

# THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

Case Number IT-02-57-I

## THE PROSECUTOR OF THE TRIBUNAL AGAINST **VUJADIN POPOVIC**

### INDICTMENT

The Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, pursuant to her authority under Article 18 of the Statute of the Tribunal, charges:

#### **VUJADIN POPOVIC**

with **GENOCIDE OR COMPLICITY IN GENOCIDE; Murder, Persecutions, Forcible Transfer and Inhumane Acts as CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY; and Murder as a VIOLATION OF THE LAWS OR CUSTOMS OF WAR**, as set forth herein:

#### **THE ACCUSED**

1. **VUJADIN POPOVIC**, son of Vicentije, was born on 14 March 1957 in the village of Popovici, Sekovici Municipality. At the beginning of the war in Bosnia, he was an active-duty military officer in the Army of the Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia (JNA) in Knin, where he achieved the rank of Major. At all times relevant to this Indictment, he served as the Assistant Commander for Security of the Drina Corps and held the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

#### **SUPERIOR AUTHORITY / POSITION OF THE ACCUSED**

2. During the VRS attack on the Srebrenica enclave and the subsequent killings and executions of Bosnian Muslim men, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** was a Lieutenant Colonel and was the Assistant Commander of Security on the staff of the Drina Corps. He was present and on duty in the Drina Corps zone of responsibility, which included Srebrenica, Potocari, Bratunac and Zvornik, from 11 July to 31 August 1995.
3. As Assistant Commander of Security for the Drina Corps, **VUJADIN POPOVIC'S** responsibilities, as vested in him by his commander and as defined by the Yugoslav People's Army (JNA) regulations and adopted by the VRS, were to monitor enemy activities within and against Drina Corps units and to propose measures to the Corps commander to counter security threats posed by the enemy. This included identifying traitors or other security threats inside units, as well as dealing with enemy threats from the outside such as sabotage, surveillance, and intervention activities of the enemy. He was also responsible for managing the units of the Drina Corps Military Police, and proposing ways to utilise those units. He was also responsible, in general, for co-ordinating with the bodies of the MUP in the Drina Corps zone of responsibility. **VUJADIN POPOVIC**, by virtue of his position as Assistant Commander of Security for the Drina Corps, had responsibility for dealing with Bosnian Muslim prisoners from Srebrenica from 11 July 1995 until 1

November 1995.

## **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

4. At all times relevant to this Indictment, a state of armed conflict existed in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
5. At all relevant times, the accused was required to abide by the laws and customs governing the conduct of war.
6. All acts and omissions charged as crimes against humanity were part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against the Bosnian Muslim civilian population of Srebrenica and its surroundings.

## **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

7. On 12 May 1992, Momcilo Krajisnik, President of the RS National Assembly executed the following "DECISION ON STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF THE SERBIAN PEOPLE IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA"; this Decision was published in the Official Gazette of the Republika Srpska on 26 November 1993:

"The strategic objectives or priorities of the Serbian people in Bosnia and Herzegovina are to:

1. Establish State borders separating the Serbian people from the other two ethnic communities.
  2. Set up a corridor between Semberija and Krajina.
  3. Establish a corridor in the Drina river valley, that is, eliminate the Drina as a border separating Serbian States.
  4. Establish a border on the Una and Neretva rivers.
  5. Divide the city of Sarajevo into Serbian and Bosnian Muslim parts and establish effective State authorities in both parts.
  6. Ensure access to the sea for Republika Srpska."
8. After armed conflict erupted in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina ("BiH") in the spring of 1992, Bosnian Serb military and paramilitary forces attacked and occupied cities, towns and villages, including Zvornik, in the eastern part of the country and participated in an ethnic cleansing campaign which resulted in an exodus of Bosnian Muslim civilians to enclaves in Srebrenica, Gorazde and Zepa.
  9. On 19 November 1992, General Ratko Mladic, the Commander of the VRS Main Staff, issued Operational Directive 04. This Directive, in part, ordered the Drina Corps to "... inflict the heaviest possible losses on the enemy, and force him to leave the Birac, Zepa and Gorazde areas together with the Bosnian Muslim population. First, offer the able-bodied and armed men to surrender, and if they refuse, destroy them."
  10. On 16 April 1993, the Security Council of the United Nations, acting pursuant to Chapter VII of its Charter, adopted Resolution 819, in which it demanded that all parties to the conflict in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina treat Srebrenica and its surroundings as a "safe area" which was to be free from any armed attack or any other hostile act.

11. On 4 July 1994, Lieutenant Colonel Slavko Ognjenovic, then Commander of the Bratunac Brigade, issued a report to all members of the Bratunac Brigade stating in relevant part; "We must continue to arm, train, discipline, and prepare the RS Army for the execution of this crucial task — the expulsion of Muslims from the Srebrenica enclave. There will be no retreat when it comes to the Srebrenica enclave, we must advance. The enemy's life has to be made unbearable and their temporary stay in the enclave impossible so that they leave the enclave *en masse* as soon as possible, realising that they cannot survive there."
12. On 8 March 1995, the Supreme Command of the Armed Forces of the Republika Srpska issued Operational Directive 07. In this Directive, Republika Srpska President Radovan Karadzic directed the VRS (specifically the VRS Drina Corps) to "...complete the physical separation of the Srebrenica and Zepa enclaves as soon as possible, preventing even communication between individuals between the two enclaves. By planned and well-thought-out combat operations, create an unbearable situation of total insecurity, with no hope of further survival or life for the inhabitants of Srebrenica or Zepa."
13. On 2 July 1995, in the Drina Corps operational order for the attack on the Srebrenica enclave, General Milenko Zivanovic ordered that the attack of the enclave should result in "reducing the enclave to its urban area". The size of the enclave on 2 July 1995 was approximately 58 square kilometres and the urban area of the enclave was about two (2) square kilometres. Large numbers of the Bosnian Muslim population of the enclave lived outside the urban area of Srebrenica prior to 2 July 1995.
14. On or about 6 July 1995, units of the Drina Corps shelled Srebrenica and attacked Dutch-manned United Nations observation posts which were located in the enclave. The Drina Corps attack on the Srebrenica enclave, including the shelling, continued through 11 July 1995, when forces from the Zvornik Brigade's Drina Wolves, the Bratunac Brigade, the 10<sup>th</sup> Sabotage Detachment and other units of the VRS entered Srebrenica.
15. In the several days following this attack on Srebrenica, VRS forces captured, detained, summarily executed, and buried over 7000 Bosnian Muslim men and boys from the Srebrenica enclave, and forcibly transferred the Bosnian Muslim women and children of Srebrenica out of the enclave. The details of these events and the role of each accused therein are presented in the paragraphs below.

## **INDIVIDUAL CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY**

### **Direct Criminal Responsibility**

16. Pursuant to Article 7(1) of the Statute of the Tribunal, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** is individually responsible for genocide or complicity in genocide, crimes against humanity (murder, persecutions, forcible transfer, and inhumane acts), and murder as a violation of the laws or customs of war. **VUJADIN POPOVIC** committed, planned, instigated, ordered, and otherwise aided and abetted in the planning, preparation, and execution of these charged crimes. By using the word "committed" in this Indictment, the Prosecutor does not intend to suggest that the accused necessarily physically and personally perpetrated any of the crimes charged. "Committing" the crimes can be accomplished by virtue of participation in the joint criminal enterprise.

## Joint Criminal Enterprise

17. **VUJADIN POPOVIC**, together with other VRS and MUP officers and units as identified in this Indictment, was a member of and knowingly participated in a Joint Criminal Enterprise, the common purpose of which was: to forcibly transfer the women and children from the Srebrenica enclave to Kladanj, on 12 July and 13 July 1995; and to capture, detain, summarily execute by firing squad, bury, and rebury thousands of Bosnian Muslim men and boys aged 16 to 60 from the Srebrenica enclave from 12 July 1995 until and about 19 July 1995. The last known primary burial of Srebrenica victims occurred on or about 19 July 1995 in Glogova. The initial plan was to summarily execute more than 1000 Bosnian Muslim men and boys, aged 16-60, who were separated from the group of Bosnian Muslims in Potocari on 12 and 13 July. On 12 July, this plan was broadened to include the summary execution of over 6000 men and boys, aged 16 to 60, who were captured from the column of Bosnian Muslim men escaping the Srebrenica enclave on 12 July through about 19 July 1995. Most of these men and boys from the column were captured along the Bratunac/ Milici road on 13 July 1995. While the Joint Criminal Enterprise contemplated organised and systematic executions, it was foreseeable to **VUJADIN POPOVIC** that opportunistic criminal acts, such as those described in this Indictment, would be carried out by VRS and MUP forces during and after the Joint Criminal Enterprise. VRS and MUP forces carried out such opportunistic criminal acts from 12 July 1995 to about 1 November 1995. The implementation of this Joint Criminal Enterprise resulted in the summary execution of over 7000 Bosnian Muslim men and boys from the Srebrenica enclave.
18. **VUJADIN POPOVIC** possessed the criminal intent and state of mind required to commit the individual crimes charged in the Indictment, and his acts significantly assisted and facilitated the commission of the crimes. The participation of the accused in the Joint Criminal Enterprise and the specific acts and responsibilities described in this Indictment satisfy the elements required for a finding that, pursuant to the meaning of Article 7(1) of the Statute of the Tribunal, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** "committed," "planned," "instigated," "ordered," and otherwise "aided and abetted" genocide, crimes against humanity (including murder, persecutions, forcible transfer, and inhumane acts), and murder as a violation of the laws or customs of war. These specific acts and responsibilities of **VUJADIN POPOVIC** pursuant to this Joint Criminal Enterprise are described in the Indictment in paragraphs, 17, 22-23, 25-27, 29, 31-36.
19. The Joint Criminal Enterprise, of which **VUJADIN POPOVIC** was a member and a key participant, was conceived and designed by General Ratko Mladic and others on 11 and 12 July 1995, and administered and carried out by members of the VRS and MUP forces through the time period and by the means alleged in this Indictment.
20. Members of this Joint Criminal Enterprise included: General Ratko Mladic, the Commander of the VRS, General Milenko Zivanovic, Commander of the Drina Corps through about 2000 hours on 13 July 1995; General Radislav Krstic, Chief of Staff/Deputy Commander through about 2000 hours on 13 July 1995 and thereafter Commander of the Drina Corps; Colonel Vidoje Blagojevic, Commander of the Bratunac Brigade; Colonel Vinko Pandurevic, Commander of the Zvornik Brigade; Lieutenant Colonel Dragan Obrenovic, Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff of the Zvornik Brigade; **VUJADIN POPOVIC**, Chief of Security of the Drina Corps; Dragan Jokic, Chief of Engineering of the Zvornik Brigade; and various other individuals and military and police units, including but not limited to the following:

Elements of the Bratunac Brigade  
Elements of the Zvornik Brigade  
Elements of the Vlasenica Brigade  
Elements of the 5<sup>th</sup> Engineering Battalion

Main Staff Units

Elements of the 10<sup>th</sup> Sabotage Detachment  
Elements of the 65<sup>th</sup> Protection Regiment

MUP Units

Elements of the Republika Srpska "Special Police"  
Elements of the Bratunac Municipal Police  
Elements of the Milici Municipal Police  
Elements of the Zvornik Municipal Police

As Assistant Commander of Security for the Drina Corps, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** was directly subordinate to General Radislav Krstic, Commander of the Drina Corps, who in turn was directly subordinate to General Ratko Mladic, Commander of the Main Staff. A detailed summary of the military structure of the VRS is affixed to this Indictment as Annex A.

On 11 July, 1995, four units of the Ministry of the Interior (MUP) were placed under the command of the VRS

21. These allegations concerning individual criminal responsibility, including those cited in the Joint Criminal Enterprise paragraphs, are realleged and incorporated into each of the charges set forth below.

**CHARGES**

**COUNTS 1A-1B**

**(Genocide)**  
**(Complicity to Commit Genocide)**

By his acts and omissions described in the paragraphs below, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** committed:

**COUNT 1A:** Genocide, punishable under Articles 4(3)(a) and 7(1) of the Statute of the Tribunal;

Or, in the alternative,

**COUNT 1B:** Complicity to commit genocide, punishable under Articles 4(3)(e) and 7(1) of the Statute of the Tribunal.

22. Between 11 July 1995 and 1 November 1995, **VUJADIN POPOVIC**, with intent to destroy

a part of the Bosnian Muslim people as a national, ethnical, or religious group:

- a. killed members of the group by summary execution as described in paragraphs 17, 22-23, 25-27, 29, and 31-36; and,
  - b. caused serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group.
23. Immediately after the fall of Srebrenica on 11 July 1995, senior VRS officers including Ratko Mladic, Radislav Krstic, and **VUJADIN POPOVIC** surveyed the town. At this time, Ratko Mladic announced that "the moment has finally come for us to take revenge upon the Turks here."
24. Thousands of Bosnian Muslims from the enclave, including women, children, and some men, fled to the UN Compound in Potocari on 11 July 1995, where they sought the protection of the Dutch battalion. Meanwhile, approximately 15,000 Bosnian Muslim men from the enclave, with some women and children, gathered at the villages of Susnjari and Jaglici during the evening of 11 July 1995 and fled, in a huge column, through the woods towards Tuzla. Approximately one-third of this group consisted of armed Bosnian Muslim military personnel. The rest were civilians and unarmed military personnel.
25. On the evening of 11 July and the morning of 12 July, Ratko Mladic and other VRS officers convened three critical meetings at the Hotel Fontana in Bratunac concerning the fate of the refugees who had fled to Potocari. At the first meeting, held at approximately 2000 hours on 11 July, Ratko Mladic met with other members of the VRS, and with the Dutchbat command. At this first meeting Ratko Mladic intimidated and threatened the Dutchbat commander. The second meeting was convened by Ratko Mladic, Radislav Krstic, and other members of the VRS at approximately 2300 hours on 11 July, and was attended by members of the Dutchbat command and representatives of the Bosnian Muslim refugees at Potocari. At this second meeting, Ratko Mladic warned the Bosnian Muslim representatives that their people could either "survive or disappear." At the third meeting, convened at about 1000 hours on 12 July 1995 by Ratko Mladic, Radislav Krstic, **VUJADIN POPOVIC**, and other VRS and Bosnian Serb civilian representatives, and attended by Dutchbat officers and representatives of the Bosnian Muslim refugees, Ratko Mladic explained that he would supervise the "evacuation" of refugees from Potocari and that he wanted to see all military-aged Bosnian Muslim men so that they could be screened as possible war criminals. During the meetings at the Hotel Fontana from the evening of 11 July to the early morning of 12 July 1995, the plan to transport the civilian refugee population from Potocari was developed. By his presence in these meetings and his subsequent actions in Potocari, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** assisted in the planning of these crimes and thereby assumed responsibility for the foreseeable events.
26. The Bosnian Muslim refugee population remained in and around Potocari from 11 July until 13 July 1995, during which time they were terrorised by members of the VRS and the MUP. The terrorisation of the refugees took place in the presence of **VUJADIN POPOVIC**. As Assistant Commander of Security for the Drina Corps, and by virtue of the authority vested in him by his commander, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** had responsibility for the handling and transportation of the Bosnian Muslim population.
27. On or about 12 July 1995, in the presence of Ratko Mladic, Radislav Krstic, **VUJADIN POPOVIC**, and others, approximately 50 to 60 buses and trucks arrived near the UN military compound in Potocari. Shortly after the arrival of these vehicles, the forcible transfer process of Bosnian Muslim women and children began. As the Bosnian Muslim

women, children, and men started to board the buses and trucks, VRS and/or MUP soldiers separated over 1000 Bosnian Muslim men from the women and children and transported these men to temporary detention sites in Bratunac on 12 and 13 July 1995. **VUJADIN POPOVIC** was present and on duty in Potocari during this period, and he participated in the separation and transportation of the Bosnian Muslim population.

28. Beginning around 12 July 1995 and continuing throughout the period of organised executions, personal property and effects belonging to the Bosnian Muslim male prisoners, including their identification documents and valuables, were confiscated and destroyed by members of the VRS and the MUP. This confiscation and destruction of personal property and effects occurred while **VUJADIN POPOVIC** was present in Potocari, at various points of capture and collection along the Bratunac/Milici road, and at various execution sites. In addition, the prisoners in Potocari and in Bratunac were not provided with food or medical treatment, nor with any meaningful rations of water, during their days in detention pending execution. As Assistant Commander of Security for the Drina Corps, and by virtue of the authority vested in him by his commander, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** had responsibility for the handling of all of these Bosnian Muslim prisoners
  
29. VRS and MUP officers and soldiers committed a number of opportunistic killings of the Bosnian Muslims in Potocari on 12 and 13 July 1995. Such opportunistic killings occurred as a natural and foreseeable consequence of the unfolding Joint Criminal Enterprise. These Bosnian Muslims were taken prisoner in Potocari before being killed. As Assistant Commander of Security for the Drina Corps, and by virtue of the authority vested in him by his commander, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** had responsibility for the handling of all of these Bosnian Muslim prisoners. **VUJADIN POPOVIC** was present and on duty in Potocari during this period, along with members of the Drina Corps, the Drina Wolves, the Bratunac Brigade, the Zvornik Brigade, and the MUP. The opportunistic killings in Potocari resulted in the following:
  - a. On 12 July, the bodies of nine Bosnian Muslim men who had been shot, were found in the woods near the UN Compound on the Budak side of the main road.
  - b. On 12 July, the bodies of nine or ten Bosnian Muslim males were found about seven hundred metres from the UN Compound behind the White House in a creek.
  - c. On the morning of the 13 July, the bodies of six Bosnian Muslim women and five Bosnian Muslim men were found in a stream near the UN Compound in Potocari.
  - d. On 13 July, one Bosnian Muslim man was taken behind a building near the "White House" and summarily executed.
  
30. Between 12 July and about 17 July 1995, approximately 6000 Bosnian Muslim men from the column of men escaping the Srebrenica enclave were captured by, or surrendered to, VRS and MUP forces.
  
31. VRS and MUP officers and soldiers committed a number of opportunistic killings of Bosnian Muslim prisoners temporarily detained in Bratunac in schools, buildings, and vehicles parked along the road. Such opportunistic killings occurred as a natural and foreseeable consequence of the Joint Criminal Enterprise. As Assistant Commander of Security for the Drina Corps, and by virtue of the authority vested in him by his commander, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** had responsibility for the handling of all of these Bosnian Muslim prisoners. These opportunistic killings occurred between 12 July and about 15 July 1995 in several different locations in Bratunac namely:

- a. On 12 July, beginning at approximately 2200 hours and continuing through 13 July, more than 50 Bosnian Muslim men were taken from a hangar behind the Vuk Karadzic elementary school in Bratunac and summarily executed.
- b. On 13 July, at approximately 2130 hours, two Bosnian Muslim men were taken off a truck in Bratunac town, taken to a nearby garage and summarily executed.
- c. On 13 July, in the evening, a Bosnian Muslim man who was mentally retarded was taken off a bus parked in front of the Vuk Karadzic elementary school in Bratunac and summarily executed.
- d. On 13 July, during the day, one Bosnian Muslim man was beaten about the head with a rifle at the Vuk Karadzic School and was subsequently taken away and summarily executed. Numerous other Bosnian Muslim men detained at the Vuk Karadzic elementary school were also summarily executed during the day of 13 July.
- e. On the evening of 13 July, four young Bosnian Muslim males were taken from the area of the Vuk Karadzic School and were summarily executed.
- f. Between the evening of 13 July and the morning of 15 July, Bosnian Muslim males were frequently and consistently taken from the Vuk Karadzic elementary school and summarily executed.

Those Bosnian Muslim prisoners who survived their temporary detention in Bratunac were transported to the Zvornik area between 13 and 15 July 1995 for further detention and execution.

32. VRS and MUP forces participated in a planned and organised mass execution and burial of thousands of captured Bosnian Muslim men from the Srebrenica enclave. This joint criminal enterprise took place over a seven day period from 12 July until about 19 July 1995. As Assistant Commander of Security for the Drina Corps, and by virtue of the authority vested in him by his commander, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** had responsibility for all of the Bosnian Muslim prisoners and assisted in the implementation and oversight of these prisoners. This wide-scale and organised killing of Bosnian Muslim men occurred in several different locations in and around Srebrenica, Bratunac, and Zvornik, and are as follows:

32.1 **Potocari:** On 12 July 1995, in between the Zinc Factory and "Alija's" house, VRS and/or MUP soldiers summarily executed by decapitation approximately eighty to one hundred Bosnian Muslim men. The bodies were then taken away on a truck.

32.2 **Jadar River:** On 13 July 1995, at approximately 1100 hours, a small squad of soldiers consisting of at least one Bratunac police officer (Bratunac MUP), working with individuals and units of the VRS and/or MUP, captured approximately 16 Bosnian Muslim men from the column of men retreating from the Srebrenica enclave, transported them from Konjevic Polje to an isolated area on the bank of the Jadar River and summarily executed 15 of them. One individual was wounded and managed to escape.

32.3 **Cerska Valley:** On 13 July 1995, in the early afternoon hours, VRS and/or MUP soldiers transported about 150 Bosnian Muslim men to an area along a dirt road in the Cerska Valley about three (3) kilometres from Konjevic Polje, summarily executed them, and using heavy equipment, covered them with dirt.

32.4 **Kravica Warehouse:** On 13 July 1995, in the early evening hours, VRS and/or MUP soldiers summarily executed over 1000 Bosnian Muslim men detained in a large warehouse in the village of Kravica. The soldiers used automatic weapons, hand grenades, and other



weaponry to kill the Bosnian Muslims inside the warehouse. On 14 July 1995, heavy equipment arrived and removed the victims' bodies to two large mass graves located in the nearby villages of Glogova and Ravnice.

**32.5 Tisca:** Throughout the day on 13 July 1995, VRS and/or MUP soldiers transported Bosnian Muslim women and children who had been separated from male members of their families in Potocari, to an area near Tisca village. VRS soldiers from the Vlasenica Brigade of the Drina Corps identified and separated some remaining Bosnian Muslim men and boys and some of the Bosnian Muslim women from this group at Tisca, while the rest of the group was forcibly transferred to Bosnian Muslim territory. Throughout the day on 13 July 1995, VRS soldiers forced the selected Bosnian Muslim men and women to walk to a nearby school, where they were abused and assaulted. On or about the evening of 13 July 1995 and the day of 14 July 1995, VRS and/or MUP soldiers loaded 25 Bosnian Muslim men from the school onto a truck, drove them to an isolated pasture nearby, and summarily executed them with automatic weapons.

**32.6 Orahovac (near Lazete):** In the late evening hours of 13 July and during the day of 14 July 1995, personnel from the Military Police Company of the Bratunac Brigade working together with other individuals and units transported hundreds of Bosnian Muslim males from in and around Bratunac to the Grbavci School in the village of Orahovac. These Bosnian Muslim men had been captured from the column of men retreating from the Srebrenica enclave or separated in Potocari. On 14 July 1995, VRS personnel including members of the Military Police Company of the Zvornik Brigade guarded and blindfolded the Bosnian Muslim males detained at the Grbavci School. In the early afternoon of 14 July 1995, VRS personnel transported these Bosnian Muslim males from the school at Grbavci to a nearby field, where personnel including members of the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Zvornik Brigade ordered the prisoners off the trucks and summarily executed them with automatic weapons. Approximately 1000 Bosnian Muslim males were killed. On 14 and 15 July 1995, members of the Zvornik Brigade Engineering Company used heavy equipment to bury the victims in mass graves at the execution site, while the executions continued. On the evening of 14 July, lights from the engineering machinery illuminated the execution and burial sites during the executions.

**32.7 The Petkovci School:** On 14 July 1995, VRS and/or MUP personnel transported approximately 1000 Bosnian Muslim males from detention sites in and around Bratunac to the school at Petkovci. These Bosnian Muslim men had been captured from the column of men retreating from the Srebrenica enclave or separated in Potocari. On 14 July and the early morning hours of 15 July 1995, VRS and/or MUP personnel struck, beat, assaulted and shot with automatic weapons Bosnian Muslim males being detained at the school.

**32.8 The "Dam" near Petkovci:** On or about the evening of 14 July 1995 and the early morning hours of 15 July 1995, VRS personnel from the Zvornik Brigade including drivers and trucks from the 6<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion and the Zvornik Brigade transported the surviving members of the group of approximately 1000 Bosnian Muslim males from the school at Petkovci to an area below the Dam near Petkovci. They were assembled below the Dam and summarily executed by VRS or MUP soldiers with automatic weapons. In the morning of 15 July 1995, VRS personnel from the Engineering Company of the Zvornik Brigade, working together with other individuals and units, used excavators and other heavy equipment to bury the victims while the executions continued.

**32.9 Pilica School:** On or about 14 and 15 July 1995, VRS and/or MUP personnel

transported approximately 1200 Bosnian Muslim males from detention sites in Bratunac to the school at Pilica. These Bosnian Muslim men had been captured from the column of men retreating from the Srebrenica enclave or separated in Potocari. On or about 14 and 15 July 1995, VRS military personnel with automatic weapons summarily executed many of the Bosnian Muslim males who had arrived, or were being detained, at the school. On 17 July 1995, VRS personnel from the "R" Battalion of the Zvornik Brigade retrieved the bodies of the victims from the Pilica School and transported them to the Branjevo Military Farm. On 17 July 1995, the Engineering Company of the Zvornik Brigade buried the victims of the Pilica School executions in a mass grave at the Branjevo Military Farm.

**32.10 Branjevo Military Farm:** On the morning of 16 July 1995, VRS personnel transported the remaining members of the group of approximately 1200 Bosnian Muslim males from the Pilica school by bus to the Branjevo Military Farm. These Bosnian Muslim men had been captured from the column of men retreating from the Srebrenica enclave or separated in Potocari. After the Bosnian Muslim males arrived at the Branjevo Military Farm, they were summarily executed by automatic weapon fire from members of the 10<sup>th</sup> Sabotage Detachment and the Bratunac Brigade, working together with other individuals and units. On 17 July 1995, VRS personnel from the Engineering Company of the Zvornik Brigade, working together with other individuals and units, buried hundreds of victims in a nearby mass grave.

**32.11 Pilica Cultural Centre:** On 16 July 1995, VRS personnel from the Bratunac Brigade travelled a short distance to the village of Pilica and worked with other VRS and/or MUP personnel to summarily execute, with automatic weapons, approximately 500 men inside the Pilica Cultural Centre. These Bosnian Muslim men had been captured from the column of men retreating from the Srebrenica enclave or separated in Potocari. On 17 July 1995, VRS personnel from the "R" Battalion of the Zvornik Brigade retrieved the bodies of the victims from the Pilica Cultural Centre and transported them to the Branjevo Military Farm. On 17 July 1995, the Engineering Company of the Zvornik Brigade buried the victims of the Pilica School executions in a mass grave at the Branjevo Military Farm.

**32.12 Kozluk:** On or before 16 July 1995, VRS and/or MUP soldiers, working together with other individuals and units, transported about 500 Bosnian Muslim males to an isolated place near Kozluk, in the Zvornik Brigade zone of responsibility, and summarily executed them with automatic weapons. These Bosnian Muslim men had been captured from the column of men retreating from the Srebrenica enclave or separated in Potocari. On 16 July 1995, VRS soldiers from the Engineering Company of the Zvornik Brigade, working together with other individuals and units, buried the victims of the executions in a mass grave nearby.

33. As Assistant Commander of Security for the Drina Corps, and by virtue of the authority vested in him by his commander, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** was responsible for all of these Bosnian Muslim prisoners, and he assisted in the implementation and oversight of the murder of these men. For instance, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** was present in the Zvornik area at critical times and was actively involved in executions in that vicinity, including the acquisition, on 16 July 1995, of fuel with which to facilitate the executions in Pilica.
34. During and after the campaign of organised executions, the opportunistic killing of captured Bosnian Muslim men from the Srebrenica enclave by VRS and MUP personnel continued to occur through about 1 November 1995. These opportunistic killings, which were a natural and foreseeable consequence of the Joint Criminal Enterprise, occurred in the zones

of responsibility of both the Bratunac Brigade and the Zvornik Brigade. As Assistant Commander of Security for the Drina Corps, and by virtue of the authority vested in him by his commander, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** had responsibility for the handling of Bosnian Muslim prisoners. Such opportunistic killings are as follows:

#### Bratunac Brigade Zone

34.1 **Nova Kasaba:** At sometime from 13 July through 27 July 1995 VRS and/or MUP personnel captured and executed 33 Bosnian Muslim men from the column fleeing the Srebrenica enclave. At least 26 of the victims were summarily executed after having been placed in two recently dug graves. Twenty-seven of the 33 men had their hands tied behind their backs when they were executed. These graves were located near the village of Nova Kasaba.

34.2 **Konjevic Polje:** At sometime from 13 July through 27 July 1995, VRS and/or MUP soldiers captured two Bosnian Muslim men from the column, placed them in a pit near the village of Konjevic Polje, and summarily executed and buried them.

34.3 **Glogova:** At sometime from 17 July through 27 July 1995, VRS and/or MUP soldiers captured 12 Bosnian Muslim men from the column, tied them together in six pairs, shot each of them in the head, and buried them in a mass grave near the village of Glogova.

34.4 **Kravica Market:** During the night between 13 July and 14 July near a supermarket in Kravica, a VRS or MUP soldier placed his rifle barrel into the mouth of a Bosnian Muslim prisoner and summarily executed the man. Also during this period, VRS and/or MUP soldiers struck, beat with rifle butts, and summarily executed Bosnian Muslim prisoners who were detained on trucks near the supermarket. All of these prisoners had been captured from the column of men retreating from the Srebrenica enclave or separated at Potocari.

34.5 **Bratunac Brigade:** At sometime from 12 July through 1 November 1995, six Bosnian Muslim men from Srebrenica were captured by MUP forces, turned over to and interrogated by security personnel from the Bratunac Brigade, and thereafter summarily executed by unknown persons. The identification details for these six Bosnian Muslim men are as follows:

- a. Zazif AVDIC, son of Ramo, date of birth: 15 September 1954.
- b. Munib DEDIC, son of Emin, date of birth: 26 April 1956.
- c. Aziz HUSIC, son of Osman, date of birth: 08 April 1966.
- d. Resid SINANOVIC, son of Rahman, date of birth: 15 October 1949.
- e. Mujo HUSIC, son of Osman, date of birth: 27 August 1961.
- f. Hasib IBISEVIC, son of Ibrahim, date of birth: 27 February 1964.

#### Zvornik Brigade Zone

34.6 **Nezuk:** On 19 July 1995, VRS personnel from the 16<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the 1<sup>st</sup> Krajina Corps, re-subordinated to the command of the Zvornik Brigade, captured approximately 10

Bosnian Muslim males from the column and with automatic weapons, summarily executed them at a place near Nezuk.

**34.7 Zvornik Brigade:** On or about 19 July 1995, the following four Bosnian Muslim men were captured from the column by VRS and/or MUP forces in the Zvornik Brigade zone of responsibility and turned over to Zvornik Brigade Security personnel:

- (a) Sakib KIVIRIC, son of Salko, date of birth: 24 June 1964.
- (b) Emin MUSTAFIC, son of Rifet, date of birth: 7 October 1969.
- (c) Fuad DJOZIC, son of Senusija, date of birth: 2 May 1965.
- (d) Almir HALILOVIC, son of Suljo, date of birth: 25 August 1980.

On or about 22 July 1995, these men were interrogated by Zvornik Brigade personnel, and were summarily executed sometime thereafter by unknown persons working together with the Zvornik Brigade Security personnel.

**34.8 Zvornik Brigade:** On 20 August 1995, Dzemail SALIHOVIC, a Bosnian Muslim from Srebrenica, was captured by forces of the Zvornik Brigade near Kalesija while attempting to cross over to Muslim-held territory. Mr. Salihovic was interrogated by personnel from the Zvornik Brigade and was summarily executed sometime thereafter by unknown persons.

- 35. From about 18 July through about 1 November, additional members of the Bosnian Muslim column were captured or killed in the Bratunac and Zvornik Brigade zone by VRS and MUP forces. As Assistant Commander of Security for the Drina Corps, and by virtue of the authority vested in him by his commander, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** had responsibility for the handling of Bosnian Muslim prisoners. These killings were a natural and foreseeable consequence of the Joint Criminal Enterprise, and occurred in the zones of responsibility of both the Bratunac Brigade and the Zvornik Brigade. Through at least 2 August 1995, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** communicated with Radislav Krstic regarding the capture of Bosnian Muslim prisoners attempting to escape to Serbia.
- 36. From about 1 August 1995 through about 1 November 1995, VRS and MUP personnel participated in an organised and comprehensive effort to conceal the killings and executions in the Zvornik and Bratunac Brigade zones of responsibility by reburying bodies exhumed from initial mass graves at the following locations: Branjevo Military Farm; Kozluk; the "Dam" near Petkovci; Orahovac; and Glogova; and transferring them to secondary graves at: twelve sites along the Cancari Road (containing bodies from Branjevo Military Farm and Kozluk); four sites near Liplje (containing bodies from the "Dam" near Petkovci); seven sites near Hodzici (containing bodies from Orahovac); and seven sites near Zeleni Jadar (containing bodies from Glogova). This reburial operation was a natural and foreseeable consequence of the execution and original burial plan conceived by the Joint Criminal Enterprise. This operation involved members of the Drina Corps security organ with responsibility over the Zvornik Brigade zone, including **VUJADIN POPOVIC**.
- 37. The conduct of **VUJADIN POPOVIC** met the requisite four elements of Genocide, namely that:
  - a. The accused killed one or more persons;
  - b. Such persons belonged to a particular national, ethnical, racial, or religious group;
  - c. The accused intended to kill the persons; and

- d. The accused killed the persons in furtherance of the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, that national, ethnical, racial, or religious group, as such.

Or,

38. In the alternative, the conduct of **VUJADIN POPOVIC** met the requisite three elements of Complicity in Genocide, namely that:
  - a. The accused was an accomplice in the commission of a crime;
  - b. The crime was committed; and
  - c. The accused knew that the crime was being committed in furtherance of the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial, or religious group, as such.

And,

**COUNT 2**  
**(Extermination)**

By his acts and omissions described in the preceding paragraphs, **VUJADIN POPOVIC**, committed:

**COUNT 2:** Extermination, a **CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY**, punishable under Articles 5(b) and 7(1) of the Statute of the Tribunal.

39. The conduct of **VUJADIN POPOVIC** met the requisite four elements of Extermination as a Crime Against Humanity, namely that:
  - a. There was an armed conflict;
  - b. In a manner relating to a widespread or systematic attack directed against a civilian population, an act or omission of the accused or a subordinate caused the death of the victim;
  - c. The act or omission was unlawful and intentional, reckless, or grossly negligent; and
  - d. The accused had knowledge of the wider context in which his conduct occurred.

And,

**COUNTS 3-4**  
**(Murder)**

By his acts and omissions described in the preceding paragraphs, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** committed:

**COUNT 3:** Murder, a **CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY**, punishable under Articles 5(a) and 7(1) of the Statute of the Tribunal.

40. The conduct of **VUJADIN POPOVIC** met the requisite four elements of Murder as a Crime Against Humanity, namely that:
  - a. There was an armed conflict;
  - b. In a manner related to a widespread or systematic attack directed against a civilian

- population, the accused caused the death of one or more persons;
- c. By such conduct, the accused intended to kill or to inflict serious injury in reckless disregard of human life; and
- d. The accused had knowledge of the wider context in which his conduct occurred.

And,

**COUNT 4: Murder, a VIOLATION OF THE LAWS OR CUSTOMS OF WAR**, punishable under Articles 3 and 7(1) of the Statute of the Tribunal.

41. The conduct of **VUJADIN POPOVIC** met the requisite four elements of Murder as a Violation of the Laws or Customs of War, namely that:

- a. There was a nexus between the murder and an armed conflict;
- b. The conduct of the accused caused the death of one or more persons;
- c. By such conduct, the accused intended to kill or to inflict serious injury in reckless disregard of human life; and
- d. The victim or victims were persons taking no active part in the hostilities.

And,

**COUNT 5**  
**(Persecutions)**

By his acts and omissions alleged in the preceding paragraphs, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** committed:

**COUNT 5: Persecutions on political, racial and religious grounds, a CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY**, including Murder, Cruel and Inhumane Treatment, Terrorising the Civilian Population, Destruction of Personal Property, and Forcible Transfer, punishable under Articles 5(h) and 7(1) of the Statute of the Tribunal.

42. The conduct of **VUJADIN POPOVIC** met the requisite four elements of Persecutions as a Crime against humanity, namely that:

- a. There was an armed conflict;
- b. In a manner related to a widespread or systematic attack directed against a civilian population, the accused committed acts or omissions against a victim or victim population violating a basic or fundamental human right;
- c. The accused's conduct was committed on political, racial, or religious grounds, and was committed with requisite discriminatory intent; and
- d. The accused had knowledge of the wider context in which his conduct occurred.

43. As described in this Indictment, the crime of persecutions was perpetrated, executed, and carried out by and through the following means:

- a. the murder of thousands of Bosnian Muslim civilians, including men, women, children, and elderly persons;
- b. the cruel and inhumane treatment of Bosnian Muslim civilians, including severe beatings at Potocari and in detention facilities in Bratunac and Zvornik;

- c. the terrorising of Bosnian Muslim civilians in Srebrenica and at Potocari;
- d. the destruction of personal property and effects belonging to the Bosnian Muslims;  
and
- e. the forcible transfer of Bosnian Muslims from the Srebrenica enclave.

And,

**COUNT 6**  
**(Forcible Transfer)**

By his acts and omissions described in the preceding paragraphs, **VUJADIN POPOVIC** committed:

**COUNT 6:** Inhumane acts (Forcible Transfer), a **CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY**, punishable under Articles 5(i) and 7(1) of the Statute of the Tribunal.

Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March 2002  
The Hague,  
The Netherlands

---

Carla Del Ponte  
Prosecutor