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Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
STATE SECURITY SERVICE
TUZLA SDB¹ SECTOR

PROFESSIONAL SECRECY
STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL
G U B E R O I ²

Line of work: 02
Operative worker: JM 339
No. [handwritten: 14-1871/95]
Date: 30 October 1995

R11005693

I N S P E C T I O N R E P O R T

The data refer to OSMAN SULJIĆ, son of Hasan, born in Bulogovine³ [sic] in Srebrenica municipality, who finished the Faculty of Mining in Tuzla, performed the tasks of technical director at the Boksit⁴ DP⁵ in Srebrenica, Muslim, citizen of RBiH⁶, lived in Srebrenica in the settlement of Panadžurište, currently accommodated as an exile in Tuzla. [handwritten note: where?]

The report is submitted on 27 October 1995.

Osman's father Hasan, son of Ibrahim, born in 1934 in Bulogovine, was employed at the Drina DP in Srebrenica where he performed the tasks of a mine blaster. At the beginning of the war, he participated in keeping the village guards. He remained in Bulogovine [sic] up until the fall of Srebrenica, and he is currently in Donji Poljic in Lukavac municipality. Osman's mother Tima, a housewife, is about 60 years old.

As for his closest relatives, Osman has two brothers and one sister. His oldest brother Hajrudin, about 45 years of age, was married to Havka and was a father of two children, sons Hidajet and Mirsad who are both members of ARBiH⁷. Hajrudin is a driver by occupation who was employed at the Drina DP, and in the 90s he moved to the Boksit DP in Srebrenica. He lived in Bulogovo [sic] in a family house. After the breakout of the aggression against RBiH, he alongside his sons immediately joined the ARBiH. His son Hidajet was wounded during the war, so one of his legs was amputated. During the fall of Srebrenica, on 11 July 1995, Hajrudin and his son Mirsad went missing and from that moment on they lost all track of them. Other Osman's brother, Sulejman, about 35 years of age, born in Bulogovine [sic], finished forestry high school in Sarajevo after which he was employed at the Drina DP in Srebrenica. He worked in the field in the area of Glogova. At the beginning of 1990 he was sent to work in the field in Sase

¹ Translator's note:

² t/n: Operative Investigation

³ t/n: actual name of the village is *Bulogovina*

⁴ t/n: literal translation of the word is *bauxite*

⁵ t/n: state-owned enterprise

⁶ t/n: Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina

⁷ t/n: Army of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina

in Srebrenica municipality. He lived in Sase, was married to Abida and was a father of three underage children, son Elvir and daughters Elvira and Emina. He was a member of the ARBiH. During the fall of Srebrenica, he went missing and from that moment on they lost all track of him. His wife Abida is in Donji Poljic together with their children.

Osman's sister Arifa, born in Bulogovine [sic], about 30 years of age, is married to Izet Đozić, is a housewife and a mother of three underage children. Arifa is in Donji Poljic together with her children.

Osman finished primary school in Sućeska, and Mining and Technical School in Tuzla, after which he was employed at the bauxite Mine in Vlasenica where he worked for a year. He left work on his own initiative and enrolled at the Mining Faculty in Tuzla. After completing his studies, he was employed at the Sase lead and zinc mine in Srebrenica as a manufacturing engineer. After he passed the professional qualification test he worked as a manager of the pit until 1988 when he moved to the Boksit DP in Srebrenica. Since 1990 until the beginning of the war, he was a technical director of the Boksit. While he worked in Sase, he did not particularly stand out when it came to work, a lot of his goals he accomplished through yelling, and he exhibited arrogance and egoism. He often got very drunk.

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He is married to Aza, née Salihović, and is a father of one child. He lived in a state-owned flat in Srebrenica in the settlement of Panadžurište. Before the aggression against RBiH, Suljić left for Sućeska with his wife and son to see his father, and he was there when the war started. He did not join the village guards nor did he join the formed units for the defence of Sućeska. He was forced into a labour platoon by the Commandant Zulfo Tursunović to dig ditches and trenches. Conflicts between him and the Commandant Tursunović happened on multiple occasions. They reconciled when Osman gave Zulfo one sniper and one pump-action shotgun. After the Chetniks⁸ were driven out from Srebrenica in the second half of May 1992, Suljić and his family returned to his flat in Srebrenica. He did not participate in the defending of Srebrenica nor was he a member of ARBiH. Since there was great power struggle in Srebrenica between Sućeska and Potočari, at the beginning of 1994 Zulfo Tursunović together with the President of SDA in Srebrenica, Zulfo Salihović from Sućeska, appointed Osman Suljić the President of the Transitional Council. Immediately upon being appointed President, Suljić worked on establishing the institutions, namely the following ones: Police, Court, Office of the Prosecutor, and other municipal institutions, and he [also] appointed the Commandant of the Civilian Protection. After the municipal institutions were formed, there

⁸ t/n: derogatory term for Serbs - members of Yugoslav royalist and Serbian nationalist movement in World War II in Yugoslavia

was an apparent improvement of the state, only for the above-stated institutions to very quickly fall under the influence of individuals from Potočari and Sućeska. With the exception of requesting protection for the workers of the above-stated institutions, Suljić could not change anything because he was directly under the influence of Zulfo Tursunović and he carried out his requests. In the Municipal Assembly there was anarchy. Individuals were imprisoned and released from prison according to [other] individuals' desires. On a daily basis, citizens went to the Srebrenica SO⁹ to see Suljić, asking for help from him because they had nothing to eat. The only response they got from Suljić was that there was no food, that they should go home, and that they should graze on grass. All citizens of Srebrenica received humanitarian aid, even those who had as much as 10-100 dulums¹⁰ of land. The citizens requested from Suljić that social cards be made and the distribution of humanitarian aid done on the basis of those cards. The lack of food is listed as one of the main reasons for the fall of Srebrenica. From 1994 until 11 July 1995, Suljić spoke to citizens on one occasion only via Radio Srebrenica in the Gost Studija¹¹ radio show. The citizens asked him questions [such as] until when would the humanitarian aid [goods] be sold at the marked and weddings organised in the Domavija hotel from the [earnings from the] sold goods. During Suljić's mandate as the President of the Transitional Municipal Council, he did not manage to solve the crucial problem such as, for example, the work of the constituted civilian institutions, the distribution of the humanitarian aid, [political] party disputes that in May 1995 were followed by two murders, smuggling, day-to-day departures of civilians from Srebrenica to Tuzla and the R. Serbia¹², and he also did not make plans for the evacuation of civilians (the IRC¹³ evidence to date indicates that around 7000 civilians from the area of Srebrenica did not arrive to Tuzla). He was under the influence of individuals from Sućeska and Potočari and pursued their policies.

DELIVERED TO:

2 x Guber OI File
1 x OA¹⁴ of Tuzla SDB Sector

ID59-0488

⁹ t/n: Municipal Assembly

¹⁰ t/n: *dunam* or *dunum* - Ottoman unit of area representing the amount of land that could be ploughed by a team of oxen in a day, although the new or metric dunam has been redefined as exactly one decare (1000 m²)

¹¹ t/n: literal translation of the name of the show is *Studio Guest*

¹² t/n: Republic of Serbia

¹³ t/n: International Red Cross

¹⁴ t/n: Operative Operation

