



Security Council

Distr.
GENERALS/24081
10 June 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 6 JUNE 1992 FROM THE PRESIDENT
OF THE PRESIDENCY OF BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA ADDRESSED
RESPECTIVELY TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Despite all statements and information being disseminated by the regime in Belgrade and the former Yugoslav Army, the aggression against Bosnia and Herzegovina continues at an intensified pace.

Approximately 85 per cent of the territory of our country is under attack. Statements by Belgrade and the Yugoslav Army that they do not fully control forces that are ruthlessly killing innocent civilians and destroying entire cities in Bosnia and Herzegovina are not true.

The former Yugoslav Army has withdrawn only a relatively small number of officers and troops, leaving more than 80,000 soldiers together with a large supply of weapons including tanks, aircraft and rockets.

The Belgrade regime and its army cannot deny responsibility for what they are doing in Bosnia and Herzegovina by simply replacing its Yugoslav "label" with a Serb paramilitary label.

We remind Your Excellency that Yugoslav Army fighter jets which rocketed and bombarded the towns of Tuzla and Gorazde had taken off from the military base in Batajnica near Belgrade and Podgorina in Montenegro. The attacks occurred after the United Nations Security Council had passed resolution 757.

Since then, new heavy weapons, including 185 mm artillery and surface-to-surface Scud missiles, have been deployed on Vlasic Mountain from where they have targeted Sarajevo.

It was also after passage of resolution 757 that most of the massacres were committed in Prijedor and Kozarac where 100 Muslims and Croats were slaughtered and thousands of civilians expelled in one day.

In Western Bosnia, hundreds of villages were set on fire after their inhabitants were driven from their homes. Many were killed by the aggressors or burned to death in their homes. In Mostar, three main bridges were destroyed.

In Tuzla, the aggressor has attacked a major chemical facility, which could cause a massive ecological catastrophe encompassing much of Southern Europe. Stocks of chlorine there are 128 times larger than they were in Bhopal, India, before the disaster.

Over the last weekend, Sarajevo suffered the greatest destruction since the end of the sixteenth century, when it was decimated by Eugenio de Savcic. The bombardment occurred after Friday's evacuation of the Yugoslav Army barracks in the centre of Sarajevo and acceptance of the agreement on reopening Sarajevo airport under United Nations control.

I assure Your Excellency that after two months of war in Bosnia-Herzegovina, nothing has changed in the character of the conflict. It remains ruthless, unabated aggression by Serbia and Montenegro which, together with the former Yugoslav Army, seek to realize their aims which could not be achieved through political means. The aggressors have sought "ethnic cleansing" as a precondition for secession from Bosnia and Herzegovina and merger with Serbia and Montenegro.

We urge the United Nations and the international community to act in defence of innocent civilians who are facing death from starvation and armed attacks. The worst human catastrophe since World War II is only days away. We cannot wait another day for decisive action.

I would be grateful if you would have this letter circulated immediately as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alija IZETBEGOVIC
President

