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LETTER DATED 11 OCTOBER 1995 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE
UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY
COUNCIL

I have the honour to present to you the attached letter, dated today, from
H.E. Mr. Muhamed Sacirbey, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of
Bosnia and Herzegovina, addressed to you.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating the present letter, and
its annex, as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ivan Z. MISIC
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.

Annex

Letter dated 11 October 1995 from the Minister for Foreign
Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to the
President of the Security Council

In the midst of the intensive efforts of the Contact Group for Bosnia and Herzegovina and the negotiating team of the United States of America led by Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. Richard Holbrooke, and directed towards achieving a peace settlement for Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Pale Serbs have intensified ethnic cleansing, in particular in the regions of Banja Luka and Doboј. As is well known, from 15 August to 21 September 1995 more than 20,000 Bosniaks and Croats were expelled from these two regions. Yet another 5,000 have been expelled in the last 10 days.

At the same time, the rebel Serb authorities have separated and detained all men of working age and forced them to carry out the most difficult physical work, and very often, these detainees are used as human shields on the battle lines.

This latest intensification of the ethnic cleansing of parts of North-western and Central Bosnia coincides with the arrival in these regions of a notorious war criminal, Zeljko Raznjatovic Arkan, and his paramilitary hordes known as "Tigers". Since their arrival, other forms of terror against Bosniaks and Croats have increased in frequency - in particular rape, destruction, and burning down of houses, looting of their belongings, and murders. The responsibility for these crimes cannot be attributed only to Zeljko Raznjatovic Arkan and his hordes, but also to the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as this war criminal and his hordes have originated from its territories, crossing Serbia's border with Bosnia and Herzegovina - the border that the President of Serbia, Slobodan Milosevic, claims to have sealed for all transport except for humanitarian goods.

The leadership of the rebel Pale Serbs has coordinated its actions with these paramilitary units from Serbia and has ensured all necessary background support for their activities.

Even after President Milosevic and his protégés from the Pale regime have accepted in the "agreed principles" adopted in Geneva on 8 September 1995 the provisions on the right of refugees to return, this practice of expelling the non-Serb population from the Serb-held territories - instead of being halted - has only been intensified, in this way sabotaging the whole peace process. This has also made clear that they do not intend to implement that to which they have already committed themselves.

If the ethnic cleansing of Bosniaks and Croats from Serb-held territories does not cease immediately, the whole peace process, which has begun to gain momentum and which has opened a real chance for the achievement of peace, may lose all its sense.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
