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21 June 1995

W E D N E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

--Security Council and General Assembly, meeting concurrently, elect Luigi Ferrari Bravo of Italy to International Court of Justice.

--Secretary-General to leave New York tomorrow for Los Angeles; to travel on to San Francisco for events commemorating fiftieth anniversary of signing of United Nations Charter.

--UNHCR humanitarian convoy reaches Serb-controlled part of Sarajevo; UNPROFOR resupply convoy arrives in Srebrenica; NATO air patrol forces two fighters to land near Banja Luka.

--UNMIH assists with distribution of ballot papers and boxes for elections in Haiti on Sunday; says election campaign has been peaceful so far.

--Japan contributes \$2 million to help UNRWA relocate headquarters from Vienna to Gaza.

The Security Council and the General Assembly, meeting concurrently, today elected Luigi Ferrari Bravo of Italy to the International Court of Justice. Mr. Ferrari Bravo will fill the seat left vacant by the death of Judge Roberto Ago earlier this year. His term will expire on 5 February 1997.

Elections to the International Court require an absolute majority in both the Council and the Assembly. Mr. Ferrari Bravo was elected in the fourth round of secret balloting in the Council. In the Assembly, he obtained 102 votes in a second ballot.

Mr. Ferrari Bravo, one of four candidates for the post, was nominated by Greece, India, Italy, Poland, the Russian Federation and Venezuela. He has been a professor of European Community Law at the University of Rome since 1991, having begun his teaching career in 1956.

Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali will leave Headquarters tomorrow for Los Angeles, where he will address the World Affairs Council, according to a United Nations spokesman. He will then travel on to San Francisco to participate in events commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter.

On Monday morning, the Secretary-General and United States President Bill Clinton will address the Charter commemorative ceremony, the spokesman said. Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali will also speak at a civic luncheon later that day.

A United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) humanitarian convoy has reached a Serb-controlled area of Sarajevo via Kiseljak, a spokesman for the Organization reported today. However, other trucks continued to be blocked on that route. A United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) resupply convoy got through to Srebrenica yesterday. Another

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FOR INFORMATION OF UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT ONLY
20 June 1995

DAILY PRESS BRIEFING OF OFFICE OF SPOKESMAN FOR SECRETARY-
GENERAL

Joe Sills, Spokesman for the Secretary-General, began today's noon briefing by informing correspondents that Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali had met this morning with Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Defence of the United Kingdom.

At that meeting, the Secretary-General had expressed his appreciation to Mr. Rifkind for the British support to United Nations peace-keeping operations. They had also discussed work being done by the United Kingdom on conflict resolution, particularly in Africa. In addition, they had reviewed extensively the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the role of the rapid reaction force, which Mr. Rifkind described as a useful enhancement of the Force Commander's assets in the field. The Secretary-General had stressed the importance of retaining the option of using air power, as authorized by the Security Council.

Mr. Sills said that the situation in Angola had also been discussed, with particular emphasis on demining operations. The Secretary-General had asked the British Government to assist in such operations and drew Mr. Rifkind's attention to the forthcoming International Meeting on Mine Clearance (Geneva, 5-7 July). The financial crisis facing the United Nations was also on their agenda. Cooperation between the United Nations and the European Union had also been discussed, as well as the roles of the Co-Chairmen of the Steering Committee of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, Carl Bildt and Thorvald Stoltenberg.

Continuing with the Secretary-General's appointments, Mr. Sills said that the Secretary-General had received a delegation of Parliamentarians for Global Action. At noon he would receive the former United Nations Chief of Protocol and current State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Austria, Benita Ferrero-Waldner. Following that meeting, there would be a formal reopening of the "Austrian Cafe" by State Secretary Ferrero-Waldner. The Secretary-General would speak at that ceremony.

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Later this afternoon the Secretary-General would receive the Special Representative of the International Monetary Fund to the United Nations, Justin Zulu; Adnan S. Abu Odeh, Permanent Representative of Jordan, for a farewell call; Najma Heptulla, Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, the Indian upper house of Parliament; Eduard Yevreinov, First Vice-President of the International Information Academy of the Russian Federation; and Mr. Al-Farargi, Director of the Regional Bureau for Arab States of the United Nations Development Programme.

Mr. Sills said the Security Council this morning had been briefed by Rolf Ekeus, Executive Chairman of the United Nations Special Commission monitoring the disarmament of Iraq. Mr. Ekeus would meet correspondents at 2:30 p.m. today in room 226, Mr. Sills added. This morning, the Council was also scheduled to consider the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus (S/1995/488). This afternoon, the Council was scheduled to be briefed by Anthony B. Nyakyi, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Liberia, and by Mahmoud Mestiri, Head of the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan.

Mr. Sills said that a working draft of a resolution on Liberia was circulating. He noted that the mandate of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL) would expire at the end of the month. There was some discussion in the Council concerning the length of the extension of its mandate.

Tomorrow morning the General Assembly and the Security Council would both meet in accordance with the procedure set up in the Charter for filling a vacancy on the International Court of Justice, Mr. Sills said. They would meet separately at the same time and also vote separately. There were currently two vacancies on the Court, one of which would be filled tomorrow.

Mr. Sills said that available in his office was a press release from the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia on the second annual report of the Tribunal. The press release contained some quotations from the Tribunal's meeting concerning the report; however, at this time a draft version was being considered and the final report would not be submitted to New York until later.

Further, the Spokesman reminded correspondents that the first meeting of the International Tribunal for Rwanda would take place in The Hague on 26 June.

Speaking on peace-keeping operations, Fred Eckhard of the Spokesman's Office said that in Haiti, the ballot papers for the elections scheduled to be held this Sunday had been delivered from the printer in California to Haiti over the weekend. An additional 400,000 ballot papers to be used as back-up were to be delivered today; the training of electoral workers was being carried out in the various departments, he added.

Concerning the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Eckhard said that the delivery of humanitarian assistance was the main indicator of whether or not the situation could be normalized. The attempts by the United Nations High

Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to get from the Croatian coast to Sarajevo today were being watched. There were three convoys totalling 37 vehicles carrying 450 metric tons of humanitarian supplies. However, they had been turned back at Tarcin -- at the other side of Mount Igman outside Sarajevo -- by the Bosnian Government, which had advised them to do so for security reasons. They would stay overnight in Jablanica, further south, and then try a longer roundabout route tomorrow to come into Sarajevo from the north, via Kiseljak. In the north,

however, there was a substantial amount of military activity and the UNHCR was not optimistic about its ability to get in by that route, but it would try, he added.

Regarding the Sarajevo bakery, Mr. Eckhard said it continued to get minimum supplies of flour, thanks to the combined efforts of the UNHCR, the Bosnian Government and the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). They had teamed up as follows: the UNHCR brought flour up from the coast to Tarcin where it was stored in a Government warehouse; then, Government trucks took it on a hazardous trip over the mountain; and then, for an equally hazardous trip across the airport and into the city, UNPROFOR provided heavy escort. The convoy was bringing about 30 tonnes of flour a day, on average, to the bakery, which was keeping it working at less than 50 per cent capacity.

Mr. Eckhard said the eastern enclaves of Bosnia had an average of three to four days supply in stock. However, that meant that the most vulnerable groups in those besieged areas were living very close to the edge, according to UNHCR. A seven-vehicle convoy with 56 tonnes of flour had been blocked outside of Gorazde, Bosnia, since Saturday as a result of Bosnian Serb opposition. In addition, a nine-vehicle convoy with 37 tonnes of flour got into Srebrenica, Bosnia, today, but only after the Bosnian Serb soldiers extorted fuel as the price of entry.

Efforts to make humanitarian deliveries to central Bihac had been frustrated by the forces of Fikret Abdic, leader of a breakaway Bosnian Muslim faction in Bihac, who failed to honour a commitment made to the UNHCR last week to allow deliveries to Cazin, in the centre of the Bihac pocket, by the most direct route through Velika Kladusa in the north which is controlled by Mr. Abdic. Therefore, a convoy was sitting in Zagreb today waiting for clearance from the rebel Muslim leader.

Mr. Eckhard said that meanwhile UNPROFOR's efforts to resupply its own troops were facing similar difficulties. A 56-truck convoy was to have set out from Belgrade this morning for the eastern enclaves of Bosnia but the Serbs provided clearance initially for only half of the trucks, which set out as scheduled. After much delay, the second half were finally cleared and had apparently left from Belgrade although no information was available yet on whether either group had reached the enclaves.

The military situation throughout Bosnia ranged today from moderate to quiet, Mr. Eckhard said. The first French elements of the rapid reaction force recently authorized by

the Security Council would start arriving at the port of Ploce, Croatia on Thursday, 22 June, and it was expected that a total of 2,000 troops would be arriving over the following few days. They would go from Ploce inland into Tomislavgrad, where they will begin some training exercises.

The Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia were in Split, Croatia, today, Mr. Eckhard said, describing that visit as a "get acquainted visit" for the new European negotiator, Carl Bildt. They would be meeting with Bosnian Government officials in Mostar, Bosnia, and also with European Union officials there. They would be in Zagreb tonight for meetings with Croatian Government officials tomorrow; then they would go to the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters in Zagreb to meet with the Secretary-General's Special Representative for the former Yugoslavia, Yasushi Akashi, and the Force Commander, Lieutenant-General Bernard Janvier and then they would go on to Belgrade.

A correspondent said that when Mr. Akashi was in New York, several weeks ago, he had said that all sides in Bosnia despised UNPROFOR, because it tried to see all sides. He wondered whether the Secretary-General's repetition of the idea that the United Nations could not buck the policy of Member States on ceding authority to the United Nations to act in the former Yugoslavia was contributing to that. Mr. Sills said that the United Nations was an organization of sovereign States and the Secretary-General's task was to try to get them to work together towards mutually agreed ends. Concerning the situation in the former Yugoslavia, where there were recognized States as well as factions which did not have the status of Member States, it was obviously a very difficult task to get them all together.

Today's New York Times mentioned the withdrawal of UNPROFOR from Bosnia in three stages, a correspondent said, and asked how true that was. Mr. Eckhard said that as far as he knew that was only speculation on the part of the newspaper. To a follow-up question, he said that troop concentration was a classic military reaction that, even for peace-keepers, made sense given the level of fighting seen in the area. That was not necessarily a prelude to a pull-out, he concluded; it could as easily be a prelude to more determined and concentrated efforts in the future once conditions permitted.

What was the situation in Sector South in Croatia, a correspondent asked. Mr. Eckhard said there had been an exchange of shells yesterday and today. Bosnian Croat forces in recently acquired high ground in the Dinara mountains in Croatia were firing down on small Serb villages and the Croatian Serb forces in the area were firing back at a number of positions of the HVO -- the Bosnian Croat Army -- up in the mountains. To a follow-up question, Mr. Eckhard said that there were Croatian Serb military positions around those villages. Historically, there had been evidence of support from the Croatian army for the HVO, "so we usually describe them as HV (Croatian Army) HVO positions". But there was no direct evidence at the present time of HVO presence in the Dinara mountains. It was difficult to say if civilians were direct targets.

By United Nations standards, had the Bosnian Government army offensive which started a week ago around Sarajevo failed, a correspondent asked. Mr. Eckhard said it was not for him to judge whether it had failed or not. Clearly, the level of fighting had dropped off markedly and he could attest to that. The Government had been very restrictive of the freedom of the
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Prepared by Central News DH/1918
20 June 1995

T U E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

*United Nations is leading way towards new international era of democratization, Secretary-General tells Foreign Policy Association.

*Secretary-General discusses situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including Rapid Reaction Force, with United Kingdom Defence Secretary.

*Bosnian Government turns three UNHCR convoys back from Sarajevo for security reasons; food stocks dwindle in eastern enclaves.

*Special Commission Chairman says Iraq has no significant capability in areas of chemical weapons and long-range missiles; expresses concern regarding biological area.

*International health bodies warn diphtheria epidemic in former Soviet Union could become global health emergency.

*UNAMIR cost estimate reduced by \$21 million for period 10 June to 31 December following Security Council decision to scale Mission down.

*Economic and Social Council to hold 1995 substantive session in Geneva from 26 June to 28 July.

* * *

The United Nations is leading the way towards a new international era -the age of democratization -- according to Secretary-General Boutros BoutrosGhali. In a statement to the Foreign Policy Association last night, he stressed that the Organization needed the support of its Member States and their peoples in that effort. Public, political, moral, material, military and financial support were crucial in times of great change and great suffering.

Supporting the United Nations did not mean subsidizing a separate, independent entity, the Secretary-General went on to say. It meant participating in the only world Organization composed of all humanity, and in the service of all humanity. Never before had the world had such a chance to establish a universal civil society which administered law, he concluded.

* * *

The Secretary-General met today at Headquarters with the

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Secretary of State for Defence of the United Kingdom, Malcom Rifkind, according to a United Nations spokesman. He expressed his appreciation for the United Kingdom's support for peace-keeping operations, and they discussed the country's work on conflict resolution, particularly in Africa.

The Secretary-General and the Defence Secretary discussed the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina at length, including the role of the Rapid Reaction Force. Mr. Rifkind described that Force as a useful enhancement of the United Nations Force Commander's assets in the field. Mr. Boutros-Ghali stressed the importance of retaining the option of using air power, as authorized by the Security Council. They also discussed cooperation between the United Nations and the European Union, including the roles of the Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia.

The situation in Angola was also discussed, particularly the demining operation there. The Secretary-General asked Mr. Rifkind for British assistance in that regard, and called his attention to the conference on demining activities to be held in Geneva on 7 July.

* * *

Three United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) convoys were today turned back from Sarajevo by the Bosnian Government, according to a spokesman for the Organization. The three convoys -- totaling 37 vehicles carrying 450 metric tons of humanitarian supplies -- were stopped before Mount Igman for security reasons. They were expected to try to enter the city tomorrow from the north. However, there has been substantial military activity in that area recently, and the UNHCR was not optimistic about the prospects for success tomorrow.

The spokesman noted that the UNHCR, the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) and the Bosnian Government had teamed up to carry an average of 30 tons of flour into Sarajevo each day. Those deliveries kept the city's bakery operating at less than 50 per cent of capacity. Meanwhile, the eastern enclaves had an average of three to four days worth of food in stock, leaving the most vulnerable sections of the population "very close to the edge."

One convoy had been prevented by the Bosnian Serbs from entering Gorazde since Saturday, the spokesman continued. Another convoy had been unable to reach Bihac pending clearance from rebel Muslim leader Fikret Abdic. However, a ninevehicle convoy reached Srebrenica today after Bosnian Serb soldiers extorted fuel as the price of entry. UNPROFOR was also experiencing difficulties in attempting to resupply peace-keepers.

* * *

The United Nations Special Commission is confident that Iraq does not have any significant prohibited capability in the areas of chemical weapons and longrange missiles, according to its Executive Chairman, Rolf Ekeus. He told correspondents at Headquarters today that the Commission's monitoring and verification system would detect any Iraqi attempt to acquire such a capability. He made those comments after reporting to the Security Council on Iraqi compliance with resolution 687

(1991).

However, Mr. Ekeus expressed concern regarding Iraq's capability in the biological area. The Special Commission had discovered that the country had imported the necessary components for a biological weapons programme before the Gulf War, but did not know if such a programme existed. Information received from a variety of sources since April had only added to its concern. If Iraq were to openly declare what it had done with the imported components, that information could easily be verified using the Commission's database. The biological issue could be quickly resolved, he said, "but it is completely, obviously in the hands of the Iraqis."

Mr. Ekeus described his report to the Security Council as "very positive" overall, citing Iraq's cooperation with ongoing monitoring activities. Several Council members had expressed great satisfaction at the progress achieved, he noted, although all had been critical of Iraq's compliance in the biological area.

* * *

An epidemic of diphtheria in the newly-independent States of the former Soviet Union is spinning out of control and could become a global public health emergency. That warning came yesterday from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO), as they launched a joint appeal for \$33 million for diphtheria control.

For decades, diphtheria was considered a controlled disease in Europe. However, the situation changed rapidly in the early 1990s with outbreaks in all of the newly-independent States. Almost 48,000 cases and 1,700 deaths were reported in the region in 1994. WHO predicts 150,000 to 200,000 new cases there this year.

* * *

The estimated cost of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) for the period 10 June to 31 December has been reduced by \$21 million to \$110 million, the Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) has heard. The reduction followed the Security Council's decision on 9 June to scale down the Mission. Resolution 997 (1995) authorized a reduction from 5,500 to 2,300 troops within three months, and to 1,800 troops within four months.

United Nations Controller Yukio Takasu told the Fifth Committee that the cost estimate had been based on several factors, such as the reduction in strength, a 10 per cent cut in civilian personnel and operating costs, and an increase in the transport requirements to withdraw troops and equipment.

* * *

The Economic and Social Council will hold its 1995 substantive session in Geneva from 26 June to 28 July. Discussions will focus on the coordinated implementation of international agreements on population and development matters and social and other economic issues adopted at recent world conferences. The Council will tackle the challenge of implementing those agreements as it strives to bring greater

coherence to the development work of the United Nations.

The 54-member Council will also consider such issues as conservation of forests for sustainable development, United Nations electoral assistance, and prevention of terrorism and organized crime. In addition, it will deal with the human rights situations in various countries, including Iraq and Haiti.

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M O N D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

.Bosnian Serbs release all remaining United Nations hostages; UNPROFOR withdraws peace-keepers from weapons collection points after intense fighting in and around Sarajevo.

-Secretary-General welcomes communique issued following Group of Seven Summit in Halifax; notes support for United Nations role as unique forum for building consensus on global priorities.

-UNFICYP plays indispensable role in preventing recurrence of fighting in Cyprus, Secretary-General tells Security Council; mandate should be extended to 31 December.

-Secretary-General expresses concern at recent escalation of hostilities along Israel-Lebanon border; urges all parties to exercise restraint.

-Utility supplies should be restored in Sarajevo this week following agreement between Bosnian parties, Special Coordinator announces.

-Security Council welcomes recent positive developments in Angola, but notes some delays in peace process; stresses need for progress in mine clearance.

-Secretary-General pledges to make problems of African children a priority for United Nations action; calls on international community to redouble support for UNICEF.

The Bosnian Serbs have freed the last 26 of the United Nations personnel held hostage by them for three weeks, according to a spokesman for the Organization. The 11 Canadian peace-keepers and 15 military observers arrived

today at Zagreb airport, where they were greeted by United Nations Peace Forces (UNPF) Commander General Bernard Janvier and Special Representative Yasushi Akashi.

There was intense fighting in and around Sarajevo and elsewhere in Bosnia and Herzegovina over the weekend, the spokesman said. However, only moderate levels of activity were reported today. United Nations troops were withdrawn from the heavy weapons collection points around the capital city yesterday. Half of the collection points had already been overrun by the Bosnian Serbs. The remaining peace-keepers had been unable to function properly and had become vulnerable to hostage-taking. The decision to withdraw was fully supported by troop-contributing countries.

The spokesman noted that United Nations peace-keepers

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remained deployed at certain key observation posts. They could still play a useful role, primarily by being interpositioned between the opposing forces around Sarajevo and the eastern enclaves.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has welcomed the communique issued by the Heads of State and Government of the "Group of Seven" industrialized countries and the President of the European Commission following their Summit in Halifax, Canada. He said he greatly appreciated the support expressed for the role of the United Nations as a "unique forum for consensus building on global priorities", as an "advocate for core values" and as an agent to respond to development and humanitarian needs.

The Secretary-General welcomed the suggestions made in the communique for further enhancing the effectiveness and coherence of the United Nations system in the economic, social and environmental fields and in the humanitarian area. He said he would examine them carefully with all concerned. He also appreciated the call on Member States to meet their financial obligations to the Organization and for early agreement on reform of the system of assessment.

Finally, he welcomed the commitment to help the United Nations system face the challenges of the next century. The Summit participants said they would seek a consensus on that issue in October, when Heads of States and Government gathered in New York for the observance of the fiftieth anniversary of the Organization.

The Security Council should extend the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) until 31 December, according to the Secretary-General. In a report dated 15 June, he said UNFICYP's presence on the island remained indispensable to achieving the objectives set out by the Council. The Force was established to prevent a recurrence of fighting in Cyprus and to contribute to the maintenance and restoration of law and order and a return to normal conditions. In the past six months, he continued, the Force had carried out its functions effectively, with a reasonable degree of cooperation from both Cypriot parties, and the situation had remained generally calm.

However, the report pointed out that there was merely a cease-fire in Cyprus, not peace. The status quo held dangers that did not diminish with the passage of time. In the absence of progress towards an agreed overall settlement, the situation remained subject to sudden tensions, generated by events outside the island as well as within. Furthermore, the excessive levels of armaments and forces in Cyprus, and the rate at which they were being strengthened, were a cause for serious concern. There had been no progress even on modest measures aimed at reducing confrontation between the parties along the cease-fire lines.

The Secretary-General has expressed deep concern at the recent escalation of hostilities along the border between Israel and Lebanon, and the resulting civilian casualties. In a statement issued on Friday, he urged all parties to exercise restraint and, in particular, to refrain from attacking civilians.

The Special Coordinator for Sarajevo, William Eagleton, today announced that utilities would probably be restored to the city later this week. He told correspondents at Headquarters that the Bosnian parties had reached an agreement on gas, electricity and water supplies, and that the modalities for restoration were now being discussed. The Bosnian Serbs cut off the city's utilities almost a month ago.

Mr. Eagleton expressed optimism regarding international efforts on behalf of Sarajevo, despite recent events there. At a conference in Vienna on 14 June, donors had not only pledged to continue to support the Action Plan

for the city, but had indicated that they would make additional contributions to it. To date, 28 countries had pledged a total of \$95 million, while \$11 million had been paid into the Trust Fund for Sarajevo.

Some 300 projects were currently being planned for the Bosnian capital, and funding had been received for half of them, he continued. As soon as conditions permitted, efforts would be made to improve the utility situation. He stressed the need for secure access to the city, noting that economic activity there had flourished when roads were open earlier this year.

The Security Council has welcomed recent positive developments in Angola, including the maintenance of the cease-fire. However, in a letter to the Secretary-General dated 15 June, it noted that despite the considerable progress in the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol, there had been delays in the peace process. The Council made those comments in response to the fourth progress report on the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM III).

The Council expressed particular concern at the lack of progress in mine clearance, which affected the deployment of UNAVEM III and the Angolan people's ability to return to their homes. It endorsed the Secretary-General's call to the parties to reinforce recent actions in the fields of mine clearance and road and bridge repair. The Council expressed its distress at the recent killing of a United Nations police observer in Angola, and the wounding of a military observer. It recalled the responsibility of the parties for the safety and security of all United Nations personnel there.

The Secretary-General has pledged to make African problems, and particularly the problems of African children, his priority for United Nations action. He made that pledge on Friday, in an address to the gala event at Headquarters marking the Day of the African Child. He called on the international community to redouble its support for the United Nations and for the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

The challenge was complex and required a comprehensive response, including carefully targeted measures to assist children, he continued. Cooperation for development must be designed with children in mind, and children harmed by conflict must benefit the most from United Nations work for peace. "Our message to the world today is: Africa is not alone. The children of Africa are not alone," he concluded.

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PART 1 OF 2

16 June 1995

DAILY PRESS BRIEFING OF OFFICE OF SPOKESMAN FOR SECRETARY-
GENERAL

Joe Sills, Spokesman for Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, began today's noon briefing by informing correspondents that the Secretary-General had met this morning at 10:30 a.m. with the President of the Economic and Social Council, Ahmad Kamal of Pakistan.

At 11 a.m., the Secretary-General had met with Carl Bildt and Thorvald Stoltenberg, the Co-Chairmen of the Steering Committee of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia. That meeting had concluded just prior to the noon briefing. They had discussed in detail the deteriorating situation on the ground in Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as the situation in Croatia. The importance of continued cooperation between the European Union and the United Nations had also been reviewed. Mr. Sills noted that Mr. Stoltenberg was the Co-Chairman representing the United Nations, while Mr. Bildt represented the European Union. Today at 1:30 p.m., Mr. Bildt would brief the press outside the Security Council Chamber.

The Secretary-General would meet at 12:45 p.m. with Mother Theresa. At 5 p.m., he would meet with William L. Eagleton, the Special Coordinator for Sarajevo. Mr. Sills noted that a meeting on the programme for the reconstruction of Sarajevo had recently been concluded in Vienna. The Secretary-General would then meet with Mahmoud Mestiri, Head of the Special Mission to Afghanistan, at 5:45 p.m. and, at 7:15 p.m., he would address the commemorative event in the General Assembly Hall to mark the Day of the African (Note: Immediately following the briefing, a statement was issued by the Spokesman on the situation on the Lebanese-Israeli border, as follows:

"The Secretary-General is deeply concerned with the recent escalation of hostilities along the border between Israel and

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Lebanon, once again claiming civilian casualties. He urges all parties to exercise restraint and, in particular, to refrain from attacking civilians."

The Security Council was currently holding a formal meeting to renew the mandate of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT). The Council would continue its consultations on Croatia; a draft presidential statement was being considered. Also, a draft statement had been proposed by the Russian Federation regarding the fighting in and around Sarajevo.

Mr. Sills sent on to say that the situation on the ground in Croatia remained stable but tense. Regarding Bosnia and Herzegovina, a statement by Yasushi Akashi, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for the Former Yugoslavia, had been released this morning in which he expressed his concern about the fighting in and around Sarajevo and called for an immediate ceasefire. Statements had been made by other parties, including the Security Council and the "Group of Seven" industrialized countries now meeting in Daily Press Halifax. However, none of these appeals seemed to have had any effect. Intense fighting had broken out today in and around Sarajevo at 4:30 a.m. local time and had continued throughout the day, Mr. Sills said. Heavy exchanges of artillery and mortar fire had taken place. All Bosnian Government and Bosnian Serb checkpoints throughout the city had been closed.

Overnight, the Bosnian Government had removed nearly all of its heavy weapons from the Tito Barracks weapons collection point. The Government had closed the Mount Igman route and had removed two tanks, a 22-mm howitzer and three armoured personnel carriers, from the Kosevo weapons collection point. The Government forces had confined Canadian battalion and other United Nations personnel in Visoko and had severely restricted the movement of United Nations military observers in that area.

In the northern part of Sarajevo, a Russian battalion observation post had been surrounded and cut off by the Bosnian Government forces, Mr. Sills continued. There were 15 Russian troops there. While early reports had indicated that the post had been overrun, it was now being reported that the post had been surrounded. There had been no report of exchanges of gunfire.

The Bosnian Serbs had seized a United Nations tank and had used it to fire a number of rounds, Mr. Sills said. The United Nations had condemned that action in the strongest possible terms, as the misuse of any United Nations equipment or insignia by any of the parties was a violation of the Geneva Conventions. A hospital in the city had been hit by Bosnian Serb fire and there were reports of casualties. There had also been Bosnian Serb firing from the Bare weapons collection point which wounded five French peace-keepers --

none seriously -- who were then taken to the French battalion hospital. Twenty-six peace-keepers continued to be detained and 91 others denied freedom of movement by the Bosnian Serbs. The Ukrainian peace-keepers in Gorazde continued to be surrounded in their barracks. The 11 Canadian troops being detained in the Ilijas area had established radio contact with their Canadian battalion. Mr. Akashi would travel to Belgrade tomorrow to meet with Slobodan Milosevic, the President of Serbia.

Mr. Sills announced that Fred Eckhard would return at Headquarters on Monday, 19 June. Mr. Eckhard had been serving as acting head of the information office of the United Nations Peace Force (UNPF) in Zagreb for the last two months. Philip Arnold, formerly of staff of the United States Mission to the United Nations, would take over next week as head of the UNPF information office in Zagreb.

Early this morning, the Security Council had adopted resolution 998 (1995) authorizing an increase of up to 12,500 troops for the UNPF/United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in order to establish a rapid reaction capacity. A phrase had been included in the resolution stating that the modalities of financing would be determined at a later date.

For the last few years, the Secretary-General has provided the Council with documents outlining the costs of peace-keeping operations, Mr. Sills said. Relating to the rapid reaction force, the Secretary-General had provided cost estimates which were submitted in the addendum to his 9 June letter to the President of the Security Council (S/1995/470 Add.1).

Mr. Sills noted that from a legal standpoint, authority on budgetary matters resided in the General Assembly. Proposed budgets were initially reviewed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), the Assembly's Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) and then the Assembly itself.

In fact, he noted, the question of the financing of the rapid reaction force would have to be resolved by a political decision made by the Member States most closely involved, prior to Assembly approval. That question would be the subject of intensive discussion over the next few days. The Secretary-General's view was that the rapid reaction force was a valuable addition to UNPROFOR's efforts to perform its peace-keeping mission within its existing mandate. The Secretary-General also recognized that it was now up to the Member States involved to determine how best to fund the force. The wording of the Council resolution left all options open: the assessed formula could be utilized; contributions could be made on a voluntary basis; there could be a combination of the two; or another solution could be found.

Mr. Sills went on to say that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) had reported that some

10,000 Rwandese refugees had left the Mugano camp for the United Republic of Tanzania. That movement had been taking place over the last few days and apparently had been caused by rumours that the refugees would be returned forcibly to Rwanda. The United Republic of Tanzania had closed the border on 30 March. The refugees had indicated that they would remain there until the border was re-opened. The UNHCR was meeting with refugees leaders and the Tanzanian authorities. Every effort was being made by the UNHCR to persuade the refugees to return to the camp.

A correspondent asked if Mr. Mestiri, Head of the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan, had been called to meet with the Secretary-General in the context of the comments Mr. Mestiri had made in a recent speech in Stockholm. Mr. Sills said that a trip by Mr. Mestiri to Headquarters for consultations had been planned for some time. It was unrelated to the Stockholm speech. The purpose of the consultations was to review the situation in Afghanistan and discuss the next stage of the Special Mission.

To a follow-up question, Mr. Sills said that the meeting had been called to evaluate the overall situation in Afghanistan. The efforts of the Special Mission had not been successful to date. At one point, the parties were close to accepting a set of ideas proposed by Mr. Mestiri. However, a new factor -- the Taliban -- had entered the picture and an agreement was not reached. While there was no thought of the United Nations abandoning its effort to bring about a peaceful settlement to the conflict there, the future of the United Nations effort must be re-evaluated.

Asked if there was a deadline for determining the modalities for financing the rapid reaction force, Mr. Sills said there was none. He noted that the action taken in the resolution regarding financing was unprecedented. One of the unresolved questions was what would happen to the costs that were incurred related to the deployment prior to a settlement of the financing issue.

END OF PART 1 OF 2
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Prepared by Central News DH/1916
16 June 1995

F R I D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

*Security Council authorizes increase of up to 12,500 troops in strength of UNPROFOR; says rapid reaction capacity will enable Force to carry out its mandate; financial modalities to be determined at later time.

*Special Representative Akashi appeals to Bosnian parties for immediate cease-fire amid intense fighting in and around Sarajevo; demands lifting of restrictions on humanitarian deliveries; five French peace-keepers wounded in incident at weapons collection point.

*Security Council extends UNMOT mandate until 15 December, subject to Tajik parties' continuation of cease-fire agreement and commitment to national reconciliation.

*Security Council condemns offensive actions in Croatia and intimidation of UNCRO personnel; says it will not countenance moves to establish union between Serbs in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

*Secretary-General meets with Co-Chairmen of International Conference to discuss deteriorating situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

*Bosnian Government says its Army has taken defensive measures to prevent further strangulation of Sarajevo; alleges international community has not acted to prevent catastrophe.

* * *

The Security Council this morning authorized an increase of up to 12,500 troops for the United Nations Peace Forces (UNPF)/United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), in order to establish a rapid reaction capacity to enable UNPF/UNPROFOR to carry out its mandate. The modalities for the financing of the Force will be determined at a later time. The Council took that action, under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, by adopting resolution 998 (1995). There

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were 13 votes in favour to none against, with two abstentions (China and the Russian Federation).

The Council requested that the Secretary-General, in taking decisions on the deployment of UNPROFOR personnel, take full account of the need to enhance their security. It demanded that the Bosnian Serbs immediately and unconditionally release all detained UNPROFOR personnel. All parties must fully respect the safety of UNPROFOR personnel and others engaged in the delivery of humanitarian assistance, and ensure their complete freedom of movement.

The Council demanded that the parties allow unimpeded access for humanitarian assistance to all parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly the safe areas. It demanded that they respect fully the status of the safe areas and ensure the safety of their civilian populations. The Council also called on the parties to agree without delay to a cease-fire and a complete cessation of hostilities.

Explaining its abstention, the Russian Federation said the resolution gave the impression that it was addressed against one party. The United Nations should focus on ensuring the cooperation of both parties and promoting agreements on a cease-fire and a cessation of hostilities. China, which also abstained, said a rapid reaction force would change UNPROFOR's peace-keeping status. The United States said it could not agree to funding the rapid deployment force through the normal peace-keeping assessment process. It had supported the resolution on the understanding that it was not incurring any direct financial obligation.

The Secretary-General has estimated that increasing UNPROFOR's strength by 12,500 will cost \$414 million for a six-month period. That figure provides for some 35 international civilian staff, 363 local staff and 406 United Nations Volunteers.

* * *

Special Representative Yasushi Akashi today urgently appealed to the Bosnian Government and the Bosnian Serbs for an immediate cease-fire in and around Sarajevo, and for a complete cessation of hostilities throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. He also demanded that restrictions on humanitarian aid deliveries and utility supplies be removed immediately.

Mr. Akashi said both Bosnian parties had violated the heavy weapons and anti-sniping agreements, interfered with utilities, and engaged in increasingly fierce combat for tactical advantages on the ground. Attacks launched today by the Bosnian Government had led to an intensification of the fighting. He called attention to the plight of civilians on both sides, and said he was at the complete disposal of the parties in order to facilitate the de-escalation of the situation.

Meanwhile, a United Nations spokesman reported intense fighting in and around the Bosnian capital throughout the day. Clashes were taking place on the northern and southern confrontation lines and to the east and south-west of the airport. Overnight, the Bosnian Serbs removed nearly all their heavy weapons from the Tito Barracks collection point. They fired weapons from another collection point, wounding five French peace-keepers. Government forces also removed weapons from United Nations custody.

The spokesman noted that the Bosnian Serbs had also seized a United Nations tank and had fired several rounds from it. He strongly condemned that action, saying such misuse of United Nations equipment violated the Geneva Conventions. He went on to say that the Bosnian Serbs continued to hold 26 United Nations personnel hostage, and had denied another 91 freedom of movement. Bosnian Government forces had surrounded 15 Russian peace-keepers at an observation post in northern Sarajevo, and were still blockading 86 Ukrainian peace-keepers in Gorazde.

* * *

The Security Council today extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) until 15 December, subject to the proviso that the 1994 cease-fire agreement remained in force. It said the parties must continue to be committed to an effective cease-fire, to national reconciliation and to the promotion of democracy. The Council decided that UNMOT's mandate would remain in effect unless the Secretary-General reported that those conditions had not been met. It took that action by unanimously adopting resolution 999 (1995).

The Council stressed that the parties must achieve a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict through the inter-Tajik dialogue, and cooperate fully with the Secretary-General's Special Envoy. It called on them to agree to the early convening of a further round of inter-Tajik talks and to implement all confidence-building measures agreed to at the fourth round. It cited measures on the exchange of detainees and prisoners of war, and on the voluntary return of refugees and displaced persons in dignity and safety. The Council asked the Secretary-General to continue efforts to speed up progress towards national reconciliation, and to report to it on that progress and on UNMOT operations.

The Council emphasized that the parties must comply fully with all obligations they had assumed, and strictly observe and substantially extend the current cease-fire agreement. It stressed the urgency of the cessation of all hostile acts on the Tajik-Afghan border, and called on all States to discourage any activities that could complicate or hinder the peace process in Tajikistan.

* * *

In a third meeting today, the Council condemned the intimidation of personnel of the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia (UNCRO) and the continuation of offensive actions in that country. In a statement by its President, Detlev Graf zu Rantzau (Germany), the Council said it looked to the Croatian parties to cooperate fully and unconditionally with UNCRO in the performance of its mandate. It also looked to them to ensure the safety, security and freedom of movement of UNCRO personnel.

The statement demanded that the parties fulfil their commitments under the March 1994 cease-fire agreement, particularly in respect of withdrawal of all forces from the zones of separation, and fully implement the December 1994 economic agreement. It called on them to respect the international border between Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, and to stop any action which extended the conflict across that border. The Council again warned that if the parties did not refrain from military actions that could escalate the situation, it would consider further steps to ensure compliance with its resolution 994 (1995).

The Council noted the Secretary-General's judgement that the redeployment of United Nations peace-keepers in Croatia could not be completed by 30 June. It requested him to proceed expeditiously with the redeployment. The Council went on to say that it could not countenance moves by the local Serb authorities in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina to establish a union between them, as that would be inconsistent with the Council's commitment to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the two countries.

* * *

The Secretary-General met today with the Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, Thorvald Stoltenberg and Carl Bildt. They discussed developments in the area, focusing on the deteriorating situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Mr. Bildt later told correspondents that the escalation of fighting in Bosnia and Herzegovina brought very great dangers. He urged the Bosnian Serbs to end their strangulation of Sarajevo. "I can understand the concerns of the Bosnian Government in this respect, although one must be very much aware of the risks of further escalation of the violence and suffering that any sort of major operation brings," he said.

* * *

The Bosnian Republic today said that its military operation in the Sarajevo area was intended to prevent the further strangulation of the city. A statement by the President of the Bosnian Presidency accused the "Pale Serbs" of seeking a solution to the conflict based on force, genocide and ethnic cleansing. They had killed civilians while violating the exclusion zone around Sarajevo, cut off humanitarian access and utility supplies to the city, and continued to deploy troops and weapons around it. Meanwhile, the statement

asserted, the international community had not taken any measures to prevent the catastrophe.

Bosnian Foreign Minister Muhamed Sacirbey told correspondents at Headquarters that the Bosnian Serbs had increased their manpower and heavy weapons concentrations around Sarajevo, creating an urgent situation which had to be dealt with immediately. It was hypocritical of the international community to call for a halt to military activity while allowing the Serbs to continue the siege and to further entrench their heavy weapons, he said.

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FROM DPIIDS

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DAILY PRESS BRIEFING,

15 June 1995

PART 1 OF 2

Joe Sills, Spokesman for Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, began today's noon briefing by informing correspondents that the Secretary-General had met at 10:30 a.m. with the President of France, Jacques Chirac.

The Secretary-General and President Chirac initially had met privately for about 15 minutes and then had met together with their delegations for around an hour. The Secretary-General had been joined by Marrack Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs; Kofi Annan, Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations; and Rosario Green, Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

The discussion, which began during the morning meeting, would be continued during a working luncheon, scheduled to follow President Chirac's meetings with the Presidents of the Security Council and the General Assembly. The situation in Africa had been a focus of discussion at this morning's meeting, including the situations in Angola, Burundi and Rwanda, as well as the refugees in Zaire and United Republic of Tanzania. Economic and social development in Africa had been an important topic, including the marginalization of that continent and the dangers posed by the cutbacks in both bilateral assistance and funds for multilateral programmes.

The Secretary-General and President Chirac had also discussed the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly the proposed rapid reaction force. The Middle East, Western Sahara, the observance of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations and the Organization's financial situation had also been covered. (It was later announced that an informal note on the meeting between the Secretary-General and President Chirac was available in the Spokesman's office.)

Also today, at 4:30 p.m., the Secretary-General would receive Bishop Belo, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of East Timor. Bishop Belo had been a participant in the informal dialogue in Austria on 5 June. At 5 p.m., the Secretary-General would meet with the former Ambassador of the United Kingdom to the United Nations, John Thompson.

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The Security Council had just concluded its morning consultations, which would continue at 3:30 p.m., Mr. Sills said. On the morning agenda had been the oral report from the Council mission to Western Sahara, which had been carried over from its work programme of yesterday. The Council was also continuing its discussion of the situation in Croatia. There had been a good deal of discussion during consultations yesterday on the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia (UNCRO), and several members had expressed concern that the 30 June goal for the Operation's full he United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT). With the Mission's mandate expiring tomorrow, a formal meeting to adopt the resolution, introduced by the Russian Federation, could be expected tomorrow.

The draft resolution being considered by the Council related to the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) and the proposed rapid reaction force. Mr. Sills noted that he had said at yesterday's briefing that the Russian Federation had not made any amendments to the draft. The Russian Federation had now made some amendments available to the drafters. A re-draft was circulating which took into account China's difficulties with the reference to Chapter VII of the Charter.

President Chirac, briefing the press outside the Security Council Chamber just prior to the noon briefing, had stated that he hoped the UNPROFOR draft would be adopted this afternoon. However, that might not be the case as questions remained about the position of the United States, given the stated need for consultation with Congress. Mr. Sills referred correspondents to the Missions of the Member States involved, particularly to the United States Mission, for more information on the matter.

Regarding the former Yugoslavia, Mr. Sills said that the situation in Croatia was reasonably quiet throughout. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, there had been a lot of speculation regarding the build-up of Bosnian Government troops north of Sarajevo. Around 4:30 this morning there was some intense fighting north of Sarajevo, in the area of the Lipa feature. However, the United Nations, having been prevented by both sides from having military observers in the area, had no capability to monitor what was going on there. We could thus not confirm whether an offensive or probing activities were under way. It was unfortunate that unnamed United Nations sources were being quoted as speculating as to what the aims of the two sides were and what the future military activity would be, Mr. Sills said. United Nations personnel should restrict themselves to reporting factual information which could be confirmed by United Nations sources and which pertained to United Nations activities.

There was nothing new to report on the United Nations military observers or the Canadian peace-keepers who were being held, he continued. There had been a number of attacks on United Nations personnel yesterday. A Bosnian UNPROFOR employee driving a clearly marked United Nations bus in the Sarajevo suburb of Dobrinja had been shot in the chest. He had undergone surgery and was in stable condition. Bosnian Government soldiers had fired small arms rounds at a Russian

battalion observer post, hitting a truck, but causing no This morning at 11:30 a.m. local time, the Bosnian Government had closed all crossing points in Sarajevo. At 12:55 p.m. local time there had been four heavy mortar impacts in Sarajevo near the PTT Building, one of which had hit the television building. In Sector South-West, at 2 p.m. local time, a United Kingdom helicopter had been hit by small arms fire and had landed with no injuries. The United Nations was concerned about the continued attacks on its personnel, Mr. Sills said.

On costs relating to the proposed rapid reaction force, Mr. Sills said United Nations staff at Headquarters had worked until late last night and continued this morning to develop cost estimates. Although precise figures were not yet available, it had been estimated that the six month cost for 8,500 troops would be about \$300 million. For the additional 4,000 French troops, the preliminary estimated costs were about \$110 million. Thus, the total six-month figure appeared to be about \$410 million. That figure could not be used to project a full-year cost, however, as some cost incurred during the first six months would not be repeated in the second six months. The costs for the second six months would be some \$30 million to \$50 million less. Those figures should be treated as estimates until the final report was given to the Security Council.

An "Update" from the United Nations High Commissioners for Refugees (UNHCR) was available on an agreement between the High Commissioner and the Government of Angola on the voluntary repatriation of some 300,000 Angolan refugees, Mr. Sills said. A memorandum of understanding on the agreement had been signed in Luanda.

The United Nations International School was holding its graduation ceremony at 2:30 p.m. in the General Assembly Hall. Under-Secretary-General Annan would be the speaker to the class of 1995. A note to the press was available providing background on the class and the School. The press was invited to attend the graduation.

Also today, at 4:30 p.m., the secretariat of the United Nations fiftieth anniversary observance would host an informal briefing and reception for United Nations correspondents in the United Nations Correspondents Association (UNCA) Club. They would discuss the press arrangements for next week's events to be held in San Francisco to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter, as well as their information and education programmes.

Turning to the subject of Burundi, Mr. Sills recalled his been transported out this morning. Also, the special representative of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) had been with them. The three were now back in Bujumbura. A Burundi soldier wounded in the ambush had died, in addition to the OAU observer who had died yesterday from wounds sustained during the same incident.

END OF PART 1 OF 2
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DAILY PRESS BRIEFING,

15 June 1995

PART 2 OF 2

The United Nations still did not have any statement on who had been responsible for the ambush. The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Burundi, Ahmedou Ould Abdallah, was preparing a report for the Secretary-General on the incident.

Asked for details on the need to raise the UNPROFOR troop level to authorize the deployment of the rapid reaction force, Mr. Sills said that the Secretary-General had addressed that question in his 9 June letter to the President of the Security Council (A/1995/470). The force of 8,500 would consist of British, French and Dutch troops. The 4,000-strong stand-by group was made up of French troops. The UNPROFOR draft resolution now being considered by the Council would authorize an increase in UNPROFOR personnel of up to 12,500.

A correspondent asked why the United Nations could not confirm the massive offensive being launched north of Sarajevo which was moving towards the city. Mr. Sills said he had not seen any reports that a massive offensive was moving from the north towards Sarajevo; some fighting had been reported by the wire services. He repeated that the United Nations was dependent on military observers and other personnel in the area for information. There were no United Nations personnel in the area, and it was not for the United Nations to speculate on the figures or on future military activity. The reported estimates of troops being massed by the Government ranged from 2,500 to 40,000. The United Nations did not have the capability to determine the exact figure. There were clear indications that fighting was taking place in the area, however, it was not possible to go beyond that.

If a massive offensive should develop, what would be the implications for the future of the United Nations in Bosnia? a correspondent asked. Clearly, Mr. Sills replied, if there were a very large offensive towards Sarajevo and a large-scale increase in the fighting in Bosnia, the United Nations would have to closely examine its situation there and carefully consider the safety of its troops in that city. If such an action happened, it would be a serious set-back to efforts to negotiate a settlement to the conflict. The Secretary-General had stated repeatedly that the conflict could only be settled by negotiation.

A correspondent asked for an update on the status of withdrawal of Croatian Government troops and heavy weapons from the buffer zones outside the Krajina area. Mr. Sills said he did not have information beyond that contained in the

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Secretary-General's report on the situation in Croatia (S/1995/467). The issue of troop withdrawal was among the remaining problems. He noted again that it would be impossible to complete the deployment of UNCRO by 30 June.

Asked for comment on whether the taking of hostages could be viewed as a violation of international law, Mr. Sills said that the United Nations was not at war with any of the parties, adding that the detention of UNPROFOR personnel was illegal and violated the agreements on peace-keeping. The Organization had demanded their immediate release. The seizing of United Nations peace-keepers was a violation of international law, as they had been deployed under the mandate of a Security Council resolution. Under the Charter, Security Council resolutions were binding on all Member States.

Asked if the United Nations had taken any action to protest the death threats which had been made against the United Nations spokesman in Sarajevo, Alexander Ivanko, Mr. Sills stated that the Secretary-General's Special Representative for the Former Yugoslavia, Yasushi Akashi, was aware of this situation and was dealing with it. The United Nations was very concerned about the matter.

A correspondent asked if there were any United Nations personnel in Baghdad who might be endangered by heavy fighting reported there. Mr. Sills said that there were conflicting reports about whether there was fighting in Baghdad. But if fighting were to erupt, it might pose danger to United Nations personnel. More than 100 United Nations personnel were in Baghdad and the Iraqi Government had been cooperative about their status. Members of the United Nations Special Commission monitoring the disarmament of Iraq were in Baghdad. United Nations personnel were also there in connection with the humanitarian operation. Mr. Sills noted that the head of the humanitarian operation had recently stated that unless additional funds were received, it would be difficult to sustain that operation. Baghdad also hosted a liaison office of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM).

Asked for clarification on the connection between financing the rapid reaction force if it were authorized by a Security Council resolution, and the consideration of the matter by the United States Congress, Mr. Sills said that a resolution adopted by the Security Council was binding upon Member States, under the Charter. In response to a follow-up question, he stated that a vote against the draft resolution by the United States would constitute a veto. However, if the United States were to abstain from the vote, the draft resolution could still be passed. The arrangements within the United States Government between its legislative and executive branches, as regards consultation and approval, were not matters for comment by the United Nations. Was there any update on the status of the four Bosnian Serb soldiers being held by French peace-keepers? a correspondent asked. Mr. Sills said that their release would be easily secured if the overall detainee problem were solved.

Asked for an update on the 86 Ukrainian peace-keepers being blockaded by Bosnian Government forces, Mr. Sills said

that they were still being blocked.

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DAILY HIGHLIGHTS

DH/1915
15 June 1995

Secretary-General and President of France meet at Headquarters; discuss situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including Rapid Reaction Force, and African development. United Nations personnel come under attack in various parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bosnian Serbs continue to hold 15 military observers and 11 peace-keepers hostage. Special Representative for former Yugoslavia and UNHCR demand Bosnian Serbs honour existing agreements and remove all obstructions to humanitarian deliveries. Foreign Minister of Burundi and United States Ambassador evacuated to Bujumbura after ambush in Cibitoke Province; Special Representative to report to Secretary-General on incident.

UNHCR and Angola sign memorandum of understanding to promote voluntary repatriation of 300,000 Angolan refugees. WHO reports slight increase in number of Ebola cases in Zaire; puts total at 280 confirmed or suspected cases, including 220 deaths.

World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought to be observed for first time on Saturday, one year after signing of Desertification Convention.

Secretary-General to participate in video conference with United States astronauts and Russian cosmonauts in outer space as part of United Nations fiftieth anniversary celebrations.

Committee on NGOs recommends eight organizations for consultative status with Economic and Social Council.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and French President Jacques Chirac met today, along with their aides, at Headquarters. They discussed the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Secretary-General expressed his appreciation for France's major role in the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). They also reviewed the integration of the Rapid Reaction Force within the command structure of UNPROFOR as a peace-keeping operation, not an enforcement one.

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The Secretary-General and the President also dealt with Africa, including the situations in Angola, Burundi, Rwanda and Western Sahara. They focused on African development, and agreed that it was imperative not to reduce, but to increase, development aid in order to avoid a destabilization of the continent in the future. The fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations and the Organization's finances were also discussed at the meeting.

The Secretary-General later hosted a working lunch for the President, during which they discussed several topics. Mr. Chirac also had meetings with Security Council President Detlev Graf zu Rantzau (Germany) and General Assembly President Amara Essy (Cote d'Ivoire).

In remarks to correspondents, President Chirac voiced concern at the "disengagement" of some major countries from the issue of development aid. Regarding Bosnia and Herzegovina, he expressed hope that the Bosnian Serbs would release the remaining United Nations hostages within 48 hours. French peace-keepers could then free the four Bosnian Serb soldiers held by them in Sarajevo. He warned that any new offensive by the Bosnian Government would be a serious mistake and could lead to a very dangerous situation.

The Bosnian Serbs today continued to hold 15 United Nations military observers and 11 Canadian peace-keepers hostage, according to a United Nations spokesman. Meanwhile, UNPROFOR personnel came under attack in various parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

A Bosnian UNPROFOR employee driving a clearly-marked United Nations vehicle was shot and wounded by a sniper in Sarajevo yesterday, while a Russian observation post came under fire from Bosnian Government soldiers, the spokesman continued. Bosnian Serb soldiers fired on Nordic Battalion vehicles in Sector North-East, and the peace-keepers returned more than five-hundred rounds in self-defence. In Sector South-West, a British helicopter was forced to land after being hit by small-arms fire.

Meanwhile, there was intense fighting around Sarajevo, involving the use of mortars and heavy machine-guns. There was continuing speculation regarding the Bosnian Government build-up north of the city, although UNPROFOR was not in a position to confirm or deny any reports on developments there.

Special Representative Yasushi Akashi and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Sadako Ogata have demanded that the Bosnian Serbs immediately remove all obstructions to humanitarian deliveries in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In a letter to Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, they said international humanitarian law and human decency entitled civilians to unhindered access to humanitarian supplies. They called on Dr. Karadzic to honour the commitments made in that regard over the past three years, and as recently as last week.

The letter warned of developing disasters in Sarajevo, Bihac, Gorazde, Srebrenica and Zepa. Due to obstructive actions by Bosnian Serb forces, humanitarian supplies and relief personnel could not reach those areas. "We can no longer tolerate the violation of exhaustively negotiated

arrangements or the denial of well-developed procedures," the letter said. "We refuse to accept lame excuses, false allegations and suspicions or reference to uncontrolled elements to justify interference with free movement of humanitarian goods and staff."

The Foreign Minister of Burundi, the United States Ambassador to the country, and the Special Representative of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) have been evacuated to Bujumbura, following yesterday's attack on their convoy in Cibitoke Province. One OAU observer was killed in the incident, while a Burundese soldier later died of his wounds.

A United Nations spokesman said there was still no indication as to who responsible for the attack on the convoy. Special Representative Ahmedou Ould Abdallah is preparing a report to the Secretary-General on the incident.

The UNHCR and Angola have signed a memorandum of understanding to promote the voluntary repatriation of some 300,000 Angolan refugees. It calls for the formation of a repatriation committee to promote and implement the orderly return and reintegration of Angolan refugees in conditions of safety and dignity.

The memorandum was signed in Luanda by Kamel Morjane, Director of UNHCR's Regional Bureau of Africa, and the Angolan Minister of Social Affairs and Reinsertion, Albino Malungo. Mr. Morjane said repatriation in Angola would greatly enhance peace and stability in the whole southern African region.

Since the signing in November of a peace agreement ending nearly two decades of civil war in Angola, some 5,500 refugees have returned spontaneously. Zaire currently hosts about 200,000 Angolan refugees, Zambia 96,000, Congo 12,000 and Namibia 1,000. In addition, there are about 15,000 Angolan refugees in another 32 countries.

The International Scientific and Technical Committee, supported by a World Health Organization (WHO) team in Zaire, has reported a slight increase in the number of cases of Ebola haemorrhagic fever. The total now stands at 280 confirmed or suspected cases, including 220 deaths, since the start of the epidemic.

Thirteen new cases -- 10 of them now in hospital in Kikwit -- have been reported since 9 June. These are people who, having been in contact with patients, have reached the end of the incubation period of the disease. None are health workers, the group which suffered most at the start of the epidemic.

WHO specialists expect that there will be more new cases, although they maintain that the acute phase of the epidemic has passed. However, they stress that the latest figures show that vigilance, as well as epidemiological surveillance, must be maintained.

As part of its campaign to combat desertification, the General Assembly has designated 17 June 1995 as the first "World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought". This Day marks the first anniversary of the signing of the Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification.

The world is literally losing ground in its struggle against desertification. The problem is caused by a

combination of climate variations, over-grazing and over-cropping, bad irrigation and deforestation, that could threaten more than a billion people -- nearly a fifth of the world's population.

According to the definition agreed by world leaders at the 1992 Earth Summit and adopted by the Convention, desertification is "land degradation in arid, semi-arid and sub-humid areas resulting from various factors, including climate variations and human activities". In recognition of the seriousness of the problem of desertification, the Interim Secretariat for the Convention has commissioned "Down to Earth: A simple guide to the Convention to Combat Desertification, why it is necessary and what is important and different about it".

A video conference between the Secretary-General at Headquarters and United States astronauts and Russian Federation cosmonauts in outer space will be among the events held to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations. The Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, Nandasiri Jasentuliyana, made that announcement to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space as it began its two-week session in Vienna.

Mr. Jasentuliyana said that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Space shuttle and the Mir space station would undertake a cooperative docking mission between 27 October and 2 November. They would carry the United Nations flag and special commemorative issues of the space treaties in honour of the fiftieth anniversary.

The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations yesterday recommended that eight organizations be granted consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. The Committee recommended Global 2000 and Franciscans International for Category I status. Recommended for Category II status were: the Simon Wiesenthal Center; the Federal Union of European Nationalities; the International Hotel Association; the Latin American Committee for the Defense of Women's Rights; the African Society of International and Comparative Law; and Temple of Understanding.

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FROM DPIIDS

OMNIPRESS / UNDEVPRO

PART 1 OF 2

14 June 1995

DAILY PRESS BRIEFING OF OFFICE OF SPOKESMAN FOR
SECRETARY-GENERAL

Joe Sills, Spokesman for Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, began today's noon briefing by informing correspondents that a convoy had just been ambushed in the Cibitoke province of Burundi, near the Zaire frontier. It was not yet known who was responsible for the ambush. In the convoy had been the United States Ambassador to Burundi, Robert Krueger, and the country's Foreign Minister, Jean-Marie Ngendahayo. A number of military observers of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and a number of Burundi military personnel had also been in the convoy.

Neither the United States Ambassador nor the Foreign Minister had been wounded, Mr. Sills continued. Two of the OAU military observers had been wounded, one seriously. Also, six military personnel had been wounded. Although it was night in Burundi, the United Nations was making efforts to reach the area by helicopter to evacuate them. It was later announced that the observer who had been seriously wounded, a national of Burkina Faso, had died, and that the Ambassador and the Foreign Minister had returned safely to Bujumbura.

Turning to the appointments of the Secretary-General, Mr. Sills said that at the time of the briefing the Secretary-General was meeting with the Deputy Foreign Minister of Germany, Peter Hartmann. At 4:40 p.m., the Secretary-General would meet with the Chairmen of the Regional Groups -- the Permanent Representatives of Mauritius, Afghanistan and the Russian Federation; and the Charges d'affaires of Antigua and Barbuda and Italy. It was one of a series of regular meetings between the Secretary-General and the Chairmen.

Also, the Secretary-General would meet at 5:15 p.m. with the Independent Jurist for Western Sahara, Emmanuel Roucounas. The settlement plan for Western Sahara specified that an independent jurist would be appointed by the Secretary-General to take steps to ensure the release of all political prisoners and detainees before the beginning of the referendum. Mr. Roucounas, a Greek national and a prominent jurist, had been

(SRSG) FC CAZ

appointed by the Secretary-General earlier in the year.

The text of a letter sent by the Secretary-General to the participants in the "Group of Seven" industrialized countries Summit to be held in Halifax, Canada, would be released following the noon briefing. The text in English had been sent to the United Kingdom, United States, Canada, Japan, Germany and Italy. The text in French had been sent to France and the European Commission.

The letter briefly informed them of the present situation of the United Nations, Mr. Sills said. The Secretary-General stated that he warmly welcomed the intention of the Summit to consider at Halifax the role of the Bretton Woods Institutions in conjunction with the United Nations system as a whole. The Secretary-General then turned to the main subject of the letter: the financial pressures on the United Nations. He indicated that the need of the United Nations for reliable financial resources was serious, and was almost certain to become worse in the months ahead.

Mr. Sills said he wished to draw particular attention to the proposal made by the Secretary-General in the letter regarding an arrangement for the issuance of bonds by Member States. Such bonds would be issued by Member States that were in arrears (currently totalling \$1.4 billion from prior periods) to be exchanged and accepted by other Member States in settlement of amounts owed to them by the United Nations for troops and equipment obligations. Those obligations currently totalled \$800 million. That proposal, being made directly to the Group of Seven countries, was intended to help address the Organization's financial situation.

Asked if it were a new proposal, Mr. Sills said it was the first time that particular proposal had been put forward in this specific fashion. In the past, the idea that the United Nations should have the ability to borrow money had been proposed. For instance, there was a precedent for bond issuance -- for the construction of United Nations Headquarters -- under a bilateral arrangement between the United Nations and the United States. The current proposal would have the countries which owed the United Nations money and the countries which the United Nations owed money to enter into negotiations for the acceptance of bonds which would be guaranteed in full by the countries issuing the bond. Unlike the earlier example regarding the construction of Headquarters, the bonds would not be issued by the United Nations.

To a follow-up question, Mr. Sills said that there had been extensive discussion on the question of financing with Member States by United Nations officials, particularly by the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management, Joseph E. Connor.

Turning to today's activities of the Security Council, Mr. Sills said the Council was continuing consultations on Croatia, which had started last evening. The future mandate of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) was also being considered by the Council this morning. A draft resolution had been circulated. In reply to a question raised at yesterday's briefing, Mr. Sills said that the Russian Federation had not offered any amendments to the draft. As he had indicated

yesterday, amendments had been proposed by the Non-Aligned Movement and those had been dealt with in the revised draft. Two additional minor amendments had then been proposed by the Non-Aligned Movement. China had also proposed two amendments, one on financing and another on the drafting of the sentence in the preamble referring to Chapter VII of the Charter.

In regard to the UNPROFOR draft resolution, however, the most important issue remaining was the question of financing and the statement made by the United States delegate that it would be necessary to consult with the Congress on the matter. The rapid consideration of that draft, which had been hoped for, would now clearly be slowed. The consultations might take some time, possibly extending into next week.

To previous queries about when the Secretary-General would issue the statement on the financial implications of the draft resolution, Mr. Sills said additional figures were being awaited from the United Kingdom and France. The document on financial implications would be compiled and sent to the Council, as quickly as possible, possibly late today. Also today, the Council would receive an oral report from the Council mission to Western Sahara.

The Council would also continue its consideration of the Secretary-General's report on the situation in Tajikistan (S/1995/472). There was some discussion regarding the Secretary-General's suggestion of a six-month extension of the mandate of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT), which would expire on 16 June. Since the cease-fire currently in force had been extended for only for three months, the Council might authorize a six-month extension while requesting that a report be made after three months. A number of questions had also been raised by Council members regarding the Secretary-General's proposal of stationing an UNMOT team in Afghanistan, although none seemed opposed to it. A meeting of the UNMOT troop-contributing countries would be held this afternoon.

Regarding the former Yugoslavia, Mr. Sills said that 26 United Nations personnel were currently being detained, 15 of them military observers. The nationalities of the military observers being held were as follows: one from Finland; one from the Russian Federation; one from Kenya; one from Canada; one from Belgium; two from the Czech Republic; one from Ghana; three from the Netherlands; one from Brazil; one from Nigeria; one from Pakistan; and one from Jordan.

Also, 11 Canadian soldiers were being held at Ilijas, north of Sarajevo. As had been mentioned a few days ago, one Canadian soldier had been wounded and then medically evacuated. At that time, a request had been made to move those soldiers to a less dangerous position, and they had subsequently been moved. Mr. Sills said that earlier this morning he had heard reports that the Canadians were about to be released. However, he said that just prior to the briefing he had spoken with United Nations officials in Sarajevo who had no confirmation of the release.

The United Nations had no information that any of the detainees were being mistreated. However, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) had said this morning that

they continued to be unable to meet with the detained personnel.

Twenty-six hostages had been released earlier today and had been flown to Zagreb, arriving there at 4:30 p.m. local time. The nationalities of those released were as follows: 14 from France; six from the United Kingdom; two from Poland; one from the Russian Federation; one from Norway; one from Sweden; and one from the Czech Republic.

Most of the 92 peace-keepers who had been blocked and surrounded by the Bosnian Serb army were described by United Nations officials in Sarajevo this morning as having been "de-blocked", Mr. Sills continued. However, some remained surrounded by Bosnian Serb soldiers. Today, UNPROFOR would try to clarify the situation on the ground, and attempt to resupply and rotate the troops which had been blocked in weapons collection sites and observation points in territory controlled by Bosnian Serbs. Since no troops had yet attempted to leave those positions, it remained unclear whether their freedom of movement had been restored.

The situation in Sarajevo was described as relatively quiet today, he said. A Russian Federation battalion soldier at the observation post in Grbanca had received a minor injury from a bullet during a skirmish between the factions.

None of the convoys of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to the enclaves had received clearances, he continued. The convoy to Srebrenica had been cancelled. The Sarajevo convoy had not left Zenica. The Bosnian Serbs continued to demand that all humanitarian assistance be split 50/50 between the two parties. The UNHCR would not agree to that demand. The UNPROFOR resupply convoys had suffered a similar fate. The two convoys to Gorazde had been blocked by the Bosnian Serb army and had returned to Sarajevo. The convoy scheduled to depart from Zagreb en route to Sarajevo had not yet received clearance. This morning, with assistance from UNPROFOR, UNHCR had brought six truckloads of goods from the airport into Sarajevo.

With no international convoys having been allowed into Sarajevo during the last three weeks and with the Bosnian Serbs continuing to block gas, electricity and water to the city, conditions in Sarajevo continued to deteriorate.

As a correction, Mr. Sills recalled that on Friday 9 June the Secretary-General had met with Ridha Bouadid of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation. He had last week referred to that as a French non governmental-organization. In fact, the Agency was an international inter-governmental organization based in Paris. It had been granted consultative status with the General Assembly, and Mr. Bouadid was the permanent observer.

END OF PART 1 OF 1
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FROM DPIIDS

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Prepared by Central News

DH/1914
14 June 1995

W E D N E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

--- Secretary-General writes to Group of Seven leaders calling attention to United Nations financial crisis; suggests Member States issue bonds for settlement of \$1.4 billion in arrears to Organization.

--- Secretary-General condemns attack on international convoy in Burundi; calls on all parties to refrain from violence and to cooperate with efforts to bring peace and stability to country.

--- United Nations peace-keepers released yesterday by Bosnian Serbs arrive in Zagreb; 26 personnel remain in detention.

--- Humanitarian situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina deteriorates steadily as Bosnian Serbs continue to block aid convoys.

--- Secretary-General recommends Security Council extend UNOMIL mandate for three months; urges Liberian parties to install Council of State and observe comprehensive cease-fire.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has written to the leaders of the Group of Seven industrialized States calling attention to the financial crisis confronting the United Nations. He welcomed the intention of the Seven to consider the role of the Bretton Woods Institutions in conjunction with the United Nations system as a whole, at their upcoming Summit in Halifax, Canada.

The United Nations could not continue to accept new missions, nor even to discharge its current responsibilities, without being able to rely on a dependable capital base or upon commercial borrowing, the Secretary-General said. A structure was needed for predictable and adequate financing of United Nations operations, and for streamlining the Organization and its funds and programmes.

To deal with the immediate situation, he asked the Group of Seven to consider a plan for the settlement of Member States' arrears, which now totaled \$1.4 billion. He suggested an exchange agreement of mutual support by each Member State for the United Nations. States in arrears would issue bonds to the Organization. Those bonds would be exchanged and accepted by other Members in settlement of amounts owed to them for

SRSG FC CAC

contributions of troops and equipment, which now totaled \$800 million. The bonds would have an appropriate maturity and would set forth an irrevocable pledge of settlement by States in arrears.

The Secretary-General stressed that the United Nations had the capability to handle the new global challenges. However, to do so the Organization needed reliable financial resources and the understanding and support of its leading Member States.

The Secretary-General has condemned today's ambush against an international convoy in Burundi's Cibitoke Province. Among those travelling in the convoy were the Foreign Minister of Burundi, the United States Ambassador to the country, Organization of African Unity (OAU) observers, and members of the Burundese military. One OAU observer from Burkina Faso was killed in the ambush, while another observer and six Burundese military personnel were wounded.

The Secretary-General called on all parties to refrain from further acts of violence and to cooperate fully with the efforts of the Government and the international community to bring durable peace and stability to Burundi. He conveyed his condolences to the members of the family of the deceased, to the Government of Burkina Faso and to the Secretary-General of the OAU.

The 26 United Nations personnel released yesterday by the Bosnian Serbs have arrived in Zagreb, a United Nations spokesman announced today. The group consisted of 14 French soldiers, six British, two Polish, one Russian, one Norwegian, one Swede and one Czech. The Bosnian Serbs continued to detain 26 personnel, including 15 military observers. However, there were unconfirmed reports that 11 Canadians being held at Ilijas would be released today.

Meanwhile, the Bosnian Serbs "de-blocked" another 92 peace-keepers in weapons collection points and observation posts, but continued to surround some of them. The United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) was attempting to clarify the situation with a view to resupplying and rotating the soldiers, the spokesman said.

The humanitarian situation in Sarajevo is deteriorating steadily after three weeks without international relief convoys, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said today. Gas, electricity and water supplies to the city have also been cut off by the Bosnian Serbs.

The UNHCR received no clearance for convoys to the Bosnian enclaves today, and cancelled one bound for Srebrenica. The Bosnian Serbs have been demanding 50 per cent of the aid intended for the enclaves. UNPROFOR resupply convoys have also been blocked.

The Secretary-General has recommended that the Security Council extend the mandate of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL) for three months to 30 September. In a report dated 10 June, he noted that the recent Summit of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) had not yielded a final agreement on the composition of the Liberian Council of State. However, a substantial measure of agreement had emerged among the parties on almost all unresolved issues concerning its installation.

The Secretary-General expressed hope that the Liberian parties would soon reach agreement on the outstanding issues, and take concrete steps to end the crisis. He underlined the importance of the installation of the Council of State; a comprehensive cease-fire; the disengagement of forces; and a timetable for the implementation of agreements reached.

If the necessary steps were not taken within the next three months, UNOMIL should be terminated and converted into a mission of good offices, he said. In the absence of a cease-fire and the resumption of disarmament, UNOMIL military observers would be withdrawn. If there were significant progress over the next three months, the Security Council should consider restoring the Mission to its full strength. However, UNOMIL's role in Liberia and its relationship with the ECOWAS Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) should then be adjusted to enable the two operations to function more effectively.

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FROM DPIIDS

OMNIPRESS / UNDEVPRO

PART 2 OF 2

14 June 1995

DAILY PRESS BRIEFING OF OFFICE OF SPOKESMAN FOR
SECRETARY-GENERAL

The secretariat of the fiftieth anniversary celebration would host an informal briefing and reception for United Nations correspondents in the United Nations Correspondents Association (UNCA) Club tomorrow at 4:30 p.m. Mr. Sills said. The secretariat staff would be available to discuss next week's events, to be held in San Francisco to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter. They would also briefly describe projects being organized in relation to the United Nations fiftieth anniversary. Background material was being distributed to the press and additional copies would be available at the informal briefing.

A correspondent asked what the source of the information on Burundi was and if there was currently a United Nations presence in the country. Mr. Sills said that a United Nations presence was maintained by the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Burundi, Ahmedou Ould Abdallah, and human rights observers.

Regarding the information on the ambush in Burundi, Mr. Sills said he had been informed just prior to the briefing by Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Lansana Kouyate. Mr. Kouyate had briefed the Secretary-General after he was informed of the ambush by the office of the Special Representative in Bujumbura.

Asked why there were no French or British among the hostages being held by the Bosnian Serbs, Mr. Sills said that there had been 14 French and six British among those who had arrived in Zagreb today. The military observers tended to come from countries not providing battalion-level troops, coming in small numbers from many countries. As he noted, none of the military observers being held were French or British nationals. Mr. Sills said he could give no reason why those being held had been selected. The United Nations believed that most of those still being held were in locations near Pale. The military observer from Ghana being detained was the same one who had been seen on television a few days ago handcuffed to a bridge.

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Was the ambush in Burundi being characterized as an assassination attempt? a correspondent asked. Mr. Sills said the term used by Mr. Kouyate had been an "ambush".

A correspondent asked if the site in Ilijas where the Canadian troops were being held was the same location at which the Bosnian Government troops had been reported to be massing north of Sarajevo. Mr. Sills said the Canadian troops were in Serb-held territory and the Bosnian Government troops were reported to be massing some five kilometres north of Ilijas near Breza and west of Breza near Visoko in territory controlled by Government forces. However, he reiterated that reports that the Government troops were massing still could not be confirmed by the United Nations.

Were the hostages released by the Bosnian Serbs in exchange for promises from the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) that air strikes would not be used again? a correspondent asked. Mr. Sills said no, that was not the case.

Asked what the massing of Government troops north of Sarajevo might mean in terms of United Nations contingency plans, Mr. Sills said that there was speculation that the troops were massing for an offensive to try to break the siege of Sarajevo. However, this was speculation. In the past, troops had been massed for defensive purposes. Any full-scale fighting in the environs of Sarajevo would certainly impact the United Nations troops there, but he would not speculate how contingency plans would be affected.

On the Secretary-General's proposal relating to a bond issuance, a correspondent asked if the "full faith and credit" of the United Nations would be put behind the bonds. Mr. Sills said that full faith and credit, which was based on assets available to support the bonds, would be that of the issuing governments, not the United Nations.

Asked if the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund would intercede in the issuance, Mr. Sills said the Secretary-General had mentioned in his letter that the bonds would be exchanged and accepted by those Member States in settlement of amounts owed to them by the United Nations or discountable on the commercial market. There would thus have to be some market mechanism, but the exact arrangement remained unclear.

Asked for comment on press reports of a memorandum sent by Yasushi Akashi, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for the Former Yugoslavia, to the United Nations spokesman in Sarajevo reprimanding him, Mr. Sills said he would not comment on internal communications between Mr. Akashi and his staff.

Asked if the 86 Ukrainian peace-keepers in Gorazde were still being blockaded by Bosnian Government forces, Mr. Sills said they were, and that the United Nations was making efforts to "de-block" them.

Referring to the forthcoming Group of Seven Summit, a correspondent noted that the Summit's final communique would likely address United Nations reform and the consolidation of United Nations agencies. Mr. Sills said that the Secretary-General would comment when the final communique had

been received and reviewed by him.

The Serbian News Agency out of Pale was reporting that the Bosnian Government offensive from the region north of Sarajevo had begun today, a correspondent said asking for comment on those reports. Mr. Sills replied that the United Nations had no ability to confirm activity in the area and he had no information that an offensive had begun.

A correspondent asked if the Secretary-General had recently received a proposal from the Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic. Mr. Sills said he did not know of any such proposal.

Asked for clarification on the information available to the United Nations regarding the massing of Bosnian Government troops, Mr. Sills said that the two United Nations observation posts in the area had been closed. The United Nations had received information from non-United Nations sources on the troop activity north of Sarajevo, but could not confirm it.

Turning to the situation in Somalia, a correspondent said that General Mohamad Farah Aidid, leader of the Somali National Alliance (SNA), had been ousted by the Somali National Congress. The new people in power had stated that they wanted to re-establish a relationship with the United Nations, he said. Mr. Sills said that Chinmaya Rajaninath Gharekhan, Special Political Adviser to the Secretary-General, had briefed the Council yesterday on current events in Somalia. Since General Aidid was not taking the new development with equanimity, the United Nations would have to wait for the situation to resolve itself. The Secretary-General had said that he would very much like for the United Nations to have a political presence in Somlia. At this time, the United Nations office was not operating out of Somalia. When security and other considerations permitted, it would be moved to Mogadishu.

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FROM DPIIDS
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- - Press Release DH/1913
13 June 1995

T U E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

*United Nations welcomes release of more hostages by Bosnian Serbs; says it will not be satisfied until all are set free.

*UNHCR says humanitarian situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina is critical; Bosnian Serbs continue to block food convoys despite recent agreement on resumption of humanitarian deliveries.

*Secretary-General welcomes Portugal's decision to increase its contribution to United Nations peace-keeping budget.

*Administrative and Budgetary Committee discusses support account for peace-keeping operations.

*Secretary-General names Livio Muzi Falconi of Italy as new United Nations Chief of Protocol.

*UNDCP to establish Drug Preventive Network of Americas on 26 June.

The Bosnian Serbs today released a large batch of the United Nations personnel held hostage in Bosnia and Herzegovina. A United Nations spokesman confirmed that 26 peace-keepers had been released and were en route to Novisad. However, he stressed that the Organization would not be satisfied until all its personnel had been set free. Meanwhile, the Bosnian Serbs claimed to have released all but 14 or 15 of the hostages.

There were also reports that most weapons collection points and observation posts in the Sarajevo area had been "de-blocked", according to the spokesman. The United Nations planned to resupply them and to rotate troops as soon as security conditions permitted.

There were low levels of fighting throughout the United Nations mission area yesterday and today, the spokesman continued. There were also unconfirmed reports that the Bosnian Government was massing troops in the Breza Ilijas area some 15 kilometres north of Sarajevo. Some sources expected serious military activity there shortly, but the United Nations could not verify those reports.

The situation in Sector South in Croatia remained stable but tense, the spokesman said. One of the United Nations vehicles stolen yesterday was returned, and the local authorities

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promised that a second would also be returned. There were unconfirmed reports that the men involved in the killing of a Kenyan peacekeeper on Sunday had been arrested. The soldier was shot dead while trying to prevent the hijacking of another vehicle.

In another development, the Steering Committee of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia met today in Geneva. It was the last meeting to be attended by Lord Owen, who is being replaced as Co-Chairman of the Conference by former Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt.

The humanitarian situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina is critical, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Two desperately-needed food convoys bound for Sarajevo have been blocked by the Bosnian Serbs, despite the agreement on the resumption of humanitarian deliveries to the city signed in Pale last week. The only food reaching the Bosnian capital is being carried by trucks over Mount Igman.

The Bosnian Serbs had also given clearance for convoys to enter Zepa. However, the UNHCR decided it would be unsafe to move any convoys in eastern Bosnia after Bosnian Serb television showed pictures of ammunition purportedly found inside sacks of flour.

Meanwhile, a convoy bound for Gorazde has been held up since Sunday. The Bosnian Serbs gave clearance for it to proceed yesterday, but the road into the town was blocked by mines. The Bosnian Serbs would not give safety guarantees for United Nations engineers to deal with the problem.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today announced that Portugal had responded positively to his initiative inviting governments to consider increasing their contributions to peacekeeping operations. Portugal agreed to voluntarily join the Group B countries -- those that pay the same contributions to peace-keeping as to the regular budget. It had been a member of Group C -- countries that contribute to peace-keeping on the basis of 20 per cent of their regular budget assessment.

The Secretary-General expressed his deep appreciation to the Portuguese Government for such a tangible demonstration of its commitment to the United Nations, particularly at a time when the Organization's financial situation was so precarious.

The Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) has begun the second part of its resumed forty-ninth session by considering the support account for peace-keeping operations. The representative of France, speaking for the European Union, said the account should continue to be financed through a charge on each peace-keeping operation equivalent to 8.5 per cent of an operation's civilian component.

In supporting a recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), the French representative added that specific requests for variations of posts and other resources from previously approved levels should be considered by the ACABQ on behalf of the General Assembly.

The Advisory Committee had also recommended that proposals for changes in the number of posts should be justified

individually. It said requests under the support account should be justified not only on the workload basis, but also in the context of the total resources available to a particular unit or programme to which such resources belonged.

The Secretary-General has appointed Livio Muzi Falconi as the new United Nations Chief of Protocol, effective 15 June. Mr. Falconi, an Italian national, has served as Italy's Deputy Director of Diplomatic Protocol since 1992. In that capacity, he supervised the organization of the Group of Seven Summit and the

World Conference on Transnational Organized Crime, both of which were held in Naples. Mr. Falconi entered his country's Diplomatic Service in 1960.

The United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) has announced that it will establish the Drug Preventive Network of the Americas on 26 June. The Network will be an alliance of non-governmental organizations based in North and South America and the Caribbean.

The creation of the Network will fulfil one of the central goals of the 18-point "Bangkok Declaration" adopted by the 1994 NGO World Forum on Drug Demand reduction. The Declaration stressed the importance of regional and international linkages among non-governmental organizations working to reduce drug and substance abuse.

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FROM DPIIDS
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Doc Symbol:DH/1912

- - Press Release DH/1912
12 June 1995

(more)
Prepared by Central News DH/1912
12 June 1995

M O N D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

*Secretary-General says Croatian parties must cooperate with UNCRO to justify continuation of Operation; stresses importance of cease-fire agreement, and safety and freedom of movement of United Nations personnel.

*Kenyan peace-keeper shot dead while trying to prevent hijacking of United Nations vehicle in Croatia's Sector South; Bosnian Serbs free Canadian detainee wounded in incident in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

*Donors Conference on Action Plan for Sarajevo to convene in Vienna on Wednesday; to review operations of Special Coordinator's Office and discuss prospects for future.

*Secretary-General recommends Security Council extend UNMOT mandate for six months, and approve stationing of team in northern Afghanistan; says Mission plays instrumental role in containing Tajik conflict.

*Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations begins biennial session at Headquarters; to consider applications for consultative status with Economic and Social Council.

*Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space begins thirty-eighth session in Vienna; to focus on dangers posed by space debris.

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More than words are required from the Croatian parties to justify the continuation of the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia (UNCRO), according to Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali. In a report to the Security Council dated 9 June,

(more)

he said the requests by the Croatian Government and the Croatian Serbs that UNCRO continue its deployments were positive developments. However, their cooperation on the ground had been unsatisfactory and UNCRO personnel had been put at risk.

The Secretary-General said both parties had exhibited a high degree of cynicism regarding their obligations under the cease-fire agreement of March 1994. The Croatian military

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offensive on 1 May showed what consequences ensued when conflicting parties forsook peaceful options and resorted to war. The Serb side must stop the hijacking of United Nations vehicles and the armed robbery and intimidation of UNCRO personnel.

Despite the operational difficulties, there appeared to be common ground between the parties that UNCRO should fulfil the tasks arising from the current cease-fire and economic agreements and from its humanitarian and human rights mandates, he continued. However, the redeployment of the mission by 30 June, as required under resolution 944 (1995), was no longer possible, and would likely take most of the present mandate period.

The Secretary-General said he would closely monitor the parties' cooperation with UNCRO. He would pay particular attention to the extent to which they complied with the cease-fire agreement, allowed UNCRO full freedom of movement, and protected its personnel from freedom and intimidation. Whether the Mission could fulfil its mandate depended ultimately on the parties' willingness to settle their differences at the negotiating table rather than on the battlefield.

* * *

A Kenyan peace-keeper was killed yesterday while trying to prevent the hijacking of a United Nations vehicle in Croatia's Sector South, a spokesman for the Organization announced today. The vehicle was stopped by three men in Croatian Serb uniform while travelling from Knin to the United Nations headquarters in the Sector. The Kenyan soldier attempted to resist and was shot in the chest, while the driver -- a Czech civilian -- was wounded in the legs.

The spokesman said it was the first time a United Nations peace-keeper had been killed in such a hijacking. UNCRO launched an investigation into the incident, and demanded that the Croatian Serb authorities do likewise. There were two other hijackings in Sector South yesterday.

Meanwhile in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Bosnian Serbs released a Canadian peacekeeper from detention after he was wounded in the leg in crossfire between Bosnian Government and Bosnian Serb forces. The remaining 11 Canadian detainees being held by the Bosnian Serbs were later moved to a safer location in response to a request by the Canadian Battalion.

The Bosnian Serbs continued to detain or blockade a total of 144 United Nations personnel, and had now denied the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) access to them, the spokesman continued. Meanwhile, 86 Ukrainians were being blockaded by Bosnian Government forces in Gorazde.

* * *

A Donors Conference on the Action Plan for Sarajevo will be convened in Vienna on Wednesday. The Conference will review the operations of the Office of the Special Coordinator for Sarajevo and discuss prospects for the future, including ongoing funding. It will be chaired by the Special Coordinator, William Eagleton.

The Conference will bring together representatives of the 28 major donors to the Action Plan, a Bosnian Government

delegation, and United Nations, international organizations and non-governmental organizations involved in restoring essential services to the city. Some \$94 million has been pledged to the Action Plan to date, \$11 million of which has been pledged to the Trust Fund.

* * *

The Security Council should extend the mandate of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) for six months to 16 December, according to the Secretary-General. In a report dated 10 June, he said that the situation in Tajikistan remained tense, and that the Mission's instrumental role in containing the conflict there had been recognized by the parties. The United Nations should respond positively to their request for assistance in implementing the current cease-fire, which had been extended for three months.

Noting that tension also remained high on the Tajik-Afghan border, the Secretary-General recommended that the Council approve the stationing of an UNMOT team in northern Afghanistan. That would allow for more direct liaison with the Tajik opposition and provide a base for conducting investigations in northern Afghanistan.

The Secretary-General stressed that no time should be lost in advancing the national reconciliation process. He had instructed his Special Envoy to explore with the parties ways to achieve progress on fundamental political and institutional issues. He appealed to the leaders of the Tajik Government and opposition to continue their direct dialogue. The parties themselves bore the primary responsibility for resolving their differences, and the Organization's continued involvement in Tajikistan depended on the manner in which they discharged that responsibility.

* * *

The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations today began its biennial session at Headquarters. Over the next two weeks, the Committee will consider the applications of more than 70 organizations seeking consultative status, or reclassification of their existing status, with the Economic and Social Council. It will also examine applications deferred from its 1993 session.

In addition, the Committee will consider recommendations by its working groups on its future work. Those recommendations -- that the Committee be enlarged and meet annually -- must be submitted to the Council for adoption.

Organizations can have three categories of status with the Economic and Social Council: Category I status allows them to submit written statements, be granted a hearing and propose agenda items; Category II status allows them to submit written statements and be granted a hearing; organizations on the Council's roster can make contributions to its work.

* * *

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space today began its thirty-eighth session in Vienna. Between now and 23 June, the Committee will consider ways and means to maintain outer space for peaceful purposes and to ensure that the benefits of space exploration and research are made available to developing countries.

The Committee will also consider the question of accumulating debris in outer space. Under a proposed work plan for the next three years, it would focus on: gaining an understanding of the problem in 1996; modelling the space debris environment and assessing risk in 1997; and discussing mitigation options in 1998.

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3542nd Meeting (AM)

9 June 1995

SECURITY COUNCIL EXTENDS AND ADJUSTS MANDATE OF UNAMIR
UNTIL 8 DECEMBER

Resolution 997 (1995) Adopted Unanimously

The Security Council this morning extended the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) until 8 December 1995 and authorized a force reduction to 2,330 troops by 9 September and to 1,800 troops by 9 October. The current level of military observers and civilian police personnel would be maintained.

By its unanimous adoption of resolution 997 (1995), the Council also adjusted the mandate of UNAMIR so that it would:

-- Exercise its good offices to help achieve national reconciliation within the frame of reference of the 1993 Arusha Peace Agreement;

-- Assist the Government of Rwanda in facilitating the voluntary and safe return and reintegration of refugees and, to that end, to support the Government of Rwanda in its ongoing efforts to promote a climate of confidence and trust through the performance of monitoring tasks throughout the country with military and police observers;

-- Support the provision of humanitarian aid, and of assistance and expertise in engineering, logistics, medical care and demining;

-- Assist in the training of a national police force; and

-- Contribute to the security in Rwanda of personnel and premises of United Nations agencies, of the International Tribunal for Rwanda, including full-time protection for the Prosecutor's Office, as well as those of human rights officers, and to contribute also to the security of humanitarian agencies in case of need.

The UNAMIR had originally been established by resolution 872 (1993) of 5 October 1993. Resolution 918 (1994) had expanded the mandate of the Mission to include responsibility for the security of civilians and of humanitarian operation, had increased its strength to up to 5,500 troops and imposed an arms embargo on Rwanda.

By its action today, the Council affirmed that the Chapter VII restrictions imposed by resolution 918 (1994) apply to the sale or supply of arms and materiel to persons in the States neighbouring Rwanda, if such arms or materiel are for use within Rwanda. It called upon the States neighbouring Rwanda to take steps to ensure that such arms and materiel are not transferred to Rwandan camps within their territories;

Underlining the need for effective measures to ensure that Rwandan nationals currently in neighboring countries do not

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undertake military activities aimed at destabilizing Rwanda or receive arms supply, the Council requested the Secretary-General to consult the Governments of neighbouring countries on the possibility of the deployment of United Nations military observers. It also requested the Secretary-General to consult, as a matter of priority, the Government of Zaire on the deployment of observers including in the airfields located in Eastern Zaire, in order to monitor the sale or supply of arms and materiel. It further requested the Secretary-General to report to the Council on the matter by 9 July.

In a preambular paragraph of the resolution, addition the Council reaffirmed the need for a long-term solution to the refugee and related problems of the Great Lakes States, and welcomed the Secretary-General's intention to appoint a special envoy to carry out consultations on the preparation and convening, at the earliest possible time, of the regional conference on security, stability and development.

While urging the Government of Rwanda and UNAMIR to continue to implement their agreements, the Council requested the Secretary-General to report by 9 August and 9 October on the discharge by UNAMIR of its mandate, the humanitarian situation and progress towards repatriation of refugees.

By the text, it also called upon States and donor agencies to fulfil their earlier commitments to give assistance for Rwanda's rehabilitation efforts, to increase such assistance, and in particular to support the early and effective functioning of the International Tribunal and the rehabilitation of the Rwandan judicial system.

In a statement to the Council, the representative of Zaire called for an independent investigation to refute the claims that his country had been involved with the sale or supply of arms for use in Rwanda. He said it was up to the Government in Rwanda to create a favourable climate for the return of the refugees.

The representative of Rwanda, speaking after the vote, called for an end to the arms embargo against his Government and for an international commission to study the problem of the refugee camps. He added that the change in the UNAMIR mandate reflected the changed situation in his country.

Other statements were made by the representatives of Nigeria, Indonesia, Botswana, Honduras, China, United Kingdom, Italy, United States, Oman, Russian Federation, France, Argentina, Czech Republic and Germany.

The meeting, which began at 11:45 a.m., was adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

Text of Resolution

"The Security Council,

"Recalling all its previous resolutions on the situation in Rwanda, in particular its resolution 872 (1993) of 5 October 1993 by which it established the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR), and its resolutions 912 (1994) of 21 April 1994, 918 (1994) of 17 May 1994, 925 (1994) of 8 June 1994, and 965 (1994) of 30 November 1994, which set out the mandate of UNAMIR,

"Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on

UNAMIR dated 4 June 1995 (S/1995/457),

"Recalling also its resolution 955 (1994) of 8 November 1994 establishing the International Tribunal for Rwanda, and its resolution 978 (1995) of 27 February 1995, concerning the necessity for the arrest of persons suspected of certain offenses in Rwanda,

"Stressing the importance of achieving genuine reconciliation among all members of Rwandan society within the frame of reference of the Arusha Peace Agreement,

"Noting with great concern reports of military preparations and increasing incursions into Rwanda by elements of the former regime and underlining the need for effective measures to ensure that Rwandan nationals currently in neighbouring countries, including

those in camps, do not undertake military activities aimed at destabilizing Rwanda or receive arms supplies, in view of the great likelihood that such arms are intended for use within Rwanda,

"Underlining the need for increased efforts to assist the Government of Rwanda in the promotion of a climate of stability and trust in order to facilitate the return of Rwandan refugees in neighbouring countries,

"Emphasizing the necessity for the accelerated disbursement of international assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Rwanda,

"Calling again upon all States to act in accordance with recommendations adopted by the Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region, held in Bujumbura in February 1995,

"Recognizing the valuable contribution that the human rights officers deployed by the High Commissioner for Human Rights to Rwanda have made towards the improvement of the overall situation,

"Acknowledging the responsibility of the Government of Rwanda for the safety and security of all UNAMIR personnel and other international staff serving in the country,

"Reaffirming the need for a long-term solution to the refugee and related problems in the Great Lakes States, and welcoming, therefore, the intention of the Secretary-General to appoint a special envoy to carry out consultations on the preparation and

convening, at the earliest possible time, of the regional Conference on Security, Stability and Development,

"1. Decides to extend the mandate of UNAMIR until 8 December 1995 and authorizes a reduction of the force level to 2,330 troops within three months of the adoption of this resolution and to 1,800 troops within four months;

"2. Decides to maintain the current level of military observers and civilian police personnel;

"3. Decides, in the light of the current situation in Rwanda, to adjust the mandate of UNAMIR so that UNAMIR will:

"(a) Exercise its good offices to help achieve national reconciliation within the frame of reference of the Arusha Peace Agreement;

"(b) Assist the Government of Rwanda in facilitating the voluntary and safe return of refugees and their reintegration

in their home communities, and, to that end, to support the Government of Rwanda in its ongoing efforts to promote a climate of confidence and trust through the performance of monitoring tasks throughout the country with military and police observers;

"(c) Support the provision of humanitarian aid, and of assistance and expertise in engineering, logistics, medical care and demining;

"(d) Assist in the training of a national police force until such time as the Government of Rwanda has entered into bilateral arrangements for the establishment of other training programmes;

"(e) Contribute to the security in Rwanda of personnel and premises of United Nations agencies, of the International Tribunal for Rwanda, including full-time protection for the Prosecutor's Office, as well as those of human rights officers, and to contribute also to the security of humanitarian agencies in case of need;

"4. Affirms that the restrictions imposed under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations by resolution 918 (1994) apply to the sale or supply of arms and materiel specified therein to persons in the States neighbouring Rwanda, if that sale or supply is for the purpose of the use of such arms or materiel within Rwanda;

"5. Calls upon the States neighbouring Rwanda to take steps, with the aim of putting an end to factors contributing to the destabilization of Rwanda, to ensure that arms and materiel are not transferred to Rwandan camps within their territories;

"6. Requests the Secretary-General to consult the Governments of neighbouring countries on the possibility of the deployment of United Nations military observers, and to consult, as a matter of priority, the Government of Zaire on the deployment of observers including in the airfields located in Eastern Zaire, in order to monitor the sale or supply of arms and related materiel to Rwanda; and further requests the Secretary-General to report to the Council on the matter within one month of the adoption of this resolution;

"7. Takes note of the cooperation existing between the Government of Rwanda and UNAMIR in the implementation of its mandate and urges the Government of Rwanda and UNAMIR to continue to implement the agreements made between them, in particular the Status of Mission Agreement of 5 November 1993 or any subsequent agreement;

"8. Commends the efforts of States, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations which have provided humanitarian assistance to refugees and displaced persons in need, encourages them to continue such assistance, and calls upon the Government of Rwanda to continue to facilitate their delivery and distribution;

"9. Calls upon States and donor agencies to fulfil their earlier commitments to give assistance for Rwanda's rehabilitation efforts, to increase such assistance, and in particular to support the early and effective functioning of the International Tribunal and the rehabilitation of the Rwandan judicial system;

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DAILY PRESS BRIEFING, 9 June 1995

Joe Sills, Spokesman for Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, began today's noon briefing by informing correspondents that, 30 minutes from the start of the briefing, the Secretary-General would do a satellite link-up on the occasion of the ceremonial launching of the First International White Helmets Initiative, which was proposed by the President of Argentina. There would be dialogue with the Argentine President and his counterparts from Bolivia and Paraguay to launch the programme officially.

Then at 4:30 p.m., the Secretary-General would receive Ridha Bouabid, the Permanent Observer of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation, a French non-governmental organization. He would then meet, at 5 p.m., with Ambassador Pedro Catarino of Portugal.

Turning to the subject of the Security Council, Mr. Sills told reporters that it was meeting formally on the situation in Rwanda, having worked out the difficulties regarding the draft resolution on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR). The draft contained a compromise on the force levels, which would be scaled back to 2,330 troops in three months from 9 June -- the date of the draft's adoption -- and then to 1,800 within four months after that date. As the noon briefing began, Nigeria was making its statement before the vote on the draft text, with others to follow. Nine Council members would speak after the text's adoption.

This afternoon, the Council was scheduled to hold consultations on the Secretary-General's report on the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) and to be briefed on the situations in Tajikistan and Abkhazia by Chinmaya Rajaninath Gharekhan, Special Political Adviser to the Secretary-General. It might then consider into other matters.

On the former Yugoslavia, the Spokesman said the situation was calm in Croatia except for Sector South, where two artillery rounds had landed near the Kenyan battalion operation post. Fifteen rocket rounds had been fired into the Ustina area this morning, he added. Also this morning, two presumably Krajina Serb aircraft had strafed Croatian military targets in the southern Dinero region, an area in which the Croatian army

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had captured several mountain positions from the Krajina Serbs.

There was no new information from Sarajevo on the situation of the detained and blockaded UNPROFOR troops, he continued. Their health and condition were being checked yesterday and today by a team from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Moderate levels of activity had been reported in and around the city in the last 24 hours, with some 574 firing incidents -- a large decrease from yesterday's numbers. However, in the last few hours, the number of incidents involving firing at United Nations vehicles had increased, many on Mount Igman.

Mr. Sills went on to say that the situation in Srebrenica remained tense, especially around its south-east corner, with one round fired at the Dutch battalion observation post there. No casualties had been reported.

Referring to the incident close to Ribnica in which a Norwegian battalion convoy had been attacked, Mr. Sills said he had confirmed that it had been the Bosnian Serb forces that had fired at them. The escort of Pakistani troops had responded with about 385 machine-gun rounds, with no casualties or damage reported on the UNPROFOR side as a result of the exchange.

The Spokesman then told the reporters that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Bosnian Serbs had reached an agreement on humanitarian aid deliveries that had been announced last night in Pale. The agreement, a copy of which was available in the Spokesman's Office, allowed the resumption of humanitarian aid convoys, from Metkovic via Kiseljac into Sarajevo, to both Bosnian Government and Serb-held parts of that city, as soon as possible. Bosnian Serb authorities would provide escorts for UNHCR convoys across territories they held and there would be only one inspection of them, at checkpoint Sierra One on the outskirts of Sarajevo. The agreement is a welcome development in the eyes of the UNHCR, which has an aid target of 6,000 metric tons per month for the city, a figure they have not been close to meeting recently.

Mr. Sills reminded the press that Sarajevo would still be in a desperate situation, even if the food deliveries resumed. There was very little water and electricity and gas supplies were low. The continuing sniping and other fire made Sarajevo a very dangerous place.

An UNPROFOR convoy had reached Zepa while that of the UNHCR was still being detained by the Bosnian Serbs, she continued. Zepa and Gorazde had about three to five days' food stocks. The convoy to Gorazde had been stopped due to what the Bosnian Serbs had described as paperwork problems. The convoy that had entered Srebrenica on Wednesday had raised the food stocks there to five days' worth. There was still no agreement on resuming airlifts to Sarajevo.

Responding to a question posed yesterday about the colours of the helmets and vehicles of the members of the proposed rapid response force, Mr. Sills said that it had been agreed at the meeting held at Headquarters on Wednesday that the proposed force would not use white vehicles or blue helmets for reasons related to its combat readiness. Its troops would wear United Nations insignia and fly the Organization's flag. The

understanding reached between the United Nations and the nations proposing the force would be communicated to the Council in a letter being prepared by the Secretary-General. The letter would recommend an increase in UNPROFOR's authorized force level to accommodate the soldiers being offered for the rapid response force. It was likely that the Council would meet on the matter early next week.

Regarding the report to the Council from Rolf Ekeus, Executive Chairman of the United Nations Special Commission monitoring the disarmament of Iraq, Mr. Sills said it was due to be submitted around 19 June. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), would send a letter at about the same time to the Council through the Secretary-General.

The Spokesman said that Alioune Blondine Beye, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Angola, would brief the media in room 226 today at 4:45 p.m.

Mr. Sills was then asked whether there was any link between recent media allegations against Iqbal Riza, Assistant Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations, and the cancellation of the contract of an American company, Evergreen, two weeks ago. In response, he said Mr. Riza had nothing to do with the cancellation of this contract. The problem with Evergreen was that its staff, who were contract personnel rather than United Nations employees, needed visas, which the Iraqi Government refused to extend.

Asked if he had any information regarding the motive behind the allegation, he said he had nothing to say in that regard. Regarding a headline, "espionage scandal rocks the United Nations", aired by New York 1, a local television station, he described it as one of the silliest pieces of journalism I have seen in several decades in and around the profession". Apart from that, he had nothing to add other than to say that he understood that the matter was being investigated by the United States Senate's Select Committee on Intelligence. He reiterated that both he and the Assistant Secretary-General had completely denied the allegations in the reports on the incident surrounding the capture of the two Americans in Iraqi territory. The Intelligence Committee's staff had said that they lacked any information to substantiate the allegations against Mr. Riza. Mr. Sills added that he would wait to see what all the "unnamed intelligence sources and spymasters" would come up with.

Stating that one of those sources had said that "in situations like these you end up with a big pile of bodies and the guy, presumably Mr. Riza, driving away in a Jaguar", a reporter asked whether Mr. Riza had received a Jaguar car. In response, Mr. Sills stated said he had seen the transcript of the New York 1 Programme, which had been very cleverly phrased so as not to accuse the Assistant Secretary-General directly. He went on to say that Mr. Riza did not drive a Jaguar as far as he knew. He added that Mr. Riza "has a very long commute from Tudor City to the United Nations and he really didn't think that a Jaguar would be required.

Regarding the timing of the contract's termination, he said he would need to get additional information.

In response to a question as to whether it was true that

Evergreen helicopters had sometimes strayed beyond the areas they were permitted to operate in, drawing complaints from the Iraqis, he said that Iraq had complained about this, as well as about the history of the company.

Responding to a question as to whether contacts had been made with the United States Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, which was investigating the matter, he said that Mr. Riza and the Spokesman had strongly denied the stories and the former was ready to appear before the Committee if asked to, subject to approval by the Secretary-General. He added that he did not know of any formal request from the Senate.

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9 June 1995

F R I D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

--- Security Council extends UNAMIR for six months and adjusts mandate in light of situation in Rwanda; force level to be reduced to 1,800 troops within four months.

--- Secretary-General recommends Security Council accept proposal by France, Netherlands and United Kingdom to reinforce UNPROFOR; says Force's authorized strength should be increased by 12,500 troops.

--- UNHCR and Bosnian Serb authorities reach agreement on resumption of humanitarian deliveries to Sarajevo; Bosnian Serbs to inspect convoys only once and guarantee security of drivers.

--- UNPROFOR reports decrease in military activity in Sarajevo, but increase in attacks on United Nations vehicles.

* Special Representative Khan says reconciliation in Rwanda requires voluntary return of two million refugees; cross-border military infiltration is destabilizing factor.

The Security Council today extended the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) for six months to 8 December. It decided to reduce the force level to 2,330 troops within three months, and to 1,800 troops within four months, but maintained the current level of military observers and civilian police personnel. It also decided to adjust UNAMIR's mandate in the light of the current situation in Rwanda. The Council took that action by unanimously adopting resolution 997 (1995).

Under the adjusted mandate, UNAMIR will exercise its good offices to help achieve national reconciliation within the frame of reference of the Arusha Peace Agreement. It will assist the Rwandan Government in facilitating the voluntary and safe return of refugees and their reintegration. To that end, the Mission will support the Government's efforts to promote a climate of confidence by performing monitoring tasks.

UNAMIR will also support humanitarian deliveries, and provide assistance in engineering, logistics, medical care and demining. It will also assist the training of a national police force until the Rwandan Government enters into bilateral arrangements for other training programmes. The Mission will contribute to the security of United Nations agencies and the International Tribunal for Rwanda, and of humanitarian agencies in cases of need.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today said that the Security Council should accept the proposal put forward by France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom to provide

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military reinforcements for the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). The three countries offered a rapid reaction force of some 15,000 troops, of whom 2,500 are already in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Secretary-General made his recommendation in a letter to the President of the Council.

The Secretary-General said that if the Council accepted the proposal, it would need to increase UNPROFOR's authorized strength by 12,500. That figure would include 4,000 troops in the French stand-by brigade, who would not be deployed unless and until their presence in the theatre became necessary. The proposed reinforcement would bring the total authorized strength of United Nations Peace Forces (UNPF) to 57,370 troops.

The proposal put forward by the three countries would provide the UNPROFOR Commander with well-armed and mobile forces, allowing him to respond promptly to threats to United Nations personnel. However, the Secretary-General continued, the Force must remain a peace-keeping mission. The proposed reinforcement would not alter the fact that UNPROFOR could not by itself end the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Its role was to create conditions in which progress could be made towards a peaceful settlement, to help implement agreements that were reached, and to support efforts to relieve human suffering. It was therefore essential that the reinforcement of UNPROFOR be accompanied by a determined effort to revive the peace process.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Bosnian Serb authorities today reached an agreement to allow the resumption of humanitarian aid deliveries by land to Sarajevo. The agreement came at a critical time, as the agencies food supplies in the city had been almost exhausted after a two-week interruption in those deliveries.

According to the agreement, UNHCR convoys will resume from Melkovic via Kiseljask to both Government and Serb-held parts of Sarajevo as soon as possible. The Bosnian Serb authorities will inspect the convoys only once. They will guarantee the security of the drivers, and will escort them across Serb-held territory to Sarajevo and Raljivac. The agreement also applies to UNHCR convoys to the Serb-held area of Trebinja in south-east Bosnia.

A United Nations spokesman said that the situation in Sarajevo remained desperate despite today's agreement. He noted that the city's residents had insufficient water, gas and electricity, and that the danger from sniping and other firing remained high.

There was a decrease in the level of military activity in and around Sarajevo today, according to a United Nations spokesman. Only 574 firing incidents were reported over a 24-hour period, down from 1,800 the previous day. However, there was an increase in the number incidents involving United Nations vehicles, particularly on Mount Igman.

The situation in Srebrenica remained tense, especially around the Dutch Battalion observation post, the spokesman continued. Meanwhile, there was relative calm in Croatia, with the exception of Sector South. Two shells landed close to the Kenyan Battalion post there yesterday.

Any effort at reconciliation in Rwanda must be based on the return of nearly two million refugees from Zaire, Tanzania,

Burundi and other countries, according to Special Representative Shahryar Khan. "If we are to see lasting harmony and stability these refugees have to be persuaded to voluntarily come back in dignity and in safety," he told correspondents at Headquarters today. He said the regional conference held in Bujumbura in February had provided excellent recommendations regarding the return of refugees.

Those responsible for the genocide in Rwanda should be brought quickly to justice, the Special Representative stressed. The International Tribunal for Rwanda was proceeding too slowly, while Rwanda's national justice system had been undermined by the events last year. "Let's get this system going," he said.

Mr. Khan said cross-border military infiltration into Rwanda was a major source of tension and destabilization. It was very important to control or discipline military activity in refugee camps in neighbouring countries. The Governments of the countries concerned wanted international support in dealing with that problem, he noted.

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SPECIAL BRIEFING ON UNPROFOR BY SPOKESMAN FOR SECRETARY-GENERAL

At a special briefing this afternoon, Joe Sills, Spokesman for Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, said the Secretary-General had sent a letter to the President of the Security Council concerning the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) and options for its future.

On 7 June, he said a delegation of civil and military officials from France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom had met with United Nations officials at Headquarters. A summary of the proposal agreed to by the United Nations and those Member States was attached to the Secretary-General's letter. In it, the Secretary-General was recommending an increase in the authorized troop levels of the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia (UNCRO), United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP) and UNPROFOR by 12,500, in order to take account of those proposals.

Mr. Sills said there were a number of points the Secretary-General wished him to make:

- The rapid reaction force would be a reinforcement for the blue helmets;

- It would be deployed on the basis of UNPROFOR as a peace-keeping operation;

- The force's deployment would not change UNPROFOR into a peace enforcement operation;

- It would become operationally an integral part of UNPROFOR's existing operation;

- It would operate under the existing United Nations chain of command;

- The reinforcement provided by the rapid reaction force would require a Security Council resolution;

- The Secretary-General, in his letter to the Security Council, recommends the approval of this reinforcement;

- It should be clear that the strengthened UNPROFOR is not and cannot be a substitute for the peace process, or for negotiations to reach a solution to the problems of the former Yugoslavia;

- The deployment of the proposed force would strengthen UNPROFOR's ability to carry out its humanitarian mandate; and

- This reinforcement of UNPROFOR is based on negotiation with and on the political will of the warring parties to cooperate with UNPROFOR; if it does not produce results, the Security Council would have to consider the withdrawal of UNPROFOR from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Mr. Sills reiterated that the Secretary-General was recommending acceptance of the proposal by France, the

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Netherlands and the United Kingdom. That proposal was consistent with the Secretary-General's view that UNPROFOR should remain a peace-keeping force, that a primary goal was to help contain the conflict and its consequences and promote conditions for its resolution. The Secretary-General also felt it necessary for the enhancement of UNPROFOR to be accompanied by an overhaul of the political and diplomatic process, in order to lead to a solution of the conflict.

Asked how the Secretary-General proposed to overhaul the political and diplomatic process, Mr. Sills said the Secretary-General had suggested that the process needed to be renewed, and that, with the endorsement of the Contact Group, a single negotiator should be appointed, with the authority emanated from the Contact Group. The point was to underline that additional troops put into Bosnia and Herzegovina would not solve the problem, which must be resolved through negotiations. Asked if overhauling the political diplomatic process implied looking at other options than the Contact Group plan, Mr. Sills said he thought there would be a need to look at other options, but that the Contact Group plan should remain the basis of negotiations.

Was the Secretary-General recommending Thorvald Stoltenberg, Co-Chairman of the Steering Committee of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, as the single negotiator? a correspondent asked. Mr. Sills said the Secretary-General had not recommended a particular individual.

In response to another question, he said the requirement to incorporate the additional troops within the overall total of the three commands would require increasing overall troop levels by 12,500, as the Secretary-General was proposing. The numbers were given in detail in the Secretary-General's letter. The current authorization of the three missions was 44,870, while the current deployment was around 40,000. While it appeared that there was room for about 5,000 more, the Secretary-General pointed out that he had agreed to the addition of a number of support elements and reinforcements proposed by other troop-contributing governments in order to enhance the security of existing units. It would thus not be possible to accommodate any of the additional troops proposed by France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom within the existing ceiling, which therefore must be raised by the full amount of those troops. The total amount proposed was 15,000 troops. Of that figure, 2,500 were already in theatre and were accommodated. To take care of the balance, the ceiling would have to be increased by 12,500.

How much time would be allowed before the Council would consider withdrawing the troops if the current reinforcement was not effective? a correspondent asked. Mr. Sills said that would be in the hands of the Council. While he could not give a timetable, he thought it would not be a matter of years but of months.

Asked about financial aspects of the reinforcement, Mr. Sills said the agreement envisaged that additional troops would be part of UNPROFOR and therefore would be financed through normal peace-keeping financing arrangements.

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*Secretary-General expresses relief and satisfaction after successful recovery of American pilot shot down last week in Bosnia; Bosnian Serbs continue to hold 146 United Nations personnel hos4agd.♥-I♥I-♥

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*Security Council Committee appeals for information on violations of mandatory arms embargo against Liberia.

*Member States owed United Nations \$2.75 billion as of 31 May; \$900 million owed to regular budget and \$1.85 billion owed to peace-keeping.

*Preparatory Committee for Fiftieth Anniversary establishes initial list of speakers for General Assembly's Special Commemorative Meeting

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today expressed relief and satisfaction regarding the successful recovery of the American pilot shot down last week over Serbcontrolled territory in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He expressed continued concern about United Nations peace-keepers still held hostage in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and reiterated his call for their immediate release.

A United Nations spokesman said a total of 146 United Nations personnel were still being detained or blockaded by the Bosnian Serbs, while another 86 peace-keepers were being blockaded by Bosnian Government forces. The Bosnian Serbs released a total of 111 peacekeepers yesterday.

* * *

(more)

(more) The military situation in Sarajevo was "active" yesterday, but the fighting was less intense today, according to a United Nations spokesman. More than 1,800 firing incidents were reported over a 24-hour period. Meanwhile, the humanitarian situation continued to deteriorate. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) today carried the last food stocks from its airport warehouses into Sarajevo, and the city bakery was expected to run out of wheat later in the day. As of tomorrow, aid distributions would

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. only meet 15 per cent of requirements.

A Norwegian convoy being escorted by Pakistani peace-keepers was attacked today in an area south-west of Tuzla and north of Sarajevo, the spokesman said. Six rounds were fired at the convoy from heavy weapons. The Pakistani troops returned fire with machineguns, but there were no reports of casualties.

Croatia was generally calm today, with the exception of Sector South, the spokesman went on to say. Considerable shelling was reported in that Sector.

* * *

The Security Council Committee established under resolution 985 (1995) has appealed for any information on violations or suspected violations of the mandatory arms embargo against Liberia. The appeal was addressed to individuals as well as national and international non-governmental organizations. It asked that they forward any relevant information to their own governments or to the governments concerned, and to the Committee.

* * *

As of 31 May, Member States owed the United Nations a total of \$2.75 billion, according to the latest update on the Organization's financial situation. Of that amount, some \$900 million was for the regular budget and \$1.85 billion was for peace-keeping.

The United States -- the largest debtor -- owed \$527 million to the regular budget and \$652 to peace-keeping. The Russian Federation owed \$41 million to the regular budget and \$558 million to peace-keeping.

* * *

The Preparatory Committee for the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations has drawn lots to establish the initial list of speakers for the General Assembly's Special Commemorative Meeting. The Meeting will take place from 22 to 24 October and will be divided into six sessions. As Host Country, the United States is the first speaker on the list for the first session. The next four speakers listed are Ukraine, Jordan, Sri Lanka and New Zealand.

The list of speakers for each session is arranged according to rank, following the established practice of the Assembly and the order resulting from the selection process. Heads of State are accorded first priority, followed by vice-presidents, crown princes/princesses, heads of Government, highest ranking officials of the Holy See and Switzerland as observer States, and Palestine in its capacity as observer, ministers, permanent representatives and other observers.

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FOR INFORMATION OF UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT ONLY

8 June 1995

DAILY PRESS BRIEFING OF OFFICE OF SPOKESMAN OF SECRETARY-
GENERAL

Joe Sills, Spokesman for Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, began today's noon briefing by informing correspondents that the Secretary-General had met at 11 a.m. with Gyula Horn, the Prime Minister of Hungary.

He then read out a statement attributable to the Spokesman for the Secretary-General:

"Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has expressed his relief and satisfaction today over the successful recovery of an American pilot from Serb-controlled territory in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

"We are grateful that the pilot was found alive and unharmed after his ordeal.

"The Secretary-General continues to be concerned about United Nations peacekeepers who are still detained and blocked in Bosnia and Herzegovina and reiterates his call for their immediate release." (See Press Release SG/SM/5648.)

Turning to the subject of the Security Council, he told reporters that it would be consulting on Rwanda today. A preliminary draft of a resolution was circulating among members on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR). Meanwhile, very intense talks continued this morning between the Secretariat and the Rwandese Government on their differences on the modalities for a continuing UNAMIR, he said. As of the time of the briefing, there was not agreement on those matters.

"This one is obviously going to go down to the wire and we will see how it works out between now and tomorrow, which is the end of the mandate", he said.

The Council, he continued, was also scheduled to be briefed on the situation in Angola by Alioune Blondine Beye, Special Representative of the Secretary-General, and to be updated by the Secretariat on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and probably Croatia.

Daily Press Briefing - - 8 June 1995

On the former Yugoslavia, the Spokesman said the situation in Croatia remained generally calm, with the exception being Sector South, where considerable shelling had been reported.

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Sarajevo was reported as having been active yesterday. He told correspondents that the United Nations headquarters in Zagreb had informed him that, while the fighting in Sarajevo was more intense than in the past few days, it was light compared to what had obtained a few months ago. In the 24-hour period yesterday, there had been more than 1,800 firings reported around the city. The headquarters had also reported that fighting had tapered off at about 2 p.m. local time. So far today, it had not been as intense as it had been yesterday.

The Spokesman said that 111 United Nations hostages had been freed, three more than the 108 that had been reported at yesterday's briefing as having been released by the Bosnian Serbs. There now remained 146 United Nations personnel who were either detained or blockaded by Bosnian Serbs (53 detained and 93 blockaded) and the forces of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina continued to blockade 86 Ukrainians in their barracks in Gorazde.

Mr. Sills then brought to the attention of the journalists reports of an incident within the last few hours near Rivnica, which was south-west of Tuzla and north of Sarajevo. A Norwegian convoy being escorted by Pakistani troops was attacked, with six rounds of heavy gunfire directed at the trucks and an additional four fired overhead. The Pakistanis had responded with sustained machine gun fire. There were no reports of casualties or damages, so far, based on the information he had received just prior to the briefing. In response to a question, he stated that he did not have information on which party had attacked the convoy.

Supplying information in response to a question posed yesterday, Mr. Sills said that the shelling reported in the Posavina corridor had been in both directions. It had not been considered as having increased significantly in the last few days. There had been an unsuccessful attempt by the Serbs to widen the corridor, a move that had been resisted. While some civilian areas had been shelled, the primary exchange had been between opposing armies.

Moving to the topic of the humanitarian aspects of United Nations efforts in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Spokesman said that the last food stocks held at Sarajevo airport by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) were being taken into the city today. Meanwhile, the bakery in Sarajevo, which supplied much of the bread in the town, would run out of wheat today. The normal biweekly distribution of aid, due to begin tomorrow, would meet only 15 per cent of the requirements. While private and government stocks might suffice for some time, the UNHCR was concerned, particularly with the situation of the neediest of Sarajevo's dwellers.

Yasushi Akashi, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for the Former Yugoslavia, and Lieutenant-General Bernard Janvier, Commander of the United Nations Peace Force (UNPF), were going to the Croatian port city of Split tomorrow for a routine session with Lieutenant-General Rupert Smith, Commander in Bosnia and Herzegovina of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR).

The Spokesman then informed the journalists that there would

be a press conference at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow on the Fourth International Conference on Health and the Environment. The participants at the press conference would include the Ministers of Health from Brazil and Ukraine, Drs. Adib Jatene and Andriy Serdiuk, and the Minister of Social Affairs and Population of Egypt, Dr. M. El-Banna.

Regarding the arrears of Member States to the United Nations as of 31 May, the total was \$2.75 billion -- \$904 million due the regular budget and \$1.85 billion for peace-keeping operations. Details could be picked up in the Spokesman's Office, he said.

The programme "World Chronicle", would be shown at 2:30 p.m. today on in-house television channels 6 and 23, Mr. Sills said. It would feature Jorge Wilhelm, the Deputy Director-General of the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II).

Rolf Ekeus, Executive Chairman of the United Nations Special Commission monitoring the disarmament of Iraq, was preparing his ninth report to the Security Council; it would probably be ready around 19 June. If so, the Council could be expected to consider it shortly thereafter. Mr. Sills said that he did not have any information on whether there would be a report from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) around that time. The next 60- and 100-day reviews would take place in mid-July.

Mr. Sills was asked why the United Nations was "strangely silent" over the article in the Christian Science Monitor, and a report on New York One television which had alleged that Iqbal Riza, Assistant Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations, might have helped Iraq capture two Americans who had crossed into that country from Kuwait earlier this year. In response, the Spokesman said there was no "silence" on the matter; he was ready to respond to any questions related to it. He said that he and Mr. Riza had spoken to the story's author, adding that Mr. Riza was baffled by the article since he had had no dealings related to their crossing of the border and subsequent detention by the Iraqis. Mr. Riza had expressed his desire to have them released and his readiness, subject to approval by the Secretary-General, to appear before the United States Senate committee which was investigating the matter.

Going further, Mr. Sills highlighted the fact that the newspaper article had cited Senate committee staffers as having stated that the committee did not have any information to substantiate the allegations. Mr. Riza had denied having done anything of the sort described in those reports.

Asked to volunteer who might be the source of the allegations, he stated that he did not know the source of the information.

In response to a question citing a statement attributed to the Foreign Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Muhamed Sacirbey, that Serbian President Slobodan Milosovic preferred to have the Secretary-General as the party that would decide whether sanctions on his country, if lifted, should be re-imposed because he had "weak eyes" regarding Serbian violations as against the Council's "stronger eyes", Mr. Sills

said he would not accept such a characterization regarding the Secretary-General's eyesight. The decision on whether to lift sanctions was up to the Council, he said. If they wished the Secretary-General to play a role, he would do so. He would not comment on the Serbian leader's motives.

Replying to requests for information on the trip to Beijing by the Special Political Adviser to the Secretary-General, Ismat Kittani, he said that the latter would be leaving China for New York at 7 a.m. local time after his talks on the issues that had arisen regarding the NGO Forum for Women to be held before and during the Fourth World Conference on Women (4 to 15 September). Mr. Sills emphasized that Mr. Kittani's role had been in response to requests by non-governmental organizations that the Secretary-General should help resolve their concerns regarding the Forum. He added that Mr. Kittani had met with the Convenor of the NGO Forum, Supatra Masdit, and he would report to the Secretary-General upon his return. Queries regarding any agreements that might have been reached with the Government of China on the questions related to the Forum should be directed to its Convenor or to the Chinese Government.

In response to a question as to whether the troops of the proposed rapid reaction brigades would wear blue helmets and drive white United Nations vehicles while they were in Bosnia and Herzegovina, he said that as far as he knew the matter had not been finally settled. He had understood that it had been agreed at yesterday's meeting that they would not do so. But he had reports that some of them would wear blue helmets and drive white vehicles. The decision would be based on military considerations. He said he would inform correspondents when he got more information.

Replying to a question on whether the United Nations would look into the allegations against Mr. Riza or wait for the United States Senate probe to run its course before taking action, he said that the Organization would have to know more precisely what the allegations were. He added that it was ludicrous to charge the Assistant Secretary-General with setting up the Americans for capture.

Would the Secretary-General allow Mr. Riza to appear before the United States Senate? a correspondent asked. Mr. Sills said that the usual United Nations position was that its personnel should not meet formally with Member States' legislatures but deal with Member States through their Permanent Missions. However, there had been exceptions to that position in the past and the Secretary-General could certainly permit Mr. Riza to meet with the United States Senate committee if a request were made.

Asked to state the Secretary-General's position on the lifting of the arms embargo imposed on the former Yugoslavia, he said that any decision on arms embargoes or other sanctions was the Council's prerogative. The Secretary-General, for his part, did not favour any unilateral action by a Member State to lift such sanctions, lacking a decision of the Council. His position on that had been clear for some time.

Replying to a question on how soon the Council would act on a draft resolution on raising the number of United Nations

troops authorized for Bosnia and Herzegovina, and accepting the proposed rapid reaction force, the Spokesman said that he doubted that it would be done this week.

Responding to a question as to whether there was a policy rift between the United States and the Russian Federation on the deployment of the proposed rapid response force, he said
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that it was beyond his brief to talk about the attitudes of Member States.

Asked if there were contingency plans to resupply Sarajevo in light of its critical shortage of food, Mr. Sills said that a delegation of senior officials of the UNHCR and the UNPF was going to Pale and Belgrade to discuss the re-opening of land and air routes to Sarajevo to allow resupply. The United Nations had to negotiate consent for such convoys; under its peace-keeping mandate, it could not shoot its way through.

Meanwhile, a convoy had entered Srebrenica with 73 tons of food, he continued. Another had gone near Zepa, only to be held up due to a disagreement over its cargo. A convoy to Gorazde had been cleared, and was waiting for an escort on the border of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). The United Nations was doing everything it could to ship supplies and was very concerned about the humanitarian situation in the enclaves, he emphasized. If the matter could not be resolved by negotiation, and malnutrition and starvation faced the population, then clearly it would be necessary to consider other means.

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Government, he said that it would be up to the Council to decide.

In response to a question as to whether he had any reaction to a report in yesterday's Independent, a British newspaper, that the Secretary-General had personally reduced the penalty for sexual harassment meted out to a staff member in Geneva, he said that the case had been dealt with by the United Nations and was closed. He had no further comment on the article.

To a question about the activities of Chinmaya Gharekhan, Special Political Adviser to the Secretary-General, Mr. Sills said that he had returned to New York. He had not been able to meet the Serb leadership in Pale because of disagreements over the routes he should take.

Replying to a question on whether released hostages were given any counselling or debriefing by the United Nations, he said they were given medical examinations, debriefed and given some counselling, though perhaps not as much as they should be given.

Asked which side had refused to guarantee the safety of Mr. Gharekhan's plane as it approached Sarajevo recently, Mr. Sills said that it was the Bosnian Serbs who had failed to do so. They had expressed fear that the Government side might shoot at the aircraft and blame them for it. The Bosnian Government, for its part, had assured that its forces would not fire at the plane. Based on the Serb response, the United Nations had decided that it was not safe to land the aircraft in Sarajevo. The United Nations could not fly aircraft without safety assurances.

When information was sought on a reported shelling of Brcko and in the Posavina corridor by Croatian troops, the Spokesman said that only low levels of activity had been reported yesterday with 400 detonations in Sector North-East. He said he would check further on this.

In response to a question as to whether a resolution was needed to approve the deployment of the proposed rapid response force, he said that it would be up to the Council to decide. For its part, the Secretariat would be ready to give any legal opinion that might be sought by the Council, but none had been sought.

Replying to a question on the areas of contention between the Rwandese Government and the United Nations over UNAMIR, Mr. Sill said that among them was the fact the Government wanted a force smaller than what the Secretary-General had recommended in his recent report.

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. There were also differences on how to revise the mandate
and where UNAMIR would be deployed.

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FOR INFORMATION OF UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT ONLY
7 June

1995

DAILY PRESS BRIEFING OF OFFICE OF SPOKESMAN FOR SECRETARY-
GENERAL

Joe Sills, Spokesman for Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, began today's noon briefing by informing correspondents that the Secretary-General was receiving at this time the credentials of Permanent Representatives Qin Huasun of China, Mignonette Patricia Durrant of Jamaica and Carlston B. Boucher of Barbados. He would then meet, at 12:30 p.m., with China's new Permanent Representative. Later, at 4:30 p.m., the Secretary-General would meet with Gregory Niotis, Greece's Under-Secretary-General for Foreign Affairs, and at 5:30 p.m., with James Jonah, the President of Sierra Leone's Electoral Commission and a former United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

The Security Council was holding consultations on Rwanda after which it would be briefed by the Secretariat on Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Sills said. The talks between the United Nations and the Rwandese representatives over a new mandate for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) were continuing intensely as the Mission's current mandate would expire on Friday, 9 June. He did not know if the differences would be successfully resolved by then.

Meetings were being held at this time at Headquarters on the proposed multinational brigades for the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). There were political and military delegates from the United Kingdom, France, and the Netherlands, who were also accompanied by people from their respective missions to the United Nations, including political and military attaches. The United Nations delegation included Kofi A. Annan, Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations; Chinmaya Gharekhan, Under-Secretary-General, Executive Office of the Secretary-General; and Marrack Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs. Among issues they would discuss were command and control, deployment, logistics and financing. Mr. Annan would brief the media outside the Security Council chamber after the meeting at about 1 p.m.

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Turning to the subject of the former Yugoslavia, the Spokesman said that 108 United Nations personnel had been released by the Bosnian Serbs in the early morning hours of today. They included 58 Ukrainians, 32 French, 17 British, and

one Spaniard. There might be some stragglers on the way out, he added, so the final number might be slightly larger. Those released were being flown to Zagreb where they would be received at the airport by Yasushi Akashi, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Former Yugoslavia. The Ukrainians and the French would stay overnight in the city for medical tests while the British would go to Split, Croatia, immediately. Currently, 149 United Nations personnel remained either detained or blockaded by the Bosnian Serbs: 14 French, five British, 12 Canadians and 25 military observers detained and 59 French and 34 Russians blocked. In addition, 86 Ukrainians were still being blocked in their camp in Gorazde by the Bosnian Government forces.

Mr. Sills told correspondents that he had just received news reports from Pale that a batch of 40 to 50 United Nations peace-keepers would be released shortly. However, he could not confirm this.

Regarding Croatia, he said that the situation there was generally calm, except in Sector South. Yesterday afternoon, four rounds of artillery and separate bursts of machine-gun fire had been let loose on the Kenyan battalion's camp and observation post in Sector South with no reports of casualties or major damage. These attacks had been assessed as direct targeting by Croatian forces of United Nations personnel. The United Nations had considered asking the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) for close air support. NATO expressed its readiness to respond. However, the attack on the Kenyans ceased before a formal request was made, so it was not necessary to pursue it. A strong letter of protest had been sent to the Croatian Commander in the area.

A delegation of senior officials of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and United Nations Peace Forces (UNPF) military and civil affairs officers were going to Pale and Belgrade to discuss the delivery of humanitarian aid and the resupply of United Nations forces in Sarajevo and the enclaves. The situation was critical. However, in a favourable development, convoys had been cleared for Srebrenica and Zepa. The convoys to Srebrenica had arrived -- the first since 23 May -- and had delivered 73 tons of food. If the other got to Zepa, it would be the first there since 18 May, and would deliver 43 tons of food.

On Sarajevo, the Spokesman said that the situation there had been fairly stable yesterday and overnight, but the Bosnian Serbs had increased their firing on the city centre this morning. A French soldier had been hurt in the foot by the shelling.

The Special Political Adviser to the Secretary-General, Ismat Kittani, was in Beijing and a

note was available from his office with information on his meetings on the preparations for the NGO Forum on Women. He had met with senior Chinese officials and had inspected the Huairou site for the Forum as well as the Beijing International Convention Centre, the site of the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be held from 4 to 15 September.

Mr. Kittani would meet tomorrow with Ms. Supatra Masdit, Convenor of the NGO Forum on Women, who will be in Beijing to review the progress of preparations for the Forum since her last visit in April. He would then meet with Qian Qichen, Vice Premier and Foreign Minister, and give him a letter from the Secretary-General.

The Spokesman went to say that Mr. Kittani had told him that he was optimistic that the problem related to the NGO Forum could be resolved. He had reiterated that his goal was to help find a solution that satisfied both the Government and the NGO Organizing Committee. Several proposals on the issue were being discussed. Mr. Sills told the reporters that he would relay any further information to them.

There would be a press conference by the Head of the Administration of the Presidency of the President of Ukraine, Dmytro V. Tabachnyk, at 2:30 p.m. today in room 226. The subjects would include the political and economic reforms in his country, its participation in peace-keeping operations in the former Yugoslavia, its attitude towards the current Bosnian situation, how sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) hurt Ukraine and the aftermath of the Chernobyl nuclear accident.

In a subsequent question-and-answer session, Mr. Sills was asked if Sarajevo was still a "heavy weapons exclusion zone" of the United Nations. He replied that while it formally was, the exclusion zone concept was not working as United Nations personnel were not able to staff the weapons collection points around the city and monitor the use of these weapons.

Asked if the Secretary-General's report on the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia (UNCRO) was available, Mr. Sills said that it was still being worked on.

In response to a question on whether there was a special reason for the presence at Headquarters of Sadako Ogata, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Spokesman said she visited New York from time to time. She had met with the Secretary-General yesterday, and he understood that she had also met with some delegations and had some discussions on her agency's role in the refugee camps outside Rwanda. He was not aware of any special reason for her visit. He referred questions to the UNHCR office here.

Asked for details on the attacks on the Kenyan battalion in Croatia's Sector South, he said it had been shelled at 3:40 p.m. local time yesterday at a location which was about eight kilometres southwest of Cetina

village. Restrictions had been placed on the movement of United Nations observers, but that was nothing new, he added.

On whether the Council had authorized anyone to negotiate for the freedom of Bosnian Serb-held United Nations hostages, Mr. Sills replied that it had not. He said that the United Nations appreciated the assistance of Greece and the Russian Federation in this regard. Mr. Akashi had expressed his thanks this morning to Slobodan Milosovic, the Serbian President, for his help. But none of these had negotiated on behalf of the United Nations.

Asked to explain his statement that Sarajevo was no longer a weapons exclusions zone, he stated that he had not said that. The difference was de jure and de facto status. While there were Council resolutions forbidding heavy weapons from around the city, the reality was that they still existed in the zone and they were being fired. While the concept had not been abandoned, it was not working, he added.

In response to a question that he had implied that it was not only the Serbs who were flouting the United Nations ultimatum for returning heavy weapons to collection centres, Mr. Sills said he understood that the Bosnian Government had taken and not returned some mortars to the single weapons collections point in the city. However, to establish a sense of proportionality, he stressed that the number of shells being fired into the city was much greater than those being fired from it.

Replying to a question as to whether there was any reaction from the Secretary-General on the Human Right Watch report alleging the rearming of the soldiers of the former Government of Rwanda, he said that there was not. The United Nations could not verify the arms entering Rwanda as it had not been given border inspection rights by the Government. The Organization also could not check for arms in camps outside Rwanda since UNAMIR could not enter those sites. There were conversations regarding the monitoring of the airfields that could be used to supply arms but at present he had no further information. The Governments named in the report had denied any involvement in rearming the former regime's troops and the Secretary-General had not taken it up with them.

Asked what would be done about the four Serbian prisoners that had been taken by the United Nations and whether they would be shot, he said that the Organization continued to speak to the Bosnian Serbs about them, but that no decisions had been taken concerning them. He assured the journalist that they would not be shot by United Nations forces.

Asked for the Secretary-General's position on the lifting of the arms embargo against the Rwandese

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OMNIPRESS/UNDEVPRO
File :DH1909.W51 - Part 1 of 1
Doc Symbol:DH/1909
Prepared by Central News

DH/1909
7 June 1995

W E D N E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

Security Council welcomes release of another 108 United Nations peace-keepers by Bosnian Serbs; expects further releases soon.

France, Netherlands and United Kingdom propose to put two rapid-deployment brigades at disposal of United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

United Nations considers requesting NATO close air support after Croatian forces target Kenyan peace-keepers in Sector South.

Under-Secretary-General Kittani reviews arrangements for Fourth World Conference on Women with Chinese officials in Beijing; expresses optimism regarding question of venue for NGO Forum.

Economic and Social Council concludes 1995 organizational session; to transmit draft to General Assembly on transforming WFP Committee on Food Aid into executive board.

Subcommittee on Small Territories approves text reaffirming responsibility of administering Powers to promote development of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

The Security Council today welcomed news that the Bosnian Serbs had released 108 of the United Nations peace-keepers being held hostage in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In a statement to correspondents, Council President Detlev Graf zu Rantzau (Germany) announced that another 120 hostages were expected to be released later today. He added that the Council was looking forward to confirmation of reports to that effect.

The 108 peace-keepers were released early this morning and then flown from Belgrade to Zagreb, according to a United Nations spokesman. None of the soldiers -- 58 Ukrainians, 32 French, 17 British and one Spaniard -- had been injured. A total of 149 United Nations personnel continued to be detained or blockaded by the Bosnian Serbs, although it was possible that "a few stragglers" had also been released.

France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom are prepared to assist the United Nations by putting two

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international brigades at its disposal in Bosnia and Herzegovina, according to the Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping, Kofi Annan. He made that comment to correspondents after meeting with political and military representatives of the three countries on the formation of a rapid-deployment force to help the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR).

Mr. Annan stressed that the proposal would require Security Council approval. It had been shared with other Member States, and Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali was being fully briefed on all developments. If the Council approved the proposal, it would give the UNPROFOR Commander the means to protect his troops and tactical flexibility on the ground. The new force would operate under peace-keeping rules of engagement. It would not be an enforcement operation, but would be an added deterrence, he said.

United Nations officials yesterday considered calling for North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) close air support after Croatian forces directly targeted peace-keepers in Croatia, according to a spokesman for the Organization. A total of four shells were fired at a Kenyan camp in Sector South, but caused no casualties or major damage. Meanwhile, a Kenyan observation post came under machine-gun fire.

NATO had been prepared to provide close air support, but the attack ended before any formal request was made, the spokesman said. The United Nations sent a strong letter of protest to the Croatian forces following the incident.

In another development, the United Nations today sent a high-level delegation to Belgrade and Pale to discuss the question of deliveries of humanitarian aid and the resupply of peace-keepers in Sarajevo and the Bosnian enclaves. Meanwhile, the Bosnian Serbs allowed two convoys into Srebrenica and Zepa today. No convoys had reached those areas since 23 May and 18 May respectively.

Under-Secretary-General Ismat Kittani has had several meetings with senior Chinese officials in Beijing regarding the upcoming Fourth World Conference on Women. The Secretary-General recently asked him to review arrangements for the September Conference with the Chinese Government. Mr. Kittani is Chairman of the High-level Steering Committee for the event.

Mr. Kittani also inspected the Beijing International Convention Centre, which will be the site of the Conference, and visited the proposed venue for the NGO Forum. He expressed optimism that the question of the venue for the Forum would be resolved. He said his goal was to reach an agreement that was satisfactory both to the Chinese Government and to the NGO Organizing Committee.

Tomorrow, Mr. Kittani will meet with Qian Qichen, China's Vice Premier and Foreign Minister of Foreign Affairs. He will deliver a letter from the Secretary-General, and exchange views on the preparations for the

Conference.

The Economic and Social Council has decided to transmit to the General Assembly a draft resolution on transforming the World Food Programme (WFP) Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes into an executive board. The Council took that action as it concluded its 1995 organizational session.

By the draft resolution, the Committee would be reconstituted as an executive board with 36 members elected from among the Members of the United Nations or the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The WFP is an autonomous joint organ of the United Nations and the FAO. The FAO Conference will take up the matter in Rome in November.

The Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance yesterday concluded its 1995 session. The Subcommittee adopted its report and approved 14 draft resolutions without a vote.

One of the draft resolutions would have the Special Committee on Decolonization reaffirm the responsibility of the administering Powers of 12 Non-Self-Governing Territories to promote their economic and social development. Twelve drafts addressed, respectively, specific conditions prevailing in those Territories. Another draft resolution dealt with the dissemination of information on decolonization.

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FROM DPIIDS

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DAILY PRESS BRIEFING, 6 June 1995

PART 1 OF 2

Joe Sills, Spokesman for Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, began today's noon briefing by informing correspondents that he had been in touch with United Nations Officials in Zagreb and there was nothing definite to announce on the widely expected release of more United Nations peace-keepers held hostage by the Bosnian Serbs. There had been reports from Bosnian Serb headquarters in Pale that they would be released very shortly. It was getting dark there and, since the procedure followed in the earlier release was to move the hostages to Zvornik, a city on the border with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), he doubted there would be a release today.

After that announcement, Mr. Sills moved to the itinerary of the Secretary-General. This morning, he had drawn Mozambique as the Member State that would occupy the first seat in the General Assembly Hall during its fiftieth session. Subsequent positions for other Member States would be based on the English alphabetical order. At 11 a.m., the Secretary-General had met with Dr. Nafis Sadik, the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Later, at 4:30 p.m., he would meet with Dmytro Tabachnyk, the Chief of Administration in the Presidency of Ukraine. At 5 p.m., he would meet with Afonso Van Dunem, the Permanent Representative of Angola. The Secretary-General would then receive a delegation from the American Chamber of Commerce in Cairo at 5:30 p.m. and would meet with Juan Somavia, the Permanent Representative of Chile, at 5:45 p.m.

Mr. Sills informed correspondents that the Secretary-General's report on the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) had been issued as document S/1995/457. In sections II and III, the Secretary-General reviews some of the difficulties that had arisen as well as the political developments and security aspects of the operation. In paragraph 54, under conclusions and recommendations, the Secretary-General proposes that the mission be scaled down from its authorized total of 5,500 troops to about 2,330 formed troops, 320 military observers and 65 civilian police. He states in paragraph 57 that the Government had proposed that

UNAMIR be cut to no more than 1,800 formed troops, to be deployed in Kigali and the provinces, that its mandate be extended for one more period of six months and that the reduction of its forces outside the capital should start immediately.

Mr. Sills then read out parts of the report, as follows: In paragraph 58, the Secretary-General states, "I therefore aragraph 53 above, for a period of six months, ending 9 December 1995."

Mr. Sills added that there were extensive talks being held with the Rwandese Government to resolve these outstanding issues before 9 June, when UNAMIR's current mandate runs out.

The Spokesman also told correspondents that the fourth progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM III) had been released as document S/1995/458, with "no surprises" in it. The Secretary-General said the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol between the Government of Angola and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) was in a new and promising phase, with a lot of progress having been made. However, the report states that the deployment of United Nations infantry battalions must be matched by even greater cooperation by the Government and UNITA with the United Nations in implementing all major provisions of the Protocol. The Secretary-General found it necessary to remind the parties that the peace process was behind schedule, with major efforts needed to make up for the delays.

Turning to the subject of the Security Council, Mr. Sills said it had this morning just completed consultations on the situation in Rwanda, on the basis of the Secretary-General's report, and on the Secretary-General's report on Bosnia and Herzegovina. No consultations were planned for the afternoon.

Regarding the situation in the former Yugoslavia, Mr. Sills said that Croatia was very calm, except for the tension in Sector South, where there was increasing hostility towards United Nations personnel. The civilian police had had to close 10 stations in the area and two more vehicles had been hijacked. Restrictions on United Nations movement were described as severe. While there had been a slight pick up in artillery exchanges, the basic understanding reached between the parties and Yasushi Akashi, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Former Yugoslavia was holding. The situation had not worsened.

Sarajevo, on the other hand, had been described as stable, with low amounts of fighting reported, he said. A French observation post and an Egyptian armoured personnel carrier had been targeted yesterday, with no casualties or damages being reported. Two civilians had been injured by mortar fragments and the airport road remained closed. The flights of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees 0-millimetre round and went off the road.

At yesterday's briefing, he had said that the UNHCR found the situation in the city so desperate that it had used armoured vehicles to move wheat flour by road from its airport warehouse to the city centre after notifying the Serbs in advance, but not requesting clearance, which had been done in

the past. There had been no firing at the convoys.

Srebrenica continued to be tense, especially around the observation post at the far south-eastern corner of the sector that the Dutch had refused to vacate. Some small arms and one mortar round had been fired at the post but no casualties were reported. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) had lacked access to the city for four-and-a-half weeks, Mr. Sills added.

In Bihac, there were acute food shortages throughout the pocket, with the little aid remaining being distributed to the most needy through hospitals, public kitchens, social centres and the ICRC. The area lacked gas and electricity. No convoys had entered Bihac since 21 May.

Mr. Sills then corrected a statement he had made at yesterday's briefing regarding safety assurances sought before planes were flown into Sarajevo. He said the guarantees were routinely sought from both the Bosnian Government and the Bosnian Serbs, and not just from the latter.

The Spokesman then reported that the Intra-East Timorese Dialogue held in Austria had ended. The meeting adopted by consensus a declaration calling for the dialogue to continue, human rights measures, and preservation of the cultural identity of the East Timorese people and the free movement of families to and from the territory, to obtain which the use of the good offices of the Secretary-General was requested. The importance of ministerial talks due to take place in July was also affirmed. The Secretary-General was pleased with the outcome of the talks. Mr. Sills said copies of the declaration were available in his office; since the meeting had not been sponsored by the United Nations, the declaration would not be distributed as an official document of the Organization but informally as a courtesy to reporters.

Mr. Sills then informed correspondents that a note on press arrangements for journalists wishing to attend activities in San Francisco in June commemorating the signing of the United Nations Charter was available. Since the journalists would require separate accreditation for the ceremonies, he was fighting the Government. The situation had deteriorated substantially in the last few days. Yesterday the Prime Minister had asked all civilians to leave the area and had announced that, as of today, the roads would be closed for one week to civilians. They would be open only to Red Cross and World Food Programme (WFP) representatives. Some 15,000 people, mostly women, children and Hutu civilians, had left the area. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Ahmedou Ould Abdallah, had arrived back in the country and was expected to accompany the Prime Minister to the besieged area tomorrow. However, the United Nations had been informed that the military would enter the district today. There was no information on whether the military had yet done so and the Special Representative's activities might be influenced by what happens today, the Spokesman added.

The Security Council mission to Western Sahara had been to Algeria today after completing its talks with the Moroccan Government and was at the time of the briefing due to arrive at Tindouf to meet with representatives of the Popular Front for

the Liberation of Sag el-Hamra and Rio de Oro (POLISARIO). The mission would go to United Nations headquarters in Laayoune tomorrow and return to New York on Friday.

Regarding Cyprus, Mr. Sills informed correspondents that Joe Clark, Special Representative of the Secretary-General to Cyprus, had informed the Security Council yesterday that he did not see much prospect of movement towards agreement in the near future but that he was reluctant to declare a dead end. He had said that efforts should continue and that he was trying to encourage a face-to-face dialogue between the parties.

In a subsequent question-and-answer session, Mr. Sills was asked if the United Nations had set a deadline for the United Nations hostages to be freed by the Bosnian Serbs. He replied that no time limit could be set. However, the United Nations was keen on getting its peace-keepers back as soon as possible. Some States were assisting in this regard, and this was appreciated. Pressed on what the Organization might do if the hostages were not freed, he said that he would not go into contingency plans of the United Nations should its troops not be released.

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DAILY PRESS BRIEFING, 6 June 1995

PART 2 OF 2

Asked for information about a group that was coming to Headquarters to discuss the proposed rapid deployment force, he said it had been designated by the nations that had met recently in Paris to formally present to the United Nations the results of their meeting. It would discuss operational matters related to the rapid deployment force, its functions, command and control with Kofi A. Annan, Under-Secretary-General for s it was under United Nations command and its role was to support and reinforce the United Nations presence in Bosnia.

Asked if the Council would have to approve the force's deployment, he said it was up to that organ to determine that factor. There had been some talk of a statement, not necessarily a resolution, on the matter. There seemed to be general agreement, he added, that the force would operate within the existing mandate of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). He felt that the Council would have to discuss the matter of the overall size of UNPROFOR. He felt that the Council would have to discuss the matter of the overall size of UNPROFOR, whose authorized strength was 26,080. Its current strength, adding recent British reinforcements, was about 23,500, leaving room for about 2,500 more. If the size of the new force would be larger than that, there would have to be some formal Security Council action on the troop-strength ceiling.

Asked about progress in preparations for the Haitian elections, Mr. Sills said that the plans for the legislative elections were on track, with almost 90 per cent of the eligible electorate registered to vote. The elections were scheduled for late June to July, with large numbers of candidates and many parties registered. The United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH) and the Organization of American States (OAS) were cooperating with the Government on the mechanics of the elections. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General to that country, Lakhdar Brahimi, was pleased with the preparations.

Replying to a question as to whether fear of a veto by the Russian Federation was the motive behind the Council possibly producing a Presidential statement on the rapid deployment force, the Spokesman said the question should be directed to the members of the Council.

A reporter asked if the United Nations had anything to say on the downing of an F-16 aircraft over Bosnia and

Herzegovina. Mr. Sills said that the plane been flying to support the "no-fly" zone and the fate of the pilot was not yet known. The plane had crashed in Serb-controlled areas of Bosnia, some distance from the nearest United Nations troops, who were in the centre of the country. Mr. Sills said that, if asked, the Organization would help look for the pilot. But no such request had been received. The United Nations had asked the Serbs not to humiliate the pilot if he fell into their hands and had told them that they should release him immediately and unconditionally.

Asked who would pay for the rapid deployment force, the Spokesman said that that matter remained to be decided. Appropriate financial arrangements would have to be worked out. Given the existing shortfall in the UNPROFOR account, country had spoken of unreasonable restrictions placed on UNAMIR by the Government. The Secretary-General's report had outlined new, reduced functions proposed for the Mission. Those changes flowed from the fact that the situation in that country was no longer in the same condition that had necessitated the United Nations deployment in the first place. Despite the Secretary-General's recommendations for fewer duties for the Mission, the Government wanted even further restrictions on it.

In response to a question as to whether there were any indications that the Croats and Muslims were breaking the arms embargo, Mr. Sills said that, while he had no new information, it was clear that all parties were flouting it.

Asked whether there were refugees in the area of Srebrenica, he said that about 2,000 people had moved from the city's southern precincts, known as the "Swedish Village", towards the centre. Those persons were now returning to the southern parts from whence they had come. The ICRC, meanwhile, had not been able to enter Srebrenica for about four-and-a-half weeks.

Requested to guess what the strategic motive behind recent Serb moves was, the Spokesman said he would not speculate on that.

Replying to a question as to whether the Bosnian Government was still blockading Ukrainian peace-keepers in Gorazde, he said they were.

When pressed to comment on the Secretary-General's reaction to the plans to increase the number of troops in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Sills repeated that the Secretary-General regarded the creation of the rapid deployment force as a positive development as long as it was under United Nations command.

END OF PART 2 OF 2
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now been suspended for more than two months. Meanwhile, no convoys had reached Sarajevo or the eastern enclaves for the last two weeks. There was an acute food shortage in Bihac, which had not received a relief convoy since 21 May.

The Security Council should extend the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) for six months to 9 December, according to Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali. In a report dated 4 June, he said UNAMIR was an essential part of the international community's effort to assist Rwanda. He noted that there had been radical changes in the situation there since the establishment of the present Government and the end of the war and the genocide. He recommended certain adjustments to the mandate, with a shift in focus from peace-keeping to confidence-building.

UNAMIR should undertake tasks required to sustain a peace-keeping presence in Rwanda, including the protection of United Nations premises and agencies and International Tribunal personnel, he said. It should also assist the Government in confidence-building and in promoting a climate conducive to stability and the return of refugees and displaced persons. That would entail monitoring throughout the country and helping in the distribution of humanitarian assistance, but not patrolling. The report said troop strength should be gradually reduced from 5,500 to 2,330.

The Government of Rwanda had proposed that UNAMIR's role be limited to monitoring and that its strength be reduced to 1,800 troops, the report pointed out. However, such a level would not allow the Mission to adequately perform its tasks. The Secretary-General said he would continue consultations with the Government and would report orally to the Council before it decided on the future mandate.

Global food stocks are likely to fall below the minimum necessary for world food security next year, according to the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Jacques Diouf. He said the global food and agriculture situation required vigilance, noting that some countries were currently experiencing food shortages. He made those comments to the FAO Governing Council as it began a two-week session in Rome yesterday.

Mr. Diouf said world cereal production was forecast at 1.93 billion tons in 1995, representing a decline of 20 million tons, or 1 per cent, from last year. That level of production would not meet expected consumption needs, and carry-over stocks were expected to fall 10 per cent to 270 million tons at the end of the 1996 crop-year.

Fifteen sub-Saharan African countries were already facing food shortfalls requiring exceptional or emergency assistance, he continued. A massive drop in cereal output was expected in southern Africa due to widespread drought, and a poor harvest in 1996 would spell disaster for millions of people there.

In the latest progress report on the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM III), the Secretary-General said the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol had entered a new and promising phase. However, he stressed that the deployment of UNAVEM III infantry must be matched by even greater cooperation by the Angolan Government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) with the United Nations in

implementing all major provisions of the Protocol.

The Secretary-General noted that while much progress had been achieved recently, the Angolan peace process was behind schedule. Major efforts would be required to make up for the delay, he concluded.

The first All-Inclusive Intra-East Timorese Dialogue concluded yesterday in Austria by adopting the "Burg Schlaining Declaration". Adopted by consensus, the Declaration calls for a continuation of dialogue, and reaffirms the need to implement measures in the field of human rights to promote peace, stability, justice and social harmony. It also reaffirms that the social and cultural development of East Timor should be based on the preservation of the cultural identity of the people.

The Dialogue was initiated by the Secretary-General in the context of his good offices on the question of East Timor, and facilitated by the United Nations. The participants reaffirmed the importance of the ongoing negotiations between the Governments of Portugal and Indonesia under the auspices of the Secretary-General.

The Secretary-General today chose Mozambique by lot as the ~~first Member State~~ to be seated during the fiftieth session of the General Assembly, which will begin on 19 September. The Mozambican delegation will be seated at the extreme left in the front row of the General Assembly Hall. Seating will proceed in English alphabetical order from there.

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FROM DPIIDS

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DH/1907

5 June 1995

M O N D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

+ 121 United Nations peace-keepers released by Bosnian Serbs arrive safely in Croatia; Special Adviser Gharekhan says Secretary-General will not rest until remaining hostages are set free.

+ Croatian Army and Bosnian Croat forces attack Serb-held areas in Croatia; Special Representative Akashi contacts parties to defuse situation.

+ In message for World Environment Day, Secretary-General calls on global community to fight environmental degradation.

+ United Nations political office for Somalia to remain in Nairobi until security situation in Mogadishu improves, Secretary-General decides.

+ Danish doctor and Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting Health receive 1995 United Nations Population Award.

* * *

The 121 United Nations peace-keepers released by the Bosnian Serbs on Friday arrived last night in Zagreb, where they were greeted by senior United Nations officials. Most of them then flew on to Split for medical check-ups and debriefings. Special Adviser Chinmaya Gharekhan said that Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali would not rest until all the remaining hostages were set free. As of this morning, 164 United Nations personnel were

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still being detained
by the Bosnian Serbs, while another 179
(more)

- - - Press Release DH/1907
5 June 1995

were being blockaded.

The Secretary-General sent his Special Adviser to Zagreb on Friday to assess the situation and to support the efforts of Special Representative Yasushi Akashi. Mr. Gharekhan intended to fly to Sarajevo this morning, but his aircraft turned around in mid-air because the Bosnian Serb authorities would not give adequate security guarantees. The Bosnian Serbs said that they would not endanger the aircraft, but warned that other parties might fire on it and blame them. Mr. Gharekhan and Mr. Akashi later met with the Co-Chairmen of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg.

* * *

The Croatian Army and Bosnian Croat forces yesterday began shelling Serb-held areas in Croatia, and launched an incursion in the direction of Knin, according to a United Nations spokesman. The Croatian Serb authorities responded by ordering a full mobilization of their forces. Special Representative Akashi contacted the

parties in order to prevent the situation from escalating. The Croatian authorities assured him that the action was a limited one and not a major offensive against Knin, and the situation later stabilized.

The situation in Sarajevo remained tense and difficult today, the spokesman continued. Six civilians died there yesterday as a result of Bosnian Serb shelling. However, there was some good news from the Bosnian capital. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) managed to move 80 metric tons of wheat flour from a warehouse at the airport to a city bakery yesterday, and another delivery was expected today.

* * *

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today called on the global community to fight actions that degraded the environment. In a message for World Environment Day, he said a sense of global consciousness was emerging for the first time. No political boundaries could stop the spread of poisonous gases or turn back effluents. If atmospheric pollution and the erosion of biological resources continued, the repercussions would be worldwide and would affect every generation to come, he warned.

The Secretary-General said it was appropriate that the main celebration of this year's World Environment Day was taking place in South Africa. One year ago, the South African people had dismantled the barriers that divided them, reasserting the values of compassion, love and tolerance.

(more)

The Day was commemorated at Headquarters with a highlevel panel presentation on women and the environment. The event was sponsored by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the Department of Public Information (DPI), and the Fourth World Conference on Women.

* * *

The Secretary-General has decided that the United Nations political office for Somalia will remain in Nairobi until the security situation in Mogadishu improves. In a letter to the Security Council President issued today, he said he had decided to reduce the staff of the office to one director at the D-2 level and one general service staff member.

The security situation in Mogadishu was unstable and unpredictable, and visits by international staff had been severely curtailed, the Secretary-General continued. Efforts to obtain the views of Somali leaders

on a possible United Nations political presence in their country had yielded no results because of the opposition of the two principal leaders, Ali Mahdi and General Mohamed Farah Aidid. He noted, however, that many other Somali leaders had welcomed his intention to set up a political office in Somalia.

* * *

Population issues must be addressed as an integral part of social and economic development, the Secretary-General told the 1995 United Nations Population Award ceremony today. He said last year's International Conference on Population and Development proved that the international community had the political will to work for a better quality of life for all. The Programme of Action adopted in Cairo could change the world for the better by providing people with broader choices and empowering them.

The Population Award was presented to Dr. Halfdan Mahler of Denmark and Dr. Berhane Ras-Work, who received it on behalf of the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children (IAC). Dr. Mahler has been Secretary-General of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) since 1989, and served as Director-General of the World Health Organization from 1973 to 1988. Dr. Ras-Work is President of the IAC.

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FROM DPIIDS

OMNIPRESS / UNDEVPRO

SOC/CP/167
5 June 1995

CRIME COMMISSION DISCUSSES UN CRIMINAL JUSTICE NORMS
NGO-Prepared Manual on Prison Standards Recommended for UN
Adoption

VIENNA, 2 June (UN Information Service) -- Ways to promote the universal application of United Nations standards and norms in such areas as the treatment of prisoners, the conduct of law enforcement officials, the rights of victims and the administration of juvenile justice were discussed this morning in the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

The representative of the Netherlands urged the United Nations to consider adopting an existing manual on the implementation of its Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners --Making Standards Work, prepared by Penal Reform International --and distributing it to Member States. This, he noted, had been recommended by the Ninth Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders.

The need for technical cooperation, including training and advisory services, to facilitate the application of United Nations standards, was cited by the representatives of Indonesia and Angola. The representative of the Republic of Korea stressed the need for States to translate the Compendium of United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into their own languages, in order to make it more accessible to the public and to criminal justice personnel. He announced that his Government would be publishing a Korean edition in July.

Representatives of Madagascar, Egypt and three
non-governmental organizations --
the International Commission of Jurists, Penal Reform
International and the
International Fellowship of Reconciliation -- also participated
in the discussion.

Also this morning, the Commission elected Ali Khalid El
Hussein (Sudan) as Vice-
Chairman, having learned that Abdelrahman El Khalifa (Sudan),
who had been elected
to that office at its opening meeting on 30 May, would not
be able to attend the
session.

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OMNIPRESS / UNDEVPRO

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edition in July.

Representatives of Madagascar, Egypt and three non-governmental organizations -- the International Commission of Jurists, Penal Reform International and the International Fellowship of Reconciliation -- also participated in the discussion.

Also this morning, the Commission elected Ali Khalid El Hussein (Sudan) as Vice-Chairman, having learned that Abdelrahman El Khalifa (Sudan), who had been elected to that office at its opening meeting on 30 May, would not be able to attend the session.

END OF SUMMARY
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FROM DPIIDS

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DAILY PRESS BRIEFING, 1 June 1995

PART 1 OF 2

Joe Sills, Spokesman for Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, began today's noon briefing by stating that at 10 a.m. the Secretary-General had met with his High Level Advisory Board on Sustainable Development. Afterward, he met with Edward Saouma, former Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), who is a member of the Advisory Board.

At 4:30 p.m. the Secretary General would meet with Tharcisse Ntakibirora, Permanent Representative of Burundi; at 5 p.m., Catherine Bertini, Executive Director of the World Food Programme (WFP); and at 5:30 p.m. Detlev Graf Zu Rantzau, Permanent Representative of Germany. Germany assumed the Presidency of the Security Council today, Mr. Sills noted. The meeting would thus cover the work of the Council for the month.

The Secretary-General would meet with James Gustave Speth, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme at 6:30 p.m., Mr. Sills stated. Senior officials of the United Nations system dealing with economic development matters would chair that meeting in New York on 1-2 June. Mr. Speth would chair that meeting today on behalf of the Secretary-General, who would join the meeting tomorrow. Among the items to be covered were preparations for the forthcoming session of the World Summit for Social Council; a review of results of the dialogue with the Social Development and follow-up arrangements for implementing the programme of action; strengthening the dialogue with the Bretton Woods institutions; relations between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations; and preparations for the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II) in Istanbul in 1996. Mr. Sills drew correspondents attention to a press release on that meeting which was issued yesterday (Press Release ORG/1199).

The Security Council today was being briefed by Ahmedou Ould Abdallah, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Burundi, who would be returning to Burundi this evening. The situation in Burundi had been described as tense, with daily reports of armed incidents in certain areas of Bujumbura since the end of the three-day "operation dead city" general strike. There was a high-level mission of the Organization of

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African Unity (OAU) in Bujumbura, headed by its Secretary-General, Salim Ahmed Salim.

Like most of the correspondents, he was interested in when the Council would consider the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (S/1995/444). Mr. Sills said that perhaps the Council would begin initial consultations on that report after they finished their discussion on Burundi. As of now, he had no definite information, and the topic was not on their published schedule. There would probably be bilateral talks between the President and the members of the Council today and tomorrow..

In Angola, 351 Uruguayan peace-keepers arrived yesterday, Mr. Sills said. The rest of the Uruguayan battalion was expected to arrive.

tomorrow. A battalion from India would arrive in early July, followed by a battalion from Zimbabwe in late July. Arrangements for other battalions were being finalized. A Romanian field hospital was now operational in Luanda, he said. Under the terms agreed to by the Security Council, as proposed by the Secretary-General, continuing progress on a number of matters -- including disengagement, and demobilizing of forces, a cease-fire, demining, freedom of movement -- was necessary for the deployment to continue.

Alioune Blondin Beye, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Angola, met with Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos on Monday, and with Dr. Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) yesterday, to discuss the continuing implementation of the peace accords. Tomorrow, the sixteenth meeting of the Joint Commission would discuss the opening of roads and the free movement of people and goods, Mr. Sills said.

In the former Yugoslavia, he went on to say there had been over 1,000 firing incidents in Sarajevo the last 24 hours. A French peace-keeper had received minor injuries from a shell fragment. There were no new developments as regards the number and status of United Nations personnel being detained.

Elsewhere in Bosnia, in Sector West and in Sector Northeast there were lower levels of activity. But in Gorazde, there had been further fighting between the Bosnian Serbs and Government forces on the east bank of the Drina river. The Bosnian Serbs had attempted to take additional territory -- particularly high ground around the enclave -- but, according to UNPROFOR's information, had not been successful; the fighting was continuing.

Some press reports had described the action as an attempt by the Bosnian Serbs to overrun the enclave; that was not the present assessment of United Nations military observers. There had, however, been unconfirmed reports of substantial reinforcements, including tank movements, on the Bosnian Serb side, he added.

As had been mentioned yesterday, only one United Nations observation post in Gorazde was still in UNPROFOR hands, located in territory controlled by the Bosnian Government. There had, however, been 13 UNPROFOR observation posts in the Gorazde area, 10 manned by British peace-keepers and three by Ukrainians. There had also been 12 checkpoints, nine managed

by the British and three by the Ukrainians.

Following up on another question from yesterday, Mr. Sills said that all British and Ukrainian peace-keepers who had left their observation posts were in their barracks in Gorazde.

Croatia was stable today, Mr. Sills said. It was calm in Sector South, though three United Nations vehicles had been stolen yesterday. In Sector East, restrictions on movement were a cause of concern. The United Nations had suspended Civil Police vehicle patrols in that sector.

Sector West was quiet, with Civil Police conducting 75 patrols as part of their mandate to monitor human rights activities. There had been a report this morning that the Bosnian Serbs had seized a Swedish national, who is a United Nations relief worker in Banja Luka. The United Nations stated that he had been in the area as part of the humanitarian mission; the United Nations had never had military units in that region due to Bosnian Serb restrictions, Mr. Sills said.

There would be a World Chronicle programme on in-house channels 6 and 23 at 2:30 p.m. with Noeleen Heyzer, Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), he said.

A correspondent asked what role the report of the Secretary-General would play in the meeting of defence ministers scheduled for Saturday in Paris. Mr. Sills said that he would assume that the meeting would take it into account. There was a considerable overlap between the countries meeting in Paris and the membership of the Security Council, he added.

Another correspondent said wire service reports had quoted United States Secretary of State Warren Christopher as having said that any negotiations regarding detained peace-keepers would be handled by United Nations commanders. Were those commanders in contact with Bosnian Serb officials? Mr. Sills said that the United Nations was in continuous contact regarding the release of the detainees.

It had been exactly one month today since the Croatian offensive in Western Slavonia, a correspondent said. What had the United Nations done to account for civilian casualties? How many people were left in the area? Mr. Sills said that he had directed those questions to United Nations headquarters in Zagreb on several occasions. There was a continuing investigation under way by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), by Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the United Nations Human Rights Commission's Special Rapporteur on the Situation in the Former Yugoslavia and by others. No report was available yet. He was surprised that it had taken so long, but as far as he knew it was still being worked on.

A correspondent then said that Human Rights Watch had issued a report alleging illegal shipments of arms by France, Zaire and other Governments to militias of the former government of Rwanda in refugee camps. Was the Secretary-General aware of the report? Was he doing anything in the way of preventive diplomacy? Mr. Sills said that the United Nations was aware of the report and of the problem of arms in the camps. Shahryar M. Khan, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Rwanda, was in New York. A mandate renewal for the United Nations Assistance

Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) was coming up shortly, and the report of the Secretary-General would soon be out. Mr. Khan had been asked to meet with the press and he probably would do so next week. This question could be raised with him at that time.

A correspondent said the Government of the United Kingdom wanted its 5,500 reinforcements to be part of the United Nations Force. Was the Organization willing to accept them as part of its Force in the former Yugoslavia?

Mr. Sills replied that, as the senior United Nations official who had briefed correspondents on background yesterday had said, discussions were going on with the Governments of the United Kingdom and France in regard to the question of reinforcement of UNPROFOR. The British had said that they wanted their reinforcements to be under the command of Lieutenant-General Rupert Smith, Force Commander of the UNPROFOR in Bosnia and Herzegovina. There was some question as to whether General Smith might wear the "UNPROFOR hat" or a "second hat" as well. If all of those troops were placed under United Nations command, the number of UNPROFOR peace-keepers would be greater than the troop ceiling. That would require action by the Security Council.

END OF PART 1 OF 2
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FROM DPIIDS

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DAILY PRESS BRIEFING, 1 June 1995

PART 2 OF 2

Did the United Nation have a "favourite alternative" regarding command-and-control over additional British peace-keepers? It would depend on what the new forces were for, Mr. Sills said. Within the existing mandate, the United Nations would prefer that they be placed under United Nations control. If the international community changed the mandate, for example by choosing "option three" of the recent report of the Secretary-General (which would permit the UNPROFOR to make greater use of force), then the forces would be under a different command structure. He reiterated that discussions were ongoing in this regard.

Had the Government of Rwanda requested a decrease in size of the UNAMIR? Mr. Sills said that the Government had indicated that they favoured a decrease in its size and a redefinition of its mandate. The Secretary-General's recommendations in that regard would be contained in his upcoming report.

How did the United Nations intend to protect the "safe areas" in Bosnia and Herzegovina if it removed all threat of the use of force? Mr. Sills answered that in his recent report the Secretary-General had set out four options. He had not endorsed the first two (which would, respectively, withdraw UNPROFOR or retain its existing mandate). He presented both the third and fourth options as viable courses of action. The essence of the fourth option was to allow the United Nations to undertake peace-keeping as an honest broker between the parties to assist them in implementing agreements they had freely entered into and were honouring. The question of the safe areas was obviously one of the thorniest points. Protection of the safe areas by UNPROFOR by military means was not compatible with the fourth option. The Security Council may chose one of the options, create a fifth option, or even combine options. But the question of the protection of the safe areas was a fundamental policy issue that must be dealt with by the Security Council.

To another question on the mandate of the UNAMIR, Mr. Sills said that the Mission was not a Chapter VII operation.

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The United Nations was in consultation with the Government of Rwanda, and the operation must continue its work with the consent of that Government.

Did he have any comment on a proposal by the Bosnian Serb leadership for a moratorium on the use of force in resolving the Bosnian crisis? a correspondent asked. Also, did he have a reaction to the proposal that United Nations "prisoners of war" be released in exchange for a United Nations guarantee not to use any force against the Bosnian Serbs?

United Nations peace-keepers were not prisoners of war because the United Nations was not at war with anyone, Mr. Sills said. The peace-keepers had been illegally detained and should be released immediately and unconditionally, without any quid pro quo. Once they were released, all sorts of discussion and negotiation might be possible.

How had the 400 United Nations hostages seized in any early incident by the Bosnian Serbs been released? a correspondent asked. Mr. Sills said that while he did not remember the exact details, he presumed that the forces that had been detaining them or restricting their movement had released them or had left the area and allowed them freedom of movement. There had been extended negotiations associated with that outcome, he noted.

To another question on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Sills said that the United Nations had never ruled out the option of air strikes and was not ruling it out at present, under the current mandate.

A correspondent said that the fighting around Gorazde had principally centred on seizing control of United Nations observation posts. What was the strategic value of those posts?

Mr. Sills responded that the observation posts were located on high ground and had good visibility. Whichever side took them over would control strategic positions. The Bosnian Serb movements around Gorazde had taken place soon after the United Nations had abandoned the posts.

If Bosnian Serb forces took over Gorazde, who would be responsible for protecting civilians? a correspondent asked. As of now, Gorazde was a safe area and came under Security Council resolutions, Mr. Sills responded. In the past, the Secretary-General, on the recommendation of his military staff, had indicated that some 35,000 troops would be needed to completely protect the safe areas. Those troops had not been given, so UNPROFOR did not have the military capability to protect the safe areas by force. The Secretary-General had stated that very clearly. He agreed with the correspondent's characterization of the situation as having responsibility without capability, and called this a very bad situation.

Asked for his views on a proposed new conference on the situation in the former Yugoslavia, Mr. Sills said the reconvening of the London Conference was something that had been considered, though recently there had been less talk of this.

Had the situation of Ukrainian peace-keepers surrounded by Government forces in Gorazde resolved itself? It had not, Mr. Sills said.

Asked how many United Nations detainees were being held

prisoner, and how many had merely been "blocked", Mr. Sills estimated that there were in the vicinity of 200 detainees and 250 peace-keepers blockaded. Those figures totalled 450, which was higher than the total figures previously given, because there was some question about the status of some of them. The total he had been given included some who were perhaps not actually being detained.

Were negotiations going on between the United Nations and the Bosnian Government to obtain the freedom of the Ukrainian peace-keepers? They were not captives, Mr. Sills said. Their movement in and out of their barracks had been restricted. Negotiations to end this situation were continuing.

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DH/1905

1 June 1995

T H U R S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

- Bosnian Serbs continue to detain or blockade 450 United Nations personnel in various parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina; civilian aid worker taken hostage in Banja Luka.
- Senior United Nations officials begin two-day meeting at Headquarters to discuss United Nations development activities and related reforms.
- Secretary-General plans to upgrade United Nations crime and justice programme within two years, Commission on Crime Prevention is told.
- 351 Uruguayan peace-keepers arrive in Angola; Special Representative meets with Angolan President and UNITA leader to discuss continued implementation of Lusaka Protocol.
- Special Representative for Burundi briefs Security Council; describes situation in Bujumbura as tense, citing daily reports of armed incidents.
- Committee on Rights of Child discusses collaboration in human rights field and impact of armed conflict on children.
- Saad Alfarargi of Egypt appointed as Assistant Administrator of UNDP and Director of Programme's Regional Bureau for Arab States.

Bosnian Serb forces today continued to detain or blockade around 450 United Nations personnel in various parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina, according to a United Nations spokesman. He stressed that they should be released immediately and unconditionally.

Some 200 of the United Nations personnel were being detained, while the remaining 250 were being blockaded, the spokesman continued. The latter figure included 45 Canadian peace-keepers who had been resupplied despite the restrictions. Meanwhile, the Bosnian Serbs took a non-military United Nations relief worker hostage in the Banja Luka area.

The spokesman said 1,000 firing incidents had been recorded in Sarajevo over the previous 24 hours. One French peace-keeper suffered minor injuries after being hit by fragments. There was also fresh fighting between Bosnian Government and Bosnian Serb forces on the east bank of the Drina River in Gorazde.

Senior United Nations officials from various departments,

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programmes, funds and regional commissions have begun a two-day meeting at Headquarters to discuss issues related to the Organization's development activities. The meeting was chaired today by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Administrator James Gustave Speth. It will be joined by Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali tomorrow morning.

Participants are reviewing progress achieved in the reform agenda set out in the Secretary-General's recommendations on "An agenda for development". He proposed improvements in United Nations development activities "not because these efforts are failing but because they are succeeding". He stated that he would convene frequent meetings of all senior officials in the economic and social sector to improve overall programme coordination and policy coherence within the Organization.

The meeting underway provides an opportunity for senior officials to discuss preparations for this year's substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, including the triennial policy review of United Nations operational activities for development. Attention will be paid to the results of the World Summit for Social Development, as well as the follow-up to the Declaration and Programme of Action adopted in Copenhagen. Participants will also hear a report on the progress achieved in implementing the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) initiative on Africa.

The Secretary-General plans to upgrade the United Nations crime and justice programme within the next two years, according to Giorgio Giacomelli, Director-General of the United Nations Office in Vienna. He made that announcement to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, which has begun a two-week session in Vienna.

The proposal, contained in a report before the Commission, calls for upgrading the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Secretariat to a division. It will mean asking the General Assembly to provide additional resources to enable the Commission to help States combat new forms of trans-border crime and generally strengthen the rule of law worldwide.

Mr. Giacomelli urged the 40-member Commission to translate into reality the consensus achieved at the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. He served as Secretary-General of the Congress, which took place in Cairo from 29 April to 8 May.

Some 350 Uruguayan peace-keepers have arrived in Luanda, Angola, a United Nations spokesman announced today. He said the rest of the Uruguayan contribution to the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM III) was expected to arrive tomorrow. An Indian battalion would arrive in early July, to be followed by a Zimbabwean battalion later in the month. A Romanian field hospital was already operational in the Angolan capital.

The spokesman pointed out that the parties must continue to implement the Lusaka Protocol for the deployment of UNAVEM III to continue. He stressed the importance of disarmament, disengagement of troops, observation of the cease-fire and demining activities. In that regard, Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye had had meetings earlier this week with

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and the leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), Jonas Savimbi.

The Joint Commission would meet tomorrow to discuss, in particular, the reopening of roads and the free movement of goods, the spokesman added.

Special Representative Ahmedou Ould Abdallah today briefed the Security Council on the situation in Burundi, according to a United Nations spokesman. He described the situation as tense, with daily reports of armed incidents in parts of Bujumbura following the recent three-day strike there.

The spokesman noted that a high-level Organization of African Unity (OAU) mission was currently in Bujumbura. That mission was chaired by the Secretary-General of the OAU.

The Committee on the Rights of the Child has held an exchange of views with various United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations on improving collaboration in the field of human rights. As the Committee continued its ninth session in Geneva this week, it also held a discussion with the Special Rapporteurs of the Commission of Human Rights on Rwanda and on child prostitution.

The Committee has also been dealing with the impact of armed conflict on children. Graca Machel, Chairman of a team studying that topic, said children were no longer simple victims of conflicts -- they were weapons of war, actors in wars and the adults who manipulated them should be ashamed. She said the use of children in war was getting out of control, citing her recent field visit to Rwanda.

Saad Alfarargi of Egypt has been appointed as Assistant Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Director of UNDP's Regional Bureau for Arab States. Mr. Alfarargi is currently Egypt's Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs. He will assume his new duties in August.

Mr. Alfarargi served as Egypt's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office in Geneva from 1983 to 1987. He was Senior Political Officer, Centre for Disarmament, in the Department for Political and Security Council Affairs from 1977 to 1979.

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