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	OMB-01	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	P-00	SCT-00	SP-00
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SARAJEVO 003140

STATE FOR A/S KORNBLUM AND AMBASSADOR GLASSMAN

NSC FOR VERSCHBOW

E.O.:12958: 8/28/2006
TAGS: PREL, MARR, BK
SUBJECT: FIRST SHIPMENT OF U.S. MILITARY
EQUIPMENT ARRIVES IN BOSNIA

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

2. (U) THE FIRST SHIPMENT OF U.S. MILITARY EQUIPMENT
DONATED TO THE BOSNIAN FEDERATION UNDER THE TRAIN AND
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EQUIP PROGRAM ARRIVED IN SARAJEVO AT APPROXIMATELY 1900, LOCAL TIME, ON AUGUST 29. MATERIAL WAS TRANSFERRED TO FEDERATION CONTROL AND TRANSPORTED TO A STORAGE SITE AT VISOKO WITHOUT INCIDENT. IFOR MONITORED THE SHIPMENT, AND INSPECTED THE CARGO. A SECOND FLIGHT, SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 30, WILL COMPLETE DELIVERY OF THE INITIAL SHIPMENT OF 1000 M16A1 RIFLES, 200 M60 MACHINE GUNS, 200 PRC-77 RADIOS, AND 850,000 ROUNDS OF ASSOCIATED AMMUNITION.

3. (U) THE U.S. EQUIPMENT WAS AIRLIFTED VIA A COMMERCIAL CHARTER C-130 FLIGHT FROM RAMSTEIN, GERMANY, TO SARAJEVO AIRPORT, WHERE IT WAS RECEIVED BY A DELEGATION OF SENIOR BOSNIAN FEDERATION MILITARY OFFICERS, JOINED BY A CIVILIAN PARTY LED BY MINISTER OF DEFENSE SOLJIC, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO BOSNIA MENZIES, AND SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR MILITARY STABILIZATION PARDEW. THREE BOSNIAN CROAT GENERALS AND ONE BOSNIAK GENERAL WERE PRESENT AT THE AIRPORT.

4. (U) DEFENSE MINISTER SOLJIC AND THE FEDERATION MILITARY WATCHED WITH GROWING EXCITEMENT AND OBVIOUS PLEASURE AS THE PLANE APPROACHED. IN A SPONTANEOUS ACTION AFTER LANDING, THE ENTIRE ENTOURAGE WALKED ACROSS THE TARMAC TO THE CARGO BAY OF THE AIRCRAFT, WHERE THEY GREETED THE ARRIVING CREW, AND OBSERVED THE INITIAL UNLOADING, UNDERTAKEN BY BOSNIAN PERSONNEL OPERATING UNDER IFOR SURVEILLANCE.

5. (U) UPON COMPLETION OF THE OFF LOADING AND INITIAL INVENTORY PROCEDURES, THE SHIPMENT WAS TRANSPORTED UNDER IFOR ESCORT TO THE FEDERATION STORAGE CENTER AT VISOKO.

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THE C-130 WILL RETURN ON AUGUST 30 WITH ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT.

6. (C) COMMENT: THIS SHIPMENT, COMBINED WITH THE PRESENCE OF 100 MPRI CONTRACTORS IN SARAJEVO, IS THE TANGIBLE EVIDENCE OF U.S. FULFILLMENT OF ITS COMMITMENT TO ASSIST THE FEDERATION IN ITS FUTURE DEFENSE. THE ABSENCE OF DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER CENGIC AT THE ARRIVAL OF THE U.S. EQUIPMENT IS ANOTHER SYMBOL OF HIS RELUCTANT

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ATTITUDE TOWARD THE U.S. PROGRAM.

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