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Serbian Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina
BIJELJINA SECURITY SERVICES CENTRE
BIJELJINA POLICE STATION

/handwritten:/ Ninković

IT-02-54-T
The Prosecutor
General
Bosnia

Exhibit # 1420 Tab 4

Date Admitted: _____

OTP Reference # B 233

Telephone: 076-472-36?

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TO THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR OF THE SERBIAN REPUBLIC OF BH
Minister Mićo STANIŠIĆ personally

Following your dispatch No. 1035/92 of 9 April 1992, I am informing you of the overall security situation in the area of Bijeljina municipality, and in the SAOs /Serbian Autonomous Regions/ of Semberija and Majevica.

Since the Ministry of the Interior of the Serbian Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina began work on 1 April 1992, /Bijeljina/ Police Station Chief Predrag JEŠURIĆ and Federal SUP /Secretariat of the Interior/ Coordinator Petar MIHAJLOVIĆ, who visited the Police Station on several occasions during this period, have been trying to come in telephone contact with the Seat of the Ministry and send reports but to no avail. We did not manage to do so although we had several telephone numbers of the Seat of the Ministry at our disposal.

Since 1 April 1992, the Bijeljina Police Station has been operating in accordance with the instructions and orientation of the Ministry of the Interior of the Serbian Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Accordingly, all contacts with the former Security Services Centre in Tuzla aimed at informing the Centre of the current situation were severed on 31 March 1992. /illegible/ because every day such requests, in the form of dispatches, come in from the former Security Services Centre in Tuzla which the Bijeljina Police Station belonged to until 1 April 1992.

Before I go on with my report on the security situation in my area, I consider it opportune to suggest that the Ministry make a final decision on whether the Security

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Services Centre will be situated in Bijeljina, as envisaged in the earlier laws and decisions from Banja Luka and where all material (the most modern police station building) and personnel (according to an earlier job classification, the Bijeljina Police Station has 177 staff members) resources exist, or in Ugljevik, as mentioned in the above-mentioned dispatch. I think Ugljevik was mentioned by mistake for it, as a small police station with a total of 40 staff members, has neither the material nor the personnel resources for setting up a security services centre.

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I am asking you to inform me at the first opportunity /illegible/ so that, in addition to consolidating the overall situation in Bijeljina, I can start with activities on setting up and forming /illegible/ security.

The security situation in Bijeljina was destabilised at about /illegible/ hours on the evening of 31. March 1992 when Muslim extremists put up roadblocks in the centre of town. During the night and the following day, the Territorial Defence – the Serbian National Guard and the Serbian Volunteers' Guard began to lift the blockade of the town under the guidance of the Crisis Staff of Bijeljina municipality.

The lifting of the blockade and the routing of the Muslim extremists lasted until 6 April 1992, when the overall clearing operations ended and all public and business enterprises and institutions began to work. This largely contributed to the consolidation of the situation in the municipality and the creation of conditions for normal life. Just to be on the safe side, the Crisis Staff of Bijeljina municipality, which evolved into the Presidency of the Municipal Assembly, decided that classes in primary and secondary schools should begin on /illegible/ April 1992 and that all necessary preparations be made to this end. It can be said that with the realisation of this goal the situation in Bijeljina municipality is completely returning to normal.

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Members of the Police Station were not directly involved in the armed conflicts. During the conflicts, the station's task was to lift the blockade of the town, destroy Muslim extremists and secure the key structures in the town: Bijeljina /?Radio/, the Municipal Assembly building, the Post Office, the *Elektrodistribucija* /Power Utility/ building, the water sources, and several business structures. The task was completely fulfilled. It is with pleasure that I can say that, in the difficult circumstances of war activities, members of the security organs did their job exceptionally well. On several occasions they came under sniper and small-arms fire, but, fortunately, there was no loss of life.

I maintain that the position of the police not to get directly involved in the armed conflict was right and resulted in the confidence of the people in the municipality towards members of the police forces. There have especially been no problems in this respect since the police took over the role of preserving public law and order on 4 April 1992. At the moment, /illegible/ of the reserve forces to deliver on the increase of 100 percent. I managed to get a part of the supplies of berets and tri-colour badges from the MUP /Ministry of the Interior/ of Serbia, and the police have been wearing them since the moment they appeared on the streets on 4 April 1992. On this occasion, I would like to point out that there is a need for a larger amount of this type of equipment ...

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