

4

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

United Nations Peace Forces - Headquarters
Forces de Paix des Nations Unies - Quartier Général

Lieutenant General Bernard JANVIER
Force Commander UN Peace Forces

Zagreb, 11 July 1995

General,

With respect to the action that your forces are undertaking in Srebrenica area, I wish to express my deepest concern with regard to the fate of the twenty Dutch soldiers in Bratunac and the ten others in the area of Nazda, who are under your control. My main concern is related to their safety and I request for them, total freedom of movement so that they can go back to their headquarters when they decide so.

On 8 July afternoon, OP F manned by Dutch soldiers was directly targeted by a tank belonging to your forces. Fortunately, there were no casualties. On 9 and 10 July attacks were also conducted against UN positions leading to a total of 7 OP's left for safety reasons due to deliberate targeting. I must stress that hostile actions threatening the life of my soldiers cannot be accepted and have to stop. In accordance with my mandate, I intend to react with all possible means available, should the life or the mission of my soldiers be threatened.

I request then, complete freedom of action and movement for my troops and therefore I cannot see the continuation of this situation which affects UN troops defending a Safe Area in accordance with Security Council Resolution 819

Once again, I strongly emphasize the imperative necessity for the forces under your command to cease all firing against UNPROFOR, to withdraw to the perimeter of the enclave immediately and to stop all direct or indirect targeting against civilian population.

Your violation of the Safe Area cannot be tolerated by the international community. You have to desist by withdrawing and ending all actions against it. I rely on your authority to ensure compliance with this request. Otherwise, an extremely dangerous situation may be created.

Yours sincerely,