Summary of Conclusions for
Meeting of the NSC Principals Committee
DATE: February 21, 1995
LOCATION: White House Situation Room
TIME: 3:00 - 3:40pm

SUBJECT: Summary of Conclusions of Principals Committee Meeting on Bosnia and Croatia

PARTICIPANTS:
Chair
Anthony Lake
CIA
Admiral William Studeman
OVP
Leon Fuerth
JCS
General John Shalikashvili
State
Secretary Christopher
White House
Samuel Berger
Nancy Soderberg
DOD
Secretary Perry
NSC
Alexander Vershbow
USUN
Ambassador Madeleine Albright

Summary of Conclusions

1. Principals discussed the recent increase in reports of violations of the no-fly zone. They recognized that investigations by the UN and NATO have been unable to confirm the reported activity. Concerned that reporting has indicated that NATO is no longer enforcing the no-fly zone, Principals requested a detailed documentation of recent helicopter and fixed wing activity and a recap of NATO procedures to enforce the no-fly zone, with a view to NATO using the information to correct the public record. (Action: JCS) ($)

2. Principals discussed efforts to obtain Serbian recognition of Bosnia, Croatia, and other former Yugoslav republics within their existing borders in exchange for sanctions relief (Plan B). Principals agreed that while prospects for success were remote, we should not agree to any further sanctions relief or other
measures that would "sweeten" the offer now under consideration. They directed that our Contact Group partners be informed of our seriousness before their meeting with Milosevic later this week. (Action: State) Principals also requested that Deputies consider how long the Plan B proposal should remain on the table. (Action: Deputies) (§)

3. Principals discussed the impact on the War Crimes Tribunal of the present Plan B proposal. They decided not to add Serbian cooperation with the War Crimes Tribunal as an additional condition for sanctions relief in the context of mutual recognition. Principals agreed, however, that further relief from the "outer wall" of sanctions would still be subject to many additional conditions including cooperation with the War Crimes Tribunal. (§)

4. Principals discussed options for the longer term should diplomatic efforts fail to achieve a negotiated settlement. They requested that the Deputies undertake a review of potential scenarios to frame policy choices likely to be faced in the next 2-3 months. The review should include estimated time-lines for events on the ground in Bosnia, Croatia and neighboring areas, an analysis of the likely evolution of allied and Congressional attitudes, and U.S. policy options. (Action: Deputies/Interagency) (§)

5. Principals discussed a request from Milosevic, channeled through a private U.S. citizen, for a one-time meeting with Congressman Bill Richardson. They agreed that Richardson should be informed that we oppose such a meeting as Milosevic already has direct high-level access to the U.S. Government. (§)