

tacked. We want to have their military taken out of our country.

Zahn: Senator D'Amato suggested this morning though: Unless you do something about strangling Belgrade, then a lot of the things you're talking about wanting to happen, simply won't.

Sacirby: I think that's at least partially true. I think the problem in Bosnia and in Serbia is not necessarily Milosevic, it's the entire military structure that I think has been way overbuilt and that's, by a factor of ten, too large. Their military structure needs to be significantly shrunk, and I suspect that something along the lines of what happened in Iraq may be necessary.

Zahn: Give us an idea of the scale of the type of operation you're talking about that it would require to wipe out the Serbian military strength in terms of tanks and planes.

Sacirby: When we're talking about what's present in Bosnia—and only in Bosnia—we're talking about anywhere from 500 to 600 tanks. We're talking about a couple of thousand at least artillery pieces. I think a lot of that, obviously, could be dealt with strategical air strikes, and could be done within a relatively short period of time. But, remember, the idea is not to destroy everything. The idea is to get it, to be either withdrawn, or to be handed over to the national control.

Zahn: Why is protecting the Bosnians in the national interest of Americans?

Sacirby: I think the strategic interest kind of has been lost in discussions regarding oil or other economic interests. But, it is the most important strategic interest the United States could have, and that is preserving international law and order.

If we do not preserve it in Bosnia, then we will not manage to preserve it again in a place like Kuwait, or in a place next to our borders. If we talk about strategic interests in terms of economic interests, then what it comes down to is the United States is applying international law and order on a selective basis. And international law and order applied on a selective basis really doesn't constitute law and order anymore; in fact, it constitutes imperialism, so that—

Zahn: Does it anger you? Because, you are—in fact, you're talking about U.S. troops going over to help the Somalians. You now see that the no-fly zone being enforced over Iraq.

Sacirby: No, it doesn't anger me. I'm very happy to see what's happening in Somalia. I think those people deserved it. I think they had a justified humanitarian need.

But, Bosnia deserves it just as much. We not only have a humanitarian need, we also have, I think, a political—and most importantly—a legal need here. A country has been invaded. Its citizens are being slaughtered. Genocide is going

on. We find no help coming; worst of all, we find ourselves facing an arms embargo that prevents us from even coming up close to being able to confront our enemy.

Zahn: We had a number of senators push for involvement more than a year ago. Have we missed our window of opportunity?

Sacirby: For our people, the window of opportunity exists as long as we're alive. And, frankly, from the western prospective, the longer that we wait to confront the Serbian aggression—the Serbian military—whether it's maybe in Bosnia or down the road in Kosovo or Macedonia, I think the worse it will be.

So, yes, to some extent, I think we've missed many golden opportunities, but we shouldn't assume that time is passing by. Certainly, Bosnians are not thinking time has passed them by. We continue to struggle.

Women's group documents mass sexual atrocities

The Women's Group Tresnjevka, located in Zagreb, Croatia, released the reports excerpted here on Sept. 28, 1992:

... The stream of survivor testimonies which we came across, together with the work of other organizations throughout Croatia and information gathered in refugee camps throughout Europe, prompted our investigation into the systematic sexual atrocities being committed against women in the context of the Serbian and Montenegrin occupations of Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina. We are in the second month of our research, which is bringing staggering and appalling results.

At the time when the world was shocked by the media pictures of Nazi-style concentration camps on the occupied areas of Bosnia-Herzegovina, we were finding out about the existence of rape/death camps for women and children, mostly of reproductive ages, in occupied territories of both Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia. Very little is known about the fate of these women, and unfortunately the topic of sexual abuse is still treated as a secondary concern within the world organizations and the media which are investigating the war crimes that are occurring on these territories.

Rape/death camps

The existence of rape/death camps must be understood as a strategy or tactic of genocide, of a "final solution." Unlike rape camps which were set up during the wars in, for example, Vietnam, Afghanistan, and Korea, the camps in

Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia are not solely sexual abuse centers but are a part of an organized system leading to liquidation, i.e., "ethnic cleansing" of those of Muslim and Croatian nationalities. Sexual abuses in this context have modern precedents only in Nazi Germany.

The Serbian-Chetnik strategy of "final solution" has resulted in the establishment of over 100 concentration camps and forced exoduses of more than 1,500,000 non-Serbian refugees from Bosnia-Herzegovina. Over 120,000 people from all occupied parts of Bosnia-Herzegovina have been deported to concentration camps as a part of this Serbian-Chetnik genocidal operation.

Three major groups of captives make up the population of those in concentration camps: 1) people of reputation and those who are in positions of local power; 2) important intellectuals; 3) other less "threatening" civilians. Captives of the first and second groups are condemned to liquidation because they represent the most educated and influential aspects of those ethnicities targeted for "ethnic cleansing"; genocide requires the destruction of the intellectual, cultural, and national identity of a people. Those who comprise the third group are primarily civilians from rural areas. Some of their names have been disclosed to international humanitarian organizations. This group also includes the largest number of women, most of whom have been forgotten.

Thus far, not enough attention has been paid to the sufferings of women and children in this current war of occupation. The governments of Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina have presented them as individual and random cases (i.e., 150 women left in late pregnancy from gang-rape), which taken as a whole are not considered very significant.

Women and children are the victims of grenades, snipers, the knives of Chetnik butchers, diseases, hunger, exhaustion from hiding in shelters and basements. They comprise almost 70% of the total number of killed people in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. They are 75% of the known number of 120,000 captured people in concentration camps. Yet everyone remains silent about them. These figures attest to the fact that these are not sporadic cases but are a gender-specific onslaught that is systematic.

Our sources indicate that there are over 35,000 women and children in Serbian-run rape/death camps, enduring the most frightful methods of terror and torture. Such tortures include rapes, gang-rapes, forced incest, the draining of the blood of captives to provide blood for transfusions for the needs of the criminals, setting children ablaze, and drowning babies. These are only a part of the daily death crimes.

Females between the ages of 10 and 30 years are the primary objects of daily gang-rapes. They are raped daily by between 40 and 50 Chetniks. The females suffer from venereal diseases, internal injuries, starvation, and other forms of humiliation based on both gender and ethnicity.

The Women's Group Tresnjevka demands that the concentration camps be shut down immediately. . . .

List of camps in Bosnia-Herzegovina

1) Motel *Vilina Vlas*, Visegrad. This camp was established at the end of April 1992. The number of women captives is not known, but we suspect that it is very high, since the areas surrounding the camp have been rendered almost completely "ethnically clean."

2) Hotel *Galeb*, Brcko County.

3) Restaurant *Vestialia*, Brcko County.

4) Brezovo Polje, Brcko County.

5) Hotel *Elvis*, Brcko County. These four concentration camps were set up immediately after the Serbian occupation of Brcko. Their captives come mainly from east and west Bosnia. The rape/death camp of Brezovo Polje has been moved to the school center in Bijeljina County.

6) Trnopolje, near Prijedor. Survivors testify about the establishment of a number of smaller local residences for the purposes of sexually abusing females.

7) Secondary School Center, Bijeljina County.

8) Peikovici Village, Bijeljina County.

9) Mrakovica Mountain, on the way from Prijedor to Bosanska Dubica. The female population from the Croatian and Muslim villages on the slopes of the Kozara Mountain are prisoners in this rape/death camp. This camp was established at the beginning of 1992 since part of Bosnia-Herzegovina has been under occupation for over a year. The number of captives is not known.

10) Laktasi, Banja Luka County. There is a rape/death camp for girls and women up to 24 years of age.

11) Teslic, near Prijedor. This is the main center for the ultra-fascist Serbian military forces from western Bosnia. This camp of over 1,000 women and children is located in the woods, 20 km from Teslic. Survivors testify that girls of 10 years of age were also raped. Twelve women who managed to escape the camp are now in advanced stages of pregnancy, and are awaiting birth in Zagreb hospitals.

12) Ripac, near Bihac. At the beginning of May 1992, Serbian forces massacred the Muslim and Croatian populations of this area. Some survivors fled to Bihac and Cazin. Some were taken to this camp for Croatian and Muslim inmates.

13) Lomnica, near Sekovici, Tuzla County. This is a rape/death camp in which over 200 girls up to 15 years of age have been enduring sexual atrocities for several months now.

14) Jesenica, near Bosanska Krupa. This rape/death camp was established in May 1992. Its captives are from Bosanska Krupa, Cazin and from surrounding regions.

15) Kamen-Grad, Sanski Most County.

16) Duboki Potok on Kozara Mountain, near Mostanice Monastery. We have no information about when this camp was founded, but women from Banja Luka and its surrounding villages have been held captive there for over a year. There is no specific age group, but the largest number is of reproductive age.