

IV. Specific Issues Concerning the Current Situation in BiH

Although some officials in BiH might be heard saying that there is no terrorism in BiH and that BiH ‘harbors’ no terrorist groups, there is evidence to the contrary. In addition the same officials will admit that the potential for terrorist acts may grow. It would appear that some terrorist groups are greatly influenced by events published in the media. Some experts see election campaigns, elections and their aftermath as possible catalysts for terrorist actions.

Experts speak of two kinds of ‘fight against terrorism’:

- A) The general, globally related investigation and action against (proven or allegedly terrorist) Islamic groups mainly sponsored internationally, and
- B) The so-called ‘Domestic BiH’ terror potential - investigation and action, which may also be internationally sponsored. Both kinds of actual, alleged or potential terrorism are linked also to war-time events. For example, between January 2001 and May 2002 there have been 639 reported cases of returnee-related violence.⁸⁰

Some respective laws have still to be finally drafted and passed, and many international obligations have still to be met. The overall focus is on ‘manhunt’ and ‘cutting financial support for terrorism’, but preventing terrorism by addressing ‘root causes’ is not yet on the agenda.

The following sub chapters will deal with specific organizations under investigations as well as descriptions of selected cases. The detailed presentation gives an insight into the potentials of terrorism in Bosnia and Herzegovina as seen by the authorities.

⁸⁰ Source: OSCE Geographic Cell, SITCEN, Department of Administration and Operations

IV.1. Organizations Under Investigation

Organizations That Have Already Been Investigated:

1. Benevolence International Foundation (BIF) – humanitarian organization (Chicago)
2. Bosnian Ideal Future (BIF) – humanitarian organization (Sarajevo)
3. Global Relief Foundation (GRF) – humanitarian organization
4. Al Haramain Al Masjed Al Aqsa – charity organization
5. Taybah – humanitarian organization

Future Investigations Requested:

The Co-ordination Team for the Fight against Terrorism has asked the FBiH Prime Minister, Mr. Alija BEHMEN to investigate the finances of 4 Islamic humanitarian organizations, 3 BiH civic associations and 1 firm from Zenica. Based on this request, the minister of finance will send the warrant to the FBiH Financial Police to carry out the investigation of the following organizations:

1. High Saudi Committee in BiH – humanitarian organization
2. Human Appeal International in Sarajevo and Tuzla – humanitarian organization
3. Human Relief International – humanitarian organization
4. International Islamic Relief Organization (IGASA) – humanitarian organization
5. Active Islamic Youth (AIO) – organization
6. Organization for Scholarship of Youth in Travnik and Zenica (NEDWE) – organization
7. Dzematu-I-Furqan – civic association
8. The Saudi High Commission organization is planning to open a new office in Bugojno, probably under a different name.

After the media reports concerning the upcoming NGOs inspection, branches of the “Active Islamic Youth” organization are holding meetings in order to prepare documents for the inspection. They are also

planning to form a radical Muslim party, under shariat law that would take a radical stand towards both Israel and the US.

Islamic' Organizations Suspected of Connection to Terrorism

1. Benevolence International Foundation (BIF)

- Humanitarian organization
- Headquarters in Chicago
- Director Enam Arnaout
- Arnaout gained Bosnian Citizenship in 1996 by marrying Bosnian woman from Doboj
- Director Enam Arnaout arrested in Chicago under the suspicion of terrorism.
- In the raid of BIF Office in Sarajevo pictures of Osama bin Laden and Arnaout found
- Arnaout suspected of using the BIF in Bosnia to funnel money to Bin Laden and plan terrorist attacks on US interests world-wide
- BIF's US assets frozen in December 2001

2. Bosnian Ideal Future (BIF)

- Humanitarian organization
- Located in Sarajevo and Zenica
- Director Mr. Munib Zahiragic
- Before he started to work for BIF Mr. Zahiragic was a member of Bosniak Intelligence, the Agency for Investigation and Documentation (AID)
- During the war Zahiragic worked at the Bosnian Embassy in United Arab Emirates as Security officer
- Zahiragic was arrested in 1987 and sentenced for five years in prison for his role in planning terrorist attacks on communications targets in the former Yugoslavia.
- BIF Office raided on March 19, 2002

- Inspected by the SFOR troops, Ministry of Interior officers and Financial Police
- Police discovered a large cache of weapons and explosives, terrorist guides and manifestos, fake passports and other top-secret documents.
- BIF was closed after the inspection

3. Al Haramain Islamic Foundation

- Headquarters in Saudi Arabia
- Office in Sarajevo, Bihacka St. No. 14
- Searched by the Local Police and IPTF on June 06, 2002.
- Police Forces confiscated 30 computers, audio and videotapes, floppy disks, some weapons and ammunition.
- Criminal charges were filled against 02 persons from this organization
- Inspected by the Financial Police
- Financial books for the period between 1995-1997 were not submitted for the inspection
- On July 02, 2002 the decision for blocking the organization's bank accounts was revoked since the accounting documentation for the years 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 were provided
- The accounts are de-blocked with the time limit, since they still did not provide the documentation for the period between 1995-1997

4. Al Haramain Al Masjed Al Aqsa

- Charity organization
- Headquarters in Saudi Arabia
- Office in Sarajevo, Hasiba Brankovica St. No. 14
- Inspected by the SFOR troops, Ministry of Interior officers and Financial Police
- Bank accounts were blocked after the inspection since the organization did not have the accounting books for the year 2002 and for the period between 1998-2001

- The decision for blocking the bank accounts was revoked on July 01, 2002 after the organization provided the requested accounting books
- The bank accounts are de-blocked without the time limit since all the documentation is provided

5. Taybah International Aid Association

- Humanitarian organization
- Headquarters in United States, Virginia
- Located in Sarajevo, Avde Smajlovica St. No. 6
- Financial police inspected the organization
- Organization's non-residential bank accounts were closed on April 03, 2002 since they did not provide needed accounting books
- Decision was revoked on July 05, 2002 after the organization provided financial books for the years 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001

6. High Saudi Committee in BiH

- Humanitarian organization
- Based in Sarajevo
- Inspected by the SFOR troops, Ministry of Interior officers and Financial Police
- Closed after the inspection

7. Human Appeal International

- Based in Sarajevo and Tuzla
- Humanitarian organization
- Inspected by the Financial Police
- Financial books have been found regular

8. Active Islamic Youth (AIO)

- Civic organization
- In the past supported by Mr. Haris SILAJDZIC
- It has advocated that Bosnia should adopt Sharia law, the traditional code that governs Islam, and several observers and intelligence operatives in the area say the group enjoys support from many in the AID
- According to the AID (Agency for Research and Documentation – Federation Intelligence Agency) Active Islamic Youth Organization was preparing false documents for the upcoming financial inspection
- Inspected by the Financial Police
- Financial books have been found regular

9. Dzematu-I-Furqan

- Civic organization
- Based in Sarajevo
- Inspected by the Financial Police
- Financial books have been found regular

10. Global Relief Foundation (GRF)

- Humanitarian organization
- Rated by the Local Police Forces

11. International Islamic Relief Organization (IGASA)

- Humanitarian organization

12. Organization for scholarship of youth

- Organization based in Travnik and Zenica (NEDWE)

13. Elbard Bosnia

- Seat in Zenica
- Financed by Sudan and Saudi Arabia
- Active in Velika Kladusa, where OSMAN GALIJASEVIC is in charge of it

14. Red Rose

- Under protection of AID
- Recruits members in the Islamic School in Bihac and Cazin

15. Muslim Youth Association

- Seat: Old town – Sarajevo
- Cherishing tradition of mujahedin unit “El Fatih”

16. Hamas Turabe

- Islamic organization with the seat in Gorazde

17. Warriors of Islam

- Extremists from BiH
- Seat in Kakanj

18. Oric’s Group

- Until 2001 was lead by Naser ORIC

19. Black Swans

- Has approximately 600 members
- Many of them are bodyguards to SDA politicians

20. AID and its Special Unit “SEVE”

- Model of Iran secret intelligence organization

21. World’s Islamic Front

- Abu Hamza is in charge of this fundamentalist organization.
- He is reported to have transported mujahedins from Bosnia to Kosovo
- Currently lives in Bocinje
- Instructor to Rizvan Cazimi, a.k.a. “Captain Lesi”

Other humanitarian organizations under suspicion for connections with Islamic terrorists include:

22. NAHALA

23. Fund for Renaissance of Islam

24. Human Appeal International

25. Al Haramani

IV.2. Specific Cases

The “Pogorelica / Alispahic” Case

After an interrogation on the evening of April 30, 2002 the Investigative Judge of the FBiH Supreme Court Mrs. Jasminka PUTICA decided to accept the recommendation of the FBiH Prosecution Office and ordered the three suspects, Mr. Bakir ALISPAHIC, Mr. Irfan LJEVAKOVIC and Mr. Enver MUJEZINOVIC to be kept in custody for the next 30 days.

Out of all the suspects interrogated, Mr. ALISPAHIC (former Chief of AID – Intelligence Service) was in the courtroom the longest. His testimony on the subject of the “POGORELICA” case and the attempted murder of Mr. Fikret ABDIC lasted several hours.

The second suspect in the case, the former Deputy Director of AID and current owner of the SARAJEVO Daily newspaper “Jutarnje Novine” Mr. Irfan LJEVAKOVIC gave his statement on the events of the end of 1995 and the beginning of 1996 in the presence of his lawyer Mr. Sead HODZIC.

As announced, two suspects Mr. Edhem VELADZIC, former Head of BIHAC Center of Security Services and Mr. Ejub IKIC, former Head of Service of Public Security gave their statements regarding the involvement in the preparations for the murder of Mr. Fikret ABDIC.

On 28. March 1997, the Council of the Zupanija Court in RIJEKA, Croatia, after a second trial, announced a verdict against 04 suspects for planning the assassination of Mr. Fikret ABDIC. The suspects were: Mr. Dervis DEMIROVIC, Mr. Hajrudin HALILAGIC, Mr. Zijad ZULIC and Mr. Jasmin OSMANKIC while Mr. Jusuf DELIC-IBUKIC was released. According to this verdict Mr. Ejub IKIC promised to this group a reward of 100.000 DM and business premises.

FBiH TV reported that after the interrogation before the FBiH Supreme Court’s Investigative Judge, all 05 suspects remained in custody.

With regard to the case, the SDA BiH (Democratic Action Party) issued a press release to protest against putting the aforementioned “Defenders of BiH” in custody while certain war crime indicted persons are allowed to defend themselves at liberty.

The weekly newsmagazine "Dani" is accusing another weekly magazine named "Slobodna Bosna" of being supervised by the AID Director Mr. Munir ALIBABIC. It is said in "Dani" that all the information regarding the "POGORELICA" case is supplied by Mr. ALIBABIC.

"Dani" also published an interview with Mr. Jozo JOZIC, former Intelligence Officer of AID who resigned after the accusations made in 1994 by Mr. Munir ALIBABIC, current Director of AID. Mr. JOZIC stated that "POGORELICA" case is the continuation of a personal conflict between Mr. ALIBABIC and Mr. ALISPAHIC, former Director of AID who is now in custody.

Mr. ALISPAHIC, former Chief of AID, Minister of Interior of the Republic of BaH during the war is now in Central Jail in SARAJEVO. Mr. Ismet BAJRAMOVIC known as CELO, former War Commander of Military Police of RBaH Army is in the same jail, convicted of the murder of Mr. Rahman HAJDARPASIC. Mr. BAJRAMOVIC has always claimed that Mr. ALISPAHIC, while still the Minister of Interior, back in 1993, organized an assassination attempt on him. The reason was a videocassette, bought by Mr. BAJRAMOVIC, on which it is visible that Mr. ALISPAHIC is giving confiscated drugs from the Republic Ministry of Interior to be sold. Mr. BAJRAMOVIC claimed that in this way Mr. ALISPAHIC gained material benefit for himself or for the government (this has yet to be confirmed). When Mr. ALISPAHIC went out for his first walk, other inmates started throwing eggs, oranges, bananas, lighters and yogurt at him. According to the last known information Mr. ALISPAHIC is not taking advantage of his privilege of walking inside the closed jail circle. People who have seen him are claiming that he has lost 10 kg in 3 days.

Mr. Munib ALIBABIC (Director of AID) stated that the authorities should have reacted sooner, since these crimes were committed during year of 1996. Apparently, he said, there were two reasons for that, first, that there was no political will to do so, and second, that the documentation regarding this case was not completed. Mr. ALIBABIC stated that two out of three above-mentioned persons ,were directly involved with the illegal issuing of Identification Documents. Mr.

UGLJEN, which was assassinated, was involved in this crime, and that was probably the motive for his assassination.

The BOSANSKA IDEALNA FUTURA Organisation

The Organization 'BOSANSKA IDEALNA FUTURA - BIF' (BENEVOLENCE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION) was Searched Earlier this Year (March 2002) by an Investigation Team in SARAJEVO.

FBI Agent Robert WALKER has reportedly stated that the following materials have been found: loaded weapons, military manuals, forged passports, personal correspondence between Mr. Bin LADEN and Mr. Enaam Mahmud ARNAOUT, radio transmitted codes used for messages about weapons relocation, photos of Bin LADEN in the 1980s and early 1990s, CDs with scanned pictures and history archives, documents about BIF affairs, pictures of bin LADEN and the foundations executive director, Mr. Enaam Mahmud ARNAOUT.

The FBiH Police have found and confiscated administrative documents about certain Bin LADEN associates and their duties. Many of these people are identified as Al Qaeda members.

Mr. Enaam M. ARNAOUT (aka Abu MAHMOUD) is reportedly 39 years old, is residing in the USA and was born in SYRIA, but his family moved to SAUDI ARABIA, where he lived until 1987. That year he went to the College of Islamic Studies in PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN where he met the Saudi Sheikh Adil Abdul Glil BATARGY, with whom he formed the organization Al Bir Al Dawalia – Benevolence International Foundation (BIF). Sheik BATARGY has reportedly been connected with so-called 'Mujahedins' in AFGHANISTAN together with one of the closer associates of Mr Osama Bin LADEN. It is suspected that Mr. ARNAOUT was trained in the Al Masad Camp in the Pakistan-Afghanistan border region where he got the nickname Abu MAHMOUD.

BIF opened its first office in ZENICA in 1993. In October 1993 Mr. ARNAOUT was arrested in CROATIA. It is not clear if the Croatian Army or HVO in BiH arrested him, but it is known that they suspected that some of the BIF employees were involved in the weapons smuggling. ARNAOUT apparently managed to escape from prison.

It is not known whether ARNAOUT was involved in the military actions in BiH, but it is clear that he was forming and supervising the Training Centres in TESANJ, ZELJEZNO POLJE and BISTRICAK, near ZENICA. Some of the instructors in these camps were ARNAOUT'S friends, 'mujahedins' that had fought in Afghanistan against the Soviets. Some of them were members of the organization MUSLIM BROTHERS, which was financially supporting these camps.

A significant number of these instructors did not go back to Central Asia after the war in BiH was over. They stayed in BiH despite the agreement that they would leave the country.

Mr. ARNAOUT was always trying to obtain complete legitimacy for the work of his organization and he was seeking the approval of the Bosnian Government. It is believed that during the war he had frequent contacts with Mr. Semso MEHMEDOVIC (Chief of Ministry of Interior in TESANJ, and later in ZENICA) and Mr. Dzemo NAJETOVIC (Commander of the first ZENICA brigade). He also met Mr. Alija IZETBEGOVIC, at that time President of RBiH and Mr. Haris SILAJDZIC.

For a short period of time in 1993 Mr. Boudella HADZ was employed in BIF. He is one of the six persons from the "Algerian Group" who were extradited to the USA.

In 1996 ARNAOUT married a Bosnian citizen, Mrs. Aida B., a refugee from DOBOJ. This is the means by which he gained his Bosnian citizenship. The reported FBI affidavit cited alleged links between BENEVOLENCE (BIF) and terrorists involved in the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, a plot to bomb U.S. airlines and a plan to assassinate Pope JOHN PAUL II during his 1995 visit to the PHILIPPINES. FBI stated that Mr. ARNAOUT had contact with Mr. Mohamad KHALIF

who is married to Osama bin LADEN'S sister, and who was involved in plotting to assassinate the Pope.

The FBI said that members of Al Qaeda have held positions within the charity, and that a man who tried to obtain uranium for Mr. Osama bin LADEN, Mr. Mamdouh SALIM even listed the charity's address as his home. Mr. SALIM visited Bosnia in 1998. Mr. ARNAOUT signed a document in which he stated that Mr. SALIM is one of the directors of BIF and the visa for his trip to BiH was approved.

Investigators said a subsequent review of BENOVOLENCE'S (BIF) bank records indicated missing funds and that Mr. ARNAOUT frequently traveled to BiH to withdraw cash from the charity's account. FBiH police said that some employees of the charity were conducting activities unrelated to humanitarian work.

The financial police established that 06 million-KM had been transferred through the accounts of these organizations. Mr. Enaam ARNAOUT has produced documentation that may prove where the money went. It was established that Mr. Munib ZAHIRAGIC, later the director of the BIF, withdrew 300.000 KM, BIF Official Mr. Alen COSIC withdrew over 500.000 KM and the BiH director of the BIF Director Mr. ARNAOUT withdrew more than 300.000 KM out of his account. Mr. ARNAOUT is currently in the custody of the FBI and will be facing trial in the USA.

IV.3. Examples of Potential Domestic Terrorism

Potential Bosnian-Serb Extremist Threat

Groups or members conducting extremist activities are generally identified as seasoned veterans of former paramilitary units. Of the three

ethnic groups in Bosnia, the B-Serb extremists are the only ones that have actually demonstrated their will to target SFOR. Members come from extremist organizations such as the Cetnik Ravnogorski Pokret (CRP), or elusive, secretive organizations such as the Gavrilo Princip (GP). Former paramilitary members take advantage of the porous borders between the RS and Serbia in transporting weapons, explosives, and recruits to fight for the ‘Serbian cause’ where needed in the Balkans.

Extremist members of CRP will act independently, not necessarily on behalf of the CRP. In general, all B-Serb obstructionists, not just the CRP, are capable of assembling a large crowd and fueling them with nationalist rhetoric provoking them to violence. Busing rent-a-crowds to a specific area, sometimes hindering SFOR movement and operational capability, is within their capability. The deliberate pre-placement of rock stockpiles has also been known to turn peaceful demonstrations into mayhem.

There is a Unique Challenge with Assessing the Threat in Bosnia in Pointing out a Variety of Native and Foreign Groups all; all with Varying US/IC Sentiments, Operating Capabilities, Intentions, Activities, and Operating Environments.⁸¹

On Friday 03 May 2002 RS police in BIJELJINA interrogated the president of the Serb Radical Party (SRS) executive board, Mr. Mirko BLAGOJEVIC. The reason for the hearing was a text published in the SARAJEVO daily “Dnevni Avaz” on 29 April, according to which BLAGOJEVIC had allegedly organised a meeting of a group of people in BIJELJINA to discuss the “realisation of terrorist attacks aiming to intimidate Bosniak returnees to ZVORNIK, KORAJ, LOPARE, DZEMAT and UGLJEVIK”. “Dnevni Avaz” claimed that 10 people attended the meeting among whom were members of the SRS leadership, Mr. Momcilo MANDIC, members of the former Milosevic’s National Security Service and members of the group called “PAUK” (SPIDER). After the interrogation Mr. BLAGOJEVIC told the media

⁸¹ Some information from Nato: Threat Assessment of Multi-National Division-North (MND-N), May 20th, 2002

that the hearing was conducted in a correct way and that he had denied all the allegations. He pointed out that the made-up story, published in “Dnevni Avaz” could have only been created by the Party of Democratic Progress of Mr. Mladen IVANIC and RS Interior Minister Mr. Dragomir JOVICIC, who want to discredit all possible political rivals prior to the October general elections”. Regarding Mr. Momcilo MANDIC, Mr. BLAGOJEVIC said he would never meet with a war profiteer such as MANDIC. Regarding the “PAUK” group, Mr. BLAGOJEVIC said that he had nothing to talk to them and its leader Mr. Ljubisa BEARA. The SRS had stated a long time ago that BEARA is the most responsible person for the massacre in SREBRENICA.

Various Serb groups and clubs have been established in the Diaspora in order to collect funds for radical groups like “GAVRILO PRINCIP” and “SRPSKI OBRAZ”. Members of these groups are ex-members of paramilitary groups that operated in BiH during the war.

Mr. ALIBABIC asked for a comment from the representative of the Republic of Srpska Ministry of Interior regarding the terrorist acts in settlement KORAJ, municipality LOPARE, which occurred during the Mosque opening, and also regarding statements made by Mr. Mile BLAGOJEVIC, member of ‘CETNIK’ movement” from settlement DZEMAT, municipality UGLJEVIK, about the terrorist acts that his movement is planning.

Mr. Risto BASIC, deputy of Mr. JANJETOVIC, RS Ministry of Interior reported about the incident that occurred in KORAJ, municipality LOPARE. He stated that the gathering for Mosque opening went without any incidents, and that RS MUP was even thanked for the good organization and supervision of the event. It was only the case of the bomb dropped prior to the Mosque opening. Mr. BASIC also reported about the higher security measures when it comes to the securing the international agencies like IPTF or SFOR. While monitoring SFOR base in RAMICI, near BANJA LUKA, police several times spotted a vehicle, plate numbers 474-J-845, brand Golf. The car was not stopped, but police found out that it is registered in Canton 9. Canton 9 police was informed about it.

There is a possibility that terrorist act could happen in East part of Republic of Srpska by CETNIK movement “RAVNOGORSKI POKRET”. Information on additional page regarding this case is given to the present. (see additional page of Minutes)

One citizen of SARAJEVO, employed at SARAJEVO AIRPORT was kidnapped and taken to LUKAVICA. He was interrogated, asked if he is working for AID. He was returned to SARAJEVO, but Ministry of Interior of SARAJEVO Canton and Republic of Srpska should co-operate in following up this case.

Potential Bosnian-Croat Extremist Threat

Two Croat radical groups “HRVATSKA IMIGRACIJA” (CROATIAN IMMIGRATION) from FRANKFURT (GERMANY) and “HRVATSKI DOM” from ESSEN (GERMANY) are reportedly supporting Mr. JELAVIC (former HDZ party Chairperson, removed from duty by the High Representative) in order to resolve the Croat issue in BiH and form a third entity (Croat one). The information on these organizations is that they are said to be prepared to take extreme measures in order to achieve their goal.⁸²

The Director of National Security Service in MOSTAR introduced the information about 4 incidents that involved the destroyed vehicles by setting off explosive devices. Two of those happened in SIROKI BRIJEG and two in LJUBUSKI. Apparently, there was a terrorist group that was organised and supported by some local politicians. The regional security authorities appealed to the International Representatives to appoint the Minister of Interior for that area, since they have a lot of committed crimes, but no one to supervise the police actions in that area.

⁸² Sources: Meetings with Officials, Monitoring National media, MFA chaired Co-ordination Team for Fight against Terrorism

Two Croat alleged radical groups “HRVATSKA IMIGRACIJA” (CROATIAN IMMIGRATION) from FRANKFURT (GERMANY) and “HRVATSKI DOM” from ESSEN (GERMANY) are said to support Mr. JELAVIC (former HDZ party Chairperson, removed from duty by the High Representative) in order to resolve the Croat issue in BiH and to form a third entity (a Croat one) in BiH. The information on these organizations is that they are prepared to take extreme measures in order to achieve their goal.

Potential Bosnian Muslim Extremist Threat

The following allegations are made:

Islamic extremists see Tuzla as a potential target to regain support for operations in Bosnia. Although anti-US sentiments in certain pockets of the Bosniak community and the operational capability to execute does exist, there are no indicators and warnings of imminent attacks directed against SFOR/IC in MND (N)’s area of operation (AOR) by Islamic extremists. Of grave concern however, is the recent terrorist plan to target the US Embassy in Sarajevo, MND (SE) 23-26 MAY 02. The embassy-threat suspects are Probable Foreign Islamic Extremists (PFIEs) linked to Islamic non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Zenica, MND (N). Many of these Islamic NGOs are a concern because of their direct and indirect links to known terrorist organizations such as Al Qaeda.

Unfortunately, Bosnia serves as an operating base for Islamic terrorist activities due to (1) presence of former Mujahadin who remained in Bosnia after the war, some of whom are now PFIEs, (2) transnational terrorists harboring within or traveling through the country that are easily assimilated into the society, (3) Bosniak sympathizers in positions of influence providing financial, legal and logistical support, (4) Islamic NGOs providing cover and concealment for terrorist support activities, (5) active youth recruitment and indoctrination, and (6) provocative anti-Semitic (coupled with anti-US) propaganda aimed mainly at impressionable students.

Open source (OSINT) reporting states that some hard-line members of the SDA party, to include former Bosniak Tri partite President Izetbegovic, provide direct support through their control of the Foreign Ministry and local passport operations, and even have their own rogue intelligence service that protects PFIEs.

Islamic NGOs provide cover for action/status to support terrorist activities. NGOs provide money laundering, recruitment, indoctrination and training, harboring of transient terrorists, and so on.

The US Embassy in Sarajevo reported more than a hundred surveillance incidents in the past year.

IV.4. Statement by the UNMIBH

Related Issues discussed with Ambassador Souren SARAYDARIAN, Deputy Special Representative of the UNITED NATIONS Secretary-General, June 27th, 2002

UNMIBH has stressed that BiH needs to review its citizenship procedure. That job is almost finished. Co-ordination Team for Fight against Terrorism is a BiH Team and members of international community are there only to help them out. UN had a stand regarding the terrorism even before September 11, and that was to establish visa regime (we did not manage to establish it for Turkey, since BiH has special relations to it, but for countries like Iran etc. we established visa regime like the Shengen one), to have special procedure for granting and redrawing citizenship. We also wanted SFOR to review mujahedin groups and we have managed to train antiterrorist team of RS. State Border Service is finally established and it is controlling 88 % of state border. In the past things were much different. Terrorists, even possibly Bin Laden got Bosnian passport in BiH Embassy in Austria. Only two years ago we had 24 000 people coming to BiH through SARAJEVO airport and not leaving the country at all.

Concerning the issue of refugees and citizenship, Krajina people are Serbs. We are insisting that BiH resolve double citizenship issue with Croatia and Yugoslavia. For example, BiH asked for extradition of General ANDABAK from Croatia. We have his birth certificate stating that he is a citizen of BiH. But Croatia refused to extradite him since he is also citizen of Croatia. General ANDABAK was involved in the assassination of Mr. Jozo LEUTAR, Federal Deputy Minister of Interior.

BiH must ratify European Convention on Terrorism, since that Convention allows countries to extradite their own citizens if they are under suspicion of terrorism.

UNMIBH has two ongoing programs, first one is for domestic violence and second one is for violence related to the returnee area. But you must be very careful when you talk about terrorism. I don't know what terrorism is, even UN still did not define terrorism. 200 years ago when Americans were fighting for their freedom British people were hanging them as terrorists.

When UN talks about terrorism in BiH it is focusing on the fact that we do not want BiH to be a country where terrorists can hide, rest or even disappear for a while.

When BiH was extraditing Algerian group to USA, we had to make sure that their human rights are respected. All of them had BiH passports and we had to make sure that they have a citizenship of their birth country so that they would not become "stateless".

SALEH NEDAL, who is currently on the run, has more than one citizenship. He is originally from Yemen, but he has BiH citizenship also, Egyptian residence permit and Schengen Visa.

Problem is that people who gained residence permit for BiH during the war had no problems gaining BiH citizenship based on that permit.

The potential terrorists are hardly Bosnians. They are coming from Egypt, Jordan, Yemen, etc. Some of them came here during the war to fight and after the war ended they went to Chechnya to fight. They are

certain type of mercenaries. Then you have those who are actually a part of the organized crime scene, who believe that they are helping their country out by committing terrorist-crime acts. UNMIBH and UNMIK had a joint action of seizing weapons from people that were smuggling it, thinking that they are helping their country.

5000 rounds of mortar ammunition were found in MOSTAR. Ammunition was stored back in 1996. Mr. Ramo MASLESA who is now Federal Minister of Interior was Police Chief in MOSTAR. It seems to me now that Bosniaks have more weapons than the other ethnicity in BiH. Republic of Srpska does not have any weapons. Some of it is destroyed and what is left is not maintained at all and it is old.

I think, and SFOR shares my opinion that people need education in BiH. However, you can not achieve that if you have children like in STOLAC whose classes are divided by their ethnicity. Croats are going to school in the afternoon, Bosniaks in the morning. What kind of multiethnic town is that if the children are separated in the schools?

IV.5. Joint Co-Ordination Team

Selected Topics on the Agenda of the the Joint Co-ordination Team for the Fight Against Terrorism chaired by the BiH Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Issue of BiH Citizens Held in Macedonia

Conversation was held with Macedonian Ministry of Interior about the BiH citizens that were detained. Before going to Macedonia BiH Representatives received a written statement from the detained BiH citizens in which they stated that they were detained for 4 days, from March 13 to March 17 2002, and they were physically injured. Macedonian officials informed BiH Representatives about the following:

- Citizens of BiH were detained 24 hours, not 4 days, the other 3 days they were in a hotel.
- BiH citizens appeared and acted suspicious and that was a legal ground for detention. They also were in possession of several CDs with over 10.000 pages of mainly religious text.
- Citizens of BiH did not violate International or Macedonian Law by any mean, and they were released.
- Citizens of BiH were not extradited, it was recommended to them to leave Macedonia, which they did.

The Macedonian side said that the articles about this case in the newspapers are unfounded. Representatives of BiH side insisted that Macedonian side should inform the public through the media about the events. It was also suggested that BiH and Macedonian Ministries of Interior present a joint public announcement. The above mentioned material of 10.000 pages will be sent to BiH through diplomacy channels. It was recalled that these Citizens of BiH involved in the Macedonia case are Theology students. It was said that the BiH side was interested in the facts regarding this case, and that the future activities will be based on these facts. Information received from the Macedonian colleagues regarding this case was confusing and contradictory. It is in BiH interest to have good bilateral relation with Macedonia, and also to have a stable situation in the region. For those reasons BiH side is ready to look the other way regarding this case in order to get out of this inconvenient situation with Macedonia. The two states will intensify the intelligence co-operation in order to fight organized crime and terrorism. BiH supports fight against terrorism, but it also wishes to keep and straighten good reputation in the world. BiH is ready to face the truth. It was pointed out that BiH has to carry the burden of the past, but there is not need for additional ones. It was said that it is a “popular sport” to arrest BiH citizens in the neighbor countries. There was a recent arrest of a Republika Srpska (RS) police officer, under the allegation that 10 years ago he had tear gas in his vehicle, and yesterday’s arrest of one more BiH citizen under the allegation that he left the army in 1992 and did not return his pistol. Relations of BiH and neighboring countries are

developing in a good course, but situations like this are disturbing the positive development. BiH is determined to protect the interest of its citizens. Eventual indifference of BiH in these cases would bring to the loss of respect not only among the friends, but also among the enemies.

Alleged Bosnian Serb Activities

In the night between 15-16 May a bomb was dropped on a religious object (mosque) in BIJELJINA. This was probably committed by the RAVNOGORSKI CETNICKI POKRET organization. There is a serious investigation taking place in PRIJEDOR municipality regarding the murder of a Catholic priest and his parents in 1995. Some 20 persons are criminally involved in this case. Concerning the terrorist attacks in BIJELJINA municipality when a hand grenade was thrown on the mosque, information was obtained that this was done by brothers Rade and Predrag GALIC, who are close to the chairman of the Serb Radical Party in BIJELJINA Mr. BLAGOJEVIC. The act was allegedly committed together with the organization called CETNICKI RAVNOGORSKI POKRET and it is expected that this movement will continue its activities in order to scare the returnees. Furthermore information was obtained that 10-15 intelligence officers from Serbia are in the west-east part of BiH. They are collecting information regarding the former members of BiH Army. In the wider area of SARAJEVO contacts have been made between members of CETNICKI RAVNOGORSKI POKRET and Croat movements in order to agree action in order to intimidate returnees.

Active Islamic Youth from Tuzla

Concerning the activities of the organization ACTIVE ISLAMIC YOUTH from TUZLA: The situation has calmed down since a newspaper from BANJA LUKA published an article about this case. It is not good that this information was published, and it has calmed the situation. ACTIVE ISLAMIC YOUTH is has been negotiating with political parties. ACTIVE ISLAMIC YOUTH is advocating more

aggressive approach towards the SDP leaders in the pre-election period. The Bosnian Broat side of AID pointed out: The Organization ACTIVE ISLAMIC YOUTH gave false information that SFOR Camp will be attacked. That was done in order to raise tensions in this area, since the investigation was started regarding the murders of Croat returnees and because Hague Court raise charges for war crimes against Mr. Enes HAMDZIC, member of this group. It is known that there are a large number of persons of African-Asian origin that live in BUGOJNO and they are having big influence on local politicians and law enforcement. There are indications that local politicians and police officers were involved in the case of hiding the weapons in (Muslim controlled) East MOSTAR. Weapon and ammunition was found by SFOR several days ago in a local factory. Mr. Munir ALIBABIC, Director of AID: After the media reports about the upcoming NGOs inspection, branches of "ACTIVE ISLAMIC YOUTH" organization are having meetings in order to prepare documents for the inspection. They are also planning to form a radical Muslim party, under sherijat law that would have a radical stand towards AMERICANS and ISRAELIS. Individuals of A-A origin had several meetings/gatherings at the remote locations near VISOKO. A member of Mujahedins was leading the meetings. This man's citizenship is reworked, but he filed the complaint and while he is waiting for the decision he has the right to remain in BiH. In the area where the meetings were held the training camps for the Mujahedin troops were located during the war. Active Islamic Youth organization is "cleaning up" and most militant persons will remain in the organization. According to the intelligence information, the money is still transferred from the humanitarian organizations to AIY and other militant groups. Intelligence is gathering the info that will be combined with the findings of the Financial Inspection that is checking out the financial documentation in these organizations.

The Case of Adnan Kadric

On 06 July Mr. Adnan KADRIC A.K. DILAN, born in 1971 from ZENICA was arrested in MOSTAR. His vehicle was searched and the following items were found: Automatic rifle – Heckler, Optical device, Silencer, Two ammunition magazines, with total 20 rounds of bullets.

The Federal Ministry of Interior is included in the ongoing investigation since the weapon and equipment found can be used in terrorist activity. Mr. KADRIC left BiH in 1993. He lived in FRANKFURT where he became a member of a criminal group involved in drug sale and prostitution. He also lived in Holland, Belgium and Italy and occasionally came to BiH. Mr. KADRIC was arrested on the road where General SYLVESTER (Commander of SFOR troops) was supposed to go through on his way to MOSTAR. Press is speculating with that information if Mr. KADRIC was planning to assassinate General SYLVESTER, but the Police has no reliable information to confirm that statement. Series of other investigations are conducted in order to insure to gather more information during the 08 days of Mr. KADRIC's detention. 04 persons that were asking about him close to the Police Station are in detention also. Ministry of Interior needs the assistance of International Community in order to apply pressure on the local prosecutors and judges, since only 08 days are determined for the detention of this person. The Deputy High UN Commissioner pointed out that the police did a good job. Not to say the same for judiciary. Investigative judge wanted to release Mr. KADRIC. Judge's argument was that is the punishment for the possession of weapons is less than 03 years, which it is, she can not keep him in detention for less than 01 day. One should also know that 5000 Euro were transferred to Mr. KADRIC's account. It should not be a job of International Community to intervene in the cases like this. There is a lack of legislation procedure to handle cases like this one. It is not 'healthy' to in case of judiciary.

Cetnicki Ravnogorski Pokret

Gatherings in POTOČARI and in the SREBRENICA Municipality scheduled in the summer of 2002: It was stated that intelligence services were involved in organizing these gatherings. Information was obtained that CETNICKI RAVNOGORSKI POKRET and SERB RADICAL PARTY would organize "human shields" in POTOČARI and KRAVICE settlements with the purpose of preventing the gatherings. MR. MIROSLAV DERENIC, who was one of the organizers of these incidents, is now at the War Crimes Tribunal in Hague and everything

should be done to prevent new BANJA LUKA or TREBINJE cases. For the last pre-election campaigns the CETNICKI RAVNOGORSKI POKRET announced that they would wear "cetnik" uniforms in order to scare the voters.

Various groups and clubs are established in the Diaspora in order to collect funds for radical groups like "GAVRILO PRINCIP" and "SRPSKI OBRAZ". Members of these groups are ex-members of paramilitary groups that operated in BiH during the war.

Cetnik gathering in the MANJACA mountain area during the summer of 2002 was an obvious demonstration of force of CETNICKI RAVNOGORSKI POKRET (movement). It is known that MR. VOJISLAV SESELJ, who is PERSONA NON GRATA in BiH, had a part in organizing the gathering. Intelligence has the information that CETNICKI RAVNOGORSKI POKRET is insuring the money in order to buy as much as possible of the Bosniak property in ZVORNIK and BRATUNAC. It is known that Mr. Veselin VLAHOVIC- BAKO attended the gathering. Mr. VLAHOVIC is known as a murderer of several people in Sarajevo. He escaped from the prison in Monte Negro. It is suspected that Mr. VLAHOVIC has a close connection with the indicted war criminals Radovan KARADZIC and Ratko MLADIC.

Few days before the Summit of Croatian, BiH and Yugoslav Presidents in SARAJEVO, Federation Intelligence Service received information from Croatian Intelligence that a group of individuals from Central Bosnia have purchased weapons that could be used against the Presidents. During the checkout, it was found out that there was an exchange/smuggling of weapons between the entities.

The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs (summer 2002): made the following statement:" I believe that we all agree that dangerous times are coming when domestic terrorism will play a significant party in election campaign. So, I am not prepared to draw a line between the domestic terrorism and international one. We have been paying dearly for the domestic terrorism. I am not prepared to call one thing a political violence and another violence."

The “Algerian Group”

The United States Embassy informed that 3 Algerians were arrested in SARAJEVO in spring 2002 are still detained and under investigation. However, other individuals that are also investigated revealed to the American authorities that the “Algerian group” arrested in SARAJEVO was connected to the terrorist groups around the world. Written statement regarding this information was handed to the BiH Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain, stated that the public should be informed why the “Algerian Group” was arrested, and that he is at the disposal of the local members of the Team for any information or advice that they might seek.

State Border Police

The Deputy Chief of State Border Police (SBP) reminded the present Team Members, that SBP still does not have its building or communications system, which is making its work very hard.

The State Border Service Chief made the following comment:

“An additional 12% of state border is now under the supervision of the State Border Police. We have established 6 new organizational units in order to achieve this increase in border control. State Border Service did not find anything that would indicate that there are any terrorist acts planned. Everyone has probably heard about the drowning of 13 Turkish citizens in the SAVA river who were trying to illegally cross the border to Croatia. 04 managed to survive this accident. 08 criminal charges have been started against the people involved in this case (Croatian citizens also). It is still not known who was the owner of the boat in which they were trying to cross the border. 14 members of SBS, 03 Customs officers and 1 civilian are under investigation for smuggling goods across the border with Serbia in the town of ZVORNIK.”

The Deputy Minister of European Integration added: *“The SAVA river is very interesting. It seems like hundreds of people have drowned there. According to my knowledge some people have been deliberately drowned there, it is not just smuggling. Two things should be done:*

- *to inform RS, SBS and the Croatian government regarding these repeated cases*
- *to inform the governments of the countries where these people come from in order to start a campaign to explain what can be the outcome of their travel.”*

The Citizenship Issue

Information was presented about the activities in the case of 17 citizens of Afro-Asian (AA) origin, who complained on the decision of the Council of Ministers of BiH regarding the withdrawal of their BiH citizenship. For 13 out of 17 people additional information from the Military Security was requested regarding their engagement in BiH army. For 1 out of 4 remaining persons it was determined that he does not have the necessary documents regarding the BiH citizenship (Mr. Gasmi ZEMEDINI REDA). Other 3, among them Mr. Abu HAMZA have complete citizenship documentation.

The USA Embassy asked how Mr. Abu HAMZA did gain his BiH citizenship. The BiH authorities stated that the documentation for citizenship is completed fully according to the law. Administrative part is done properly, the crime investigation should be performed in order to determine the credibility of the documents.

It was reminded that the Council of Ministers of BiH would be deciding about the Law of Asylum and migration.

Information regarding “Group 94” (94 persons which gained BiH Citizenship, BiH authorities informed the members of the coordination group that 17 persons out of “Group 94” have received their citizenship

in regular procedures. As far as the other 77 are concerned citizenship was not gained by the law and they are declared PERSONA NON GRATA. All Local Police Stations, BRCKO District Police Station and Ministry of Civil Affairs received a document with the names of these persons. Republic of Srpska Ministry of Interior, Federal Border Service and Bosnian Branch of INTERPOL are about to be informed. The document will be also published in Official Gazette.

The investigation regarding the 104 illegally issued citizenship is finished. According to the findings 15 persons were involved in the illegal activity of issuing passports without valid documentation. Investigation regarding this case started in year 2000. It was determined that a series of illegal acts were committed since these people received citizenship on the basis of false birth certificates. On 08 November 2000, Cantonal Prosecutor's office Sarajevo submitted the request to the Federal Ministry of Interior in order to check out the citizenship. On 19 February 2001, Federal Ministry of Interior submitted its findings to the Prosecutor's office. On 30 July 2001, Cantonal Prosecutor gave the case to the Municipal Prosecutor 1 in SARAJEVO. Federal Ministry of Interior has completed its part of work and asked for the explanation from the Prosecutor in charge why this case is not processed. In July 2002 Federal Ministry of Interior received an official correspondence from the Municipal Prosecutor saying that the time laps has started in this case, since the last false ID was issued on 29 July 1996 and according to the Article 137 of the Criminal Law time lap started the same day that Cantonal Prosecutor gave the case to the Municipal Prosecutor.

The Commission in charge of the Citizenship Review has had its 11th session. The following findings were presented to the Council of Ministers: 05 citizens that gained BiH citizenship on the basis of their involvement in BiH Army did not submit valid documents in order to gain citizenship; for 13 citizenship issued COM asked the Parliamentary Assembly to give its opinion regarding the validity; 05 person gave false documentation in order to gain the citizenship and Federal Ministry of Interior is advised to revoke it; for 07 persons the Commission does not have the valid information and those people are asked through the media

to contact the Commission; 04 persons gained their citizenship on the basis of Article 10 (state interest in granting citizenship) and Federation Ministry of Interior is asked to check them out; 50 individuals applied legally.

The Case of Saleh Nedal

SREDNJEBOSANSKI CANTON informed Ministry of Interior that one person from the PERSONA NON GRATA list was found. His name is SALEH NEDAL from JEMEN. Mr. NEDAL will have 48 hours and additional 48 hours upon a receipt of the PERSONA NON GRATA declaration to leave BiH. He has a right to appeal to this decision but according to BiH law he will have to leave the country anyway. If he does not leave the country by himself, he will be extradited. SFOR gave the following statement regarding this case: SALEH NEDAL is a well-known person to the Intelligence. He has connection with the terrorists and he is known as a terrorist sympathiser. It is also known that Italy is searching for him.

On 10.05.2002. Federal Ministry of Interior sent a request to the Canton Ministry of Interior in TRAVNIK to put Mr. Saleh NEDAL under surveillance. On 18.05.2002. Federal Ministry of Interior was informed that the Ministry of Interior in TRAVNIK lost trace of Mr. Saleh NEDAL on 12.05.2002. On 24.05.2002. Chief of the department for the Fight Against Terrorism received correspondence from INTERPOL that Italy had issued a search warrant on 18.05.2002. for Mr. NEDAL. On the same day the Federal Ministry of Interior contacted the Cantonal Ministry of Interior in TRAVNIK to take measures to find Mr. NEDAL. The IPTF Commissioner was informed about the disappearance of Mr. NEDAL and requested to establish responsibility for the disappearance. On 04.06.2002. the Federal Ministry of Interior was informed that Internal Control has started its investigation in order to establish responsibility. Italy gave up on the extradition of Mr. NEDAL regarding terrorist activities. He is charged for forging documents. AID has the information that Mr. NEDAL is in BIHAC and we are checking it out. However, we also received the information that Mr. NEDAL is already

in SLOVENIA with his older son. INTERPOL has issued a search warrant for him so all the countries are informed about it. The USA Embassy SARAJEVO has obtained the information that Mr. NEDAL is actually still in BUGOJNO. The Chief of State Border Service said that the information regarding Mr. NEDAL is posted on all border crossings in charge of State Border Service. The Federal Ministry of Interior has started an internal control in Srednje-Bosanski Canton Ministry of Interior regarding the disappearance of Mr. NEDAL. 05 persons/officers have been found responsible (among them are Head of Uniformed Police Unit and Inspector of organized crime). Disciplinary measures will be taken against them. The case is proceeded to the Cantonal Prosecutor's office Investigation will be conducted in order to determine responsibility of Cantonal Ministry of Interior since there are doubts that some of the police officers were in contact with NEDAL.

Search of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

The BiH Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed about the Finance Inspection control in 4 humanitarian organizations. Finance Inspection sent a request to those organizations to submit additional information and documents, which was not done, so the bank accounts of those organizations are blocked. One more organization will be checked out by the Financial Inspection since it has connection with several members of "Egyptian Group". Most of the members of this group were on the payroll of this organization from year 1998 to 2000. It was agreed that information and material with photos will be sent to the Ministry of Interior of Republic of Srpska and to the other relevant entity and state institutions.

Regarding the list of telephone calls made by the "Egyptian group" they are being analysed and checked out. Lists will be delivered to the Coordination Team Members upon their completion. Mr. Sefik HALILOVIC from the Ministry of Interior BiH Federation also confirmed this information.

Federation intelligence service informed the present about the following: AID and Financial Police have inspected several NGOs. Information gained in this investigation proved that it was a justified search.

- The Organization BOSNIAN FUTURA was searched. Mr. Munib ZAHIROVIC is a suspect.
- Organization EL HARMEIN was searched. It was found out that from 1999-2001 this organization spent 3.5 Mil. KM without any justification. The law on bookkeeping was broken, there were no names mentioned on who was taking and spending the money. It is also known that this NGO has no ongoing humanitarian projects. EL HARMEIN was never financially controlled in the past. Since there is a possibility that this money was used in terrorist purposes, it will be suggested to the Ministry of Interior to start an investigation.
- BER BOSNA organization should also be investigated since 10 of the people interesting to AID have been employed there. 3 Egyptians who are on search warrants for terrorism were also employed in this organization.

The USA Embassy asked the Federal Government in OCTOBER 2001 to close following organizations:

1. EL HARMEIN
2. ACTIVE ISLAMIC YOUTH
3. EL FURKAN
4. SAUDI HIGH COMMITTEE
5. INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC RELIEF

Presently out of all these organizations only SAUDI HIGH COMMITTEE is closed. At the moment FBI is working with Ministry of Interior in order to gain warrant for the search of INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC RELIEF. It was said that the Saudi Committee will not open the office in BUGOJNO. The Saudi Ambassador reportedly said that they were thinking about it, but have decided not to proceed because of the September 11 issue. The Saudi Ambassador also has reportedly mentioned to the BiH MFA that the brochure issued by the Saudi

Committee for the mosque opening in BUGOJNO, which caused a lot of trouble was a mistake and it will not happen again

The Deputy Minister of Interior (Federation) added the following information:

1. On 03.06.2002. the organization AL HARAMAIN ISLAMIC FOUNDATION was searched. A lot of material was confiscated and it will take some time to inspect it all. Police forces confiscated 30 computers, audio and videotapes, floppy disks, but also some weapons and ammunition. IPTF is supervising the investigation.
2. Police also searched 7 premises. One apartment that was supposed to be searched on the same day will be searched later, when the person who is occupying it comes back. The apartment is under surveillance.
3. This is the fourth Humanitarian organization to be searched since December last year.
4. 04 criminal charges have been submitted against 03 persons. One person is in detention.
5. PALMA COMPANY CASE – Priority in this case was to cut the unauthorized drug trade, but now a financial inspection will carry out the investigation. It is already known that people from several countries are included in this criminal offence.

Federation Intelligence (AID), Federal Ministry of Interior, The Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Advisor to the Chairman of the Council of Ministers and the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs have held a meeting with the Chief of Financial Police of BiH where they received the information that the financial police have conducted a search of 04 organizations. Criminal charges are filed against 03 persons involved in money laundering for these organizations (AL HARMAIN and BIF). The Financial Police is currently conducting an investigation into 08 organizations. BEDER BOSNIA from ZENICA is one of those organizations. The Financial Police sent a letter to NGOs that are about

to be investigated that they should prepare financial documentation in order to show their financial transactions. Some Ambassadors representing the countries these organizations are coming from protested against the investigation, stating that it is not possible to gather this information in the determined time period. Two (02) bank accounts of humanitarian organization AL HARMEIN AL AXA have been unblocked. One bank account is used for funding school in MOJMILO with 300 children without parents. The second account is used for funding a boarding school. The organization is limited to 1000 KM in cash to be picked up from their account at any one time. The Chairperson of the Council of Ministers and his associates held a meeting with the Director of European Branch of the organization EL HARMEIN ISLAMIC FOUNDATION. Ambassador of Saudi Arabia was also present at that meeting. Director of EL HARMEIN was unpleasantly surprised with the findings of the Financial Inspection. EL HARMEIN have produced the financial report for the period between 99-02 and insisted on unfreezing their bank accounts. However, they have been informed that accounts will not be unblocked until they produce financial documents for the period from 1994-1996, which have apparently been burned or destroyed by one of the employees of this organization. Mr. Zulfet DERVISEVIC who is the Chief of the Financial Police is supporting this decision. The second phase of the financial investigation will start with the search of 08 NGOs and citizen associations. It should be taken in to consideration that some of those organizations were funded by organizations that have already been searched. Investigation is going on and report with findings should be finished by the end of this month.

SFOR suggested **not** to unblock the accounts until Ministry of Interior with the help of SFOR finishes the ongoing investigation of their documentation. I would like to remind all of you that during the search we have found tapes with extremely hateful speeches, not just against the western world and Jews but also against different forms of Islam.

Federation Intelligence (AID) pointed out:

1. AID has the information that organization ACTIVE ISLAMIC YOUTH and other extremist groups are associated with NGOs and

responsible for disappearance of money from the bank accounts of those NGOs.

2. All of these organizations and associations are misinforming the public in BiH and abroad and stating that activities and searches conducted by the Federal Ministry of Interior are focused against Islam religion. They have even included some religious representatives and foreign diplomats in their propaganda.
3. ACTIVE ISLAMIC YOUTH is preparing false documents for its upcoming financial inspection.

IV.6. Possible Acts of International Terrorism

On the morning of 30 April 2002 the USA Embassy informed the BiH Ministry of Interior about the additional threats to the USA Embassy. Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Civil Affairs are urged to finish this investigation. Chief of USA Embassy talked with Mr. MASLESA (Federal Police Minister) and informed him about the latest events regarding the USA Embassy security. USA Embassy has the information that MR. AL MISLI, Egyptian who was extradited to Egypt and who was one of the planners of NEW YORK Attack was in telephone contact with one person from BiH. The Federation Ministry of Interior gave the following information:

- One person from the BIF Organization is in prison and under investigation.
- Police should have substantial evidence in order to have these persons investigated (list of phone calls, etc.)
- Person in contact with Mr. AL MISLI is under the investigation by Federal Ministry of Interior.

Regarding the information presented by US Embassy it was said by Federation authorities that (the discussed and considered) closing of the

US Embassy in BiH would send a negative picture about Bosnia globally. But the information given by the Embassy Representatives is very serious and the Ministry of Interior should follow it up closely.

Rumors have spread regarding the possible attacks on UN members in the TUZLA area. A few days ago several people from the ACTIVE ISLAMIC YOUTH reportedly were discussing terrorist attacks on the UN in TUZLA canton. This statement was given in the context of a conversation regarding the inertia of the UN in that area. Verbal statements were given that something should be done about it. AID is in the process of verifying this information and 04 persons are under surveillance. The Ministry of Interior and SFOR are co-operating with AID in this investigation. This case is important since the people involved have been interesting to the Service for some time. No one has yet been arrested.

ACTIVE ISLAMIC YOUTH has intensified its activities.

The BiH Ministry of Foreign Affairs: On 23.05.2002. our Embassy in ROME informed us that the subsequent meeting of the UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) in ROME in June.2002 could be a potential occasion for terrorist acts. Potential terrorists might come from MARROCCO, TUNISIA and ALGERIA. It is the opinion that because of the counter-terrorist measures in BiH, Serbia and Croatia the roads through the Balkans are no longer safe for the passage of terrorists.