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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

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Summary of Conclusions for  
Meeting of the NSC Deputies Committee

DATE: February 22, 1995

LOCATION: White House Situation Room

TIME: 2:15 - 3:30pm

SUBJECT: Summary of Conclusions of Deputies Committee Meeting on  
Bosnia and Croatia (~~S~~)

PARTICIPANTS:

Chair:

Samuel R. Berger

OVP:

Leon Fuerth  
Rick Saunders

State:

Peter Tarnoff  
Robert Frasure

DOD:

John Deutch  
Walter Slocombe

OMB:

Gordon Adams  
Kevin Beckell

USUN:

David Scheffer  
James O'Brien

CIA:

Douglas MacEachin  
Ray Converse

JCS:

LTG Daniel Christman  
COL. Tom Bowden

NSC:

Alexander Vershbow  
BG Donald L. Kerrick  
Susan Rice

Summary of Conclusions

1. Deputies met to review efforts to obtain Serbian recognition of Bosnia, Croatia and other former Yugoslav republics within their existing borders in exchange for sanctions relief (Plan B) and to review military planning for UNPROFOR withdrawal and Croatia. (~~S~~)

2. Deputies reviewed the results of last week's Contact Group efforts on mutual recognition and reaffirmed Principals' decision that we should not agree to any further sanctions relief or other measures that would "sweeten" the offer now under consideration. They agreed it would be helpful to create uncertainty in

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Milosevic's and Allies' minds about how long U.S. support for broad sanctions relief could be sustained. Deputies directed Ambassador Frasure to inform our European Contact Group partners before their meeting with Milosevic on February 23 that the U.S. had gone as far as it could in offering sanctions relief and that it was unclear how long our support for Plan B would remain in effect. (Action: State) ~~(S)~~

3. Deputies agreed that prospects for success were low for achieving mutual recognition in exchange for sanctions relief. However, in the event Milosevic attempted to enter new negotiations aimed at modifying the Plan B proposal, serious sanctions-related issues remained and further Deputies' or Principals' review would be required. They decided that no further negotiations beyond the proposal now on the table could begin without further review by the Deputies. Deputies deferred decision on how long to leave Plan B on the table until a review of overall policy is completed next week. ~~(S)~~

4. Deputies discussed the results of recent diplomatic efforts in Croatia aimed at retaining UNPROFOR or a remodeled UNPROFOR as a deterrent to renewed fighting. They agreed that the approaching UNPROFOR mandate expiration on March 31, and the possibility of renewed hostilities thereafter in the Krajina, could be the catalyst for new fighting elsewhere in the region. Deputies directed that a strategy be promptly developed that outlines how to deal with Tudjman in the run-up to the March 31 UNPROFOR mandate expiration and steps that can be taken to retain an international force of some type as a deterrent to renewed fighting. (Action: State) ~~(S)~~

5. Deputies discussed how to fulfill Principals' request for a review of potential scenarios to frame policy choices likely to be faced in the next 2-3 months should diplomatic efforts fail to achieve a negotiated settlement. They directed the Interagency Working Group to complete the review by February 27 for subsequent Deputies' and Principals' consideration. The review should include estimated time-lines for events on the ground in Bosnia, Croatia and neighboring areas; an analysis of U.S. interests, objectives and priorities; allied and Congressional attitudes; and U.S. policy options. A process for completion of the study should be presented to Deputies on February 27. (Action: NSC/Interagency Working Group) ~~(S)~~

6. Deputies reviewed the status of efforts at the United Nations to strengthen UNPROFOR. They agreed to support the current UN request for logistics and engineering equipment as outlined in the JCS paper. Noting the uncertainty of UNPROFOR's future, Deputies deferred decision on more robust options until the policy options review is completed. (Action: JCS) ~~(S)~~

7. Deputies reviewed the state of military planning to support UNPROFOR withdrawal from Bosnia and Croatia. They agreed to defer decisions on Step Two repositioning until DoD completes an internal review of the overall military operational plan and presents a recommendation to Principals. Deputies also deferred discussion of funding options pending completion of the DoD review of the operational plan. (Action: DoD) ~~(S)~~

8. Deputies deferred discussion and decision on providing training for the Bosnian forces until the policy options review is completed. (S)

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