

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 5 May 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

The terror of the so-called Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) against the Serbs and other non-Albanians in Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia, has intensified in the last couple of weeks. Undaunted by the presence of, and often even aided and abetted by, the Kosovo Force (KFOR) and the United Nations Interim Administration in Kosovo (UNMIK), ethnic Albanian terrorists continue to kill, kidnap, harass and expel Serbs and other non-Albanians, burn and loot their houses, destroy and torch Orthodox churches, desecrate Orthodox cemeteries and annihilate all things Serbian in order to achieve their goal of an ethnically pure Albanian Kosovo and Metohija. The brutal terror of the so-called Kosovo Liberation Army is illustrated by the following incidents:

- On 26 April, ethnic Albanian terrorists desecrated tombstones at the Orthodox cemetery in the village of Glavotina, Municipality of Vučitrn. Some 20 years ago Glavotina was a Serbian village; no Serbian family lives in it today;
- On 28 April, the Serbian cemetery at Ajvalija, near Gračanica, was vandalized. Some 20 years ago Ajvalija was a Serbian village; right before the war it turned into an ethnic Albanian-majority village with over 30 Serbian households and became ethnically pure Albanian after the deployment of KFOR and UNMIK;
- On 28 April, ethnic Albanian terrorists dynamited and destroyed the Orthodox church of St. Nicholas in the village of Grnčar, Municipality of Vitina, built in the sixteenth century. The Serbs suspect that the members of the United States contingent of KFOR took part in the destruction of the church since they lifted regular security of the church and their helicopters hovered above the church 10 minutes before the explosion, preventing the Serbs from saving the church treasures;
- On 29 April, a day before the Orthodox Easter, Milorad Perić, a 50-year Serb from the village of Pasjane, near Gnjilane, was killed by an armed gang of ethnic Albanians who fired three long bursts into him as he was working in the field. The members of KFOR, deployed only a few hundred yards away with the task of protecting the workers in the field, did not react at all;

- On 29 April, Čedomir Trajković, an 80-year Serb, was brutally beaten at Lipljan. KFOR arrested three ethnic Albanian perpetrators, but set them free half an hour later;
- On 29 April, the house of Serb Ljubiša Stamenović was set ablaze in the village of Devet Jugovića, Municipality of Priština;
- On 29 April, the cafe of Serb Mirko Pržić was set ablaze in the village of Mogila, Municipality of Vitina;
- On 30 April, the terrorists of the so-called Kosovo Liberation Army burned down the family houses of Serbs Živorad Simić and Velibor Stojanović in the village of Klobukar, Municipality of Novo Brdo, beat the family members and 14 other local Serbian residents. They also desecrated the Orthodox cemetery in the village, pulling down tombstones. These acts of vandalism were intended to intimidate the Serbs and drive them out of Kosovo and Metohija;
- On 30 April, ethnic Albanian terrorists hurled a “molotov cocktail” at the house of Serb Vladimir Marković in the village of Mogila, Municipality of Vitina;
- On 30 April, ethnic Albanian terrorists set ablaze the house of Serb Veselin Stanković in the village of Crkvene Vodice, near Obilić;
- On 1 May, ethnic Albanian terrorists made an attempt to kidnap Serbian girl Marina Vučinić in the village of Zupče, Municipality of Zubin Potok, but the neighbours thwarted the atrocity;
- On 2 May, ethnic Albanian terrorists hurled two hand grenades on children gathered in the playground in the village of Crkvene Vodice, near Obilić. Several children were wounded by shrapnel;
- On 2 May, Hadžija Aguši, a 74-year Roma, died from the wounds sustained from a grenade thrown at her house in Gnjilane by ethnic Albanian terrorists three days before. Mrs. Aguši was one of the 35 remaining Roma in the Abdula Preševa settlement in which 3,000 Roma had lived in over 400 households before the deployment of KFOR and UNMIK.

The incidents listed above provide telling evidence of the continuation of violence of the terrorists of the so-called Kosovo Liberation Army against the Serbs and other non-Albanians. The terrorists are emboldened by the attitude of certain quarters in the international community which continue to play down the atrocities and to turn a deaf ear to the warnings of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The terrorists were not deterred in their criminal activities even by Easter, Christianity’s holiest day, and committed some of the most blatant atrocities during the visit of the Security Council Mission to Kosovo and Metohija. There is no doubt that these acts were meant to send a message of their intention, as well as the intention of their mentors, to cleanse all Serbs and other non-Albanians from this Serbian province. The commission of the acts is being carried out in the presence, and often with the helping hand, of the international presences, wherefore these presences bear full responsibility for the violation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, failure to carry out their mandate and the obligations to create a secure environment and for a mass violation of the human rights of Serbs and other non-Albanians.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia calls on the Security Council to condemn these crimes and the violation of human rights and to take appropriate measures in accordance with its powers.

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

(Signed) Vladislav **Jovanović**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
