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SUBJECT: STATEMENTS BY MR. KARADZIC, MR. KRAJISNIK7 MR. BUHA, AND MADAME PLAVSIC AND PRESS STATEMENT BY AMB. RICHARD HOLBROOKE AND AMBASSADOR ROBERT H. FROWICK ON RESIGNATION OF SDS PRESIDENT KARADZIC

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1. FOLLOWING IS THE STATEMENT BY MR. KARADZIC, MR. KRAJISNIK, MR. BUHA, AND MADAME PLAVSIC.

2. THE UNDERSIGNED REAFFIRM THEIR COMMITMENT TO FULFILL THE GENERAL FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR PEACE AND ANNEXES NEGOTIATED IN DAYTON AND SIGNED IN PARIS DECEMBER 14, 1995, AND STATE THE FOLLOWING:

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3. AS OF JULY 19, 1996, DR. BILJANA PLAVSIC HAS ASSUMED THE OFFICE OF TEMPORARY ACTING PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIKA SRPSKA UNTIL COMPLETION OF THE ELECTIONS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 1996, SCHEDULED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DAYTON PEACE AGREEMENT WHEN A NEW PRESIDENT WILL BE ELECTED. SO THAT,

THEREFORE, ON JULY 19, 1996, DR. RADOVAN KARADZIC HAS RELINQUISHED THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIKA SRPSKA AND HAS RELINQUISHED ALL POWERS ASSOCIATED THEREWITH.

4. DR. RADOVAN KARADZIC STATES THAT HE SHALL WITHDRAW IMMEDIATELY AND PERMANENTLY FROM ALL POLITICAL ACTIVITIES. HE WILL NOT APPEAR IN PUBLIC, OR ON RADIO OR TELEVISION OR OTHER MEDIA OR MEANS OF COMMUNICATION, OR PARTICIPATE IN ANY WAY IN THE ELECTIONS.

5. AS OF JULY 19, 1996, DR. RADOVAN KARADZIC RELINQUISHES THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF THE SDS AND ALL THE FUNCTIONS, POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SDS SHALL BE FROZEN UNTIL THE SDS CHOOSES A NEW PRESIDENT.

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THESE POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES SHALL BE TAKEN OVER BY PROFESSOR BUHA.

6. FOLLOWING IS THE PRESS STATEMENT BY SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY AMBASSADOR RICHARD HOLBROOKE.

7. MR. HOLBROOKE: I AM DISTRIBUTING A STATEMENT THAT WAS SIGNED LAST NIGHT BY KARADZIC, KRAJISNIK, PLAVSIC AND BUHA AND WITNESSED BY MILOSEVIC AND MILUTINOVIC. WE WILL GIVE IT TO YOU AND WHEN YOU'VE ALL GOT IT, I'LL MAKE A COMMENT.

8. MR. HOLBROOKE: THE STATEMENT YOU HAVE IN FRONT OF YOU, WAS SIGNED VERY LATE LAST NIGHT, OR EARLY THIS MORNING IF YOU PREFER, BY DR. KARADZIC, MR. KRAJISNIK, MADAM PLAVSIC, MR. BUHA, AND WITNESSED BY PRESIDENT MILOSEVIC AND FOREIGN MINISTER MILUTINOVIC. WE NEGOTIATED LAST NIGHT FOR ABOUT TEN HOURS INCLUDING THE BREAK TO TALK TO WASHINGTON. OUR GROUP WAS JOINED AT THE VILLA OUTSIDE BELGRADE, OR ACTUALLY EXCUSE ME IN BELGRADE, BY KRAJISNIK AND BUHA. THEY SIGNED IT IN OUR PRESENCE AFTER VERY LENGTHY AND ACRIMONIOUS NEGOTIATION, BUT THEY ALL ARE. AND IT WAS FAKED TO PALE AND SIGNED THERE IN THE PRESENCE OF THE WITNESS WITH WHOM I THEN TALKED TO EARLY THIS

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MORNING. AND THERE IS NO QUESTION THE SIGNATURES ARE CORRECT. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT STATEMENT. IF IT'S IMPLEMENTED STRICTLY IT INCREASES SIGNIFICANTLY CHANCES OF SUCCESSFUL ELECTION. AND IN COMBINATION WITH VICE PRESIDENT GANIC'S TRIP NEXT WEEK HERE, WITH THE TRADE MISSION WHICH WILL BE THE HIGHEST LEVEL TRIP BETWEEN

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BOSNIA AND SERBIA SINCE THE WAR BEGAN, GIVES US CHANCE TO REVITALIZE THE PEACE PROCESS. MY TEAM MR. OWEN, MR.

GOLDBERG AND MY OTHER COLLEAGUES WILL RETURN WITH ME TO WASHINGTON NOW TO REPORT TO SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER AND TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

9. I WANT TO MAKE CLEAR THAT WE ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH WHAT WE'VE JUST GIVEN YOU. IT FALLS SHORT OF OUR GOALS. INDICTED WAR CRIMINALS SHOULD BE AT THE HAGUE TO FACE TRIAL UNDER DUE PROCESS OF LAW AND THAT INCLUDES DR. KARADZIC AND GENERAL MLADIC, BUT THE PEACE PROCESS IS A LONG AND VERY BUMPY ROAD, AND ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE COVERED OUR EFFORTS SINCE LAST YEAR KNOW THAT WE TAKE IT A STEP AT A TIME, ANNOUNCE THAT STEP AND MOVE ON. THE STEP WE ANNOUNCED THIS MORNING IS ONE THAT HAS ELUDED US PREVIOUSLY. SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH US AND WE'VE TALKED TO PRESIDENT IZETBEGOVIC THIS MORNING. HE IS VERY POSITIVE ABOUT THIS AND HE WILL ISSUE HIS OWN STATEMENT. AMBASSADOR FROWICK PLAYED A VITALLY IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE PROCESS IN THE LAST TWO DAYS, RETURNED FROM MOSCOW LAST NIGHT, HE WAS ON THE PHONE WITH US ALL NIGHT LONG, AND HE WILL MAKE HIS OWN ANNOUNCEMENT IN SARAJEVO AT ABOUT 10:30 OR 11:00. LET ME BE CLEAR ON WHAT THE THREE POINTS HERE ARE: NUMBER 1) AS OF THIS MORNING KARADZIC IS NO LONGER PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIKA SRPSKA, HE HAS RELINQUISHED THE OFFICE AND ALL POWERS ASSOCIATED THERETO. MADAM PLAVSIC IS THE TEMPORARY ACTING PRESIDENT AND SHE WILL REMAIN IN THAT POSITION UNTIL THE ELECTIONS PICK A NEW PRESIDENT. NUMBER 2) DR. KARADZIC STATES AND I QUOTE, THAT HE SHALL WITHDRAW IMMEDIATELY AND

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PERMANENTLY FROM ALL POLITICAL ACTIVITIES. HE WILL NOT

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APPEAR IN PUBLIC, OR ON RADIO, OR TELEVISION OR THE OTHER MEDIA OR MEANS OF COMMUNICATION, OR PARTICIPATE IN ANY WAY IN THE ELECTIONS. AND I WANT TO STRESS HE KNEW WHAT HE WAS SIGNING, HE KNEW HE WAS SIGNING THE END OF HIS POLITICAL CAREER. NUMBER 3) AS OF TODAY, JULY 19, AND I QUOTE AGAIN "DR. RADOVAN KARADZIC RELINQUISHES THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF SDS AND ALL THE FUNCTIONS, POWERS, AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SDS SHALL BE FROZEN UNTIL THE SDS CHOOSES A NEW PRESIDENT. THESE POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES SHALL BE TAKEN OVER BY PROFESSOR BUHA." AGAIN, WE ARE NOT SATISFIED. WE HAVE HIGHER GOALS THAN THIS. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD AND PRESIDENT IZETBEGOVIC HIMSELF SO STATED. WE NOW HOPE THAT THE ROAD IS OPEN FOR AN INCREASED CHANCE FOR SUCCESSFUL ELECTION.

10. Q: MR. KARADZIC, WILL HE STAY IN PALE, OR WHAT?

11. MR. HOLBROOKE: THAT IS A SUBJECT OF CONTINUING DISCUSSION. WE WISH AND EXPECT HIM TO MOVE FROM WHERE HE IS.

12. Q: WHO SUGGESTED THE CONTENTS OF THE LETTER AS THEY ARE?

13. MR. HOLBROOKE: IT'S A PROCESS. THAT'S A TOUGH QUESTION TO ANSWER, BUT LET'S PUT IT THIS WAY. SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER AND THE PRESIDENT ASKED US TO COME OUT HERE AND WE HAD OUR INSTRUCTIONS. WE DID NOT ACHIEVE.

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EVERYTHING WE CAME OUT HERE TO ACHIEVE, BUT WE SUGGESTED THE FORM, WE ARGUED ABOUT THE CONTENTS, WE HAD SOME THINGS IN HERE THAT WE COULDN'T GET. WE DECIDED THIS WAS GOOD ENOUGH; BUT I WANT TO STRESS SOMETHING ABOUT THIS LETTER. THIS IS A UNILATERAL SERB UNDERTAKING. THE UNITED STATES DID NOT SIGN AN AGREEMENT YESTERDAY. THEY SIGNED IT, THEY WITNESSED IT. THOSE OF YOU WHO WERE WITH US IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR WILL RECALL THAT THIS WAS THE SAME FORM WE USED ON THE CEASE FIRE AT SARAJEVO AND THE GENERAL CEASE FIRE. UNITED STATES DOES NOT SIGN THESE AGREEMENTS. WE DON'T SIGN AGREEMENTS WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE INDICTED WAR CRIMINALS. WE DO NEGOTIATE TO MOVE FORWARD TOWARDS PEACE.

14. Q: CAN YOU TELL US EXACTLY WHAT THE BOSNIAN SERBS

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FOUND SO CONVINCING TO MAKE THEM SIGN.

15. MR. HOLBROOKE: YOU HAVE TO ASK THEM WHY THEY WERE CONVINCED TO DO THIS NOW. BUT THEY HAVE NEVER DONE THIS BEFORE. THIS GOES SIGNIFICANTLY FURTHER THAN ANY PREVIOUS UNDERTAKINGS. WE TRIED TO GET THIS AT DAYTON AND WE DIDN'T. BUT I STRESS AGAIN, THIS IS NOT SUFFICIENT. I THINK, HOWEVER, I DON'T WANT TO BE GLIB ABOUT YOUR QUESTION. I THINK AMBASSADOR FROWICK AND HIS DECISION TO DISENFRANCHISE THE SDS WAS VERY IMPORTANT. AND IRONICALLY THIS WAS NOT SOMETHING WE PLANNED WHEN WE CAME OUT HERE. I ONLY WAS AWARE OF THIS AFTER THE SECRETARY OF STATE ASKED US TO UNDERTAKE THE MISSION AND I REALIZED THAT AMBASSADOR FROWICK WAS TRAVELLING INDEPENDENTLY, ON A TRACK WHICH IF WE MERGED IT WITH OUR EFFORTS WE COULD CREATE A VERY POWERFUL COMBINATION. SECONDLY, THERE WAS THE SANCTIONS ISSUE WHICH SEVERAL OF YOU HAVE WRITTEN

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ABOUT. THIRD, THERE WAS A CLEAR SENSE ON EVERYONE'S PART INCLUDING PRESIDENT MILOSEVIC THAT WE WERE AT ANOTHER ONE OF THE CROSSROADS, AND PROCESS NEEDED TO BE REVITALIZED.

16. Q: DOES THIS ELIMINATE THE SANCTIONS QUESTION?

17. MR. HOLBROOKE: NO.

18. Q: WHAT DOES IT MEAN "THE FROZEN OFFICES OF SDS UNTIL THE ELECTION?"

19. MR. HOLBROOKE: WHAT IT MEANS. WE HAD A LONG DISCUSSION ON THIS. WHAT IT MEANS IS THAT EVERYTHING TO DO WITH THAT OFFICE IS FROZEN, IT DOESN'T. IT'S JUST LIKE FROZEN FUNDS. HE HAS RELINQUISHED THE TITLE OF PRESIDENT, BUT THE OFFICE ITSELF IS NOT FILLED; IT'S JUST FROZEN. THIS WAS A VERY BIG PROBLEM. WE, THIS WE SPENT, A LONG TIME ON THIS ISSUE.

20. Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY SANCTIONS IF MR. MILOSEVIC DOES DECIDE TO CHANGE HIS MIND?

21. MR. HOLBROOKE: CHANGE HIS MIND ABOUT WHAT?

22. Q: ABOUT PARTICIPATING IN THE ELECTIONS.

23. MR. HOLBROOKE: MR. MILOSEVIC?

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24. Q: SORRY, MR. KARADZIC.

25. MR. HOLBROOKE: O.K. OH, IF MR. KARADZIC. . IF MR.
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KARADZIC VIOLATES THIS, AMBASSADOR FROWICK WILL MAKE CLEAR
IN AN HOUR HOW HE INTENDS TO DEAL WITH THAT. I WANT TO BE
CLEAR. THE WHOLE HISTORY OF THIS TORTUROUS NEGOTIATIONS
HAS BEEN A SERIES OF PIECES OF PAPER, WHICH ARE NOT ALWAYS
FULLY IMPLEMENTED. AND THE JURY IS OUT ON IMPLEMENTATION,
AND YOU MEN AND WOMEN WILL REPORT ON IT. YOU'LL KNOW
WHETHER OR NOT AND I QUOTE "DR. KARADZIC HAS WITHDRAWN
IMMEDIATELY AND PERMANENTLY FROM ALL POLITICAL
ACTIVITIES." IF HE APPEARS ON RADIO, OR TV TODAY HE'S
ALREADY VIOLATING THIS. WE TALKED ABOUT THIS LAST NIGHT.
WE WERE SURE HE WILL NOT, BUT I DON'T TAKE ASSURANCES ON
THEIR FACE VALUE HERE, WE NEVER HAVE.

26. Q: THEN WHAT WILL YBU DO, IF HE APPEARS?

27. MR. HOLBROOKE: THAT'S UP TO AMBASSADOR FROWICK, BUT
I THINK EVERYONE WE TALKED TO IN BELGRADE LAST NIGHT
UNDERSTANDS.

28. MR. HOLBROOK: O.K. OH, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I HOPE
I NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN. (LAUGHTER)

29. FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT TO THE PRESS ON SIGNATION OF
SDS PRESIDENT KARADZIC BY AMBASSADOR ROBERT H. FROWICK.

30. TODAY THE PEACE PROCESS IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA HAS
TAKEN A POTENTIALLY MAJOR STEP FORWARD. AS HEAD OF THE
OSCE MISSION AND CHAIRMAN OF THE PROVISIONAL ELECTION
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COMMISSION, I CONGRATULATE ALL CONCERNED WHO HAVE
CONTRIBUTED TO THE NEGOTIATION OF THE STATEMENT CONFIRMING
DR. KARADZIC'S RELINQUISHING OF THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF
THE SDS AND HIS WITHDRAWAL IMMEDIATELY AND PERMANENTLY
FROM ALL POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING PARTICIPATION IN

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ANY WAY IN THE ELECTIONS.

31. IN PARTICULAR, I COMMEND THE PIVOTALLY IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION OF RICHARD HOLEROOKE, WHO HAS LED THE EFFORT THAT HAS BROUGHT US THIS UNDERSTANDING. I ALSO WANT TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO PRESIDENT MILOSEVIC, FOREIGN MINISTER MILUTINOVIC AND THE BOSNIAN SERB LEADERS INVOLVED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. AND FINALLY, I WANT TO WARMLY WELCOME THE SUPPORT RENDERED BY RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER PRIMAKOV, WHOM I MET IN MOSCOW YESTERDAY, AND UNITED KINGDOM FOREIGN SECRETARY RIFKIND.

32. AS I HAVE EMPHASIZED FROM THE BEGINNING, THE OSCE MISSION HAS SOUGHT TO ENSURE INTEGRITY IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS UNDER THE UNPRECEDENTEDLY COMPLEX CIRCUMSTANCES INVOLVED IN THESE ELECTIONS. WE HAVE WANTED ALL THE GOVERNMENTAL PARTIES -- I.E. BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, THE REPUBLIKA SRPSKA, AND THE FEDERATION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA -- FULLY ENGAGED. AND WE HAVE WANTED ALL THE POLITICAL PARTIES -- INCLUDING THE SERB DEMOCRATIC PARTY, OR SDS -- APPROPRIATELY PARTICIPATING IN THE CAMPAIGN.

33. I HAVE REPEATEDLY SUGGESTED IN PALE THAT THE BEST WAY TO RESOLVE THE SITUATION WE FACED HERETOFORE IN THE SDS WAS FOR DR. KARADZIC TO RESIGN FROM THE SDS FOR THE SAKE OF HIS PEOPLE. I WELCOME THE FACT THAT THIS HAS OCCURRED,
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AND THE WAY AHEAD HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED.

34. TODAY, THE PROVISIONAL ELECTION COMMISSION IS EXPECTED TO ADOPT A FORMAL AMENDMENT TO ITS RULES AND REGULATIONS, WHICH WILL EFFECTIVELY DISBAR ANY POLITICAL PARTY IN WHICH A PERSON INDICTED FOR WAR CRIMES BY THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA AND REFUSING TO COMPLY WITH AN ORDER TO APPEAR BEFORE THAT TRIBUNAL IS HOLDING OFFICE.

35. LET ME CONCLUDE BY SAYING THAT THIS MORNING I MET WITH MRS. PLAVSIC IN PALE TO CONFIRM THIS MOST WELCOME TURN OF EVENTS.
CHRISTOPHER

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