

RELEASED IN PART  
B6

CONFIDENTIAL PTQ8955

PAGE 01 SARAJE 02505 01 OF 02 211840Z  
ACTION EUR-01

INFO LOG-00 OASY-00 TEDE-00 ADS-00 ONY-00 SSO-00 /001W  
-----50BFD1 211840Z /22

P 211356Z JUL 96  
FM AMEMBASSY SARAJEVO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3193

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 SARAJEVO 002505

OFFICIAL INFORMAL FOR AMBASSADOR JAMES PARDEW FROM  
RICHARD MCCRENSKY

E.O. 12396: DECL: 7/20/2006  
TAGS: AMGT  
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL INFORMAL #1 ON TRAIN AND EQUIP

1. CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR JOHN MENZIES, REASON 1.5 (B)  
AND (D).

BOICE VISIT UNDERLINES IFOR RESISTANCE

2. (C) [REDACTED] FROM MPRI CAME TO SEE US  
ON JULY 21 TO DISCUSS THE PROCESS OF INTEGRATION WITHIN  
THE FEDERATION HIGH COMMAND (SEE PARAGRAPH 10 BELOW), AND  
TO TELL US THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS VIS A VIS IFOR AND THE  
TRAIN AND EQUIP PROGRAM. ON IFOR, [REDACTED] TOLD US THAT HE  
HAS LEARNED THAT ARRC COMMANDER GENERAL MICHAEL WALKER,  
WHO SEEMED CONCILIATORY TOWARD T&E DURING A MEETING WITH  
GENERAL SYLVESTER AND THE MPRI EXECUTIVES ON JULY 17, HAS  
CONFIDENTIAL

B6

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SARAJE 02505 01 OF 02 211840Z

SENT A LETTER TO ADMIRAL LAYTON SMITH CLAIMING THAT T&E IMPLEMENTATION HAS BEGUN TO DESTABILIZE BOSNIA.

3. (C) ACCORDING TO [ ] (WHO OBTAINED A COPY OF THE LETTER FROM AN UNNAMED IFOR CONTACT), WALKER CLAIMS THAT THE DETENTION ON JULY 19 BY BOSNIAKS OF SEVERAL HVO MILITARY REFLECTED THE NEW BOSNIAK ATTITUDE CREATED BY TRAIN AND EQUIP, AND GOES ON TO CALL FOR USING POSSIBLE TERMINATION OF T&E AS A "HAMMER" TO ENSURE THAT THE BOSNIAKS REFRAIN FROM SIMILAR ACTS IN FUTURE. (NOTE: THE HVO DETENTIONS WERE A RESPONSE BY MOSTAR BOSNIAKS TO THE JULY 18 DETENTION BY CROATS OF A LOCAL BOSNIAK POLICE CHIEF. GENERALS DELIC AND BUDIMIR QUICKLY INTERVENED, AND ALL DETAINEES WERE RELEASED. [ ]

[ ] TOLD US THAT THE AFFAIR WAS A "STUPID INCIDENT," CARRIED OUT UNILATERALLY BY LOW-LEVEL PEOPLE; A SIMILAR INCIDENT OCCURRED LAST MAY).

4. (C) ACCORDING TO [ ] WALKER ALSO TOLD LAYTON SMITH THAT IF, "DESTABILIZING" BOSNIAK VIOLATIONS CONTINUE TO OCCUR, HE WILL RECOMMEND THROUGH HIS CHAIN THAT THE T&E PROGRAM BE STOPPED (PRESUMABLY IMPLYING THAT IT MIGHT EVENTUALLY BE SURFACED AS A CONTACT GROUP ISSUE). NOTE: CONCERNED ABOUT COMPROMISING HIS IFOR CONTACT, [ ] HAS NOT YET GIVEN US A COPY OF THE WALKER LETTER; WE BELIEVE HE WILL DO SO AT A FURTHER MEETING WE HAVE SCHEDULED FOR EARLY MORNING JULY 22.

5. (C) THIS LATEST DEVELOPMENT FITS IN WITH THE SUBSTANCE OF A JULY 21 MEETING BETWEEN POLOFF AND IFOR [ ] DURING WHICH [ ] TOLD POLOFF THAT IFOR  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SARAJE 02505 01 OF 02 211840Z  
WILL NOT ALLOW T&E-RELATED MILITARY EQUIPMENT INTO BOSNIA UNLESS GIVEN AT LEAST 21 DAYS PRIOR NOTICE BY THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT. IN RESPONSE TO OUR QUESTION, [ ] EMPHASIZED THAT U.S. GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION TO IFOR WAS UNACCEPTABLE -- IT MUST COME FORMALLY FROM THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT. (NOTE: MPRI HAS AGREED TO ACCEPT A LIAISON RELATIONSHIP WITH ARRC IN AN EFFORT TO AVOID SUCH OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS).

6. (C) MEANWHILE, [REDACTED] THE GAO TEAM WHICH IS CURRENTLY AUDITING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DAYTON ACCORDS TOLD US ON JULY 19 THAT "VERY MANY SENIOR SOURCES AT IFOR," INCLUDING AMERICANS, HAVE TOLD THE GAO AUDITORS THAT THE TRAIN AND EQUIP PROGRAM IS "VERY DESTABILIZING."

7. (C) ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] THESE SOURCES ARGUE THAT THE EARLIER SERB ADVANTAGE IN EQUIPMENT AND MATERIAL HAS ALREADY BEEN DRASTICALLY REDUCED, DUE TO IMPROVEMENTS IN THE OUTFITTING OF FEDERATION FORCES; RAPID DETERIORATION OF SERB EQUIPMENT AS A RESULT OF SHELF-LIFE DECAY AND LACK OF MAINTENANCE; AND THE SIGNIFICANT NUMERICAL ADVANTAGE ENJOYED BY FEDERATION AND BOSNIAK FORCES.

8. (C) THESE SOURCES TELL GAO THAT A "STABILIZED" MILITARY BALANCE IN BOSNIA ALREADY EXISTS, AND ARGUE THAT THE TRAIN AND EQUIP PROGRAM WILL ONLY TEMPT THE BOSNIAKS TO FLEX THEIR MUSCLES, RESULTING IN RESUMPTION OF THE WAR AND/OR A REGIONAL ARMS RACE. WE REMINDED

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 SARAJE 02505 01 OF 02 211840Z

[REDACTED] THAT THE ARMS USED BY THE BOSNIAN SERBS "DIDN'T COME FROM NOWHERE," AND COULD EASILY BE REPLACED/AUGMENTED BY OUTSIDERS AGAIN IF THE POLITICAL WILL IS THERE.

9. (C) EVEN T&E CRITICS AGREE THAT IN 1992 AND AFTER, THE BOSNIAKS APPEARED TO OFFER EASY PLUNDER AT LOW RISK. A KEY OBJECTIVE OF THE T&E PROGRAM (WHICH IS CAREFULLY CONSTRUCTED TO BE "DEFENSIVE" IN ORIENTATION AND DESIGN) IS TO INCREASE THE OBSERVABLE MATERIAL COST OF AGGRESSION TO THE POINT THAT A 1992-LIKE WILL TO UNDERWRITE SUCH AGGRESSION NO LONGER EXISTS. WE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT A "BALANCE OF FORCES" STRATEGY WORKED IN CENTRAL EUROPE AFTER 1945, AND SHOULD WORK EQUALLY WELL HERE.

PROGRESS OF COMMAND INTEGRATION  
-----

10. (C) DURING THEIR MEETING WITH POLOFF ON JULY 21, [REDACTED] REPORTED SLOW BUT HOPEFUL PROGRESS ON THE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNPTQ8954

CONFIDENTIAL PTQ8954

PAGE 01 SARAJE 02505 02 OF 02 211828Z  
ACTION EUR-01

INFO LOG-00 OASY-00 TEDE-00 ADS-00 ONY-00 SSO-00 /001W  
-----50BF47 211828Z /22

P 211356Z JUL 96  
FM AMEMBASSY SARAJEVO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3194

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 SARAJEVO 002505

OFFICIAL INFORMAL FOR AMBASSADOR JAMES PARDEW FROM  
RICHARD MCCRENSKY

E.O. 12396: DECL: 7/20/2006  
TAGS: AMGT  
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL INFORMAL #1 ON TRAIN AND EQUIP

AND JOINT COMMAND. ACCORDING TO  THE TWO PARTIES

HAVE AGREED TO IDENTIFY PERSONNEL TO ACT AS JOINT STAFF WITH MPRI, AND TO FILL J-1 THROUGH J-5 TYPE POSITIONS IN THE JOINT COMMAND BY JULY 26. HOWEVER, [REDACTED] EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT IZETBEGOVIC, CENGIC, AND AN ASSOCIATED "FIFTY FAMILIES" ALLEGEDLY CONNECTED WITH THE SDA ARE DETERMINED TO KEEP A TIGHT GRIP ON THE EVOLUTION OF THE INTEGRATION PROCESS, AS WELL AS THE OVERALL TRAIN AND EQUIP PROGRAM.

11. (U) PLEASE ADVISE AS TO CONTENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF A FRONT CHANNEL VERSION OF THIS CABLE, PROTECTING MPRI EQUITIES/IFOR CONTACTS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO USE THE O/I  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SARAJE 02505 02 OF 02 211828Z  
FORMAT TO KEEP YOU INFORMED OF PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

MENZIES

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**NNNN**