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Press Release

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SECRETARY-GENERAL ANNOUNCES INTENTION TO CALL FOR AIR STRIKES
IF BOSNIAN SERB AUTHORITIES FAIL TO MEET GORAZDE DEADLINE

The following statement was issued on 23 April by the Spokesman for Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali:

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the former Yugoslavia, Yasushi Akashi, and the Force Commander of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), General de LaPresle, are closely monitoring the situation in and around the safe area of Gorazde, following an agreement with the Bosnian Serb authorities that they would withdraw their forces from a three-kilometre zone from the centre of Gorazde by midnight.

Should the required cease-fire and withdrawal fail to take place by 0001 hours GMT 24 April 1994, the Secretary-General will immediately authorize the use of air strikes to protect the safe area of Gorazde.

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