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7 September 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence**FROM:** Deputy Chief, DCI Interagency Balkan Task Force**SUBJECT:** Deputies' Committee Meeting on Bosnia, 8 September 1995**Purpose of Meeting**

1. The purpose of the meeting ostensibly is to consider: peace plan implementation; equipping and training Federation forces; post-war economic reconstruction; and funding of the US initiative. You are not assigned the lead on any issues, but may be asked to give an update on the current situation, especially if the Croats launch an offensive in Western Bosnia tonight. You will receive an intelligence update at tomorrow's prebrief.

2. Although this DC is intended to "kill time" while the Ministerial is going on in Geneva, it is possible some telephone feedback on the progress of the meeting could hijack the agenda. Also, the meeting could be hijacked by the results of tonight's search and rescue mission for the French pilots shot down last week. [There was considerable embarrassment that neither the Secretary of Defense nor the Chairman nor the DCI were aware of last night's attempt; the decision was made in theater.]

3. The agenda for the DC is rather vague since none of the meeting papers have been received yet. On peace plan implementation, there will be discussions of the political leadership, such as what the role of the UN and NATO should be in any implementation, and the state of consultations with the Allies. Also, it will deal with how to get the Russians on board.

4. Also, there will be some discussion of the equipping and training of Federation forces. The NSC considers there ideas are so in flux right now that the Deputies and perhaps the Principals need to reconsider on lift and train. One thought under consideration is that the US maybe would play a smaller role in the arming and training, letting nature take its course, rather than leading the effort. An assessment team may travel to Sarajevo soon to solicit the Bosnians on their requirements. (If you want a refresher on our views, see BOSNIAN REQUIREMENTS tab.) If time permits, State will give an update on Ralph Johnson's trip seeking funds for reconstruction. Finally, the Deputies will review discussion of the need to begin developing a funding strategy.

4. In preparation for this meeting, I recommend you read the INTEL UPDATE tab for events while you were gone. Also, the AIRSTRIKES-IMPACT tab summarizes

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the results of the air campaign thus far. John Brennan wanted you to read: Mladic Running True to Form [redacted] requested by the Principals) and Bosnian Serbs Disunited [redacted] in the BOSNIAN SERB VIEWS tab. Also, I would recommend Prospects for Geneva Talks and Beyond in the NEGOTIATIONS tab.

Points you may want to make:

Peace Plan Implementation

- ☐ Depending on the political framework of any implementation forces, the warring parties will probably seek to play on UN/NATO splits among allies and the Russians to secure interpretation of the implementation agreement in a way favorable to them.
- ☐ In the immediate aftermath of an agreement, there will probably be continued fighting among irregulars even after the implementation force arrives. Also, if a country-wide cease-fire appeared imminent, there might be last-minute increase in fighting as both sides jockey for advantage.

Reaction to Bombing

- ☐ There is still no intelligence to suggest that the Serbs are going to comply with the NATO ultimatum. If they withdraw heavy weapons from around Sarajevo, basically ending the siege, they lose what limited leverage they have against the Bosnian government, especially now that the Serbs believe the international community has given up its neutrality.
- ☐ Intelligence shows that the Croats plan to launch an offensive in Western Bosnia as soon as tonight. The Bosnian Serbs will be hard-pressed to defend against this attack since the defensive line is already flanked on the north and west.
- ☐ Also, if the first NATO airstrikes in Western Bosnia take place today as scheduled at the same time as a Croatian offensive, this will be interpreted by the Serbs as a coordinated attack, and the Croats may interpret it as a green light.
- ☐ The Bosnians have now received what they have tried to get for the last two years, Western airstrikes on their behalf. There are already signs that Sarajevo has hardened its positions over confederal issues and in no way is receptive to yielding Gorazde. Without Gorazde, it removes the key attraction for the Bosnian Serbs to accept the current package.

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