Ratko Mladic Diary Extracts May 15 1993

MEETING with Victor ANDREYEV [UN Civil Affairs officer, Sarajevo]

Victor

- The situation is better now
- Amerika (sic) has not reached agreement with Europe. Chances for an intervention are smaller now. Russia will not allow an intervention.

* What you should do

- 1. You're under huge pressure
- 2. Humanitarian aid must go unobstructed
- 3. Things are going as you want them to go. Everything will be fine if humanitarian aid goes...
- It is obvious that some countries have changed their position.
- This is a TV war
- It is important that British units have been in the field for 7 months. They have a record of resolving international conflicts and, of course, the British know how to work with the civilians, while the French always have a programme of their own.
- General MORILLON is a nice person, but he occasionally does terrible things. He sees himself as the savior of Sarajevo.
- MORILLON always considers that he resolves things well.
- In Srebrenica, he almost caused a catastrophe, but you controlled the situation beautifully. You sorted this out well.
- MORILLON is due to go in June. It is very difficult to work with him.
- What you need to know is that whenever there is an important decision, he should not be involved, but General WAHLGREN should come.
- * I do not like the zone around Sarajevo. This was a proposal by the non-aligned countries, perhaps they need some sort of war, they can finance it.
- * The Venezuelan ambassador wants to be president, so he behaved in a very provocative way. Luckily, we managed to water it down. You responded really well by letting the ambassadors into Srebrenica. You did an excellent job with the agreement in Srebrenica, and he wanted to destroy us all.
- * In SC [Security Council] the non-aligned are the most radical. They are the ones gunning for war.
- *The safe areas idea is better than bombing.
- *We need to gain time on the safe areas.

*The problem of Sarajevo must be resolved. The Muslims are the biggest problem to resolve. As soon as you say yes they will say no. It is in their interest for Sarajevo to remain a problem.

*Everyone knows that Morillon created an artificial problem out of Srebrenica and Zepa.

*Be patient and allow h [humanitarian] convoys through...

[Concerning refugees and humanitarian aid]

- * General Mladic, your idea to offer that humanitarian aid for Muslims go through your territory is excellent.
- * It is very important that you send a letter to the UNCHR Sadako Ogata...

Send to Ogata:

- We are aware of what is going on here.
- We appreciate the concerns of the international community...
- In the end you should say that we need this too
- We are keen for it be resolved
- Since we are aware that the humanitarian aid is supposed to arrive...
- There is no need for escorts, do not make this a condition...
- You will know so many cards out of the enemy's hands
- You can say: in accordance with Resolution 824 → this would be a highly intelligent move for you.
- You can say that the MZ [international community] has no need of an escort...

*Your idea, General Mladic, was for them to come to Sarajevo (UNPROFOR, UNCHR, ICRC), for Wahlgren to come...

[Concluding Remarks]

M: Victor, I will have to take you as my adviser, I am not good in at politics.

V: Oh, General, you are very good, excellent, in politics, raises his thumb, you're just saying that, but you're great...

V: John Burns had the effect of 100,000 soldiers. Propaganda is a very powerful thing and it is strongly against the Serbs.