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(LS)



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

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INFORMATION MEMORANDUM
S/S

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TO: The Secretary

FROM: INL - Rand Beers (RB)
S/SA - James O'Brien (JO)

SUBJECT: Trafficking in Women in Bosnia - Recent Events

Six IPTF officers, including three Americans, have left the International Police Task Force (IPTF) mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina in the last week. Another British officer faces serious allegations about his behavior.

In a fairly clear-cut case, an American officer was fired after he admitted that he "bought out the contract" of a 19-year-old woman trafficked from Russia with whom he co-habitated for six months. This officer also admitted bringing sensitive documents about forthcoming IPTF raids to his residence, where this woman may have had access to them.

The case of the other six is murkier. They participated in a successful raid on three "nightclubs" in Prijedor that liberated 37 women from Russia, Moldova, Ukraine and elsewhere, including 33 who claim they were trafficked and forced into prostitution. In the course of the raid and the unauthorized "investigation" that led up to it, the officers violated several IPTF procedural rules, provoking the outrage of the Republika Srpska Interior Minister. The IPTF Commissioner ostensibly sought the officers' resignation for violating these rules.

However, before the request for their resignations was issued, these six officers were accused of having frequented the same nightclubs they had just shut down. One of the officers confessed that he had engaged the services of at least one of the trafficked women and implicated the other five. One of the Americans made a

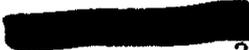
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ERIC W. FLEISSNER
DATE/CASE ID: 10 DEC 2001 200102920

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confession to another IPTF officer but later recanted it. We believe that these accusations played a role, probably the primary role, in the IPTF Commissioner's decision to seek their resignations. We do not believe that uncorroborated allegations by one of the nightclub owners that he was asked to pay bribes and supply women to one of the Americans involved were a factor. Only one of the officers, from Britain, has elected to stay in the mission to fight the charges.

We will not know the full facts until the IPTF internal investigation is complete. In the interim, we are informing the State Inspector General's office of the allegations against the U.S. officers and will forward the UN's report to the IG to determine what additional punitive action may be appropriate. It is our understanding that the IG will refer the matter to the Department of Justice if necessary. L/LEI also has discussed the matter with Justice.

The U.S. officers all have left the mission. They will be ineligible for future CIVPOL service. At our instruction, DynCorp has issued a stern message to our CIVPOL that involvement in, or failure to disclose others' involvement in, such activities is grounds for immediate termination.

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Darby/Bosnia/info memo to S on trafficking take 2 11-00
12/1/00

Clear:

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