

REPORT MAJOR TUCKER - 12 MARCH 93 - 1830 LOCAL

We are in Srebrenica. We are not being permitted to leave. We have a very large group of people stopping us leaving, the mood is peaceful but emotional. Some of the women are crying. Gen Morillon has tried to talk to them we may be allowed to leave but it does not look hopeful.

Sitrep - Serbs have taken hills to the W of KONJEVIC POLJE and heavy fighting for KONJEVICI POLJE which is the eastern most extremity now of the Srebrenica ended. 2 Brit APC's and UNMO team still in KONJEVICI POLJE and there has been shelling but not at this moment. Persistent Serb offensive towards NW SKELANI.

Attacks being put in between following locations: ZAPOLJE (GR/CP7686). Attack between there and TOKOLJAK (GR CP7674). Serbs are fighting of village at this time and shelling villages in the eastern part of the enclave shelling coming from over the border south of SKELANI and from TARA mountains and from vicinity of hydro electric station on DRINA river all just west of SKELANI. Bridge at grid CP651920 has even blown. This is however a small bridge over a stream and 5 or 6 trucks of gravel would fill it. This bridge is on main road between SREBRENICA and BRATUNAC.

It is VITAL that UNMO's reinforcement as has been already requested arrive in this location. I personally accept that we will only be able to rotate people through this location and the location of KONJEVICI POLJE. We have therefore defacto established UNMO's at 2 locations inside the enclave. It would also be very helpful if tonights airdrop would be on Srebrenica. Our CANBAT APC has transmission problems and shortage of oil and may not get beyond BRATUNAC. Can you confirm whether MMWG took place yesterday.

My location is at Post Office Grid CP632860. Vehicles are 1 X APC, 1 UNHCR Land Cruiser, 1 UNMO Land Cruiser and 1 Belge 4 X 4 Jeep.

General at this moment unable to leave Srebrenica. Many refugees in this town believe that when Commander left KONJE POLJE 6 days ago then that location was heavily shelled and suffered bitter fighting. Refugees and local population believe the same will happen to Srebrenica when Commander leaves there. It is local refugees who are blocking Commander. We are expecting UNMO team to come into Srebrenica this evening. UNMO teams currently at location of truck that hit a mine. UNMO team extracted at this location in 1 or 2 hours time. When that team has arrived, Commander will be able to prove to local population that they will not be left alone. When that team arrives and possibly after dark when crowd may have dispersed, Commander will try to leave. 70/30 against leaving tonight.

We are expecting one or two extra UNMO's in about 1 hours time as already stated @ 1803.

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Atmosphere friendly but very emotional. These people believe they will be killed.

Suggest you info Presidency in Sarajevo and put pressure on them. Commander is only certain he has a chance of getting Serbs to stop their offensive and to get the convoy into Srebrenica.

You must also info Force Commander to put pressure on Belgrade to get this offensive and shelling stopped. Serb offensive is a long slow steady one village by village.

Nothing further as UNMO vehicles have just arrived back in location. 1 additional UNMO vehicle with 3 persons on board has just arrived.

Commander intends to go to ZVORNIK in order to put pressure on Serbs and cease offensive to ensure convoy gets through.

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