arms and sniper activity were reported in the city. Source(s): New York Times; United Press International; UNPROFOR.

Casualties: One British journalist was killed and one BiH civilian was lightly wounded 2863/ ; a French UNPROFOR soldier was wounded by sniper fire. 2864/ Sarajevo Radio reported that doctors in Sarajevo confirmed five cases of typhoid fever and said that 750 people fell ill with dysentery. 2865/ Source(s): UNPROFOR; Agence France Presse; United Press International.

Narrative of Events:

2184. As more than 1,000 French troops began arriving at a former Olympic complex in the city to begin a United Nations military buildup, snipers opened fire, wounding one in the neck. The soldier, who was expected to live, was evacuated to France on a military flight. It was reported that he was one of at least 1,500 people who had been killed or wounded in the city in the two months since the United Nations Security Council designated Sarajevo and five other predominantly Muslim enclaves to be safe havens. 2866/

2185. The morning was reported as relatively calm in the city with snipers aiming at passersby and sporadic mortar shell explosions heard in the valley. 2867/

2186. UNPROFOR reported small-arms and sniper activity. One British journalist was killed and one BiH civilian was lightly wounded. 2868/

(b) Local reported events

2187. The peace conference co-chairmen met with President Tudjman in Zagreb. They also hosted a meeting of the BiH Presidency in Zagreb. 2869/

2188. Sarajevo residents began to make a black joke of the term "safe area". This week a placard was seen with the words "Sigurnosna Zona", meaning safe area, on a fence outside one of the impromptu graveyards that had sprung up in the city. 2870/

11. 11/7/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Not specified

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2189. No reported incidents.

(b) Local reported events

2190. Members of the collective BiH leadership continued their meeting with Lord David Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg in Zagreb to discuss the latest proposed peace plan. 2871/

12. 12/7/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: UNPROFOR described Sarajevo as relatively quiet with 48 shell impacts. Sniper activity also continued. 2872/ Casualty rates were high after two shells hit civilians in Dobrinja and the Old Town area. Source(s): UNPROFOR; New York Times; Chicago Tribune.

Targets Hit: A water line in Dobrinja; the Old Town area. Source(s): New York Times; Chicago Tribune.

Description of Damage: Thirteen people were reported killed and 15 others wounded when an 82 millimetre mortar struck a line of people at a garden water pump in Dobrinja; two people were reported killed and three wounded by a shell hitting the Old Town area. Source(s): New York Times; Chicago Tribune.

Sniping Activity: Sniper fire was reported to have continued. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Casualties: Thirteen people were reported killed and 15 others wounded when a 82 millimetre mortar struck a line of people at a garden water pump in Dobrinja; two people were reported killed and three wounded by a shell hitting the Old Town area. The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 57 killed and 348 wounded in the last week. It also reported a cumulative total of 9,040 killed (of which 1,439 were children) and 53,095 wounded (of which 13,882 were children). 2873/ Source(s): New York Times; Chicago Tribune; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

2191. In the suburb of Dobrinja, several dozen men, women and children were lined up at a garden well pump when a single 82 millimetre mortar struck, a Muslim government police inspector at the scene said. It was reported that 12

people were killed and 15 were wounded in the afternoon attack, occurring at 3:40 p.m. 2874/ The bodies of the victims, both Muslims and Croats, lay in the street, their water containers still strapped to their backs. The youngest of the victims was six years old, Sarajevo radio said. A 23 year-old nurse and her mother were also among the dead. Inspector Bakir Germanovic said that the mortar bomb was a blind shot lobbed over a few hundred yards of already bomb-cratered apartment buildings from Serb front lines in the suburb of Nedžarići. "They couldn't see the line but they knew people were drawing water here", he said. 2875/ The city, in its fifth consecutive week without electrical service, natural gas, or functioning water mains, and the mortar attack produced difficult conditions at Dobrinja's hospital and at Koševo's Hospital downtown where some of the wounded were transferred. With supplies of diesel fuel for emergency generators exhausted, surgeons reportedly operated without monitors for patients' vital signs and used flashlights and miners' lamps for illumination in operating theatres as night fell. 2876/

2192. Two people were reported killed and three wounded by a shell hitting the city's Old Town. 2877/

(b) Local reported events

2193. BiH President Alija Izetbegović and Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić signed an agreement restoring water and utilities. The agreement was negotiated by Bernard Kouchner, France's former health minister. The agreement, signed by Izetbegović and Karadžić, pledged not to use utilities as "weapons of war" by cutting off flows of water, natural gas and electricity. In the document, the two leaders also undertook to halt interference by their forces with repair missions undertaken by the United Nations military force, who had suspended such work 10 days before because of attacks on repair crews. Kouchner said that Izetbegović agreed in principle to attend peace talks in Geneva if utilities were restored and if the warring parties ceased offensive action during the talks. 2878/

2194. It was reported that although Serbian forces, not BiH forces, had cut most of the utility supplies during the siege, the utilities crisis was a result of a complex standoff in which the BiH Government had refused to allow the repair of a power line which supplied a Serbian ammunition plant at Vogošća, about four miles north-east of the city centre. In retaliation, the Serbian forces cut the only power line feeding Sarajevo, as well as the flow of natural gas. 2879/

2195. UNHCR reported that the last major source of drinking water in Sarajevo had been cut because of a lack of fuel for a pump. The acute water shortage raised concerns that disease could spread. UNHCR reported 200 to 300 cases of dysentery daily due to residents using dirty groundwater. Kessler said that the pump serving a well at the city brewery stopped operating Sunday because of a Serb blockade of fuel. It was reported that a "trickle" of water was still reaching the city on one line, providing about a pint per resident each day. 2880/

13. 13/7/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Sarajevo was relatively quiet with 21 impacts recorded, but the UNPROFOR Sector Commander assessed that the cease-fire was no longer being respected as both the Ukrainian and French Battalions were subjected to fire. 2881/ Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: The areas near the French and Ukrainian. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2196. The UNPROFOR Sector Commander assessed that the cease-fire was no longer being respected. Both the French and the Ukrainian Battalions were subjected to fire and were forced to take shelter on a number of occasions. 2882/

(b) Local reported events

2197. Nicolas Studer, the head engineer for UNPROFOR in Sarajevo said that electricity and water could be restored in Sarajevo by the week's end if the warring factions respected an agreement signed by Muslim and Serb leaders. "If everything goes well", things could return to normal by the end of the week, Studer said. He said that the initial phase of the repairs would require transferring electricity from the Kakanj power plant, located in a Muslim-held region 30 miles from Sarajevo, to the Blažuj power plant supplying Serb-held areas west of Sarajevo. Studer said a second phase of repairs would entail restoring electricity to all of Sarajevo and, to appease the Serbs, repairing power lines within Serbia proper, which would enable them to resume production at a weapons factory making mortar and artillery shells. Studer said that the second phase had not yet been approved by Muslim and Serb leaders. The UN also asked for safety guarantees to protect its repair teams. 2883/

2198. The Bosnian Serb military command blamed the BiH army for Monday's mortar attack that killed at least 15 civilians who were waiting for water in Dobrinja. "The mortar shell that killed the civilians was fired by the Muslim troops stationed on the mountain of Igman", the Serbian command said in a public statement, accusing the Muslims of killing their own people and laying the blame on the Serbs in order to gain international sympathy. 2884/

14. 14/7/92 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: UNPROFOR said that Serb shelling of the city had intensified. It was reported that 224 artillery hits were recorded by UNPROFOR military observers stationed in Sarajevo. 2885/ Source(s): Agence France Presse; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: The Koševo district (location of the central hospital). Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2199. UNPROFOR reported that the Koševo district, where the central hospital

is located, was one of the regions targeted. 2886/

(b) Local reported events

2200. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Sadaka Ogato, arrived in Sarajevo on an emergency visit to assess immediate needs for international financial support. She vowed to do her best to help 2.2 million displaced people. She offered no remedy for the problems but said that going in with UN guns blazing would only backfire. "The whole situation is moving into a downward spiral. Oh, the temptation is there [to blast our way past roadblocks], but what happens afterward?" she said. 2887/

2201. UN officials said that running water was restored to a third of Sarajevo, but Serbs failed to switch on a natural gas line as promised. Sarajevo had been cut off of its tap water and electricity since 21 June. Utility engineers with UNPROFOR said that running water was restored to New Sarajevo in the western part of the city. Supplies resumed after the Serbs reactivated a major pumping station in a western suburb they controlled, said Major Nicholas Studer, chief of UNPROFOR's combat engineers. "The Serbs have respected only part of the first phase of the agreement. I don't know if they are playing games, but they have cited technical problems and declared that they intend to solve them", Studer said. 2888/

15. 15/7/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: UNPROFOR reported increased tension following the resumption of shelling especially in the area of Zlatište where 78 impacts were recorded. 2889/ Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: The area of Zlatište. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2202. BiH radio said some 8,500 Muslim refugees had flocked to Bjelašnica Mountain just south of Sarajevo from Trnovo, which was recaptured by Serb forces earlier in the week. 2890/

2203. There were reports of fighting across BiH, including a tank attack and sporadic shelling in Sarajevo. 2891/

2204. UNPROFOR reported increased tension following the resumption of shelling especially in the area of Zlatište where 78 impacts were recorded. 2892/

(b) Local reported events

2205. Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić rejected an offer by Islamic countries to send 17,000 soldiers to join the UN peace-keeping force in BiH. "The government resolutely opposes the proposed deployment of further Muslim forces to this country as projected recently by the Islamic Countries",

Karadžić said in a letter to U.N Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali. 2893/

2206. A day after the visit by Sadako Ogata, Bosnian Serbs allowed 75 tons of diesel fuel stuck at the airport for two weeks to be brought into Sarajevo. The Serb forces reportedly confiscated an additional 25 tons of the diesel fuel for themselves. The first stops were the city bakery, a main water-pumping station and the hospital which needed the fuel to run generators. The bakery was making bread within two hours of the delivery after a 15 day shutdown, the longest in its 40 year history. Restoration of natural gas service, reportedly cut by Serb forces last month was also considered a major breakthrough, allowing residents to cook normally for the first time in weeks. 2894/

2207. More than half of the city was still reportedly without running water and electricity. 2895/

16. 16/7/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Not specified

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2208. No reported incidents.

(b) Local reported events

2209. The BiH collective Presidency convened in Sarajevo to work out final details in a proposal for the future of BiH that was expected to be debated at a new round of Geneva talks next week. At their preparatory session, BiH leaders were scheduled to discuss two options: a federation made up of either 10 units or three units. Under the latter scheme, each of the three regional units would be further divided into three provinces. None of the provinces would be geographically contiguous in order to discourage ethnic communities from adopting separatist policies. 2896/

(c) International reported events

2210. A new round of talks aimed at ending the war in BiH was announced. Presidents Slobodan Milošević of Serbia and Franjo Tuđman of Croatia were expected to meet under UN auspices in Geneva Saturday in a new bid to end the war, Tuđman's office said. Belgrade's Tanjug news agency said that Tuđman and Milošević would discuss resolving the BiH crisis "on the basis of a confederal organization of Bosnia". The BiH Presidency under Alija Izetbegović, had rejected confederation into three ethnic mini-states, although it had backed a plan to establish BiH as a federal state along economic lines. 2897/

17. 17/7/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Serb forces launched a major offensive in the region of the Igman mountains overlooking Sarajevo airport. Reportedly, more than 2,000 shells were fired on BiH positions. According to Sarajevo radio, combat was reported as BiH forces resisted attacks by Serb infantry backed by tanks. The main offensive was launched from Trnovo, a BiH position captured on 11 July by Serb forces about 12 miles from the city. Tanks meanwhile closed in from Hadžići west of Igman, surrounding the BiH positions in a pincer movement. The radio said that the BiH army had repulsed several attacks but it quoted the army as saying its forces were in great difficulty. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Targets Hit: Mount Igman area. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2211. UNPROFOR announced that in the east section of the city, BiH troop movements were continuing. There were also reports that residents in the southern suburbs were fleeing their homes and heading for the city centre amid fears of a new Serbian offensive following the fall of Trnovo, an access point to the city. Some 400 Muslims from Trnovo had reached Butmir near Sarajevo airport. 2898/

2212. Sarajevo radio quoted military sources as saying that Serb forces launched a major offensive in the region of the Igman mountains overlooking Sarajevo airport and that fighting raged as night fell on the city. More than 2,000 shells were said to have fallen on BiH positions only a few miles from the city proper. Hand-to-hand combat reportedly took place as BiH government troops resisted several attacks by Serb infantry backed by tanks, the radio said. The main offensive was launched from Trnovo, a Muslim position captured on 11 July by Serb forces about 12 miles south of the city. Tanks meanwhile closed in from Hadžići west of the Igman hills, surrounding the Muslim positions in a pincer movement. The radio said that the BiH army had repulsed several attacks but it quoted the army as saying its forces were in great difficulty. 2899/

(b) Local reported events

2213. The 10 member BiH Presidency at its meeting in Sarajevo announced it "agreed in principle" to take part in the next round of peace talks in Geneva scheduled for next week, Sarajevo radio reported. The Presidency conditioned its participation on the cessation of the Serbian offensives in BiH and restoring electricity and the restorations of water supplies to the city. 2900/

2214. In Geneva, Serbian President Slobodan Milošević and Croatian President Franjo Tuđman held closed door talks with mediators Thorvald Stoltenberg and Lord Owen. Diplomats said the session was aimed at pushing BiH toward accepting a plan turning the state into a confederation of three ethnic republics. Stoltenberg told reporters that the atmosphere had improved and

that it might be possible to achieve a peaceful solution in the next two to six weeks. "The point is to get started", he said. Conference spokesman John Mills said the aim of the talks was to prepare for a meeting of all three parties in the conflict. 2901/

2215. UNPROFOR announced that it's probe into Monday's shelling of Sarajevo residents queuing for water revealed that the mortar round in the incident had almost certainly been fired by Serb artillery. 2902/

(c) International reported events

2216. Moves to protect UN troops guarding Muslim enclaves in BiH were stepped up when the United States said it would send 40 warplanes, including four Special Forces AC-130 gunships to Europe. The Pentagon announcement followed an agreement by NATO on Wednesday that US, French, British and Dutch warplanes could start protecting UN ground troops in BiH, including those in the planned "safe areas", as early as 22 July. Radovan Karadžić, leader of the Bosnian Serbs, warned against sending NATO aircraft. Such actions would be "packed with possibilities for new incidents and an escalation of the conflict", he told the Yugoslav news agency, Tanjug. 2903/

18. 18/7/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Serb forces broke through BiH army defence lines on their Mount Igman stronghold overlooking Sarajevo. Sarajevo radio quoted the BiH army press centre as saying BiH government troops rallied to prevent a decisive advance. Serb artillery and infantry units hit Muslim defenders on the mountain all day and government army commander Rasim Delić conceded the situation was difficult. Heavy shelling and shooting on Mount Igman could be seen from the city below. Serb gunners also shelled western parts of the city. Sarajevo radio said that the Serbs were using helicopter gunships in the Mount Igman battle in violation of the no-fly zone over BiH imposed by the United Nations. 2904/ It was further reported that the BiH army press centre admitted in a communique that Serbs had broken through its defence lines and had occupied the nearby hamlet of Golo Brdo. Other Serb forces reportedly broke through BiH army lines just south of the city and were advancing toward the villages of Ledići, Dobre Vode and Šiljak, all in the foothills of Mount Igman, the army said. The army said the Serbs were continuing heavy shelling as they closed in on the mountain from the north-west and from the south along a supply line leading from Trnovo. Foreign observers counted at least 28 Serb tanks advancing toward Igman Saturday from the north-western outskirts of Sarajevo. 2905/ UNPROFOR reported Sarajevo as relatively tense with increased military activities. A total of 101 impacts were registered by UNPROFOR. 2906/ Source(s): Reuters; Agence France Presse; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Igman Mountain; western parts of the city; The area close to the PTT building (five shells). Source(s): Reuters; Agence France Presse; UNCIVPOL.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: UNPROFOR reported that three BiH civilians were wounded while attempting to cross the airport. 2907/ Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Narrative of Events:

2217. UN sources who asked not to be identified cited a growing peril to Muslim refugees on government-held Igman mountain after more than two dozen tanks were spotted advancing on the area on Saturday. More than 3,500 Muslims had fled towards Igman last week after Serb forces seized the government enclave of Trnovo 18 miles south of Sarajevo and began what refugees described as a northwards sweep towards the city. It was reported that there was concern in recent days that Trnovo's fall would allow Serbs to reinforce troops besieging the city. 2908/

2218. Serb forces broke through BiH army defence lines on their Mount Igman stronghold overlooking Sarajevo. Sarajevo radio quoted the BiH army press centre as saying BiH government troops rallied to prevent a decisive advance. Serb artillery and infantry units hit Muslim defenders on the mountain all day, and government army commander Rasim Delić conceded the situation was difficult. Heavy shelling and shooting on Mount Igman could be seen from the city below. Serb gunners also shelled western parts of the city. Sarajevo radio said that the Serbs were using helicopter gunships in the Mount Igman battle in violation of the no-fly zone over BiH imposed by the United Nations. 2909/

2219. It was further reported that the BiH army press centre admitted in a communique that Serbs had broken through its defence lines and had occupied the nearby hamlet of Golo Brdo. Other Serb forces reportedly broke through BiH army lines just south of the city and were advancing toward the villages of Ledići, Dobre Vode and Šiljak, all in the foothills of Mount Igman, the army said. The army said the Serbs were continuing heavy shelling as they closed in on the mountain from the north-west and from the south along a supply line leading from Trnovo. Foreign observers counted at least 28 Serb tanks advancing toward Igman Saturday from the north-western outskirts of Sarajevo. 2910/

2220. UNCIVPOL described the situation in Sarajevo as "tense". Five shells were reported to have landed close to the PTT building. 2911/

(b) Local reported events

2221. The BiH collective Presidency at a meeting decided to remove the Commander of the Army's 1st Corps, Mustafa Hajrulahović, and replaced him with Vahid Karavelić. The 1st Corps was assigned to the defence of Sarajevo. Commentators said the dismissal of Hajrulahović might have reflected dismay over recent military successes by Serb forces who captured the town of Trnovo, south of Sarajevo and had since closed in on Igman. 2912/

2222. UNPROFOR reported that electricity repairs were canceled due to the absence of Serbian workers. 2913/

(c) International reported events

2223. BiH President Alija Izetbegović ruled out attending renewed peace talks with international mediators in Geneva unless Serb forces stopped offensives against Muslims. "We cannot go there if offensive activities in Bosnia continue, especially against Sarajevo", he said. "Under current conditions, I don't see that we could be ready to go today or tomorrow but, if we found

ourselves at the negotiating table, I'm convinced we might reach a settlement". 2914/

19. 19/7/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: UNPROFOR reported that Sarajevo was relatively calm. A total of 169 impacts were recorded and the areas most affected were on the southern side of the city. 2915/ Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: The southern side of the city. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: UNPROFOR reported that a French officer was wounded by sniper fire. UNPROFOR expressed concern that the high level of sniping could jeopardize the UN engineering repair mission efforts. 2916/ Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 47 killed and 201 wounded in the last week. It also reported a cumulative total of 9,087 killed (of which 1,450 were children) and 53,298 wounded (of which 13,932 were children). 2917/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

2224. Heavy fighting continued on Mount Igman overnight, lighting up the night sky to the south-west of the city. 2918/

(b) Local reported events

2225. A UN official said that Sarajevo was still without electricity and water as utility repair efforts were being hampered by workers who refused to show up. 2919/

20. 20/7/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: A spokesman of the UN said that sketchy reports from Mount Igman indicated night attacks by BiH troops were recapturing positions seized by Serb forces during the day. UNPROFOR reported that overnight and into the day, fighting and mortar shelling took place around the Ukrainian and Egyptian Battalion locations in the eastern part of the city. During the daylight hours sniper activity was reported to have increased. Shelling was also reported on the outskirts of the airport. UNPROFOR recorded a total of 144 impacts in Sarajevo, 15 of which were close to the airport. 2920/ UNPROFOR monitors were not let into the Igman area. Source(s): Chicago Tribune; UNPROFOR; UNCIVPOL.

Targets Hit: The area around the Ukrainian and Egyptian Battalion locations; the outskirts of the airport (15 shells). Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: During daylight hours sniper activity was reported to have increased. One French non-commissioned officer was hit by sniper fire.
Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2226. Outside Sarajevo the Serb attack on Mount Igman, overlooking the city's UN-controlled airport, was reportedly among the fiercest in the area since the Serb siege of the city began in April 1992. Major Luuk Niessen, a spokesman for the UN said that sketchy reports from Mount Igman indicated night attacks by BiH troops were recapturing positions seized by Serb fighters during the day. 2921/

2227. UNPROFOR reported that overnight and into the day, fighting and mortar shelling took place around the Ukrainian and Egyptian Battalion locations in the eastern part of the city. UNPROFOR reported that it was relying on media accounts on the fighting in the Igman mountain area due to the fact that the Serb side was restricting its monitors' movements in the area.

2228. UNCIVPOL reported shelling on the outskirts of the airport. 2922/

(b) Local reported events

2229. BiH President Alija Izetbegović appealed for international help in a letter to UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali and other officials. "There are signs that the Serbian forces plan a general attack on the town itself", said Izetbegović, "I call on you to intervene and stop this act of aggression", he said. Commentators suggested that the Serbian offensive seemed to be designed to increase pressure on BiH to accept ethnic partitioning. 2923/

21. 21/7/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The centre of the city suffered the heaviest shelling in weeks. General Ratko Mladić said that his troops had advanced 20 miles in a week and were close to capturing two key roads that would cut off the retreat of the BiH forces defending the western approaches to the city. After that he said it would not be long, possibly only days, before Butmir and Hrasnica would fall. Source(s): Chicago Tribune.

Targets Hit: The city centre; the area near the Parliament building; the area near the Holiday Inn; the area near barracks shared by BiH troops and UNPROFOR forces. Source(s): Chicago Tribune.

Description of Damage: A pall of smoke was seen rising near the Maršal Tito army barracks shared by BiH troops and UN peacekeepers. Source(s): Chicago Tribune.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2230. The centre of the city suffered the heaviest shelling in weeks, reporters said. Mortar and artillery shells struck near the Parliament building and the Holiday Inn for more than an hour and a pall of smoke was seen rising near the army barracks shared by BiH troops and UN peacekeepers. The intensified shelling came one day after the commander of the advancing Serbian forces stood on a strategic mountain overlooking Sarajevo and spoke to Western reporters about his troops' successes. To the accompaniment of Serbian artillery fire, General Ratko Mladić said that his troops had advanced 20 miles in a week and were close to capturing two key roads that would cut off the retreat of the BiH forces defending the western approaches to Sarajevo. After that he said that it would not be long, possibly only days, before Butmir and Hrasnica (Muslim strongholds at the gates of the city) would fall, significantly tightening the Serbian hold on the city. "Things are moving very well, according to plan", Mladić said. "And they will get even better". 2924/

(b) Local reported events

2231. It was reported that the 2,000 UN peace-keeping forces in the designated "safe area" of Sarajevo had been unable to do much but stand by as the Serbian forces advanced. The UN troops were not able to approach the battlefield on Mount Igman to observe the fighting or to resist it. 2925/

(c) International reported events

2232. United States Secretary of State Warren Christopher ruled out US military action or other direct intervention to prevent Serbian forces from capturing Sarajevo. In turning down appeals for outside help from BiH, Christopher called the crisis a "tragic, tragic situation". But he said at a news conference that deeper American involvement in the Balkans was not in the US national interest. He defined the US national interest in BiH as limited to "humanitarian relief to the extent that we can provide it, coupled with the spread of the conflict, doing all we can to make sure that those who are involved in the evil conduct there realize that they will be subject to, as people, war crimes trials, and as nations, to continuing sanctions". Commentators noted that these remarks may have removed any fears that Serb and Croat leaders had about whether taking Sarajevo or other UN-declared "safe areas" would draw military retaliation from the US. 2926/

2233. It was reported that President Clinton's top foreign policy advisers Christopher, Defense Secretary Les Aspin, Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Colin Powell, and National Security Adviser Anthony Lake, met Tuesday for a second time in a week to discuss the deteriorating situation around Sarajevo. But they reportedly broke up their meeting, unable to agree on new actions. As Serb forces advanced Wednesday against government troops on Mount Igman, the strategic high ground and a key supply route for the capital, Clinton reportedly blamed European governments for the impending defeat of the BiH government. Clinton said that the European opposition to his proposal to lift the UN arms embargo for the BiH government doomed what appeared to be a moment when Serb and Croatian leaders might have been willing to settle the conflict through negotiations. "That's when things began to deteriorate again instead of move toward peace", he said during an appearance Tuesday night on CNN's "Larry King Live". 2927/

2234. It was reported that the United States had moved 40 warplanes to bases in Italy to join British, French and Dutch aeroplanes (possibly beginning

Thursday), in providing air cover and rescue missions for UN peacekeepers coming under fire. That operation came under NATO auspices. 2928/

2235. It was reported that UN officials expressed hope that the Serbs would honour a promise to suspend their offensive on Mount Igman if peace talks started Friday in Geneva. 2929/

22. 22/7/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: UN military observers counted 3,777 Serbian fired shells hitting the city in a 16 hour period from midnight Wednesday, one of the highest recorded by UN observers in the year that they had monitored artillery fire in Sarajevo. Of these shells 680 impacts had been recorded in the city centre. UNPROFOR commented in its report that a large portion of these rounds were fired into the Mount Igman area. Reports said that the bombardment began at dawn and continued much of the day. Reporters gave accounts that at midmorning, Serbian tanks in the western district of Nedžarići fired repeatedly at houses in the Buča Potok district on a hillside less than a mile away. For nearly two hours at noon, Serbian tanks and howitzers on Trebević Mountain reportedly fired heavy-calibre shells at New Sarajevo. The principal target appeared to be the Maršal Tito barracks shared by Ukrainian troops of UNPROFOR and BiH army units. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: The city centre (680 impacts); the area around the Presidency building; houses in the Buča Potok district on a hillside; New Sarajevo; the Maršal Tito barracks; the power station at Velešići; the Mount Igman area (received a large portion of the impacts). Source(s) Chicago Tribune; New York Times; UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Hospitals reported at least 10 people killed and more than 50 seriously wounded but, with the heavy shelling and transport idled by a fuel shortage, it was thought that other casualties had not been brought in. 2930/ Source(s): New York Times.

Narrative of Events:

2236. United Nations officials said on Wednesday that Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić had promised to stop Serb offensive operations around Sarajevo, as requested by the BiH government before they would attend the talks. But while Serb troops halted a six-day attack on Mount Igman, which controlled the city's only supply line, they commenced an artillery barrage on the city. Sarajevo's city centre, including the area around the Presidency Building, sustained some of the heaviest shelling in weeks before the bombardment subsided. 2931/

2237. The bombardment began at dawn and continued much of the day. Reporters at the UN military headquarters watched at midmorning as Serbian tanks in the western district of Nedžarići fired repeatedly at houses in the Buča Potok district on a hillside less than a mile away. For nearly two hours beginning at noon, Serbian tanks and howitzers on Trebević Mountain to the south fired heavy-calibre shells at New Sarajevo. The principal target appeared to be the Maršal Tito barracks shared by Ukrainian troops of UNPROFOR and BiH Army

Units. 2932/

2238. UNPROFOR reported that the power station at Velešići was damaged during the fighting. 2933/

2239. UN military observers counted 3,777 Serbian fired shells hitting the city in a 16 hour period from midnight Wednesday, one of the highest recorded by UN observers in the year that they had monitored artillery firing in Sarajevo. Of these shells 680 impacts had been recorded in the city centre. UNPROFOR commented in its report on operational activities that a large portion of these rounds were fired into the Mount Igman area. 2934/

(b) Local reported events

2240. Three UNPROFOR and 14 UNHCR flights landed in the city. 2935/

(c) International reported events

2241. In Washington, President Clinton rejected suggestions that the US had given up on helping bring peace to BiH, saying the administration was continuing to work on the problem with European allies. A day earlier, Secretary of State Warren Christopher said that the administration had ruled out military intervention or any other forceful strategy to rescue Sarajevo and prevent partition of BiH. Clinton, when asked if that meant he had given up on BiH, said, "that's not so . . . We have aggressively committed ourselves to the process in Geneva, and if the BiH government voluntarily signs an agreement, we have made it clear that we were prepared to participate in the enforcement of it". "We are continuing to work with the Europeans on other options", Clinton said. "That is not true that we've given up on it. We're continuing to work". 2936/

2242. Plans for new peace talks stumbled after Serbs hit Sarajevo with one of the heaviest bombardments in weeks. The Geneva talks were scheduled to focus on competing peace plans: a Serb-Croatian plan to partition BiH into three ethnic states and a plan by the BiH government to keep the Republic together. Citing the plight of BiH civilians, mediators Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg had urged the parties to "sit in continuous session until a settlement is reached". 2937/

2243. BiH President Alija Izetbegović reiterated his earlier position that he would not attend peace talks while fighting continued. "Unfortunately, up to this moment, there are no signs that attacks are diminishing", he said in a letter to Owen and Stoltenberg. 2938/

2244. The UN Security Council condemned the Serb assault on Sarajevo and demanded an end to the siege, calling for safe passage of food and medicine. The Council demanded no military action. 2939/

23. 23/7/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Serbian artillery batteries reportedly pounded wide areas of Sarajevo in a sustained offensive. The shelling was reportedly at a lower level than on Thursday, suggesting that the focus had moved from Mount Igman on the south-western edge of the city to a strategic hill on the north-western periphery. UN officers said that they believed that the key to

the battle lay in an attempt by Serbian forces, strengthened by new artillery and infantry groups, to break through the BiH lines on the hill located about four miles from the city centre. Source(s): UNPROFOR; Chicago Tribune.

Targets Hit: Wide areas of Sarajevo. Source(s): UNPROFOR; Chicago Tribune.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2245. Serbian artillery batteries pounded wide areas of Sarajevo in a sustained offensive. The Serbian attack on Sarajevo, the most intensive since last fall, sent the new United Nations commander in BiH, Lieutenant General Francis Briquemont of Belgium, on a trip into the mountains south of Sarajevo for a meeting with the Serbian military commander, Lieutenant General Ratko Mladić. Mladić told reporters after the meeting that his troops would observe a cease-fire beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday but UN officers cautioned that there was no guarantee that BiH forces, driven back by the latest Serbian attacks, would agree to a truce. 2940/

2246. The shelling was at a lower level than on Thursday, suggesting that the focus of the battle had moved from Mount Igman on the south-western edge of the city to a strategic hill on the north-western periphery. UN officers said that they believed that the key to the battle lay in an attempt by Serbian forces, strengthened by new artillery and infantry groups, to break through the BiH lines on the hill located about four miles from the city centre. 2941/

(b) Local reported events

2247. In Belgrade, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić said that peace talks should be postponed for months because negotiating would be pointless. "Why should we negotiate with the Muslims at all?" Karadžić said. "They are militarily defeated, and we have no urgency to negotiate with them". The latest peace negotiations due to begin Friday in Geneva, were postponed two days by the shelling in Sarajevo. International negotiators Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg urged all sides "to exercise restraint and create suitable conditions for talks". 2942/

24. 24/7/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Throughout the afternoon and past dusk, Serbian forces renewed artillery and infantry assaults on BiH forces defending strategic hillsides on the northern edge of Sarajevo. The city was hit with tank, artillery and mortar shells on the hillsides of Kobilja Glava, Slatina and Kromolj. UNPROFOR reported that the BiH-controlled area of Žuč was shelled and that over 3,000 impacts were recorded. It was reported that the BiH forces appeared to be holding their own but were sustaining heavy losses. Source(s): New York Times; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Kobilja Glava, Slatina, and Kromolj (hillsides standing above a narrow valley leading to the heart of the city); Žuč; the area near the Egyptian, Ukrainian and French Battalion camps. Source(s): New York Times;

UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2248. Serbian forces renewed intensive artillery and infantry assaults on BiH forces defending strategic hillsides on the northern edge of Sarajevo, apparently seeking a breakthrough that could bring large parts of the city under Serbian control. Throughout the afternoon and past dusk, the city was hit with tank, artillery and mortar shells on Kobilja Glava, Slatina and Kromolj, hillsides standing above a narrow valley leading to the heart of the city. It was reported that the BiH forces appeared to be holding their own, but were said to be taking heavy losses. The Serbian offensive, in its third day, alarmed UN commanders with the possibility that crucial defences of the city could be overrun. 2943/

2249. UNPROFOR reported that the BiH-controlled area of Žuč was shelled and attacked by infantry from the north-west. More than 3,000 impacts were recorded. The area, however, could not be monitored by the UNMOs. The situation was tense for the Egyptian, Ukrainian and French Battalions with small arms fire and artillery impacts near their camps. 2944/

(b) Local reported events

2250. The new UN commander in BiH, Lieutenant General Francis Briquemont of Belgium told a news conference that all shelling in the Sarajevo region would be halted at 10:00 a.m. Sunday as part of a BiH-wide agreement, which was to coincide with the reopening of peace talks in Geneva on Sunday. The talks had since been deferred until Tuesday. BiH President Alija Izetbegović demanded that attacks on many of the remaining Muslim population centres in BiH, including Sarajevo, Maglaj, and Mostar, be halted before the BiH government would attend the talks. He also stipulated that Serbian and Croatian forces should halt their attempts to delay and block UN relief convoys. 2945/

2251. Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić said that BiH President Alija Izetbegović must accept the partition of BiH into three ethnic states or Serb forces would settle the question on the battlefield. 2946/

2252. UNPROFOR reported that two UNPROFOR and 15 UNHCR flights landed at the airport. 2947/

25. 25/7/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Serb forces reportedly attacked the UN peacekeepers base in Sarajevo with dozens of tank and mortar rounds (at least 68 impacts were reported). Government positions on Žuč mountain were reportedly shelled. It was reported that "low level" shelling could be heard from the surrounding hills. Fairly consistent shelling hit the city centre in the afternoon. Source(s): Chicago Tribune.

Targets Hit: The UNPROFOR base operations centre for French peace-keeping

forces (at least 68 impacts); government positions on Žuč mountain; the city centre (afternoon). Source(s): Chicago Tribune.

Description of Damage: A Serbian attack on the UNPROFOR base operations centre for French forces consisted of at least 68 rounds, which destroyed four UN vehicles and damaged eight others. Source(s): Chicago Tribune.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2253. Serbs attacked the UN peacekeepers' base in Sarajevo with dozens of tank and mortar rounds. No one was hurt. The base commander said it was a direct Serb attack, and UN officials were trying to contact General Ratko Mladić to protest and demand an explanation. "It is a miracle no one was killed or wounded", said a UN spokesman, Commander Barry Frewer. The attack on the UN base consisted of at least 68 rounds, which destroyed four UN vehicles and damaged eight at the base, the operations centre for 150 French peacekeepers brought in to help set up the Sarajevo "safe area". The United Nations believed it was a Serb attack because "it's coming from their direction. We know there are tanks in the area". UN soldiers did not return fire, and Frewer said there would be no retaliation for the incident. But "if this would ever happen again, we are prepared to act in the strongest way", he said. Earlier, base commander Colonel Roger Duburg had suggested that retaliatory air strikes could be ordered under the latest Security Council resolution on BiH. That resolution created six "safe areas", in BiH including Sarajevo and authorized UN air strikes if peacekeepers were attacked. 2948/

2254. BiH radio accused Serbs of violating the new no-offensive accord by shelling government positions on Žuč mountain outside Sarajevo. It was reported that "low level", sporadic shelling could be heard in the city coming from the hills ringing it, and that fairly consistent shelling hit the city centre by afternoon. 2949/

(b) Local reported events

2255. Early in the day, an accord to halt military offensives by the warring factions in BiH had taken effect. All three warring factions claimed that the others had broken the agreement. The UNPROFOR commander for BiH, Lieutenant General Francis Briquemont of Belgium announced the no-offensive accord Saturday after meeting with officials of the warring parties. 2950/

2256. BiH President Alija Izetbegović said that he would attend the peace talks scheduled to start on Tuesday in Geneva if the no-offensive accord held. The talks had been postponed twice because of fighting. Izetbegović said that the United Nations had done almost nothing to implement its "safe areas" scheme for the country's Muslims and called for tougher action by the Security Council. Sarajevo radio said that Izetbegović laid out his objections in a letter to the Council and to UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali. 2951/

26. 26/7/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Sarajevo was reported as quiet but tense. Some sporadic firing was reported by the Egyptian Battalion around the Bistrik

area. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: The Bistrik area. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported that 72 people were killed and 461 wounded in the last week. It also reported cumulatively 9,159 killed (of which 1,466 were children) and 53,759 wounded (of which 14,028 were children). Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

2257. Sarajevo was quiet but tense. Some sporadic firing was reported by the Egyptian Battalion around the Bistrik area. 2952/

(b) Local reported events

2258. In Sarajevo, UN commanders warned Serbs who attacked a UN base Sunday that they faced immediate retaliation if they did it again. Lieutenant General Francis Briquemont, UN commander for BiH, said: "I am angry at this betrayal. I have told my commanders they must reply immediately, within the next few seconds". If attacked again, he said, "they must fire against the adversary". French General Jean Cot, commander for all forces in the former Yugoslavia, said the peacekeepers were surprised by the attack as they set up a position in Sarajevo, and had not unpacked weapons, apparently including anti-tank weapons. 2953/

(c) International reported events

2259. The BiH government said it would not go to the negotiating table in Geneva until the attacks on Sarajevo had abated. But UN observers reported that Sarajevo was quiet on Monday, and the lull in the fighting appeared to be holding reasonably elsewhere. It was reported that BiH government military setbacks, a tightening blockade of government-controlled areas and divisions in the BiH leadership appeared to have softened Izetbegović's resistance to the plan. "We're leaving with hope and fear but with a strong determination to find an escape from the cycle of killing and suffering", Izetbegović said upon leaving Sarajevo Monday. "If there is a way out, this delegation will find it". On Monday night he held a first meeting with Lord David Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg, chairmen of the international mediation effort. The new talks were scheduled to begin formally on Tuesday. 2954/

27. 27/7/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Bosnian Serb forces reportedly opened a new assault on Žuč mountain, pushing for control of the western end of the city. BiH radio called the attack the biggest push for the mountain. The Serb infantry assault reportedly followed a two hour artillery barrage, and it was not clear if any ground was gained. UNPROFOR reported heavy shelling from Serb positions in Sarajevo between 11:05 a.m. to 1:30p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. totalling approximately 2,390 artillery, tank and mortar rounds. Areas most effected were in the north of the city. 2955/ UNPROFOR observed four

unusual artillery impacts causing dense smoke which was assessed to be irritant gas. The BiH Liaison Officer reported 14 such impacts. 2956/
Source(s): Chicago Tribune; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Western Sarajevo; the area near the French Battalion at the BiH radio and television centre (seven shells); areas to the north of the city.; the Žuč Mountain area. Source(s): Chicago Tribune; Agence France Presse; UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Sniper fire reportedly engulfed the centre of the city. Source(s): Chicago Tribune.

Casualties: It was reported that the Serb attack on Mount Žuč left about 100 Muslim soldiers dead. 2957/ A 13-year-old boy was reported killed and 21 people wounded in shelling. 2958/ Source(s): Chicago Tribune; Reuters.

Narrative of Events:

2260. Bosnian Serbs opened a new assault on Žuč mountain on Sarajevo's outskirts, pushing for control of the western end of the city. BiH radio called the attack the Serb's biggest push for the mountain. Commentators suggested that if it fell, the Serbs could sweep across the western end of Sarajevo, but the radio reported that defence lines were holding. The Serb infantry assault on Žuč followed a two hour artillery barrage. It wasn't clear if they gained ground, said UN spokesman Commander Barry Frewer. 2959/
2261. Sniper fire engulfed the city centre while shelling intensified in western Sarajevo. 2960/

2262. UNPROFOR observed four unusual artillery impacts causing dense smoke which was assessed to be irritant gas. The BiH Liaison Officer reported 14 such impacts. 2961/

2263. Seven shells reportedly landed 500 metres away, and two shells landed 80 metres away from the base of a French battalion unit in the Bosnian radio and television centre. Major Luuk Niessen, a UN press officer, said that the shells were not directed at the unit. 2962/ A Reuter photographer, Chris Helgren, was at the scene. 2963/

(b) Local reported events

2264. It was reported that Sarajevo remained without basic utility services. The UN stated that it had not received clearance to carry out repairs on the Serb side. 2964/ UNPROFOR reported that four UNPROFOR and 17 UNHCR flights landed at the airport. 2965/

(c) International reported events

2265. In Geneva, leaders of all three warring factions held a rare joint meeting. The 90 minute meeting brought BiH President Alija Izetbegović together with Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić and Bosnian Croatian leader Mate Boban. Karadžić, who had insisted that BiH accept an ethnic partition of the Republic warned: "This is the last chance for an honest peace". Later he said that discussions were going in the "right direction", despite his "basic pessimism". Izetbegović announced "some progress" in the talks. His government still wanted some kind of federation and feared that Serb and Croatian areas would join with neighbouring Serbia and Croatia, leaving Muslims with small land-locked pockets. 2966/

2266. France made a formal request to the UN and NATO for swift action to provide air cover for UN troops after Serb gunners shelled a French engineering unit in Sarajevo Sunday. 2967/

28. 28/7/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Shelling in the Žuč area reportedly eased on this day. Shelling was reported in Ilidža in the evening. Source(s): Chicago Tribune; Reuters.

Targets Hit: Ilidža (evening). Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Thirteen people were wounded when shells fell in Ilidža in the evening. Source(s): Reuters.

Narrative of Events:

2267. In Sarajevo it was reported that the Serbs took a break from their assault Tuesday on Mount Žuč west of the city which left a reported 100 Muslim soldiers dead, one of the heaviest one-day losses of the 16 month siege. 2968/

2268. UN military observers confirmed that 13 people were wounded when shells fell on Sarajevo's Serb-held suburb of Ilidža Wednesday evening. 2969/

(b) International reported events

2269. After French UN forces had come under fire from Serbs battling for control of Sarajevo, the UN announced that it was ready to accept its commitment from NATO to use air support to protect troops assigned to defend six "safe zones". UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali said that NATO would be ready to supply the air cover early next week when ground observers and other support personnel were in place. Boutros-Ghali said that the air cover would begin, "Monday, Tuesday". United States President Clinton stated: "The United States is bound, we are committed, to come to the aid of the United Nations forces, as a part of NATO, if they are attacked. And they have been". "All this will unfold over the next few days, during which time the Serbs, the Bosnian Serbs, either will or won't stop shelling Sarajevo and will pull back. We'll just have to wait and see what happens", the President said. 2970/

2270. While the UN and NATO worked on military plans, the peace talks in Geneva were reported to have taken a positive turn when leaders of the three warring factions met without mediators for the first time. 2971/

29. 29/7/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Artillery rounds slammed into Žuč hill where BiH forces were trying to resist a Serb advance. At one point the barrage was intense with shells hitting every few seconds. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: The area of Žuč hill. Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2271. In Sarajevo, artillery rounds slammed into Žuč hill, where BiH forces were trying to resist a Serb advance. At one point the barrage was intense, with shells every few seconds sending up thick black smoke from behind a line of trees on the ridge of the hill. The shelling rattled windows at UN headquarters in Sarajevo one mile away. "We expect it is the continuation of a push by Serbs", UNPROFOR spokesman Barry Frewer said. "The Bosnians are continuing to put up their defence and counter-attack. There is shelling on both sides but predominantly on the Serb side", he told reporters. 2972/ Frewer told reporters that some shells fired in the Žuč battle appeared to contain riot-control gas, but there was no evidence to back Muslim allegations that the Serbs were using poison gas. 2973/

(b) Local reported events

2272. In its monthly engineering report UNPROFOR addressed the worsening utilities situation in the city. UNPROFOR commented that electricity was and would remain the key to all utilities problems inside the sector (due to its connection to all other utilities). UNPROFOR stated that Serb forces had denied all access to the repair location on the line which was supplying the town (Reljovo/Vogošća) and that fighting and shelling had provoked cuts and damages in the northern area of Sarajevo. UNPROFOR also commented that only five of the 15 scheduled electricity repair missions were successful during the month. UNPROFOR stated that water supplies had improved in parts of the city (notably the west part which was supplied through the reservoir of Mojmiilo starting on 13 July). Gas supplies remained turned off. 2974/

(c) International reported events

2273. In Geneva, BiH President Alija Izetbegović, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić and Bosnian Croat chief Mate Boban agreed to cease hostilities and ordered their forces to implement the truce accord immediately. 2975/ Geneva Conference sources reportedly said that Serb leader Radovan Karadžić was offering the Muslims about a quarter of BiH territory, an area around Sarajevo and a pocket in the north-west. 2976/

2274. The BiH leadership's international legal adviser, Francis Boyle of the University of Illinois College of Law, filed a petition in the Hague asking it to prevent the dissolution of BiH as a member of the UN, which he said would follow the acceptance of a peace plan. 2977/

2275. After an hour-long meeting with Defense Secretary Les Aspin, French Defence Minister François Leotard told reporters at the Pentagon that the western allies would not tolerate any further attacks on UN troops in BiH and were prepared to launch air strikes if they continued. 2978/

2276. Seven war wounded from Sarajevo, six of them children, were reportedly being flown to Italy by the UN, according to UN officials. 2979/

30. 30/7/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: A shell hit an unidentified court yard in the city and general sniper fire and shelling was reported. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Targets Hit: An unidentified courtyard where a group of children were playing. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Description of Damage: A shell landed in a courtyard where a group of children were playing, watched by their mothers. One boy and two women were killed, and seven children and five adults were wounded. 2980/ Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Sniping Activity: Sniper fire was reported on this day. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Casualties: One boy and two women were killed, and seven children and five adults were wounded when a shell landed in an unidentified courtyard where children were playing while supervised by their mothers. According to hospital sources, seven people were killed and 33 wounded by artillery and sniper fire. 2981/ Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Narrative of Events:

2277. A shell landed in a courtyard where a group of children were playing watched by their mothers. One boy and two women were killed, and seven children and five adults were wounded. 2982/

(b) Local reported events

2278. In BiH, the commanders of the warring factions signed an immediate cease-fire for all of BiH. The agreement permitted for the free movement of relief convoys. 2983/

2279. Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić, who initially accused Muslim forces of staging the attack on French UN soldiers on Sunday, reportedly said that Serb gunners may have fired at the French by mistake. Karadžić said that those suspected to be responsible for the attack were being arrested. 2984/

(c) International reported events

2280. In Geneva, BiH President Izetbegović reached an agreement with leaders of Bosnian Serbs and Croats. The agreement covered only the broad constitutional arrangements that would govern a new tripartite federation but constitutional principles had not been a stumbling block in previous negotiations. Before finalizing a peace plan the parties still had to finalize another accord fixing the precise frontiers of the three new republics, therefore deciding how much territory each faction would control. Radovan Karadžić, leader of the Bosnian Serbs expressed optimism stating: "Only a few spots on the map remain in dispute, and these should be resolved this weekend". President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia was similarly optimistic, predicting that a final peace agreement would be signed by all the faction leaders by Sunday or Monday. He said later on Sarajevo radio, "The hardest part of the job still remains. Everything will be worthless if there is no agreement on the maps". Serbian President Slobodan Milošević described the

accord as "the biggest step toward peace we have ever made since the beginning of the war". 2985/

2281. The document agreed upon provided for a weak central government having no police force or army of its own and would take responsibility for little more than the management of foreign policy and trade. All remaining powers would be vested in the governments of the three republics. 2986/

2282. Despite the agreement in Geneva, US officials in Washington said that they were pressing ahead with their efforts to develop a plan for air strikes. The officials said that there was a broad agreement within the US government that Washington should be prepared to use air power to protect UN peacekeepers, ensure the delivery of food and other aid and prevent the fall of Sarajevo and other key Muslim enclaves. 2987/

2283. UN officials in New York said that one Spanish soldier attached to the UN peace-keeping operation in BiH was killed and 17 wounded when two mortar rounds hit their headquarters in the town of Jablanica. A spokesman for Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali said the incident could be the "trigger" for NATO air strikes, once it became clear who carried out the attack. 2988/ The UN Security Council called for nations to prepare to use air strikes in BiH in response to the attack. 2989/

31. 31/7/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: After a week of intense fighting, Sarajevo was reported as mostly quiet, with Serbian shells striking sporadically in civilian areas of the city. The signing of a cease-fire appeared to have brought a lull to the battle that had raged for days on the BiH stronghold atop Žuč Mountain. Source(s): New York Times.

Targets Hit: Unidentified civilian areas of the city. Source(s): New York Times.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Reports on the casualties suffered by the BiH army during the battle of Žuč ranged from 150 to 300 killed. Wounded soldiers at the Koševo hospital estimated the figure at 300 dead. Most of the bodies remained on the battlefield at Žuč awaiting efforts by the United Nations to broker an agreement for their recovery. 2990/ Source(s): New York Times.

Narrative of Events:

2284. After a week that saw some of the most intense fighting of the war, Sarajevo was reported as being mostly quiet, although Serbian shells continued to strike sporadically in civilian districts of the city. The signing of the cease-fire appeared to have brought a lull to the battle that had raged for days on the BiH stronghold atop Žuč Mountain. 2991/

(b) Local reported events

2285. BiH political and military leadership remained divided over the peace agreement reached on Friday. "The text was not signed", Miro Lazović, the speaker of the BiH parliament and a member of the presidency said of the

agreement. "We only accepted it as a basis for further talks". Lazović's explanation underscored the deepening confusion in Geneva about the real willingness of the BiH leadership to accept the division of BiH along ethnic lines. Lazović also had his doubts about the willingness of the BiH army to go along with the plan. Lazović said that only the three Croatian members of the 10 member BiH Presidency, together with Fikret Abdić, the leader of the Biha Muslims in north-western BiH and "maybe President Alija Izetbegović . . . believe we should go with the new agreement". Izetbegović and Abdić were the only two members of the Presidency at the meeting during which the constitutional pact was apparently accepted. 2992/

2286. The leaders of the BiH and Serbian factions spent the day trying to resolve issues concerning the boundaries of the ethnic republics that would be established under the plan. 2993/

(c) International reported events

2287. The peace conference co-chairmen held bilateral talks with Izetbegović and Karadžić, and Boban and Karadžić. The day ended with a trilateral meeting with Izetbegović, Karadžić and Boban. 2994/

2288. The United States began meetings with France and Britain to discuss the possibility of bombing targets threatening Sarajevo. There was reportedly a building consensus that about 60 warplanes already stationed in the region (30 of them American) would provide air cover for the UN forces protecting relief convoys and six civilian "safe zones" including Sarajevo. Officials in Washington said that the NATO council would meet Monday to discuss the use of air power in BiH. Sarajevo is "very important symbolically" to the Muslims said Madeline Albright, US ambassador to the UN. "Everybody that watches what's going on in Sarajevo believes that more has to be done to alleviate the suffering there". Commentators suggested that even if the West did not initiate its threatened bomb runs, the current threats were viewed as a useful tool, keeping negotiators at the bargaining table in Geneva, discouraging the Serbs from making a final push for Sarajevo and serving notice that a peace enforced by the UN troops would have some force behind it. 2995/

Q. August 1993

1. 1/8/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Shelling was reported on Mts. Igman and Bjelašnica. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Targets Hit: Mount Igman; Mount Bjelašnica. Source(s): Agence France Presse; Reuters.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Snipers killed three people and wounded five others as they crossed the UN-controlled airport, according to a UN military spokesman. 2996/ Source(s): Reuters.

Casualties: Three people were killed and five others wounded by sniper fire at the airport. The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 62 killed and 301 wounded in the last week. It also reported a cumulative total of 9,221 killed (of

which 1,482 were children), and 54,060 wounded (of which 14,112 were children). 2997/ Source(s): Reuters; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

2289. Shelling was reported on Mount Igman throughout the day. 2998/ BiH Interior Minister Bakir Alispahić said that about 10 villages in the area of Mount Bjelašnica and neighbouring Igman were burned down in the day's offensive. Alispahić, in a letter to UN forces made available to reporters, claimed that the assault was directed personally by the Bosnian Serb army commander, General Ratko Mladić, despite his agreement to a cease-fire Friday. 2999/

2290. The Belgrade-based Tanjug news agency reported that Bosnian Serbs claimed to have captured strategic Mountain Bjelašnica overlooking the city after several days of fighting. BiH Radio reported Serb shelling there early in the day, and plumes of smoke were visible on its slopes. Bosnian Serb army general staff sources said that Serb forces controlled the BiH Television relay station located on the summit; however, as BiH Television carried on its evening program uninterrupted, the Serb claim seemed doubtful. UN monitors were not allowed access to the mountain zone or to the adjacent Mount Igman. 3000/

2291. Sporadic fighting was reported, as the city remained without electric power and water. 3001/

(b) Local reported events

2292. High-ranking BiH, Serb and Croat officers held talks at the Butmir airport outside Sarajevo on the cease-fire accord signed Friday, which none of the three factions had respected. 3002/ A UN military spokesman said the talks had covered freedom of movement for UN military observers to monitor the truce. 3003/

(c) International reported events

2293. In Geneva, the peace conference co-chairmen met with BiH opposition leaders. After separate talks with Karadžić and Boban, a further trilateral meeting was held with Izetbegović and the Bosnian Serb and Croat leadership. 3004/

2294. In Geneva, BiH President Alija Izetbegović said that he would pull out of peace talks unless Serbs halted attacks around Sarajevo and Brcko in the north. 3005/ Sources close to the peace talks said that major territorial issues remained unresolved. 3006/

2295. The Washington Post reported that the US would bring a proposal for military intervention in BiH to a NATO meeting Monday in Brussels. 3007/ The decision to present the plan was made at a meeting Saturday attended by President Clinton, Secretary of State Christopher, Defense Secretary Aspin, National Security Advisor Lake and General Powell, the armed forces Chief of General Staff. 3008/ Vice President Gore refused to discuss the possible use of air power, but said "there is movement" among US allies toward agreement on what to do. 3009/

2296. In Madrid, Spanish Defence Minister Julian Garcia Vargas said he would support selective air strikes in BiH to protect civilians, UN peace-keeping troops and, in particular, the city of Sarajevo. 3010/ In an interview with

the state news agency Efe, he stated that: "The international community has acted so far with caution and what is now needed is firm action". 3011/

2. 2/8/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Serb forces reportedly captured Mount Bjelašnica in a huge offensive. There was only sporadic firing in Sarajevo. 3012/ Source(s): Reuters; United Press International.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2297. BiH Vice President Ejup Ganić confirmed that Serb forces, in a "huge offensive" backed by helicopters, had captured Mount Bjelašnica. BiH President Alija Izetbegović immediately threatened to pull out of the peace negotiations in Geneva if the Serbs did not give up this gain. Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić was reported to have assented, agreeing to surrender the mountain to UN control. 3013/

2298. There was only sporadic firing in Sarajevo. 3014/

(b) Local reported events

2299. The commander of the Bosnian Serb air force, General Ivomir Ninković, told Belgrade radio that Serb forces would respond "by all available means" to any Western attack on their positions. 3015/

2300. It was reported that 15 UNHCR relief flights landed in Sarajevo during the day. 3016/

(c) International reported events

2301. The latest round of peace talks was postponed in Geneva at the request of BiH President Alija Izetbegović. Conference sources said that the BiH leadership was seeking time in light of US proposals to use military force against Bosnian Serb positions. BiH Foreign Minister Haris Silajdžić described Serb attacks around Sarajevo as "breaking of good faith". Silajdžić reportedly said, "The condition for successful negotiations was to restore electricity, water and gas to Sarajevo". Division of the map of BiH continued to be the "thorniest issue" at the talks, according to conference spokesman John Mills. 3017/

2302. In Brussels, Senior NATO officials met for 12 hours to discuss a US plan for air strikes against Serb positions, in particular around Sarajevo. 3018/ Diplomats at NATO headquarters said final decisions on when and where to use air power rested with UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali. 3019/ They said in a communique that the alliance would make preparations to take "stronger measures including air strikes" if the strangulation of Sarajevo

continued. 3020/ No immediate air strikes were ordered. NATO sources said that members of the alliance with troops in BiH were concerned that those troops could be endangered by air strikes and the retaliation which could follow air strikes. Meanwhile, in Washington, President Clinton told reporters, "I don't believe that the allies will permit Sarajevo to either fall or starve". 3021/

2303. Mediators David Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg reportedly registered their opposition to air strikes, on the grounds that it would hurt the peace process. 3022/

2304. Several high-ranking members of the mainly European UN force stationed in Sarajevo said that they were opposed to the US proposal to launch air strikes against Serb positions besieging Sarajevo. One high-ranking European officer reportedly said, "In BiH alone, there are thousands of UN soldiers and relief workers whom it would be impossible to protect from becoming targets and hostages once the first bomb is dropped". Barry Frewer, UNPROFOR spokesman, said that UN troops were awaiting orders on the matter. 3023/

3. 3/8/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Not specified

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Koševo Hospital received only four wounded patients, the lowest total in months. Source(s): New York Times.

Narrative of Events:

2305. UNPROFOR sent a five-member monitoring team to explore the situation on Mount Bjelašnica, according to Barry Frewer, UNPROFOR spokesman in Sarajevo. 3024/

2306. At Koševo Hospital, the trauma clinic received only four patients with war wounds all day, the lowest toll in months. 3025/

(b) International reported events

2307. In Geneva, the three Croatian members of the collective BiH Presidency, Mile Akmadžić, Franjo Boras and Miro Lasić, said they were not walking out, but were boycotting the talks as long as Muslims continue to attack Bosnian Croats. They refused to recognize BiH President Alija Izetbegović as representing the collective presidency. Izetbegović shunned the talks because of the continued Bosnian Serb siege of Sarajevo. 3026/ Mediators called the presidents of Serbia and Croatia back to Geneva in an effort to get the three warring factions to resume negotiations. Momir Bulatović, the president of Montenegro, also flew back to Geneva. 3027/ John Mills, spokesman for the mediators, said that the scheduled meeting did not take place. Mills said, "Directives from the leaders to military commanders have resulted in a very significant reduction in the intensity of fighting". He looked forward to the installation of UN military observers on hills around Sarajevo. 3028/

2308. US officials welcomed the support of European allies for air strikes. President Clinton said that the allies delivered the message that they were "determined to protect UN forces [in BiH], determined to secure the humanitarian relief program". According to the Washington Post, a US official said that "speculations about [air strikes] over the last few days may have encouraged Serb flexibility" at the bargaining table in Geneva. 3029/ Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić said that Western threats could adversely affect peace talks by encouraging the Muslims to hold out for military intervention. 3030/ Lord Owen said that he was satisfied with the NATO alliance's threat to conduct air strikes against Serbian forces in BiH. Officials close to Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg said they believed that NATO had signaled to the BiH Government that the US would not intervene on its own against the Serbs, and that the Muslims should return to the talks. 3031/

4. 4/8/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: UNPROFOR reported that Serbian tanks, artillery and infantry appeared to have trapped BiH forces atop Mount Igman. It was reported that the only gap in the Serbian siege lines around Sarajevo remained along a corridor of territory which connected the suburb of Dobrinja, on the south-western edge of Sarajevo, across the airport to two other BiH-held suburbs, Butmir and Hrasnica, and, from there, over Mount Igman to Konjic and Jablanica. Source(s): New York Times.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2309. Lieutenant Commander Barry Frewer, spokesman for the UN military command, said that Serbian tanks, artillery and infantry appeared to have trapped BiH forces atop Mount Igman. It was reported that the only gap in the Serbian siege lines around Sarajevo remained along a corridor of territory which connected the BiH-held suburb of Dobrinja, on the south-western edge of Sarajevo, across the airport to two other BiH-held suburbs, Butmir and Hrasnica, and, from there, over Mount Igman to Konjic and Jablanica. From Jablanica, BiH forces had maintained a tenuous supply line to the Adriatic coastline of Croatia. This supply line reportedly had served both soldiers and civilians. The capture of Mount Igman threatened to sever this supply line. Also, the capture of Mount Igman reportedly endangered the 32,000 Muslim civilians living in villages in the vicinity. Their flight path as refugees would take them across the airfield. The agreement by which the airport was ceded to the UN prohibited civilian crossing of the airfield. Those who had done so invariably came under fire from Serbian guns at both ends of the runway. 3032/

(b) Local reported events

2310. Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić said his troops were ready to hand over to UN peacekeepers the key hills near Sarajevo. According to Karadžić, the UN had already taken over part of Mount Igman and was flying its flag

there. Karadžić said that the Serb advance in the Igman area was not a Serb offensive, but rather served to protect Serb-populated parts of Sarajevo from Muslim bombardment. 3033/

2311. British Brigadier General Hayes, Chief of Staff of UN forces in BiH, told reporters in the BiH capital that the BiH army bore the main blame for blocking relief supplies to Sarajevo. He said the current Serb assault on Mount Igman was strangling only the BiH military supply line into Sarajevo. 3034/

2312. It was reported that 15 UNHCR relief flights landed in Sarajevo during the day. 3035/

(c) International reported events

2313. In Geneva, Lord Owen said that the air raids proposed by the Clinton administration were inadequate. "The only military solution is if you're prepared to put ground troops in and take it seriously", he said. He appealed to the international community to give peace efforts a chance before ordering airstrikes. Later, Serbian and Croatian leaders quit the peace talks and headed home, promising to return Friday if President Izetbegović agreed to rejoin negotiations. 3036/

2314. In Washington, the State Department's chief expert on BiH, Marshal Freeman Harris, resigned, charging that the Clinton administration was putting undue pressure on the BiH government to agree to the partition of the country. In a letter to Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Harris said the US push for airstrikes was too little, came too late and represented an abandonment of the stance that BiH should be preserved as an independent state. 3037/ He wrote, "I can no longer serve in a Department of State that accepts the forceful dismemberment of a European state and that will not act against genocide and the Serbian officials who perpetrate it". He wrote that in pressuring BiH to agree to a partition, the Clinton administration was "driving the BiH Government to surrender its territory and its sovereignty to the victors in a war of aggression". 3038/

5. 5/8/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The city was reported quiet after some small arms and anti-aircraft fire and distant shelling overnight. Source(s): Agence France Presse; Reuters.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2315. Following their meeting in Pale, UNPROFOR General Francis Briquemont and Bosnian Serb leader Ratko Mladić left to inspect Mount Igman and Mount Bjelašnica. 3039/ Briquemont spent more than one hour on the summit of Mount Bjelašnica, where he saw about 30 Serb soldiers. Ambulances evacuated wounded

soldiers to the rear. Piles of shell cases littered the mountainside. Clashes reportedly were visible between Bosnian Serb and Muslim forces below. 3040/ Sarajevo radio quoted the BiH Army 1st Corps, responsible for defending Sarajevo, as saying that it had secured the village of Malo Polje on the south slopes of Igman. 3041/

2316. Sarajevo was quiet 3042/ after some small arms and anti-aircraft fire and distant shelling overnight. 3043/

(b) Local reported events

2317. According to Bosnian Serb leader Nikola Koljević, UN peacekeepers would replace Serb forces on Mount Igman on Friday. Lord David Owen and Thorwald Stoltenberg confirmed that Bosnian Serbs had agreed to cede Mount Igman to UN troops, and to instruct their military commanders to negotiate the opening of roads leading to Sarajevo to all except military vehicles. 3044/ The agreement was reached in Pale, where Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić and his military chief Ratko Mladić met with an UNPROFOR delegation led by General Francis Briquemont, head of UN forces in BiH. Karadžić read a joint statement, which said he had agreed to withdraw forces from Mount Igman, to allow UNPROFOR to occupy the area and to reopen two access roads to and from the capital to UNPROFOR, UNHCR, civil and commercial vehicles. The opening of the roads would be discussed Friday. 3045/

2318. The withdrawal from Mount Igman was the condition set by BiH President Alija Izetbegović for the resumption of the international peace talks in Geneva. 3046/ Talks in Geneva were suspended until Monday, according to UN spokesman John Mills. 3047/

2319. A meeting was scheduled for Friday to discuss supplying Sarajevo with electricity, gas and water. 3048/

2320. It was reported that 16 UNHCR relief flights landed in Sarajevo during the day. 3049/

2321. According to a Sarajevo radio report, UNPROFOR officials in Sarajevo said that clashes around Gornji Vakuf had blocked for the past week a number of humanitarian relief convoys bringing food and medicine to Sarajevo. 3050/

(c) International reported events

2322. The BiH Presidency resumed talks with the peace conference co-chairmen. 3051/

2323. Paddy Ashdown, the leader of Britain's Liberal-Democratic Party, told BBC television that he had suggested to the Serbs that there be "an area of no-go around Sarajevo--and that after a certain deadline any heavy weapons seen in that area would be subject to air attack". According to Ashdown, the Serbs agreed to this proposal. Ashdown said that with winter approaching, the West had "somewhere between six and eight weeks to save the city, to lift the blockade and to get supplies through". 3052/

2324. In Amman, US Secretary of State Christopher said he would fly to Italy Friday for NATO talks on possible air strikes against the Serbs. Meanwhile, an association of 51 Islamic countries called to Geneva for rapid implementation of NATO proposals for air strikes. 3053/

6. 6/8/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Sarajevo radio reported that Serbian forces had reinforced troops on Mount Igman. Source(s): United Press International.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2325. No incidents reported.

(b) Local reported events

2326. Bosnian Serb Commander General Ratko Mladić said he was reluctant to fulfill his promise to withdraw troops from Mounts Igman and Bjelašnica. Mladić told Dnevnik, the government-run Serbian newspaper, that Serbian troops would not withdraw until politicians agreed on ending the war. Sarajevo radio reported that Serbian forces had reinforced troops on Mount Igman. 3054/

2327. It was reported that 14 UNHCR relief flights landed in Sarajevo during the day. 3055/

7. 7/8/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: UN observers reported that Serbian forces opened fire on BiH Army units that were abandoning positions on Mount Igman and withdrawing to Hrasnica. It was also reported that there were no Bosnian Serb movements to withdraw from the area. Source(s): United Press International.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2328. UN military observers reported that Serbian forces opened fire at BiH Army units that were abandoning positions on Mount Igman and withdrawing to Hrasnica. In Sarajevo, Barry Frewer, UN spokesman, reported, "What we are seeing is the Bosnian Serb army consolidating up there . . . There are no movements at this time to withdraw". Commander Frewer described talks on the Serbian withdrawal from Igman as "virtually at an impasse". UN civilian official Viktor Andreyev described General Mladić, the Serbian military commander, as "emotional" during talks in which Mladić referred to the supply route across Mount Igman as "Allah's road". 3056/ According to one report,

however, Mladić agreed that UN peacekeepers were free to deploy observers on the heights. 3057/

2329. Two BiH soldiers returning to Sarajevo from the battle zone said that the BiH garrison on Mount Igman had been effectively abandoned, with units retreating north to Sarajevo and south toward the towns of Lokve and Pazari. 3058/

2330. The Tanjug news agency said that the Serbian military command in BiH ordered its forces around Sarajevo to refrain completely from "all combat activities which, however, does not exclude the right for self-defence". 3059/

(b) Local reported events

2331. In Pale, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić told Reuters Television that he had set as a condition for the withdrawal of troops from Mounts Igman and Bjelašnica that the UN install troops sufficient not only to observe but to take over the area. 3060/

2332. It was reported that 17 UNHCR relief flights landed in Sarajevo during the day. 3061/

(c) International reported events

2333. BiH President Alija Izetbegović called for a meeting of the UN Security Council to confirm the primacy of principles laid down at the 1992 London conference on the former Yugoslavia. In a letter to Council President Madeleine Albright of the US, he said current negotiations in Geneva "sanction genocide and reward aggression while making Bosnia the victim forced to accept humiliating terms in order to establish peace". This referred particularly to the future of Sarajevo, "which is to be divided, isolated and sentenced to a slow annihilation", he said. 3062/

2334. US officials said that it agreed not to bomb any target in the former Yugoslavia without the approval of UN ground commanders. 3063/

8. 8/8/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The day's events focused on the negotiations on Bosnian Serb withdrawal from positions on Mounts Igman and Bjelašnica.
Source(s): New York Times.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2335. General Ratko Mladić, commander of the Serbian army in BiH, said he would make a "phased withdrawal" from positions on Mounts Igman and Bjelašnica

after five hours of talks at Sarajevo airport with UN commander, Lieutenant General Francis Briquemont. UN spokesman, Lieutenant Commander Barry Frewer, said that the Serbs' removal on Saturday of two tanks and several heavy guns from Mount Igman appeared to have been "stage management", rather than a sign of withdrawal. General Mladić said the Serbs would give up positions one by one, contingent on their replacement by UN forces. They would withdraw only if fully guaranteed that the BiH army would not regain the positions. General Mladić said that the first step would be reconnaissance of Mount Igman at 6:00 a.m. Monday by UN and Serbian units. At 9:00 a.m., Serbs would pull back from the 6,800-foot peak of Mount Bjelašnica. There was speculation that the demand that UN resources cover the ceded territory could cause delays in the pullback because the UN commanders repeatedly stated that their overall force, about 9,000 troops, allowed only for monitoring, not control, of the areas that Serbian forces had left. 3064/

(b) Local reported events

2336. Bosnian Croat representatives reportedly rejected the proposal made by Alija Izetbegović in Geneva last week, to join forces with Muslims to form a joint Muslim-Croatian state in BiH. "Our experience tells us that any agreement with Muslims would only cause damage to Croats", said Miro Lasić, one of three Croat members of the BiH collective presidency. "Too much blood of Croatian civilians was spilled by Izetbegović's forces", Lasic said in an interview with Zagreb government-controlled radio. 3065/

2337. Dr. Edin Jaganac, a French military doctor sent by UNPROFOR, 3066/ was frustrated in repeated efforts to evacuate a five year-old girl from Sarajevo. The girl, Irma Hadžimuratović, was wounded 10 days ago when Serbian mortar fire hit a street near Irma's home, killing two people, including Irma's mother, and wounding 12 children. A committee of four foreign doctors was required to approve every evacuation aboard a UN aeroplane. Two of the four committee members were based outside BiH, had no plans to meet, and there were no emergency provisions for such a situation. 3067/ According to one report, a further obstacle to flying the child out of Sarajevo was that the agreement which opened the airport for international aid airlifts required the Bosnian Serbs to have up to three days' notice of UN flight schedules. 3068/ Those responsible for the 20 UN aircraft which left Sarajevo each day refused to transport the girl. 3069/ One report stated that the UN, while unable to evacuate the child, had allowed local employees of the UN headquarters in Sarajevo to leave on short notice. 3070/ "If she stays in this hospital, she will die, that is certain", said Dr. Jaganac, referring to adverse hospital conditions, including a lack of main electricity and the impossibility of conducting extensive blood tests. Dr. Jaganac said, "We would not be asking the United Nations to evacuate a patient that we thought would die anyway". 3071/

2338. It was reported that 16 UNHCR relief flights landed in Sarajevo during the day. 3072/

9. 9/8/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Activity on Mounts Igman and Bjelašnica were monitored by UNPROFOR for signs of Bosnian Serb troop withdrawal. The television tower atop Mount Bjelašnica was reportedly destroyed by the Serb forces. Source(s): United Press International; Agence France Presse; New York Times.

Targets Hit: The television tower atop Mount Bjelašnica; two hotels on Mount Igman. Source(s): New York Times; United Press International.

Description of Damage: UN officers said that a Serbian special forces unit (called Cobra), which had led the assault on Mount Bjelašnica, dynamited the television tower atop the mountain so that it leaned over "like a broken matchstick;" Sarajevo radio reported that Serb forces over the weekend had destroyed two unidentified hotels located on Mount Igman. Source(s): New York Times; United Press International.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 17 killed and 148 wounded in the last week. It also reported cumulatively 9,238 killed (of which 1,487 were children) and 54,208 wounded (of which 14,149 were children). 3073/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

2339. Peter Osborne, a spokesman for UNPROFOR, said that there was no apparent sign of Serbian withdrawal from the positions overlooking Sarajevo. 3074/ Earlier in the day, two UN military observers said that the Serbian flag had been taken down from the summit of Mount Bjelašnica, but when UNPROFOR troops arrived at the summit around 4:00 p.m. they were met by Serb soldiers who told them to leave after one hour there. 3075/ Initially, UN troops sent to monitor the Serbs' withdrawal had been hindered by demonstrators, minefields and bad weather in trying to reach the heights. Observers said that demonstrators, mostly women, blocking the patrol at the village of Blažuj were likely encouraged by Serb militiamen opposed to the Geneva peace process. 3076/ UN officers said that the Serbian special forces unit, called Cobra, which had led the assault on Mount Bjelašnica, dynamited the television tower atop the mountain so that it leaned over "like a broken matchstick". Serbian officers reportedly belied the importance of pullback activity by pointing out that control of the summit was strategically irrelevant since their advance had carried them five miles past the base of Bjelašnica. 3077/

2340. UNPROFOR spokesman Barry Frewer said that there was no indication that Serbs had withdrawn or begun to withdraw from neighbouring Mount Igman. 3078/ The captain of the UN reconnaissance team sent to Mount Igman reportedly said, "They have absolutely no intention of withdrawing, as far as I can tell". 3079/ State-run Sarajevo radio said that Serb forces over the weekend had destroyed two hotels on Mount Igman. 3080/ According to one report, almost all of the buildings between Velikō Polje and Malo Polje were burned. 3081/

2341. A BiH soldier, standing in a forest clearing on Mount Igman, told reporters, "A Serbian withdrawal? . . . Let me tell you: when you reporters are around, or the United Nations, the Serbs behave like babies. But as soon as you go, pow! Tanks, howitzers, mortars, antiaircraft guns-- everything". 3082/

2342. Serb demonstrators blocked the UN patrol scouting one of the two supply routes slated to be cleared for the transport of humanitarian aid between Mostar and Sarajevo, according to UNPROFOR spokesman Barry Frewer. Frewer said a second patrol in charge of monitoring a route between Sarajevo and Zenica was unhindered in accomplishing its mission. 3083/

2343. At the front line, at the ski village of Malo Polje, Serbian tanks and howitzers shrouded beneath pine branches reportedly aimed at BiH positions a half-mile ahead. Serbian soldiers in tented camps reportedly were seen

fetching water and cooking over wood fires. Spent shell casings littered the road. A soldier reportedly said, "Pull back? Why? This is Serbian land". Across the line, over the bank of a road blocked by a fallen tree, a man identified as Mr. Kozar and 10 other soldiers stood over a wood fire with nothing but assault rifles to defend their positions. Kozar said that Serbian attacks, backed by helicopters, had been so sudden and overpowering that the BiH forces had no chance of resisting. Survivors, he said, waited in the forests without even dugouts to protect them. 3084/

(b) Local reported events

2344. Five year-old Irma Hadžimuratović was flown out of BiH after the British government provided an aircraft for her evacuation. British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd told the BBC that a Royal Air Force Hercules aeroplane, usually used to shuttle relief supplies, carried the girl to Ancona on the Adriatic coast of Italy where she was transported on an air ambulance to Britain. 3085/

(c) International reported events

2345. BiH President Alija Izetbegović, in Geneva, said that negotiations would resume Tuesday if the Serbs withdrew from the hills surrounding Sarajevo. 3086/ Radovan Karadžić reportedly told the BBC, "Step by step, we are withdrawing from [Mount Bjelašnica and Mount Igman], replacing our forces with the forces of UN" Karadžić reportedly said that the shelling of Sarajevo would cease. 3087/

2346. NATO leaders approved a joint plan for possible air strikes on Bosnian Serbs to break the siege of Sarajevo, but deferred the prospect of an immediate attack and gave the UN Secretary General an effective veto on such military action. The ambassadors of the 16 NATO nations said in a communique that they had endorsed a list of options drawn up by the alliance's military committee over the past week. According to a NATO official, the list specified types of targets--such as heavy artillery pieces, supply and transport links, and command centres--but not specific ones. The leaders made clear that the choices they endorsed were in support of humanitarian relief efforts, rather than any of the warring parties. Any military action would be determined jointly by NATO and the UN. Leaders said they were ready to convene at short notice to decide whether to implement air strikes if the strangulation of Sarajevo continued and UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali asked NATO to act. A senior US official said the alliance would be prepared to bomb within one to two days. 3088/ NATO Secretary-General Manfred Woerner said the necessary precautions had been taken to ensure the safety of UN troops in BiH against Serb retaliation following NATO air attacks. 3089/

10. 10/8/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Bosnian Serb forces on the surrounding mountains continued to be monitored. UNPROFOR stated that it had noticed increased movements of Serbian military vehicles on Igman, but that it was too early to say whether they were preparing to withdraw. UN troops sent to monitor the withdrawal said that they had been refused permission to patrol by Serbian officers. Reporters who had reached Serbian positions said that all signs on the two mountains pointed to a consolidation of the Serbian strongholds. They said that they had seen columns of self-propelled field guns and military trucks moving along the main access routes to the mountains, backed up by at

least 600 newly arrived soldiers. Source(s): New York Times.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2347. UNPROFOR spokesman Frewer stated that the UN had "noticed increased movements of [Serb] military vehicles on Igman, but it is still early to say whether they are preparing to withdraw". 3090/ Reporters who crossed the Serbian siege lines and reached Serbian positions on the heights returned to the city at night with the news that all signs on the two mountains pointed to a consolidation of the Serbian strongholds. They said they had seen columns of self-propelled field guns and military trucks moving along the main access routes to the mountains, backed up by at least 600 newly-arrived soldiers. UN officers in Sarajevo said that radio reports from their military observers confirmed this information. UN troops sent to monitor the withdrawal from the mountains said that they had been halted by Serbian officers as soon as they reached the mountains and had been refused permission to patrol. 3091/

2348. Two reporters who reached the Serbian front lines on Mount Igman at Malo Polje said they saw Serbian soldiers formed into platoons, who claimed to have been fighting for a month in Banja Luka, where fresh units drawn from the Trnovo area would replace them. The reporters said they saw no evidence of any pullback of tanks, howitzers and antiaircraft guns deployed along the road at Malo Polje and in forest clearings beside the road. Instead Serbian forces appeared to be covering the heavy weapons with fir tree branches, apparently in an effort to conceal the weapons from possible air attacks. The reporters said that they had seen Serbian replacement troops, along with heavy guns and ammunition, arriving at a burned-out Muslim village about halfway between Trnovo and Mount Igman. 3092/

(b) Local reported events

2349. According to the New York Times, anonymous UN sources said that Serbian commanders appeared to have decided that NATO had attached such stringent conditions to planning for air strikes that the threat of bombing was far less than Serbian commanders had previously feared. In deciding whether to withdraw from the heights around Sarajevo, UN sources said, the Serbs seemed to have followed closely negotiations between the US and NATO allies on terms for bombing attacks. 3093/

2350. General Mladić, Commander of Bosnian Serb forces, met through the day and into the night at Butmir airport with UN commander Francis Briquemont, who sought a broader agreement which would commit the Serbian forces to lift the siege of Sarajevo. 3094/

2351. As Irma Hadžimuratović, the five year-old girl injured by mortar fire and evacuated from Sarajevo underwent emergency surgery in London, a spokesman for the BiH Government information centre in London spoke bitterly of the effort required to evacuate one girl from a city where three children died daily as a result of the lack of fuel, electricity and medicine in the hospitals. 3095/ Reportedly, 40 critically wounded people, including 11 year-old Edhem Dedović who had lost an eye, waited on a UN evacuation list for a

country and a hospital to offer treatment impossible in Sarajevo. 3096/ UNHCR officer Tony Land in Sarajevo called for more offers to enable evacuations. "The bed is no good unless there is someone to meet the expense", he was reported to have said. UNHCR Sarajevo spokesman Peter Kessler said that the US had taken 19 cases, but were only convinced after great persuasion to take seriously-injured patients. 3097/

(c) International reported events

2352. In Geneva, peace negotiations were canceled when President Izetbegović failed to attend. The Belgrade-based Tanjug news agency reported that Izetbegović met privately with peace negotiators Stoltenberg and Owen after appearing late in the afternoon at the Palace of Nations. Peace conference spokesman John Mills told reporters that Stoltenberg and Owen had earlier called in Karadžić and his Bosnian Serb delegation to demand the evacuation of Mount Igman. Mills said that Karadžić, in the presence of the co-chairmen, telephoned General Ratko Mladić, commander of the Bosnian Serb forces. 3098/

2353. UNPROFOR spokesman Frewer said that NATO had not decided on immediate bombing attacks aimed at strongholds around Sarajevo. "Right now we don't see any indication that we would need the use of air power", he said. According to the New York Times, UN commanders' opposition to airstrikes stemmed from a belief that it was safer and in the long run more effective to placate the Serbian forces than to confront them. 3099/

2354. The Irish government said it would provide emergency orthopedic surgery for five BiH children and accept a group of 200 refugees, most of them relatives of members of a similar group allowed to settle in Ireland last year. 3100/

11. 11/8/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Bosnian Serb troop withdrawal from Mounts Bjelašnica and Igman continued to be monitored. Source(s): New York Times.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2355. A reporter who reached Trnovo, the Serbian-held town which served as a base camp for forces on Mount Bjelašnica and Mount Igman, said that he had seen a convoy of buses arriving in the town with Serbian soldiers returning from the front. Serbian officers had told the reporter that 2,500 Serbian troops were being withdrawn, leaving 1,500 troops in position. Despite the fact that UN reconnaissance missions claimed to be unable to monitor the withdrawal, UN commanders in Sarajevo depicted the Serbian forces as cooperating in the withdrawal plan. A spokesman conceded, however, that the withdrawal was not significant and that the limited number of UN observers (less than 10) had complicated its assessments. The UN spokesman told reporters that UN observers had filed reports on Tuesday which described the

withdrawal of 250 Serbian troops from Mount Bjelašnica, along with three tanks, two howitzers and five self-propelled guns, but the spokesman said that it was not clear where the units were heading. 3101/

(b) Local reported events

2356. Relief officials said that the Croatian nationalist army, not the Serbian forces, were the main problem for relief efforts because of obstacles to truck movement through central BiH. More than half of all UN aid had to pass through that region on its way to Sarajevo, Zenica and Tuzla. Anthony C. Land, head of UN relief operations in Sarajevo, said that Croatian forces required separate permits for every relief truck and imposed 72 hour delays on convoys moving into BiH from the main UN depot at Metković, Croatia. Also, by refusing to allow passage through a main artery, Croats had added days to delivery times by forcing aid convoys to make a 140 mile detour over unpaved mountain roads. According to Land, UN trucks were delivering only a quarter of the food possible because of delays. 3102/

2357. The British and Swedish governments said they would evacuate 41 war victims from Sarajevo. Britain would receive 20 of the injured, Sweden 16 and Ireland five. 3103/ Spokesman Manuel Almeida of UNHCR in Zagreb said that the breakthrough on evacuating Sarajevans occurred after a private relief agency, the International Organization for Migration, IOM, agreed to help UNHCR process the new offers. 3104/ Ramiz Hadžimuratović, father of the five year-old girl who was injured by mortar fire and was evacuated to England, appealed for the rescue of other wounded children in Sarajevo, describing the city as "a concentration camp". 3105/

(c) International reported events

2358. The United States warned that Bosnian Serbs could face a NATO attack unless they abandoned positions on Mount Bjelašnica and Mount Igman. Secretary of State Christopher made it clear that the allies were determined to use any means to prevent the strangulation of Sarajevo. Administration officials said that the allies would wait to see whether the Serbs came through on a promise to abandon their positions by Thursday. This promise was extracted in Geneva after negotiators warned the Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadžić, that the withdrawal from the peaks had to be completed by mid-morning Thursday. According to Clinton Administration officials, the allies would regard the Serbs' failure to withdraw as a grave offence. The State Department had begun to provide the Europeans and the UN with daily reports about Serbian actions in BiH. Some officials acknowledged that the allies had yet to agree on what Serbian action would set off a military response. One senior Administration official who advocated military action said, "The Serbs are brilliant at showing just enough restraint to make it appear that things are getting better". 3106/

2359. The official Russian Defence Ministry daily Krasnaya Zvezda commented on NATO plans for air strikes at Bosnian Serbs, saying in part, "the USA. and the North Atlantic bloc put one more obstacle on the road to a political settlement of the Bosnian crisis". 3107/

2360. The UN announced that the ground controllers necessary to coordinate air strikes were in place in BiH and that their links to NATO aircraft were being tested. Air attacks under Security Council Resolution 836 or Resolution 770 would require coordination between warplanes and forward air controllers, who would guide the pilots to precise targets. While the US and its allies assembled more than 50 military aircraft to carry out raids, the UN did not

begin until late last month to assign air controllers and their laser equipment to BiH. 3108/

12. 12/8/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Bosnian Serb troop movements continued to be monitored on Mounts Bjelašnica and Igman. The US government asserted that shelling and sniping activities had continued despite Serb concessions. Source(s): United Press International; Reuters; New York Times.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Some sniping activity was reported by the US government. Source(s): United Press International.

Casualties: According to UNHCR statistics, at least six children were injured daily in Sarajevo in the 16-month war. 3109/ Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Narrative of Events:

2361. UN spokesman Barry Frewer in Sarajevo told reporters that a number of troops had withdrawn, but that there were still sizable forces on Igman. Said Frewer, "We are probably talking in the thousands. There are heavy artillery pieces, there are tanks, there are trucks, there are mortars". 3110/ Later, UN commander General Jean Cot told a news conference in Zagreb he had given mediators in Geneva "evidence that the Serbs had resumed their withdrawal, starting with logistic elements to be followed this afternoon by combat elements". 3111/ Cot also said that the UN commander in BiH, General Francis Briquemont, met NATO officers at an air base in Vicenza, Italy, to discuss possible air strikes against the Serbs. 3112/

2362. The New York Times reported that Serb forces remained at front-line positions on Mount Igman and that most of the withdrawals appeared to have taken place from around Mount Bjelašnica. According to the Times, a UN general, who asked not to be identified, produced a map marked by Serbian commander General Mladić to show Serbian positions on Mount Igman and said that Mladić had acknowledged that the positions, some of which were only about four miles from Sarajevo airport, had not been withdrawn. The General said that in resisting the demand of Serbian forces for more UN troops to be sent to the mountains, UN commanders were wary that to do so would mean securing the Serbian front lines and allowing Mladić to redeploy his troops for offensives elsewhere. 3113/

2363. On Wednesday, Reuter correspondent Natela Cutter saw a convoy of 20 buses, three armoured personnel carriers, two tanks and trucks towing heavy artillery pieces on the main road leading north from Sarajevo to Bjelašnica. The vehicles, she said, contained several hundred armed and battle-weary Serb soldiers who had apparently been based on Mount Igman. A British television crew returning to Sarajevo from Trnovo reported seeing hundreds of Serb soldiers boarding buses and heading towards Pale. The soldiers said they were part of a 1,200-man brigade ordered to withdraw. 3114/

(b) Local reported events

2364. Bosnian Serb military leaders, Ratko Mladić and Manojlo Milovanović, said they had not withdrawn completely from Mount Bjelašnica and Mount Igman because the UN was moving too slowly to occupy in strength all the positions they were prepared to vacate. 3115/

(c) International reported events

2365. US State Department spokesman Michael McCurry said the administration was not prepared to convene a meeting of NATO, despite the fact that "Lord Owen and Stoltenberg indicate that they are not satisfied that the type of withdrawal that they had expected to see has occurred". McCurry said that Owen and Stoltenberg's assessment was "consistent with" the State Department's understanding of the situation. One State Department official characterized the Serbs' steps to withdraw from Mount Bjelašnica and Mount Igman as "more bobbing and weaving". A senior Clinton Administration official reportedly said that shelling and sniping persisted despite some evidence of "better behaviour" on the part of the Serbs. 3116/

2366. BiH Vice President Ejup Ganić said, in a letter to Security Council President Madeleine Albright, that Serb forces had stationed rockets on Mount Igman. Ganić wrote, "I believe that UNPROFOR knows of this positioning of heavy artillery rockets but is not making the information public". Ganić added that even without shelling, 20 to 30 children and elderly in Sarajevo would die daily of infection and exhaustion. 3117/

2367. Bosnian Serb delegation spokesman Jovan Zametica told reporters in Geneva, "As of 8:00 a.m. today, there are no more Serb troops on Mount Igman. They have withdrawn to lines of July 30". 3118/ Later, negotiators in Geneva said the Serbs had agreed to binding arbitration on the issue on Friday. 3119/

13. 13/8/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Bosnian Serb troop movement continued to be monitored on Mounts Bjelašnica and Igman. Source(s): United Press International.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2368. Brigadier General Hayes, a commander of UN peacekeepers, and Serb Chief of Staff General Manojlo Milovanović toured the mountains in an effort to assess compliance. 3120/

(b) Local reported events

2369. Serb forces allowed a food convoy into Sarajevo through a new route behind their lines. 3121/ Sarajevo's main hospital reportedly received five tons of diesel fuel. It was reported that before the arrival of the shipment some patients had provided their own diesel fuel to enable doctors to perform operations. 3122/

2370. A Belgian hospital at Huy, south-east of Brussels, offered 20 beds for the care of injured children in Sarajevo. Anne-Marie Lizin, a Belgian lawmaker and mayor of Huy, announced the offer, which included some funds and a chartered aeroplane for transportation. 3123/

(c) International reported events

2371. US Secretary of State Warren Christopher indicated that the Clinton Administration would be satisfied with a partial Serb withdrawal from Mount Bjelašnica and Mount Igman. 3124/ Christopher said, "The mountaintops are important but fundamentally what is necessary is food, water, electricity and no more shelling in that area". 3125/ According to a State Department official, US policy shifted from an initial, clearly defined threat over withdrawal from the mountains to a broader, more ambiguous warning on ending the lengthy siege. The official indicated that the overall objective of the US was "to improve the condition of the people of Sarajevo before winter comes". 3126/

2372. In Geneva, talks were postponed until Monday, rather than canceled, after mediators Owen and Stoltenberg said that they had received news of "further withdrawals" by Serb forces. 3127/

14. 14/8/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Bosnian Serb forces on Mounts Bjelašnica and Igman reportedly withdrew behind the line agreed upon in talks. Sarajevo itself was reported quiet. Source(s): United Press International; Reuters.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2373. UN officials said that about 250 UNPROFOR troops took key positions on Mounts Igman and Bjelašnica as "thousands" of Serbian forces withdrew behind a line which was agreed upon in talks among UNPROFOR chief of staff Brigadier General Hayes, Major General Manojlo Milovanović, Bosnian Serb forces chief of staff, and General Rasim Delić, commander of the Muslim-dominated BiH government army. 3128/ One report said that approximately 1,800 troops pulled back this day. 3129/ UN General Francis Briquemont said that Serb military commanders agreed to complete the retreat by 4:00 p.m. local time. 3130/ General Briquemont said, "When I look at the list of people, equipment and vehicles that have withdrawn, I think the area is free of Serb soldiers".

2374. Sarajevo itself was reported quiet. 3131/

(b) Local reported events

2375. In Sarajevo, workers succeeded in repairing overhead cable systems, bringing electricity back to parts of the city after a 55 day blackout, according to Sarajevo radio. 3132/ Electricity was restored to vital facilities and households were expected to receive service within two to three days. 3133/

2376. The Koševo hospital remained without running water and electricity. 3134/ The hospital also lacked vital medicines and food. 3135/

(c) International reported events

2377. President Clinton welcomed the withdrawal of Bosnian Serb forces from Mount Bjelašnica and Mount Igman. The US State Department said more had to be done to help the besieged capital. 3136/

15. 15/8/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: UNPROFOR reported near-complete withdrawal of Bosnian Serb forces from Mounts Bjelašnica and Igman. Small-arms fire and occasional shelling were reported in Sarajevo. Source(s): United Press International; Reuters.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: One woman was killed while gathering wood in the city. Source(s): United Press International.

Narrative of Events:

2378. According to UNPROFOR, Bosnian Serb forces nearly completed withdrawal from the heights of Mount Igman and Mount Bjelašnica. UNPROFOR said all heavy weaponry had been withdrawn from the sites and Sunday morning only one company of Serb infantry, about 200 men with 10 trucks, remained on the hills. "We consider it a success", said UN spokesperson Barry Frewer of the UN-brokered agreement under which the Serbs were pulling back from positions around Sarajevo. Frewer confirmed reports that withdrawing Serb forces had burned down captured buildings in recent days as they pulled back. "As they were withdrawing from the area, they torched them", he reportedly said. He called the burning "a very sad testimonial to what's happening". UNPROFOR will have about 150 men deployed over several square miles of wooded hilly terrain with which to keep both Bosnian Serb and BiH government forces from retaking positions on the two mountains. Said Frewer, "It still requires cooperation of both sides". 3137/

2379. Small arms fire and occasional heavy machine-gun fire could be heard during the day in Sarajevo. 3138/ One woman was killed while gathering wood, according to a UN report. 3139/ Small arms fire and occasional shelling was

heard throughout the night. 3140/

(b) Local reported events

2380. The first group of 40 people, including seven children in critical condition, were evacuated from Sarajevo. A British Royal Air Force C-130 Hercules transport aeroplane evacuated 21 patients and 19 relatives from Sarajevo to the Falconara Air Base near Ancona, Italy. The mission was called "Operation Irma". Four of the children and five of the adults had to be carried onto the aeroplane on stretchers. Dr. Faruk Kulenović, chief of surgery at Koševo hospital, reportedly said, "The West is making self-promotion out of this. But it's too little and too late to clear their consciences . . . it would clear their consciences if there were not 9,000 dead in Sarajevo, if there were not 600 amputees, 150 paraplegics". 3141/ Doctor Patrick Peillot, head of the UN medical evacuations committee, criticized Britain for its "supermarket attitude" to the evacuation, saying it was giving preference to children over adults to gain maximum media attention. 3142/ "Patients are not animals", said Peillot. 3143/

2381. Eighteen seriously wounded or ill persons, accompanied by 20 relatives, were flown from Sarajevo to Swedish hospitals. 3144/ Italian authorities were reportedly willing to receive 100 wounded children from Sarajevo. 3145/ Italy requested, according to the UNHCR, that only children--not adults--be evacuated to the country's hospitals for treatment. 3146/

(c) International reported events

2382. Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić said that Sarajevo was "no longer under siege" and that peace talks could resume in Geneva. "Shells are not falling on Sarajevo and convoys with humanitarian aid are entering the city unhindered. With this, practically all civilian questions linked with Sarajevo are resolved, which means that civilian Sarajevo is no longer under siege", he told the Bosnian Serb news agency SRNA. 3147/

2383. BiH President Alija Izetbegović said that he would attend peace talks on Monday if the Serbs completed their withdrawal from the hills around Sarajevo. 3148/

16. 16/8/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Sarajevo was reported as quiet and the Serbian withdrawal from Mount Igman was described as nearly complete. Dobrinja was heavily shelled. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Dobrinja. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: One person was killed and 14 were injured in Dobrinja on this day. The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 21 killed and 72 wounded in the last week. It also reported a cumulative total of 9,259 wounded (of which 1,492 were children) and 54,280 wounded (of which 14,167 were children). 3149/ Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Narrative of Events:

2384. BiH Vice President Ejup Ganić said that Serb troops had tightened their strategic noose around Sarajevo by deploying 2,000 fresh troops in less visible lowlands closer to front lines after pulling them off Mounts Igman and Bjelašnica. Ganić told reporters after meeting with US Ambassador Viktor Jakovic, "Igman and Bjelašnica are 15 to 20 miles from [downtown] Sarajevo so now we have tanks even closer to Sarajevo, in positions around the city, so the siege is stronger than before". UN military officials did not give any indication that the Serb troops from Mounts Igman and Bjelašnica had been deployed elsewhere near Sarajevo. Lieutenant General Francis Briquemont conceded that the Serbs still threatened the city with their firepower. 3150/

2385. Two hundred Serb troops reportedly awaited transport from Mount Igman, according to UN peacekeepers, despite the UN-brokered agreement by which the Serbs were to have withdrawn by 2:00 p.m. on 14 August. 3151/

2386. UNPROFOR reported the situation in Sarajevo as quiet. It said that the Serbian withdrawal from Mount Igman was nearly finished, including the two east companies which were located in the area of Babin Dol. 3152/

2387. It was reported that Dobrinja was heavily shelled, resulting in one dead and 14 injured. 3153/

(b) Local reported events

2388. "There is no humanitarian siege of Sarajevo", said Brigadier General Hayes, UN chief of staff. 3154/ Commander Barry Frewer, spokesman for UNPROFOR, also said that Sarajevo was not a city under siege. Frewer said, "We say that [the Bosnian Serb army] are in a tactically advantageous position around the city . . . I don't want to portray it as a siege . . . I see it as an encirclement". 3155/ Frewer added: "To me, the word siege has a connotation of an intention militarily to starve out the city, to prevent free access in and out, to bring the city to its knees. That to me is what a siege means . . . what I'm saying is that [the Serbs] are moving in a way that will improve the conditions here . . . How long it will last I don't know". 3156/ Tony Land, the director of UN relief operations in Sarajevo, however, said "one would have to consider the city still to be besieged". One report speculated that UNPROFOR's mandate, giving priority to the delivery of relief supplies across Serbian lines with only lightly armed UN troops as escort, had caused UN representatives not to offend the heavily armed Serbian forces. 3157/

2389. US Ambassador Viktor Jakovic said he would remain in Sarajevo for several days to update Washington's assessment of whether NATO should send its warplanes into action. Jakovic declined to comment on Karadžić's statement that the city was no longer under siege, but suggested that the Serb withdrawal from Mounts Igman and Bjelašnica had not really changed the city's state of siege in saying, "The Serb withdrawal simply means we're back to the same situation we were in when NATO made its decision [to approve the principle of air strikes to break the siege of Sarajevo]". 3158/

2390. UN commander Lieutenant General Francis Briquemont said that UNPROFOR was gradually opening routes in and out of Sarajevo for supplies such as fuel. "There is an economic siege but we can now say we are improving the situation", he said. 3159/

2391. In response to the controversy over the evacuation of Sarajevo wounded, UNHCR spokesman Manuel Almeida stated that the Geneva Convention held that an

unarmed and seriously wounded combatant must be treated in the same way as any other person in urgent need of medical attention. Dr. Patrick Peillot, the French UNHCR doctor in charge of the evacuations, said "I think the people who are now in hospitals in London are wounded people regardless of their social position. We are working according to the Geneva Convention and a soldier in this particular case, once wounded, is considered as a civilian". 3160/

2392. It was reported that 17 UNHCR relief flights landed in Sarajevo during the day. 3161/

(c) International reported events

2393. In Geneva, agreement in principle was achieved on having Sarajevo placed under UN administration, allowing full freedom of movement for UN observers. 3162/

2394. The US agreed to airlift 100 emergency patients from BiH to the US for treatment, 3163/ as Western nations reportedly "fell over each other" to offer to evacuate hundreds of sick and wounded BiH nationals. A UNHCR spokesman said that 14 other countries had offered at least 800 hospital beds (Italy: 450; Finland: 100; France: 98; Poland: 40; Turkey: 40; the Czech Republic: 40; Jordan: 20; Canada: 20; Ireland: 10; The Netherlands: 5; Switzerland: 5; Denmark: undetermined number; Norway: undetermined number). 3164/

2395. The BiH delegation in a statement delivered at the Geneva peace talks, lashed out at Britain, whose evacuation of critically wounded and ill Sarajevans they called a "cynical initiative" to mask "the British government's seemingly limitless appeasement of fascism". Allegations had been made that bribes were paid to enable wounded BiH soldiers to take the place of children in the evacuation. "The British government's preference for children--ideally those young enough not to be able to speak, is well publicized", the BiH officials said. "All males and many women between the ages of 16 and 60 are liable for military service in Sarajevo. They are no less deserving than the children who will in time take their place", the statement continued. 3165/

17. 17/8/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The situation in Sarajevo and Igman was described as very quiet, but some shelling was reported in the city. Two BiH army platoons were reported to have carried out an unsuccessful attempt to infiltrate the Igman area in the afternoon. Dobrinja was shelled at night. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Dobrinja area (six shells at night within a 30 minute period). Source(s): Reuters; New York Times.

Description of Damage: Six 120 millimetre mortar shells hit Dobrinja within a 30 minute period, one aimed as people went to the aid of wounded. Witnesses said that 14 people were wounded, five seriously. Source(s): Reuters; New York Times.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Fourteen people were wounded (five seriously), after an evening shelling incident in Dobrinja. Source(s): Reuters; New York Times.

Narrative of Events:

2396. UNPROFOR reported the situation in Sarajevo and Igman as very quiet, but it was noted that the news media mentioned some shelling in the city. Two BiH army platoons were reported as having carried out an unsuccessful attempt to infiltrate into the Igman area in the afternoon. The opening of two routes, one between Visoko and Ilijaš, the other one between Tarčin and Hadići, was reported as going well. One convoy had already been brought in on the Visoko route. 3166/

2397. BiH Television said that US Ambassador Viktor Jakovic visited the suburb of Dobrinja during the day. At night, six 120 millimetre mortar shells hit the neighbourhood within a 30 minute period, one aimed as people went to the aid of wounded. Witnesses said 14 people were wounded, five seriously. 3167/

(b) Local reported events

2398. It was reported that 17 UNHCR relief flights landed during the day. 3168/

2399. A production of Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot" opened in Sarajevo. 3169/ During rehearsals for the play, some of the actors became so exhausted that they had needed to lie down after only half an hour's work. 3170/ About 100 people, including BiH Vice President Ejup Ganić and UN peace-keeping soldiers, crammed into a small children's theatre in central Sarajevo for the 100 minute premiere. 3171/

(c) International reported events

2400. According to conference spokesman John Mills, negotiations in Geneva began in the morning with a bilateral meeting between Izetbegović and his delegation, and the Bosnian Serb group led by Radovan Karadžić. A meeting followed between Izetbegović and his delegation and the Bosnian Croat, faction headed by Mate Boban. In the afternoon, Owen and Stoltenberg convened a trilateral session involving all three factions. Officials said that the talks included highly detailed bargaining over locations in the three proposed republics of villages, rivers, streams, roads and, for the Muslims, access to the sea. 3172/

2401. BiH President Izetbegović said that the talks in Geneva had made no progress on maps. 3173/ BiH Vice President Ejup Ganić told reporters in Sarajevo that he was skeptical that an agreement reached in Geneva on the fate of Sarajevo would keep the city from division by Serbs and Croats. Still, Ganić acknowledged that "people are exhausted", and said it was better to have UN administration in the city than to be overrun by Serbs. 3174/

2402. In Geneva, a spokesman for BiH President Izetbegović said that he insisted that BiH remain a viable republic. Izetbegović reportedly demanded that the Government get 40 per cent of BiH, take parts of eastern BiH captured by Serbs as part of their "ethnic cleansing" campaign, and have access both to the sea and to the Sava River joining the Danube. Izetbegović demanded humanitarian relief for Mostar. He rejected UN statements saying that Sarajevo was no longer under siege. 3175/

2403. In New York, BiH representative at the United Nations, Muhammed Sacirbey, said at a news conference that he hoped that a dispute over remarks made by UNPROFOR spokesman in Sarajevo Barry Frewer could be "resolved in a

rather subdued fashion". Frewer had come under fire by BiH Vice President Ejup Ganić for referring to Sarajevo as "encircled" rather than under siege. Mr. Sacirbey added that he felt that General Hayes' comments were "much more destructive" than Frewer's. Mr. Sacirbey said that Hayes' comments had "been insensitive, sometimes total falsehoods, and insulting". Mr. Sacirbey referred to Hayes' suggestion that "Serbs had shown good faith by withdrawing from [Mounts Bjelašnica and Igman], that there is no more siege, and that Muslims were responsible for blocking the humanitarian relief to Sarajevo because of what was going on in central BiH". 3176/

2404. NATO officials met in Brussels for a routine evaluation of the conflict in BiH. A NATO official remarked, "The situation has not really changed. The strangulation of Sarajevo continues". He added that NATO aircraft were ready to strike following a meeting of UN and NATO military chiefs on Saturday which drew up a final list of targets. 3177/

2405. In Copenhagen, the Parliament approved participation in possible NATO air strikes against Serbian forces. In Sweden, the Swedish Government said that it would send a battalion of 850 soldiers to help monitor a cease-fire. 3178/

18. 18/8/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Sarajevo radio claimed that a small number of Serb forces remained atop Mounts Igman and Bjelašnica, but that they were pulling back and being replaced by UNPROFOR forces. Sarajevo and Mount Igman were reported as quiet. Source(s): United Press International; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2406. UNPROFOR commander General Francis Briquemont toured Mount Igman, telling a Serb commander that his forces needed to withdraw immediately. 3179/

2407. Radio Sarajevo claimed that a small number of Serb forces remained on Mounts Igman and Bjelašnica overlooking Sarajevo, but that they were pulling back and being replaced by members of UNPROFOR. 3180/

2408. UNPROFOR reported that Sarajevo and Mount Igman were quiet. 3181/

(b) Local reported events

2409. Two UNPROFOR and 17 UNHCR flights landed at the airport. 3182/

2410. In Sarajevo, UNPROFOR spokesman Frewer said that fighting in Mostar would affect the Geneva peace talks and prevent the delivery of humanitarian aid. 3183/

(c) International reported events

2411. In Geneva, mediators David Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg hosted a session between the BiH delegation headed by Alija Izetbegović, and the Bosnian Croat faction, led by Mate Boban. They also convened a session of Serb, Croatian and Muslim factions to discuss boundaries of the proposed new "Union of Republics of Bosnia and Hercegovina". 3184/

2412. A plan, fleshing out an accord to make Sarajevo a demilitarized UN-run city, was handed to the three leaders at the end of negotiations in Geneva. "I am not happy with this paper because I don't see in it the immediate lifting of the siege of Sarajevo", BiH President Alija Izetbegović said of the plan. Announcing the agreement to demilitarize Sarajevo and put it under interim UN administration, conference spokesman John Mills said, "The devil's in the details". Muslim Muhamed Filipović, member of the mixed three-member committee to work out those details, said agreement had been reached on preserving the borders between nine of the city's 10 municipalities. The Bosnian Serb stronghold of Pale, the 10th municipality, was omitted from the plan. 3185/

2413. According to US Ambassador Madeleine Albright, UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali accepted a US complaint that two UN peace-keeping officers, Brigadier General Hayes, chief of staff of the commander of the UNPROFOR, and Lieutenant Colonel Barry Frewer, the Sarajevo spokesman of UNPROFOR, made inappropriate remarks. Hayes and Frewer had told reporters that Sarajevo was no longer under siege, but was "encircled" by the Serbs. Albright and most UN Security Council members, who met Tuesday and Wednesday to discuss the situation in BiH, expressed dissatisfaction at the officers' statements, but did not ask Boutros-Ghali to replace or reprimand them. Reportedly the BiH government declared Frewer "persona non grata" in Sarajevo and called for his removal, but no action was taken by UNPROFOR. 3186/

19. 19/8/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: UNPROFOR reported that some 100 Bosnian Serb soldiers were said to be still present on Mount Igman, equipped only with light weapons. The overall situation in the city was described as calm with sporadic mortar and sniper fire continuing. Source(s): Agence France Presse; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Sporadic sniper fire was reported in the city. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2414. UNPROFOR spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Barry Frewer said that only about 250 UN soldiers could be deployed to supervise Mount Igman. Sarajevo radio quoted UN officials in Sarajevo as saying 100 Serbian soldiers were still present on Igman. 3187/ Frewer expressed concern that "the Serbs have not completed their withdrawal within the [agreed] timeframe". Frewer stressed

that the Serb forces still on the mountain were equipped only with light weapons and were in no position to redeploy or launch an offensive. He said that Serbs blamed the incomplete withdrawal on communication and logistics problems. He added that the UN was continuing to exert pressure to bring about a full retreat. 3188/

2415. UNPROFOR spokesman Barry Frewer said that sporadic mortar and sniper fire was continuing, but that the overall situation was calm. 3189/

2416. UNPROFOR reported Sarajevo as quiet with only small arms fire. FreBat 4 reported that "liaison with parties on Igman mountain continued though a Serb Company still is in Babin Dol area". 3190/

(b) Local reported events

2417. It was reported that 16 UNHCR relief flights landed in Sarajevo during the day. 3191/

(c) International reported events

2418. The Serbs' failure to withdraw from Mount Igman as promised prompted threats of a boycott from Muslim president Alija Izetbegović at the peace talks in Geneva. 3192/

2419. UNPROFOR commander Francis Briquemont reaffirmed his opposition to NATO air strikes against Serb forces. A senior NATO diplomat said that Washington retained its conviction that the NATO air strike threat remained valid. 3193/

2420. Ireland agreed to take 10 wounded people from Sarajevo and donate 40,000 punts (\$60,000) to Sarajevo hospitals, according to Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring. 3194/

20. 20/8/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The city was described as relatively calm after a night of sporadic shelling and machine-gun fire. During the day, occasional automatic weapon fire and several mortar shells were heard landing outside the city centre. Source(s): United Press International; Reuters.

Targets Hit: The area outside the city centre. Source(s): United Press International.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2421. British military spokesperson Patricia Purvis said there were still more than 100 Bosnian Serb soldiers on strategic Mount Igman overlooking Sarajevo, despite the UN-brokered accord under which Serbs had agreed to a complete withdrawal. 3195/

2422. Sarajevo was described as relatively calm. 3196/ The morning was quiet

after a night of sporadic shelling and machine-gun fire. 3197/ During the day, only occasional bursts of automatic weapons fire and several mortar shells were heard landing outside the city centre. 3198/

(b) Local reported events

2423. It was reported that 14 UNHCR relief flights landed in Sarajevo during the day. 3199/

2424. Lyndall Sachs, spokesperson for the UNHCR in Sarajevo, said that the UN had delivered five tons of diesel fuel for emergency generators at Sarajevo's main hospital and that another five were expected next week. Sachs said, "I am told [the delivery] was enough for the basic functioning of the hospital and its emergency generator, but we are still trying to get to the bottom of this". 3200/

2425. Serbian and Croatian armies blocked the main roads linking the Adriatic and Sarajevo to other Bosnian population centres inland, requiring UN aid convoys to move over back roads built for horse and cart. Before the war, the drive between Sarajevo and Split took approximately three hours. Along the route which the UN convoys were forced to take, the drive required two days under good conditions. With heavy vehicles like tankers carrying diesel fuel to power hospital generators in Sarajevo, the trip took a week or more. The journey reportedly included sharp inclines, hairpin bends, enormous potholes, rocks jutting through the dirt surface which shredded tires and soft road edges along mountain sides. Some bends were so tight that fuel tankers got around them by having a crane lift them from the rear while UN armoured vehicles attached tow ropes to drag the vehicles from the front. The Prince of Wales Own Yorkshire Regiment, about 1,000 men, of the British Army was charged with keeping the road open from a base at Vitez, reportedly blasting and bulldozing around the clock. 3201/

21. 21/8/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: After a night of sporadic shelling and machine-gun fire, Sarajevo was reported quiet. UNPROFOR reported that on Mount Igman, there was no fighting or changes among the warring factions. Source(s): Reuters; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2426. After a night of sporadic shelling and machine-gun fire, Sarajevo was reported quiet. 3202/ UNPROFOR stated that on Igman Mountain, there was no reported fighting or changes among the warring forces. 3203/

(b) Local reported events

2427. A meeting of BiH Army and Serbian militia leaders reportedly broke up with each side accusing the other of violating the Mount Igman withdrawal agreement. Bosnian Croat leaders refused to attend the meeting. 3204/

2428. It was reported that 15 UNHCR relief flights landed in Sarajevo during the day. 3205/

22. 22/8/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Sarajevo and Mount Igman were described as quiet. A UN spokesman said that 120 Serbian troops remained on Mount Igman. A UN military official speaking on condition of anonymity said that BiH troops were provoking Serb troops still on Mount Igman by staging nightly raids against them. Source(s): UNPROFOR; New York Times.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

2429. A UN military spokesperson said that 120 Serbian troops remained on Mount Igman. A UN military official who spoke to the New York Times on condition of anonymity said that BiH troops were provoking the Serbs still on Mount Igman by staging nightly raids against them. 3206/

2430. UNPROFOR reported Sarajevo and Mount Igman as quiet. 3207/

(b) Local reported events

2431. Alija Izetbegović returned to Sarajevo in the afternoon to present the agreement forged in Geneva to his Parliament. 3208/ In a news conference, Izetbegović said that he would not recommend that Parliament vote in favour of the proposal. He said his government would seek changes in a map delineating the proposed borders. 3209/ Under the plan, the Bosnian Serbs, who seized control of 70 per cent of the former Yugoslav republic's territory, would retain more than 52 per cent, leaving the Muslim's with 30 per cent and the Croats with just over 17 per cent. 3210/ Ejup Ganić, BiH Vice President, said in an interview that the creation of the three ethnic states in the plan would spell the end of BiH. "This is not an offer. They are saying that if we do not sign the agreement they will kill us today, but if we do sign, they will kill us tomorrow", he said. 3211/

2432. It was reported that Norway joined the airlift with a C-130 Norwegian Airforce aeroplane. Fifteen UNHCR relief flights landed in Sarajevo during the day. 3212/

2433. After months without electricity many Sarajevo residents had power restored. In some areas of Sarajevo, residents formed watch groups to ensure that no one removed the transformer oil from the local generating stations. 3213/

2434. The streets remained filled with people pushing makeshift trolleys laden with plastic containers filled with water from street-corner standpipes. Food remained scarce. Prices on the black market were beyond most people's reach at 110 German marks (\$65) for the only chicken present on Sunday. A crowd of people gathered outside the gates of one of the UN barracks waiting for the soldiers to hand out some of their rations. 3214/

23. 23/8/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Sarajevo and Mount Igman were reported as quiet. UNPROFOR reported that it saw signs of withdrawal on Mount Igman from Babin Dol, but that this needed to be confirmed. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: One person was reported killed and 17 were wounded on this day. 3215/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported that 50 people were killed and 101 were injured in the last week. It also reported a cumulative total of 9,273 killed missing, or dead (of which 1,494 were children) and 54,381 wounded (of which 14,192 were children). 3216/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

2435. In Metković, Bosnian Croat authorities refused for a sixth day to let UN convoys out of the city to relieve Sarajevo and other towns. Lyndall Sachs of UNHCR described this activity as "completely unacceptable". UNHCR reported that it was having difficulty funding its relief operations. 3217/

2436. Conditions in Sarajevo were reported to have improved despite continued mortar shells and small arms fire from Serb positions in the surrounding mountains. With electricity, the city's night life returned and cafes had begun to open. Water supplies improved. The UN said it expected five new water pumps to arrive soon. 3218/

2437. UNPROFOR reported that Sarajevo and Mount Igman were quiet. 3219/

2438. UNPROFOR noted that it saw signs of withdrawal on Mount Igman from Babin Dol (this needed to be confirmed). It was reported that negotiations were underway between UNPROFOR and the warring factions regarding the question of the logistical routes. UNPROFOR noted that both warring parties agreed to alter their attitudes towards the demanded routes and let UNPROFOR and UNHCR deal with the matter. 3220/

2439. A UNHCR white soft-skin vehicle with UNHCR markings was hit by seven machine-gun bullets. It could not be confirmed from which side the fire came. 3221/

(b) Local reported events

2440. According to Radio Sarajevo, BiH Parliamentary Speaker, Miro Lazović, said that an extraordinary parliamentary meeting would be held to discuss the new Geneva peace plan. It was reported that BiH President Alija Izetbegović would open the meeting (which would take place in Sarajevo), to a number of BiH intellectuals, artists and military representatives. Izetbegović said he was not calling people to the meeting to vote for or against the project, but to give their opinions on the plan, which he described as having its "good and its bad points". Under the plan, Muslims who had made up 44 per cent of the population before the war would be assigned 30 per cent of the territory. The Geneva talks had succeeded in saving BiH as a state, said Izetbegović, but had provided unsatisfactory boundaries for that state. The Geneva talks were halted until 30 August to allow the warring parties to consult their parliaments. 3222/

2441. Officers in the BiH army dismissed the peace map drawn up in Geneva, which President Izetbegović would introduce to Parliament. "If the government decides to accept the plan, there would be a military coup", said an officer who identified himself as Nezir, deputy commander of the 17th Brigade in the central BiH city of Travnik. 3223/

2442. UN military spokesperson Patricia Purves said that it appeared that the UN was investigating allegations of corruption among UN military personnel. General Francis Briquemont requested civilian police detectives to come to Sarajevo to investigate a series of rumours about black market trading by UNPROFOR soldiers. At least 13 Ukrainian troops had been sent home and dishonourably discharged for offences relating to the black market. Reportedly, journalists had seen French troops engaging in black marketeering. 3224/

2443. UNPROFOR reported that one electricity repair mission was carried out along with water repairs. Three UNPROFOR and 11 UNHCR aircrafts landed at the airport. 3225/

(c) International reported events

2444. In Vienna, Yugoslav Prime Minister Radoje Kostić said that any military strikes on Serb targets would lead to a full-scale war in the Balkans. 3226/

2445. In London, Janes Defense Weekly said that Yugoslavia had reconstructed its defence industry despite UN sanctions. The article said that Serbia was determined to have arms to sell to the third world market and to prepare itself for a possible conflict with Croatia. 3227/

2446. In Washington, Foreign Service officer Stephen W. Walker resigned in to protest to the Clinton Administration's policy in BiH, the fourth such official to do so. 3228/

24. 24/8/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: UNPROFOR reported that Sarajevo was quiet with only two shells. However, at least three mortar shells were reported to have hit a crowded street in the Old Town section of the city. Source(s): UNPROFOR; United Press International; New York Times.

Targets Hit: An unidentified street in the Old Town section of the city (three shells). Source(s): United Press International; New York Times.

Description of Damage: Two people were killed and seven wounded when at least three mortar shells landed on a crowded street in the Old Town section of the city. Source(s): United Press International; New York Times.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Two people were killed and seven wounded when mortar shells hit a crowded street in the Old Town area. Hospital sources said that three people were killed and at least 11 were wounded this day. 3229/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported one killed and nine wounded. 3230/ Source(s): Agence France Presse; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

2447. UNPROFOR reported that Sarajevo was quiet with only two shells and sporadic small arms fire reported. Mount Igman was likewise quiet with indications that the Serbs had left the area of Babin Dol. 3231/

2448. It was also reported that fighting intensified as two people were killed and seven wounded when at least three mortar shells landed on a crowded street in the Old Town section of Sarajevo. The streets were crowded before the shelling and a few people were reported downtown carrying pushcarts loaded with water jugs. 3232/

(b) Local reported events

2449. BiH Foreign Minister, Haris Silajdžić, said that changes needed to be made to a UN peace proposal before the BiH government would accept it. "The future Bosnian republic, the central republic, is not in my view viable either economically or geographically", he said at a news conference. He said that the BiH Government would demand that Bijeljina, Zvornik, Višegrad, Foča, Prijedor, Sanski Most, and Ključ be joined with the Bosnian state. He said that the lines on the map rewarded the genocide by which means the Serbs had emptied those areas of their population. Mr. Silajdžić indicated that Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg, co-chairmen of the peace talks, pressured the BiH Government to accept the plan, but denied that any linkage was made with future deliveries of aid or money for reconstruction. "The co-chairmen are doing a not-so-clean job for the international community and it is in large part not their fault", he said, "These men are giving the green light for the continuation of the aggression if the BiH government does not sign the agreement. This makes it obviously an ultimatum". 3233/

2450. Nineteen patients and 17 relatives were medically evacuated to Italy. 3234/

25. 25/8/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Sarajevo was reported as quiet. UNPROFOR also reported that there were no more Serbs north-west of the agreed upon line south of Mount Igman. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Four people were reported killed and 20 wounded. 3235/ A French Battalion Officer was reported shot and seriously wounded after a skirmish with BiH forces. Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health; UNPROFOR.

Narrative of Events:

2451. UNPROFOR reported Sarajevo as quiet. One officer of FrenchBat 4 was reported shot by BiH forces and seriously wounded in the chest. At noon, a BiH detachment reportedly opened fire toward a French Company Headquarters and the French returned fire and wounded a BiH officer. Later the BiH forces withdrew. BiH 1 Corps Headquarters admitted the skirmish and explained it as an error. UNPROFOR also reported that there were no more Serbs north-west of the agreed line south of Mount Igman. 3236/

(b) Local reported events

2452. Ten patients and 10 relatives were evacuated for Ireland. 3237/

(c) International reported events

2453. Lord Owen, the European Community mediator in the conflict, said that the latest Geneva peace plan for the former Yugoslav republic could be viable only if it had NATO and Russian backing. German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel expressed skepticism over the outcome of the plan. 3238/

2454. At the Hague, BiH representative to the UN Muhammed Sacirbey, speaking before the International Court of Justice, strongly criticized the world community for its "passivity" in allowing "genocide" in BiH. In particular, Sacirbey condemned the arms embargo which denied BiH authorities their "right to self-defence". 3239/

2455. In Brussels, diplomats speaking on the condition of anonymity told Agence France Presse that members of NATO would favour strikes to protect any relief convoys trying to reach Mostar, recently ravaged and cut off from all sustenance by battles. 3240/

2456. Three US State Department aides explained to the New York Times why they quit over the US policy toward BiH. Jon Western said that an average story to cross his desk was that of a nine year-old Muslim girl, raped by Serbian fighters, then left in a pool of blood while her parents watched helplessly from behind a fence for two days before she died. "You can't read through the accounts of atrocities on a daily basis . . . and not be overwhelmed. It calls into question your morality". Mr. Western and Stephen Walker reported that dissent with the policy was widespread and consistent in all but the highest ranks at the State Department. Mr. Walker said that the Clinton Administration's inaction would harm American credibility, undermine UN peace-keeping efforts, lead to a peace settlement which would not hold, and set a dangerous precedent for the oppression of ethnic minorities elsewhere in the world. 3241/

26. 26/8/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Not specified

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Two people were killed and nine were wounded. 3242/ Staff at the Koševo Hospital reported that new victims of sniper fire and shelling arrived each day, despite the cease-fire. Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health; UNPROFOR.

Narrative of Events:

2457. No reported incidents.

(b) Local reported events

2458. The United Nations Under Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations, Mr. Kofi A. Annan, accompanied by UNPROFOR commander, General Jean Cot, went to Sarajevo for intensive operation briefings from the UNPROFOR Commander in BiH, Lieutenant General Francis Briquemont, and the Chief of Staff, Brigadier-General V. Hayes. Mr. Annan met with BiH President Izetbegović and stressed that every effort was being made to identify resources necessary to implement UNPROFOR's mandate. "The problem is that it is not easy to find governments willing or able to commit the enormous number of troops and equipment required. We are, however, close to having commitments from governments for the 7,500 additional troops required for implementation of Security Council resolution 836", he said. Mr. Annan also visited Koševo Hospital, meeting with the head surgeon and speaking with patients in the surgical wards. He was told that new victims of sniper fire and shelling arrived each day, despite the cease-fire. 3243/

2459. The Yugoslav news agency Tanjug reported that Bosnian Serb and BiH negotiators agreed at the Sarajevo airport to allow 1,400 people to leave Sarajevo. Half would go to Serbia and half to Croatia. 3244/

27. 27/8/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Small arms fire was reported in the city along with the occasional mortar rounds fired from the hills. UNPROFOR reported that Sarajevo and Mount Igman were stable and quiet with some small arms fire. Source(s): United Press International; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Two people were killed and seven were wounded. 3245/ Source(s):

BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

2460. Small arms fire was reported in the city, along with the occasional mortar rounds fired at Sarajevo from Serb positions in the surrounding hills. NATO warplanes could also be heard. 3246/

2461. UNPROFOR reported that Sarajevo and Mount Igman were stable and quiet with only some small arms fire reported. 3247/

(b) Local reported events

2462. The Parliament of BiH met in Sarajevo at the Holiday Inn to discuss the peace plan brokered in Geneva. 3248/ From time to time during the meeting the electricity went off, leaving the hall nearly pitch black. Several hundred academics, writers, army officers and other public figures joined the debate. 3249/ The peace plan about which the Muslim-led BiH Parliament met would cede the 12 mile BiH coastline to the Bosnian Croat state and provide BiH with access to the sea via a road connecting their republic with the Croatian city of Ploče. BiH government officials reportedly feared that international guarantees of free access to the port through Croat territory would not prevent the Croats from cutting that access at will. 3250/ Muslim deputy Muhamed Filipović, a member of the delegation to the Geneva talks, said, "We want an outlet to the sea". 3251/ BiH President Izetbegović called on the mediators of the peace talks to grant the proposed, mostly-Muslim republic an outlet to the Adriatic Sea near the town of Neum. He also called for guarantees, including a UN resolution and a show of support from the US and NATO that the proposed union of Bosnia and Hercegovina would remain an internationally recognized country and UN member. The BiH Government would seek the inclusion in the Muslim-dominated republic of eight districts, which included Višegrad, Zvornik, Foča, Bratunac, Sanski Most, Bijeljina, Ključ and Bosanska Krupa, according to Deputy Foreign Minister Sulejman Suljić. 3252/

2463. Criticism of the plan in the BiH Parliament included views that the plan would reward the Serbs for "ethnic cleansing", create a land-locked Muslim-dominated country with grim economic prospects and pave the way for erasing BiH from the map by linking the Serb and Croat republics with Serbia and Croatia. 3253/

(c) International reported events

2464. Tadeusz Mazowiecki, former Polish premier and UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in the former Yugoslavia, said in a report on a visit he made to Sarajevo 11-12 August that the ongoing fighting in and around Sarajevo was worsening the human rights situation of all the city's residents: Serbs, Croats and Muslims alike. Mazowiecki cited breaches of the laws of war: the tactical use of starvation of the city; the deliberate military targeting, killing and wounding of civilians; the strategic denial and destruction of electricity, water food, medical and gas supplies essential to the survival of civilians; the shelling of hospitals and the detention of civilians as hostages. "Sniping at civilians to kill or wound deliberately those taking no part in hostilities constitutes a war crime", Mazowiecki said. He said the international community should set up an overland relief route to Sarajevo and enforce its protection, take over the central hospital under international protection and set up a procedure for the evacuation abroad of wounded, sick and maternity cases. 3254/