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**РЕПУБЛИКА СРПСКА  
ПРЕДСЕДНИК РЕПУБЛИКЕ  
САРАЈЕВО**



**REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC  
SARAJEVO**

RELEASED IN FULL

**TO: MR BILL CLINTON,  
PRESIDENT OF THE U.S.A.**

**FROM: DR RADOVAN KARADZIC,  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA**

Dear Mr President

I want to inform you that the Republic of Srpska accepts the Dayton Agreement and that it will assist in its implementation. As you are no doubt aware, however, the Dayton Agreement has, in the case of the city of Sarajevo, already proved dangerously destabilizing. At the stroke of a pen, 150,000 Serbs now living in the wider region of Sarajevo have found themselves facing the prospect of life under the Muslim regime. Needless to say, they do not face this prospect with equanimity. During the war they have repulsed thirty-four Muslim offensives in Sarajevo. If they were to leave, they would be leaving behind the graves of those who have died for Serb Sarajevo, and not just their properties and land. But the problem is even more complex. If the Serbs of Sarajevo were to abandon their homes, the Republic of Srpska would not be in a position to accommodate or employ them.

Accordingly, the Dayton Agreement, as it pertains to Serb Sarajevo, cannot be implemented in the circumstances. Passions are running high, and the Republic of Srpska authorities would be unable to control the behaviour of soldiers and civilians. If nothing is changed, either of two developments is likely: either all Serbs of Sarajevo will leave amid scenes of great chaos, or they will all stay on to fight against Muslim authorities.

We suggest, therefore, that a separate document be adopted for Sarajevo, whereby there would be an interim period of five years

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during which Serb Sarajevo would have its own police force, local authority and laws - all this, of course, in the context of IFOR presence, and with the aim of preventing any access by the Muslim authorities. Another solution would be to reduce this period to three years, but with an immediate commitment by the international community to start the construction of a new town for the 150,000 Serbs of Sarajevo, that is, some 45,000 - 50,000 apartments. After three years, the Serbs of Sarajevo would move out in an orderly and humane manner, leaving behind their very considerable housing properties to the Federation.

I assure you that we want the Serbs of Sarajevo to stay where they are. But the reality is that they will either leave, and in doing so cause great chaos, or they will stay and create a Beirut out of Sarajevo - with the inevitable consequence of long-term instability. I urge you to consider this matter and the proposed solutions, bearing in mind that a solution must be found before the Paris Conference.

sincerely,



*Radovan Karadzic*  
Dr Radovan Karadzic  
President, Republic of Srpska

2 December 1995

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