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INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-10	ACDE-00	INLB-01	AID-00	ACQ-01	CIAE-00
	SMEC-00	INL-01	OASY-00	DOEE 00	SRPP-00	EAP-01	FBIE-00
	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	LAB-01	L-01	ADS-00
	M-00	NEA-01	NSAE-00	OMB-01	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00
	P-00	CIO-00	SCT-00	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00	TRSE-00
	USIE-00	SA-01	PMB-00	DRL-09	G-00	/030W	

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O 111327Z OCT 96
 FM AMEMBASSY SARAJEVO
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4393
 INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY ZAGREB IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
 NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 SARAJEVO 003985

STATE PLEASE PASS TO A/S KORNELUM AND AMBASSADOR PARDEW

NSC FOR BERGER AND VERSHBOW

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E.O. 12958: DECL. 10/9/2006

TAGS: PREL, MARK, BK, HR, TU, IR, MY, PK, BG, JO, QA
SUBJECT: DELIC CLAIMS BILATERAL ARMS SHIPMENTS ORIGINATE
FROM "PRO-WEST COUNTRY," NOT IRAN; SAYS MORE
LIGHT ARMS, T-55 TANKS ARE IN STORAGE ABROAD

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY FLETCHER BURTON, POLCOUNS, REASON
1.5 (D)

2. (C) SUMMARY: FEDERATION ARMED FORCES CHIEF DELIC
EMPHATICALLY DENIED TO EMBASSY THAT LIGHT-ARMS SHIPMENTS
DELIVERED TO BOSNIAK FORCES SINCE JULY ARE CONNECTED IN
ANY WAY WITH IRAN. ON THE CONTRARY, DELIC LINKED THE
EQUIPMENT (WHICH HE SAID WAS PURCHASED DURING THE WAR) TO
AN UNNAMED "PRO-AMERICAN" COUNTRY, WHICH HE SAID
CONTINUES TO STORE LIGHT ARMS AND HEAVY WEAPONS
(INCLUDING T-55 TANKS) ON BEHALF OF BOSNIA. WHILE
ARGUING THAT THE EQUIPMENT BELONGS TO THE BOSNIAN
REPUBLIC ARMY, AND NOT THE FEDERATION, DELIC GRUDGINGLY
ACKNOWLEDGED THAT TRAIN AND EQUIP PROGRAM MANAGERS AND
MPRI SHOULD BE INFORMED OF THIS INVENTORY; HOWEVER, HE
CLAIMED THAT HE DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH SPECIFIC INFORMATION
TO DO. ON A RELATED ISSUE, DELIC SAID THAT
REPRESENTATIVES OF JORDAN, PAKISTAN, BANGLA-DESH, AND
QATAR HAVE SEPARATELY APPROACHED THE GOBH ABOUT PROVIDING
MILITARY SUPPORT TO BOSNIA. END SUMMARY.

3. (C) DURING A MEETING WITH POLMILOFF IN SARAJEVO ON
OCTOBER 10, FEDERATION ARMED FORCES COMMANDER RASIM DELIC
EXPLICITLY DENIED THAT FOUR LIGHT-ARMS SHIPMENTS
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DELIVERED TO BOSNIA IN SUPPORT OF GOBH FORCES SINCE THE
LIFTING OF THE ARMS EMBARGO LAST JULY ORIGINATED IN, OR
WERE FUNDED BY, IRAN, AFGHANISTAN, OR ANY ORGANIZATION
BASED IN OR FUNDED BY THESE COUNTRIES. DELIC CLAIMED
THAT THE LIGHT-ARMS SHIPMENTS (CONSISTING PRIMARILY OF
RIFLES, GRENADE LAUNCHERS, MACHINE GUNS, AND RELATED
AMMUNITION) REPRESENT DELIVERY OF EQUIPMENT PURCHASED BY
THE GOBH DURING THE 1992-1995 WAR, BUT NOT BROUGHT INTO
THE COUNTRY UNTIL NOW.

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4. (C) DELIC CLAIMED THAT THE EQUIPMENT WAS PAID FOR WITH FUNDS CONTRIBUTED DURING THE WAR BY A VARIETY OF "FRIENDLY COUNTRIES," NOT INCLUDING IRAN. HE CONTINUED THAT THE RECENT ARMS DELIVERIES HAVE ALL BEEN ORGANIZED BY A "PRO-AMERICAN" THIRD COUNTRY (WHICH HE REFUSED TO NAME), WORKING IN TANDEM WITH DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER HASAN CENGIC. DELIC ADDED THAT THERE ARE ADDITIONAL STORES OF LIGHT ARMS, AND HEAVIER EQUIPMENT INCLUDING T-55 TANKS, WHICH WERE PURCHASED BY SARAJEVO DURING THE 1992-1995 WAR, BUT HAVE NOT YET BEEN DELIVERED. ALL OF THESE ITEMS, HE CONTENDED, ARE CURRENTLY BEING HELD IN STORAGE OUTSIDE BOSNIA BY THE PRO-WESTERN GOVERNMENT MENTIONED ABOVE. WHEN ASKED FOR AN INVENTORY OR LIST OF THE STORED EQUIPMENT, DELIC CLAIMED THAT HE DID NOT POSSESS THIS INFORMATION.

5. (C) DELIC NOTED THAT THE FORMER ARMS EMBARGO ON BOSNIA HAS BEEN LIFTED, AND THAT ALL THE ARMS DELIVERIES SO FAR HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT PUBLICLY, IN STRICT ACCORDANCE WITH IFOR STORAGE REGULATIONS AND PRIOR NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS, AND ADDED THAT THIS WILL

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CONTINUE TO BE THE CASE. DELIC CONTRASTED THIS "OPEN APPROACH" (WHICH HE ADMITTED WAS NOT FULLY VOLUNTARY) TO THE "SECRET" SUPPLIES OF ARMS AND ARMAMENTS WHICH HE ALLEGED ARE REGULARLY PROVIDED TO BOSNIAN CROAT AND SERB FORCES BY THEIR RESPECTIVE PATRONS (I.E., CROATIA AND FRY).

6. (C) DELIC DID NOT RECOGNIZE ANY POTENTIAL CONFLICT BETWEEN HIS RESPONSIBILITIES AS COMMANDER OF THE INTEGRATED FEDERATION ARMED FORCES, AND HIS PLAN TO CONTINUE RESERVING THESE ARMS SHIPMENTS FOR BIH ARMY (I.E., BOSNIAK) USE. HE OBSERVED THAT THE ARMS HAD BEEN PURCHASED WITH GOBH, NOT FEDERATION, FUNDS; THAT THEY HAD BEEN PURCHASED BEFORE PASSAGE OF THE DEFENSE LAW, OR EVEN THE DAYTON AGREEMENT; AND THAT "THE HVO (BOSNIAN CROATS) HAVE NEVER OFFERED TO SHARE ANYTHING WHICH THEY HAVE RECEIVED WITH US." FOR THESE REASONS, DELIC ARGUED, THESE ARMS SHIPMENTS ARE NOT "A FEDERATION MATTER."

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7. (C) NONETHELESS, DELIC CONCEDED THAT AMBASSADOR PARDEW AND MPRI NEED TO HAVE FULL DETAILS ON THE ARMS SHIPMENTS. STRESSING HIS ABSOLUTE COMMITMENT TO THE

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TRAIN AND EQUIP PROGRAM, AND THE CONCEPT OF THE
FEDERATION ARMED FORCES, DELIC PROMISED THAT THESE
LEGITIMATE NEEDS WOULD BE MET. HE ADDED THAT HE ALWAYS
TELLS (UNNAMED) FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS WHICH "WANT TO HELP
US, BUT DO NOT WANT TO GIVE ANY SUPPORT TO THE CROATIANS"
THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO BOSNIA THAT THEY WORK WITHIN THE
CONTEXT OF THE TRAIN AND EQUIP PROGRAM.

8. (C) ON THIS ISSUE, DELIC SAID THAT HE HAS BEEN
CONTACTED SEPARATELY BY REPRESENTATIVES OF PAKISTAN,
BANGLA-DESH, JORDAN, AND QATAR CONCERNING POSSIBLE
SUPPORT BY THOSE GOVERNMENTS FOR THE BOSNIAN ARMED
FORCES. ACCORDING TO DELIC, BANGLA-DESH AND PAKISTAN
HAVE ARE OFFERING MILITARY TRAINING, WHILE QATAR AND
JORDAN WISH TO CONTRIBUTE EQUIPMENT. DELIC ADDED THAT
MALAYSIA "WANTS MORE PROFILE" IN THE TRAIN AND EQUIP
PROGRAM - AT LEAST AS MUCH AS TURKEY. DELIC SAID THAT
THE MALAYSIANS HAVE BEEN URGING HIM TO VISIT KUALA
LUMPUR, AND THAT HE WOULD PROBABLY DO SO LATER THIS
MONTH, OR IN NOVEMBER (NOTE: MALAYSIAN TROOPS PARTICIPATE
IN IFOR, AND MALAYSIA MAINTAINS A SMALL EMBASSY HERE).

9. (C) COMMENT: DELIC WAS EXTREMELY EMPHATIC THAT THE

BOSNIAN MILITARY HAS NO DEALINGS WITH IRAN, AND THAT
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THERE IS NO IRANIAN CONNECTION TO THE RECENT BILATERAL
ARMS SHIPMENTS. HE ALSO STRESSED THAT ALL IFOR
REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THESE SHIPMENTS HAVE
BEEN AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE MET. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING
THE EXISTENCE OF POSSIBLY SIGNIFICANT UNDELIVERED ARMS
STOCKS IN STORAGE IN A THIRD COUNTRY, HE RESISTED
REQUESTS TO NAME THE COUNTRY AND TO PROVIDE AN INVENTORY
OF THE UNDELIVERED EQUIPMENT.

10. (C) COMMENT CONTINUED: WHILE TECHNICALLY ABOVE
BOARD, THESE BILATERAL SHIPMENTS ARE LIKELY TO FURTHER
STRAIN RELATIONS WITH HIS CROAT FEDERATION PARTNERS: AT
A MINIMUM, THEY WILL USE IT AS JUSTIFICATION FOR
CONTINUING THEIR OWN BILATERAL ARMS SUPPLY SYSTEM, WHICH
DELIC CORRECTLY COMPLAINED ABOUT. WE WILL CONTINUE TO
SEEK SPECIFIC DETAILS ON THE EQUIPMENT STORED ABROAD, AND
TO INSIST THAT A FULL ACCOUNTING OF THE ORIGIN AND
COMPOSITION OF THIS INVENTORY IS PROVIDED.

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