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DCI Interagency Balkan Task Force
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Likely Consequences of Aggressive Delivery of Relief Supplies

Expanding the UN's humanitarian relief efforts through more assertive means would marginally improve the situation of some besieged Bosnian Muslims, but would likely lead to UN casualties and could endanger the overall relief effort.

- The use of military force would--in Serbian eyes--make the UN a party to the conflict.
- UNPROFOR presently lacks the armored vehicles, heavy equipment, and organization necessary to *forcibly deliver* relief supplies against opposition from regular or irregular opponents. Forceful military action by convoy escorts almost certainly would provoke reprisals against UN convoys, relief flights, and contingents throughout Bosnia.
- Accurate and adequate air delivery of relief supplies into small, surrounded enclaves likely would require lower-altitude airdrops or helicopter convoys, either of which would significantly increase the risks to US aircrews.
- A more assertive UN approach also may discourage Bosnian Government agreement to the Vance/Owen Plan by encouraging it to believe that the West is prepared to become militarily engaged in Bosnia.
- Moscow probably would object to the use of military force to secure convoy passage, in view of Yeltsin's already tenuous domestic political situation. [REDACTED]

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