



BOB DJURDJEVIC

[personal information removed]

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June 1, 2011

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL (Sent by Fax and email: +31 (0)70 512 5355)

TO: **Messrs. Serge Brammertz and Norman Farrell**
International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia
Churchillplein 1
2517 JW The Hague, The Netherlands

Subject: Possible testimony, meetings with defendants

Dear Messrs. Brammertz and Farrell,

My name is Bob Djurdjevic. I am an American citizen who currently resides in Hawaii. For more than a decade (between 1989 and 2002), I had been a freelance journalist, columnist and commentator on the wars in the former Yugoslavia. During that time, I traveled to Serbia and Bosnia numerous times, and have met on a number of occasions with Ratko Mladic, Radovan Karadzic, Slobodan Milosevic, Momcilo Perisic, Momcilo Krajisnik and many other major figures in the wars in Croatia, Bosnia and Serbia, including the heads of diplomatic missions in Belgrade from the U.S., France, Britain, Canada and Russia. I was in Bosnia when the alleged Srebrenica massacre took place, for example, meeting with Karadzic and others.

You can find many of my stories from that time frame at the www.truthinmedia.org web site. If you run a search using Mladic or Karadzic as keywords, you will find more than 30 stories. For Milosevic, over 100 of them. Etc.

Some of your colleagues at ICTY seemed acutely aware of my deep and broad coverage of the Balkan wars. Two of your attorneys traveled to Phoenix, Arizona in 2002, where I resided at the time, to meet with me and question me with a view of possibly testifying in the Karadzic and Mladic trials, should these two accused be captured. I agreed to the meeting which was done in the presence of the U.S. Attorney for Arizona (they said they could not subpoena me for constitutional reasons, since I was a journalist). The two prosecutors from the Hague had

apparently researched extensively my private notes about my meetings with the above Yugoslav leaders. I used to file them contemporaneously (after each of my trips to Bosnia and Serbia) at the Hoover Archives at the Stanford University in California. They were under embargo for several years so as not to influence decisions of war and peace which were being made at the time. That embargo has now expired.

One of your Hague lawyers also called me here in Hawaii after Karadzic was captured, I guess with a view that now the ICTY may indeed want me to testify. I have not heard from him since.

Unfortunately, I did not write down his name and phone number, otherwise I would be writing this note to him or calling him. I hope you can easily figure out from your records who that was, based on the above information.

Anyway, the reason I am contacting you at this time is to tell you that, if you're still interested, I am willing to testify, subject to certain conditions which we can discuss over the phone.

I also want to offer something else by way of service to true justice and reconciliation among the people of former Yugoslavia. I would be willing to come to the Hague and meet personally with all of the above defendants. As someone who is an American citizen and a widely respected writer and businessman, yet was born in Belgrade and thus speaks Serbian, I had developed a certain amount of rapport and trust with all of the accused during the wars that few foreign journalists would be able to achieve. Both Mladic and Karadzic used to give me their cars and drivers, for example, to go wherever I wanted to in Bosnia during the war because they trusted me to report the truth about what I saw and heard.

Now I want to try to rekindle that rapport and use it to try to get them to tell the court the full truth of what happened and admit to their role and/or culpability.

Why would I want to do it? Mostly to help them save their souls while they still can. You see, I am also an Inca-trained shaman thrice ordained by the Andean mountain spirits themselves. Many of the Bosnian Serb leaders were deeply spiritual as I recall. I want to try to touch their souls, and explain to them why it is important to clear the slate before we depart.

Why would they want to do it? Because I hope to make them see that such a sacrifice would be their ultimate and final act of heroism. By confessing their wrongs, they will be also washing clean the face of the Serbian people which their wartime actions had smeared. And even if they do find many faults with the UN Tribunal, as I also do, by facing the enemy and making amends to him and to the victims, they could erase their own and the Serbian national karma. They could achieve in your court what they had failed to do on the battlefield: Give their country back its dignity. And then take whatever punishment is meted out to them standing upright, like honorable men again.

I know the Serbian psyche. I used to know these men. I suspect they see themselves as wartime heroes. I want to show them that there is another way to serve: that it takes even more courage to be peacetime heroes. As the late Serbian Patriarch Pavle once told me, quoting a Serbian proverb: "Heroism is defending your country against an enemy. Nobility is defending your enemy from yourself." I have a feeling the accused men may also understand different types of courage.

I am currently also working on a column that will essentially say the same thing. So I ask you to keep this correspondence private until it is published. Thank you. {here's the link: [Beat Swords into Plowshares at the Hague, June 2 - http://www.truthinmedia.org/2011/Swords_Plowshares.html](http://www.truthinmedia.org/2011/Swords_Plowshares.html)).

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Bob Djurdjevic