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LETTER DATED 12 APRIL 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit the enclosed seventh submission of the Government of the United States of America as requested by paragraph 5 of Security Council resolution 771 (1992) and paragraph 1 of Security Council resolution 780 (1992).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Madeleine ALBRIGHT

Annex

Supplemental United States Submission of Information to
The United Nations Security Council
In Accordance with Paragraph 5 of Resolution 771 (1992)
and Paragraph 1 of Resolution 780 (1992)
April 9, 1993

This is the seventh submission by the United States Government of information pursuant to paragraph 5 of Security Council resolution 771 (1992) relating to the violations of humanitarian law, including grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions, being committed in the territory of the former Yugoslavia. As in our previous reports, we have focused on grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions and, in accordance with resolution 771, have provided information that is "substantiated," that is, which rests upon eyewitness testimony directly available to us or that includes detail sufficient for corroboration.

As with previous reports, we have tried to ensure that our collection effort has been even-handed and aimed at gathering information on crimes committed by all parties to the conflict. It should be noted, however, that access to independent sources within the territory of the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro has proved very difficult, due to limitations imposed by authorities in those areas.

We have tried not to duplicate information provided to us from other countries and non-governmental sources, which we understand will submit reports pursuant to resolutions 771 and 780. The United States has further information substantiating the incidents included in this report, which we will make available on a confidential basis directly to the Commission of Experts, established under Security Council resolution 780.

In accordance with paragraph 1 of resolution 780, the United States intends to continue providing reports as additional relevant information comes into our possession. As in our previous reports, the notations at the end of each of the items indicate the source from which the information was drawn.

FORMER YUGOSLAVIA:
GRAVE BREACHES OF THE FOURTH GENEVA CONVENTION

SEVENTH SUBMISSION

WILLFUL KILLING

Jun-Sep 92 A 32-year-old Muslim had fled with some other men into the woods around his village of Carakovo in early May 1992. On June 22, after nearly two months of hiding, Serbian soldiers captured him, the six men with whom he had been hiding, and another 22 men from the village.

An estimated 40 Serb soldiers wearing JNA uniforms marched the men along the road to a spot called "Poljski Put" near the Sidrov Kavana (Anchor Cafe), where they ordered the men to sit on the ground. The Serb soldiers then threw two pictures of Tito onto the ground in front of the men and told some of them to tear up the pictures and eat them.

After this, the Serbs began to take the men one by one off to the side to beat them. The witness saw them carve orthodox crosses into the chests of some of the men. After each prisoner was beaten, he was taken into a nearby shed and shot. The beatings and killings lasted about two hours, during which time the group's commander was in a nearby yard and did nothing to stop the violence.

As the soldiers tried to carve a cross into the twentieth man in the group, the prisoner struggled free -- his head covered with blood and one eyeball hanging from its socket. A soldier then shot the man in the head and nearly shot one of his comrades in the process. At this point, the commander ordered the soldiers to stop the killings before they killed one of their own. Thus, nine men, including the witness, survived.

The nine survivors were loaded onto a bus for Keraterm camp. As the bus drove off, the witness saw the shed that held the corpses of the 20 dead men engulfed in flames.

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This witness was in Room Three at Keraterm on the night of July 24, 1992, when Serbian guards opened fire on the room with machine guns. He said that 157 men were killed, and 57 wounded.

On September 3, 1992, the witness was transferred with about 1,000 other prisoners to Trnopolje camp, where he said security was lax and prisoners were allowed out of the camp to find food. After 19 days at Trnopolje, the witness escaped. (Department of State)

Summer 92 According to Muslim witnesses, Muslims conducted revenge killings in Gorazde during the summer of 1992, executing innocent Serbs summarily and destroying whole districts where Serbs had congregated. Gorazde city officials confirmed that there had been no trials. (The New York Times)

Jul 92 A 57-year-old Bosnian Muslim witnessed the "ethnic cleansing" of Prijedor in late July 1992.

The Serbs in Prijedor killed large numbers of Muslims in the Muslim section located in the city center. The witness saw them massacre 18 Muslim men at the home of Mustafa Ceric, who was one of the victims. JNA soldiers cut off two fingers (the little finger and the ring finger) of each man's hand "so they could make the sign of the cross." They then cut off the men's noses and ears, and finally cut their throats.

The bodies of these 18 men were put on a truck together with 40 or 50 bodies of other men killed in Partizanska Ulica and were buried in the old coal mines at Tomasica, south of Prijedor. (Department of State)

Jul 92 A 40-year-old Muslim woman witnessed the killing of Foca Muslims in early July 1992.

One night at 9:00 pm, the witness saw Serbs leading a group of seven people up to the "Tito" sign on a hill overlooking Foca. She said the group was driven up the hill in a yellow mini-van. The group included Nezir Hatibovic, a dentist, and his wife, Majda. She saw the Serbs make the group strip, take their money and identification cards, and murder them with knives. The bodies were thrown into the Drina River.

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During the next four to five days the witness saw the same yellow mini-van bringing people to the same site where they were slaughtered in the same fashion. She saw some bodies thrown in the Drina and others thrown into trucks that were driven away.

The witness said the van came from the direction of the men's prison at the KP Dom and she suspected the victims were prisoners from that camp. She believes there is a mass grave under the "Tito" sign, and two or three mass graves near the outdoor stadium in Foca. (Department of State)

3 Jul 92 A middle-aged Muslim woman described the attack on her village of Trosan, near Foca.

Local Serbs had surrounded Trosan from April 8 to July 3, 1992, prohibiting Muslims from entering or leaving. Every night the villagers slept in the woods out of fear of being attacked. They returned by day for food.

On July 3, an 80-member band of local Serbs attacked the sleeping villagers in the woods. The band called themselves White Eagles and had White Eagle emblems on the shoulders of their camouflage uniforms. Their leader was a man from a neighboring village, and known to the witness.

The band started the attack by opening fire on the group, immediately killing Edhem Barlov, Selman Kobilar, Esad Calovo, Selima Pekaz, and Faila Odobasic. At least four others were wounded and a woman was beaten until she fainted. Everyone was treated roughly. Eventually another local Serb approached the group and told them to leave the villagers alone.

The villagers were then separated -- men in one group, women in another. When the approximately 35 women and children were led away about 20 meters, the Serbs opened automatic weapons fire on the men. The women and children, who were not allowed to bury the dead or see who was killed, were led around Trosan through the woods and observed the burning of all 30 homes in the village. (Department of State)

Jun-Jul 92 A 55-year-old Bosnian Muslim from Brcko stated that Serbian forces "stormed" into the suburb of Novo Brcko. "Chetniks," including White Eagle forces, shot rifles into the windows of residences and drove people into the street. All residents were put into six trucks, which made about three trips to ferry the people to an area where three schools were co-located.

The residents of Novo Brcko were gathered onto the combined athletic fields of the schools. With megaphones, the captors directed Serbs to one part of the field, Croats to another, and Muslims to yet another. Members of mixed marriages and children were not permitted to remain together. Along with a group of males aged 13 and older, the witness was among the first prisoners taken to Luka camp, where he was forced to sign documents "selling" his property in Novo Brcko at a low price to a Serb whom he identified.

During his first days at the camp, the captors called out names of prisoners from electoral rolls. All those who were members of the SDA (a Bosnian, primarily Muslim, political party) or who had held positions of leadership in business or industry were killed. Shootings often occurred at 4:00 am. The witness estimates that during his first week at Luka more than 2,000 men were killed and thrown into the Sava River. (See section that includes mass graves.)

After four days of mass shootings, there was a lull. From the fifth day, prisoners who were ethnic Serbs and were accused of being disloyal to the "Chetnik" cause were taken for interrogation and beatings.

The witness was interrogated on the seventh day of his captivity. This was the stage when detainees with property or money were subjected to questioning and torture. The witness, who was affluent, would not describe his own beating. By this point, all prisoners known to have been politically active had already been killed.

Following his second week in the Luka facility, the witness saw guards torture or kill Serbs who had hidden or helped Muslims. The camp commander designated a Bosnian Serb who had been a waiter at a Brcko hotel to seek out specific ethnic Serb prisoners for interrogation because he knew most of the Brcko area residents by name.

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After the witness had been interrogated, he was taken with other prisoners to Hanger Two of the loading dock, where they were forced to look at a pile of more than 200 corpses or torsos. Most of the body parts had been chopped off: hands, arms, and genitals. The prisoners standing outside Hanger Two were told they would end up like that if they told lies while being interrogated.

When the 13-year-old son of Rasko Kartal tried to protect his father from the sight, one of the "Chetniks" hit the boy with the butt of a gun, shattering his face. The guard killed the father with three shots when Rasko went after the guard for crushing the boy's face.

Looking out the window during one of his interrogations, the witness saw the soldiers gang-rape a woman whom he had known since his school days, and murder her husband. A Brcko school teacher among the guards, an ethnic Serb, was shot dead for refusing to join in the torture and killing of this couple.

The witness identified many of those responsible for the atrocities at Luka, including its second camp commander. This commander, according to the witness, showed serious concern over the fact that some guards carried out their "duties" with knives. Most other guards at Luka were also visibly afraid of the knife-wielding guards, who were regularly seen castrating male prisoners. (Department of State)

Jun-Jul 92 A 38-year-old Bosnian Muslim described the beating deaths of two men at Omarska camp.

He recalled a Croatian man, under 30 years old, named Petrovic, who had come from Ljubija. The Serbian guards were especially brutal to Petrovic and beat him repeatedly in the "White House" over several days. After the last such beating, the witness helped take the bloody shirt off his back and saw that it was bruised black from waist to neck. Petrovic died about 4:00 am on July 1 or 2.

A man in his twenties, named Avdic, was beaten in the "White House" repeatedly over the same open wounds until the witness could see the bone in his upper back where the skin and muscle had been torn away. The wounds, oozing blood, had festered so much that other prisoners could not bear to sit next to him because of the stench. About 1:00 pm on August 18 or 19, the Serbian guards took Avdic outside. The witness heard a burst of gunfire about an hour later. He never saw Avdic again.
(Department of State)

13 Jun 92 A 22-year-old Bosnian Muslim was part of the June 13, 1992, roundup in Mostar of approximately 200 Bosnian Muslim and Croatian men, women, and children by Bosnian Serb forces. They were taken to Zalik, at the northern end of Mostar.

At about 4:00 pm on that day, the chief of police in Zalik ordered the women and children separated from the men, who were marched to the JNA Sjevrni Logor military installation located nearby. After their names were registered on a roster, the men were put on three small trucks. Between 12 to 15 Serbian irregulars boarded a fourth truck, and the four-vehicle convoy departed for Sutine, located several kilometers north of Zalik.

Upon their arrival in Sutine, the prisoners were taken to a building that belonged to the cemetery and was adjacent to the Sutine landfill. The building was being used as an interrogation and processing center for Bosnian Muslim and Croatian prisoners. Two of the rooms in the building were used for interrogation and torture of prisoners.

One by one the prisoners were led to one of the interrogation rooms, where they were beaten and tortured by an inspector and two or three guards. After being indiscriminately beaten and tortured, the prisoners were taken outside and executed by either the inspector, with a pistol shot to the head, or by the guards, with a burst from their automatic rifles.

Over a period of 90 minutes, bodies of executed prisoners were dumped into the Sutine landfill at a rate of about one body every five minutes. The witness, who was wounded and assumed dead, escaped from the landfill later at night. (Department of State)

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1 Jun 92 A 62-year-old Bosnian Muslim witnessed the willful killing by ethnic Serb paramilitary forces of at least 53 men, women, and children in the village of Prhovo, Bosnia.

At about 3:00 pm on May 30, 1992, a large force of ethnic Serb paramilitary soldiers and three armored personnel carriers entered Prhovo, a village located about seven kilometers northeast of Kjud. The village, which contained 45 houses grouped along a main road and several small streets, had more than 150 inhabitants.

The soldiers, who wore stocking masks over their faces, went from house to house searching for weapons. After finding some weapons, the soldiers proceeded to ransack the homes, break windows and doors, and pull the residents out into the streets. These men, women, and children were ordered to fold their hands behind their heads and were herded through the village to a point on the road where they were stopped and lined up.

Meanwhile, the soldiers attempted to coax back into the village those residents who had run into the woods when the soldiers arrived. The soldiers announced through megaphones that the residents would not be harmed if they returned. When these people returned, the soldiers beat them severely; about 10 were beaten into unconsciousness.

The assembled villagers were then told that they were free, that they need not worry anymore, and that they must place white flags on their homes to indicate the village had surrendered. During the nights of May 30-31, some people fled to the woods while others slept in their cellars.

At about 6:00 pm on June 1, the soldiers returned and again used megaphones to call people in from the forest. They also went from house to house, pulling people out into the streets. The male residents were beaten severely. At about 7:00 pm, the soldiers began murdering the residents with automatic weapons. They fired single shots, then long bursts of automatic gunfire.

After the shooting stopped and the soldiers had departed, the witness, who had fled to the woods when the shooting started, returned to the village. The murdered men, women, and children lay in the streets. Houses were burning and their roofs were collapsing. Some women and children who had hidden in basements began coming into the street crying and looking for their loved ones.

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The following 53 people were killed in the massacre:

	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	APPROX AGE	REMARKS
1.	Ekrem	HADZIC	32	
2.	Izet	HADZIC	30	
3.	Suvad	HADZIC	31	
4.	Zijad	HADZIC	30	husband of 5
5.	Riubija	HADZIC	32	wife of 4
6.	Amel	HADZIC	14	son of 4 and 5
7.	Amela	HADZIC	9	daughter of 4 and 5
8.	Hajro	HADZIC	55	
9.	Hasim	HADZIC	34	son of 8
10.	Senad	HADZIC	17	grandson of 8
11.	Ilfad	BRKOVIC	45	husband of 12
12.	Rasema	BRKOVIC	45	wife of 11
13.	Nisveta	BRKOVIC	10	daughter of 12 and 13
14.	Camil	MEDANOVIC	40	
15.	Enes	MEDANOVIC	21	
16.	Sulejman	MEDANOVIC	55	
17.	Ahmo	MEDANOVIC	59	brother of 16
18.	Vahid	MEDANOVIC	60	
19.	Suvad	MEDANOVIC	23	son of 18
20.	Safet	MEDANOVIC	32	
21.	Nasiha	MEDANOVIC	30	
22.	Enesa	MEDANOVIC	20	
23.	Fadila	MEDANOVIC	18	
24.	Hadzire	MEDANOVIC	65	
25.	Indira	MEDANOVIC	7	
26.	Hava	MEDANOVIC	30	
27.	Arif	MEDANOVIC	70	
28.	Sefik	MEDANOVIC	28	
29.	Teufik	MEDANOVIC	30	
30.	Fatime	MEDANOVIC	55	
31.	Midheta	MEDANOVIC	18	
32.	Hasan	MEDANOVIC	45	
33.	Halil	MEDANOVIC	22	son of 32
34.	Mujo	MEDANOVIC	15	son of 32
35.	Hilmo	JUSIC		
36.	Nedzad	JUSIC		
37.	Nermin	JUSIC		
38.	Enisa	JUSIC		
39.	Azemine	JUSIC		
40.	Emira	JUSIC		
41.	Samira	JUSIC		
42.	Latif	JUSIC		
43.	Ramiza	JUSIC		
44.	Osme	JUSIC		
45.	Isak	MESIC		
46.	Ismet	MESIC		
47.	Gane	MESIC		
48.	Ismeta	MESIC		
49.	Kamanfie	OSMANOVIC		
50.	Tehvid	OSMANOVIC		
51.	Rufad	OSMANOVIC		
52.	Mehmed	DEDIC		
53.	Hamdo	ISLAMAGIC		

Most of the survivors left Prhovo on June 2 to live with friends and relatives in nearby villages. The witness and a few other Muslim men buried the dead on June 9. (Department of State)

May-Jul 92 An elderly Muslim woman was living with her family on the outskirts of the Muslim-controlled area of Gorazde when, in May 1992, "Uzicki corps" from the Serbian town of Uzicka stationed tanks on the mountain of Povrsnica, outside Gorazde.

On May 4, the Serbs announced that a Muslim had killed a Serb and, according to the witness, used this as a pretext to begin bombing the city. She saw the Serb bombing of the Hotel Drina, which housed numerous Muslim female and child refugees from neighboring areas, and the victims' bodies strewn over the pavement.

From May 4, local Serbs, who had roamed around town harassing Muslims, removed the stockings they had been wearing over their heads to conceal their identities. Thus, the witness was able to identify many of the perpetrators of atrocities in Gorazde.

In mid-June, the witness saw Serbian soldiers massacre Muslims in a settlement at the foot of the mountain and throw the bodies into the Drina River. On July 19, a Serb soldier came to her house on the Povrsnica mountain and killed her daughter. Local Serbs had already taken away her son-in-law on May 26. (Department of State)

May-Jun 92 Two Bosnian Muslims witnessed Serbian actions against a series of villages from a hill above Prijedor and identified some of the men who helped command the attacks and performed executions.

On May 27, 1992, there was a skirmish when a Serbian patrol stumbled upon a Muslim checkpoint on the road from Harambine to Ljubija. Three Serbs were killed. The Serbs then gave an ultimatum for the village of Harambine to surrender. Soon after this, the "Sixth Krajina brigade" attacked Harambine, using three tanks in the fighting. From Caracovo, the two witnesses could see the village of Harambine in flames. The Serb forces then moved on to Kozarac and Biscani.

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On June 23, three days after the attack on Biscani, the Serbs moved against Carakovo. Radio Prijedor had announced that Muslims should not be afraid, that the soldiers were only looking for extremists. Both witnesses were hiding in the village during the attack. The attack began at 8:15 in the morning. The Serbs first killed two older men by slitting their throats.

The witnesses then heard gunfire and afterward saw a pile of 15-20 bodies in the street. Seventeen people were forced into a local mosque. The soldiers then burned down the mosque with the people inside.

The two witnesses eventually escaped across the border into Croatia. (Department of State)

6 May 92 A 55-year-old Bosnian Muslim was in Kremalusa on May 5, 1992, when White Eagles surrounded the village and opened fire with machine guns and mortars.

The Serbian irregulars continued firing at the village until the afternoon of May 6 when they moved into the village and began to search the houses and round up the occupants. They used the witness as a point man and human shield when they entered the houses, and as a precaution against booby traps.

During the searches, the soldiers were looking primarily for gold, western currency, and weapons. Some residents who were believed to be wealthy or who had a family member working in western Europe were killed for not surrendering the gold or foreign currency that they were expected to have; the houses, with the bodies inside, were then set on fire.

If the occupants were too old to leave the building without assistance, no efforts were made to remove them, and the buildings were simply set on fire with the elderly occupants still inside. The witness identified the leader and several members of this search party.

Some of the Kremalusa victims were: 80-year-old Imam Abid Ukara, who was burned alive in his daughter's house; 66-year-old Serif Ukara, who was burned alive in his own house; 40-year-old Saban Ukara, who was killed and then burned in his house; 75- to 80-year-old Hasan Polovina and his 40-year-old daughter, Sida Polovina, both killed and then burned in their home; 40-year-old Tija Bojadzija, who was killed and then burned when his house was set on fire. (Department of State)

26 Apr 92 A 62-year-old Muslim joined other villagers to visit the Yugoslav National Army military installation in Pilipovic, a small village outside Foca, for protection from the fighting in the surrounding area.

At 1:00 pm, 50 White Eagles came to the military installation and searched all the Muslims for money. At one point during this search, the witness saw the White Eagles select six people from the group and shoot them in a field 50 meters away. Four were killed: 80-year-old Meho Dedovic, 57-year-old Sarko Sahovic, 37-year-old Vahid Frasto, and 29-year-old Munir Termiz. (Department of State)

TORTURE OF PRISONERS

May-Dec 92 A 38-year-old Bosnian Muslim described his torture and imprisonment in the Keraterm, Omarska, and Manjaca camps.

After the wave of Serbian attacks began in northern Bosnia-Herzegovina in April 1992, the witness fought for about one month with the local Kozarac Territorial Defense Force in defense of the town. Serbian forces captured him on May 25, 1992, when his small patrol ran into an ambush.

The Serbs tied him to a tree and beat him. He has a deep scar on his left arm and another scar on his right thigh caused when a Serb stuck a knife into his leg and twisted it. They also knocked out some of his teeth and tried to cut off part of his left index finger. A group of about 50 other Serb irregulars came by and took him to Prijedor prison on the evening of May 25.

On May 29, three Serbs who were not guards in Prijedor prison beat him and two other Muslim prisoners for at least half an hour with their fists and steel pipes. The witness was bleeding and half-conscious on the floor when he heard one of the Serbs tell another not to bother hitting him, that he was already dead. The witness said he could identify the three again.

On May 30, other Serbs took the witness to Prijedor hospital and put him in a large ward with other Muslim and Croatian patients. A Serbian nurse put him on intravenous treatment, which he believes saved his life.

On the morning of June 6 or 7, a Serbian doctor announced that all Muslim and Croatian patients, about 100 people, had to leave Prijedor hospital immediately. The Muslim and Croatian medical staff also had to leave. The witness was moved by truck to Keraterm camp where he spent about 20 days before being moved on June 26 to Omarska camp.

While at Omarska camp, the witness was beaten on two occasions in the "White House." He and other prisoners were moved in late August to Manjaca camp, where he said Serbian guards kicked and hit him, but not as badly as those at Omarska. The witness was very grateful to the ICRC for providing the food that kept him from starving until his release on December 14. (Department of State)

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Aug-Oct 92 Three Bosnian Muslim men from Bileca -- aged 33, 35, and 39 -- witnessed the rounding up of the entire male Muslim population of their village, placement of these men in detention centers, and the final "ethnic cleansing" of Bileca by local Serbian authorities.

The 35-year-old witness described how 50 men were singled out for physical abuse at the detention center in Bilica. Each night the police would enter the camp and conduct "telephone" torture. This method consisted of delivering 40-volt electrical shocks through a telephone wire affixed to their fingers. Each time the phone was dialed, the prisoners received massive electrical shocks.

The same witness said that between 9:00 and 10:00 pm on September 5, police came to the jail claiming to be White Eagles and threatened to kill all the inmates. In response to this threat, the prisoners boarded up the iron door to their cell to prevent the White Eagles from entering.

A Serbian guard helped the prisoners by warning them that the White Eagles were returning and not to let them in. The guard then threw the key to their cell in the bushes. For having helped the Muslims, the Serbian guard was beaten and held in an isolation cell with four Muslims.

The White Eagles shot at the cell and threw tear gas into the windows. During the three-hour siege, six prisoners were wounded by bullets. The White Eagles left shortly after midnight.

The three witnesses provided names of those responsible for much of the torture and "ethnic cleansing," but all were afraid to release the names of Serbians who had helped the Muslims for fear of retribution against these Serbs. The three witnesses were released on October 5. (Department of State)

Jun-Sep 92 A 37-year-old Bosnian Muslim was one of 183 Muslims being held at the central prison in Zvornik on June 29, 1992. All were from the surrounding area. The prisoners were beaten day and night. Every two to three hours, the guards would enter the cells and take a group of five to ten prisoners with them for interrogation, during which time they were beaten by four to five guards at a time.

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The guards would kick the prisoners with boots and beat them with rifle butts and ax or shovel handles. Some of the prisoners taken for interrogation did not come back to their cells, and were believed to have died from beatings. Every day new prisoners were brought to the Zvornik prison and an equal number of prisoners were taken to the Batkovic camp.

Between July 15 and September 23, the ICRC visited Batkovic camp twice. One visit was on or about August 15. Each time, prior to the arrival of Red Cross personnel, the guards would take away the beaten prisoners and children under the age of 14 and hide them. The prisoners were taken to the town of Raca, where the rivers Sava and Drina join together. The prisoners were brought back after the departure of the Red Cross personnel.

After the first visit to the Manjaca camp by the news media, the Serbs transferred 700 prisoners from Manjaca to Batkovic. Between July 15 and September 23, the Serbs made at least four or five such transfers. In addition, two similar prisoner transfers were made from Omarska to Batkovic.

A prisoner who was transferred from the Luka camp in Brcko to the Batkovic camp in early September 1992 stated that while at the Luka camp he was assigned to a working party whose daily mission was to destroy corpses. The working party would collect the corpses from a freezer located at a meat processing plant and dump them into a meat processing machine. After the corpses were ground up, the working party would load the processed corpses into the trucks and dump them into the Sava River. (Department of State)

Apr-Aug 92 A 59-year-old Bosnian Muslim from Foca was at home on April 27, 1992, when Serbian special forces entered his home and forced him and his son to go outside. The soldiers wore camouflage uniforms and black headbands and were complete strangers to him. He assumes they came from Serbia because they spoke in the "Ekovski" dialect.

The witness, his son, and 18 other men from the neighborhood were taken by buses to the local "KP Dom," a criminal rehabilitation center near the railway bridge on the Drina River. According to the witness, 560 Muslim men, all from the greater Foca area, were interned at KP Dom. The Serbs running the camp kept written records and biographic files on all those interned. Interrogations focused primarily on uncovering which Muslims in town had weapons.

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Those running the center instilled fear in the Muslim prisoners by selecting certain prisoners for beatings. From his window in Room 13, the witness saw prisoners regularly being taken to a building where beatings were conducted. This building was close enough for him to hear the screams of those who were being beaten.

The witness said about four men were beaten almost every night between midnight and 1:00 am. From his window in Room 13, he saw prisoners, covered with blood, leaving the building. The witness remained at KP Dom until his release on August 29, 1992.
(Department of State)

Jun-Jul 92 A 55-year-old Bosnian Muslim from Brcko was a prisoner at Luka camp during which time he observed a Serbian woman in her 20's (later in this report described under the name of Monika) beat "handsome" male prisoners, aged 20 to 30, on the genitals repeatedly and for extended periods of time.

The witness said that on Wednesdays and Saturdays, guards raped teen-aged girls (described later in this report). Monika and certain other guards routinely lined up handsome young men, Croat against Muslim, in rows of three or four. The male prisoners were forced to perform sodomy on one another while being taunted by laughing guards.

According to the witness, the younger handsome males at Luka suffered the most horrific abuses by far of any group of prisoners. (Department of State)

18 Apr 92 A 43-year-old Bosnian Muslim from Foca was in Sokovac on April 18, 1992, when she witnessed Serbs set fire to all the homes 500 meters below her mother's home.

The witness was arrested at the same time by these men who shouted at her, "Do you know who we are? We are Chetniks!" They wore stockings over their faces to conceal their identity.

The soldiers brought the witness to KP Dom, a detention facility, to be interrogated. Following the interrogation, she was beaten with a rifle butt and bled from her ears and mouth. She then was thrown into a cell where she was the only woman. A half hour later, a Muslim man who had been wounded by a bullet and beaten on the head was thrown into the same cell.

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Two other prisoners came into the cell; one was vomiting blood, the other barely recognizable because of his beating. The witness said that guards threatened to cut her up and throw her into the Drina River. She was also forced to hand over her wedding ring when a Serb fighter threatened to cut off her finger. The witness eventually was released and put on a convoy out of Bosnia.
(Department of State)

ABUSE OF CIVILIANS IN DETENTION CENTERS

Jul-Aug 92 A 40-year-old Muslim woman was at home on July 14, 1992, in Foca when 26 Serbian soldiers -- claiming to be "Seseljovci" from Trebinje -- came to her door. She said that she did not know most of the soldiers because their accents were not local, but that two Foca Serbs had led them to the Muslim homes.

The soldiers hit the witness on the head twice with a police truncheon, asked for her husband, and ordered her to go outside. They sliced the neck of a 16-year-old boy with a rusty knife while asking for his father; the boy was not seriously injured. Then they ordered the Muslims to kiss an orthodox cross, which they all did.

After separating the men from the women and children, they took the latter group to the police station. As the group was leaving, the soldiers burned the Muslim houses. The women and children were separated into four groups at the police station and taken to separate houses confiscated from Muslim owners. The witness was placed with a group of 28 women. One of the soldiers told her that women, children, and old people were being taken to these homes because they were "not worth a bullet." They were kept in this house for 27 days.

Day and night, soldiers came to the house taking two to three women at a time. There were four to five guards at all times, all local Foca Serbs. The women knew the rapes would begin when "Mars Na Drinu" was played over the loudspeaker of the main mosque. ("Mars Na Drinu," or "March on the Drina," is reportedly a former "Chetnik" fighting song that was banned during the Tito years.)

While "Mars Na Drinu" was playing, the women were ordered to strip and soldiers entered the homes, taking away the ones they wanted. The ages of women taken ranged from 12 to 60. Frequently the soldiers would seek out mother and daughter combinations. Many of the women were severely beaten during the rapes.

The witness was selected twice. The first time, soldiers had entered and grabbed an 18-year-old girl, asking her if she were a virgin. She said she was. Licking his knife, one of the soldiers said that if they found she was not, he would butcher her. The witness pleaded with them not take the girl but to take her instead. "We'll take you too," they said.

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While the witness was being raped, her rapist told her, "You should have already left this town. We'll make you have Serbian babies who will be Christians." Two soldiers raped her at that time; five soldiers raped the 18-year-old girl in full view of the witness.

The next time the witness was raped, her rapists showed her that they had had themselves circumcised so as not to "disgust" the women. She said she knew of four local Serbs who had had themselves circumcised for the rapes. She said at least 12 other women could testify to this.

The witness also said she was forced to drink alcohol and eat pork at the rape house. Many women threw up and then were beaten for getting sick. Some women from her house were taken to a hotel near Tjentiste and raped there. The women were permitted to leave on August 18, 1992, on a convoy evacuating Muslims from Foca. (Department of State)

Jul-Aug 92 A middle-aged Muslim woman described the abuse of women following the attack on her village of Trosan, near Foca, on July 3, 1992.

An 80-member band of local Serbs had attacked Trosan and taken approximately 35 women and children to Buk Bijelo, a construction site for a dam, where they were kept for three to four hours in a workers' barracks. All the women's gold was confiscated. The band of Serbs started raping the women in a separate room of the barracks.

One woman was raped by 24 different soldiers before she was led away. The witness knows of no one who has heard from her since that time. Two 16-year-old girls were taken to the other room and could not stand up when they were brought back. The witness identified the men who participated in the rapes; another witness identified the chief of police, who reportedly had signed a document ordering the rapes.

A 28-year-old woman was taken by Serbian soldiers around midnight on August 12 to the outdoor sports stadium in Foca. There she was raped by 28 soldiers before losing consciousness. In addition, the soldiers burned her body with cigarettes and cigarette lighters.

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The group was then taken to Foca high school where they spent eight days. Every night, three to five women were taken away and often returned severely beaten. They were then taken by truck to the "Partizan" sport center in the middle of downtown Foca for 40 days. The women and children were not allowed to change their clothes and were fed only some bread at night.

This group from Trosan was the first group to be interned at Partizan, but more came later, eventually totaling 74 detainees. In addition to women and children, there were five elderly men. During her time at Partizan, the witness said that "soldiers" entered day and night to lead away young women. One 24-year-old woman was raped in front of the entire group of detainees. (Department of State)

Jun-Jul 92 A 55-year-old Bosnian Muslim from Brcko was a prisoner at Luka camp during which time he saw teen-age girls being brought, eight to ten at a time, into the camp commander's office building on Wednesdays and Saturdays, between about 2:00 and 6:00 pm. The teen-agers came only those two days of the week.

Monika, a Serbian woman in her early 20's, would say "we've brought them." The camp commander would take his time selecting a girl, who would then be escorted upstairs. Once the commander had made his choice, three or four guards would select another girl, and so on. Only the commander had a girl to himself.

The witness identified Monika as the well-known daughter of Brcko's leading prostitute. She bragged about her job of going around town to "buy and prepare" the girls, and she was assisted by three men who participated in the "delivery service," as well as serving as "police" at Luka prison. The witness identified all of the aforementioned people, and provided names of girls known to be dead and presumed to have died from being gang-raped at Luka camp.

Monika brought a nurse to Luka to "prepare the girls and make them calm." The girls apparently had no idea what was going to happen to them because they were only slightly frightened. The witness implied that the nurse was coerced into "treating" the girls. The witness observed Monika beating young men on the genitals repeatedly and for extended periods of time.

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The nurse, also a fellow refugee, said that Monika had stabbed one girl, who had resisted being sent to the soldiers, on the breast and in the vagina with the broken neck of a glass bottle; the girl bled to death. The nurse personally witnessed this incident. (Department of State)

18 Apr 92 A 37-year-old Serbian woman described her rape by Croatian soldiers following the shelling of her village near Odzak in Bosnia.

"The Croats came for me at 12:30 am on June 5. They broke down the door of the house and picked me out, made me walk some 20 meters away and said 'now you're going to tell us where the Chetniks are.' There were 15 of them, I knew them all, they were neighbors. They call themselves the Fire Horses brigade."

The witness was brought to a place in Posavska Mahala where she was raped by at least seven men before she passed out.

"One man ripped my clothes off and raped me; he didn't spare my mouth or my anus. He put a gun in my mouth and threatened to kill me. At 5:30 in the morning he let me go, kicking me from behind and telling me to walk home. I was naked. My 9-year-old niece was raped. They were our neighbors, the ones who raped us."

"My family is embarrassed to see me on TV, but I have to do it. Everything we owned was burned. We have nothing now." (The New York Review of Books)

IMPEDING DELIVERY OF FOOD AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES
TO THE CIVILIAN POPULATION

- 31 Mar 93 Bosnian Serbs blocked a UN humanitarian aid convoy at Mali Zvornik as it was trying to move food, plastic sheeting, and tents to Srebrenica. The general commanding the Bosnian Serb army told the UN that he would allow only empty trucks into Srebrenica, not trucks carrying relief supplies. (Department of State) (Paris AFP) (The New York Times)
- 27 Mar 93 Serbian police and Bosnian Serbs blocked a 20-truck humanitarian aid convoy with food and medicine from reaching Srebrenica; it was forced to return to Belgrade. (The Washington Post)
- 24 Mar 93 Bosnian Serbs assaulted a landing zone for UNPROFOR helicopters in Srebrenica, killing a Muslim child and wounding at least 21 persons, including two Canadian peacekeepers who suffered head wounds. Serb forces had shelled Srebrenica's post office, which was serving as a UN peacekeeping base, and then hit the landing zone before and after three French helicopters had evacuated only 22 of an estimated 300 seriously wounded Muslim civilians. Two British helicopters, sent to evacuate the wounded Canadians, also came under fire.

"It is clear that (Bosnian Serb) forces are deliberately impeding the medical evacuation from Srebrenica," said an UNPROFOR letter to the commander of those forces.

French Maj. Olivier de Bavinchove described the Bosnian Serb mortar attack as "wounding again the already wounded."

Bosnian Serbs shelled the airfield used by the helicopters in Tuzla after the departure of the helicopters for the Bosnian Serb-mandated inspection point in Zvornik. They later fired seven more shells shortly after the arrival of the British helicopters from Srebrenica.

The commander of the UN peace force in Bosnia, French Lt. Gen. Philippe Morillon, said Bosnian Serb gunners "deliberately targeted" the Tuzla airport and Srebrenica landing zone.

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At the request of the UN peacekeeping force in Bosnia, the commander of the Bosnian Serb forces arrested Serbian Colonel Ilic for having ordered the attack on Srebrenica during the UNPROFOR helicopter evacuation of wounded. Ilic will face a court martial for having broken the cease-fire agreement. (Department of State) (Reuters) (The Washington Post) (The New York Times) (The Washington Times) (API) (Warsaw Radio Warszawa Network) (Paris AFP)

19 Mar 93 Bosnian Serbs blocked a humanitarian aid convoy bound for Srebrenica at the border of Serbia and Bosnia-Herzegovina from March 11 to March 19, 1993.

At least 60,000 people trapped in the vicinity of Srebrenica faced the threat of an increased death rate by starvation, exposure to the winter weather, and lack of medical care. UNHCR staff members in the enclave said the situation had become increasingly desperate with each passing hour, with at least 40 residents dying each day. (Department of State) (Reuters) (The Washington Post) (API) (Time)

19 Mar 93 An anti-aircraft round passed within 200 meters of a British aircraft as it approached the Sarajevo airport. UNPROFOR subsequently closed the airport to humanitarian aid flights. (Reuters)

9 Mar 93 Bosnian Serb forces blocked a UN convoy of eight ambulances -- carrying mattresses, blankets, and medical aid -- that was sent from Belgrade to evacuate 70 to 75 seriously wounded civilians, mostly Muslim Slavs, from Konjevic Polje and Srebrenica. (Los Angeles Times) (Paris AFP) (The Washington Post) (API)

5 Mar 93 A grenade attack injured four drivers in a humanitarian aid convoy from Belgrade that was carrying 100 tons of flour from Croatian, Serbian, and Muslim nongovernmental organizations. The grenades reportedly were fired by Bosnian government forces. (Reuters) (Paris AFP)

4 Mar 93 A sniper near Sarajevo airport killed Chantal Godinot, a Frenchwoman with the Equilibre humanitarian organization, and wounded two Polish aid workers. Snipers ambushed the humanitarian aid convoy as it left Sarajevo. (The Washington Times) (API) (Reuters) (Paris AFP)

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DELIBERATE ATTACKS ON NON-COMBATANTS

26 Mar 93 The UN charged Serbia with the continued shelling of Srebrenica, which had caused two deaths and 41 casualties in the past few days. According to an UN official,

"We have the facts that artillery shells come from Serbia." (The Washington Post)

16 Mar 93 A Serb mortar fell about 10 meters from visiting Dutch Defense Minister Relus ter Beek in Sarajevo. The impact of the shell injured an Egyptian UNPROFOR soldier; another shell killed two civilians nearby. (Paris AFP)

13 Mar 93 Serbian nationalist troops surrounding Sarajevo launched at least three mortar bombs at the Sarajevo courthouse in which a Bosnian war crimes trial is being conducted. One mortar struck the building's roof. (The New York Times)

3 Mar 93 Snipers fired upon Canadian peacekeepers while traveling between Visoko and Kiseljac, towns located near Sarajevo. (Montreal Radio Canada International) (Paris AFP)

2 Mar 93 Bosnian Serbs fired a tank shell into Kosevo hospital complex at midday, the hospital's busiest time. The shell landed a few feet from the diagnostic building, killing one person -- named Munira -- and injuring eight others.

According to Munira's husband, this was the 177th shell to hit the hospital since April 1992. An emergency room physician said that "it happens every day, all the time."

A 60-year-old patient, victim of an earlier volley of shells, said her Serbian husband had been killed the previous week by an indiscriminate Serbian attack on Sarajevo. (The Washington Post)

OTHER, INCLUDING MASS FORCIBLE EXPULSION
DEPORTATION OF CIVILIANS, AND MASS GRAVES

- 6-7 Mar 93 Two bombs exploded during the weekend in Korcula in apparent attacks against Serbian-owned property. One boutique, whose owner was a Serb from Novi Sad, was damaged. A second bomb exploded in the courtyard of a home owned by a Serb. (Department of State)
- 2 Mar 93 Serbian forces, reportedly from the regular Serbian army (VJ), overran Cerska and obstructed the medical evacuation of the town's Muslim women, children, elderly, and 1,500 wounded. Muslims fled into the woods and in the direction of Konjevice Polje. (Department of State) (Paris AFP)
- 27 Feb 93 British UNPROFOR units in Bosnia-Herzegovina had to help carry to safety some 1,500 Muslims and 15 Croats, mostly women and children, expelled by Serbian extremists from the village of Sipov. Those expelled had been taken by bus to Turbe near Travnik and then forced to walk through snow to the other side of the battlefield. Serbs reportedly fired at the fleeing group as it crossed the no-man's land. (Department of State)
- Feb 93 Bosnian Serb authorities have required Bosnian Muslims to pay for their own deportation. A 30-year-old lawyer described his attempt "to secure permission to escape" from Bosnia:

"We've been trying to leave since summer, but it is difficult because we need money for all of the letters and guarantees. We want to go ... anywhere where our refugees are still accepted."

Bosnian Muslims are sometimes required to mark their homes with white flags, to wear white armbands for identification, and to obtain permission to walk on the streets. A local assistance worker said:

"We have restrictions on our movements. We cannot go anywhere from Banja Luka. Almost all Muslims in Banja Luka have been fired from their jobs. To walk around town, we must carry special papers."

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A 40-year-old Muslim woman described drunken vigilantes in Celinac, a village near Banja Luka:

"Every night they break into our apartments. They take away the men and demand our money."
(Los Angeles Times)

May-Sep 92 A 53-year-old Bosnian Muslim described the "ethnic cleansing" of his village Obrevena.

The witness said the Rudo district (opcina) originally had a 28% Muslim population and two mosques. In April 1991, the Serbian Democratic party (SDS) candidate, a Serbian language teacher, was elected president of Rudo. Ethnic relations were fine until the beginning of May 1992, when the police chief fired Muslim policemen and the district government called up the local reserves, excluding Muslim reservists.

In May 1992, the witness saw Serbian soldier burn the Muslim village of Polmilje and, in July, he witnessed the burning of the Muslim village of Bisevic. Also in July, the police started arresting Muslim men and interning them in a military warehouse in Rudo and at the Gojava military installation. Some were transferred to KP Dom, a criminal rehabilitation center.

On August 2, 1992, local Serb soldiers came to Obrevena. The witness recognized many of the Serbs who were dressed in camouflage uniforms with Serbian flag and SDS insignias, wearing headbands, and heavily armed. The soldiers collected nine Muslim men from the village and marched them two kilometers to a field by the Sokol Pasa mosque in Sokolovic. After the men waited there for two hours, the soldiers' leader told the men, "If you can run, then run," and released them.

The men fled toward Priboj, the closest town across the Serbian border, but were not allowed to cross the bridge over the border. They then forded the river and traveled by foot for two months through the woods until they arrived in Novi Pazar, the capital of the Muslim-controlled Sandzak area of Serbia. (Department of State)

May-Aug 92 A 46-year-old Bosnian Muslim from Mioce in the Rudo district (opcina) of eastern Bosnia described the "ethnic cleansing" of his home district. In January 1992, all Muslims had been asked to sign a loyalty oath to the "Serbian Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina" and to give up their arms; all complied.

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In May 1992, about 100 Serbian troops, led by a Serb from a neighboring village, surrounded Mioce and refused to permit Muslims to enter or leave the village. These soldiers wore stockings over their heads and dark sunglasses, and stopped people on the streets to extort money from them.

The soldiers also began looting homes, setting crops on fire, and shooting automatic weapons into the air day and night. The villagers slept in the woods. The soldiers' leader spent considerable time walking the streets of the village threatening Muslims and telling them they would die soon. He frequently said he was carrying out "orders from Pale."

At the end of July, the Serbian troops began attacking the witness's village in earnest. They burned Muslim homes, three of them with their occupants still inside. Some Muslims were taken to a camp in Rudo.

On August 1, 1992, a Serbian national assembly member came to Mioce and said that there was no longer any "control" over the Rudo district and that everyone should evacuate as soon as possible. At approximately 5:00 that afternoon, 50 Muslim families ran into the woods for Priboj, a Serbian town about 10 kilometers away. They later heard from a neighbor that all 60 Muslim homes in the village had been looted and burned.

The villagers walked from Priboj to Prijepolje, on the Montenegrin border, where they were turned back by Serbian police. They eventually took a regular bus to Novi Pazar, the capital of the Muslim-controlled Sandzak region of Serbia.
(Department of State)

Jul 92

A 27-year-old Bosnian Muslim witnessed the Bosnian Serb artillery bombardment of Biscani at about noon on July 20, 1992. Biscani was one of many Muslim villages in the Prijedor area and had a population of approximately 1,000 Muslims. Since May 1992, there had been Bosnian Serb soldiers and other officials in the town.

From May to July, their activities had been limited to provoking the population by insults, residential searches, and general harassment. The primary targets of the provocations appeared to be the wealthier and more prominent citizens of the town, including doctors, lawyers, and business owners.

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Sometime between 2:00 pm and 3:00 pm on July 20, the artillery bombardment was lifted and the town was assaulted by a force of Bosnian Serb infantry supported by one tank and one armored personnel carrier. Members of the attacking unit were Bosnian Serbs from the Prijedor area and from areas in the vicinity, such as Sanski Most and Banja Luka. The witness recognized several of the attacking soldiers as residents of the Prijedor area. All wore camouflage uniforms, red berets, and had the Serbian flag on one sleeve of their uniforms.

Small groups of soldiers quickly occupied virtually every house in the village. After they had secured each house, they shot and killed most of the male residents in or immediately outside their homes. The women and children were rounded up and placed in a small number of houses so that they would be easier to watch.

The witness observed the shooting through a window from inside one of the houses. He saw two soldiers kill Vehid Duratovic and Sadik Causevic as they attempted to run away. He also saw seven Bosnian Serb soldiers assemble five male residents of the village in front of a wall of a house across the street where one of the Bosnian Serb soldiers shot and killed them. Four of the five victims were: Rifet Duratovic, Mirsad Kadiric, Ifed Karagic, and Ibrahim Kadiric.

From July 20 to 27, the surviving local residents, mostly women and children, buried the victims' bodies in the local cemetery.

On July 27, about 35 women and children and about 15 men were rounded up by Bosnian Serb soldiers. The witness believed that this group constituted all the remaining survivors of the village. This group was forced to walk to an unknown location near the entrance to the city of Prijedor where Serb soldiers had set up a roadblock. At about 8:00 pm, a bus arrived and transported the entire group to the Trnopolje detention camp. (Department of State)

Jul 92

A Bosnian Croat from Prijedor reported the existence of 23 mass grave sites in northwestern Bosnia-Herzegovina believed to contain the remains of over 1,000 Muslim and Croatian victims of Serbian "ethnic cleansing," especially during the period July 20-25, 1992.

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He and other eyewitnesses had seen bodies being dumped in some of the locations and scores of unburied corpses lying among the trees in other locations. Nine locations containing the 23 mass graves were plotted on a map and described as follows:

First location: 23 villagers were killed at Brisevo and buried in eight graves.

Second location: 19 villagers were killed at Raljas and buried in five graves.

Third location: 43 people from Stara Rijeka were killed and buried in two graves.

Fourth location: 200 people were killed and buried in one grave in the area known as "Redak."

Fifth location: several hundred corpses were buried in the open pit iron mine at Ljubija.

Sixth location: 21 people were killed and buried in two graves in the region called "Volaric."

Seventh location: 120 people from the villages of Jugovic and Biscani were killed and buried in the village of Jubovci.

Eighth location: several tens of people were killed and buried in the left bank of the Sana River near the village of Biscani-Sredice.

Ninth location: several hundred bodies reportedly still lie unburied in the Kurevo Forest. There were reportedly 80 bodies at the base of Mount Lisina. (Department of State)

Jun-Jul 92 A 55-year-old Bosnian Muslim from Brcko, who was a prisoner at Luka camp in early June 1992, described the disposal of corpses from Luka prison. (See section on "Willful Killing.")

In the first week of June, the bodies of most of the 2,000 that he estimates were killed were thrown down a well and emerged later floating down the Sava River, surfacing at Resovo Polje and even as far away as Belgrade. As Luka guards became aware of the surfacing corpses, they took to cutting open the bodies and packing them with sand to keep them submerged. This effort did not always succeed. The third approach was to chop up corpses and burn the bodies.

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The witness strongly urges the international community to secure access to the Luka harbor and send underwater divers down to identify the corpses that were dumped there in June and July, and to excavate sites where quantities of human bones can be found. (Department of State)

Mar-Jul 92 A Muslim woman in her mid-forties described the "ethnic cleansing" of Gacko, a town with a population of 16,000.

The witness said the Serbian army first came through Gacko in March 1992, on the way to the front in Mostar. Serbs -- calling themselves White Eagles -- began destroying Muslim-owned cafes, apartments, and shops. All these Serbs were local, with the exception of some who said they were refugees from Mostar. About May 15, the White Eagles began shooting into homes and making arrests.

Around noon on June 1, soldiers arrested Muslim men as they finished their shift at the power plant where the witness worked. The soldiers put the Muslims in military transport and took about 100 men to the military prison in Avtovac, five kilometers from Gacko. The Serbian soldiers then moved from house to house arresting more Muslim men and moving them first to Avtovac and then to Hotel Terma, outside the town.

On July 4, shortly after midnight, Serbs began going house to house for the remaining Muslims. A soldier came to the witness's home and said, "You have two minutes to leave." She said that about 980 were forced to leave at this time. They were taken by bus and train eventually to the Serbian-Macedonian border, where a Muslim relief organization brought them to Skopje. (Department of State)

26 Jun 92 A 37-year-old Bosnian Muslim witnessed the arrival of local Serb paramilitary units reinforced with regular tank and infantry units from Serbia in Kozluk, Bosnia, on June 26, 1992. The units from Serbia were from Valjevo, Sabac, Loznica, Novi Sad, and Titovo Uzice. Prior to capturing the town, the Serbs bombarded it with artillery from the Gucevo mountains across the border in Serbia. On June 26, the Serbs entered the town and brought with them buses and trucks. They ordered the entire population of Kozluk to assemble in the town center. About 1,500 people assembled.

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The Serbs then read from a list the names of prominent local people and told them to move to one side. They were ordered into a bus and taken away to an unknown location; they were never seen again. Next, the Serbs segregated all the men from the women and children and ordered the men to board buses. Finally, the women and children were ordered to board buses. Before they departed, the town residents were told that for their own safety, they were being taken to a refugee camp in Palic, near Subotica. (Department of State)

18 Jun 92 A 62-year-old Bosnian Muslim described the "ethnic cleansing" of the cluster of villages known as Fazlagica Kula, in the Gacko area.

On June 18, at about 5:00 am, Serbian forces from the Serb villages of Miholjace, Srdzevici, and Medjulich advanced on the villages. "They came with tanks from every direction," said the witness. The villagers fled to the mountains and watched their villages being bombed the entire day. On June 19, Serbian infantry entered the villages and looted homes and livestock.

The witness said between 200 and 300 residents of her village managed to escape to a nearby mountain, where they stayed for 27 days. She said there were over a thousand Muslim villagers from the area at various points on the mountain. The Serbs bombed their position every day and surveilled their position by helicopter.

On July 25, the Serbs called by megaphone asking the Muslims to give up the women and children and promised protection for them. About 200-300 women and children, carrying a white flag, descended the mountain. They were brought to Gacko where the police chief put them into four military convoys and transported the women and children through Bileca to Trebinje. Rejected at Trebinje, the group was dropped off at Bileca. After 15 days in Bileca, the witness fled to Montenegro. (Department of State)

May 92 A 34-year-old Bosnian Muslim from Sokolovo saw local Serbs establish a control point on the bridge over the Sana River at the southeast end of Kljuc. The surrounding villages began to come under mortar fire and the Muslims were ordered to turn over all weapons, legal and illegal, to the Kljuc district government.

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The Muslims were told that if the weapons were not turned over, the bombardment would continue. The bombardment included the following villages: Pudin Han, Velagici, Velecevo, Dubocani, Plamenice, Prhovo, Crljeni, Gornji Ramici, Donji Ramici, Krasulje, Balijevici, Hripavci, and Kamicak.

The mortar attacks continued through May 29. Between May 31 and June 1, the witness said that Serbian forces had killed 40 persons, and that another 22 disappeared from the village of Prhovo. The murder victims lay where they had fallen nine days before they were buried. Two eyewitnesses to the murders were among those who gathered up the dead and buried them under the supervision of paramilitary forces sent by the Kljuc district.

Following these attacks, the local Serbs maintained pressure on the remaining Muslim inhabitants through a campaign of random killings, looting, rapes, and destruction of houses.

In late August, the Kljuc district government took a census of the area and announced over the radio that those who wanted to leave the area could do so, but only if they agreed to relinquish all claims to their property. The government prepared property abandonment forms for this purpose and the Muslims were required to sign them. Kljuc district officials participated as witnesses and signatories to the documents. In addition, Muslims were required to obtain a certificate allowing them to leave the area and to pay 50 Deutsch marks each for their transportation.

On September 11, the Kljuc district government set up a convoy of about eight buses and 12 large trucks in front of the Kljuc school center. All the Muslims who had the proper documentation and who had paid 50 marks were loaded aboard the vehicles at 10:00 am and the convoy departed for Vlasic mountain and Travnik, arriving about 5:00 pm. (Department of State)

27 May 92 A 32-year-old Bosnian Muslim said that on the morning of May 27, 1992, the roads across the Sana River, from his neighborhood to the center of Sanski Most, were blocked by local Serbian police and soldiers whom he believed were from the JNA. During the day, he saw the police and soldiers bringing mortars and artillery into position on the other side of the river.

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The shelling began at 9:00 pm and lasted until 8:00 the next morning. The witness estimates that the Serbs used more than 3,000 shells and mortars. In the morning, the radio announced that all those in the neighborhood who wanted to surrender should raise a white flag. Another broadcast said that all weapons should be turned in to a central police station.

Later, the radio announced that all "innocent citizens" should report to the main soccer field to "settle accounts" for the activities of the Green Berets -- a Muslim force allegedly fighting the Serbs. The witness said that nearly everyone from the neighborhood, a couple of thousand people, went to the sports field. Only those who had not heard the radio broadcast, or who were too scared or distrustful of the Serbs to go, stayed in their homes.

Once they were on the sports field, the Serbs began to "cleanse" the neighborhood. From the field, the witness watched the Serbian police and irregulars roam through streets, looting and burning houses. If they found people still in their homes, the Serbs threw a grenade through the window to kill the occupants.

Sometime in June, while being transported between detention facilities on the road between Kljuc and Sanski Most, the witness saw from the bus window a pile of 40 to 50 bodies stacked in a meadow about five meters from the road. At the foot of a hill, he saw a bulldozer digging what the witness presumed would be a mass grave. The witness gave a detailed description of the location of the site.
(Department of State)

27 May 92 A 43-year-old Bosnian Muslim was in Velagici, located approximately five kilometers northwest of Kljuc, when Bosnian Serb forces started the systematic destruction of the village. Velagici had a population of about 8,000 people whose ethnic composition was 75% Muslim, 24% Serbian, and 1% Croatian.

Velagici was perhaps the wealthiest district of Kljuc because many of the men worked in Germany during the summer and earned hard currency. Because of this, many men were not in the village when the shelling began, leaving thousands of women and children virtually defenseless.

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As soon as the shelling began on May 27, 1992, local Serbian radio broadcasts demanded that the citizens of Velagici surrender all arms and property unconditionally to the Serbian forces. Most of the women and children managed to escape on foot that evening to the nearby village of Postajre, where they hid in the homes of local residents. As a result, mass casualties were avoided in Velagici, though a total of 13 men and women were killed during this attack.

On May 28 at 6:00 pm, Serbian soldiers completely surrounded Velagici and forced 70 men, a group that included the witness, to turn over all weapons and surrender. All Muslim homes were subsequently robbed and burned. Velagici was renamed Ravna Gora by local Serbian authorities in June 1992.
(Department of State)

Apr-May 92 A middle-aged Muslim couple from the village of Rodic Brdo, one kilometer from Visegrad, witnessed the movement of the "Uzicki corps," troops from Uzice, into the Visegrad vicinity on April 13, 1992.

This "corps" consisted of JNA soldiers, reservists, Uzice territorial defense forces, and White Eagles. The JNA soldiers wore their regular JNA uniforms. They brought a significant amount of heavy equipment with JNA markings (tanks, heavy trucks, and mortars) into town. Planes and helicopters with JNA markings frequently flew overhead.

The White Eagles overtly identified themselves as such and wore outfits that combined elements of military and civilian garb, including headbands. Some wore hats with the "kokada" emblem, a royalist insignia.

The two witnesses noted a significant difference between the way White Eagles and the JNA treated Muslim civilians, the latter appearing far more attentive to the need not to harm the civilians. They also discerned tensions between the White Eagles and the JNA.

Upon learning that the "Uzicki corps" was two kilometers away, most of the town's Muslims fled to the woods. As they were fleeing, "Uzicki corps" soldiers fired upon them. The "corps" broadcast calls over the radio for Muslim residents to return to Visegrad, assuring them of a safe return.

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The witnesses returned to town on April 20 and found it filled with rubble and burned out homes. By this date, the JNA had blocked all roads out of Visegrad (to Uzice, Sarajevo, Foca, and Rudo), White Eagles stood behind the JNA troops, and the "Uzicki corps" had set up road blocks all around the area.

At each road block, a soldier carried a list of Muslim names. Everyone was required to show identification; those Muslims whose names appeared on the list were taken away and not heard from again. They included factory directors, political and community leaders, and other respected citizens.

Between May 18 and 25, the "Uzicki corps" left Visegrad, taking its heavy equipment with it, and pulled back to a location between Visegrad and the Serbian border. The town fell under the control of the White Eagles on May 25. (Department of State)

Oct 91

A 44-year-old Bosnian Muslim was working in Trebinje when the Serbs started the siege of Dubrovnik on October 10, 1991. The witness described how the mayor of Trebinje was very much involved with and in favor of the offensive, welcomed the arrival of the JNA troops, and was an accomplice to the destruction of Dubrovnik. The witness said that Trebinje was the headquarters for the offensive against Dubrovnik. There was a communications center, helicopter pad, hospital, and two or three JNA military installations.

From October 1991, Muslims could not leave Trebinje because of the JNA presence. At the end of October, the JNA attacked the Croat enclave of Ravno and burned it to the ground.

Following UN protests against the shelling of Dubrovnik, the JNA withdrew and the Serbian Army of Bosnia-Herzegovina took over, in collusion with the Trebinje mayor's police force. Soldiers began looting Muslim homes, extorting money, and requiring Muslims to give up their weapons. By April, most Muslims had fled. (Department of State)

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