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EURA-5020/93 3 June 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Deputies Committee Meeting on the Former Yugoslavia, 26-27 May 1993

1. The meetings were called to address the implementation of the measures called for in the Joint Action Program announced in Washington on 22 May and were chaired by Deputy National Security Advisor Berger. They also were attended by Admiral Jeremiah (JCS), Undersecretary Wisner (OSD), Undersecretary Tarnoff (State), Ambassador Bartholomew, National Security Advisor to the Vice President Fuerth, Ambassador Inderfurth (by telephone), Jenonne Walker (NSC) and DDI MacEachin.

2. The participants spent the first meeting and a good part of the second meeting defining the limits of the US commitment to extend air support to UNPROFOR and assessing some of the implications. There was considerable concern that the commitment could turn out to be openended, either because the commitment to support UNPROFOR forces under attack would become transmuted into a commitment to support the "safe havens," or because aggressive UNPROFOR moves to extend the safe havens could involve us in a confrontation not of our making.

3. There was a consensus that we must make clear both privately and publicly that our commitment is limited to the UNPROFOR forces themselves (and does not, for example, extend to organizations like UNHCR or inhabitants of the "safe havens), and that it represents a continuation of past commitments (the Bush Christmas declaration) rather than a new commitment. There also was a consensus that we must be involved in defining the rules of engagement for UNPROFOR to avoid giving a blank check to UNPROFOR or national components. On a related question--the position to be taken on the French draft UN resolution on safe havens--the decisions was that we could support the language of the resolution.

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4. On the second agenda item--measures to prevent the conflict from spilling over into Macedonia and Kosovo--the JCS presented four options for augmenting the UN presence in Macedonia. They were: 1) providing small US forces to augment (not replace) the mixed Nordic battalion now in Macedonia; 2) establishing military-to-military (liaison and training) contacts with the Macedonian armed forces; 3) initiating periodic small unit (battalion level or less) short duration exercises in Macedonia; and 4) establishing a joint task force (battalion level) extended presence in Macedonia. Option 4 was rejected as too extensive and open-ended a commitment, and Option 2 as unacceptable to the Greeks. NSC was charged with developing a refined options paper expanding on Options 1 and 3.

5. On Kosovo, there was a strong consensus in favor of augmenting the present small observer force of approximately 20 with additional monitors. It was agreed that the US would be prepared to contribute not more than one-third of the additional monitors, and that any US participants must be non-military. State was charged with developing specific proposals for augmentation of the observer force and obtaining Serbian approval.

6. The meeting on 27 May adjourned without dealing with the final agenda item, steps which we could take to help seal off the Serbian-Bosnian border. The DDI distributed a paper describing the Intelligence Community's ability to monitor the borders and actions being considered to improve that capability.

Chief, DCI Interagency Balkan Task Force

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