

probing the Serbs' siege lines on Trebević mountain to the south; at Poljine and ĆuĆ, overlooking the city centre from the north; and at Rajlovac, a district on the north-west where BiH forces set fire to a Serbian stronghold in an unused railway yard earlier in the week. Serbian forces, commanding most of the high ground were reported to have responded to attacks on their heavy-gun emplacements with intensive shelling of the city, without evident regard for targets. 1921/

1. An intense artillery barrage was reported in the city. 1922/

(b) Local reported events

2. In its monthly operational report, UNPROFOR reported that during January everybody in Sarajevo was waiting to hear the results of the Geneva conference, so there were no important changes in the general situation in Sarajevo. According to UNPROFOR, the most important event was the assassination of the BiH Deputy Prime Minister. A "yellow alert" had been promulgated for two days after the incident, but there was no heavy reaction from the BiH side. With regard to utilities, UNPROFOR reported: 1) gas pressure was high enough to provide energy to citizens; 2) the total water supply was up to 40 per cent of the needs; and 3) the electricity situation had improved since the beginning of the month, but remained critical. UNPROFOR reported the total number of people attempting to cross the airport at 10,989. 1923/

(c) International reported events

3. BiH President Alija Izetbegović told reporters that he would stay away from talks at the United Nations in New York intended to step up pressure on Serbs, Croats and Bosnian Muslims. "I am not going to go there. There is no reason for me to do it", he said upon his return to Sarajevo from peace negotiations in Geneva. His decision appeared to negate statements by international peace mediator Lord Owen, who said he was confident that a peace deal was very near. 1924/

K. February 1993

1. 1/2/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Sarajevo was reported quieter with sporadic artillery and sniper fire. UNPROFOR reported that during the past week the level of shelling and military activity throughout Sarajevo was quite low with less than 100 observed incoming rounds on some days. There was a significant increase of shelling on 27 January with about 1,500 observed incoming rounds, some of them falling around the airport, where a UNHCR representative was badly injured and required medical evacuation. Most of the shelling was concentrated around the airport and surrounding area and over the eastern part of the city. UNPROFOR commented that this was apparently due to a Serb national holiday celebrating an historical character responsible for the unification of BiH. 1925/ Source(s): Reuters; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

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

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 10 killed and 55 wounded on this day. 1926/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

4. Sarajevo was quieter, with sporadic artillery and sniper fire reported after a weekend of heavy shelling. 1927/

(b) Local reported events

5. Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić said that the Serbs had agreed to open corridors for humanitarian aid from Belgrade to Sarajevo, and Zagreb to Travnik, Tanjug reported. 1928/

6. UNPROFOR reported that during the past week the number of people attempting to cross the airport reached approximately 400 on most nights, a little higher than the previous week. The number of observed vehicle movements on Mt. Igman continued to be around 40, which seemed to represent activity similar to the previous reporting period. 1929/

(c) International reported events

7. With the reported collapse of the peace talks, EC foreign ministers discussed tightening sanctions. However, British Foreign Secretary Hurd said, "The Community is drawing up a range of possible sanctions, but I don't think anybody is talking about trying to apply them". Owen emphasized the need for pressure, not action, stating that "nothing should be done at the moment". 1930/

8. After meeting with Vance and Owen at the UN, US Secretary of State Christopher questioned the "feasibility" and "practicality" of the Vance-Owen Plan. At a press conference he said "we've been supportive of the process in the hope that both the parties would come into agreement on the process. That's as far as I'm prepared to go" 1931/

2. 2/2/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The city reportedly experienced a generally quiet day. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: An 18 story residential tower in Grbavica; an unidentified funeral procession attended by some 300 people. Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: The top five floors of an 18 story residential tower were reported ablaze in Grbavica; an unidentified funeral procession attended by some 30 people was shelled, killing one and wounding 20 others. Source(s): Reuters.

Sniping Activity: Firefighters were unable to reach an 18 story residential tower ablaze in Grbavica because of sniper fire. Source(s): Reuters.

Casualties: An unidentified funeral procession attended by some 30 people was shelled, killing one and wounding 20 others. The BiH Ministry of Public Health reported one killed and 28 wounded on this day. 1932/ Source(s): Reuters; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

9. The city enjoyed a generally quiet day after heavy shelling over the weekend when it was hit by more than 500 shells. 1933/

10. The top five floors of an 18 story residential tower were reported ablaze in the city's Serb-held district of Grbavica. Fire-fighters were unable to get to the building quickly because of sniping. 1934/

11. The worst attack came when Serb gunners shelled a funeral procession attended by some 300 people. Local reporters said that one person was killed and 20 were wounded, 13 seriously. 1935/

(b) International reported events

12. Vance and Owen implored the US to outline its stance and its policy on BiH. Owen also encouraged President Clinton "to add credibility to the peace settlement by having some Americans on the ground". The negotiating duo refuted claims that talks had broken down and described the parties as "very close" to an accord. 1936/

13. EC ministers said that they would refrain from launching more sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro for fear that such a move would endanger the Vance-Owen peace process. 1937/

14. Representatives of Britain and France stated that they were opposed to lifting the arms embargo. 1938/

15. Despite BiH Government objections, the US supplied Bosnian Serb leader Karadžić with a visa so that he could attend peace talks in New York. The visa only permitted movement within 10 blocks of the UN 1939/

3. 3/2/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Fighting in the day picked up after a brief mid-day lull. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Bosnian Muslim authorities said that eight people were killed (including Veljo Ružičić, a Croatian radio correspondent), and 34 were wounded in Sarajevo in the last 24 hours. 1940/ Source(s): Reuters.

Narrative of Events:

16. Fighting in the city picked up after a brief mid-day lull during which visiting Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo met with BiH President Alija

Izetbegović. 1941/

(b) Local reported events

17. Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo met with BiH President Alija Izetbegović during the mid-day. 1942/

18. A meeting of the BiH Presidency and representatives of parliamentary parties confirmed that Silajdić would represent BiH in the upcoming session of the UN Security Council. 1943/

(c) International reported events

19. Despite three days of pressure from Vance and Owen, the United States still shied away from endorsing the Vance-Owen Plan. White House Communications Director George Stephanopoulos stated that: "the President continues to support a diplomatic solution. He does not specifically embrace or reject the Vance Plan". 1944/

4. 4/2/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Not specified

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: UNPROFOR reported that for the second night in a row, a Serb sniper killed a Bosnian trying to slip across the Sarajevo airport runway. It was also reported that a French foreign legionnaire at the airport was wounded in the right hand by a sniper's bullet. 1945/ Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported two killed and 23 wounded on this day. 1946/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

20. UNPROFOR reported that for the second night in a row, a Serb sniper killed a Bosnian trying to slip across the Sarajevo airport runway. It was also reported that a French foreign legionnaire at the airport was wounded in the right hand by a sniper's bullet. 1947/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported two killed and 23 wounded on this day. 1948/

(b) Local reported events

21. UNPROFOR reported that the number of people caught while trying to cross the airport, by troops using night-vision binoculars and armoured personnel carriers equipped with search lights, rose over the past few months. The number of attempted crossings were: 3,843 in November, 6,717 in December, 10,989 in January and 1,500 in the first three days of February. 1949/

22. BiH President Izetbegović called for air-strikes, a "more speedy way" to end the conflict than the peace process in New York. "Regardless of what the

Security Council does", he said, "we will not accept the plan" because "it implies that genocide can be carried out and awarded". 1950/

23. Responding to the US decision to restrict Radovan Karadžić's movements in New York, Bosnian Serbs reportedly denied US journalists access to Serb-controlled territory in BiH. 1951/

(c) International reported events

24. Lord Owen stated that he believed that the Vance-Owen plan was the only option for the West. "I know the world, the Western world, the United States, Europe--for right or wrong--are not going to intervene", he said, "They're not going to do it and therefore we've got to get a settlement". 1952/

25. In contrast, Bosnian Serb leader Karadžić encouraged the US to endorse the plan, stating, "this plan is not perfect, but we don't have anything better". Sending ground troops, he said, would bring "another Vietnam". 1953/

5. 5/2/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Heavy shelling was reported. Artillery fire was reported in the Hrasno district and other areas. Source(s): Reuters; see also Reuters report on 6/2/93.

Targets Hit: The area near a small hospital in the Hrasnica area; the Hrasno district; Dobrinja; Novo Sarajevo; the city centre; Ilidža; Ilijaš; Grbavica. Source(s): Agence France Presse; Reuters.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Sniper fire was reported to have kept Sarajevo residents scurrying along freezing streets. Source(s): Reuters.

Casualties: SRNA reported that four people were killed and 24 wounded in the shelling of Serb districts. The BiH Public Health Ministry reported eight killed and 35 wounded on this day. 1954/ Source(s): Reuters; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

26. UN troops were reported to have evacuated children from a small hospital near Sarajevo airport in Hrasnica, when the area came under mortar fire. 1955/

27. Sniper fire was reported to have kept Sarajevo residents scurrying along freezing streets and random artillery rounds were reported to have smashed into the Hrasno district. 1956/

28. Bosnian Serbs shelled the Sarajevo districts of Dobrinja, Novo Sarajevo and central parts of the town, Radio Sarajevo said. However, the Bosnian Serb news agency SRNA counter-charged that Muslim shelling of Serb-held districts of Ilidža, Ilijaš and Grbavica killed four people (including a child), and wounded 24. 1957/

(c) International reported events

29. At UN headquarters in New York, mediators Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen began separate talks with each warring faction in hopes of making progress before informal Security Council consultations on Monday. 1958/

30. Top US national security officials spent over two hours discussing US options in BiH. President Clinton refused to endorse the Vance-Owen Plan and opted for a new diplomatic initiative instead of military action. Clinton said that he "applauds" the UN-EC effort but was "reluctant to impose an agreement on the parties to which they do not agree". The Administration reportedly planned to pressure the Serb side to offer more land to the BiH Government. 1959/

6. 6/2/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The city suffered only one outbreak of shelling overnight after being shelled heavily on Friday. UNPROFOR reported some artillery, mortar, heavy machine-gun and small-arms fire in areas near the airport but said that the city had generally been quiet. UN observers, who count about a third of the shell fire, counted 447 shells of all types and 131 fired by the BiH army. 1960/ Source(s): Reuters; Agence France Presse.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Hospitals and the morgue reported two dead and 18 wounded. 1961/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported four killed and 18 wounded. 1962/ Source(s): Reuters; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

31. Sarajevo suffered only one outbreak of grenade blasts overnight after being shelled heavily on Friday. 1963/

(b) Local reported events

32. Serbian forces announced a unilateral cease-fire to start on the following day at 9:00 a.m., with talks to take place at 11:00 a.m. This was accepted by the BiH Government. 1964/

33. Relief flights to Sarajevo were suspended indefinitely after a German transport aeroplane was struck in the propeller by anti-aircraft fire. A crewman was injured in the incident, which caused the German aeroplane to return to Zagreb, Croatia. It was unclear who fired on the aeroplane as it was airborne outside of Zagreb. 1965/

(c) International reported events

34. Speaking from a military conference in Germany, US Secretary of Defense Aspin refuted press claims that President Clinton had ruled out military intervention. 1966/

7. 7/2/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: A group of people standing in line for water were hit by a mortar bomb in the Gazin Han area. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: A water line in the Gazin Han area. Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: Three people were killed and five others wounded when a mortar bomb hit a group waiting for water in the Gazin Han area. Source(s): Reuters.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Crisis Centre said that four people were killed and 23 wounded in Sarajevo in the past 24 hours. Those figures included the people hit while waiting for water. 1967/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported one killed and 17 wounded for the day. 1968/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported, to date: 8,281 killed, missing or dead from cold, or hunger (of which 1,248 were children); 48,315 wounded (of which 12,357 were children); and 14,748 heavily wounded (of which 2,221 were children). 1969/ Source(s): Reuters; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

35. Two women and a child were killed and five people were wounded when a mortar bomb hit a group waiting for water in the Gazin Han area. The mortar was fired from positions held by Serbs in the hills overlooking the city, according to Radio Sarajevo. Another person was wounded nearby by a second mortar bomb. 1970/

(b) International reported events

36. NATO Secretary General Manfred Woerner said that force might be necessary to "remain credible" and to reinvigorate the peace process. 1971/

8. 8/2/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The city was reported as relatively quiet. However, certain sections were hit by sporadic mortar, machine-gun and anti-aircraft fire. UNPROFOR reported that during the last week, shell-fire had been concentrated in the western (airport) area of the city and on the eastern Old Town. The most serious infantry fighting had been in Nedarići and Dobrinja coupled with fighting over the rail yards at Rajlovac. BiH had reportedly built up forces on the u to control the north and west area of the city limits. The Serb forces had responded with a build-up of tanks and artillery. UNPROFOR noted that BiH appeared to want to control movement in the direction of Vogošća and Visoko. Infantry were also reported active in olina Kapa and Batanja, which was estimated to be an attempt to control road communications between Lukavica and the areas north of the city. The Serbs had shelled Grdonj and Koševo hospitals periodically. UNPROFOR reported that front lines had not been altered significantly. UN movements into the city had been hampered on several occasions by protesting Serb women and check points wishing to take parts of the loads from UNHCR vehicles. 1972/ Source(s):

Reuters; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Novi Grad (noon); Novo Sarajevo; Vojničko Polje; Stari Grad; Dobrinja. Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

37. Although relatively quiet, Sarajevo was hit by sporadic mortar, machine-gun and anti-aircraft fire. 1973/ At noon, the Novi Grad (New Town) area was reported as being under heavy bombardments with mortar fire striking at least two other suburbs. 1974/ BiH radio said the situation in Sarajevo was rapidly becoming worse as Serbs started shelling the areas of Novo Sarajevo, Vojničko Polje, Stari Grad and Dobrinja. 1975/

(b) Local reported events

38. International relief flights to Sarajevo resumed after being halted for two days after a German aeroplane was hit with anti-aircraft fire. Reports said that four flights landed in the morning, with a total of 14 due during the day. The flights, ferrying supplies of food and medicine to Sarajevo, were coming from the Croatian port of Split and from US air bases in Germany. 1976/

39. Sarajevo marked its ninth anniversary of hosting the Winter Olympics. 1977/

(c) International reported events

40. Mediators Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen briefed the UN Security Council on their peace plan for BiH. But the plan suffered a setback when Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić told the Belgrade-based Tanjug news agency that he would not accept a map which divided BiH into 10 semi-autonomous provinces along ethnic lines. 1978/

9. 9/2/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Artillery duels and small-arms fire continued in Sarajevo. Source(s): New York Times.

Targets Hit: Hrasno (two shells in the morning); Marin Dvor residential district near the Parliament and Holiday Inn; the Novo Sarajevo district (three shells); the Dobrinja district (several shells). Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: British reports put the number of Bosnian Muslims who had died in and around Sarajevo since November 1992 at 2,000 to 3,000. 1979/ Source(s):

Washington Post.

Narrative of Events:

41. According to Sarajevo Radio, two artillery shells hit the Hrasno district in the morning and Muslim forces returned a single round. Random shelling hit the city during the night, including the residential district of Marijin Dvor, close to Parliament and the Holiday Inn. Three shells landed in the Novo Sarajevo district. There was also small-arms fire during the night in the Novo Sarajevo district. Several shells were fired into the Dobrinja district. 1980/

42. Artillery duels and small-arms fire continued in the Drina River Basin, Sarajevo and a dozen other areas of BiH despite an order by the BiH Army's Chief of Staff, Sefer Halilovic, for an end to offensive operations to allow for repairs to electricity and water lines. International aid flights from Zagreb to Sarajevo were scheduled to resume on Wednesday 1981/

(c) International reported events

43. At the United Nations in New York, mediators Cyrus Vance and David Owen briefed the Security Council on their efforts to bring peace to BiH. Diplomats said their peace plan, negotiated with the three warring factions since September, had little chance of further progress until the new Clinton administration in Washington announced its own policy on BiH. The Vance-Owen plan also suffered a setback yesterday when Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic rejected the map accompanying the plan. 1982/

44. The Clinton Administration reversed US policy by declaring its willingness (once all three sides accepted the Vance-Owen Plan) to put US troops on the ground as peacekeepers. On ABC News a senior official said that "no decisions on committing such forces and no commitments" have been made. However, he conceded that there had been a "general discussion of the need for enforcement of an agreement and a US willingness to participate in such enforcement". 1983/

10. 10/2/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The city was reported quiet during the morning despite sniper fire in the centre and Novo Sarajevo suburb. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: The city was reported quiet during the morning despite sniper fire reported in the centre and Novo Sarajevo suburb. 1984/ Another report said that Sarajevo was quiet except for sniper fire reported in the centre and a northern district. 1985/ Source(s): Reuters.

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

45. The city was reported quiet during the morning with sniper fire reported

in the centre and Novo Sarajevo suburb. 1986/ Another report said that Sarajevo was quiet except for sniper fire reported in the centre and a northern district. 1987/

(b) Local reported events

46. UN mediators met with Serb and Muslim representatives for a second day, at the airport which was being used by relief flights to bring in food and medicine, in a bid to broker a cease-fire while electricity and water service repairs were carried out around the city. 1988/

(c) International reported events

47. In New York, Lord Owen met with the Ambassadors of Canada, New Zealand, Belgium and Venezuela. He later held talks with the US Secretary of State, and the head of UN Peace-keeping Operations, Marak Goulding. 1989/

48. The United States entered the international attempt to halt the bloodshed in the Balkans by naming Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew as special envoy to help broker a truce. Secretary of State Warren Christopher outlined a US initiative that included tougher sanctions against Serbia but stopped short of immediate US military participation, saying that American troops would only be used to enforce a peace accord. 1990/

49. US Secretary of State Christopher condemned Serbian "ethnic cleansing" as "mass murders, systematic beatings, the rapes of Muslims and others, prolonged shelling of innocents in Sarajevo and elsewhere, forced displacement of entire villages, [and] inhumane treatment of prisoners in detention camps". 1991/

11. 11/2/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The city suffered one of its heaviest days of fighting in several weeks with Serb gunners shelling the Old Town area with heavy artillery. Shelling was also reported near the airport. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: The Old Town area; an UNPROFOR armoured personnel carrier at the airport; the airport. Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: Four French soldiers were injured when a mortar directly hit their armoured personnel carrier at the Sarajevo airport. Source(s): Reuters.

Sniping Activity: An unidentified American freelance photographer working for Reuters was shot in the foot by a sniper as he drove west on the airport road, known locally as "snipers' alley". 1992/ The airport also was reported to have received heavy sniper fire since early in the morning. Source(s): Reuters.

Casualties: Four French soldiers were injured when a mortar directly hit their armoured personnel carrier at Sarajevo airport. The BiH Crisis Centre said that in the past 24 hours, 10 people had been killed in Sarajevo. 1993/ Source(s): Reuters.

Narrative of Events:

50. UN relief flights from Zagreb to Sarajevo were temporarily suspended in mid-afternoon because of heavy shelling at the airport, according to the UNHCR spokesman Peter Kessler. 1994/

51. UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali protested the launching today of a Muslim counter-offensive of shelling in a Sarajevo suburb. 1995/ Two French UN soldiers were wounded and UN humanitarian aid flights were suspended. New attacks on the Serb area of Ilidža, near the city's airport, erupted after Secretary of State Christopher appealed to all sides on Wednesday to stop their heavy-weapons fire. 1996/

52. Sarajevo suffered one of its heaviest days of fighting in several weeks. Serb gunners hit the city's Old Town with heavy artillery. Muslims and Croats fought back with mortars, grenades and small-arms fire. The wave of fighting took place hours after the new Clinton administration in the United States threw its support behind the UN-European Community peace plan and said that it would help enforce any agreement with military strength. 1997/

53. Four French soldiers were injured when a mortar shell hit their armoured vehicle at Sarajevo airport. A Reuters reporter saw the shell hitting the armoured personnel carrier at 1:00 p.m. and an ambulance taking away the members of UNPROFOR. The airport had sustained heavy mortar, small-arms and sniper fire since early in the morning. The four were members of a French paratroop battalion protecting the airport which included two companies drawn from a Legion unit. A French army official said that two of the wounded soldiers were in serious condition and that one had already lost an arm. In accordance with Legion practices of shielding their men's identities, the army gave no personal information about the four or their nationalities. 1998/

(b) Local reported events

54. UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali protested the launching today of a Muslim counter-offensive of shelling in a Sarajevo suburb. 1999/

55. To dramatize the plight of the Muslims in eastern BiH, the government announced today that it would prevent the UN distribution of humanitarian aid in Sarajevo, until relief supplies reached the eastern region of BiH. 2000/

(c) International reported events

56. Lord Owen held talks with Radovan Karadžić and the Greek special envoy. 2001/

57. Mr. Vance met with Yugoslav Foreign Minister Ilija Djukić, while Lord Owen briefed EC Ambassadors. The co-chairmen also held bilateral meetings with Karadžić and Papoulias, Under-Secretary in the Greek Foreign Ministry. 2002/

58. Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić and his delegation left New York for home and agreed to return, if necessary, for further negotiations. 2003/

59. A US human rights group brought a case against Bosnian Serb leader Karadžić before the New York federal district court. It charged him with ordering the rape of Muslim women. 2004/

12. 12/2/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: BiH forces attempting to break the siege of the city renewed an offensive at the western end of the city where commanders sought to punch through Serbian lines. Infantry attacks by BiH forces prompted heavy shelling of civilian districts of the city. Source(s): New York Times.

Targets Hit: Unnamed civilian districts of the city; the airport area. Source(s): New York Times.

Description of Damage: While unloading relief trucks, five UN soldiers were struck by fragments from a mortar barrage which hit the Sarajevo airport. Source(s): New York Times.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: While unloading relief trucks, five UN soldiers serving with the UN peace-keeping force, were struck by fragments from a mortar barrage that hit the Sarajevo airport. 2005/ At least 20 people were reported killed or wounded on this day. 2006/ Source(s): New York Times.

Narrative of Events:

60. BiH forces attempting to break the siege of Sarajevo renewed a probing offensive at the western end of the city, where BiH commanders sought to punch through Serbian lines towards BiH-held territory to the north and west. Infantry attacks by the BiH forces prompted heavy shelling of civilian districts of the city, with at least 20 people reported killed or wounded. Five UNPROFOR soldiers were struck by fragments from a mortar barrage that hit the Sarajevo airport as they were unloading relief trucks. 2007/

(b) Local reported events

61. The Sarajevo Government cautiously backed the US effort to help bring an end to the Balkan war, but residents of the besieged capital were disappointed that no military aid was in the offing. 2008/

62. The United Nations announced that it hoped to begin flying food into Sarajevo from Italy in a few days, replacing Zagreb as a safer main centre for its aid airlift. This announcement followed the 6 February incident when anti-aircraft artillery was launched at a German humanitarian flight. 2009/

(c) International reported events

63. Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev stated that his country intended to pursue an independent policy in the Balkans. 2010/

64. In Paris one of four French soldiers wounded in Sarajevo on Thursday died of his injuries, French military officials said today. The latest death brought the number of French military personnel killed in action or accidents in the former Yugoslavia to 12. 2011/

13. 13/2/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: There was heavy shelling reported of civilian districts around the airport and UNPROFOR headquarters and fighting during the night in the Muslim quarter of Hrasno. More than 1,500 shell rounds were counted by UNPROFOR. Source(s): New York Times, UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Civilian districts around the airport; UNPROFOR headquarters. Source(s): New York Times.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Sniper fire was reported in Sarajevo. Source(s): New York Times.

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

65. There was heavy shelling of civilian districts around Sarajevo airport and UNPROFOR HQ in the city and fighting during the night in the Muslim quarter of Hrasno. Sniping and shelling was reported in Sarajevo. 2012/ UNPROFOR counted more than 1,500 shell rounds fired. 2013/

(b) Local reported events

66. French General Phillipe Morillon accused BiH troops of deliberately attacking the French Foreign Legion at Sarajevo airport. Morillon said that an investigation of the craters had proved the rounds were fired Thursday from the area of Butmir, a BiH-held suburb beyond the airport. He said he had lodged a strong protest with President Alija Izetbegović who had promised to investigate and charge the commander responsible. The attack came in the midst of a pitched battle between BiH army and Serb troops which included heavy shelling across the airport runway and infantry attacks with several BiH and Serb held suburbs around the airport. The fighting continued on Friday and Saturday, but it was unclear whether either side had gained any ground. 2014/

67. The boycott of humanitarian aid supplies by BiH's Muslim-led government forced UN peacekeepers to close Sarajevo airport Saturday because there was no more room to store incoming supplies. BiH authorities in Sarajevo had said that they would refuse aid for Sarajevo until UN relief convoys started getting emergency food and medical supplies through to 100,000 starving Muslims trapped by Serb forces in eastern BiH. 2015/

(c) International reported events

68. US Special Envoy Batholomew reported that his meeting in Moscow with Russian Foreign Minister Kozyrev had been "very, very positive". Russian leaders, however, reportedly promised to oppose tighter sanctions against Serbia. They also insisted that peace be attained by negotiation and not by force. 2016/

14. 14/2/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: BiH forces launched a reported artillery and infantry attack against the Ilid)a district and Lukavica. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: Lukavica. Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported to date: 8,327 killed, missing, or dead from cold, or hunger (of which 1,268 were children); 48,557 wounded (of which 12,499 were children); and 14,894 heavily wounded (of which 2,294 were children). 2017/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

69. BiH government forces launched a heavy attack against Serbs in Sarajevo's Ilid)a district, near the airport. Tanjug, reported that Muslim forces launched an artillery and infantry assault on the Sarajevo suburb of Lukavica. BiH government continued Sarajevo's UN aid boycott. 2018/

(b) Local reported events

70. Mr. Jose-Maria Mediluce of Spain flew to Sarajevo to deal with BiH's decision to halt all relief convoys headed for Sarajevo. 2019/

(c) International reported events

71. The UN countered BiH's refusal to accept relief supplies for Sarajevo by suspending all aid flights into the capital. The UN military command in Sarajevo and UN relief officials in Geneva said there was no point in risking the lives of international air crews to fly in food and medicine if the aid was not going to reach Sarajevo's 380,000 residents. 2020/

15. 15/2/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Heavy shelling was reported in the city, accompanied by heavy fighting in the outlying districts. BiH forces were reported to have maintained artillery fire throughout the day in Ilid)a. In its weekly summary, UNPROFOR reported that from the 7 February cease-fire to 11 February shelling decreased within the area of the city. Shelling throughout the week was concentrated in the Butmir, Stup, Stup-Brdo, Ned)ari)i, Mojmilo, Dobrinja, Ilid)a, Lukavica, Rajlovac, Grdonj and Sedrenik areas. UNPROFOR reported that with little success, BiH forces continued their attempt to cut the ring road east of the city to restrict Serb movement. In the Rajlovac area fighting reportedly continued throughout the week. Serb artillery throughout the week sporadically shelled the whole city. The positioning of BiH mortars near the PTT building had continued to attract fire from the Serbs, putting its personnel at risk. On 11 February at 6:15 a.m., the cease-fire was broken by a large amount of mortar and artillery activity when the BiH army started to shell Ilid)a from Igman mountain. The Serb forces

reacted by shelling the western part of the city. At approximately 1:15 p.m., the BiH forces attacked Ilid)a from Stup and Butmir with infantry. The Serbs deployed tanks to the eastern part of the runway. UNPROFOR reported that there were some indications that up to 10 Serb tanks were deployed west of Ilid)a to support Serb troops. It was believed that the BiH forces failed to take any ground. During the attack on Ilid)a, UNPROFOR reported that the BiH forces deliberately targeted the French Battalion base. One mortar round was fired from Butmir which hit an APC injuring four soldiers, one of whom subsequently died. During the week there had been a relatively large number of "narrow escapes" for UN personnel: The UN checkpoint had been shelled and one UNMO vehicle suffered damage. UNPROFOR reported that it believed that the UN was being deliberately targeted in Sarajevo. 2021/ Source(s): Reuters; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Unidentified parts of the city; Stup; Azi)i; Ilid)a. Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: UNPROFOR reported that the Maršal Tito barracks was hit by sniper fire at 11:25 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.. 2022/ Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Casualties: According to Bosnian Serb radio in Pale, BiH forces kept up artillery fire throughout the day on the Serb suburb of Ilid)a. Five people, including three civilians were killed and several others were wounded, it said. 2023/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported eight killed and 70 wounded on this day. 2024/ Source(s): Reuters; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

72. On this day, artillery shells hit Sarajevo, sometimes at the rate of one a minute as Serb tanks and infantry attacked BiH defenders in the strategic western suburbs of Stup and Azi)i. Stup and Azi)i were reported to be the last BiH-held suburbs west of the main highway linking Sarajevo with its airport. The towns would give Serb forces complete control of the vital road to the airport. It was speculated that the attacks on Stup and Azi)i were apparently a response to what UN observers and Serb officials described as a major BiH offensive against the Serb-held town of Ilid)a. Ilid)a, between the airport and Stup, had come under repeated mortar and infantry attacks from BiH forces. It was reported that if the BiH forces lost the two suburbs, it would be a defeat reminiscent of the Serbs' capture of Oteš, just west of Stup, in December. 2025/

73. Samir Ladzo, operations officer for BiH's 1st Brigade in Sarajevo said his troops had destroyed one Serb tank in the previous 24 hours. But he said the Serbs were using at least six other tanks along their Stup-Azi)i front. He said Serb forces had broken through the first line of defence around Azi)i Sunday night after a BiH unit pulled back under a tank assault. The Serb breakthrough forced the defenders in one sector to withdraw several hundred yards to an inadequate second line where soldiers had been trying to dig trenches deeper while under tank, artillery and mortar fire. Ladzo said that one of his men had been killed and three wounded since Sunday night. 2026/

74. According to Bosnian Serb radio in Pale, BiH forces kept up artillery fire throughout the day on the Serb suburb of Ilid)a. Five people, including three civilians, were killed and several others were wounded, it said. 2027/

16. 16/2/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Sporadic shelling and shooting was reported in the Old Town. Serb and BiH troops traded small-arms and machine-gun fire in the suburbs of Stup and Azići where there had been reported fighting over the past five days. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: The Old Town. Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: UNPROFOR reported that the Maršal Tito barracks was again hit by sniper fire. 2028/ Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported nine killed and 49 wounded on this day. 2029/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

75. Serb and BiH troops traded small-arms and machine-gun fire in the western suburbs of Stup and Azići where there had been reported fighting over the past five days. 2030/

76. Sporadic shelling and shooting was reported in the city's Old Town. 2031/

(b) Local reported events

77. For the fifth day in a row the Muslim-led Sarajevo city council refused to distribute relief food to its citizens. UN officials criticized this decision because it increased the level of suffering. BiH government officials said that the suffering of their own people was the only weapon they had left to jolt the international community into action. 2032/

(c) International reported events

78. Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić said that he expected the pressure on Serbs during talks in New York to continue. He said that the the Serbian delegation would propose that further talks be held in Geneva rather than New York, where he believed that the Serbian side was not on equal footing. 2033/

17. 17/2/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The Battle for Stup and Azići was reported to be in its seventh day as west and central Sarajevo was shelled. The situation was reported as quiet overnight, but fighting picked up in the afternoon. Although Serb radio said that Stup fell on this day, BiH soldiers and ammunition were reportedly rushed through the town to the front throughout the day. Source(s): Press Association; Reuters.

Targets Hit: West and central portions of the city; the Koševo Hospital; the main bakery; the UNPROFOR Bistrik barracks; the UNPROFOR Tito barracks. Source(s): Reuters; Press Association; UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: Two people were wounded when a shell hit an operating theatre at the Koševo Hospital; five shells were reported to have hit the city's main bakery and there were reports that 1 person was killed. Source(s): Reuters; Press Association; UNPROFOR.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Two people were wounded when a shell hit an operating theatre at the Koševo Hospital; five shells were reported to have hit the city's main bakery and there were reports that one person was killed. The BiH Public Health Ministry reported eight killed and 51 wounded on this day. 2034/ Source(s): Reuters; Press Association; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

79. The Battle for Stup and Azići, two Sarajevo suburbs on the western flank of the city's vital airport road, was reported to be in its seventh day. BiH reports said that the situation was quiet overnight, but that heavy fighting picked up during the afternoon. Although Serb radio broadcast that Stup fell on this day, BiH soldiers and ammunition were reported as being rushed through the town to the front throughout the day. Local commanders said the situation in neighbouring Azići was difficult, but they vowed not to surrender the two towns. The BiH defence of Stup and Azići was reported as complicated by the enormous disparity of firepower between BiH forces and Serbs. Drawing upon stores of the former Yugoslav national army, the Serbs utilized tanks, heavy machine-guns and artillery in battle. Although Serb lines were within range of BiH artillery on nearby Igman mountain, the BiH forces had only a few tanks and not much ammunition. It was reported that their defence depended mainly upon fighters using small-arms and home-made anti-armour grenades. 2035/

80. West and central Sarajevo were shelled and shells hit Sarajevo's Koševo hospital and the main bakery. The hospital said that two people were wounded when a shell hit an operating theatre at the main hospital. Five shells were reported to have hit the bakery. Sarajevo radio said that one person was killed, but staff members at the plant said they did not know of any deaths. The bakery had stopped producing bread because it had run out of diesel fuel for its electricity generators. The fuel was provided as part of UN aid, but the bakery, along with the rest of Sarajevo, had refused to accept supplies from the UN until aid reached Muslims trapped in eastern BiH. 2036/

81. UNPROFOR reported that two monitoring observation posts were evacuated after Serb forces threatened to shell them. It was also reported that the Bistrik and Maršal Tito barracks were hit by shells and mortars. 2037/

(b) Local reported events

82. It was reported that the fighting in and around the city had cut electricity, gas and water mains. With midday temperatures hovering near freezing, General Phillipe Morillon, commander of the UN peacekeepers in BiH, called for a cease-fire so that utilities (which served both sides), could be repaired. The UN forces said that the BiH government and the Serbs had agreed in principle and were trying to work out details of a truce. 2038/

83. Citing safety concerns, UN High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata said land convoys and airlifts to Sarajevo would be stopped and all UN personnel would be withdrawn with the exception of a skeleton staff. 2039/ BiH President Alija Izetbegović reacted angrily to the suspension of aid to his Republic, accusing the UN of engaging in "blackmail of the rich against

the poor". 2040/

(c) International reported events

84. US officials said that they were considering air-drop relief operations that they hoped would minimize the risks and maximize the effectiveness of aid deliveries. 2041/

18. 18/2/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The BiH army was reported to have attacked Ilid)a and UNPROFOR closed the roads in the area as the fighting intensified with artillery barrages and infantry surges. Serb forces were reported to have continued their attack on the western gateway to the city and fighting was reported close to the airport and to the UNPROFOR headquarters. The city was reported to have had a relatively quiet night with occasional shellfire. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Targets Hit: Ilid)a; the area near the UNPROFOR headquarters; the UNPROFOR French Battalion's vehicles; the Maršal Tito barracks. Source(s): Agence France Presse; UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: The UNPROFOR French Battalion was hit by two shell rounds which damaged some vehicles. Source(s): Agence France Presse; UNPROFOR.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported seven killed and 77 wounded on this day. 2042/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

85. The BiH army was reported to have attacked the nearby Serb stronghold of Ilid)a. UNPROFOR once again closed roads in the area as the fighting intensified with artillery barrages accompanied by infantry surges. Commander Frewer of UNPROFOR said that BiH infantrymen attacked Ilid)a in the morning as the army's gunners laid down artillery and mortar fire. 2043/

86. Serb forces were reported to have continued their attack on the western gateway to the city. Fighting was reported close to the airport and the UNPROFOR headquarters located in the post and telegraph building where a spokesman said that contingency plans had been drawn to protect its personnel. It was reported that shells were coming in so close that personnel in the building, and around it, had to dive for cover. 2044/

87. UNPROFOR reported that the French Battalion was hit by two rounds, possibly 120 millimetre artillery shells which damaged some vehicles. The Maršal Tito barracks were also hit by several mortar rounds. 2045/

88. Sarajevo had a relatively quiet night with only reported occasional shells coming from Serb gunners on surrounding mountainsides. 2046/

(b) International reported events

89. Tanjug reported that the Bosnian Serb delegation to the peace talks, including Radovan Karadžić, would not be going to New York for negotiations. The delegation wrote to the conference co-chairmen asking for the talks to be transferred back to Geneva. 2047/

90. The Russian Parliament voted unanimously to ask the UN to lift sanctions against Serbia and levy them against Croatia. 2048/

19. 19/2/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Military observers reported 1,074 artillery rounds hitting BiH government positions in and around Sarajevo. Only 15 artillery rounds were observed hitting Serb positions. 2049/ Serb forces were reported as continuing to blast suburbs of key importance for control of the road to the airport. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: Unidentified suburbs near the airport; Mt. Igman; BiH government positions in and around Sarajevo. Source(s): Reuters; UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Snipers were reported active in the Novo Sarajevo district. Source(s): Reuters.

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported three killed and 28 wounded on this day. 2050/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

91. Serb forces were reported as continuing to blast Sarajevo suburbs of key importance for control of the road to the city's airport. In the city, Sarajevo radio reported that heavy machine-gun exchanges were heard in the area around the Parliament and that snipers were active in the Novo Sarajevo district. 2051/

92. At 7:00 p.m., UNPROFOR reported a major explosion on Mt. Igman resulting in a shock wave carrying as far as Sarajevo. 2052/

(b) Local reported events

93. Red Cross officials said that Sarajevo soup kitchens would begin closing at the weekend because they were running out of food supplies. 2053/

(c) International reported events

94. Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali overruled the UNHCR's Sadako Ogata, and ordered that suspended humanitarian aid be resumed as soon as possible. 2054/

20. 20/2/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Tanjug reported that Serb forces had pushed BiH forces back around the key suburbs of Stup and Aziqi. The main battle had been for a strategic stretch of open ground at Aziqi where defenders had attempted to hold trenches guarding the west entrance to the city. BiH soldiers armed with rifles and anti-tank weapons were reported under heavy fire from Serb tanks and anti-aircraft machine-guns flanking the BiH positions on three sides. BiH casualties were reportedly high. Source(s): Reuters; New York

Times.

Targets Hit: The Rajlovac area of the city. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: The BiH army reportedly fired two wire guided anti-tank missiles in the Rajlovac area of the city. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported six killed and 68 wounded on this day. 2055/ Last week, the BiH government said that it had the names of 8,327 people who been killed in Sarajevo or were missing for more than three months, and another 63,451 who had been wounded. Health Ministry information suggested a soaring suicide rate, a near doubling of abortions, and a 50 per cent drop in births. 2056/ Source(s): New York Times; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

95. Tanjug reported Serbs had pushed BiH forces back around the key Sarajevo suburbs of Stup And Azi[□]i, which commanded the road to the airport. 2057/

96. The main battle had been for a strategic stretch of open ground at Azi[□]i, on the western end of the city where BiH defenders had attempted to hold trenches guarding the western entrance to the city. BiH soldiers armed with rifles and anti-tank weapons, were reported as heading out in twos and threes toward their trenches which were under heavy fire from Serb tanks and anti-aircraft machine-guns flanking the BiH positions on three sides. Casualties among the BiH forces reportedly ran close to 50 per cent. 2058/

97. UNPROFOR reported that the BiH army fired two wire guided anti-tank missiles in the Rajlovac area of the city. UNPROFOR also commented that the BiH forces were believed to hold Red Arrow anti-tank missiles. 2059/

(b) Local reported events

98. UNPROFOR reported that President Izetbegovi[□] called for a cease-fire at 6:00 p.m.. 2060/

99. Sarajevo was once again entirely without main-line electricity and running water as a result of a new round of brutal fighting on hills to the north-west, where the only transmission line still operating was cut last week by mortar shells. 2061/

21. 21/2/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Shelling reportedly intensified near the middle of the day. In its weekly summary, UNPROFOR reported that Serb forces counter-attacked against Stup on 14 February and during six days of fighting had pushed the BiH forces back to their secondary lines of defence within Stup. There was a lull in the battle on 20 February. There were reports that two tanks and up to 20 APCs took part in the attack. The Serbs confirmed that they had two tanks destroyed in the fighting in Stup. During the attack, Serb artillery engaged the western end of the city. It was also believed that Serb forces may have manoeuvred up to 20 tanks in the Ilid)a area. There were

conflicting reports that these were M84s but more likely T55s. The BiH forces attacked Rajlovac and Vogošća during the week but with little or no success. Supporting fire for the BiH forces came from Visoko and from Mount Igman. There were also reports of an attack against Hadžići west of Sarajevo supported by artillery fire from Mount Igman. UNPROFOR commented that the attacks carried out by BiH forces and the counter-attack by the Serbs was almost identical to the situation during the week of 1 December. 2062/ Source(s): Reuters; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported five killed and 30 wounded on this day. 2063/ It also reported to date: 8,373 killed, missing, or dead from cold, or hunger (of which 1,273 were children); 48,930 wounded (of which 12,619 were children); and 15,080 heavily wounded (of which 2,354 were children). 2064/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

100. Sarajevo radio said that Serb shelling of the city intensified near the middle of the day and that two women were killed. 2065/

(b) Local reported events

101. The BiH Government called on the Sarajevo city council today to lift its boycott of humanitarian aid and declared a unilateral cease-fire to facilitate aid shipments. 2066/

102. In the 11th day of their refusal to accept further UN food shipments until aid was provided to the starving towns in the east, residents of Serb-besieged Sarajevo welcomed a US airdrop proposal as a sign that Washington was finally moving to ease their suffering. 2067/

(c) International reported events

103. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Sadako Ogata, issued a statement saying that her agency was resuming full operations in BiH after receiving assurances that the country's warring factions would no longer block aid convoys or distribution. The statement said Ogata had agreed with UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali that operations would restart "as soon as possible, perhaps as early as Monday". 2068/

22. 22/2/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Not specified

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported nine killed and 31 wounded on this day. 2069/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

104. No reported incidents.

(b) Local reported events

105. Momčilo Krajišnik, President of the Assembly, said that a delegation of Bosnian Serbs would attend the next New York round of talks. It was still uncertain, however, whether Radovan Karadžić would head this delegation. 2070/

106. Bosnian Serb leader Karadžić stated that the US potential air-drop operations were not necessary because "there have been hundreds of convoys through Serb territory". UN Commander Morillon insisted that US air-drops were "unnecessary" and would only cause an "explosion". 2071/

(c) International reported events

107. The UN Security Council unanimously approved Resolution 808, which assigned the Secretary-General the task of preparing a proposal establishing an international war crimes tribunal within 60 days. 2072/

23. 23/2/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: For the past three days fighting in the capital was reported to have been at its lowest level in weeks, with as few as 15 shells per day, compared with more than 1,000 on some days last week. 2073/ In the evening, Serb forces launched an artillery attack on the Old Town area. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: The Old Town area (evening); an unidentified mosque in the Old Town area. Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: Reports from the Old Town area said that at least five people were killed and 20 wounded in the day's shelling. Source(s): Reuters.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Reports from the Old Town area said that at least five people were killed and 20 wounded in the day's shelling. The BiH Public Health Ministry reported one killed and 18 wounded on this day. 2074/ Source(s): Reuters; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

108. Serb forces launched an artillery attack in the evening on Sarajevo's Old Town, with at least five shells hitting a mosque as Muslims gathered for evening prayers at the start of the holy month of Ramadan. Reports from the district said at least five people were killed and 20 wounded. 2075/

(b) Local reported events

109. The BiH government announced a cease-fire in Sarajevo. 2076/

(c) International reported events

110. At the White House, UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali approved air-drop operations after receiving assurances that the US would coordinate operations with the UN. He also issued a joint statement with President Clinton calling on the warring factions to return to the peace table for negotiations. 2077/

24. 24/2/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Shelling around Sarajevo was reported to have dropped in intensity following a unilateral cease-fire declared by the BiH government on Saturday. Serb forces were reported to have captured Azići. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: The area near the Had)ijska mosque; the areas near several mosques in Sarajevo. Source(s): Washington Post.

Description of Damage: A shell hit the home of Senadin Seta, age 32, at 4:50 p.m., injuring his wife and killing his two year-old daughter. The home was less than 100 yards from Sarajevo's Had)ijska mosque. Source(s): Washington Post.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported four killed and 12 wounded on this day. 2078/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

111. Serb forces were reported to have captured the key western suburb of Azići. A Reuters television crew went into the suburb on Tuesday and found it "completely destroyed". Heavy fighting broke out nearly two weeks ago when the Serbs attacked the western suburbs. There was speculation that with the fall of Azići fighting would be concentrated in Stup, its BiH-held neighbouring suburb. If the Serbs captured Stup the western entrance to Sarajevo would be wide open. The Serb attacks on Azići and Stup followed a BiH government push against the Serb-held stronghold of Ilid)a. On some days, more than a thousand shells were reported to have fallen in the contested areas. The Serbs said that they captured Azići without a single soldier killed and only a handful wounded. "We don't want to lose more soldiers, so we decided on a new tactic: we destroy a place before we occupy it", said Svetozar Guzina, deputy commander of the Serb forces in the area. 2079/

112. A shell hit the home of Senadin Seta, age thirty-two at 4:50 p.m., injuring his wife and killing his two year-old daughter. The Seta family lived less than 100 yards from Sarajevo's Had)ijska mosque. Bombs were reported to have landed near several other mosques at that time. 2080/

113. Shelling around Sarajevo was reported to have dropped in intensity following a unilateral cease-fire declared by the BiH government on Saturday.

This was reported to be the 19th such cease-fire. 2081/
(b) Local reported events

114. In the evening, Radovan Karadžić said that he would head the Serb delegation at the New York talks and that the co-chairmen had given him strong assurances that the Muslim side would be headed by Izetbegović. 2082/ He said that he would participate in negotiations despite threats to start legal proceedings against him for having ordered the rape of Muslim women. 2083/

115. A statement by the Yugoslav General Staff described "American interference" as increasingly drastic and unbearable". The statement described air-drops as part of a "ruthless imperial ultimatum". JNA officials said that US aeroplanes would inevitably draw fire and would serve as a convenient pretext for greater Western military intervention. They warned that "appropriate steps" would be taken in response. Bosnian Serb leader Karadžić described the plan as a "highly uncalled for, very risky, and dangerous decision". 2084/

(c) International reported events

116. Russia released an eight-point Balkan peace plan which included measures to tighten the arms embargo and toughen sanctions against Croatia. The initiative was designed to win support from Russian parliamentarians who believed too much blame had been placed on the Serbs. Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said that "it is impossible in this conflict to determine who is right and who is wrong". The plan noted the possibility that a Russian contingent would join the multinational force dispatched. 2085/

25. 25/2/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Shelling was reported to have intensified around Sarajevo, with the UN recording thirty-three rounds fired on Serb-held positions against 148 on BiH-held territory. 2086/ Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported two killed and 11 wounded on this day. 2087/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

117. No reported incidents.

(b) International reported events

118. The peace conference co-chairmen met with Bosnian Croat leader Boban and BiH Prime Minister Akmeđević to discuss implementation of the peace plan. 2088/

119. President Clinton publicly announced upcoming air-drop operations. He said that they were "strictly for humanitarian purposes" and would be carried

out "without regard to ethnic or religious affiliation". Bosnian Serb leaders reportedly instructed their troops not to fire on US aircraft. 2089/

26. 26/2/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Sarajevo had been reported as relatively quiet in the morning, but in the afternoon the city suffered a heavy round of artillery bombardment. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: The area near the Presidency (two shells); the vicinity of the Holiday Inn (four shells); the area near a water dispensing supplies to citizens; the Klas-Šarko and Velepekara buildings. Source(s): Reuters; Government of BiH.

Description of Damage: Two shells landed near the Presidency building, setting a building on fire two blocks away, and four shells landed near the Holiday Inn Hotel during a lunchtime attack. Staff at two hospitals said that they received 13 casualties; one shell landed near a water tanker dispensing supplies to citizens. The tanker was holed by shrapnel from the blast. The Klas-Šarko and Velepekara buildings (the city's only providers of essential foodstuffs such as flour and bread) were also shelled, according to a report from the Government of BiH. Since the first attack on 17 May 1992, the buildings had sustained 27 direct hits from 53 projectiles launched against them. Damage inflicted on the buildings, equipment and vehicles had been serious. Seven retail outlets had also been attacked. One employee was killed due to shelling during this period and six were wounded, among them three drivers during a delivery to a retail outlet. 2090/ Source(s): Reuters; Government of BiH.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Staff at two hospitals said that they received 13 casualties from the lunchtime attack. The BiH Public Health Ministry reported three killed and 10 wounded on this day. 2091/ Source(s): Reuters; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

120. Sarajevo had been reported as relatively quiet in the morning with occasional bursts of machine-gun and small-arms fire. 2092/

121. At least 13 people were wounded when six shells were fired into the city in the first heavy artillery bombardment of Sarajevo in nearly a week. Two shells landed near the Presidency Building, setting a building on fire two blocks away. Four shells landed in the vicinity of the Holiday Inn Hotel used by foreign journalists. One shell landed near a water tanker dispensing supplies to Sarajevo's citizens. In an attempt to fight the fire, residents used buckets to collect water from the leaking tanker, holed by shrapnel from the blast. 2093/

(c) International reported events

122. BiH President Izetbegović met with US Vice President Gore in the afternoon. Silajdić was already in the US, and the rest of BiH delegation was expected. Mate Boban, head of the Croatian Delegation and Prime Minister Mile Akmadžić, another member of the BiH delegation, arrived earlier. Akmadžić sent a letter to US Senator Joseph Biden which denied the right of Izetbegović and Silajdić to represent and speak in the name of all three ethnic communities of BiH. In response, Biden made it clear that he recognized Silajdić as a representative of BiH and that he believed that Silajdić had sought help for

all ethnic communities. 2094/

27. 27/2/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: UN observers said that 24 shells landed on Serb held areas of the city and 71 landed on BiH government-controlled territory. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: The area near the Presidency building (the street between the Presidency and the International Press Centre); the area near the Holiday Inn (two shells overnight). Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: One man was killed and at least three other people were injured when a shell hit near the Presidency building in a street between the Presidency and the International Press Centre. The road was littered with shattered stonework from the Presidency and broken glass. Source(s): Reuters.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: One man was killed and at least three other people were injured when a shell hit near the Presidency building in a street between the Presidency and the International Press Centre. The BiH Public Health Ministry reported six killed and thirty-one wounded on this day. 2095/ Source(s): Reuters; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

123. One man was killed and at least three other people, including a young girl, were injured when a shell hit near the Presidency Building. The shell landed in a street between the Presidency and the International Press Centre. The road was littered with shattered stonework from the Presidency and broken glass. Snow and ice were blackened by the blast. Guards inside the Presidency Building said that the man had been killed outright by the blast. A doctor at Koševo hospital said that a young girl and an older couple had been hurt. 2096/

124. Sarajevo radio said that two shells also fell overnight in the central district near the Holiday Inn Hotel.

(b) Local reported events

125. Two US aeroplanes dropped one million leaflets over eastern BiH. The leaflets described impending food drops; they warned prospective recipients to take cover; and they implored soldiers not to fire at the aeroplanes. A radio operator in Goražde reported that many of the warning leaflets had landed 20 kilometres from the town. 2097/

(c) International reported events

126. After meeting with US National Security Advisor Anthony Lake and Vice President Al Gore for well over an hour at the White House, BiH President Izetbegović said that US involvement "will give a new impulse" to negotiations down the road. 2098/

28. 28/2/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Shelling was reported in the Old Town area and in the outskirts of the city. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: The Old Town area of the city; the outskirts of the city. Source(s): Reuters; Government of BiH.

Description of Damage: According to a report from the Government of BiH detailing damage to the Olympic Centre "Skenderija", 300 projectiles were launched against this building since the first attack on 2 May 1992, 149 of the highest calibre. Marko Starčević, a security guard in the building, was killed by shelling during this period. Most of the building (65 per cent to 70 per cent) has been damaged by shelling and the ensuing fires. Damage has been estimated at \$8,360,000 US 2099/ Source(s): Reuters; Government of BiH.

Sniping Activity: Sniper fire in the city outskirts was described as intense at times. Source(s): Reuters.

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported six killed and 30 wounded on this day. 2100/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported to date: 8,414 killed, missing, or dead from cold, or hunger (of which 1,275 were children); 49,068 wounded (of which 12,703 were children); and 15,149 heavily wounded (of which 2,396 were children). 2101/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

127. Sarajevo radio said that shellfire killed one person and wounded another in the Old Town area of the city. It also said that shells landed in the city's outskirts and sniper fire was intense at times. 2102/

(b) Local reported events

128. In its monthly operational report, UNPROFOR reported that it observed a significant increase in the number of rounds fired. On 10 February a solution was proposed to establish an agreement on utility repair missions. UNPROFOR characterized this agreement as a failure and noted that 46 repair missions had been planned, thirty-three completed, and 13 canceled (five for safety reasons, eight for technical reasons). With regard to airport crossings, UNPROFOR reported that during the last two weeks of the month (crediting the French Battalion), there were no casualties. UNPROFOR, however, noted an increased number of crossing attempts totalling 12,850. 2103/

L. March 1993

1. 1/3/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Sarajevo was shelled overnight and into the day. UNPROFOR reported in its weekly summary that the BiH unilateral cease-fire at the beginning of the week did not hold, but that there was a marked decrease in shelling, mortaring and shooting. UNPROFOR noted that when the Serbs fired into the city, they used mortars for the majority of the time and not artillery. UNPROFOR reported that the BiH forces carried out a number of small attacks. First they attacked into Ilidža from Butmir and Sokolovac. On 25

February they attacked Azići from Stup. This resulted in an upturn in heavy fire from the Serbs. UNPROFOR reported that information had been received which indicated that the commanders of the 3rd and 4th Battalions which withdrew their forces from Stup in last week's battle, had been executed for withdrawing without orders and contributing to the collapse of the BiH front line. UNPROFOR reported further that it believed that both sides had resupplied their front lines and were preparing for a new offensive. UNPROFOR commented that Sarajevo had been very quiet in comparison to previous weeks. Throughout the week, both sides appeared to have been firing mortars as opposed to heavy artillery, which according to UNPROFOR indicated that they required a resupply of artillery ammunition. 2104/ Source(s): Reuters; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Stup (early morning); the city centre (three shells); the Old Town area. Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 12 killed and thirty-six wounded on this day. 2105/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

129. According to Sarajevo radio, Sarajevo was shelled overnight as three US military cargo aeroplanes dropped emergency supplies into east BiH. The western suburb of Stup was bombarded for 30 minutes in the early hours of the morning. Three shells landed in the city centre and the Old Town area also came under fire. 2106/ UNPROFOR reported continued reinforcement of the Stup area by both sides. Presidency forces launched attacks against Vogošća which were repulsed. Serb pressure was exerted on the area of Grbavica with tank fire and in Koševo by artillery. 2107/

(b) Local reported events

130. Three Hercules C-130 transport aeroplanes dropped more than 21 tons of relief supplies onto a besieged Muslim enclave north-east of Sarajevo early in the day but a BiH minister said the packages fell into Serb hands. "According to our information, all the packages fell at Cerska into Serb hands", BiH Deputy Prime Minister Zlatko Lagumdžija reported, stating that he had been briefed by UN officials and amateur radio operators in contact with the region. UNHCR officials in Geneva said that the packages were destined for Cerska, north-east of Sarajevo whose 30,000 residents had been isolated and starving for months. The drops were the first of a US operation to provide aid to isolated Muslim, Serb and Croat enclaves in eastern BiH. 2108/

(c) International reported events

131. The peace conference co-chairmen held bilateral meetings with Karadžić, Izetbegović and Bosnian Croat leader Boban. 2109/

2. 2/3/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Koševo, Alipašino Polje and the Vogošća districts were reportedly shelled. UNPROFOR reported infantry fighting in the area north-east of Koševo. Source(s): Helsinki Watch; Washington Post; Reuters; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: The Koševo Hospital; a crowd lining up for water near the television station in the Alipašino Polje district; the Vogošća district. Source(s): Helsinki Watch; Washington Post; Reuters.

Description of Damage: An architect named Munira was killed while surveying mortar damage to Koševo Hospital. Eight others were injured. Her husband, Tajib, also an architect, had reportedly mapped 96 direct mortar hits on the hospital and 81 shells that landed near the building. Tajib and others working at the hospital had observed that shelling of the hospital increased around noon, during visiting hours 2110/; a shell killed two people and wounded at least five when it exploded near a crowd lining up for water near the television station in the Alipašino Polje district; a 12 year-old boy was killed when five mortar shells landed in Vogošća. Source(s): Helsinki Watch; Washington Post; Reuters.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: An architect named Munira was killed while surveying mortar damage to Koševo Hospital; a shell killed two people and wounded at least five when it exploded near a crowd lining up for water near the television station in the Alipašino Polje district; a 12 year-old boy was killed when five mortar shells landed in Vogošća. The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 10 people killed and 46 wounded on this day. 2111/ Source(s): Helsinki Watch; Washington Post; Reuters; BiH Ministry of Health.

Narrative of Events:

132. UNPROFOR reported infantry fighting in the area north-east of Koševo. 2112/

133. An architect named Munira was killed while surveying mortar damage to Koševo Hospital. Eight others were injured. Her husband, Tajib, also an architect, had reportedly mapped 96 direct mortar hits on the hospital and 81 shells that landed near the building. Tajib and others working at the hospital had observed that shelling of the hospital increased around noon, during visiting hours. 2113/

134. A shell killed two people and wounded at least five when it exploded near a crowd lining up for water in western Sarajevo. The shell exploded near the television station in the Alipašino Polje district. 2114/

135. A 12 year-old boy was killed when five mortar shells landed on Serb-held districts of Vogošća, just north of Sarajevo. 2115/

(b) Local reported events

136. US aeroplanes dropped 19 tons of food and a half-ton of medical provisions over Ćepa. Secretary of Defense Aspin and Joint Chiefs Chairman Powell termed the operation "successful", but several unnamed sources in the military and the US Government said that only a limited amount of the relief

supplies actually reached their targets. 2116/

(c) International reported events

137. Angry over news of a Serb attack, President Alija Izetbegović entered peace talks for the first time since they moved to New York from Geneva, although he vowed to leave in a few days and let his foreign minister negotiate. "I am going to tell them that while we are talking, while we are negotiating, the Serbians launched a new offensive against the people in east BiH", he said. "The situation is very difficult and for us it's incompatible". Shortly afterward mediators Vance and Owen issued a statement deploring heavy fighting in Cerska and Srebrenica as the peace talks were underway. 2117/

138. The peace conference co-chairmen met with Izetbegović, BiH Prime Minister Akmadović and Bosnian Croat leader Boban to discuss Muslim/Croat relations in light of recent fighting. Lord Owen later met with Karadžić. 2118/

139. Izetbegović stressed that he would not lead the BiH delegation in the talks, but that Silajdović would. 2119/

3. 3/3/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Sarajevo was mostly quiet in the morning, but occasional small-arms fire overnight in Stup and sporadic shelling in Dobrinja were reported. It said that Serb forces tried unsuccessfully to break through BiH army lines on Trebević. UNPROFOR reported attacks by BiH forces from Dobrinja towards Lukavica. Source(s): Reuters; UNPROFOR.

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

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported seven killed and 41 wounded on this day. 2120/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

140. Sarajevo was reported as mostly quiet in the morning but Sarajevo radio reported occasional small-arms fire overnight in the Muslim-held suburb of Stup and said that there was sporadic Serb shelling of the Dobrinja district. It said that Serb commandos tried unsuccessfully to break through BiH army lines on Trebević mountain to the north-east of the city. 2121/

141. UNPROFOR reported attacks by BiH forces from Dobrinja towards Lukavica. 2122/

(c) International reported events

142. In New York the United Nations Security Council announced that it would go into emergency session at 3:30 p.m. to discuss the fighting in eastern BiH where the European Community had accused Serb forces of committing atrocities.

UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali was reported earlier in the day as saying that he was willing to use UN forces to implement a peace settlement. 2123/

143. BiH President Izetbegović signed the Military Agreement for peace in BiH. Lord Owen met with British Secretary of State, Douglas Hurd. The peace conference co-chairmen held talks with Karadžić and Boban. 2124/

4. 4/3/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: UN observers recorded 39 artillery shells, 41 mortar shells, and 26 tank rounds landing on Serb controlled areas of Sarajevo, and 116 artillery shells, 149 mortar shells and 22 tank rounds landing on the BiH controlled areas of the city. 2125/ Source(s): United Press International.

Targets Hit: A Canadian armoured personnel carrier in Visoko. Source(s): United Press International.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Unidentified Serb snipers ambushed and killed Chantal Godinot, a French woman with the Equilibre humanitarian organization and wounded two Polish aid workers who were part of a humanitarian aid convoy leaving Sarajevo. 2126/ UNPROFOR HQ BH COMD APC's were reported to have fired all available "smoke" to provide cover. 2127/ Source(s): United States Government; UNPROFOR.

Casualties: Unidentified Serb snipers ambushed and killed Chantal Godinot, a French woman with the Equilibre humanitarian organization and wounded two Polish aid workers who were part of a humanitarian aid convoy leaving Sarajevo. 2128/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported four killed and 24 wounded on this day. 2129/ Source(s): UNPROFOR; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

144. Canadian armoured personnel carrier was fired upon in Visoko, situated about 12 miles north-west of Sarajevo. 2130/

(c) International reported events

145. The Security Council asked UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali to send troops or observers into eastern BiH and demanded that the killings of civilians there cease. It warned that "those guilty of crimes against international humanitarian law would be held individually responsible by the world community". The statement asked Boutros-Ghali to take immediate steps to increase the presence of UN peacekeepers in eastern BiH but did not specify what the troops were to do. 2131/

146. The United Nations announced that the BiH government had signed a military pact outlining a cease-fire and disengagement of forces in a future peace settlement. The agreement by itself would not stop the war in BiH. But spokesman Fred Eckhard said: "It brings us one step closer toward getting a political agreement upon which a cease-fire and cessation of hostilities can be based". 2132/

147. The peace conference co-chairmen and the UN Secretary-General Boutros-

Ghali met with Radovan Karadžić who continued to refuse to sign the complete Peace Plan. They later met with Izetbegović, Boban and Churkin. 2133/

5. 5/3/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: A decrease in fighting was reported around Sarajevo. Source(s): United Press International.

Targets Hit: A 16 truck humanitarian aid convoy organized by Serb, Catholic and Muslim charities (outside the Sarajevo airport area). Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: A 16 truck humanitarian aid convoy was destroyed near the area outside the Sarajevo airport when four shells were fired by BiH forces. Four people were wounded. Source(s): Reuters.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported three killed and 17 wounded on this day. 2134/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

148. A humanitarian aid convoy was destroyed when shells hit a 16 truck convoy outside the Sarajevo airport injuring four people. General Ratko Mladić, commander of the Serb forces in BiH ordered a ban on such convoys passing through Serb controlled areas until such time as their safety could be guaranteed. UN military observers at the airport later confirmed that the attack had been launched from Muslim positions in the city. "The Muslims opened fire with heavy machine-gun fire and there were at least four mortar rounds", said Dutch Captain Hans Kookij, deputy commander of the military observers in Sarajevo. He said that the convoy, organized by Serb, Catholic and Muslim charities, was not painted white and did not look like UN aid trucks. Firing began after the lead vehicle stalled, bringing the other trucks to a halt on the approach road to the airport. 2135/ Tom Squitieri, a reporter for USA Today was slightly wounded in the attack. 2136/

(b) Local reported events

149. Despite the apparent decrease in fighting in Sarajevo, its residents faced below zero temperatures without electricity, gas or running water. 2137/

(c) International reported events

150. At a news conference President Clinton defended the efficacy of US air-drops. He also said "we want to find ways to tighten the embargo and we are moving on that right now, even as we speak". He said that decisions would be announced very shortly". Yet Clinton also supplied three reasons for caution: fear of a quagmire; the need for British and French support; and the "not insignificant difficulty" of preserving warm ties with Russia. 2138/

6. 6/3/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Shelling was reported near the runway at the airport. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: The Sarajevo airport runway. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: A French UNPROFOR soldier was hit by shrapnel on the runway at the Sarajevo airport. Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported one killed and 10 wounded on this day. 2139/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

151. UNPROFOR reported that a French soldier was hit by shrapnel while on the runway at the Sarajevo airport. 2140/

(b) Local reported events

152. US aeroplanes dropped 27 tons of relief on Srebrenica and Konjević in what appeared to be the most accurate operation to date. 2141/

(c) International reported events

153. The peace talks were suspended without accord. BiH President Izetbegović returned to Sarajevo, but pledged to rejoin negotiations the next week "with the intention of moving the discussions forward to a successful conclusion". 2142/ Radovan Karadžić stated that the second round of the New York peace negotiations was over and that his delegation was going home without signing BiH's provincial maps. 2143/

7. 7/3/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: In its weekly summary, UNPROFOR reported that the level of activity had abated since the battle of Stup. Both the Serb and BiH forces were reportedly reinforcing and/or consolidating their positions. The level of artillery and mortar fire reportedly increased compared to the prior week, averaging 570 rounds per day. Main concentration areas were: Stup, Dobrinja, Butmir, Koševo, and the city centre. Tank fire incidents also increased, indicating Serb armour presence closer to the line of confrontation. UNPROFOR commented that the consolidation of the line in the Stup area and subsequent offensive action would depend on how quickly Serb armoured forces could be brought forward to influence the battle. Slippery roads had impeded the resupply and reinforcement of both sides, however, and the movement of Serb armour from Pale was directly attributable to their maintenance of the Pale road. Combat activity reportedly continued as both sides initiated local offensives. The scale of forces involved, and resulting casualties were not known. Heavy infantry fighting was reported between Butmir and Ilidža, as well as in Koševo. Serb forces reportedly repulsed an attack by BiH forces towards Vogošća. The latter was thought likely to relieve

pressure on Stup by drawing Serb forces away while attempting to link with reported offensives by BiH forces at Vogošća from the Breza area. 2144/ Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported three killed and 18 wounded on this day. It also reported to date: 8,454 killed, missing, or dead from cold, or hunger (of which 1,275 were children); 49,260 wounded (of which 12,751 were children); and 15,290 heavily wounded (of which 2,424 were children). 2145/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

154. No reported incidents.

(b) International reported events

155. UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali asserted that if the current peace process did not result in the curtailment of the Bosnian Serb offensive, the UN's member states, especially the US, must prepare to send troops to the region for a "major operation". Secretary of Defense Aspin was unsure whether the US would be willing to send such troops. Boutros-Ghali stated that if the Serbs signed the peace plan and then refused to withdraw "we will have to take the necessary measures". 2146/

8. 8/3/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Not specified

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported one killed and 20 wounded on this day. 2147/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

156. No reported incidents.

(b) Local reported events

157. Upon arriving in BiH after the New York talks, President Izetbegović declared, "I don't accept this [Vance-Owen] map, I have never accepted it". Yet BiH UN Ambassador Sacirbey said, "our President is definitely inclined to sign the peace agreement". Vance appealed to the international community to "get more pressure on the Serbs to move". 2148/

158. A meeting planned between the head of UN forces in BiH and Bosnian Serb and BiH military leaders was canceled after BiH officials described such an encounter as pointless. Sources close to General Phillipe Morillon said that while the scheduled meeting, which had been aimed at securing a cease-fire in eastern BiH, would not take place, the General would travel to Pale to talk with Bosnian Serb military chief Ratko Mladić. BiH Vice President Ejup Ganić commented that there was "no reason" for the meeting proposed by Morillon of the rival military leaders. 2149/

159. US aeroplanes dropped 46 tons of food and medicine in the eighth air-drop. 2150/

(c) International reported events

160. EC foreign ministers unveiled a plan to toughen sanctions in several weeks if Bosnian Serbs did not sign the Vance-Owen plan. 2151/

9. 9/3/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Fighting was reported in the western suburbs of Stup, Ilidža and Butmir. The airport was closed three times due to shelling. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: The Sarajevo airport. Source(s): Reuters.

Description of Damage: Sarajevo airport was closed three times due to shelling. Source(s): Reuters.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported four killed and 44 wounded on this day. 2152/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

161. Fighting was reported in Sarajevo, mainly in the western suburbs of Stup, Ilidža and Butmir and the road to the airport, which was closed three times Monday because of shelling. 2153/

(b) Local reported events

162. UNHCR spokesman Ron Redmond in Geneva said that a total of 232 tons of food and 19 tons of medical supplies had been airdropped in the last nine nights with "increasing success". He said "a fairly sizeable proportion" of the crates were now being found by local residents. 2154/

163. At the Sarajevo airport UNPROFOR sponsored a prisoner exchange between BiH forces and Serbs. Sixty-four Bosnian Serb prisoners, including four women and seven children, were exchanged for 57 Muslims, including one woman and one child. 2155/

(c) International reported events

164. Detailing fresh reports of atrocities, UN High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata said in New York that murder, torture, mutilation and rape were continuing in BiH as part of a deliberate policy of "ethnic cleansing". 2156/

165. British and US representatives on the UN Security Council discussed measures to be taken if the Bosnian Serbs did not sign the Vance-Owen Plan. They proposed that the Council diplomatically and economically isolate the Serbs, enforce the no-fly zone, and possibly lift the arms embargo. Russia and China reportedly promised not to veto the proposal if Bosnian Serb leader Karadzic rejected the Vance-Owen Plan. 2157/

10. 10/3/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: There were no reports of shelling during the night. Shelling and sniper fire were reported in the city. Source(s): Reuters; Washington Post; Agence France Presse.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: In Sarajevo there were no reports of shelling during the night though snipers were active in the morning firing into the centre of the city. 2158/ A few minutes past 4:00 p.m. sniper shots injured a man near the Holiday Inn in downtown Sarajevo. This incident was witnessed by Peter Maas of the Washington Post. 2159/ Source(s): Reuters; Washington Post.

Casualties: It was reported that shelling and sniper fire killed at least four people and wounded 20 in the city, hospital sources said. 2160/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported four killed and 12 wounded on this day. 2161/ Source(s): Agence France Presse; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

166. In Sarajevo there were no reports of shelling during the night though snipers were active in the morning firing into the centre of the city. 2162/ A few minutes past 4:00 p.m. sniper shots injured a man near the Holiday Inn in downtown Sarajevo. This incident was witnessed by Peter Maas of the Washington Post. 2163/

(b) Local reported events

167. BiH's collective presidency was preparing to meet in Sarajevo for a crucial debate on whether to sign the Vance-Owen peace plan. There was speculation that at the meeting of the BiH leadership, President Alija Izetbegovic (who supported the plan dividing BiH into 10 largely autonomous regions) would strive to build consensus among his nine Presidency colleagues. Opposition to the plan, strongest among elements of the BiH army, could coalesce around Vice-President Ejup Ganic, who argued that it rewarded Serb aggression. 2164/

(c) International reported events

168. NATO officials clashed in Brussels over a US proposal to create a multinational force of 50,000 that would help implement the Vance-Owen Plan. French representatives opposed NATO command, insisting that peacekeepers remained under UN control. 2165/

11. 11/3/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Not specified

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported seven killed and 37 wounded on this day. 2166/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Health.

Narrative of Events:

169. No reported incidents.

(b) Local reported events

170. In Sarajevo, BiH leaders reported some progress in talks on the Vance-Owen plan. Vice-President Ejup Ganić said that some headway had been made: "We made a step forward", he told reporters. "There is consensus nobody will act to jeopardize the country's legal system . . . We want one constitution, one currency, one legal system". Sources close to the talks said it had been agreed to attempt to convene a session of the BiH parliament Saturday or Sunday to debate the plan. 2167/

(c) International reported events

171. Serbian President Slobodan Milošević rejected arguments from mediators Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen that he should try to persuade the Bosnian Serb leadership to accept their peace plan. During talks in Paris, Milošević stressed that he had "only limited" input into the conflict in BiH. But Vance and Owen, speaking after a meeting and a dinner with Milošević and French President François Mitterrand declared that "great progress" had been made, pointing specifically to a warning delivered by Mitterrand to Milošević that Serbia would be the target of harsher international action unless the Bosnian Serbs agreed to the peace plan. Vance said "a small group of very senior people from the Bosnian Serbs" would travel to New York in the next five days "to see if we can make some progress and close the gap between us". 2168/

12. 12/3/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Not specified

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported eight killed and 30 wounded on this day. 2169/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

172. No reported incidents.

(b) Local reported events

173. The BiH Leadership in Sarajevo attempted to convene Parliament to debate the international peace plan for BiH after the 10 member collective Presidency failed to reach final agreement in two days of talks on whether to sign it. 2170/

13. 13/3/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: UNPROFOR reported that 98 shells landed on the Serbian controlled area of Sarajevo and 72 shells landed on BiH government controlled areas. 2171/ Source(s): United Press International.

Targets Hit: Sarajevo courthouse. Source(s): United States Government; New York Times.

Description of Damage: Three mortar bombs were fired at the Sarajevo courthouse in which a war crimes trial was being held and one mortar hit the building's roof. Source(s): United States Government; New York Times.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported three killed and 47 wounded on this day. 2172/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

174. Serbian forces surrounding Sarajevo reportedly launched at least three mortar bombs at the Sarajevo courthouse in which a BiH war crimes trial was being conducted. One mortar struck the building's roof. 2173/

(b) Local reported events

175. Serb armoured cars and armed soldiers blocked the highway to prevent some 60 BiH Members of Parliament from coming into the city to attend a meeting on the Vance-Owen international peace plan. 2174/

176. UNPROFOR reported that Serbs put in a temporary check point at the Y junction of Kasindolska street and the road to the PTT building leading from the airport. The check point consisted of two tanks, one APC and 50 men. The check point held five Canadian Cougars for three hours and the convoy from the Presidency was stopped before arriving at the check point to prevent them from

going through the check point. The checkpoint was removed within 24 hours. UNPROFOR later commented that the checkpoint may have been a hastily installed to react to Serb intelligence of VIP movement in a similar fashion to when the Serbs fatally shot the BiH Vice President, or it may have also been organized to assert authority over the Canadians who had been patrolling in and out of Sarajevo. 2175/

14. 14/3/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Artillery bombardment continued throughout the day along the front at Visoko, about 12 miles north-west of Sarajevo. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported three killed and 39 wounded on this day. It also reported to date: 8,484 killed, missing, or dead (of which 1,288 were children); 49,489 wounded (of which 12,797 were children); and 15,443 heavily wounded (of which 2,450 were children). 2176/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

177. According to Sarajevo radio, artillery bombardment continued throughout the day Sunday along the front at Visoko, about 12 miles north-west of Sarajevo. 2177/

15. 15/3/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: In its weekly summary, UNPROFOR reported that fighting within the city had decreased during the week. The main artillery and mortar fire concentration was in north-east Koševo. Overall there had been a decrease in fire compared to the prior month. Sniper fire within the city from both sides had dramatically increased causing several casualties. The road from the PTT building to the airport and the airport road to Ilidja had been closed due to either shelling or small-arms fire regularly during the week. The Serbs had canceled utility missions during the week and when missions did take place, they were targeted in an effort to stop them. UNPROFOR reported that Serbs continued to shoot persons crossing the airport by night. During the week they killed seven and wounded eight others. The flow of crossings were predominantly from Butmir to Dobrinja. UNPROFOR also reported that the restructuring of the I Sarajevo Corps had continued during the week and would probably be completed by 10 March. UNPROFOR commented that the low level of fighting had coincided with the cease-fire and restructuring of the I Sarajevo Corps, calling into question whether the cease-fire was of political origin, or linked to the restructuring process. UNPROFOR was also of the opinion that the restructured Corps could give BiH a more powerful force with greater command and control and that relationships between I Sarajevo Corps and forces on Mt. Igman had improved. 2178/ Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: A French aid worker was killed by a sniper. 2179/
Source(s): Washington Post.

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 24 wounded. No deaths were reported on this day. 2180/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Health.

Narrative of Events:

178. A French aid worker was killed by a sniper. 2181/

(c) International reported events

179. Peace talks on the former Yugoslavia were to resume this week in New York. Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić reportedly left his base in Pale, near Sarajevo for the talks, while BiH President Alija Izetbegović was also thought to be on his way. Izetbegović reportedly received the go-ahead on Sunday from other BiH leaders to conditionally accept the Geneva peace plan for BiH. 2182/

16. 16/3/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Shelling was reported in the city, including the area near an emergency hospital. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: The area near the visiting Dutch Defence Minister; an unidentified emergency room (two shells in the mid-afternoon).

Description of Damage: A mortar fell about 10 metres from visiting Dutch Defence Minister Relus (ter) Beek, injuring an Egyptian UNPROFOR soldier; two mortar bombs exploded in the forecourt of an unidentified Sarajevo emergency hospital in the mid-afternoon. Source(s): United States Government; Reuters.

Sniping Activity: An unidentified Sarajevo hospital was hit by sniper fire. Source(s): Reuters.

Casualties: The impact of a shell fired near the visiting Dutch Defence Minister injured an Egyptian UNPROFOR soldier; another shell killed two civilians nearby. 2183/ Sarajevo's three main hospitals: the emergency, French, and Koševo, treated 68 war-wounded, three of whom were reported to have died of injuries. 2184/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported five killed and 20 wounded on this day. 2185/ Source(s): United States Government; Reuters; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

180. A Serb mortar fell about 10 metres from visiting Dutch Defence Minister Relus (ter) Beek in Sarajevo. The impact of the shell injured an Egyptian UNPROFOR soldier; another shell killed two civilians nearby. 2186/

181. A Sarajevo emergency hospital was hit by mortar and sniper fire. Two mortar bombs exploded in the hospital forecourt in the mid-afternoon. The

hospital was one that dispensed first-aid to the war-wounded before sending them to one of Sarajevo's main hospitals. 2187/

(b) Local reported events

182. Croats in the BiH government publicly attacked a decision by the BiH leadership to give President Alija Izetbegović a free hand in peace talks. In a statement released in Zagreb, the Croats said that "decisions taken by the assembly on Sunday are not in line with the fundamental principles of the constitution of Bosnia, having been taken in the absence of representatives of the Croatian people". It said the "organs of the Bosnian state are not empowered to set conditions without the agreement of representatives of the three constituent communities of Bosnia". It also attacked "unfounded declarations" which put the self-declared Croat republic of Herceg-Bosna and the self-styled Serbian Republic of Bosnia, on the same footing, but did not mention names. Over the weekend Izetbegović said the Vance-Owen plan "ensures the survival of BiH, despite the attacks against it", and eliminated the two para-states on its territory: Herceg-Bosna and the Serb republic. BiH Prime Minister Mile Akmeđević, Defence Minister Božo Rajić and Miro Lasić, the Croat representative in the BiH presidency, had never visited Sarajevo during their tenure of office. 2188/

17. 17/3/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Serb and BiH forces were reportedly linked in fierce fighting near the airport. UNPROFOR spokesman Major Pepe Gallegos said that nearly 500 shells landed in the Muslim-held Butmir district and the Serb-held suburbs of Ilidža and Lukavica. Most of this took place between 4:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m.. 2189/ UNPROFOR spokesman Major Jose Gallegos announced that 962 shells had been fired on Sarajevo, mostly around the President's office. 2190/ Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Targets Hit: Butmir district; Ilidža; Lukavica; the airport; the area near the Presidency. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The local hospital reported five deaths and 21 wounded, but officials said the toll was likely to increase when victims of shelling in the outlying areas of Butmir and Ilidža were included. 2191/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported three killed and 55 wounded on this day. 2192/ Source(s): Agence France Presse; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

183. Serb and BiH forces were locked in fierce fighting near the Sarajevo airport. UNPROFOR spokesman Major Pepe Gallegos said that nearly 500 shells landed in the Muslim-held Butmir district and the Serb-held suburbs of Ilidža and Lukavica. Most of this took place between 4:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m.. 2193/

184. In Sarajevo, fighting continued throughout the day, with artillery and other weapons active in all parts of the city, flaring in the morning around the airport. The fighting was reported to have died down around the city

after nightfall. 2194/

(b) International reported events

185. In New York, UN peace talks resumed. 2195/

186. NATO approved a plan to dispatch over 50,000 peacekeepers to BiH once the three factions signed the Vance-Owen Plan. It was still undecided who would command the force. 2196/

18. 18/3/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Serbian forces reportedly launched the heaviest artillery barrage in months against Sarajevo. The attack with artillery shells, mortar bombs and anti-aircraft shells hit the Muslim-held areas of Mojnilo, Ćengić Vila, Bućina Potok and Dobrinja. Source(s): Reuters.

Targets Hit: The Sarajevo courthouse where war crimes trials were being held (and the vicinity); Mojnilo; Ćengić Vila; Bućina Potok; Dobrinja. Source(s): Reuters; Helsinki Watch; Reuters.

Description of Damage: A shell hit the roof of the Sarajevo courthouse where two Serbs were being tried for war crimes and dozens of other shells were heard in the vicinity. Source(s): Reuters; Helsinki Watch; Reuters.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: A 15 year-old boy was killed and at least 55 people were wounded in the day's bombardment, medical officials reported, adding that a number of wounded soldiers had not yet reached hospitals because of the fighting. 2197/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported three killed and 38 wounded on this day. 2198/ Source(s): Reuters; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

187. A shell hit the roof of the Sarajevo courthouse where two Serbs, Borislav Herak and Sretko Damjanovic, were being tried for war crimes. Dozens of other shells were heard exploding in the vicinity. 2199/

188. The New York Times reported that Serbian forces launched the heaviest artillery barrage in months against Sarajevo. 2200/ The artillery shells, mortar bombs and anti-aircraft cannon shells hit the areas of Mojnilo, Ćengić Vila, Bućina Potok, and Dobrinja, all Muslim-held residential areas. 2201/

(b) Local reported events

189. Swedish General Lars-Eric Wahlgren, UNPROFOR Commander for the former Yugoslavia, met with BiH's highest state and military officials during a visit to Sarajevo. He was received in the Presidency building by BiH Presidency members Ejup Ganić, Tatjana Ljuić Mijatović and Mirko Pejanović, General Staff Commander Sefer Halilović, and Deputy Commander of the General Staff of the BiH Army, Jovan Divjak. 2202/

190. BiH Vice President Ganić reported a "full-scale attack" on Sarajevo and other targets in eastern BiH. The day's assault was reported to be the worst since the new round of shelling began five days ago, and Ganić believed that

the Bosnian Serb objective was to force the BiH Government to withdraw from the peace talks in New York. 2203/

(c) International reported events

191. In New York, BiH President Alija Izetbegović temporarily pulled out of the peace talks, saying he could not be involved as long as the Serbs continued to their attacks in eastern BiH and Sarajevo. 2204/

192. France reversed its position and joined the US in calling for military enforcement of the no-fly zone. 2205/

19. 19/3/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Artillery and mortar fire resulted in one of the heaviest tolls in a year. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Targets Hit: The area near a British aircraft approaching Sarajevo airport. Source(s): United States Submission.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Artillery and mortar fire killed 13 persons and wounded 98 in Sarajevo, resulting in one of the heaviest tolls since the beginning of the war one year ago, hospital sources said here. Most of the wounded were in serious condition, a doctor from one city hospital said. 2206/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 25 killed and 76 wounded on this day. 2207/ Source(s): Agence France Presse; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

193. An anti-aircraft round fired by Serbian forces passed within 200 metres of a British aircraft as it approached the Sarajevo airport. UNPROFOR subsequently closed the airport to humanitarian aid flights. 2208/

(b) Local reported events

194. General Lars-Erik Wahlgren, overall commander of the UNPROFOR in the former Yugoslavia, flew to Sarajevo in an attempt to try to persuade Bosnian Serb military leaders at their headquarters to stop their drive towards Srebrenica. 2209/

195. UN relief convoys, surrounded by armoured vehicles, reached Srebrenica where they were greeted by droves of civilians. In this, the first delivery since 10 December, the UN provided 68 tons of food and other supplies. UN BiH Commander Morillon oversaw the delivery from Zvornik, where the trucks had been stalled. 2210/

(c) International reported events

196. The United States State Department announced that the US would double its air-drops over Srebrenica (at the request of the UNHCR). 2211/

20. 20/3/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: An estimated 3,000 shells hit the suburb of Stup. BiH army sources denied that Stup had fallen to Serbian forces. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Targets Hit: Stup. Source(s): Reuters; Agence France Presse.

Description of Damage: Three major fires were reported burning during a massive Serb artillery assault on Stup. Source(s): Reuters; Agence France Presse.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: In Sarajevo, it was reported by the two main hospitals that five residents, one of whom was an 11 year-old girl, were killed and 62 wounded by Serb artillery bombardment. 2212/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 10 killed and 77 wounded on this day. 2213/ Source(s): Agence France Presse; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

197. Bosnian Serb gunners pounded the Sarajevo suburb of Stup. Refugees were reportedly fleeing the suburb with personal belongings. "The situation is horrible, there has been shelling all day", said 65 year-old Edhem Nezirović as he walked into Sarajevo from Stup. Three major fires were burning in Stup in the afternoon. 2214/

198. BiH military sources reported that some 3,000 shells hit the suburb of Stup. But sources from the BiH army denied that Stup (known as the gateway to Sarajevo) had fallen to Serb forces. "Many houses are still burning but the situation began to calm down around 2100 GMT", a BiH army source said, adding that a fresh Serbian assault was expected Sunday night. The Bosnian Serb news agency SRNA earlier quoted the commander of the "Sarajevo-Romanija Corps of the Serb Army" as saying his men had taken Stup during a "powerful counter-attack" against troops of the mainly Muslim BiH army. The SRNA report said that the Serbs blew up a BiH army munitions depot in Stup and that BiH troops were retreating towards the city centre in "disorder and panic". 2215/

(b) Local reported events

199. A UN official in Sarajevo who said that he feared an outbreak of typhus, cited damaged water pipes and contaminated supplies as likely sources of the potentially deadly disease. "We're seriously worried about an outbreak of typhus", said Phil Casey, a consultant to UNICEF. Casey said that ground-water contaminated by raw sewage was threatening to seep into the city's water distribution system. He noted that 12 cases of the hepatitis "A" infection (which closely tracks the outbreak of typhus), had been reported at the city orphanage. Casey said that 97 per cent of the city's water came from a single pumping station in Serb-held territory outside the city. Power for the station was reported to have been frequently interrupted when fighting destroyed electric sub-stations and transmission lines around the city. When the pumping station stopped pushing water, negative pressure was reported to have built up in the mains, sucking ground water into the system through the cracks in the pipes. This problem became exacerbated in the city by a near-total lack of water treatment to improve quality. Casey said that about 60 per cent of the water in the city distribution system was lost before it reached taps because

of massive war damage and repair problems. It was also reported that 18 of the city's 50 water repair technicians had been killed while trying to repair cracked or leaking pipes. Casey said that the men regularly worked under artillery and sniper fire without flak jackets or protective helmets. When the water system shut down after a city-wide power failure, as was the case this weekend, residents queued at wells and springs to carry water home. Casey said that as many as 20,000 people a day gathered water from a single well in the city. 2216/

(c) International reported events

200. In New York, it was announced that the United Nations Security Council reached broad agreement on a resolution allowing NATO aircraft to shoot down any aeroplane violating a no-fly ban over BiH. 2217/

21. 21/3/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Intensified fighting was reported as Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic warned that if the UN Security Council authorized the use of military means to enforce a no-fly zone over BiH, his delegation could pull out of peace talks. Observers around the city counted 2,398 shells hitting the city. Senior UN officers said that with only a handful of observation posts around the city, Serbian forces could be firing as many as two or three shells for every one counted (it was reported that 90 per cent of the shells appeared to be fired by Serbian positions). 2218/ Source(s): Agence France Presse; Helsinki Watch; New York Times.

Targets Hit: Dobrinja; the Old Town (eastern end); Stup; the Sarajevo airport. Source(s): Agence France Presse; Helsinki Watch; New York Times.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: At least 30 people were reported injured in Dobrinja. Sarajevo's major trauma clinics and morgue reported 95 people wounded and at least eight dead. Most of the casualties were civilians from Sarajevo's Old Town and Dobrinja districts and soldiers from the embattled suburb of Stup. 2219/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported five killed and 81 wounded on this day. 2220/ Source(s): Reuters; Agence France Presse; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

201. The city came under heavy artillery attack in the morning. Serb artillery hit the Old Town area and the residential neighbourhood of Vratnik at dawn. There appeared to be few casualties since the streets were empty when the shelling began. A former school, which had been turned into a refugee centre, was among the buildings hit in Vratnik. 2221/

202. The BiH government-held neighbourhood of Dobrinja, flanking the airport to the east, came under heavy shell attacks and doctors said that at least 30 people had been wounded there. 2222/

203. BiH radio early reported a "general offensive" by Serb gunners against the city, notably Stup, and advised all residents to shelter in basements. It

reported heavy shelling on the old town, at its eastern end. 2223/

204. In Stup, artillery guns, mortars, tanks and anti-aircraft cannon resumed shelling at 4:30 a.m. and increased their firing at daybreak. 2224/ BiH government forces suffered casualties for the fifth day as a result of Serb tank and artillery attacks. Scores of BiH soldiers could be seen headed on foot into Stup at dusk to take up defensive positions. 2225/ Vahid Karaveli, deputy chief of the BiH defence forces in the Sarajevo region said on national radio that Serb forces had failed to gain territory in the offensive. The Bosnian Serb news agency SRNA claimed on Saturday that Serb forces had captured Stup. 2226/

205. Witnesses also reported heavy shelling of the Sarajevo airport, apparently from BiH positions to the west of the runway. A German television correspondent who was at the airport in the morning said that people ran for cover in the terminal building. There were no immediate reports of injuries. UN officials said the road between the airport and Sarajevo had been closed at least once because of the shelling. 2227/

(b) International reported events

206. Intensified fighting came as Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić warned in a television interview in New York that if the UN Security Council authorized the use of military means to enforce a no-fly zone over BiH his delegation could pull out of peace talks. "I do not know if we can stay at the conference or not. Our assembly could withdraw us from the conference", he said. A resolution authorizing military aeroplanes to enforce the six-month-old no-fly zone over BiH was expected to be voted on Monday. 2228/

207. UN spokesman Fred Eckhard said in New York that the peace talks were at a dead end. 2229/

22. 22/3/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Reports indicated that bombardment from the surrounding mountains diminished somewhat in the morning compared to Sunday, but intensified during the afternoon. In its weekly summary UNPROFOR reported that Sarajevo had been extremely turbulent. Sniper fire had been as high as it was in the last week and Serb commanders threatened to increase shell fire if the level of sniping by BiH forces did not cease. BiH forces carried out an attack against Ilidža from Butmir which resulted in a Serb counter-attack against Butmir from the east. The Serbs drove tanks into the area of Butmir but later in the week withdrew them to Donji Kotorac. UNPROFOR commented that the BiH attack allowed the Serbs the perfect excuse to carry out their attack by enabling them to accuse the BiH forces of being the aggressor. The Serbs also responded by attacking the Rajlovac and Stup areas. They managed to push the troops as far forward as the Stup bridge, but withdrew their men shortly afterwards. According to UNPROFOR, the attack in the Rajlovac area was partly successful. They had taken some ground but probably did not achieve their aim which UNPROFOR assessed to be the high ground dominating the Stup bridge. UNPROFOR was of the opinion that if they had achieved their goal, they could have given fire support to their attack on Stup and the Stup bridge and their secondary minor attacks against Mojmić from Nedarići and against Hrasno from Grbavica. The attacks were all supported by high rates of fire from the Serb guns to the east and by support tanks. UNPROFOR commented that they did not

know the final front line positions, but that it was likely the Serbs had pushed forward into the Rajlovac area and undoubtedly the BiH forces would want to push them back. Therefore, UNPROFOR expected further fighting in the area. 2230/ Source(s): Agence France Presse; UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: An unidentified school on the western approaches to the city. Source(s): Agence France Presse; UNPROFOR.

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Sniping was reported in the city. It was reported that a 13 year-old girl was killed. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Casualties: Eighteen children were wounded and one killed when a shell hit their school. 2231/ Two Sarajevo hospitals reported seven killed and 61 wounded in the day's shelling. A French soldier was flown out of Sarajevo after being shot in the arm. 2232/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 12 killed and 83 wounded on this day. 2233/ Source(s): Reuters; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

208. According to hospitals, this cloudless spring day drew many Sarajevans outdoors despite heavy shelling and sniping, resulting in the wounding of many, mostly by shrapnel. It was reported that a 13 year-old girl was killed by a sniper and a 10 year-old boy was killed by shrapnel. The bombardment from the surrounding mountains reportedly diminished somewhat in the morning compared with Sunday, and then intensified during the afternoon. 2234/

209. Peter Kessler, a UNHCR spokesman in Sarajevo said that BiH army tanks were firing from under a bridge in the suburb of Stup and that fighting had closed the airport road. "It sounds like the Battle of the Bulge out there", Kessler said. Correspondents who visited the area said the Serbs appeared to have made advances enabling them to fire directly on the western approaches to the city, making it more difficult to resupply BiH positions. At least three fires were burning along the line of confrontation as Serb forces tried to drive the BiH defenders east across the airport highway. 2235/

210. A fierce tank battle raged in the western approaches to the city and BiH radio reported that 18 children were wounded and one killed when a shell hit their school. 2236/

(b) Local reported events

211. UN Commander, Colonel Marcel Valentin, blamed the Serbs for the prior day's shelling on civilians. After nearly 2,400 shells were recorded and eight people were killed on Sunday, Valentin called on the Serbs to account for their shelling of civilian targets. He said that it was "quite obvious" that the Serbs were trying to gain territory before signing a peace agreement being negotiated in New York. 2237/

(c) International reported events

212. At the Hague, it was announced that BiH had brought a case before the International Court of Justice, accusing the Yugoslav republics of Serbia and Montenegro of genocide and other war crimes. 2238/

23. 23/3/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Not specified

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 11 killed and 96 wounded on this day. 2239/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

213. No reported incidents.

(b) International reported events

214. Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić announced that he was staying in New York for the international peace talks on BiH just hours after it was announced he would leave. Lord David Owen said earlier that Karadžić would be flying home after it became clear that his position was still far apart from BiH's Croats and Muslims. But Karadžić then announced he was not ready to leave and indicated he might go later in the week. "We don't want to leave and be accused that we left the conference", Karadžić told reporters. "We are ready to stay as long as it is necessary to make any kind of progress". 2240/

215. The peace conference co-chairmen held talks with Izetbegović, Karadžić and Boban. 2241/

216. Lord Owen stressed that the Security Council must not delay enforcement of the no-fly zone and should push the Bosnian Serbs and Muslims to sign the peace plan. 2242/

217. For a second time, the Security Council postponed its vote on a resolution enforcing an air ban over BiH because of last-minute revisions to the document suggested by Russia. A new date was expected to be set for Wednesday or Thursday. 2243/

24. 24/3/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Intense Serb shelling was reported on this, the final day of Ramadan. The end of Ramadan, reportedly at 6:20 a.m., was marked by a hail of gunfire from the BiH side. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Targets Hit: The area in front of the Bristol Hotel (on the road to the airport). Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Description of Damage: A mortar exploded in front of the Bristol Hotel on the road to the airport, killing three people and wounding five. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: One report stated that four people were killed and 14 injured by Serb shelling, (including three people killed and five wounded at the Bristol Hotel). The BiH Public Health Ministry reported two killed and 23 wounded on this day. 2244/ Source(s): Agence France Presse; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

218. Four people were killed and 14 injured by Serb shelling of Sarajevo on the final day of Ramadan. A mortar exploded in front of the Bristol Hotel on the road to the airport, killing three people and wounding five. Serb fire was reportedly intense. The end of Ramadan, at 6:20 a.m, was marked by a hail of gunfire from the BiH side. 2245/

(b) International reported events

219. The peace conference co-chairmen held separate talks with Izetbegović, Karadžić, and Boban. They later met with Bartholomew and the Macedonian Deputy Prime Minister, Crvenkovski. 2246/

220. The Security Council for the third day in a row canceled a planned vote to enforce its no-fly zone over BiH at the request of Russia. 2247/

221. The German Assembly authorized participation in air drop operations. 2248/

25. 25/3/93 (Thursday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The French UNPROFOR command post reportedly came under automatic weapons fire from Dobrinja. Cedric Thornberry, deputy head of UNPROFOR in the former Yugoslavia said that shelling in the Sarajevo siege during the first 11 months had been relatively light ("not much more than four an hour") compared to between 1,000 and 2,000 impacts a day over the past week. 2249/ Source(s): Reuters; Agence France Presse.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Hospital sources said that two people died and 11 were wounded in Sarajevo. 2250/ The BiH Public Health Ministry reported three killed and 20 wounded on this day. 2251/ Source(s): Agence France Presse; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

222. A French UN command post in the city came under automatic weapons fire and two UN troops were slightly wounded by flying glass. The firing came from the Serb-held district of Dobrinja (the former Olympic village near the airport). 2252/

(b) Local reported events

223. President Milošević received General Morillon in Belgrade to discuss current issues. He reportedly offered to host General Morillon and General Mladić, as well as representatives of all of the factions, to Belgrade to take part in talks. 2253/

(c) International reported events

224. In New York, a member of the BiH delegation to the UN sponsored peace talks said that President Alija Izetbegović was prepared to sign the Vance-Owen peace plan, which was drawn up in Geneva but signed only by Croat representatives. For the first time since January all three parties agreed to sit at the same table and were scheduled to meet with mediators Vance and Owen. 2254/

225. BiH President Izetbegović signed the Vance-Owen maps, the third and final section of the plan. This made the Bosnian Serbs the last hold-outs to the plan. Vance Owen spokesman Fred Eckhard stated that Bosnian Serb leader Karadžić had "reserved his position". 2255/

226. BiH Vice President Ejup Ganić called on the international community to lift the arms embargo on BiH imposed when it still formed part of Yugoslavia, saying that the move was the only alternative to a military intervention to end Serb aggression. "The international community can halt it, if it has the will", he told a conference in Sarajevo. The only solution to the conflict was "to give arms to the Bosnians or to launch a rapid intervention, though such a move is unlikely". He said that Sarajevo authorities had written to the UN Security Council, to Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali, to Geneva mediators Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, and to the US and Russian envoys urging that the arms embargo be lifted. 2256/

26. 26/3/93 (Friday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Not specified

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported 16 wounded on this day. No deaths were reported. 2257/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

227. No reported incidents.

(b) Local reported events

228. General Phillipe Morillon held talks with the military leader of the Bosnian Serbs in a bid to obtain a cease-fire in BiH. The negotiations included: Morillon, General Ratko Mladić, UNPROFOR Commander General Eric-Lars Wahlgren, UN Civilian Affairs chief Cedric Thornberry, UNHCR Special Envoy

Jose Maria Mendiluce, and the second in command of the Bosnian Serb military, Milan Gvero. 2258/

229. The Bosnian Serbs threatened to fire upon relief aeroplanes if Germans participated in the air-drops. 2259/

(c) International reported events

230. President Clinton invited BiH President Izetbegović to the White House to join in discussions with German Chancellor Kohl. Clinton said that he would wait several days before Serbian behaviour would force him to "up the ante". EC officials stated that the Serbs would suffer "total isolation" if they did not sign the Vance-Owen plan. 2260/

27. 27/3/93 (Saturday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: Not specified

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: The BiH Public Health Ministry reported two killed and six wounded on this day. 2261/ Source(s): BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

231. No reported incidents.

(b) Local reported events

232. BiH's three warring factions said that they were prepared for a cease-fire to begin at noon on Sunday. The head of the Bosnian Serb Army, General Ratko Mladić, said he would observe the truce and the commander of the UN troops in BiH, General Phillipe Morillon, said Bosnian Muslims and Croats would also comply. Morillon said he had assurances from BiH's Muslim Vice-President, Ejup Ganić and Croat leader Mate Boban. "I have already received agreements from Dr. Ganić in Sarajevo and Mr. Boban for them to give the same directives to their own forces", Morillon said, adding that it could take some time before orders reached field units. The deal was struck after talks in Belgrade attended by Morillon, Mladić and the head of UNPROFOR in the former Yugoslavia, General Lars-Eric Wahlgren. Wahlgren said he would chair a meeting of the chiefs of the three armies at Sarajevo airport on 6 April to discuss how best to stop the fighting. 2262/

233. The announcement of the cease-fire came as Bosnian Serb leader Karadžić arrived in Belgrade and threatened to pull out of the internationally-mediated peace talks in BiH. Karadžić told reporters: "First they satisfied the Croats, then the Muslims. Now they have to satisfy the Serbs". Karadžić had rejected the UN sponsored plan to split BiH into 10 semi-autonomous regions. The deal had been accepted by BiH's Muslims and Croats. International pressure mounted on the Bosnian Serbs not to hold out against the proposals, as President

Clinton said he would give the Serbs a few more days before considering more stringent actions to bring them into line. Karadžić responded: "It doesn't matter. Pressure can only unify the Serbian people". 2263/

234. Bosnian Serb forces turned back UN relief vehicles from Srebrenica. 2264/

(c) International reported events

235. The French Air Force became the first to join the US air-drop effort when one of its aeroplanes delivered aid to Goražde. 2265/

28. 28/3/93 (Sunday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The area near the Presidency building was shelled five minutes before a cease-fire took effect at noon. Source(s): Washington Post; New York Times; Reuters.

Targets Hit: The area near the Presidency building (three shells hit five minutes before noon). Source(s): Washington Post; New York Times; Reuters.

Description of Damage: Five minutes before noon, three shells fell near the Presidency building, killing a woman and injuring four other people. Other reports indicated that three people were killed and five others wounded in this incident. Source(s): Washington Post; New York Times; Reuters.

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Three shells fell near the Presidency building, killing a woman and injuring four other people. Other reports indicated that three people were killed and five others wounded in this incident. The BiH Public Health Ministry reported two wounded. It reported no deaths. 2266/ It also reported to date: 8,565 killed, missing, or dead (of which 1,304 were children); 50,106 wounded (of which 12,932 were children); and 15,759 heavily wounded (of which 2,519 were children). 2267/ Source(s): Washington Post; New York Times; Reuters; BiH Ministry of Public Health.

Narrative of Events:

236. Five minutes before the noontime start of the UN-brokered truce, three shells fell near the Presidency building downtown, killing a woman and injuring four other people, two seriously. 2268/ Other reports on the incident stated that three people were killed and five wounded. 2269/

(b) Local reported events

237. BiH President Alija Izetbegović said that he and Croatian President Franjo Tuđman had agreed to set up a joint Croat and Muslim army in BiH. Izetbegović also extended slightly his deadline for the Bosnian Serbs to sign a peace plan which the Muslims and the Croats had already accepted. He said that if the Bosnian Serbs did not sign within 10 to 15 days, his own signature would be invalid. On Saturday evening Izetbegović had given a time limit of eight to 10 days. 2270/

238. The cease-fire agreed to by the military leaders of the warring factions

began at noon and appeared to be holding as night fell. The UN commander in BiH, General Phillipe Morillon, who helped to negotiate the cease-fire, was quoted by Yugoslavia's Tanjug news agency as saying he was pleased with the compliance so far. 2271/

239. A 20 truck UN convoy reached Srebrenica after 13 days of unsuccessful attempts. It brought over 200 tons of relief supplies. UN BiH Commander Morillon returned to Sarajevo after his two-week stay in Srebrenica. 2272/

29. 29/3/93 (Monday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The cease-fire held for a second day, but heavy gunfire broke out shortly before dusk in the western districts close to the airport. In its weekly summary UNPROFOR reported intense fighting continuing from the previous week. After Sunday, 21 March's record number of reported indirect fire (2,398 rounds), and apparently intensifying combat activity, strong Serb attacks with heavy artillery support continued on 22 March concentrating on Stup, Oteš, Vratnik and Hrasno-Grbavica. UNPROFOR stated that the Serb objective, the Stup Bridge, appeared to be within their grasp. The level of intensity in the fighting dropped dramatically for the remainder of the reporting period commencing 23 March with sporadic indirect fire and continued small-arms fire. The use of anti-aircraft artillery continued to be employed by BiH forces in a direct fire role. The level of indirect fire dropped from the record 2,398 rounds at the end of the previous Sunday to no rounds reported on Friday 26 March. UNPROFOR commented that the forced evacuation of Observation Post P5 restricted their ability to accurately report incoming indirect fire. Nevertheless, the reduced fire and combat activity was evident. UNPROFOR thought it likely that the combatants, particularly the Serbs, had temporarily exhausted themselves and it was also reported that they took heavy casualties, including armoured assets. The deteriorating weather conditions were also seen as contributory. 2273/
Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

240. The cease-fire held for the second day with only minor violations. 2274/

241. Heavy gunfire broke out shortly before dusk in the contested western districts of Sarajevo, close to the airport. 2275/

(b) Local reported events

242. UNPROFOR reported that the average number of people trying to cross the Sarajevo airport each night during the past week was around 500. According to UNPROFOR, this number decreased somewhat on 27 March probably due to the poor weather conditions. 2276/

243. Croatian Prime Minister Hrvoje Šarinić resigned. Croatian President Tudjman chose the head of the state-owned oil company as his next prime minister. 2277/

(c) International reported events

244. In Washington, the United States said it would consult its allies about lifting the arms embargo against Bosnian Muslims unless Bosnian Serbs signed a peace accord which the Muslims and Croats had already endorsed. 2278/

245. Newsweek magazine reported that the White House had asked the Pentagon to step up planning for possible air strikes against Serbian forces to induce Bosnian Serb leaders to accept the peace plan. 2279/

246. Appearing with the Dutch Foreign Minister, US Secretary of State Christopher stated that he intended to revive discussions on enforcing the no-fly zone. 2280/

247. Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev described Russian troops as "overextended" within the former Soviet Union and thus unable to help enforce the Vance-Owen plan. 2281/

248. A German Air Force aeroplane joined six US and one French aeroplane in air-drops. 2282/

30. 30/3/93 (Tuesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: The cease-fire reportedly was still holding, with a number of violations during the day. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Four people were reportedly wounded by sniper fire. Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Casualties: Two people were killed near Sarajevo airport as they tried to head across the town toward Kiseljak, and four others were wounded by Serb sniper-fire, hospital sources said. 2283/ Source(s): Agence France Presse.

Narrative of Events:

249. While the cease-fire held, officials described it as tenuous, with a number of violations reported during the day. 2284/

250. Two people were killed near Sarajevo airport as they tried to head across the town toward Kiseljak, and four others were wounded by Serb sniper-fire, hospital sources said. 2285/

(b) Local reported events

251. Because of the cease-fire, thousands of residents emerged from their homes and hiding places to walk through the streets. 2286/

252. In Sarajevo, two Serb soldiers were sentenced to death by a military tribunal for genocide, including murders and rapes considered part of the Serbs' policy of driving Muslims out of their villages in BiH. The two were Borislav Herak, 22 who confessed to killing 23 people and raping 15 women, and Sretko Damjanović, who pleaded innocent to charges of killing four people and raping two women. 2287/

253. The Times of London quoted Bosnian Serb leaders as saying that the Vance-Owen plan was not satisfactory because Muslims and Croats received most of BiH's natural and industrial resources. Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaly Churkin reportedly went to Belgrade to meet with Serb officials to support the Vance-Owen plan. 2288/

(c) International reported events

254. The Clinton Administration refused to sign a Security Council endorsement of the Vance-Owen plan. Britain, France and Spain reportedly expressed disappointment. 2289/

31. 31/3/93 (Wednesday)

(a) Military activity

Combat and Shelling Activity: In its monthly operational report, UNPROFOR characterized March as alternating between tense days (at the beginning of the month and between 16 and 22 March) and periods of calm. Tops of registered rounds were reached with 2,400 "all nature impacts" on 21 March and a low of zero impacts on 28 March. UNPROFOR commented that it should be kept in mind that the evacuation of a very well situated observer's post, due to shelling, had considerably decreased its ability to observe activities. UNPROFOR noted that at last a cease-fire seemed to have been respected at the end of the month, but that this was perhaps due to the snow that had submerged Sarajevo. 2290/ Source(s): UNPROFOR.

Targets Hit: Not specified

Description of Damage: Not specified

Sniping Activity: Not specified

Casualties: Not specified

Narrative of Events:

255. No incidents reported.

(b) Local reported events

256. UNPROFOR reported that decisions to cancel airlifts and difficulties on the roads due to the snow made Sarajevo an isolated city. UNPROFOR reported that 41 utility repair missions had been completed and 12 canceled (eight for safety reasons and four for technical reasons). UNPROFOR also reported 16,000 airport crossing attempts, with a low of 18 attempts on 17-18 March and a high of 1,071 on 27-28 March. 2291/

257. Vitaly Churkin, Russian representative in the negotiating process on BiH arrived in Pale in the company of Gennadiy Shikin, Russian Ambassador to