

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000



OCT 2 2 1998



The Honorable Robert Dole 901 15th Street, N.W. Suite 410 Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Bob:

It is always a pleasure meeting with you and hearing your views on vital world issues. I particularly applaud your work to resolve the issue of missing persons in the former Yugoslavia.

Regarding the specific point you raised, I am informed the issue of SFOR security at the Milici exhumation site has been favorably resolved and the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) is satisfied. The initial problem appears to have been one of resources and tactics – you will appreciate military reluctance to guarding a fixed site. SFOR must balance support to civil implementation tasks against operational and force protection requirements; in this instance, increased patrolling and assignment of a liaison officer met the need.

We will continue our policy to assist, whenever possible, the war crimes investigation and prosecution efforts of the ICTY. I feel as you do that the ICTY's work is essential to bringing a lasting peace to Bosnia. I am particularly pleased with SFOR's 27 September detention of Stevan Todorovic in the U.S. sector. Todorovic was indicted by the ICTY in 1995 for allegations relating to the ethnic cleansing of the Bosnian municipality of Bosanski Samac in 1992. He has been transferred to the Hague and made his first appearance before the Hague Tribunal on 30 September 1998.

Sincerely,

