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INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL  
FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

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Antonio Cassese  
President

TRIBUNAL PÉNAL INTERNATIONAL  
POUR L'EX-YOUGOSLAVIE

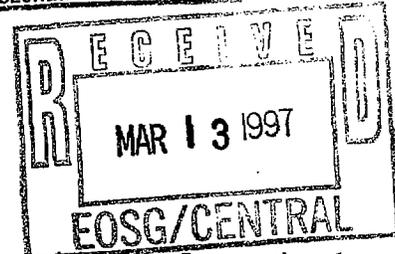
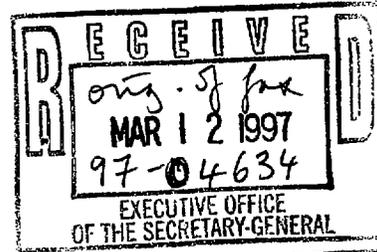
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Antonio Cassese  
Président

*HR/Former Yugoslavia  
The Hague Trip (3/97)*

18 February 1997

His Excellency  
Mr Kofi Annan  
Secretary-General of the United Nations  
United Nations  
NEW YORK  
U.S.A.



Dear Secretary-General

We were extremely pleased to learn of your forthcoming visit to the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. This testifies to your commitment to international criminal justice and will provide us with an opportunity to discuss with you some of the problems currently plaguing our Tribunal.

In particular, the Prosecutor would welcome the opportunity to discuss the future policy on the secondment of personnel to the Tribunal. Both the Prosecutor and the Judges appreciate that the issue is part of a wider debate within the organization as a whole and that there may be powerful arguments for addressing continuing needs by creating permanent United Nations posts rather than by secondment. Nevertheless, we would wish to advance the argument that the Tribunal (particularly at this stage in its operational and budgetary development), should be viewed as a special case: secondment of personnel from national criminal justice systems offers the Office of the Prosecutor, the Registry and the Chambers important possibilities to employ the experience of high-ranking police officers, prosecutors magistrates and legal officers who might not otherwise be attracted to available posts or be able to make permanent career moves into the United Nations.

We look forward to welcoming you to The Hague.

Yours sincerely

  
Antonio Cassese  
President

  
Louise Arbour  
Prosecutor