

Reoublic of Bosnia and Herzegovina
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL SECURITY SERVICE
SECTOR SDB TUZLA

No.15-144/95

Date: 31 July 1995

R E C O R D

CITIZEN: AVDIĆ NEDŽAD, son of Alija and Tima (maiden name Turković), born 15 April 1978 in Zvornik, resident of Sebiočina, Vlasenica municipality, student, civilian, unmarried, currently living in the retirement home in Tuzla in room 130, on circumstances of captures in Kamenica, Bratunac municipality, and executions in Petkovci, gave the authorised officials the following

S T A T E M E N T

By the beginning of July, or the general attack on Srebrenica by the Chetniks, I lived in a refugee settlement Slapovići, seven kilometres from Srebrenica towards Zeleni Jadar. I do not know the exact date when the Serbs attacked Srebrenica, but I do know that the people in Slapovići had been hiding in shelters for three days while Chetniks shelled Srebrenica and surrounding villages. On the third day of the Chetniks' attack, we heard that the Chetniks took over Bilje and UNPROFOR withdrew to Srebrenica. Following the news that the Chetniks took up Bilje, the residents of Slapovići refugee camps left the camp and withdrew towards Sućeska and Srebrenica. My family and I withdrew to the village of Vijogor near Sućeska. In Vijogor, after one day, my mother and three sisters headed towards Potočari in hopes of finding shelter in UNPROFOR camp and my father and I, on command of the Command of Army, alongside other military capable men went to Šušnjari. In Šušnjari, there was a line-up - about 15,000 men and a small number of women - and we then headed towards Jagličić, which is about 2km from Šušnjari. From Jagličić, the column headed through Buljim towards Kamenica near Pobude. I was at the

back of the column, i.e. there were about 1000 people behind me. In the village of Kamenica, we were ambushed by the Chetniks and the column was cut off. Most people were killed in Kamenica, and many were wounded by grenades. A number of our people committed suicide. In the cut off part of the column, a small number of people were armed. Chetniks shelled us heavily and through a megaphone called us to surrender. In that forest near Kamenica, in my estimation, 300-500 people were killed, while more people were injured. After one day and night spent in the woods, we headed towards the asphalt road, where we saw Chetniks with tanks and personnel carriers on the bridge, and they ordered us to raise our hands up and put away the bombs, guns and marks or else we would be killed. We all did what they ordered us to do. They lined us up on the asphalt road in five rows of about 100 meters in length. The wounded were lined up too. After the line-up, one Chetnik ordered us to run in pairs in a column towards Kravica with our arms raised and three fingers extended. We ran like that for about 3km, and then they ordered us to sit down on one meadow where one Chetnik told us that they were from Serbia and that they would take us to the hangar and we would be exchanged when our authorities request it. On that meadow, in my estimation, there were about 2,000 people. After a while they ordered us to lie down on our stomachs, lift our hands above our heads and applaud while exclaiming the words, "long live the King", "long live Serbia." While we were doing this, approximately a hundred meters away from us, coming from one house, automatic weapon gunfire could be heard. From that meadow we were later transported by five or six trucks to Bratunac where we spent the night. The next day we were driven by trucks towards Konjevic Polje, then towards Zvornik and Karakaj, and then they allegedly turned towards Tuzla. From behind the tarp I could see that they drove us to some school in Petkovci. Since we had not eaten or drank anything the entire time, we asked to be allowed to get off the truck and to give us water or to kill us all. After an hour, they ordered us to get off the truck and enter the school. On the way from the truck to the school, the Chetnik hit every prisoner over their backs with a rifle. They made us exclaim the words, "This is a Serbian country", "Srebrenica has always been and always will be Serbian." They put us in 4-5 classrooms where we had to sit, and whoever stood up or asked for water, the Chetniks shot at him. For those reasons, 5-6 people were injured. After a while, I heard the Chetniks outside command, "Come on, two, three, five balije." I heard them take them out, and soon I heard shooting in front of the school. Chetniks entered the classroom where I was and asked if there was anyone from Glogova, Kamenica, Cerska and Osmaći. Whoever responded, they led him out and he never came back. Somewhere around midnight, they ordered us to go out two at a time, allegedly for a medical examination. I went out in pair with an unknown man; then they ordered me to take off all my clothes above my waist, and tied my hands together with a rope. From there they led us to other classrooms, and then one by one led us outside. Although it was dark, I saw dead people outside and I felt

I was stepping in blood as I walked. Then they made us climb up one board into a tow truck. When the truck was full, they ordered us to sit, and since we didn't have enough space to sit, they started shooting at us. From the school, the truck drove on asphalt for a little while and then turned to a gravel road that went uphill. That ride lasted ten minutes most. When the truck stopped, one of the Chetniks ordered us to go outside five of us at a time. One Muhamed from Bratunac managed to untie his hands and tried to escape, but the Chetnik killed him. One unknown man from the truck spoke loudly to the Chetnik and said, "I used to hide you and your mother Stana, and now you are doing this to innocent people," but he did not react to this, and he continued cursing our balija mothers and telling us to get off the truck five of us at a time. When it was my turn, I got off the truck and heard the Chetnik say, "This is a fight on Alah's path. Haris Silajdžić will exchange you even if you're dead. Come on, look around for a place." Then the Chetnik commanded us to lie down and started shooting at us in the same moment. I lied down a split second earlier and in that way avoided certain death. I was wounded by Chetniks' automatic rifle gunfire in my right forearm and right side of chest, but those were minor injuries. I heard the groans and screams of severely wounded people. After the shooting I survived, the Chetniks led out another group whom they treated the same way. When they finished shooting, one Chetnik said, "Come on, Jovo, we have to thoroughly check everything. Each gets one shot in the head. The stiff ones are dead, the warm ones are alive." Then they shot at the bodies according to their estimations, although they did not touch them with hands, and one of them said, "Fuck their mother, they're all dead," and another one said, "They're all well-fed." After that, the Chetniks turned on the truck and left the crime scene. Soon I found courage and lifted my head up to see if anyone was moving. Five to six meters away from me I noticed someone moving, I asked if he was alive, and he replied that he was and asked me to untie him. After I rested a little bit, I came up to him over the dead and he cut the ties on my hands with his teeth, and then I tried to untie him and as I couldn't do it, I cut two of his ties with my teeth and two more remained. In that moment, we heard the sound of a truck moving toward us and I thought they were going to load the dead. I suggested that man that we move away from the scene and go to the stream, which he accepted. In the stream, I used stones to cut the ties on his hands, and he told me his name was Halilović Osman and that he was born in 1960 in the village Sućeska, Srebrenica municipality. While we were in the stream, we heard the Chetniks come there with a truck to pick up the dead. By the dawn of the following day, we climbed up from the stream to one hill from where we saw the lake and the loader picking up the dead in the place where they shot us, while the guard with a rifle walked by the flat area of the dam. The fourth day after the shooting, I and Osman Halilović managed to get to Vitinica where we were provided first aid.

While I was in the school, I saw people I knew from before in the classroom: Avdit Džemal, my uncle, Isaković Haso from Pobuđe, Malić Fehim from Sebjočina,

Hodžić Bekir, translator for UNPROFOR, from Pobođe, one Muhammad from Bratunac, commissioner from Srebrenica, one Munib.

I have nothing more to say, my statement was loudly dictated back to me and in the formulation of it I have participated myself, and I accept it as my own and sign it personally.

STATEMENT GIVEN BY:
Avdić Nedžad

NOTE-TAKER:
[Hilmo?] Dizdarević

AUTHORIZED OFFICIALS:
Himzo Omerbegović
Karić Meho