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Agenda item 88

OUESTIONS RELATING TO INFORMATION

Letter dated 2 November 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, with regard to the statement made by the representative of Malaysia in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) on 26 October 1993 (see A/C.4/48/SR.9), on the agenda item entitled "Questions relating to information", I have the honour to state the following:

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia categorically rejects the unfounded and malicious allegations contained in the part of the abovementioned statement referring to the civil war in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The charges of the alleged aggression of Serbs against the former Yugoslav republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina are false since the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is not a party to the conflict. As has been stated on a number of occasions and confirmed by the United Nations, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia withdrew all its military forces from this former Yugoslav republic on 19 May 1992. It was confirmed by major international factors and statement, including the Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, that the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina is a civil, interethnic and religious war in which three sides from Bosnia and Herzegovina, namely Bosnian Muslims, Bosnian Serbs and Bosnian Croats, are taking part.

It is deplorable that the representative of Malaysia resorted to a partial approach by accusing one side in this conflict while it has been widely recognized that atrocities were committed against all three sides in the civil war in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He used the one-sidedness of the media in this conflict as a pretext to vilify the whole Serbian nation in an obvious attempt to abuse the United Nations rostrum in order to exploit the tragic and painful

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conflict for certain political and propaganda purposes. Such accusations against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia are unwarranted since it is well known that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has been investing great efforts with a view to achieving peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 88.

(<u>Signed</u>) Dragomir DJOKIC Chargé d'affaires a.i.
