

Notes (continued)

14. Doboj County⁷³⁵

409. This county is located in north-eastern BiH. According to the 1991 census, the population was 102, 546. Serbs comprised 39 per cent, 13 per cent were Croat, 40. 2 per cent Muslim, 5. 5 per cent "Yugoslav", and 2. 3 per cent "other".

410. Arkan's paramilitary units, the White Eagles, and the JNA occupied Doboj in April and May of 1992. ⁷³⁶ Other reports also indicate the presence of the Knindža Turtles, ⁷³⁷ Red Berets, ⁷³⁸ and Martić's Militia during the attack on Doboj. They shelled and set fire to two mosques and the Catholic church. Croats and Muslims were ordered to remain indoors as their homes were searched and looted. Male residents were often arrested, and still others were beaten. Women were taken away on three buses to a high school, where they were held for 28 days and raped repeatedly. ⁷³⁹ One report specifically mentions the Red Berets as allegedly responsible for at least some of the rapes at the high school. ⁷⁴⁰ The city was besieged until August. ⁷⁴¹

15. Donji Vakuf County⁷⁴²

411. Seventy members of the Serbian paramilitary Martić's Militia acted in conjunction with other paramilitary groups in the "ethnic cleansing" of the Donji Vakuf area. ⁷⁴³

16. Dragovići (county unknown)

412. In mid-May, Šešelj's White Eagles reportedly skinned three Muslims after hanging them with meat hooks on an oak tree. ⁷⁴⁴ Most of the village's Muslim inhabitants were killed and the village was burned down. ⁷⁴⁵

17. Foča County⁷⁴⁶

413. Foča County is located in south-eastern BiH with Montenegro as its eastern border. As of 1991, the population of the county was 40, 513, of which 45. 3 per cent was Serbian, 51. 6 per cent Muslim, and 3. 1 per cent "other".

414. Arkan and Šešelj reportedly deployed soldiers in the county of Foča. Reports also indicate the presence of Commander Turtle's Units, ⁷⁴⁷ the Montenegro Guard, ⁷⁴⁸ the Užice Corps, and Pero Elez. ⁷⁴⁹

415. During the occupation of Foča by Arkan's men in late April 1992, many bodies were thrown into the river. A Danish photographer in Gorazde witnessed these decomposed bodies downstream in the village of Gorazde. A concentration camp was established in Foča in the former prison, and was run by Velibor Ostojić. Šešelj's forces and volunteers were said to have participated in the fighting in the city of Foča, as assistance to the Serbian Democratic Party forces. The fighting took place in late April 1992. ⁷⁵⁰

416. Between 15 April 1992 and 20 April 1992, nine people were killed in the village of Susješno by Arkan's men. The nine victims were elderly and did not want to leave their homes. ⁷⁵¹

Notes (continued)

417. Šešelj's forces were part of the paramilitary attack on Ustikolina during April 1992. Serbian Democratic Party forces and volunteers from Serbia and Montenegro also aided in the assault. All Muslims fled the village. Mortars, machine-guns, and armoured vehicles were used in the attack. The Serbian forces also entered the JNA facility in Ustikolina and killed several Muslim civilian refugees. 752

418. In Paunci, Serbian Democratic Party forces and Serbian paramilitary forces reportedly killed a large number of people, mostly women and old men. 753

419. According to the United States government, the Montenegro Guard participated in operations in Jeleč, a village in Foča. Allegedly, the Montenegro Guard, along with members of other paramilitary units, including the White Eagles and Vukovar Unit, shelled the town and killed remaining Muslim civilians after 23 April 1992. The alleged raid on Jeleč began on 18 April 1992, when these forces blocked the roads to town and ordered Muslims to surrender their weapons by 22 April to a Bosnian Serb delegation at the military complex in the nearby village of Miljevina. On 23 April, Serb forces began shelling Jeleč and the surrounding villages, sending the inhabitants into hiding in the hills surrounding the village. The Montenegro Guard and other forces moved into Jeleč on 4 May 1992. They arrived in seven military buses and were given orders to "comb" the area for Muslims. Allegedly, at least 16 Muslims were shot and buried in two graves located in a potato field one kilometre west of Jelec. 754

420. On 14 July 1992, Serbian soldiers identifying themselves as Šešeljovci entered the house of a Muslim family. A woman was beaten on the head by the soldiers who were inquiring about the location of her husband. These soldiers also cut the throat of a man, drawing blood but not killing him. The family was taken to the police station along with other Muslims where they were separated into four groups. These groups were imprisoned for 27 days in four houses, confiscated from Muslims. The women were raped repeatedly. On 13 August 1992, these women were allowed to leave on a convoy heading for the Muslim-controlled Sandžak region of Serbia. 755

18. Gacko County 756

421. This county is located in south-eastern BiH and is bordered on the east by Serbia. According to the 1991 census, the population of Gacko County was 10, 844, 62. 4 per cent of which were Serbian, 35. 3 per cent were Muslim and 2. 3 per cent described as "other". Serbian paramilitary operations are reported in this county.

422. In March of 1992, the Serbian White Eagles began destroying Muslim-owned cafes, apartments and shops in the town of Gacko. Most of the White Eagle participants were local Serbs, except those who had been refugees from Mostar. On 15 May, the White Eagles began shooting into homes and making arrests. On 1 June, Muslim men who worked at the power plant were arrested by Serb soldiers. One hundred of the Muslim men were taken to the military prison in Avtovac. Meanwhile, more Muslim men were arrested from their homes and taken to the Hotel Terma. 757

423. Reportedly, on 1 June 1992, Šešelj's men and the White Eagles launched

Notes (continued)

an all out attack against Gacko's Muslim inhabitants. 758 One report also stated that special forces of Nikšić and JNA soldiers were also involved in the attack on Gacko. 759 The attack began with the burning of several Muslim homes. 760 On 18 and 19 June, the villages were reportedly shelled. Many of the civilians fled into the forests in the nearby mountains, where they saw the Serb forces moving through the village burning Muslim homes. 761 Other Muslims were killed or arrested. Those that were arrested were detained in the lobby of the Elektro Privreda's Hotel before being transported to the Serbian detention camp at Bileća. 762

424. Later in June, many Muslims were attempting to leave Gacko with the permission of the Serbian Municipal Office when they were trapped and shot at by White Eagles. 763 The Muslim men were pulled out of their cars and beaten. Others were set on fire, jumped upon or hit with iron rifle butts. 764 The women and children were taken to the Motel Košuta and later reunited with their families, but were forced to watch as the White Eagles beat the Muslim men. The women at the hotel were searched and robbed of their personal belongings, and some of them were raped. The women and children were eventually returned to Gacko, and the men were taken from the motel to Gacko prison. 765

425. At the prison, the men were beaten nightly by White Eagles and by members of the "Interviewing Platoon". Some were shot to death. The prisoners were then to be taken to Bileća. In preparing to do so, soldiers lined up to form a path through which the prisoners would pass from their cells to the transport trucks. As the prisoners walked through the line of soldiers, they were beaten with rifle butts and poles. Others were killed. A total of 170 Muslims survived and were taken to Bileća, where they were kept in a basement room, 120 square metres in size. The prisoners were beaten three times during the night under 2, 000 watt lamps. 766 They were allegedly beaten every day with wooden and metal sticks by as many as 10 guards at a time. Prisoners were not allowed to go to the bathroom or eat for three days.

Four men were beaten to death between 2 and 4 July. 767 On 10 August, prisoners were to be interviewed by news agencies. They were allowed to shower and shave for the interviews, but afterwards were allegedly tortured for telling reporters the truth about the camp conditions and abuse. The imprisonment continued from 1 June to 18 August 1992. 768 At that time, 378 prisoners were exchanged in Stolac.

426. One report stated that 4 July was the date of the final roundup of remaining Muslim villagers. Soldiers went house to house and gave residents two minutes to leave. One witness estimated that 980 people were forced to leave at that time. They were taken to the Serbian-Macedonian border where a relief organization took them on to Skopje. 769

427. However, another report indicates that those civilians that were hiding in the forests did not surrender until 12 July 1992. These civilians were allegedly taken in military trucks to Gacko and interrogated at the police station where witnesses reported many village possessions were stored. The civilians were asked about their male relatives and where they could be found. Reportedly the male Muslim prisoners were held in the basement of a hotel in the suburbs of Gacko. The women and children are reported to have been taken to the front-line near Benkovići in late July where the Serb forces were fighting members of the HVO. The women and children were forced to walk across the battle lines over minefields towards the HVO who fed them and transferred them to Mostar, Čapljina or Ljubuški, BiH. 770

Notes (continued)

19. Goražde County⁷⁷¹

428. Goražde County is in the south-east of BiH and had a 1991 population of 37, 505. Of that population, 70. 2 per cent were Muslim, 26. 2 per cent were Serb, and 3. 6 per cent were "other". There are reports of both Serb and Muslim paramilitary activity in this area.

(a) Serbian paramilitary activity

429. The following Serbian forces worked independently and in concert in Goražde during the months of May and June 1992: the Užice Corps, Garavi Sokok Forces, and units under the command of Braco Rakanović. ⁷⁷² These groups are reported to have harassed Muslim civilians and looted property in Goražde and the surrounding villages. They are also mentioned in connection with the mid-June attacks on a settlement near Kokino village and one near Površnica mountain. One witness reports seeing "Serbian soldiers" killing Muslim civilians and throwing their corpses in the Drina River sometime after these attacks. ⁷⁷³

(b) Muslim paramilitary activity

430. The Green Berets are a Muslim paramilitary group said to have operated in the Goražde region. Apparently, the Green Berets attacked the village of Vitkovci between 3 and 5 May 1992. Reportedly, they also took Serbs to local Muslim-run detention camps, in order that they be killed. ⁷⁷⁴

20. Jablanica County⁷⁷⁵

431. Jablanica is located in the central south-west region of BiH. According to 1991 figures, it had a population of 12, 664 which was 72. 1 per cent Muslim, 17. 8 per cent Croat, 6. 1 per cent "other", and 4 per cent Serb.

432. The Black Swans and MOS (Muslim Armed Forces), both are Muslim paramilitary groups alleged to have operated in Jablanica County. Apparently, these groups made a joint attack on the village of Doljani on 28 July 1993. ⁷⁷⁶ The attackers are said to have mutilated and killed 24 people, both civilians and soldiers. The corpses' eyes were plucked out, their ears cut, and stomachs slit open. ⁷⁷⁷

433. The same report indicates that Serbian villagers fleeing from the attack were shot down as they crossed Stipica Meadow. Those who did survive were taken to a nearby room where they were detained with others, including one HVO soldier who had been shot in the chest. They were given nothing to eat and only water to drink. After one day of detention, the prisoners pried the bars of the cell windows loose and escaped. One witness recognized the MOS forces acting in this incident, saying they were from Jablanica. ⁷⁷⁸

21. Kalinovik County

434. This county is in south-eastern BiH. The pre-war population was 4, 657,

Notes (continued)

of which 60.6 per cent were Serbian, 37.1 per cent Muslim, and 2.3 per cent "other". Only Serbian paramilitaries were reported to be operating in this county.

435. Šešeljovci and Russian volunteers were called in to Kalinovik during February 1993, at the request of Commander Ratko Mladić, when the Kalinovik "Četniks" were reportedly refusing to obey orders from their most extreme commanders. The goal of the new troops was to restore the self-confidence of the local "Četniks". 779

22. Konjic County⁷⁸⁰

436. This county is located in the south central part of BiH, approximately 45 kilometres south-west of the centre of Sarajevo. Konjic's population as of 1991 was 43,636. The population was 15.2 per cent Serbian, 26 per cent Croatian, 54.5 per cent Muslim and 4.3 per cent "other". Serbian, Muslim and Croatian paramilitary groups were reportedly active in this county.

(a) Serbian paramilitary activity

437. Arkan's men were in Lukavica armed with sub-machine-guns and daggers. They beat Muslim civilians and cut crosses in some of the Muslims' foreheads. The dates of these incidents were not reported. 781

(b) Croatian paramilitary activity

438. It was reported that the HOS, together with the Muslim Green Berets, conducted operations in the Konjic villages of Donje Selo and Bradina. Both of these villages were burned and the inhabitants sent to detention facilities. Donje Selo was attacked first and then Bradina on 25 May 1992. Female prisoners were transferred to Konjic Sports Hall, where some of the victims were raped. The men were taken to Čelebići camp. On 13 July, the HOS returned to Bradina, burned the town, and imprisoned all remaining inhabitants in an elementary school. Many civilians allegedly died in the attacks. 782

(c) Muslim paramilitary activity

439. A report submitted by the United States alleges that the Muslim paramilitary group, the Black Swans, committed most of the crimes against Bosnian Croats in the Konjic area. According to reports, the Black Swans arrived in the Konjic area on 1 April 1993. They reinforced Muslim troops under an identified commander and were primarily deployed at the village of Handići, seven kilometres north-west of Konjic. In negotiations with the HVO, Tulomović denied that the Black Swans were under his control and blamed them for the criminal activity in the area. 783

440. The Black Swan forces established at Handići are alleged to have attacked the Croatian village of Čelopeci in early April 1993. They reportedly burned three empty buildings, killed two elderly women and one elderly man, cutting off his arms and slitting his throat with a machete. Later, the Handići force was joined by Black Swans from Pokojište, who brought four or five Croatian civilians who were being used as human shields as they

Notes (continued)

moved through the village. Estimates put the attacking force at 70 men. It is also alleged that after the action, Muslim forces prevented Spanish UNPROFOR troops from investigating the activities at Čelopeci. 784

441. The Black Swans, together with Mujahedin troops, allegedly launched infantry attacks every four or five days on the village of Vrci and helped run the P. O. W. camp for HVO soldiers at Parsovici. 785

442. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia reported that Alija's Army, the Yellow Ants, the HOS, and the Croatian National Guard (ZNG) entered Konjic on 26 April 1992. They are alleged to have established road blocks, set up machine-guns in nearby villages, and to have killed civilians and looted villagers' homes. 786

443. According to the Serbian Council Information Centre, the Muslim paramilitary unit, the Akrep, killed 11 Serbs and burned 24 houses in the Konjic village of Blace on 15 May 1992. 787

444. Another report submitted to the Commission of Experts by the Croatian government indicates that a Muslim paramilitary group, Hrasnica Forces, desecrated churches, looted houses, and mistreated Croats in the villages of Čelebići and Radešine. 788 This report also alleged that the paramilitary forces of Hasan Hakalović executed two elderly civilians in the village of Mrkvice. 789

23. Kupres County⁷⁹⁰

445. This county is located in west-central BiH. Its pre-war population was 9, 663 of which 50. 7 per cent was Serbian, 39. 6 per cent Croatian, 8. 4 per cent Muslim, and 1. 3 per cent "other". There is one report of Serbian paramilitary activity in this county.

446. In April 1992, Šešelj's White Eagles, along with the JNA under the command of an identified officer, were allegedly responsible for the killing of about 200 men, women, and children. Machine-guns, knives, and hammers were used in the killings. A young girl witnessed her family being killed; she was then forced to strip and left to be raped by any of the soldiers who were so inclined. 791

24. Livno County⁷⁹²

447. Livno County is in the west of BiH bordering Croatia at the county of Sinj. In 1991, its population was 39, 526, of which 72 per cent was Croat, 15 per cent Muslim, 9. 6 per cent Serb, and 3. 4 per cent "other".

448. A rape victim testifies that she was held in a brothel in Livno and then Sarajevo by "Alija's warriors". It is not clear from the report whether the group she is referring to is the same paramilitary organization as Alija's Army or whether she is referring generically to the Army of BiH as President Alija Izetbegović's "warriors". 793 The dates of her custody are not specified.

25. Maglaj County⁷⁹⁴

Notes (continued)

449. This county is located in south-central BiH and had a pre-war population of 43, 294. This population was 30. 7 per cent Serbian, 19. 3 per cent Croatian, 45. 4 per cent Muslim and 4. 6 per cent described as "other". There was one report of Serbian paramilitary activity in this county.

450. A heavy attack on Maglaj was launched on 23 May 1993 by JNA forces, the Serbian Army, Šešelj's forces, and local "outlaws". One news report described the town as "literally burning". It further stated: "over 2, 000 shells have hit the town so far". Many casualties were reported and poisonous gases were allegedly used. The Serb forces held more than 10 combat positions, from which all types of artillery were fired. 795

26. Modriča County796

451. Modriča is located in north-eastern BiH. According to the 1991 census, the population of the county totaled 35, 413 of which 35. 3 per cent was Serbian, 27. 3 per cent Croatian, 29. 5 per cent Muslim, and 7. 9 per cent "other". There are three reports of Serbian paramilitary activity in Modriča.

452. The Serbian population began to get restless in January 1992 when influential local Serb leaders started making trips to Belgrade. 797

453. During early May of 1992, Serb soldiers entered the village of Modriča. Some were believed to be from Šešelj's units, for they had blackened faces and wore dark uniforms with an insignia of a skull and eagle on the arms. 798 The White Eagles, Knindža Turtles, 799 and the SOS paramilitaries 800 were also reported to have been in Modriča.

454. Allegedly, a group of Muslims, which had sought refuge in the cellar of a private home, were ordered out; they were kicked, punched, and beaten with rifle butts. They were taken to another cellar, where a total of 33 persons were eventually detained for 15 days. Some men were then taken to the school in the centre of town, while others were held in the school sports hall. Local Serbs stood guard while others interrogated the prisoners, including paramilitaries from the White Eagles and Knindža Turtles. Around 18 May, the school was shelled and most of the detainees were moved to a military barracks at Dobož, where approximately 300 Muslims and Croats were being held. In early June, the Red Cross took away the women and children from the site, leaving only about 80 men. 801

27. Mostar County802

455. Mostar is located in the south-central region of BiH. The total population in 1991 was 126, 067 of which 19 per cent was Serbian, 33. 8 per cent Croatian, 34. 8 per cent Muslim, and 10 per cent described as "others". There are reports of Serbian and Croatian paramilitary and Muslim mercenary activity in Mostar.

(a) Serbian paramilitary activity

456. The JNA entered the Mostar village of Rodoč on 4 April 1992, and destroyed the home of a witness. According to this witness, all of the

Notes (continued)

inhabitants of the village fled to the city of Mostar, which was already at war. After 26 days, the witness returned to the village for better shelter. After his return, the Yugoslav army blocked all access roads to, and controlled all points around, the village. Several civilians were stranded in the village without water, electricity, food or supplies. The witness reported that Serbs set fire to all the houses. 803

457. The witness claimed that in May 1992 he was arrested by "Četniks" who said they were under Arkan's command. According to his statement, the witness was taken to Mostar and then to a military prison. He was interrogated and accused of possessing weapons. He and nine others were beaten by guards and remained imprisoned for 81 days, during which they experienced physical and psychological mistreatment.

458. On 6 April 1992, a combined force of JNA special forces and Šešeljovci moved into the village of Vrapčiči, allegedly in response to the explosion of a fuel truck at the JNA barracks in Mostar. The Bosnian and Croatian populations were encouraged to leave and most did. 804

459. The Bosnians and Croatians in Potoci, three kilometres north of Vrapčiči, erected roadblocks and barriers to guard against a similar fate. They were successful until 18 May 1992. On 16 May, the forces in Vrapčiči were reinforced with 10 tanks and 10 armoured personnel carriers, at which point they began their attack on Potoci. They were assisted by JNA air attacks. Upon capturing the village, the Serbian forces began rounding up able bodied Muslim and Croatian males from both villages. These men were taken to a stadium that had been converted into a detention facility. They were loaded onto trucks and taken to Bileća, BiH, where they were exchanged. 805

460. On 12 June 1992, an additional 88 Muslim and Croatian residents of Vrapčiči, including elderly men and women, were rounded up. They were taken to the stadium and killed. Their bodies were found in the landfill north of the village on 20 August 1992 after liberation by Croatian Defence Council and BiH Territorial Defence Forces on 20 June. 806

(b) Croatian paramilitary activity

461. Allegedly, sometime before 15 July 1993, the Croatian paramilitary group, Juka's Army, evicted wealthy Muslim residents of Mostar from their apartments, which were looted and turned over to members of HVO paramilitary forces for habitation. According to reports, Juka's forces were masked and heavily armed when they surrounded the apartments, which were located west of the city centre. They then proceeded to block exits, fire their weapons in the air, and demand that all Muslim residents evacuate the building. 807

462. Another report states that the Croatian Tiger forces joined the HVO in Mostar on 1 June 1993. The Tigers allegedly brought with them additional weapons supplies, including 305 millimetre "Slavuj" guns and grenades manufactured at Slavonski Brod. 808

(c) Muslim paramilitary activity

463. Mujahedin forces were observed in Mostar beginning in early June 1993. They were stationed in the Šantića neighbourhood on the Muslim\HVO front,

Notes (continued)

where they manned bunkers usually in groups of six or seven. They were reportedly armed with 7.62 millimetre weapons, mortars, and Zolja anti-tank weapons. They were billeted in a building they shared with the Muslim police on the east bank of the Neretva River. The Mujahedin forces are reported to have left Mostar on 15 August. 809

28. Nevesinje County810

464. Nevesinje County is in southern BiH. Its population in 1991 was 14,421, of which 74.5 per cent was Serb, 23 per cent Muslim, and 2.5 per cent "other".

465. In early April of 1992, Šešelj's forces were said to have been deployed around the Nevesinje area to assist organized efforts at the border. 811

29. Novi Travnik County

466. Pucarevo County is in central BiH near Travnik. The HOS (Hrvatske Oružane Snage) is reported to have acted in this region. 812

30. Odžak County813

467. Odžak is in northern BiH bordering Croatia at Slavonski Brod. Its pre-war population was 30,651, with 54.2 per cent Croat, 20.3 per cent Muslim, 19.8 per cent Serb, and 5.7 per cent "other".

(a) Serbian paramilitary activity

468. In February 1993, in the town of Novi Grad, between 700 and 1,000 troops, drawn largely from Arkan's and Šešelj's units, (but also including volunteers from Kordun and Banija, as well as "Četniks" from the Benkovac garrison), reportedly attempted to cut the Smiljkes-Novigrad communications line in an effort to take Novi Grad. The Serbs were said to have been "crushed" and pushed back to their positions. UNPROFOR was asked by the Croatian military to enter the area and alleviate tensions between the two sides. 814

(b) Croatian paramilitary activity

469. There are reports of two Croatian forces operating in Odžak. One is the Croatian Democratic Union (CDU) and the other is the Black Legion.

470. The CDU is said to be responsible for the shelling of Donja Dubica on 18 April 1992. 815

471. The Black Legion is mentioned in association with a detention camp in Odžak run by "Muslim and Croatian forces". A witness stated that members of the Black Legion arrived on 16 July 1993 and asked prisoners for gold and money. The witness gave them money and was released. 816

Notes (continued)

(c) Muslim paramilitary activity

472. The Green Berets and the paramilitary arm of the Party of Democratic Action (SDA) are reported to have acted in Odžak.

473. A Serbian man testified that he was picked up by three Green Berets from the streets of Novi Grad in June 1992. They took him to a camp run by "Muslims", where he was detained for almost 10 months. 817

474. The SDA acted together with members of the CDU in Odžak, raping, murdering, looting, and detaining civilians. 818 Apparently, the SDA and CDU received military supplies from abroad in Odžak, the majority of them being procured from Croatia. Reports state that weapons dealers associated with these groups moved freely between Croatia and BiH, buying and selling arms. 819

31. Pale County820

475. Pale is located in south-east BiH. During early February 1992, Šešelj's Četniks reportedly shot at every car driving through the city of Pale. 821

476. Reports also allege that Muslim and Croatian prisoners were being mistreated in the Pale detention camps. The camps were set up at the local sports hall, the Cultural Centre and the cinema, and were run by two identified men. During interrogations, prisoners were physically and mentally tortured. In one case, a death sentence was executed in front of a prisoner.

Pre-written confessions were given to prisoners by members of the SIP. In all, over 20, 000 persons were said to have passed through the camps at Pale. 2, 500 are currently there. Several men are responsible for the investigation and interrogation of prisoners. At least one is alleged to be a member of Arkan's formations.

477. Also, witness testimony from the BiH Bulletin claims that on 1 June 1992 over 1, 000 Serbian irregular forces, 150 soldiers from Rajlovac and Butile barracks, and 80 SDS extremists entered Ahatovići and Dobroševići and killed 20 Muslim men. The forces also wounded several others and looted and set fire to Muslim homes. On 2 June, Serb extremists mined and destroyed the mosque at Ahatovići. During these attacks, Serb irregulars, under the command of Joja Tintor, captured 400 women and children and 80 men. 822

32. Prijedor County823

478. Prijedor is in the north-west of BiH. In 1991, its population was 112, 470. Of that population, 44 per cent was Muslim, 42. 5 per cent Serb, 5. 7 per cent "Yugoslav", 5. 6 per cent Croat, and 2. 2 per cent "other". There are reports of extensive Serbian paramilitary activity in this region.

479. Prijedor citizens have claimed that Arkan's paramilitary forces had set up headquarters in the Hotel Prijedor when Serbian authorities assumed control of that city in a coup on 30 April 1992. The SDS had established headquarters at that location and some believe that Arkan's forces were situated there as well, but no witnesses have been able to confirm the allegation. However, one witness said that White Eagles were roaming the streets of Prijedor, and that

Notes (continued)

Croatian and Muslim police officers were replaced by Serbs who wore a Serbian cross on their hats instead of the Yugoslav red star. Local Prijedor leaders were arrested by the Serbs.

480. Prijedor was attacked on 30 May 1992 by Serb forces, and the city fell within 13 hours. A mosque was burned, and many citizens were forced to leave their homes, arrested and bussed to detention facilities. One woman who was taken from her home and detained for four days stated that when she returned to her home, it had been robbed of all valuables. She was not mistreated while at the detention facility, but she stated that others were frequently threatened. Another woman related that she was taken to the Prijedor police station and placed in a cell sprayed with fresh blood, along with several other civilians, before being shipped to Omarska camp. The involvement of Šešelj's forces in these activities is not clear from the report. 824

481. Also in May, a resident of Prijedor was summoned for interrogation by an identified commander of a Četnik brigade. Afterwards, he was taken to Ciglane camp in Prijedor. White Eagles were implicated in the imprisonment and killings of prisoners at Ciglane camp. 825 Also women were raped. Furthermore, the witness saw a group of White Eagles kill five people, and saw "Četniks" take 15 children from their mothers and throw them into ovens. Another man was also detained at the camp and was forced to load dead bodies onto 13 trucks. He and 20 other prisoners were then taken to Omarska, where he spent six to seven days. Afterwards, he was able to escape. 826

482. A 27 December 1992 news report links Arkan's forces with a series of Serbian attacks on the Muslim village of Kozarac in Prijedor county. The attack was prefaced with a demand by Prijedor's rulers that the villagers sign a loyalty oath to the self-proclaimed Bosnian Serbian state, or be regarded as terrorists. Serbs in control of Prijedor drove cars that had "Wolves of Vukovar" written on them. Officers of the JNA were also reportedly involved. 827 The residents attempted to set up a meager defence, but the town was sealed off on 14 May 1992.

483. On 24 May 1992, the villages of Kozaruša and Kozarac, in Prijedor county were surrounded by a Serbian force, which included units of the Serbian Army, Bosnian Serb irregulars, White Eagles, and Šešelj's men. 828 The forces equipped with tanks and armoured personnel carriers, bombarded the villages for approximately two hours with artillery and rocket fire before entering the village of Kozaruša. 829 Upon entering the village, local Serbs began identifying Muslims who were then shot in the street. 830 Muslim homes were set afire after Serbian forces tossed grenades into them. Within hours, other Muslims were arrested and taken to the prison camp at the Keraterm factory. 831

484. The attack on Kozarac lasted three days and caused many villagers to flee to the forest while the soldiers were shooting at "every moving thing". Survivors calculated that at least 2,000 villagers were killed in that period. The villagers' defence fell on 26 May. 832 When the Serbian forces entered the village, they began destroying the village's 14 mosques and nine minarets.

485. Serbs then reportedly announced that the villagers had 10 minutes to reach the town's soccer stadium. However, many people were shot in their homes before given a chance to leave. One witness reported that several thousand people tried to surrender by carrying white flags, but three Serb

Notes (continued)

tanks opened fire on them, killing many. Those who were successful in surrendering were separated according to gender. During the exodus to the soccer stadium, some men were randomly selected to be shot by a single Serb perched on a balcony. Upon their arrival at the stadium, the women and men were separated and delivered to concentration camps. Many were beaten and killed in the process. 833 One refugee estimated 90 per cent of the region's leaders were killed. 834

486. Another report noted that all 24, 000 residents of Kozarac were evacuated and told to walk towards Prijedor. En route, they were met by Serb police who separated the women from the men and began setting houses on fire. Some villagers were killed on the spot. Three hundred soldiers wearing the insignia of the "White Eagles of Knin", stood alongside the road or pulled certain residents out of the group, and took them to a house where they were executed. 835 Those that were not shot were separated by sex. 836 The men were taken to a detention camp in a school in the nearby village of Trnjani, where they were held for four days without food or water. The men were then transferred to the camp at Trnopolje, where the women and children had been held for several days. A large number of the prisoners were allegedly killed at Trnopolje. 837

487. Major Arsić, the highest ranking member of the "Serbian Army" was said by some to have planned the attack; others named Major Kuruzović. 838 Željaje, commander of JNA reservists from 12 different municipalities, was also involved. Weapons were taken from the territorial defence units and given to the Serbian army. 839 K. D. , a former member of the Kozaran civilian defence council, identified Major Arsić and Serbian JNA Commander Željaje as having played key roles in the attack. He also observed Serb police setting houses on fire and killing certain people in the convoy. A spokesman for the Bosnian Serbs' self-declared government also explained that the government used Arkan's forces in its "ethnic cleansing" operations: "He is very expensive, but also very efficient". 840

488. Forty men from Kozarac were selected for a prison work gang that was sent back into Kozarac to retrieve dead bodies. One of these men counted 610 bodies in all. Kozarac homes were painted with one of three colours for identification: yellow-marked homes were to be inhabited, blue-marked homes were to be rebuilt, and red-marked homes were to be destroyed. 841

489. At the same time, the Red Berets are reported to have been acting in the area and could have been working with or alongside Arkan's men and other Serbian forces. Apparently, the Red Berets participated in the attack of Gornja Puharska, a village of about 300 Muslim families and six Croatian families on 29 May. They entered the village in tanks with other non-uniformed Bosnian Serb irregulars. 842 Following the attack, they took all male villagers south-east to the Omarska detention camp, leaving the women and children behind. At Omarska, the Red Berets worked with the JNA and local police to provide security and coordinate guard shifts. 843

490. On 23 June 1992, Bosnian Serb forces began shelling the village of Rizvanovići allegedly in response to the killing of two Serbian soldiers by Muslim Freedom Fighters somewhere near Prijedor. The village had a population of nearly 3, 000, all of whom were Muslim with the exception of one family. The shelling lasted approximately four hours and was followed by an attack by Bosnian Serb infantry forces, consisting of the Fifth Banja Luka Corp, White Eagles, and Šešeljovci. 844

Notes (continued)

491. The town mosque was damaged, one resident was killed, and another injured during the attack. After the attack, a small occupying force remained in the town. The residents were kept under house arrest with limited movement. 845

492. On 9 July 1992, all Muslim males from the village of Matrići were rounded up in groups by Arkanovci and White Eagles and marched to Trnopolje. Along the way, the Muslims were forced to hold their hands behind their heads and to keep their heads hung low. There were also random beatings and killings. After arriving at Trnopolje, the captives were loaded onto buses going to Omarska. The detainees did not stay at Omarska but were instead moved to Keraterm. 846

493. In late July 1992, the same force that had attacked Rizvanovići conducted a sweep of the village, rounding up residents and burning homes. Some residents were able to escape to the woods outside the village and others were imprisoned in the café of a public building in the centre of the village. 847

494. Also in July, a paramilitary unit called "Zoran Karlica" is reported to have been responsible for killings, rapes, and other abuses in the village of Biscani. 848 A witness recognized and named three men among the attackers. He also reports seeing one of the men beating a villager to death. 849

495. After the attack on Biscani, the witness and other survivors were loaded onto buses and driven towards Prijedor. At Crna Jaruga, half of the people from one of the buses were killed. One bus drove to the Omarska camp and then on to Trnopolje camp because there was no room at Omarska. Upon their arrival at Omarska, an identified paramilitary man took 13 people away. The witness learned later that these people had been killed at Prijedorско Polje. 850

496. Finally, there are reports describing the activities of two other irregular groups working in Prijedor, for which there are no dates. They may or may not have been operating during the time periods mentioned above. One group, the Rambos, is alleged to be extremely violent and sexually aggressive. According to one witness, Rambo members carved the Četnik insignia (four cyrillic S's) into a victim's chest, cut the sinews in one individual's legs, and in the spine of another (so that the victim was instantly paralysed). In another instance, they took five 13 year-old girls from a camp in the area to a private home and returned them the following day, bearing obvious signs of abuse. A resident physician managed to suture two of the girls, but the other had to be sent to the hospital in the city of Prijedor. In still another instance, Rambo members chopped off the testicles and gouged out the eyes of a Czechoslovakian medic. 851

497. The second group, the Radulović Irregulars, are also reported to have worked in Prijedor. 852 A US Government report identified three men in the group, reportedly from Zecovi, who were guards at the Serb-run Trnopolje camp. However, their names are not disclosed for confidentiality and prosecutorial reasons. Some of them are claimed to have been involved in the looting and burning of Zecovi on 23 June 1992. Another identified member, however, is not specifically named as a participant in this attack. 853

Notes (continued)

498. Rogatica County is in eastern BiH. Its population in 1991 was 21, 812, of which 69. 4 per cent was Muslim and 39. 6 per cent was Serb. There are numerous reports of Serbian paramilitary activity in this county.

499. The village of Rogatica was shelled by Serb forces beginning on 22 May 1992. Between 25 May and 21 June, the town was shelled every day, with attacks concentrated on predominantly Muslim areas. 855 All city services were discontinued and Muslims were forbidden to go outside or leave the city. SDS, White Eagles, Arkan's men, and Šešelj's men began looting and burning Muslim houses and apartments. It is estimated that over 100 individuals (women, children, and the elderly), were killed on 21 and 22 June. 856 The civilians were burned and run over with tanks and troop carriers. 857 Muslims began being forced out of their homes and captured by Serb forces on 8 June. 858 Those who attempted to flee to the village of Vragolovo were fired upon. 859 A camp was set up at the local high school where the women and children were taken, while most of the men were taken to Sokolac and Sladara camps. One account approximated the number of women and children detained at the school to be 300. 860 At the school, many women were taken away by Serb soldiers and beaten and raped. 861 Around 5 August, the women and children were loaded onto trucks and began a convoy to the Hreša section of Sarajevo. Detainees were forced to walk part of the way as Serb soldiers fired upon them. 862

500. In July of 1992, Arkan's men began going door-to-door looking for weapons and valuables. Arkan's men then began taking people to the elementary school. Female prisoners were removed every night by armed guards carrying flashlights. They were usually kept out for two to three hours at a time. The prisoners were moved to Sarajevo after seven days in the school. 863

501. Žepa, a small mountain village in Rogatica county usually populated by 5, 000, surged to 30, 000 persons due to a huge influx of refugees during late 1992. The BBC traveled with a U. N. military convoy to bring food and other relief to the villagers during the winter months. The convoy was stopped 12 kilometres outside Žepa by Serbian militia, one of whom was wearing the badge of Arkan. The militiamen told the BBC reporter, "The people of Žepa need food, not journalists". While it seemed that the convoy would be allowed through, the soldiers had actually directed the convoy to the one road leading to Žepa that was impassable. More than 20 trees were splayed across the road, and it seemed likely that the road may have been mined or booby-trapped. The U. N. convoy was forced to turn back and attempt an alternative route on a different day. 864

502. During this time, there was also an incident in which the paramilitary forces, under the command of an identified man, killed 49 prisoners during a fake prisoner exchange. 865 Apparently, Serb forces, under the command of another identified man, forced prisoners from Višegrad onto a bus and headed north towards Rogatica. The Serb soldiers explained to the prisoners that they were going to be exchanged at Han Pijesak, but once on the bus, they were tied up and beaten. At some point during their trip, the bus was pulled off the road, the prisoners ordered off, killed, and piled in a pit. 866 While the specific date of this incident is not noted, it was reported in the BiH Bulletin of March 1993 and must have occurred shortly before then.

503. In April of 1993, Šešelj called for the two Serb republics of BiH and Krajina to form a unitary state and reject the Vance-Owen plan. Šešelj

Notes (continued)

pledged that his own party, the Serbian Radical Party, would do everything it could to gain recognition of a new joint state. He requested that the Serbian people "reject any signature that would mean the capitulation of the Serbian people to foreign powers. The Serbian people have to maintain all that they have won in a hard and bloody struggle. "867

Notes (continued)

34. Sanski Most County⁸⁶⁸

504. Sanski Most is located in north-west BiH. According to the 1991 census, its population was 60, 119, of which 47 per cent was Muslim, 42. 2 per cent Serb, 7. 1 per cent Croat, and 3. 7 per cent "other".

505. There is one report of a Serbian paramilitary organization acting in this area called the Sixth District or Šesta Krajiška.⁸⁶⁹ Apparently, the Sixth District attacked Sanski Most on 9 May 1992 and occupied the police station and other municipal buildings. Seventeen days after their attack, the Serbian Regular Army arrived in the city. The Sixth District is said to often work with the army by conducting small-scale operations, like the attack at Sanski Most.⁸⁷⁰

35. Sarajevo County⁸⁷¹

506. Sarajevo is in central BiH. In 1991, it had a population of 525, 980, of which 49. 3 per cent was Muslim, 29. 9 per cent Serb, 10. 7 per cent "Yugoslav", 6. 6 per cent Croat, and 3. 5 per cent "other". There are reports of Serbian, Croatian, and Muslim paramilitary activity in this region.

(a) Serbian paramilitary activity

507. In March of 1992, Zagreb Radio Croatia reported that large columns of Arkan's and Šešelj's troops were seen organizing at the entrance to Sarajevo, at the Višegrad gate, following the news that Muslim forces were in and around the Sarajevo area. Apparently, Arkan's and Šešelj's units were preparing to attack the town.⁸⁷²

508. In April of 1992, a series of violent attacks was launched on the citizens of Sarajevo. On 5 April, the police school at Vrace was attacked, and the students of the police school were beaten and mistreated. White Eagles later forcibly evicted many villagers from their homes and took them to Vrbanja. "Četniks" looted and set fire to the houses which earlier had been vacated by residents. A 14 year-old boy's arm was allegedly sawed off by Serbs with a handsaw. The boy was then taken away by the White Eagles. A report also stated that JNA forces, under the command of an identified man, used their heavy artillery to attack Sarajevo residents.⁸⁷³

509. Armed SDS and White Eagles members allegedly raped a woman, slit the throat of a man, and engaged in beating unarmed civilians. The specifics of these incidents, which took place between June and December 1992, are not disclosed for confidentiality reasons.⁸⁷⁴

510. In late April of 1992, the BiH Ministry of Internal Affairs linked the attacks on Sarajevo with Šešelj's units. One-hundred sixty-two of Šešelj's men reportedly moved to the Sarajevo district of Pale in early April, and more continued to go to Vrace. The identified commander of the unit is said to be the leader of Šešelj's Četniks in Slavonia, Baranja and western Srijem. The unit moved from Pale to Vrace on 14 and 15 April, during which time they planned to launch an artillery attack on the garages of the city transportation company. The reported goal was to massacre the population as revenge for the capture of two criminals and Dragiša Kuljačić, a terrorist. This attack was abandoned when the prisoners were released.⁸⁷⁵

Notes (continued)

511. This same unit participated in the attack of the Novo Sarajevo area. In this instance, one group of men were surrounded by those defending Sarajevo, and their leader was wounded. Šešelj then threatened to withdraw all of his units in BiH if his men were not released from the siege on Grbavica. Serbian Democratic Party forces went in to rescue the men. Šešelj's units then withdrew back to Pale. 876 In response to the withdrawal, Arkan considered an invitation by Biljana Plavšić, former member of the BiH Presidency, to bring his troops into Sarajevo. 877

512. In Dobrinja, a suburb of Sarajevo, residents were confined to their homes in May and June of 1992, during an eleven-week attack on that city by Serb militia forces. Residents were told that they would be shot if they ventured outdoors. On 17 June, teams of Serb gunmen forced Muslims from their homes. The vacated residences were looted, and the ousted villagers were herded into a small basement room. Local Serb soldiers informed the residents that paramilitary units from neighbouring Serbia were mobilizing the drive to take Dobrinja, and that these units demanded that all Muslims be killed. One of the Serbs identified these units as led by Arkan and Šešelj. Two days later, the villagers were ordered outside their holding room and were taken to a trench in a highway that lay between Serb and Muslim forces. They were told to begin walking down the highway and were then forced to evade sniper fire. Two women were killed. As the sniper fire escalated, the 40 villagers began running. A woman's arm was severed by gunfire. The villagers then dove into a ditch on the side of the road and crawled a half a kilometre in the rain and mud, at times over dead bodies. They were finally escorted to safety in territory controlled by BiH Government forces. 878

513. Arkan's men also allegedly operated in the area of Grbavica. In late September 1992, at least 500 Grbavica residents were seen fleeing their village amidst gunfire. Apparently, they were crossing over the bridge leading to Sarajevo's city centre after Serb soldiers gave them less than 15 minutes to leave their homes with all they could carry. The soldiers threatened that they would kill the residents if they did not turn over all gold, jewelry, and foreign currency. The Grbavica Muslims said that many of the soldiers wore black jumpsuits and double-headed eagle badges, insignias which are said to be those of Arkan's forces. Others related that before the mass evictions, people were subjected to midnight searches, denied pension payments, and harassed on the street. Some Muslim men were taken to detention camps or made part of working parties.

514. Another report implied that both Arkan and Šešelj deployed forces in Grbavica. At least 130 residents had been evicted from their homes and were seen fleeing Serb forces in Grbavica. A meeting at the commune building in Grbavica was reportedly held by the Serbian Democratic Party and its military command in September of 1992. An agreement was reached at the meeting, wherein all Muslims and Croats would be removed. To accomplish this goal, forces of Arkan and Šešelj were called in to help and to kill all Muslims of military age. This plan was said to be the final offensive in "cleansing" this area of Sarajevo. 879

515. Muslims were imprisoned, interrogated, tortured, and killed at the concentration camp "Health Centre Stari Grad" in Ilidža, a section of Sarajevo. Arkan's Četniks reportedly ran the camp. 880

516. In July of 1992, the Sonja cafe and hotel, just outside Vogošća, served

Notes (continued)

as the site for scores of rapes and killings of Muslim women by Serb forces. The "commander" of this detention facility was Commander Miro Vuković, a loyalist of Šešelj's forces. Vuković reportedly established a system for Serb fighters to rape and kill women. 881 Borislav Herak, a Serbian soldier standing trial for 35 killings and 14 rapes, related that soldiers were encouraged to go to the Sonja cafe to rape women and then take them elsewhere to be killed. Herak also witnessed or participated in the killings of at least 220 other Muslim civilians. Specifically, he watched as 120 civilians were gunned down by a Serbian unit called the "special investigation group" in a field outside Vogošća. Herak was told by his commanders that raping Muslim women was "good for raising the fighters morale". He and three friends raped one woman and then shot her in the back of the head near a mountain bridge. He went to the Sonja cafe once every three or four days, and reported that even though soldiers were raping and killing women every day, more women were always arriving. He describes, ". . . it was never a problem. You just picked up a key and went to a room. 882 Vuković provided the soldiers with justifications for killing the women after raping them. 883 Vuković once told Herak, "You can do with the women what you like. You can take them away from here--we don't have enough food for them anyway--and don't bring them back. 884

517. Herak said he was ordered to go to the Sonja cafe by his commander, Captain Borov. As he went to the cafe, he was met by Miodrag and Dragan, two members of Šešelj's private army. When Herak related that he had been sent by Borov, the two "Četniks" ushered Herak into a waiting room containing about 60 young women, from which Herak could select his rape victim. 885

518. In August of 1992, the administrators of the Sonja cafe were asked to release all women, children, and elderly in preparation for a visit by an English delegation to the site. Consequently, 150 persons were released. "Četniks" reportedly cleared the camp and removed blood from the walls and floors. Three thousand civilians were said to have passed through the camp at Vogošća, hundreds of them dying at the hands of Arkan's and Šešelj's men and other "Četniks". 886

519. The hotel "Park" was also the location of at least two rapes by members of Šešelj's units. 887

(b) Croatian paramilitary activity

520. There are reports of two separate Croatian groups acting in Sarajevo and the surrounding region. These are the Croatian Armed Forces (HOS) and the forces under Jusuf Prazina, alias "Juka" or "Yuka".

521. The Republic of Serbia reports that an HOS unit, together with an unnamed Muslim paramilitary group, helped run the "Viktor Bubanj" detention facility in Sarajevo where Serb civilians have allegedly been tortured, raped, and killed. 888 There are no dates noted as to when the HOS was present at the camp.

522. The Croatian forces were also involved in criminal activity at the "Viktor Bubanj" camp. 889 It was reported that the leader of this group was appointed head of the BiH Army paramilitary units and became warden of the prison camp. For this reason, "Viktor Bubanj" was also called "Juka's Prison". Over 200 prisoners were held there and were tortured and forced to

Notes (continued)

do heavy manual labour. "Juka" himself is accused of raping and killing prisoners at this camp. 890

(c) Muslim paramilitary activity

523. Alija's Army and the Green Berets are two Muslim paramilitary units reportedly acted in the Sarajevo area.

524. A rape victim testified to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia that she was held in a brothel in Livno and then in Sarajevo by "Alija's warriors". It is not clear from the report whether the group she refers to is the same paramilitary organization as Alija's Army, or whether she is referring generically to the army of BiH as President Alija Izetbegović's "warriors". 891 Her testimony does not indicate any precise dates of custody.

525. The Green Berets also operated in Sarajevo. On 22 May 1992, a Serbian woman was picked up by two Green Berets and taken to "Viktor Bubanj" in Sarajevo, where she was questioned and raped repeatedly. 892 Another report alleges that the Green Berets were responsible for the death of an unspecified number of Serb children at the Koševo Stadium near this time as well. Apparently, the members threw the children in the animal cages. Serb soldiers could hear the children being killed from their surrounding positions in Kromolj and Jezero. 893

36. Srebrenica County894

526. Srebrenica is in eastern BiH bordering Serbia. As of 1991, it had a population of 37, 211, of which 74. 8 per cent was Muslim and 25. 2 per cent Serb.

527. In May 1992, Arkan's men allegedly removed machinery and equipment from local factories and looted appliances from local stores in Srebrenica and loaded them into stolen cars and took them to Belgrade. 895

528. Also in May 1992, the town of Rogatica was shelled, and other reported violations took place, which are not disclosed for confidentiality and prosecutorial reasons. 896

37. Teslić County897

529. Teslić County is in the central northern region of BiH. In 1991, it had a population of 59, 632, of which 55. 1 per cent was Serb, 21. 5 per cent Muslim, 16 per cent Croat, 5. 7 per cent "Yugoslav", and 1. 7 per cent "other".

530. Arkan and his forces led the near-fatal attack on Kamenica in Teslić during early spring of 1992. The Muslim enclave finally collapsed after enduring 10 months of Serbian onslaughts. The entire village was abandoned by its residents, and Serbs quickly moved to bomb the mosque and loot and burn private homes. Mass graves were opened, which Serbs claimed to bury their own who had died in combat.

531. A professor from Sarajevo University also reports that paramilitary

Notes (continued)

units of the Armada Forces, along with the Serbian militia and the Red Berets, were brought into Teslić to perform "ethnic cleansing" operations there. 898 The report does not disclose any dates.

38. Tomislavgrad County899

532. Tomislavgrad is a western county of BiH bordering Croatia at Imotski County. According to the 1991 census, it had a population of 29, 261. Of this population, 86. 6 per cent was Croat, 10. 8 per cent Muslim, and 2. 6 per cent "other".

533. Witness testimonies submitted by the Serbian Council Information Centre allege that members of the Black Legion, a Croatian paramilitary force, took prisoners from Split and Kupres and held them at Tomislavgrad. Women who were detained report that they were kept in cellars with no toilets or beds. 900 The Croatian Armed Forces (HOS) are also reported to have participated in the operation of a detention facility in Tomislavgrad. 901

39. Travnik County902

534. Travnik is in central BiH. Its pre-war population was 70, 402, with 45. 3 per cent Muslim, 36. 9 per cent Croat, 11 per cent Serb, and 6. 8 per cent "other". There are reports of Croatian and Muslim paramilitary activity in this county.

(a) Croatian paramilitary activity

535. UNPROFOR reports that a Croatian paramilitary formation called Medići was responsible for attacks, kidnappings, bombings, and artillery firing on Muslim residents in and around Travnik during the first weeks of April 1993. The HVO has claimed that the Medići are not under its military control. 903

(b) Muslim paramilitary activity

536. The US Government claims that Mecet's Bebe, or Mecetove Bebe, is a Muslim paramilitary organization that carried out criminal activity, including theft and sabotage in the Travnik area. 904 It does not specify any dates of their activity.

40. Tuzla County905

537. Tuzla is in north-east BiH. Its population in 1991 was 131, 861, of which 47. 6 per cent was Muslim, 16. 6 per cent "Yugoslav", 15. 6 per cent Croat, 15. 5 per cent Serb, and 4. 7 per cent "other".

538. The chlorine-alkaline complex in Tuzla and Lukavac was bombarded with artillery by Šešelj's men and local "Četniks" during June of 1992. The attack was backed by aircraft from the military air force and an anti-aircraft defence provided by the JNA. 906

Notes (continued)

41. Veljina

539. According to an April 1992 report, the Pan-Yugoslav television network YUTEL, carried videotape footage of the attack on Veljina. The report states that Veljina was "overrun" by Arkan and his men, who were claiming to liberate it for the Serbs. Arkan told reporters that his forces were in BiH to prevent Muslim fundamentalism from gaining a foothold in Europe. 907

42. Višegrad County⁹⁰⁸

540. Višegrad is in eastern BiH. According to 1991 census figures, it had a population of 21, 202, with 62. 8 per cent Muslim, 32. 8 per cent Serb and 4. 4 per cent "other". There are numerous reports of Serbian paramilitary activity in this county.

541. In 9 April 1992, Zagreb Radio Croatia Network reported that all Muslims from Višegrad had left in fear that Arkan was headed for the town. 909

542. Between 12 and 13 April 1992, residents of Višegrad were informed by their Serbian neighbours that Šešelj's and Arkan's units were coming into the area to perform a mass killing. Some residents left, and their houses were ransacked and riddled with bullets. Fourteen houses were burned down, leaving only five undamaged. 910

543. On 13 April 1992, the city of Višegrad was occupied by the Užice Corps. This group consisted of JNA soldiers, reservists, Užice territorial defence forces, and White Eagles. They brought a large amount of JNA heavy equipment with them. The JNA forces wore their traditional uniforms, while the White Eagles wore identifiable outfits, combining military and civilian clothes. Some wore hats with the kokada emblem. Upon the corps' siege, the civilian population fled the city and was fired upon. The corps then broadcast a message instructing the residents to return to Višegrad and assuring their safety. When they returned, the village was in shambles, with many homes burned. 911 The JNA then blocked all roads leading out of Višegrad with help from the White Eagles and Užice Corps. Soldiers at the roadblocks would take away Muslims, whose names appeared on a master list. 912 Between 18 and 25 May, the Užice Corps left Višegrad, leaving it to fall under the control of the White Eagles, Četnik gangs and Šešelj's forces. 913

544. After the retreat of the Užice Corps, the killing and torturing of Muslims began. Residents could not leave the city without permission. Many Serbs were seen throwing bound Muslims into the river to drown them. In early June, many girls were taken to the hotel Vilina Vlas, interrogated, and raped. 914 Some of the females were not returned.

545. On 13 April 1992, Momir Savić's Četniks set fire to the villages of Repuševići, Jarci, Brezje, Šip, Bodežnik, Blaž, and Moremeslje. 915 They harassed and arrested Muslims, defaced a mosque, destroyed Muslim property, and stole humanitarian aid. Witness testimony submitted by the Republic of BiH identified one of the men who organized "ethnic cleansing" in the Višegrad region. Apparently, once the Užice Corps left on 18 June 1992, the criminal activity of Momir Savić's Četniks grew markedly worse. 916

546. Then in July, civilians were evicted and convoys left the city. 917 Some of the men on the convoy were killed and thrown into the River Drina

Notes (continued)

before they arrived in Olovo. The women were taken to Olovo, then to Visoko, then to Zenica. 918

547. According to a witness, the Popović Group led by Srpko Popović was also involved in criminal activity in the Višegrad area during this time. 919 On 18 June 1992, the Popović Group is claimed to have killed 22 Muslims in Višegrad under the direction of Milan Lukić. 920 The Popović Group is also alleged to have killed Muslims at the Višegrad Electric Plant and then to have thrown the corpses in the Drina River. In addition, Popović members allegedly burned 60 civilians detained in a house and drowned others by tying them up and throwing them into the river. They are also said to have regularly looted Muslim homes. In addition, Srpko Popović, himself, is claimed to have killed 17 civilians in one day.

548. The Višegrad Militia was also active in the area. A witness from the village of Koritnik near Višegrad stated that he narrowly escaped when the house he was being detained in was set afire by Višegrad Militia guards in June 1993. 921 The witness stated that in June 1993, an identified man, whose name is not disclosed for confidentiality and prosecutorial reasons, came to Koritnik and told the Muslims that they would be evicted. The next day, members of the Višegrad militia came to the village and loaded 51 civilians onto buses headed towards Višegrad. At a Serbian checkpoint on a bridge outside Višegrad, the civilians were searched and forced to give up their money and jewelry. The prisoners were then transferred to a house where the women were kept separately for supposed "interrogations".

549. The witness goes on to describe that there were already five prisoners in the house when they arrived. At 10:30 p. m. , one of the Višegrad Militia guards threw a torch into the house and fired a machine-gun into the various rooms where he and others were held. The witness escaped through a window and ran. In the field behind the house, he was again fired upon. He does not expect that anyone else survived.

550. On 18 June 1992, the paramilitary forces under Milan Lukić killed 22 Muslims on the new bridge in Višegrad. 922 The Lukić forces are said to have killed Muslim civilians in a variety of ways: children were dropped from the bridge and then shot before they hit the water; others were killed by pulling their kidneys out while they were still alive; and still others were tied to car bumpers and dragged across the bridge and through the streets of Višegrad. The report links the actions of Lukić's forces with those of the Popović Group. 923

551. On 22 October 1992, Milan Lukić and his men allegedly abducted 16 Sandžak Muslims from the village of Sjeverin. 924 According to Amnesty International, eight armed and masked men boarded the bus that the Muslims were travelling on as it entered BiH at the Višegrad municipality. The men, identified as Milan Lukic's, then ordered the passengers off the bus and onto an army truck. The truck, which had no license plates, headed towards the town of Višegrad. At this time, the passengers were told that they would be exchanged for Serbs who were captured the previous night. According to the Belgrade newspaper Borba, which cites military sources in Serbia, these Muslim hostages were killed near Višegrad that same day. 925

552. On 19 February 1993, Lukić's forces reportedly performed a similar operation, this time at the Strpci train station. 926 Witnesses state that 19 Muslim passengers on a train at Strpci were abducted by Lukić's forces, led

Notes (continued)

onto a military truck, and driven away. The present whereabouts of these Muslims are not reported.

553. Finally, these reports indicate that Lukić was briefly detained on 26 October 1992 and again in February 1993 for the kidnapping of the Muslims from the bus and from the train. 927 Furthermore, according to the Amnesty International report, the leaders of the "Serb Republic of BiH" deny the existence of paramilitary forces in Višegrad and refer to Lukić's forces as "volunteers" fighting under the command of the Višegrad Brigade. However, according to Borba, Lukić's forces are not under the direction of the army nor the local Višegrad authorities. 928

554. Finally, it is reported that the paramilitary forces under the command of Rajko Kušić were also involved in the kidnapping and killing of Muslims in Višegrad. 929 It is not clear whether their actions are linked to those of the Lukić forces. In this case, a witness claims that Kušić forces under the direction of an identified man, whose name is not disclosed for confidentiality and prosecutorial reasons, forced 49 Muslim prisoners from Višegrad onto a bus. The paramilitaries told the prisoners that they were going to be exchanged in Han Pijesak. Yet, once on the bus, the prisoners were tied up and beaten. The bus pulled off the road somewhere between Višegrad and Rogatica, and the prisoners were ordered off. Then, they were killed and piled into a pit. 930

555. A Serbian irregular force called Commander Turtle's units is said to have worked in portions of eastern BiH, including Višegrad. 931 This group was led by a Bosnian Serb doctor named Duško Kornjača and operated sometime after September 1992. 932

556. Other testimony indicates that the Serbian forces under Risto Perišić, the president of the Serbian community, were active in Višegrad. Perišić is alleged to be one of the organizers of "ethnic cleansing" in the region. 933

43. Vitez County934

557. Vitez is in central BiH. The pre-war population was 27, 728. Of that population, 45. 7 per cent was Croat, 41. 4 per cent Muslim, 7. 5 per cent "other", and 5. 4 per cent Serb. There are reports of both Croatian and Muslim paramilitary activity in this region.

(a) Croatian paramilitary activity

558. According to UNPROFOR personnel, the Croatian Knights paramilitary group set up a checkpoint approximately three kilometres north-west of Vitez, where they detained a convoy of trucks for several days. Although the convoy was eventually returned, the action was apparently one of many designed to agitate the Muslim population in the region. 935 HVO officials have stated that the Knights were an independent group that did not follow official military command.

(b) Muslim paramilitary activity

559. The Muslim Armed Forces (MOS) are alleged to have looted and burned homes

Notes (continued)

and to have threatened Croatian civilians in the Vitez municipality. Specifically, witnesses report MOS activity in Čajdraš, Vjetrenica Mountain, and Busovača. Many civilians are said to have been killed in the area; their bodies have most often been found burned with their homes. 936 It is also reported that the MOS acted as local police and arrested HVO personnel earlier released by the Army of BiH. 937

44. Vogošća County

560. Vogošća is a small county in central BiH just west of Sarajevo. There are reports that the Serbian paramilitary units under the command of Dragan Ikanović operated there.

561. A witness who was held for several weeks at the army barracks in Rajlovac reports that Ikanović and his men were responsible for the deaths of approximately 50 Muslim prisoners. He claims that Ikanović and his men loaded prisoners onto a bus and drove them from Vogošća towards a village called Srednje. At one point in the journey, the passengers were told that the bus had overheated and needed water. The guards on the bus then got off. Immediately afterward, the bus was fired upon by Serbian forces using rocket launchers, bazookas, machine-guns, and hand grenades. 938

562. The BiH Bulletin also reports details of this incident. 939 It states that Serb forces took 55 Muslim prisoners, some of whom were from Dobroševići, Bojnik, and Mihaljevići, on a red bus to a supposed prisoner exchange. Then an identified man was said to take the prisoners. The report does not indicate whether other forces under Joja Tintor were involved. Later, the bus was fired upon as described above. Forty-seven prisoners were killed. 940

45. Zenica County⁹⁴¹

563. Zenica County is in central BiH. In 1991, it had a population of 145, 577, of which 55. 2 per cent was Muslim, 15. 6 per cent Croat, 15. 5 per cent Serb, 10. 9 per cent "Yugoslav", and 2. 9 per cent "other". Croatian and Muslim paramilitary activity has been reported in this area.

(a) Croatian paramilitary activity

564. The Croatian Armed Forces (HOS) is an organization of Croatian and Muslim forces that have acted in the Zenica region. It is estimated that of the 1, 500 troops in Zenica, there are at least 800 Muslim members. 942

(b) Muslim paramilitary activity

565. The Zenica Hoodlums (or Green League), the Muslim Armed Forces (MOS), and the Patriotic League have all been named in connection with the attack on Zenica on 25 April 1992. 943

46. Zvornik County⁹⁴⁴

566. Zvornik is located in eastern BiH on the Serbian border. It had a pre-war population of 81, 111. Of that population, 59. 4 per cent was Muslim, 38

Notes (continued)

per cent Serb, and 2.6 per cent "other". Here, there are reports of Serbian and Muslim paramilitary activity.

(a) Serbian paramilitary activity

567. In late March, Šešeljovci units arrived in the area and informed the Muslim residents that they had 10 days in which to turn in their weapons. 945

At a party held in April at the Tezeko Hotel in Zvornik, Šešelj read the names of local Muslim intellectuals from a list to an audience partly comprised of members of Arkanovci, Šešeljovci, and White Eagles. The people on this list were to be killed. 946

568. On 7 April 1992, the predominantly Muslim village of Grbavci was surrounded on three sides by the Serbian paramilitary units of Šešelj, Arkan and the White Eagles. They took over the village's important buildings and announced that all Muslims were to turn in their weapons. They had a list prepared by local Serbs of the names of all the Muslims in the village who owned weapons. Those on the list who did not turn in a weapon were taken away and not seen again. Shortly after they were removed, gunshots were heard in the forest outside the village. 947

569. Zvornik was attacked on 8 April 1992. Arkan's troops reportedly led the attack. 948 They were aided by JNA forces, Šešelj's, and Arkan's men. Identified perpetrators included regular JNA troops, paramilitaries, and special police, 949 but names are not disclosed for confidentiality and prosecutorial reasons. The attack began with artillery fire that continued without interruption from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 950

570. Zvornik was shelled from all sides, but especially from a hill 12 kilometres away. 951 On 9 April 1992, Zagreb Radio Croatian Network reported that Serbian forces had entered the centre of Zvornik and that fighting had diminished. 952 Likewise, Sarajevo Radio reported that Serbian troops had captured the town at about midday on 9 April. 953 Fighting, however, reportedly continued in the suburbs, which were under heavy mortar fire. A school, a timber processing plant, a secondary school centre, and many multi-story buildings in the centre of Zvornik were hit. Hospital staff reported 10 people wounded and one killed at the time of the broadcast on 9 April. A transmitter allegedly was damaged so that citizens of Zvornik could not receive information other than one channel of Belgrade television. 954

571. General Milutin Kukanjac, the Yugoslav Army's local commander, reportedly said in a Sarajevo radio interview that an army unit in the Zvornik area would intervene only if the town's civil defence forces surrendered their weapons. 955 Zvornik's Muslim fighting force, poorly armed and coordinated, held the city for five days before retreating to a castle near Kula Grad. They conducted night attacks from the castle but had to withdraw due to lack of ammunition. Some of these forces were later arrested and imprisoned. 956

572. During the attack on Zvornik, approximately 200 houses were burned and 76 Muslims were killed. Young males were told that they either had to join the Serbian forces, leave, or be shot. The old men, women, and children were allowed to stay. Many of the males that left reported seeing JNA tanks on the Serbian side of the Drina. 957

Notes (continued)

573. In the Kula section of Zvornik, no advanced warning was given to turn in weapons. The men were gathered in the basement of the hospital, where the younger ones were beaten in a Serbian attempt to find out information on the defending forces. Those that refused to give information were taken away and not seen again. After a few days, the others were allowed to return to their homes. 958

574. Serbian forces positioned across the Drina in Serbia began shelling the Muslim village of Divič, two kilometres north of Zvornik. The village was then occupied by Serbian forces, who forced the residents to turn in their weapons. The residents were subjected to regular beatings by the occupying forces, but the village was relatively calm. 959

575. People reportedly were imprisoned, first the intellectuals, and then others as well. Various registrations were ordered, and if they were not obeyed, all property would be taken away. Many people who had left the town earlier came back for this reason. Many of them were then taken to concentration camps, tortured, and killed. Certain villagers were forced to sign statements that they "voluntarily renounce" all of their property. 960 At least two prison camps were established in the Zvornik suburb of Karakaj: one at the Standard Shoe Factory, holding 35 prisoners, and another at the Ekonomija, holding 600 prisoners. The prisoners at Ekonomija were reportedly beaten on a regular basis by the Šešeljovci. 961

576. A series of killings reportedly followed the fall of Zvornik. 962 A number of them of have been attributed to Arkan's soldiers:963 Arkan's men allegedly stopped at each house checking the identification of residents. 964 According to a Sarajevo radio report, on 9 April elders of the Islamic community of BiH accused Arkan's units of committing crimes against the Muslims in Zvornik. The elders claimed that Muslims were subjected to "a pogrom" because of their religion. The elders' statement disclosed that there were many Muslims killed, and a great number wounded. The elders appealed to legal entities of BiH, to members of the public, and to the United Nations and international humanitarian organizations for protection. 965 Another Sarajevo radio report on the same day stated that Arkan's units were perpetrating a "massacre" of the Muslim population of Zvornik. The report said that six people had died that day and 15 people were injured as a result of grenades and bombs launched from 120 millimetre calibre mortars. 966

577. A Serbian woman told US Embassy officers in Budapest that several Yugoslav army tanks, led by Arkan, had come to Zvornik on 10 April. About 30 masked irregulars belonging to a unit under Arkan conducted a house-to-house search for Bosnian Muslim men by checking identity cards. The Serbs then allegedly cut off the heads, hands, and feet of their victims. 967

578. According to the witness who made a statement to Amnesty International, Serbian paramilitaries, who described themselves as Arkan's men, strangled six people. At about 3:00 p.m. on 10 April, a group of about 30 men arrived at the outskirts of Zvornik and rounded up residents. They were taken out into the orchard and forced to lie down. There were 15 captives in total, nine women and six men. The men were killed, and the women were locked in the cellar of a house. After three days, people from a nearby village discovered the women. About 10 days later, the survivors were driven from the site at gunpoint and made to cross into Mali Zvornik in Serbia, from where they made their way to Hungary. 968

Notes (continued)

579. An unidentified witness states that Arkan's soldiers visited Hasim Hadžlavdić's home. The witness maintains that the soldiers interrogated Hadžlavdić and his 74 year-old neighbour about where Muslim money and guns were hidden. When the men could not or did not answer, a soldier reportedly slit Hadžlavdić's throat. The neighbour fainted, and the soldier stepped on his chest and slit his throat as well. Then, the soldiers went to the next home, that of Šehić Hakiija, and demanded the same information from him and his son. The soldiers slit the throats of Hakiija and his son. It is alleged that 46 people were killed by Arkan's men in one hour on this day. 969

580. The Zvornik hospital was overrun by Serb forces during the occupation. Arkan's men stored weapons and set up headquarters there. All those at the hospital were taken hostage until the body of "Rambo", Arkan's second in command, was returned. Around 20 April, White Eagle members arrived at the hospital, harassed hostages, threatened to kill the Muslims, shot from windows, and made people stand or squat in line. 970

581. In mid-April 1992, Serbian forces began digging pits with a bulldozer in the Muslim cemeteries south-west of Zvornik. Trucks were seen there three times a day dumping bodies. Trucks loaded with bodies were also seen frequently in Mali Zvornik at the stone quarry near the Hotel Drina. 971 Citizens hidden in "Little Zvornik" allegedly saw the digging of mass graves at the northern entrance of the town called Kazambašća.

582. On 11 April 1992, a news report stated that UN refugee workers had reported a day earlier that 10, 000 Muslim women and children had been found huddled in a single village without food or shelter. Alija Izetbegović, the Muslim President of BiH, appealed to the international community for help after claiming that Serbian guerrillas had threatened to kill 3, 000 civilians trapped near Zvornik. According to the news article, a UN refugee official had reported seeing heavily armed Serbian guerrillas clearing dead bodies from the streets. A shortage of bus drivers and concern about "armed gangs" controlling the region prevented Red Cross aid workers from approaching the area at that time. 972 Relief workers said that Arkan's forces controlled Zvornik's centre, while Yugoslav army forces were stationed around the area. 973

583. On 14 April 1992, Sarajevo Radio reported that members of Arkan's units were looting empty houses and apartments in Zvornik and taking the goods away on trucks. Those who had left the village and returned to recover their property were taken to camps, tortured, and killed. Others were forced to sign statements wherein they surrendered all of their property. 974 Dead bodies were lying in the streets, private houses, and apartment buildings. Shops had been closed for eight days, and the town lacked basic foodstuffs and medicine. The report carried an appeal on behalf of citizens remaining in Zvornik for EC observers and food. The report said that more than 10, 000 refugees wanted to leave for a safe place but were unable to do so. 975

584. Arkan reportedly appeared on Serbian state-controlled television, discuss
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585. Civilians continued to be assailed in May. Muslims were taken to facilities around Zvornik, where they were detained and beaten severely by Serbs. Shooting began in Zvornik on 18 May, causing most Muslims to flee to other villages or the woods at the edge of the village. Some of those in the woods returned to the village, following Serb instructions. The men who returned were shot in front of their families. 978

586. On 17 May 1992, Šešeljovci entered Divič in Zvornik County and began to loot and pillage Muslim property for nine days. 979 On 26 May 1992, the residents of Divič were loaded onto buses supposedly headed to Olovo. Instead the buses went to Tuzla and on to Zvornik. In Zvornik, they were housed for 36 hours on the second floor of an office building, where they were given regular meals and water. 980

587. On 29 May 1992, the 174 male residents from Divič were moved to a movie theatre in a cultural centre in Čelopek, seven kilometres north of Zvornik. The prisoners were threatened with death unless they could come up with 2,000 DM per person, which they did. Nevertheless, the prisoners were still beaten, tortured, sexually abused, and killed. 981

588. In May 1992, Serbian forces moved into the Zvornik village of Djulići, killing 60 residents. 982

589. Also in May, local Serbs, including a policeman, attacked Kostjerevo village. Their names are not disclosed for confidentiality and prosecutorial reasons. Apparently, the entire population of the village was taken away to Drinjača where 35 men were beaten and killed in a hall. A dozen teenage boys were taken prisoner and led in the direction of Zvornik. Women were raped and tortured. According to the witness, on 31 May, about 150 women and children were taken in two buses in the direction of Tuzla. 983

590. In June and July, the number of detentions increased and the beatings continued. Both the Bosnian Serb police and Šešelj's men were responsible. 984 A former prisoner related that on 4 June, the detainees were moved to a neighbouring house with another 120 Muslims, and kept there six weeks, during