

# 10 years

International Commission on Missing Persons

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Sarajevo, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2006  
221-072/2006

Dear Ms. Neema,

Please find enclosed the following documentation for your records:

- Letter to Mr. Jonathan Sutch (Reference 267-021/2005) dated 21<sup>st</sup> December 2005
- Expert Report on Exhumations – Batajnica, Petrovo Selo, Derventa Canyon Lake Perucac (Reference ICMP.FSD.31.05.1.doc) dated November 24, 2005

Yours sincerely,



Irene O'Sullivan,  
Programme Co-ordinator

Ms. Patricia Neema  
ICTY  
Churchillplein 1  
2517 JW, The Hague  
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Web: www.ic-mp.org

Sarajevo, 21<sup>st</sup> December 2005  
267-021/2005

Dear Mr. Sutch,

Please find enclosed document:

- Expert Report on Exhumations (Batajnica; Petrovo Selo; Derventa Canyon, Lake Perucac);

Yours sincerely,

  
Nada Simanic  
Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Staff  
ICMP

Mr. Jonathan Sutch  
ICTY  
Churchillplein 1  
2517 JW, The Hague  
Netherlands



International Commission on Missing Persons

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FILE HANDOVER DOCUMENT

DOCUMENT	AUTHOR
1 sealed envelope	ICMP

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# **EXPERT REPORT ON EXHUMATIONS**

**BATAJNICA  
PETROVO SELO  
DERVENTA CANYON, LAKE PERUCAC**

**Distribution:**  
Restricted  
Sarajevo, November 24, 2005  
ICMP.FSD.31.05.1.doc

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## PART 1: BATAJNICA

### A. REPORT REQUIRED

The International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)<sup>1</sup> is requested by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) to provide an expert report<sup>2</sup> regarding the excavations, examinations and repatriations of mortal remains relevant to the 1999 Kosovo conflict<sup>3 4</sup> as follows:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Date of excavation</u>
BA01	June 2 <sup>nd</sup> to June 26 <sup>th</sup> 2001
BA02	July 10 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup> September 2001
BA03	20 <sup>th</sup> June to 26 <sup>th</sup> July 2002
BA04	30 <sup>th</sup> July to 2 <sup>nd</sup> August, 5 <sup>th</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2002
BA05	2 <sup>nd</sup> August to November 26 <sup>th</sup> 2002
BA06	19 <sup>th</sup> August to 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2002
BA07	4 <sup>th</sup> November to 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2002
BA08	21 <sup>st</sup> November to 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2002

#### Complete Bodies Recovered During Excavation (from archaeological record)

BA01	36	
BA02	269	
BA03	39	
BA04	0	
BA05	287	
BA06	0	
BA07	74	
BA08	0	<b>Total: 705</b>

#### Recovered Artifacts of Forensic Importance Recovered during Excavation (based on survey data)

BA01	unknown	
BA02	unknown	
BA03	112	
BA04	5	
BA05	187	
BA06	23	
BA07	46	
BA08	7	<b>Total: 380</b>

<sup>1</sup> For origin, mandate and activities of the Commission generally see Annex 1a; activities relating to forensics, see Annex 1b.

<sup>2</sup> For qualifications of the reporting expert Annex 2a; for other foundations and sources for this report see Annex 2b.

<sup>3</sup> With respect to Kosovo, ICMP has signed agreements with UNMIK providing for ICMP to perform DNA identifications. For an overview on the state of ICMP DNA work to date, see Annex 3.

<sup>4</sup> With respect to Serbia and Montenegro, ICMP has signed agreements with the Kosovo Coordination Centre, see Annex 4.

**1. Batajnica 1 (BA01) Participants****Court**

Judge NENAD CAVLINA

Belgrade District Court

**Archaeological Team Members (based on Starovic 2001)**

Mr. ANDREJ STAROVIC

Archaeologist (Petnica Research Centre), Head of the  
Archaeological Excavation

Mr. ALEKSANDER KAPURAN

Archaeologist (Belgrade), Excavation and Field Documentation  
(3 days)

Mr. RADIVOJE ARSIC

Graduate Student of Archaeology (Paracin) Excavation, Field  
Drawings (replaced above)

Mr. VOJISLAV FILIPOVIC

Senior Year Student of Archaeology (Belgrade), Excavation

Mr. IGOR VADUVESKOVIC

Sophomore Year Student of Archaeology (Zajecar), Excavation

**International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) Monitor**

Dr. BRENDA KENNEDY

Senior Forensic Anthropologist (ICMP)

**2. Batajnica 2 (BA02) Participants****Court**

Judge MILAN DILPARIC

Belgrade District Court

**Forensic Institute of Belgrade Team**

Dr. Prof. DUSAN DUNJIC

Specialist in Forensic Medicine (Head of Expert Team)

Dr. Prof. MIROLJUB OBRADOVIC

Specialist in Forensic Medicine

Dr. Prof. MARIJA DURIC

Anthropologist

Asst. Dr. DANIJELA DJONIC

Anthropologist

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Specialist in Forensic Medicine

Asst. Dr. SLOBODAN NIKOLIC

Specialist in Forensic Medicine

Asst. Dr. DJORDJE ALEMPIJEVIC

Specialist in Forensic Medicine

Asst. Dr. DRAGAN JECMENICA

Specialist in Forensic Medicine

Asst. Dr. SNEZANA PAVLEKIC

Specialist in Forensic Medicine

Dr. Prof. ZORAN RAKOCEVIC

Maxillo-Facial Surgeon and Specialist in Radiography

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Mr. REDZEP MAMUTOVSKI

**Photographs and video by:**

Mr. PETAR ILINCIC

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Mr. DUSKO NENEDOVIC

**Typing and Technical Services:**

Ms. GORDANA VELIMIROVIC

Ms. MILIJANA KRSTIC

**International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) Monitor**

Dr. MARK SKINNER PhD. DABFA

Senior Forensic Anthropologist

**3. Batajnica 3/4/5/6 (BA03/04/05/06) Participants****Court**

Judge MILAN DILPARIC Belgrade District Court

**ICMP Archaeological Team**

Dr. MARK SKINNER, PhD. DABFA Senior Forensic Anthropologist (BA03 only)  
 Mr. JON STERENBERG, MSc. AIFA Senior Forensic Archaeologist/Manager/Plant Operator  
 Mr. HUGH TULLER MA. Forensic Archaeologist/Manager

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Mr. ANDREJ STAROVIC, MSc. Archaeologist/Supervisor  
 Mr. IGOR VADUVESKOVIC Archaeologist/Surveyor/Data Entry  
 Mr. VOJISLAV FILIPOVIC Archaeologist/Surveyor/Data Entry  
 Mr. SLOBODAN MITROVIC Archaeologist/Surveyor/Data-Entry/Survey Manipulation

**ICMP Government Relations Officer**

Mr. VLADIMIR GACESA Project Monitor  
 Ms. ANA KRON Political Officer

**Forensic Institute of Belgrade Team**

Dr. Prof. DUSAN DUNJIC Director of the Institute of Forensic Medicine,  
 Belgrade/Coordination Centre  
 Dr. Prof. BRANIMIR ALEKSANDRIC Institute of Forensic Medicine, Belgrade (BA03/04/05/06/07/08)  
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 Dr. DJORDJE ALEMPIJEVIC Institute of Forensic Medicine, Belgrade  
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 Dr. SNEZANA PAVLEKIC Institute of Forensic Medicine, Belgrade

**Forensic Anthropologists (non ICMP)**

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 Dr. DANIJELA DJONIC Institute of Anatomy, Belgrade

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Mr. MARKO MINIC  
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**Crime Scene Photographer**

Mr. PETAR ILINCIC

**Laboratory Technicians**

Mr. LJUBISLAV BORDEJASEVIC  
 Mr. VLADIMIR TOMIC

**Local Support**

Mr. DUSKO NENADOVIC (SAJ)

**Post excavation Manipulation of Survey Data and Imagery (Production of Maps)**

Ms. AMANDA REDDICK, BSci Applied Photography

**ICTY Monitor**

Mr. WILLIAM FULTON  
Ms. MARINA KRSTIC

Senior ICTY Investigator, Belgrade  
Translator

**4. Batajnica 7 (BA07) Participants**

**ICMP Archaeological Team**

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Mr. HUGH TULLER, MA  
Prof. JOHN HUNTER  
Ms. ANN SCHOFIELD, MSc  
Ms. CECILLY CROPPER, MA  
Ms. FABIANA FRASCAROLI  
Ms. SHARNA DALEY, MSc  
Ms. LAURA YAZERADIN, MSc  
Mr. IGOR VADUVESKOVIC  
Mr. SLOBODAN MITROVIC  
Mr. PIOTOR DRUKIER, LSc

Senior Archaeologist/Surveyor/Plant Operator (First 2 weeks)  
Archaeologist/Site Manager  
University of Birmingham (Visiting)  
Anthropologist  
Senior Archaeologist/Surveyor  
Archaeologist  
Archaeologist/Surveyor  
Anthropologist  
Archaeologist/Surveyor  
Archaeologist/Data Management  
Anthropologist

**B** ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESPONSE

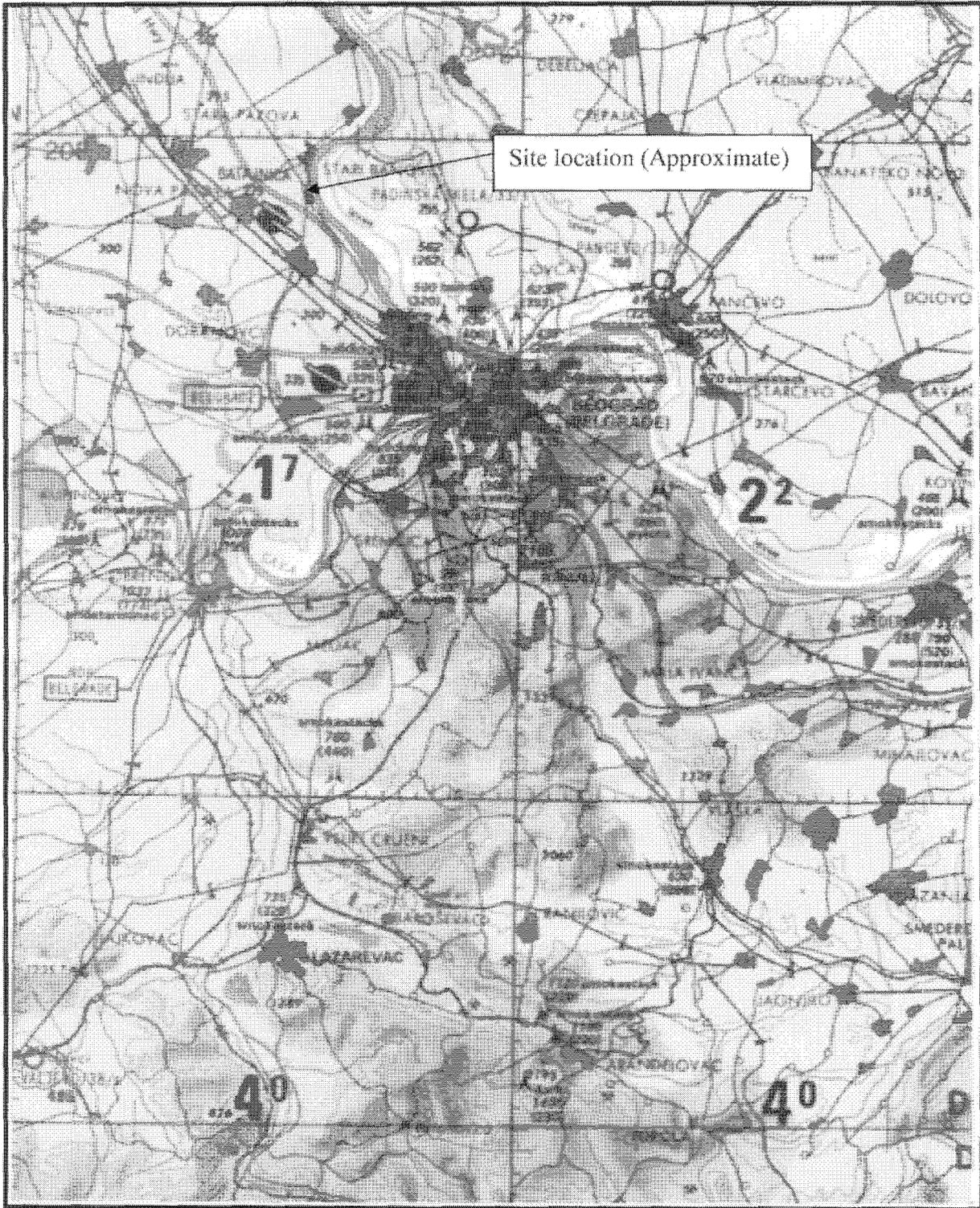


Figure 1: Location plan (Based on Tactical Pilotage Chart TPC F-3A, scale 1:500,000)

1. The excavations at the site situated to the North-West of the City of Belgrade, Serbia, known as Batajnica 1 (BA01) had commenced on June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2001 on the grounds of the Yugoslavian Government Anti Terrorist Police, Policija Srbije (SAJ), outside the area of a firing range which contained the remaining mass graves. The archaeological response was initiated later that month by the Institute of Forensic Medicine, Belgrade, which brought archaeologists from Belgrade University to site. Following classical approaches, the team identified and excavated archaeological features that elucidated the overall interpretation of the site, the feature itself, its contents and the backfilling process.
2. A second mass grave, known as Batajnica 2 (BA02), was excavated between July 10<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> September 2001. This grave was situated within the firing range of and was similar in size, shape and construction as BA01. It was excavated without archaeological expertise. However, the ICMP monitor assisted the process of recovering human remains and associated artifacts from the grave. The monitor reported that BA02 was placed in a west to east direction and was ramped at the western end. This would suggest that it was positioned close to and in the same direction as BA03.
3. A third site, Batajnica 3 (BA03) was excavated on 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> July 2002 also on the firing range slightly North of BA02. The introduction of archaeological and anthropological presence by ICMP in June of that year enabled the Belgrade Forensic Institute to undertake the controlled excavation of human remains and associated artifacts. Supervised machine stripping followed by manual excavation allowed the recovery of approximately 39 bodies.
4. Controlled mechanical removal of overburden and careful supervised stripping of the entire site was undertaken and four other features, two of which were shown later to be mass graves Batajnica 5 (BA05) and Batajnica 7 (BA07), were identified. Throughout the areas cleared by mechanical excavation, surfaces were cleaned by hand to expose and define the boundaries of potential archaeological deposits and features surviving at the subsoil horizon. These were recorded by detailed three-dimensional survey and photographed before excavations were commenced. In conjunction with this procedure, detailed recording, artifact recovery and selective environmental sampling were undertaken. Most of the work was carried out under the cover of tents. With respect to BA07, geophysical investigation was undertaken prior to excavation applying the techniques of resistivity to the non-invasive investigation of the grave.
5. In the following report archaeological features and contexts defined during fieldwork, and subsequently in post excavation analysis, are discussed within the chronological event system defined in the first instance through stratigraphic relationships or likely spatial associations. The report presents the excavated features in order of excavation and examines the potential of the associated forensic artifacts from within each grave or feature. The analysis of the recovered remains and associated artifacts enabled the archaeological team to construct an opinion based on this evidence surrounding the activities and events at Batajnica in 1999.

### C BATAJNICA GEOGRAPHY: LOCATION, LANDSCAPE AND GEOLOGY

6. The site area Batajnica (hereafter referred to by BA followed by site code) is situated approximately 200m from the western edge of the River Danube in an area of land belonging to a training centre used by the Yugoslavian military, the Special Anti-terrorist unit (SAJ) and police units of the Serbian Government.

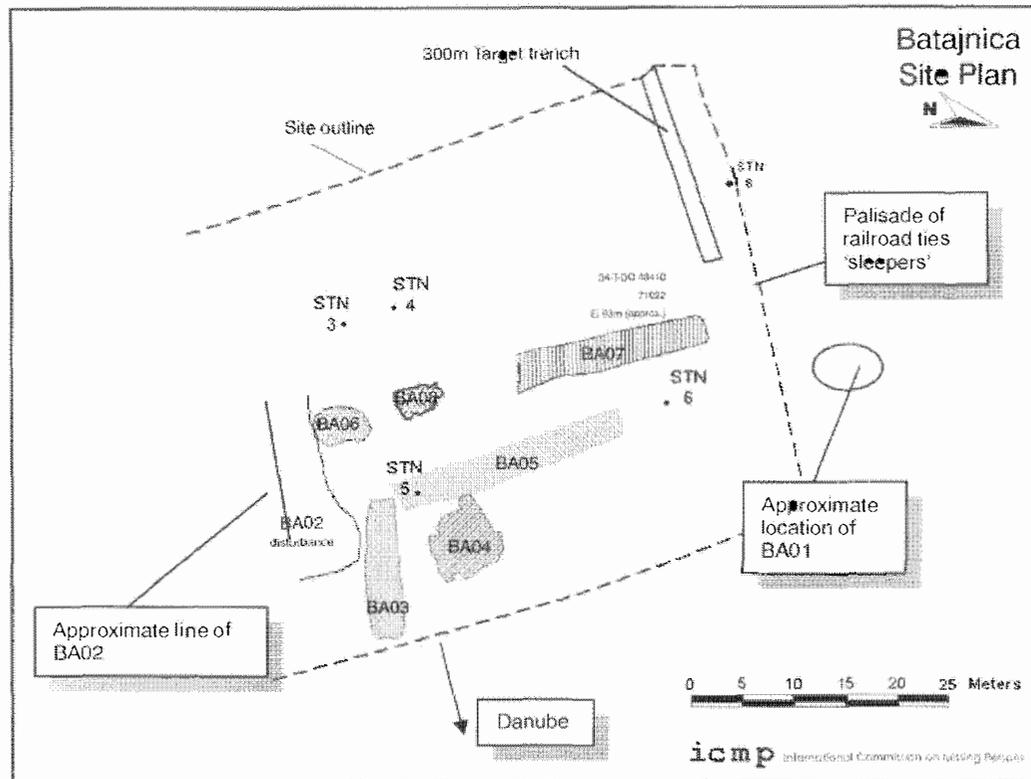


Figure 2: Location plan showing extent of features excavated within area

7. The characteristics of the land in the area of the firing range, are similar to flood plane deposits, that is a very light brown/buff topsoil/subsoil of overbank silts overlying a hard brown silt/clay alluvial material. This deposit extends to an unknown depth across the area, but was observed by the archaeological team to a depth of at least 4m within a series of rubbish and drainage pits excavated across the area of the site.
8. The site area (BA) is located at the far northern end of the 300m firing range and is used as a live fire range for various government departments. An area approximately 50m x 45m to the north of the range is bordered by large sloping anti ricochet 'berms' of compacted soil approximately 10m in height. Embedded into the upper surface of these berms are a series of closely placed vertical rail sleepers of which some 2 to 3m is upstanding. These are located on the north, east and western sides of the site. Towards the south is a long flat area of pasture approximately 200m in length forming part of the shooting range. At 200m and 300m locations are concrete slit trenches which house the mechanisms for 'pop-up' targets. The entire length of this part of the range is also bordered by anti-ricochet berms of compacted soil. Access to the site is through the armoury buildings to the south and a passage cut through the defensive berm in this general area. Access to the base itself is security controlled.



Figure 3: View of Batajnica site looking north, June 2002

9. Close to the south and west of the firing range are a series of hangers, offices and barrack accommodation. The barracks were originally built as a support centre for the military and were constructed in the 1950s. The 300m firing range where the graves and related features are situated was apparently heavily modified and extended in 1994, as could be observed at the end of the southern ricochet berm and the mid point of the northern berm. Evidence of the removal of several large trees along that original line was recovered during the excavation of BA08.

#### **I. Site History and Pre-visit Data**

10. An initial visit was made by ICMP at the beginning of June 2002 before invasive work was undertaken. The area of investigation was under grass, changes in the local vegetation were surveyed by the archaeology team as it is known that these changes of vegetation may indicate the position of large areas of disturbance or mass grave sites. A thick growth of thistle had grown abundant in the general area of the excavations of BA02, although the visual survey of the site showed little indication of any sizeable disturbance. Two areas of slightly different flora and fauna to the north of the previously excavated sites of BA02 excavated in 2001 were noted and plotted. Several destroyed cars were recorded and photographed on the site before removal by heavy machinery. These cars had been placed on top of the locations of the mass graves in 2001-2 to use for target practice.
11. Following the completion of work on BA02 the site had been turned over to the SAJ who had conducted various ballistic experiments and live fire exercises on the range. These included the use of small arms, submachine pistol weapons, rifles of various calibres, grenades of various types, rifle grenades and shoulder launched rockets. Consequently scattered across the site were hundreds of cartridge cases of differing calibres along with intact/deformed bullets of differing calibre, shrapnel fragments, grenade 'fly off' levers and several discarded propellant cases of rocket propelled ammunition.

12. Recent activity relating to the exhumation of BA02 in 2001 was observed, in particular a series of small drainage/rubbish pits concentrated to the western side of the site. Evidence of activity relating to the exhumation of BA02 could be observed to the south of the eastern side of the site with the remains of several partially buried parts of a large truck protruding through the soil within this area. During the visit in June 2002 the chassis of a large truck trailer was observed partially hidden behind a wall of disused vehicle tires. Placed in the north eastern corner of the site the chassis was approximately 15m in length and 3m in width. Although the original origin of the trailer was unknown, it was reported to ICMP that the chassis belonged to the truck that contained the bodies within BA02. To the south eastern corner of the site a series of large 3m tall walls had been constructed from timber and vehicle tires, this was used as a makeshift rest area during the excavation of BA02.
13. It was reported to ICMP that 22 truckloads (i.e. approximately 220 cubic meters) of soil had been brought onto the site to remodel the surface of the area, presumably following the backfilling of the graves, in particular the north-east end of the range where the activity of grave construction had altered the ground water table. The soil was also to be used to combat the problem of the area where the ground had now taken on a swampy appearance. Finally it was used to create a false horizon that sloped from the original ground surface, approximately the centerline (north south) of the site and extended towards the eastern berm.

## 2. Site Recording and Archaeological Methodology

14. Pro-forma sheets (i.e. Body Recovery Report)<sup>5</sup> similar to those used by ICTY archaeologists and Scene of Crime (SOCO) personnel from 1997 to 2001 were used on site. These were slightly modified to include versions in both English and Serbian. Use of a sequential numbering system allowed easy tracking of recovered body/body parts and associated artifacts from recovery through autopsy to final storage. Additional numbers/letters were added during autopsy if and when the pathology team required. The Pro Forma Sheet included the surveying points that were to be taken (15 points). Sections on this form also covered the state of decomposition of the relevant body/ body part and a section for the recorded temperature of the body pre-lift.
15. After the removal of overburden, each body or body part was cleaned by hand, and allocated the next sequential number from the main evidence log. These were recorded within the log as either 'Body' (B) (if complete or near complete), or Body Part (BP). As the pathology and anthropology team were local the letter codes were changed to reflect the local language; (T) *telo*, [body], (DT) *deo tela* [body part] or (P) *predmet* [artifact]. No evidence of funeral rites or evidence of proper burial was observed during the excavations.
16. Non-invasive detailed records were made by the field team relating to position of the body or body part within the grave, remaining clothing present on the body/body part, and associated forensic evidence such as the presence of blindfolds or ligatures. Separate bags were assigned to general bones (those bones which could not be associated) and general artifacts (loose items of clothing or other material, e.g. concrete fragments, recovered throughout the excavation). Artifacts of forensic importance were also recovered and given a sequential number and logged within the main evidence log, again in sequential order as 'Artifact' (A) or *predmat* (P).<sup>6</sup>
17. Particular note was also made if the body was found to be wrapped within blankets or plastic sheeting. Special note was made of bullets if observed. Survey of the bodies was undertaken using a Sokkia (SET 600) Total Station and associated (SDR 31) Data logger, this included a 15-point survey of the major landmarks

<sup>5</sup> See exhibit in Annex 6a

<sup>6</sup> See exhibit in Annex 6b

of each set of intact remains. Similarly, body part surveys were also undertaken identifying the major visible landmarks. In order to avoid confusion at a later date each body was given its own file within the data logger. Body parts and other forensic evidence i.e. shell cases, etc were placed within an item specific general file. This system allowed the precise plotting of all of the forensic evidence, i.e. bodies, shell cases, bullets, tires etc, to be recorded in three dimensions by the onsite archaeological personnel.

18. ICMP made general observations as to type of clothing, artifacts such as 'prayer beads', Korans etc but made no direct link to ethnicity. Basic analysis was undertaken for anthropological data that could be included in the pathology report at the site, further analysis was undertaken at the Forensic Institute in Belgrade.
19. After recording, each body or body part was placed into a separate white plastic body bag, with externally written (in indelible pen) identifying evidence number and transported from the grave to the on-site storage tent to await future autopsy by the Forensic Institute team. Artifacts were similarly treated and placed within an appropriately sized bag.
20. ICMP does not deal with presumptive Identifications as it relies on the science of DNA identification in order to confirm identity of an individual. Therefore during the excavations at Batajnica a system was put into place to assist the Forensic Institute team with any recovered documents located during the excavation itself. Due to the rough handling of the remains during transport and their initial internment in the mass graves, items such as passports, driving licenses and various paper documentation were routinely found between the remains and more rarely within the clothing of the individuals. The system put into place sought to ensure that any item as delicate as a paper document and recovered from a dark, cold and wet location would be stored under similar conditions until proper analysis can be performed.
21. The ICMP team was careful not to open or overly disturb through rough handling, any documentation recovered. It was recorded on the body form as an artifact associated with the remains; surveyed in-situ using the total station and data-logger and photographed. Once this process was complete the archaeologist placed the item into a brown paper envelope with evidence number code or artifact code, which was in turn sealed and placed within the refrigerated unit located inside the autopsy tent. Items within clothing were also recorded on the appropriate body form and photographed. Documents in this situation were directly pointed out to Forensic Institute staff.
22. The main evidence log was maintained by the ICMP staff on site and as such all recovered forensic evidence was logged in sequential order.<sup>7</sup> Additional numbers were allocated during autopsy to cover specific artifacts. Transfer of the written file into an electronic format was undertaken by the Forensic Institute team. All related forensic evidence and remains were photographed *in-situ* within the grave using a dedicated 35mm camera/with flash and color negative film. Each body/ body part being photographed in situ within the grave context with plastic scales to delineate the extremities and an arrow indicating the position of North, in this case a white arrow, before detailed non-invasive written records and detailed 3 Dimensional plotting.
23. A printed number was also included in the photograph and contained information relating to; site code, evidence number and associated B, BP or A number. Video footage was also taken by Serbian authorities during the early stages of the excavation process to record the progress of work and to record the location of evidence and bodies. These photographic images form the main visual evidence log on the excavation. Further photography was made at autopsy again with evidence number, scale etc. The use of two dedicated cameras allowed the logging of images to be undertaken without the fear of possible confusion. All of the photographic logs were translated into Serbian and kept by the photographer. In accordance with the investigating judge's instructions no personal photographs or video footage was taken by any member of the

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<sup>7</sup> *idem*

archaeology team, and a non-disclosure agreement was signed by all team members present forbidding any release of information to either the press or outside organization. ICMP was given permission at a later stage to publish its findings.

### 3. Processing of Human Remains

24. It is difficult to generally comment on the state of the remains from Batajnica due to several pre-burial taphonomic factors. It is fair to say that the remains located within the series of mass graves at Batajnica varied between fully fleshed remains to partially cremated remains. In some instances a series of decompositional states could be seen on one individual, e.g fleshed arms/hands; skeletonised skull; saponified torso, liquified pelvic area and upper legs and cremated lower limbs. Care was taken with every set of remains to recover as much of a body as possible. Many bodies were recovered within blankets which caused them to have a slightly mummified appearance. Bodies that were enclosed within plastic sheeting were generally fully fleshed and completely encased in water sodden clothing and plastic sheeting.
25. Processing of human remains and associated forensic evidence was implemented using the main evidence log as a means of tracking material through the process. All recovered evidence was stored within a large framed tent placed close to both the washing and autopsy facilities.

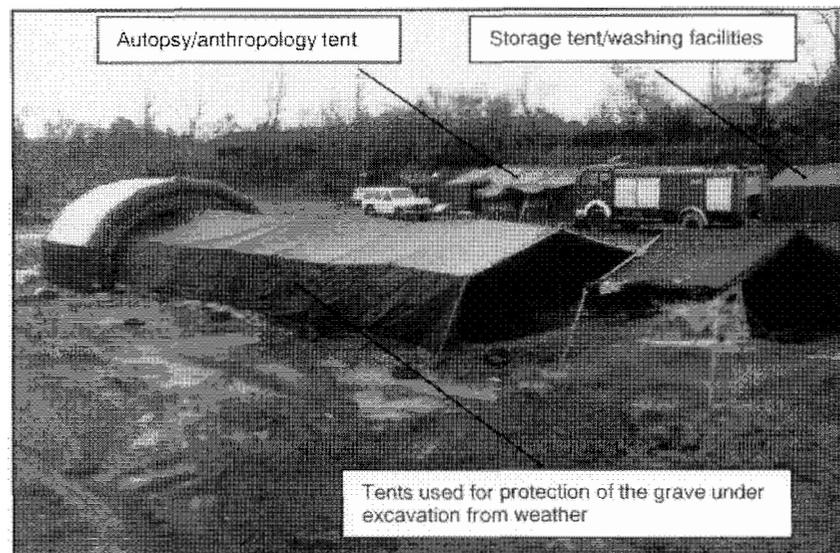


Figure 4: General view of BA05 during excavation.

26. Bodies/body parts and associated artifacts were worked on as and when decided by the pathology team. Bodies for autopsy were collected by the lab technicians who delivered the bodies within their body bags to one of three autopsy tables within the autopsy tent. The bags were opened and photographs were taken complete with evidence numbers on the remains. Each body or item was given a separate report file using a

laptop computer. The process of autopsy was accelerated through dictation with additional photographs taken during autopsy of injuries, documents recovered etc. At any one time four pathologists could be at work, two at autopsy and two receiving dictation. All of these generated reports were standardized. Removed clothing was washed and placed within the storage tent for drying; careful attention was given to this process in order to keep items of clothing from different individuals separate. Dry clothing was checked for indicators of injury, e.g. gunshot holes, blast damage or fire damage, and recorded both verbally and photographically before being sealed within heavy brown paper sacks, labeled with the correct evidence number.

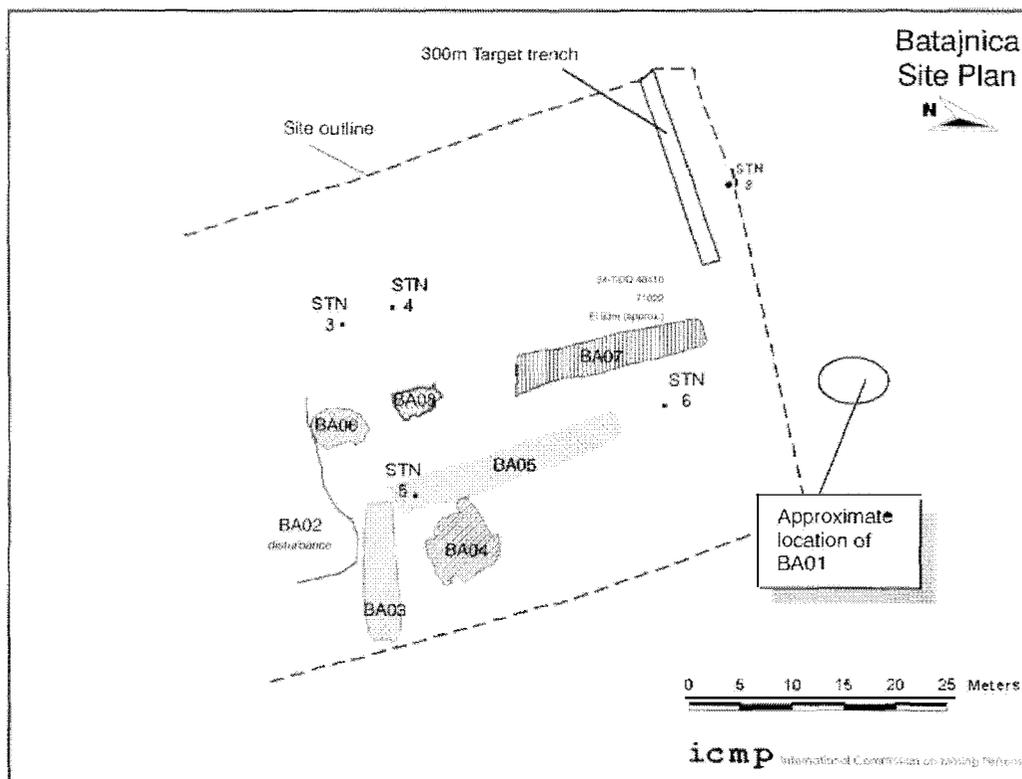
27. Anthropological analysis was undertaken on site by forensic anthropologists from the Institute of Forensic Medicine Belgrade.<sup>8</sup> Skeletal elements were cleaned by hand, usually by a lab technician, photographed and then handed to the anthropologist for examination of sex, age, stature and obvious skeletal pathology. Evidence was recorded of trauma and osteological changes to the bone. Items deemed to need radiographic analysis were transported to the Institute of Forensic Medicine. Once analysis had been completed the skeletal elements were returned to the corresponding body bag, and replaced within the storage tent.
28. Throughout the process, on-site lab technicians maintained the storage tent. Their role included the keeping of a log system of storage for both new body bags and artifacts, and also for stored autopsied remains and clothing. Once the storage area had accrued enough material, the remains, artifacts etc were transported by flat bed vehicle (tractor and trailer) to a series of tunnels located on the far side of the berm at a distance of approximately 400m. These tunnels were used for two reasons: firstly they were deemed to be secure and could be sealed. Secondly they were considered rodent free and to have a stable ambient temperature of around 21°C.
29. Material (including waste flesh, muscle etc) removed from skeletal elements was disposed of within a large 'burial pit' between the autopsy and storage tents. This was excavated by machine and had sufficient depth for this procedure, lime or similar was introduced on a regular basis to reduce smell.
30. Throughout the excavation, the archaeologists monitored the internal temperatures of the storage tent and the excavated remains, from initial exposure, through lifting, storage and autopsy. Control temperatures were taken within the storage tent and the excavation tent generally during the morning before work. A temperature log was kept to permit DNA analysts to later review samples' exposures to temperature.

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<sup>8</sup> It is essential that the individual uncovering the remains be thoroughly familiar with the hard and soft tissues of a human body so that complete documentation and recovery are completed. The anthropologist or suitably trained archaeologist is equipped by training and experience to observe and understand anatomical relationships of decomposing remains as well as the association of, for example arms, to ligatures. Ideally any evidence of wounds and their differential diagnosis from other taphonomic agents of disruption can be noted before the remains are changed during the recovery operation. Similarly, there may insect or botanical evidence which is most likely to be recognized as important associated evidence by the anthropologist. Pollen is found in lungs while food stuffs are separated by the diaphragm in life and this spatial relationship should be understood when testing soil residues from these spatially separated areas within the chest and stomach.

**D EXCAVATION OF BATAJNICA 1 (BA01)**

2nd June to 26th June 2001

Report submitted to Belgrade Court, 3rd July 2001<sup>9</sup>

31. The original report by the Belgrade Forensic Institute pertaining to the archaeological input and consequent excavation of a large primary mass grave<sup>10</sup> excavated at Batajnica had been written in the Serbian language and was subsequently translated by ICMP. The following is based on the original report as well as on the notes taken by the ICMP monitor.<sup>11</sup>
32. The on-site archaeological fieldwork commenced on the 2nd of June 2001 and finished on the 26th June 2001. The remains of 36 individuals were recovered from a single ramp grave aligned approximately north south.

**E EXCAVATION OF BATAJNICA 2 (BA02)**

July 10th to September 21st 2001

Report submitted (date unknown)

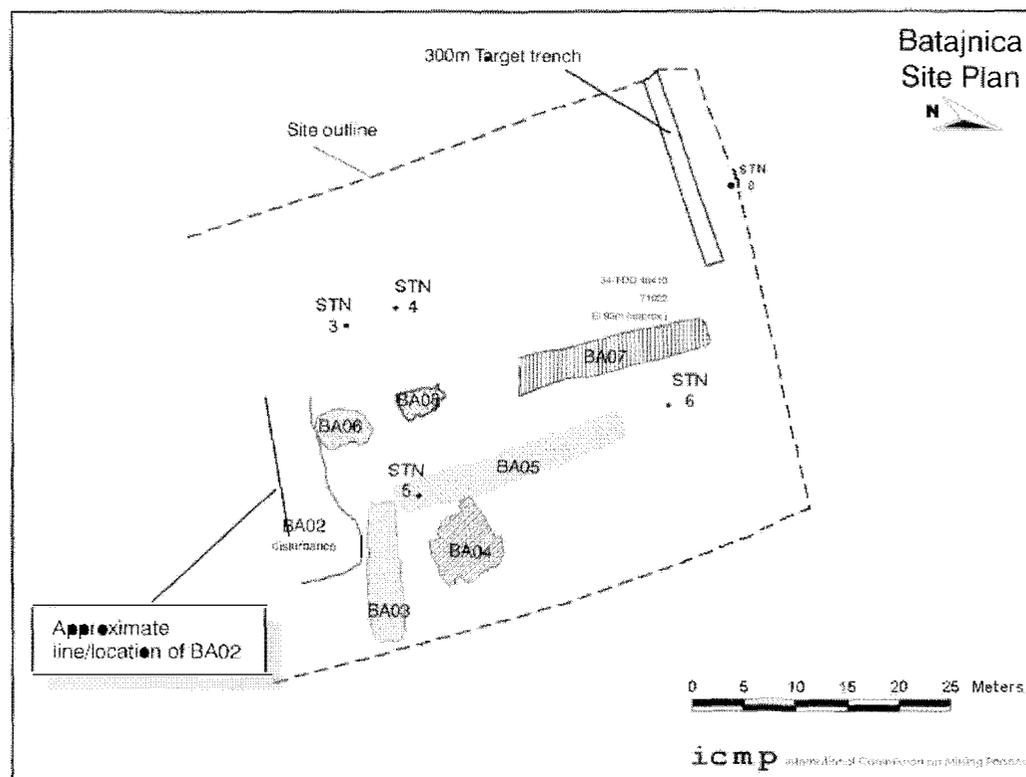
33. The excavation of BA02 was undertaken following the exhumation of BA01, approximately 50m to the South on the interior side of the firing range. The recovery of human remains and associated artifacts was

<sup>9</sup> Available from ICMP upon request

<sup>10</sup> See Note on the Meaning of "Primary" and "Secondary" Mass Graves, Annex 7

<sup>11</sup> Field notes are typically entered into hard-copy note books only, which have been consulted for the above.

carried out under the supervision of Dr. D. Dunjic, the representative of the Institute of Forensic Medicine Belgrade. The team involved on site was comprised of pathologists, manual workers, laboratory technicians and two anthropologists. Monitors for the ICTY and for ICMP were present during the excavation.



34. The excavation was undertaken through the Belgrade District Court, with the assistance of a team from the Belgrade Forensic Institute and Belgrade University. Observers from several organizations attended the exhumation at various times, including ICTY, the Humanitarian Law Center (HLC), the OSCE and a representative of the FRY Committee for Compiling Data on Crimes Against Humanity and International Law as well as an observer from the Institute of Forensic Medicine and Science, Pristina. The bodies were autopsied at an on-site mortuary facility and the remains stored within a sealed tunnel system located close to the firing range.
35. The recovery operation was complicated by several factors, the most awkward of which revolved around the contorted and commingled remains being intertwined with the remains of a large number of destroyed vehicle tires and their constituent wire reinforcing which had been burned in an attempt to destroy the remains. Similar burnt tires were recovered from BA03 and BA05.
36. A single large ramp grave was located using several items of large machinery (wheeled front end loader and/or a large tracked 360 degree excavator, probably the same type of machine used for the investigative stripping of BA01). The graves boundaries were found by using the 360 degree machine to excavate a large deep trench running in an north-south direction across the eastern area of the range. This trench reached depths of 3.5m well into the undisturbed natural layers. Following 3 days of trenching this trench was abandoned and a further deep trench was now excavated in a east-west direction. This second trench located

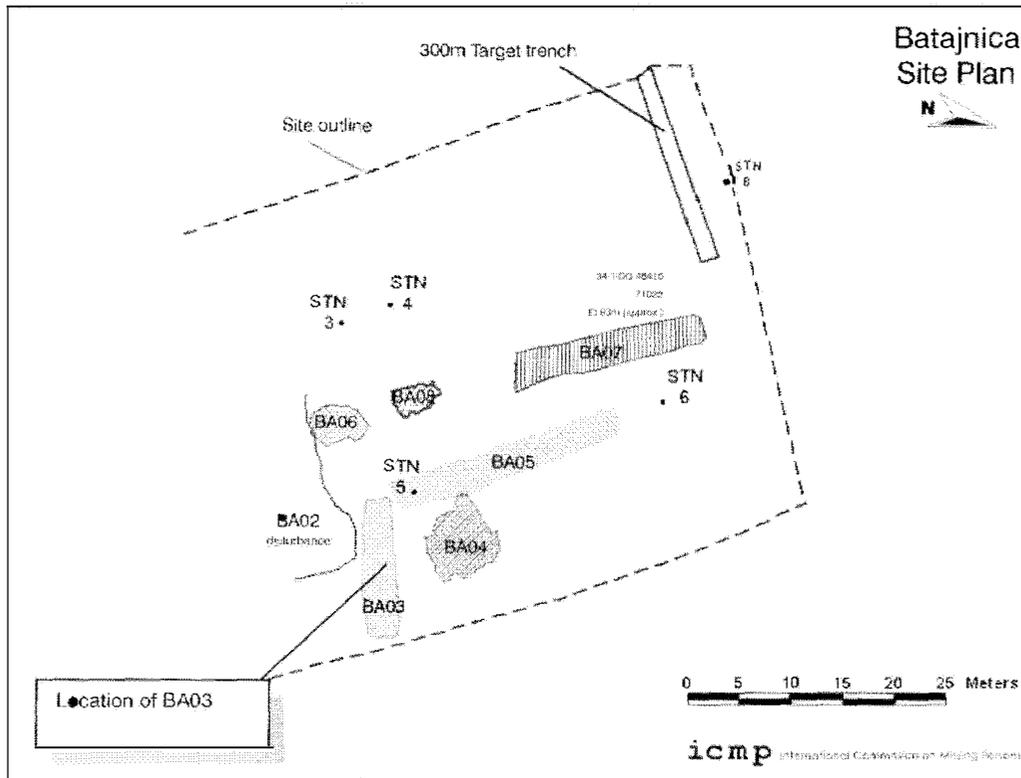
human remains at a depth of two meters somewhere along its length. It should be emphasized that as human remains were contacted in the section of the excavated trench the original walls of the grave cut were destroyed in the process.

37. Following the identification of the position of the bodies a machine was used to remove 0.20m of overburden from the suspected area of the grave. Several items were noted within the upper fill; these included stained soil, fragments of burnt clothing, burnt human bone and several buried vehicle tires and parts of a truck trailer. The area of interest measured approximately 12m in length, 3m in width and approximately 2 to 3m in width. A large military tent was placed over the grave before excavation. The Belgrade Forensic Institute staff reported that it was ramped and sloped from the west (ramp entrance) to the east. The eastern end of the grave was discovered to be the deepest point (approximately 3m) of deposition of both human remains and artifacts, in this case several large parts of a large truck. BA02 was similar in size to that of BA03. A large trench was excavated around the graves exterior by machine, in effect pedestalling the body mass. The westerly extent of the evidence was not established until late in the operation. There was some concern following minor flooding of BA01 that this would occur during the excavation of BA02, hence several other trenches were excavated to allow water run off to occur. These trenches were excavated at depth around the perimeter of the pedestalled remains, and were noted and located by the archaeological/anthropological team assigned to BA03. However due to misunderstandings at the start of BA03 the extent of this trench system and the grave position was not plotted.
38. In total the remains of approximately 269 individuals were reported to have been recovered from the grave. Many of which were found to show signs of damage from intensive fires that had been lit within the grave itself. The bodies within the deeper part of the grave (identified as an area of approximately 7 x 3m) were commingled and possibly mixed in several layers. The largest concentration was at the centre and the northern end of the grave. The presence of wire coils which were derived from the remains of burnt tires within the body mass which made the recovery process reportedly very difficult. The removal of the wire coils was further exasperated by having to excavate around the intertwined parts of a large tarpaulin covered truck (the remains of which were identified as having belonged to a large articulated truck chassis which was investigated at the time of the BA03 site survey). This chassis was hidden unnoticed behind a large wall of truck/car tires covered dirt at the time of excavation of BA02.
39. Preservation of the remains varied mainly due to the depositional process and subsequent attempts of destruction through fire. Adding to the difficulties was the clothing which was pulled partially off the bodies. Deeper within the site, body completeness increased but was negatively impacted by concentrated areas of burning which on occasion had burnt completely through limb bones leaving only stumps. Skulls were often smashed and at odd angles so they were not as useful as one might have thought in isolating a body. Most useful were hips and spines; from these areas the rest of the body could be traced. Sometimes, due to the complexity of the site, a body part or personnel effect would be encountered and marked but up to one or two weeks would pass before the rest of the body could be extricated.
40. It is unknown what associated forensic evidence or archaeological evidence was recovered by the Forensic Institute team. On-site processing of the recovered remains was undertaken within a large tented structure located on the western edge of the firing range close to the grave. Several pits, used for the depositing of removed human material (skin/muscle etc), and general rubbish, were excavated by machine close to these tents. Excavation ceased on September the 21st 2002.

**F EXCAVATION OF BATAJNICA 3 (BA03)**

20<sup>th</sup> June 2002 to 26<sup>th</sup> July 2002 (Main Excavation)

Report submitted to the investigating judge 8th August 2002.



41. Between 20<sup>th</sup> June 2002 and 26<sup>th</sup> July 2002 the Belgrade Forensic Institute and ICMP undertook the excavation of human remains and forensic evidence from another mass grave located slightly to the North of BA02 on the firing range. In total the remains of approximately 39 individuals were recovered from the grave along with approximately 10 sets of presumptive identification documents.

**G EXCAVATION OF BATAJNICA 5 (BA05)<sup>12</sup>**

2nd August to 26th November 2002  
Report submitted November 2002.

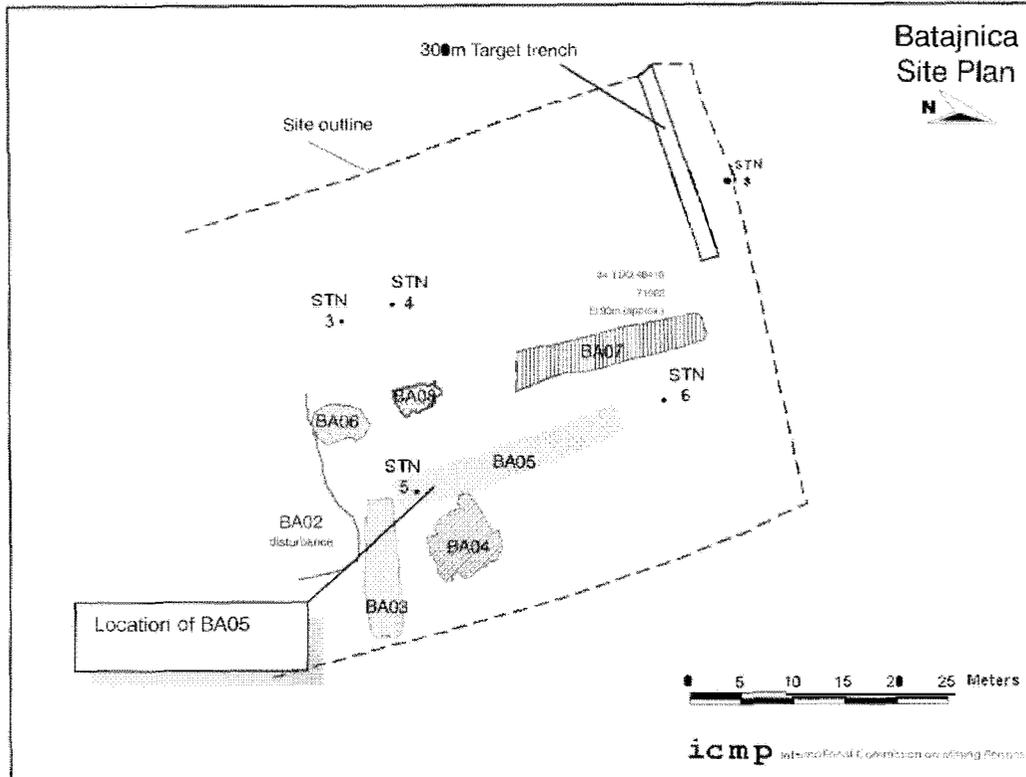


Figure 5: Grave BA05 fully excavated, grave BA07 is situated to the left under Air tent

<sup>12</sup> (BA04) see *infra*

42. By August 2002 three mass graves containing mortal human remains and two archeological features relating directly to the construction of these graves had been excavated at the site of Batajnica. Between the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2002 and the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2002, the Belgrade Forensic Institute and ICMP undertook the excavation of human remains and related forensic material from a large mass grave located on the firing range. B05 is located to the east of BA03.
43. A single large ramp grave approximately 25m in length, 2.80m to 2.90m in width and having a depth of 1.50m to 2m at its northern end was identified by supervised machine stripping, and excavated primarily by hand using archaeological techniques under the supervision of ICMP.
44. Twelve separate deposits of human remains were recovered. The largely intact remains of approximately 287 individuals were recovered from a large ramp grave. Many of the individuals had associated documents that were recovered by the archaeological team. The recovered remains were deposited in an irregular manner within the grave, and apart from the remains of one partial coffin. No evidence of proper funeral were observed.

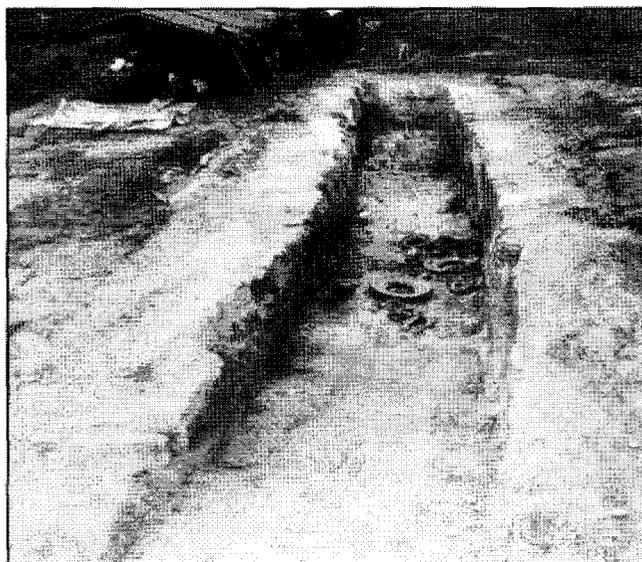


Figure 6: The grave fully excavated showing the ramped entrance (looking north)

45. Approximately 90% of the remains were clothed; the majority of the observed clothing being heavy winter style, none of which were observed by the archaeological team as military style clothing. No evidence of ligatures or other bindings or blindfolds were observed, although small plastic tags were stapled to some of the item of clothing of several individuals, primarily within the inner neck region of jackets. These were presumed to be some sort of identification, and have been reportedly observed attached to the clothing of mental patients. The grave showed no sign of subsequent disturbance or 'robbing' activity and was therefore classed by the archaeology team as being a primary grave.<sup>13</sup>
46. The recovered remains were the subject of autopsy and anthropological work undertaken at an on-site mortuary by the Forensic Institute team in order to determine the cause and manner of death. Separate reports by the Institute team have been prepared on the results of these autopsies.

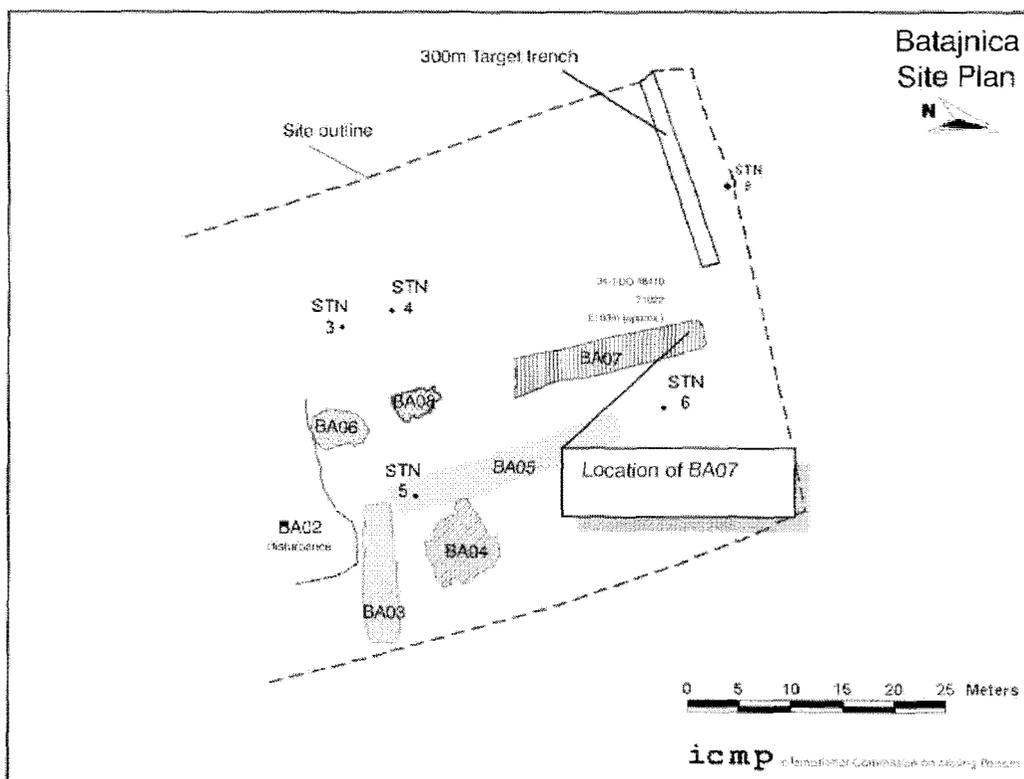
<sup>13</sup> *Supra*

47. Artifacts recovered during the archaeological excavation of the site were also handed over to the Forensic Institute for further study.

## **H EXCAVATION OF BATAJNICA 7 (BA07)**

4<sup>th</sup> November to 16<sup>th</sup> December 2002

Report submitted 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2003



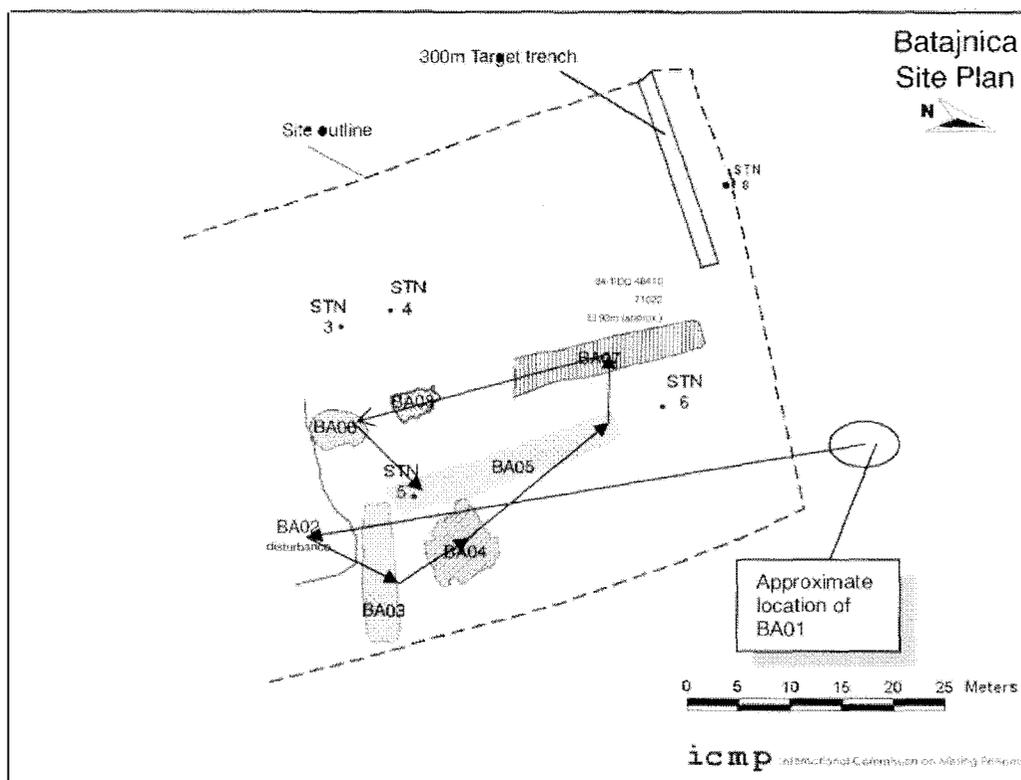
48. A single large ramp grave approximately 14m in length, 2.80m to 2.90m in width and 2.7m in depth was located to the north of BA05 and was excavated by careful supervised machining until the grave contents were roughly exposed. A team of forensic archaeologists and anthropologists then continued the excavation by using hand tools and archaeological techniques, under the supervision of ICMP. The remains of approximately 74 individuals, based on archaeological findings, were recovered.
49. Five separate deposits (labeled Deposit 1-5, deposit 5 being the earliest deposit within the feature) were recovered and each deposit was found to contain human remains in various states of preservation along with associated artifacts of forensic interest. All of the deposits were placed within the open grave in an irregular manner. No evidence of proper burial or funeral rites was observed by the archaeological/anthropological team. Preservation of the human remains was variable, with many of the bodies showing signs of skeletonisation, saponification, and mummification. Several of the human remains showed signs of attempted destruction by fire. Approximately 90% of the remains were recovered with clothing intact, none were observed by the archaeological team to be wearing military style clothing. No evidence of ligatures or other bindings or blindfolds was recovered or observed by the archaeological team. The grave showed no sign of subsequent disturbance or 'robbing' activity. The final deposit excavated, deposit 5, contained three

very different types of soil possibly from original burial locations. Samples of these soil types were gathered and was recommended they be further analyzed in order to attempt to locate their point of origin. In addition, two samples of plant material were taken and it was suggested that they be further analyzed for type, origin and season of growth.

50. The remains were the subject of autopsy and anthropological work undertaken at an on-site mortuary by the Forensic Institute team in order to determine the cause and/or manner of death and to gather data to assist in the identification of the remains. Separate reports by others have been prepared on the results of these autopsies.
51. Artifacts recovered during the archaeological excavation of the site were also handed over to the Forensic Institute investigators for further analysis.

### I POST EXCAVATION ASPECTS

52. The archaeology of the sites and related features can be tentatively sequenced by way of analyzing the deposition processes within each grave or feature. These were varied and included a wide variety of bodies intertwined, co-mingled, thrown or deliberately placed. Many of the bodies expressed signs of damage through fire, some to the point of total destruction. Damaged by machinery was the result of either re-excavation or deposition into the graves. Several deposits were observed as having been deliberately compacted through the use of heavy wheeled machinery. Parts of the vehicles recovered on site were assumed to be linked to vehicles used to bring in the bodies to the site. One partial coffin was recovered complete with occupant, suggesting that some remains brought to the site had earlier been re-exhumed at a regular cemetery. Bodies recovered included those of women, the majority however being adult males.
53. The available evidence has been used to recreate the sequence in which the graves were constructed, indicating the following sequence:
  1. BA01 was constructed and backfilled.
  2. BA02 was constructed and backfilled.
  3. BA03 was constructed and backfilled.
  4. BA04 is the location where the spoil or backfill from BA03 was stored prior to being backfilled in to BA03.
  5. BA05 was constructed and partially backfilled except for an area on the entrance ramp.
  6. BA06 was an area of intense burning, some of the remains are within BA05.
  7. BA08 was filled with some remains from BA06.
  8. BA05 was completely backfilled.
  9. BA07 was constructed and completely backfilled.
54. The entire area was remodeled concealing the grave locations following the burial of the bodies. If we look at the recovered evidence from each grave we can build a picture of events that may have occurred.



## 1. Phase 1: BA01

55. The site of BA01 is outside the area of the firing range. The construction of the timber grill at the base of the body mass, which would have taken some time to construct, suggests that BA01 was probably the first of the series of graves to be constructed. The small amount of remains recovered, 36, would tend to suggest that one vehicle, most probably a covered truck of some kind had been used to transport the remains to this location.

## 2. Phase 2: BA02

56. Unlike BA01, this grave was constructed to bury a larger amount of bodies. The safe manoeuvring of a large vehicles within the small confines of the area of BA01 would seem difficult. Perhaps it was felt that the larger area of the northern end of the firing range was more suitable. Given the size of some of these vehicles the area being obscured from direct view from the armory buildings and external areas by high berms. Construction of a bridge of rail sleepers and soil at the eastern edge of the 200m target trenches would have enabled machinery and vehicles to cross pop-up target trenches onto the northern area of the site.

57. The subsoil in the area of the range is a very fine unstable sand/silt, at least for the first 2m of depth after which it begins to become a more stable matrix that includes clay lenses.<sup>14</sup> It is reasonable to assume that a

<sup>14</sup> Skinner (2001)

large articulated truck containing the bodies had been parked too close to the southern edge of the open grave. The southern side of the grave gave way under the weight and the truck toppled or fell into the open grave on its side. As the depth of the grave was less than the heights of the truck chassis this would have meant that the truck was now visible above ground lying on its side. To extract the truck involved pulling the chassis from the gravesite. The resulting action could explain why the body mass was intermingled with the support hoops, tarpaulin and side panels of the truck and may also explain why BA02 contained the highest percentage of fragmented bodies and body parts of all the features excavated at Batajnica.

### **3. Phase 3: BA03**

58. The construction of BA03 was by a wheeled front loader machine, as revealed by the exposure of tire tread impressions within the grave base. The human remains were dumped into the grave as one deposit. The body mass contained bodies that had been wrapped within plastic sheeting, sealed with parcel tape, loose sheeting, blankets and within military body bags. It seems probable that small groups were recovered from different locations and, as with BA01 and BA02 the bodies were probably brought to the grave within one truck. One double tire mark belonging to a twin-axle vehicle was found during the cleaning of the grave ramp close to the western edge of the body mass.
59. There is evidence that BA03 was constructed following the backfilling of BA02, this is supported by the inclusion of a bar belonging to part of the tarpaulin covered truck, a tow bar, a broken steel tow strop and possibly the back-end of the truck [artifact number: 032/A], which may have fallen to the side of BA02 during the towing operation and consequently been thrown or pushed onto the bodies in BA03. Fires had then been ignited within the grave which had damaged many of the bodies.

### **4. Phase 4: BA04**

60. Strictly speaking BA04 is not a grave, nor was any evidence uncovered indicating it was ever used to bury human remains. However it cannot be dismissed as an irrelevant feature. As a spoil-heap linked to the construction of BA03, it helps phase the construction and backfilling operation of BA 03 and BA 05.

### **5. Phase 5: BA05**

61. During the excavation of the ramp of BA05 a shallow flat cut could be discerned on the eastern facing section. It was suggested that this cut was made prior to the construction of BA05 and was possibly associated with the backfilling of BA03. This conclusion was supported by the lack of machine tire impressions that would have run west to east across the upper fills of the BA05 ramp. It is also evident that BA07 could not have been open at the time of backfilling of BA05. Several vehicles would have had to be involved in bringing the bodies to the western graves edge and at least one front-end loader would have had to be operating to the north of BA05. BA05 can not have been open at the same time as BA07, because BA07 has a deep cross section and considering the close proximity and unstable subsoil of the area, the weight of vehicles and machinery would have collapsed any deep excavation in the area. Several large fires had been ignited between the deposits of bodies using fuel and vehicle tires which had caused damage to many of the bodies.

**6. Phase 6: BA06**

62. Like BA04, BA06 is not a mass grave, but it is still a significant feature created following a fire and subsequent movement of remains into the open end of BA05. The remains of the truck and human cargo having been bulldozed or scooped up and moved.

**7. Phase 7: BA08**

63. Excavation showed that BA08 was the remains of an irregular shallow circular depression caused by the removal of the root bowl of a large tree and subsequently filled with human remains by machine activity, related to BA06 whereas a small amount of smouldering material fell from the bucket of the machine as it approached BA05 and was pressed into the deepest edges of the depression by the machine's tires.

**8. Phase 8: Completing back-filling of BA05**

64. As previously mentioned the southern end of the grave was probably open at the time of the fire of BA06. It appears that at some stage before that the final deposit of remains (deposit 10) was placed on the ramp surface following the introduction of material from BA06 the grave was backfilled completely.

**9. Phase 9: BA07**

65. The archaeological observations of the site would suggest that BA07 was constructed and backfilled as one event. BA07 contained several deposits which may have been re-exhumed and transported from different areas in Kosovo. At least two trucks containing a mixture of bodies, soil and imported items were involved. Evidence for which was gathered from the base of the grave ramp, where a heavy-wheeled vehicle had entered the grave in an attempt to compact the deposits and remains. No evidence of the intense fire damage evident within the previously excavated graves was observed, although an unsuccessful attempt to set fire had been made. This suggests that either BA07 was constructed at some stage after the other graves had been backfilled, or that it was decided to bury any evidence and not to ignite fires.

**10. Phase 10: Grave Sealing and Concealment**

66. Attempts to disguise the entire site consisted of depositing truckloads of imported soil across the area of the graves, forming a new false horizon. Evidence thereof was recorded during the initial ICMP supervised machining and delineation of the features.

**J GENERAL TIME OF DEPOSITION**

67. No sign of the graves having been open for any length of time was observed during the excavation. This would suggest that the graves were excavated, bodies deposited and backfilled within a short time frame, perhaps hours. It may also indicate that the vehicles that contained the bodies were parked on or near the firing range and were unloaded when an opportune moment presented itself. As for time of death or deposition in the graves no observations could be made. The wristwatches recovered from the remains

appear to have had automatic rewind clockworks that may or may not have re-started dial movement during transport of the bodies.

## **PART 2: PETROVO SELO**

### **EXHUMATIONS undertaken at PETROVO SELO**

July 2001

#### **Negotin District Court**

Mr. Miroslav ARZENCIC	Chief Prosecutor
Mr. Milorad MOMCILOVIC	Judge
Mr. Bosko RADOJKOVIC	Crime Technician
Mr. Vukasin SPERLIC	Chief of Police

#### **Institute of Forensic Medicine, Nis**

Ms. Aleksandra ANTOVIC, Dr.	Student in forensic pathology
Mr. Dragan DJORDJEVIC	Medical technician-autopsy assistant
Ms. Tatjana R. DJORDJEVIC, Dr.	Forensic pathologist
Mr. Goran ILIC, Dr.	Forensic pathologist
Mr. Radovan KARODIC, Dr.	Forensic pathologist
Ms. Lidija KOSTIC-BANOVIC, Dr.	Forensic pathologist
Mr. Stojan MILOSAVELJEVIC	Autopsy assistant
Mr. Vujadin OTASEVIC, Dr.	Forensic pathologist and project leader
Mr. Milija SPALEVIC, Dr.	Forensic pathologist
Mr. Jovan STOJANOVIC, Dr.	Head of Institute and forensic pathologist
Mr. Miodrag ZDRAVKOVIC, Dr.	Forensic pathologist

#### **International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)**

Mr. Mark SKINNER, PhD, DABFA	International Observer, forensic anthropologist
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#### **International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY)**

Mr. William FULTON	International Observer, Investigator
Ms. Marina KRSTIC	Translator

#### **Humanitarian Law Center, Belgrade**

Ms. Mojca SIFERT	Observer, legal analyst
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#### **Security**

District Police

### **A SUMMARY**

1. The investigation of two sites in the area of Petrovo Selo, near Kladova, Eastern Serbia was conducted by the Negotin District Court, with the assistance of an expert team from the Nis Institute of Forensic Medicine. The remains of a total of 75 individuals were recovered from deep pits in the vicinity of a special police training center. The pits had been refilled with a mix of soil and waste materials. The remains are alleged to be those of Kosovar Albanian victims of the Kosovo conflict, whose remains were transported to this area in the spring of 1999. Evidence of gunshot wounds in soft or hard tissue of the recovered remains were observed at both sites.

2. Petrovo Selo I (hereafter abbreviated as PS/I) GPS coordinates: 13898, 43561 (elev. 437 m) was the smaller of the two sites and is located ca. 75 meters to the north of the forensic field camp on the west side of a faint road which was recently widened, apparently to move farm vehicles.
3. Petrovo Selo II (abbreviated PS/II) GPS coordinates: 13946, 43423 (elev. 432 m) is located approximately 150 meters southeast of PS/I and virtually due east of the field camp. 59 bodies were removed from a small but relatively deep pit, with estimated dimensions of approximately 3m by 3m in area and 3.5 m in depth. This grave was located on the south side of a faint road that extends beyond the site before petering out in hilly fields. Some of the remains within this grave were in body bags.
4. Work at the site of PS/I had started prior to the ICMP initial visit on June 25, 2001. Exhumation at this site was completed on June 26, 2001. Late on the same day exhumation began at PS/II and was completed on June 28, 2001. Autopsies on remains from PS/I were underway on June 25 and finished on June 27. Autopsies on remains from PS/II commenced on June 27 and were completed on July 1, although dealing with clothing lasted through July 4.
5. Problems with obtaining a suitable refrigerated truck meant that the recovered remains, once analyzed were re-interred in a purpose built temporary cemetery close to the site. To this end, several large earthmoving machines were brought to the site for constructing the temporary cemetery. Each re-interred case was marked by a wooden grave marker with relevant numbers and information branded into the surface of the wood.

## **B EXHUMATION STRATEGY**

6. Prior to the arrival of the ICMP observer, heavy earth-moving equipment was used to remove the overburden at both sites. The original surface contours were not recorded by the monitor. Apart from the earthmoving machines, exhumation tools were limited to shovels and a trowel which were used to clean exposed body bags and human remains before recovery. This process involved one forensic pathologist who was assisted by workmen. Once a body or container (typically a body bag) was sufficiently isolated, it was recorded, recovered and transferred to the autopsy tent for postmortem analysis. At PS/II, the backhoe was used to create a ramp that allowed easy accessibility to the pit and greatly expedited removal of bodies.

### **1. Off-site Processing of Human Remains**

7. Recovered remains/bodies were placed within the storage tent until autopsy which was undertaken in a separate tented area. All autopsy observations and clothing descriptions were hand recorded or typewritten from dictation by the pathologists working in pairs.
8. The disposition of the bodies and their fairly good state of preservation enabled the Nis forensic team to perform high quality autopsies. They did not however have an on-site physical anthropologist.
9. The condition of the bodies ranged from somewhat saponified to pasty, crumbly flesh. Skin was usually in good condition and hair adhered to the scalp. Internal organs were often in a quite suitable state for preservation for histological analysis. With intact crania, which were in a minority, brains however were invariably an amorphous paste inside the meninges. Flesh was usually in a state where one might detect perimortem defects but also where only slight prodding or pressure would create significant postmortem artifacts. Hard tissue samples for DNA analysis were taken on all bodies. Many, if not almost all, of the

bodies exhibited serious perimortem damage which had tended to lead to further degradation of the tissues in that area after death. Bullet trajectories were reconstructed by meticulous dissection and probing and disclosed with probes for photography. Entrance and exits were distinguished and discussed among team members. Postmortem fractures were identified as such.

10. The procedure was to note the general condition of the body and then to remove the clothing ensuring separation of all layers of clothing, which ranged from 7 articles for the upper body and 5 for the lower body. Almost all bodies were clothed to some degree and often to an extreme extent. Many had fleecelined jackets, occasionally two. Similarly many individuals had long underwear, two sweaters and two pairs of trousers. Basically these individuals seem to be dressed for severe cold.
11. Upon completion of the autopsy the remains were replaced in a body bag, without the clothing and personal effects, with a glass specimen bottle containing the body number. Similarly, the body number was placed inside a clear plastic envelope, stapled to prevent ingress of moisture, and the label attached to the zipper pull on the outside of the body bag.

## **2. Formation Processes**

### **2.1. Dimensions, Character and Construction of the Grave**

12. The following information is included here at it bears upon the appropriateness of field methods, exhumation methods, autopsy procedures and the collection of forensic evidence. The approach used here is chronological. According to the Criminal Police evidence officer, PS/II was created first, then PS/I was created.
13. At both sites, following the deposition of the bodies and backfilling, further holes were dug (one at PS/I and two at PS/II) at an unknown later time, adjacent to the filled body pits. Dirt from these so-called "traps" was dumped on top of the body pits while the newly created holes were filled with garbage, primarily hundreds of plastic water and soda bottles. These additional pits may have been created deliberately to mislead any future investigations.

### **2.2. PS/I**

14. Based on cross-sections sketched during the exhumation indicate that the machine-excavated pit was 'lined' with a very large plastic sheet similar to that observed within Batajnica 05 excavated in 2002. A black plastic garbage bag located at the base of the pit above the plastic sheeting was found to contain many surgical gloves, plus a complete set of clothes including shoes, trousers, shirt, sweater and jacket. The trousers contained a scrunched paper mass from a surgical glove wrapper. In addition, the bag contained a green rubbery gas mask with one broken lens and clothing which was assumed to have belonged not to a victim but to someone involved with handling the remains.
15. A jumbled mass of 13 bodies were located below a layer of general garbage (plastic bottles, etc.). Mixed within the body mass were eight blankets and four camouflage-pattern canvas sheets. As far as could be determined, the bodies were not wrapped in the blankets. Above this, layer was a deposit of soil, then three bodies lying beside each other. The backfill of the pit was soil. Short grass and three small bushes had grown over the surface since the event. The indicated depth between the three upper bodies and the top of the central mass of bodies was 1.8 meters. In a photograph shown to the forensic monitor, the three bodies lay about half a meter apart from each other with their heads pointing in the same direction. Ligatures,

blindfolds, and ballistic evidence as well as a document bearing three names were recovered in association with these three bodies.

### **2.3. PS/II**

16. This machine-excavated pit was approximately 3.5m in depth, at the base of which was a jumbled deposit of bodies. No evidence of body bags was observed, however some of the bodies were wrapped in a sheet of clear plastic with ends taped. The wrappings were similar to those recovered at BA 05. Bodies recovered from a higher level were in open black or blue body bags. There appeared to have been about two meters of overburden.
17. At both sites, there were strong indicators that the bodies had lain decomposing for several days to a week prior to their collection for burial (e.g., teeth missing postmortem, dead insect larvae and grubs as well as pupae from which adult flies had not to emerge). There were several indicators that the bodies may have been from different contexts (spatial and temporal). For example, there was quite a variety of body bags, ranging from a majority of black body bags to a few blue ones to several makeshift bags. At PS/I the three uppermost bodies were not in body bags which contrasted with the others from that location.
18. Their parallel orientation of these three remains, together with the fact that gunshot injuries were observed, as well as blindfolds and ligatures, would suggest that these three individuals had been executed at the site. There was reportedly a layer of soil between these bodies and those underneath, which could indicate two distinct burial episodes. Course, hay-like grass adhered to several body bags from PS/II. One body showed burning. Some body bags, but not all, particularly those from PS/I, contained leaves and twigs which were collected by the forensic team.
19. Although the majority of the bodies seemed to be remains of civilians, one body donned a VUK (Kosovo Liberation Army) uniform, two other bodies were dressed in partial uniforms and a fourth was in the uniform of a special policeman.

## **3. Human Remains**

### **3.1. Basic Biological Aspects**

20. Observations made at the time of postmortem examination indicated that:
  - That the 16 individuals recovered from PS/I were male.
  - That out of 59 individuals recovered from PS/II 7 were female.

### **3.2. Individual Traits**

21. Dentitions were not charted, but presence/absence was noted as were restorations, bridges and dentures. Distinctive dental work was photographed. The forensic monitor did not observe any healed pre-mortem fractures. One premortem amputation of a little toe was pointed out.

## **4. Physical Evidence**

22. A great variety of physical evidence was observed, collected, labeled, and individually photographed. This included botanical and insect samples, medications and bandages, blankets and sheets, wire, rope, batteries,

glass, and a wide variety of typical personal effects. Several documents were found that bore names, some of which appear in the ICRC *Persons Missing in Relation to the Events in Kosovo from January 1998* (second edition).

23. Ligatures were found at both sites including on bodies with their wrists tied together. Two bodies were also recovered with their ankles wired together and the wire attached to a length of rope. The three uppermost bodies at PS/I were reportedly blindfolded and had been shot in the head. A possible blindfold from PS/II was also recovered.
24. A total of 8 bullets were recovered including a 8.7mm pistol bullet and seven high-powered rifle bullets. Evidence of burning was minimal.

#### 5. Storage

25. Since no refrigerator truck could be obtained by the team, a temporary graveyard was created. Three, north-south oriented, large ditches were dug, 1.2 meters deep, on a gently sloping field between the two sites. The first contained the remains of PS/I-1-16 arranged in that order side by side in body bags from north to south. The second ditch was located to the north of the first and contained bodies in body bags 1-30 in that order from PS/II, while the third was located parallel to the first on the easterly side. It contained body bags 31-58 in that order arranged south to north. Wooden grave markers with permanently branded burial numbers were placed along the west side of all three ditches indicating the contents. All ditches were backfilled. The ground surface was prepared with sloping sides and a flat top.

#### C CONCLUSION

26. Despite the challenges presented at the two sites, the forensic team performed its tasks of evidence discovery, recovery and preservation to acceptable international standards. The team expedited the task of the international observer's forensic monitoring with full disclosure of their methods and with frank and prompt explanations. It should be noted that the Court did not permit the international observers to record any of the site's contents or forensic team's activities photographically. Moreover, the Court ordered all photographs taken by the crime technician on site to be turned over at the close of the operation.

### **PART 3: DERVENTA CANYON, LAKE PERUCAC**

#### **EXHUMATION of DERVENTA CANYON, LAKE PERUCAC**

September 2001

##### **Uzice District Court (including court officials from Bajina Basta)**

Mr. Dragutin JOVANOVIC	Crime Technician
Mr. Miodrag KRIVOKAPIC	Investigative judge
Mr. Dragan MANOVIC	Prosecutor from Bajina Basta
Mr. Branimir PETRONIJEVIC	District Prosecutor from Uzice
Mr. Ljubisa RADULOVIC	President of the District Court
Mr. Milan RADULOVIC	President of the Municipal court

##### **Consultant specialists (refrigerator container trucks)**

Mr. Dragan NIJEMCEVIC	Chassis
Mr. Zvenko LAPTOSEVIC	Superstructure

##### **Belgrade Military Medical Academy, Institute for Pathology and Legal Medicine**

Maj-Gen Zoran STANKOVIC, MD	Forensic Pathologist
Ms. Nadica MARINKOVIC, MD	Forensic Pathologist

##### **University of Belgrade Medical School**

Mrs. Marija DJURIC-SREJIC, Prof. Dr. Physical Anthropologist

##### **International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)**

Mr. Mark SKINNER, PhD, DABFA International Observer, Forensic Anthropologist

##### **International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY)**

Mr. William FULTON	International Observer, Investigator
Ms. Marina KRSTIC	Translator

##### **Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)**

Ms. Ljiljana BOGDANOVIC	Observer
Ms. Silvija PANOVIC-DJURIC	Observer
Mr. Chris KARPHAMMAR	Observer

##### **Humanitarian Law Center, Belgrade**

Mr. Vladan MILADINOVIC Legal analyst/Observer

##### **Security**

Republic of Srpska Police

**A SUMMARY**

1. The investigation at the site at Derventa Canyon on Lake Perucac, near Bajina Basta in western Serbia was conducted by the Uzice District Court, with the assistance of an expert team led by military pathologist Dr. Zoran Stankovic based in Belgrade. The remains were recovered from a secondary burial site and consequently were somewhat fragmentary and mixed. Postmortem examination indicated a minimum of 48 individuals, mostly adult males alleged to be those of Kosovar Albanian victims of the Kosovo conflict, whose remains were transported to this site in the spring of 1999. There was also considerable ballistic evidence present.
2. Work at the site commenced on Sept. 6, 2001. The team of experts spent three full days exhuming the site. An ICMP observer was present at the exhumation site from Sept. 10. The exhumed site had been left open until Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> when it was backfilled. Autopsies were conducted at a temporary facility commencing on Sept. 9, with monitoring commencing on Sept. 10 in the afternoon, and lasting through Sept. 14.
3. Significant logistical requirements, including heavy earth-moving equipment, transport, supporting structures and routine supplies were supplied for the operation which included facilities for washing clothes and processing remains.
4. Autopsies were performed in the tunnels of an apparently abandoned cement factory half way up the side of Mt. Tara. The recovered remains were temporarily housed at this location before being moved to Belgrade for final analysis and disposition.

**1. Geography: Location, Landscape and Geology**

5. The grid coordinates for the site are 34T DQ 68487 (e-w) and 69190 (n-s), elevation of 292 meters, with accuracy of 68 meters (determined using a Garmin Etrex 12 Channel GPS unit). The exhumation was conducted on the north bank of Derventa River close to its junction with Lake Perucac approximately 13 km from Bajina Basta. The remains allegedly originate from the lake itself. Access to the site necessitated at the time of the exhumation (September) fording the river which was about 45 cm deep due to recent rains.
6. Derventa Canyon is a very deep and picturesque gorge that debouches suddenly into the lake at a small bay. The channel of this river has visibly shifted over the years and there are remnants of an old channel depression located on the north side where the site itself is currently located. The existing channel on the south creates a second depression. Dividing these is a gravel spit, oriented roughly north-south which looks artificial, being very flat, largely devoid of vegetation, and composed of coarse gravel which lies unconformably on lake sediments visible on the north margin of the spit. The site is located on the north side of the spit; about 17 meters from an arbitrary center line of the spit and 53 meters from the furthest northerly margin of the spit. The excavated area which contained the bodies is located close under an unstable looking talus slope of coarse boulders.

**2. Site History: Local Accounts and Pre-visit Data**

7. The history of the site is well documented. As previously noted, the site is located on the north-west side of an artificial gravel spit. The reason for emphasizing the gravel spit is that although its age is unknown there was large scale digging at the site with large machinery to create the mass grave. Examination of a

video taken at the time of the exhumation indicated a uniform appearance for the whole gravel spit suggesting possible contemporaneity of the gravel spit (or at least its upper layer) and the grave.

8. Pre-visit data, how the ground was prepared to receive the bodies, the act of depositing the bodies and steps taken to hide the bodies was unavailable to ICMP monitors. However, the ICMP monitor was allowed to view the video taken of the exhumation and made independent observations of those portions of the site unaffected by the exhumation.

## **B EXHUMATION STRATEGY**

### **1. Site Recording and Exhumation Methodology**

9. At the time of the ICMP monitor's visit to the exhumation site on Sept. 10, 2001, there was a large excavation, about 1.5 meters deep, containing the occasional human skeletal element and fragments of metal and fiberglass insulation. Very coarse angular cobbles mixed within a minimum of soil was observed. On either side of the excavation was a large pile of excavated cobbles containing similar materials. A few meters to the southeast of the more northerly cobble pile but still on the northwestern half of the gravel spit, were twisted and burnt metal parts and fiberglass (later identified as a small part of a truck refrigerator container) about 1.5 meters in diameter and 1 meter high.
10. The general area of the gravel spit was flattened with tall but sparse coarse grass. There were no bushes of note except on the very periphery near the river channel itself and the margins of the flat area. Notably, neither the excavation area nor the surrounding area looked natural. The latter terrain was very uneven with only small bushy trees growing on what looked like older, piled up, areas of very coarse gravel. On current evidence, the surrounding terrain was created either during the exhumation of the mass grave, presumably in 1999, or at the same time the gravel spit was created and flattened; these two processes may have happened at the same time.
11. It was reported that the entire area of the site was examined by a metal detector, during which a strong signal caused the team to stop and bring into operation large earth-moving equipment which dug in the indicated spot, creating a pit 4m by 6 meters, to a depth of about 1.5m. It was at this depth that skeletal remains and metal parts were encountered. It would appear that the human remains were deposited first within the base of the pit and that various metallic parts had been pushed into/onto the body mass by the bucket of the original digging machine. Video taken at the time shows metal parts starting to appear at the same time as the ninth relatively complete body and indicates that some bodies were encountered prior to finding the metal.
12. As soon as remains were encountered further cleaning and definition was undertaken by hand. Both complete bodies and body parts were observed in the same vicinity also adding to the 'secondary' grave construction hypotheses.

### **2. Autopsy Procedures**

13. Recovered human remains were placed within body bags (complete) and in blue plastic bags (parts). These were stored, awaiting processing, in a lockable room inside one of the tunnels of the cement works.<sup>15</sup> Autopsies were conducted on one of four autopsy tables in a second larger tunnel entrance where the

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<sup>15</sup> Supra at x.

available floor space enabled the team later to lay out all skeletons on plastic sheets either on racks or on the floor; a procedure which expedited enormously the task of matching body parts.

14. This system allowed typically three bodies to be worked on at any one time. The pathologists followed their standard postmortem protocol and did not use written protocols but relied upon a familiar sequence of steps. Typically the chief forensic pathologist dictated observations to his partner. An opinion was derived as to age at death based on obvious markers like degenerative joint changes, epiphyseal surfaces *inter aila*. The pelvis was examined for sex markers by the physical anthropologist. The pathologists examined the skeletal elements for indicators of cause of death, and recorded skeletal completeness by means of diagrams and notes. The dentition was examined and recorded in detail including restorations and prostheses. Personal effects and specific items were collected, recorded and seized for separate analysis. Preliminary photography and videotaping of a body bag's contents, was followed by the removal of any clothing (The types of clothing suggested that these individuals had died in a cool to cold time of the year. Some fleece jackets were observed and one individual was wearing three sweaters) for washing and placing the skeletal elements in approximate anatomical position. These tasks were performed by general staff and autopsy assistants, respectively.
15. The anthropologist's contribution to the overall analysis was considerable. An MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals) was completed using the most common skeletal element. In addition the anthropologist confirmed the opinion formed by the pathologists that there were one or two females within the recovered number. Tissue samples suitable for DNA analysis were taken from the right femur and submitted to ICMP for analysis. At the end of the anthropologist's examination, all bones from a particular individual were put into plastic bags and all associated clothing placed in a similar sized bag; each of these was sealed.

### **3. Human Remains**

#### **3.1. Basic Biological Aspects**

16. There was considerable commingling of remains at the site, arising primarily from the remains being secondary in origin. A basic demographic breakdown of the sample was provided by the courts to the media. Based on the ubiquity of right femora, a minimum number of individuals was determined to be 48 including one female.
17. The youngest individual was a teenager; several long bones thought to be from this single individual showed unfused epiphyses of the long bones. The physical anthropologist concluded that a reasonable age estimate for this individual was 17 years. The pathologists provided a running description of hair length and color, dental complement and restorations including pontics and removable prostheses of which there were several suggesting a middle class sample. Dental anomalies that might help individualize a case were photographed.

#### **3.2. Physical Evidence**

18. There was a great variety of physical evidence, apart from clothing and footwear, including licna karta, driver's license, bead bracelet, comb, blister pack for pills. The female individual had a surgical plate to repair a fracture of the lower leg (tibia). Metal parts and fiberglass from a refrigerator container were also recovered.

### **3.3. Cause of Death**

19. There was a clear pattern of more or less shattered crania (21 instances noted). Eight bullets were observed, from seven individuals. Direct evidence of gunshot wound to the cranium (bullets and/or classic wounding) was pointed out by the pathologists in 9 instances. Entrance wounds were visible on several of the skulls. Most of these were in the lower part of the occipital bone; indicating that these individuals had been shot in the back of the head. Other gunshot wounds to the crania were noted. One bullet was recovered lodged in a vertebra. It was stated by the chief forensic pathologist that he observed only a single cause of death, i.e. gunshot wounds, in his examination of all the remains.

### **4. Analysis of Metallic Parts**

20. A jumbled pile of twisted metal including fiberglass sheets and insulation was examined by two experts in the manufacture of refrigerator trucks (chassis and superstructure) in the presence of the ICMP representative (12 Sept. 01), the following observations were volunteered:
- a) the metal and plastic, polyester parts were from a single refrigerator container; no parts from the chassis or vehicle were present.
  - b) most of the material was from the right rear of the container but there was one small part from the front.
  - c) It was of a size associated with 16-18 ton vehicles; that is, the dimensions of the whole container would have been 6 meters long by 2.5 meters square.
  - d) There would have been 16 attachment sites around the floor perimeter, spaced 50 cm apart.
  - e) this type of container had not been manufactured in Yugoslavia during the past 20 years; but was from said to be from the "west".
21. The largest piece of refrigerator container was identified as being from the rear floor region. Evidence of fire damage was observed on the interior face of this panel. The loading doors represented only by metal also indicated that a fire had been within the container at some stage; the fiberglass sheeting presumably having burned away. This may indicate that there was an attempt to burn the bodies while they were inside the refrigerator container; the floor being protected somewhat from burning by the body mass.

### **5. Fire Damage/Burning**

22. Skeletal elements and clothing showed evidence of burning in isolated patches consistent with a jumbled mass of bodies being exposed to fire. Examination of the remains and refrigerator container parts indicated that although the pit clearly had contained burnt items no evidence of burning at the exhumation site could be observed. This would indicate that the episode of burning had occurred elsewhere, and not in the grave.

### **6. Publicity**

23. The chief pathologist provided information to the press at the end of the exhumation process and at the end of the autopsies. At the former, the processed site was allowed to be photographed.

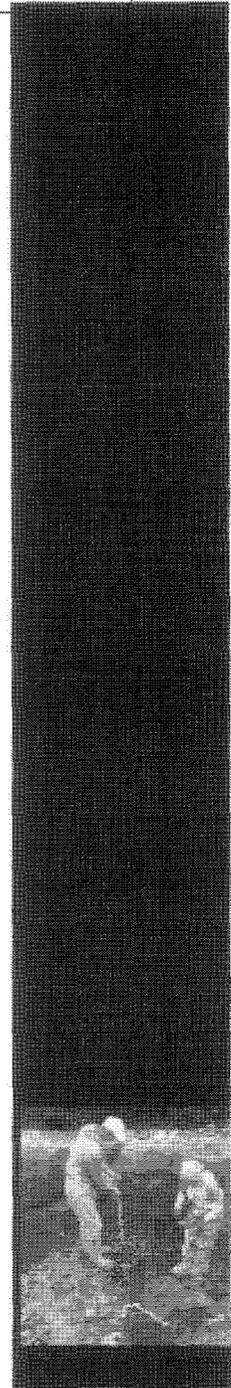
**C CONCLUSIONS**

24. Despite the challenges presented by the state of the remains, the Serbian team performed its tasks of evidence discovery, recovery and preservation to reasonably acceptable international standards. The team expedited the task of the international observers forensic monitoring with full disclosure of methods including access to videography of the exhumation.

**Jon Sterenberg, MSc. AIFA**  
Head of Excavation and Examination Division  
Forensic Sciences Department  
International Commission on Missing Persons

## Annex Ia ICMP Fact Sheet

	<h2>Fact Sheet</h2>
<h3>Overview</h3> <p>As a political transition unfolds after a period of armed conflict, violence or repression, a society is confronted with a difficult legacy of human rights abuses that often include large numbers of disappearances of persons, never to be heard from again. Resolving their fate is important.</p> <p>The existence of large numbers of missing persons often poses a significant impediment to post-conflict institution building, peace initiatives and reconciliation. Resolving the fate of the missing is a crucial political concern between former warring parties.</p> <p>High-level attention from the international community can effectively support post-conflict societies in engaging in peace building and reconciliation. Such support is provided by ICMP.</p>	
<h3>Mandate</h3> <p>ICMP endeavors to secure the co-operation of Governments and other authorities in locating and identifying persons missing as a result of armed conflicts, other hostilities or violations of human rights and to assist them in doing so. ICMP also supports the work of other organizations in their efforts, encourages public involvement in its activities and contributes to the development of appropriate expressions of commemoration and tribute to the missing.</p>	
<h3>Background</h3> <p>ICMP is an international organization that was created in 1996, following the G-7 Summit, in Lyon, France, to address the issue of persons missing as a result of the different conflicts relevant to Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), the Republic of Croatia (RoC) and Serbia and Montenegro from 1991 to 1995.</p> <p>Following the conflict in Kosovo and the crisis in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYRoM), ICMP expanded its operations to address missing persons cases from these areas. ICMP is headquartered in Sarajevo, BiH, but also has offices in the Republic of Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, and UN administered Kosovo.</p> <p>ICMP has recently responded to a request for assistance from the authorities in Iraq and maintains contacts with other countries that have large numbers of missing persons. As a humanitarian measure, ICMP is also assisting in the identification of victims of the tsunami in South-East Asia.</p>	
<h3>ICMP Areas of Work</h3> <h4>Science in Service of Truth and Justice: Forensic Sciences</h4> <p>ICMP's Forensic Science Department (FSD) has the primary responsibility within ICMP for developing, implementing and managing the technical process of assisting governments in exhumations, examinations and identifications of persons missing as a result of violent conflicts. In the region of the former Yugoslavia, the FSD incorporates the use of a population-based, DNA-led system of identifications, which requires the collection and profiling of blood samples from family members with missing relatives and bone samples from</p>	



exhumed mortal remains. The ICMP identification process is subject to quality assurance and quality control mechanisms and to external review. The FSD is organized into three divisions:

**Telling the Story of a Mass Grave:**

**Excavations and Examination Program:** The Excavations and Examination Program is predominantly involved in the detection of sites, the recovery and anthropological examination of mortal remains and in the use of scientific methods to compare pre-mortem and post-mortem records for forensic identification.

**A Profile of the Missing:**

**Identification Coordination Division:** The Identification Coordination Division is responsible for the collection of blood samples from families with missing relatives, the preparation of bone samples for DNA extraction, administration of the DNA matching software, the production and archiving of DNA reports and the archiving of biological samples.

**Irrefutable Evidence of Identity:**

**DNA Laboratories:** The DNA Laboratories program is responsible for extracting DNA from biological samples, for profiling (obtaining the unique code from) DNA and for generating and reviewing DNA reports in an effort to identify mortal remains. In addition DNA scientists are involved in research and development activities to reduce costs and to improve the identifications process.

**Public Involvement: Civil Society Initiatives**

In addition to the impediments to post-conflict institution building, peace initiatives and reconciliation that unresolved missing persons issues create, families of the missing are poorly informed about existing and possible mechanisms to seek the truth about the fate of their missing loved ones. Linkages between victims groups and other NGOs and decision makers are often insufficient, thus creating a weak and uncoordinated civil society in pursuing truth, justice and reconciliation. ICMP believes that family members of the missing and the associations they have formed can play a crucial role in addressing the missing persons issue through advocacy, education, data collection and raising public awareness. Therefore, the objectives of the Civil Society Initiatives Department are to encourage effective engagement of family members and other members of civil society in the representation of their interests and in advocacy activities geared towards achieving more effective resolution of the missing persons issue, through:

**Empowerment:** To ensure that associations of families of missing persons are strong, independent and fully engaged in clarifying the fate of their missing relatives; implemented through project grants to family associations and training and technical assistance.

**Networking:** To engage family associations in effective regional networks that address the specific rights and needs of family members with missing relatives; implemented through conferences, meetings, and publications.

**Awareness:** To work towards improved understanding of the missing persons issue and the situation of surviving family members; implemented through activities addressing the legal, social and economic rights of family members of the missing and raising public awareness about the missing persons issue as a human rights issue.



## Special Projects

### Mapping Crimes against Humanity:

The Forensic Database Management System (FDMS):

The FDMS is an electronic database of ICMP Forensic Science activities that tracks the process of exhumations and identifications from reconnaissance and exhumation to identification, notification and burial. ICMP has provided user access of this database to governments in the former Yugoslavia and in Iraq.

### Paths to Reconciliation:

A project designed for the regions of the former Yugoslavia to explore various pillars of transitional and restorative justice by opening a space for informed dialogue between victims groups and encouraging exchange of experience on a regional and international level on truth seeking, trust building, documentation, justice, and compensation mechanisms.

### Finding Long-term Solutions: Institution Building

An ICMP initiative, the Missing Persons Institute (MPI) for Bosnia and Herzegovina was inaugurated as a State-level institution in August 2005. ICMP and the Government are co-founders of the MPI, which will provide a long term mechanism to address the issue of persons missing as a result of the conflicts in Bosnia and Herzegovina, regardless of their ethnic, religious or national origin. ICMP has engaged in other institution building initiatives in the region of the former Yugoslavia.

### ICMP Commissioners:

The eminence of ICMP's Commissioners highlights the significance that the international community attaches to the issue of the missing.

James V. Kimsey (Chairperson)

Willem Kok

Her Majesty Queen Noor

Michael Portillo

Rolf Ekéus

Previous chairs included:

Bob Dole (Chairperson 1997 - 2001)

Cyrus Vance (Chairperson 1996 - 1997)

### Funding:

ICMP is funded through voluntary grants, donations and contributions by participating Governments, including Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, the Holy See, Iceland, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union. The U.S. Mott Foundation provides funding to ICMP for the "Paths to Reconciliation" project.



The Missing  
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**Annex 1b      Activities Relating to Forensics**

1. The Forensic Science Department (FSD) is integral part of ICMP activities.
2. FSD has three Divisions:
  1. Identification Coordination Division (ICD);
  2. Excavation and Examination Division (Ex and Ex);
  3. DNA Laboratory Division (DNA).
4. **ICD** main responsibilities resolve around the collection and maintenance of large amounts of data from family visits and blood collection drives, all of this data is currently held in ICD. This data can include:
  - Names and ages of missing persons;
  - Names of relatives;
  - Site locations;
  - Skeletal inventories;
  - Bone and tooth inventories for DNA extraction;
  - Relatives blood sample inventories for DNA extraction;
  - DNA profiles for bone and for blood;
  - Matched DNA profiles.
5. Their primary task using strict SOPs is to assist in the identification of recovered remains by:
  - Analyzing bone samples taken from stored remains;
  - Anonymizing those samples using a barcode;
  - Matching the DNA results from bone and blood samples;
  - Reviewing and matching DNA profiles.
6. These in turn are used to assist the pathologist and anthropologist in the identification process.
7. **Excavation and Examination Division** is responsible for assisting the local courts and commissions for missing persons from the Federation, Republic and Croatia with expert support in order to maximize the recovery of human remains and associated forensic evidence from a variety of grave types located anywhere in the former Yugoslavia. This is part of the Joint Exhumation Process (JEP) which was established in 1996 as a way of entity commissions to undertake exhumations in each others territories. This includes liaison between organizations e.g. EUFOR (military), EUPM, OHR, ICRC, MPI, ICTY and entity judicial and state judicial processes. ICMP experts include forensic archaeologists, forensic anthropologists, forensic pathologists and logistical support in the form of specialized machinery, consumables and equipment that the commissions lack.
8. Excavation staff also undertake the location of suspected mass gravesites using a variety of geophysical methods including the study and analysis of satellite and aerial imagery. Variations in sites where remains have been deposited include:
  - Surface;
  - Cemeteries and single graves;
  - Caves and wells;
  - Cremations (destroyed buildings);

- **Burials (mass graves):**
    - a) **Primary,**
    - b) **Secondary (largest problem area for ICMP, heavily fragmented and destroyed remains),**
    - c) **Tertiary.**
11. Each site type requires different archaeological methods for the maximum retrieval of remains.
  12. The Ex and Ex Division also maintains and runs three full-time facilities in BiH located at Tuzla (PIP), Lukavac (PIPLC) and Sanski Most (KIP) which cover the analysis, identification and expert assistance required to repatriate recovered remains.
  13. Each facility has national and international staff and is designed to identify and work on specific areas of recovery, for example: PIP undertakes the analysis of a variety of sites linked to the fall of Srebrenica; PIPLC is designed to work expressly on the highly fragmented remains from the large amount of secondary mass graves located in the eastern areas of BiH; whereas KIP is responsible for the remains recovered from the Krjina area of the Republic of Srpska (RS). ICMP also maintains a staff at one of the primary centers of analysis and repatriation based in Banja Luka (RS).
  14. Ex and Ex also operates a small external operations section which is involved with establishing contacts with external governments and encourages those that are interested to visit ICMP in order to observe the ways that ICMP have addressed the issue of the missing within the former Yugoslavia. They also work on external operations proposals and training for professionals within ICMP facilities in BiH.
  15. **DNA Division** is primarily responsible for the processing, DNA extraction and analysis of DNA results. It operates from several Laboratories across Former Yugoslavia with operational Laboratories in Zagreb (Croatia), Belgrade (Serbia), Tuzla and Sarajevo (BiH).
  16. ICMP introduced in 2001 a DNA based system of identification which has pioneered the international recognition that classical markers of identification can be largely replaced with a DNA based system. This includes a revolutionary new DNA technique of extraction developed in ICMP laboratories together with a purpose designed electronic based matching software which is capable of matching bone to bone even if the remains are recovered from different sites.
  17. Therefore the essential contributions and structure of FSD include good standard working practices and goals surrounding the following:
    - **Archaeological techniques and standardized recording (Ex and Ex)**
    - **Database foundations (ICD)**
    - **DNA based identifications (DNA Division) which includes:**
      - a) **Blood collection from biological relatives of the missing person,**
      - b) **Collection of bone samples to retrieve a DNA profile from the victim to match a profile from a relatives blood.**

**Annex 2a ICMP DNA Tracking chart for Kosovo, November 2005**

<b>Blood Sample Status</b>	<b>Kosovo</b>		<b>SCG</b>		<b>Total</b>
<b>Blood Samples Collected</b>	10629		2343		<b>12972</b>
<b>Blood Profiles in Database</b>	10432		2175		<b>12607</b>
<b>Number of Missing Individuals Represented by the Blood Samples Collected</b>	3328		667		<b>3995</b>
<b>Bone Sample Status</b>	<b>Kosovo</b>		<b>SCG</b>		<b>Total</b>
<b>Received in ICMP ICD (Tuzla)</b>	3172		1010		<b>4182</b>
<b>Archived</b>	2676		960		<b>3636</b>
<b>Sent to DNA Laboratory</b>	2676		960		<b>3636</b>
<b>Bone Profiles in Database</b>	2325		925		<b>3250</b>
<b>DNA Reports</b>	<b>Kosovo</b>		<b>SCG</b>		<b>Total</b>
	<b>Albanians</b>	<b>Serbs</b>	<b>Albanians</b>	<b>Serbs</b>	
<b>Total Number of Reports</b>	1277	301	819	0	<b>2397</b>
<b>Individuals Represented</b>	877	172	723	0	<b>1772</b>
<b>Re-association of Separated Skeletal Elements</b>	323	85	86	0	<b>494</b>
<b>Exclusion of Presumptive Cases</b>	77	44	10	0	<b>131</b>
<b>Submitted Reports</b>	1198	254	811	0	<b>2263</b>
<b>Reports in Review</b>	26(Sa)	1(Sa)	11(Sa)	0	<b>38(Sa)</b>

**Annex 2b Other Foundations and Sources for this Report**

**Skinner M. PhD, DABFA (2001)** International Commission on Missing Persons. Petrovo Selo Exhumations, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, July 2001 (produced 6 August 2001).

**Skinner M. PhD, DABFA (2001)** International Commission on Missing Persons. Derventa Canyon, Lake Perucac Exhumation, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, September 2001. ICMP Observers Report, Draft November 13<sup>th</sup> 2001.

**Skinner M. PhD, DABFA (2001)** Batajnica Two Exhumation, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, July-September 2001. ICMP Observers Report, International Commission on Missing Persons Forensic Program. Draft Nov 12<sup>th</sup> 2001.

**Skinner M. PhD, DABFA and Brenda Kennedy PhD (2001)** International Commission on Missing Persons Forensic Program. Batajnica One Exhumation, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, June 2001. ICMP Observers Report, 30<sup>th</sup> July 2001.

**Skinner M. PhD, DABFA (2001)** MEMORANDUM Re: Exec Summary to Kathyne Bomberger Date: 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 2001. Summary of ICMP Monitored Exhumations in Serbia 2001, Draft Document.

**Skinner M. PhD, DABFA (2001)** Exhumation needs for Serbia-Spring 2002 Draft (29-11-01) Budget needs and expert team requirements.

**Skinner M. PhD, DABFA (2001)** MEMORANDUM Re: DNA+ Commingling To: Ed Huffine, John Crews. Date: November 14<sup>th</sup> 2001

**Skinner M. PhD, DABFA (2001)** MEMORANDUM Re: Spring exhumations-Serbia to: Ed Huffine, Kathyne Bomberger Date November 16<sup>th</sup> 2001.

**Andrej Starovic, MSc (2001)** Report on the Archaeological Excavation of site Batajnica - (BA01) bank of Danube June 2001 Petnica Research Centre Serbia.

**Sterenber J. MSc, Starovic, A. Vaduvekovic I, Tuller, H, et al. (2002)** Original Body forms and evidence logs for BA03, BA05, BA04, BA06.

**Sterenber J., Tuller, H., Cropper C., Daley, S. et al.** Original Body forms and evidence logs for BA07, BA08.

**Tuller, H. MA (2002)** Forensic Archaeologist ICMP Field Note Book, sections and plans of archaeological observations of excavation of BA03, BA04, BA05, BA06, BA07.

**Sterenber J. MSc (2002)** Senior Forensic Archaeologist ICMP Field Note Book, sections and plans of archaeological observations of excavation of BA03 (20<sup>th</sup> June 2002 to 26<sup>th</sup> July 2002).

**Skinner M. PhD, DABFA (2002)** MEMORANDUM Re: Field notes (2002) To: Dr Rick Harrington Date: 29-07-2002.

**Sterenber J. MSc, AIFA. (2002)** Senior Forensic Archaeologist ICMP ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT (SUMMARY) Report to ICMP BATAJNICA (BA03) Excavations 20<sup>th</sup> June 2002 to 26<sup>th</sup> July 2002 (Main Excavation) Draft Document sent to Belgrade District Court 8<sup>th</sup> August 2002.

**Sterenber J. MSc, AIFA. (2002)** Senior Forensic Archaeologist ICMP ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT (SUMMARY) Report to ICMP BATAJNICA (BA05) Excavations 2002 (Main Excavation) Draft Document sent to Belgrade District Court 8<sup>th</sup> August 2002.

**Sterenber J. MSc, AIFA. (2002)** Senior Forensic Archaeologist ICMP ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT (SUMMARY ADDITION) Report to ICMP BATAJNICA (BA03) Excavations 16<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2002 (Ramp Excavation) Draft Document sent to Belgrade District Court 9<sup>th</sup> September 2002.

**Tuller H. MA (2002)** Forensic Archaeologist ICMP ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT (SUMMARY) Report to ICMP BATAJNICA (BA06) Excavations 19<sup>th</sup> August to 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2002 Draft Document sent to Belgrade District Court 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2002.

**Tuller H. MA (2002)** Forensic Archaeologist ICMP ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT (SUMMARY) Report to ICMP BATAJNICA (BA04) Excavations 30<sup>th</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup> August and 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> September 2002 Draft Document sent to Belgrade District Court 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2002.

**Sterenber J. MSc (2002)** Senior Forensic Archaeologist ICMP Field Note Book, BA04, BA05, BA06, BA07

**Momir Vukadinović, inž. geofizike (2002)** Serbian Report for ICMP of Geophysical Investigation of Batajnica 07. U Beogradu 2.11.2002.

**IWPR article (2002)** Kosovo atrocity cover-up. Available from <http://www.unmahnews.com/viewarticle.php?sid+762>: accessed 6-19-2003.

**Unknown author (2002)** Witness testimony by ICTY observer at Batajnica Date: 5-29-2002 2:46pm.

**Vladimir Gagesca (2002)** International Commission on missing Persons Government Relations Officer, Belgrade office. Translation of original Serbian magazine article into English «VREME» weekly, 07 November 2002 Second season of "freezer truck" excavations Batajnica archaeology.

**Daley S. MSc. And Tuller H. MA (2002)** Forensic Archaeologists ICMP ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT (SUMMARY) Report to ICMP BATAJNICA (BA08) Excavations 21<sup>st</sup> November to 26<sup>th</sup> November 2002 30<sup>th</sup> November 2002.

**Skinner M. PhD, DABFA (2002)** Batajnica Three Exhumation, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, July 2002 ICMP Observers Report Forensic Program. **CONFIDENTIAL Draft Dec 2, 2002.**

**Schofield A. MSc (2002)** Forensic Anthropologist General Observations made at the site of Batajnica Serbia, 5<sup>th</sup> November to 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2002. Anthropological Observations.

**Tuller H. MA (2003)** Forensic Archaeologist ICMP Forensic Monitoring Project Report Summary Archaeological and Anthropological Findings Relating to the excavation of Batajnica 07 (BA07) Yugoslavia (Serbia) 4<sup>th</sup> November to 16<sup>th</sup> December 2002 Draft Document January 2, 2003.

**Sterenber J MSc (2003)** Exhumation and Examination. International Commission on Missing Persons. Report on the Archaeological Findings Relating to the excavation and recovery of human remains from several related features located at Batajnica Yugoslavia (Serbia) Report Author Jon Sterenberg MSc. AIFA senior Forensic Archaeologist ICMP, Based on Contributions from Hugh Tuller, MA, Forensic Archaeologist ICMP, Andrej Starovic MSc, Archaeologist Petnica Research Centre, Sharna Daley, MSc, Intern Forensic Archaeologist ICMP. **Confidential Document DRAFT VERSION 1.**

**Unknown Author (2003/4?) Exhumation and Examination Summary Report On the Forensic Monitoring Activities Relating to the excavation and recovery of human remains from several related features located at Batajnica Serbia and Montenegro August to December 2002 ICMP document.**

**Sterenber J. MSc (2005) Expert Report on Exhumations, Batajnica, Petrovo Selo, Derventa canyon, Lake Perucac. Distribution Restricted ICMP.FSD.31.05.doc.**

**Sterenber J. MSc (2005) General Background Batajnica 2002 Distribution Internal ICMP.FSD.06.05.doc.**

**Sterenber J. MSc (2005) Archaeological Excavation of Batajnica 1 (BA01) Distribution Restricted ICMP.FSD.05.05.doc.**

**Sterenber J. MSc (2005) Archaeological Excavation of Batajnica 2 (BA02) Distribution Internal ICMP.FSD.07.05.doc.**

**Sterenber J. MSc (2005) Exhumations Undertaken at Petrovo Selo Distribution Restricted ICMP.FSD.09.05.doc.**

**Sterenber J. MSc (2005) Exhumations of Derventa Canyon, Lake Perucac Distribution Restricted ICMP.FSD.08.05.doc.**

## Annex 3 Author's CV

## Jon Sterenberg

**Profile**

I have been a professional archaeologist since leaving H.M.Forces in 1982. I joined Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit (B.U.F.A.U.) as a site assistant in 1983, eventually leaving BUFAU with the position of Technical manager/Project manager. I am experienced in all aspects of archaeological evaluation and excavation, including site survey work, photography, and contextual recording. During my time at BUFAU I was responsible for several diverse roles which also included the training of postgraduate students from the University Department of Ancient History and Archaeology and extensive work on the recording and interpretation of historic buildings and their garden features. My skills include logistics, including plant operation and surveying, technical services, excavation of complex cemeteries, complex urban sites, post-excavation analysis and report production including illustration.

I acquired my Master of Science (MSc) in Forensic Archaeology in 2002 and Post Graduate Diploma (PGDip) in Forensic Archaeology in 2000 from Bournemouth University in the United Kingdom. I am currently in the process of writing an academic textbook based on my MSc dissertation on the uses of archaeology within the excavation of complex mass graves, and have been asked to provide chapters for further books, I have also written a joint scientific paper on the subject.

In 1997, I was invited to work for the International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) forensic team investigating and excavating mass gravesites related to the conflict in the Balkans and worked in an archaeological management role. In June 2000 I was asked by the United Nations in New York to undertake the excavation and recovery of UN soldiers killed during fighting in Sierra Leone, West Africa. I acted as the Senior Forensic Archaeologist and Project Manager as well as working in a variety of roles in the field and acting as liaison with UN forces and other UN offices.

At the beginning of 2001 I was asked to undertake a new role for ICTY, as their archaeological monitor/field manager. This role involved liaison with local entity courts and commissions as ICTY expert witness whilst simultaneously training a Bosnian commission team in order to maximize their own collection of forensic evidence.

After completing my work with ICTY, during which time I participated in the excavation of over thirty mass graves, I was invited to work as the Senior Forensic Archaeologist/Field Manager for the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP). I was initially based in Belgrade, Serbia during 2002 and was attached to a Serbian special commission team in a senior role undertaking the excavation of mass gravesites in the Belgrade area. I also taught a team of local archaeologists from Belgrade University in forensic excavation. My other duties included the monitoring of sites being exhumed by local entity commissions throughout Bosnia and the Balkans region. In order to assist in this process I

designed a 'three phase' approach to the recording of mass graves, which I successfully implemented in Iraq as part of my seconded post as Forensic Advisor to the Director of Human Rights and Transitional Justice(OHRTJ) within the Offices of the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) based in Baghdad, Iraq between 2003 and 2004.

Following my time in Iraq I returned to ICMP in early 2004 as the Head of ICMP Excavation and Examination Division within the Forensic Science Department which currently employs 121 national and international staff. At present I am based in Sarajevo and am working on the issues of mass gravesites and missing persons with local governments in both advisory and management roles. I have recently been tasked with assisting in various projects within Iraq, East Timor, Georgia and Chechnya and am in the process of formulating plans to combine international teams of experts and local teams to provide an adequate scientific response to requests from local Human Rights Ministries and families of victims. I am also responsible for liaison between the United States State Department and the newly formed Forensic Teams attached to the Iraqi Special Tribunal and have recently attended several United Nations meetings in Jordan and Kuwait in a supporting role for ICMP with Iraqi government officials.

Although my primary task is now related to human rights work I have actively followed the progress of archaeology in the United Kingdom through my friends and colleagues based at Birmingham Archaeology and through my other contacts across the world.

## Education

- 2002 **Master of Science (MSc)** in Forensic Archaeology, Bournemouth University. Dissertation title: *'Archaeological techniques and methods that may be used in the excavation and recording of contemporary primary and secondary mass graves'*.
- 2001 **Post Graduate Diploma (PG Dip)** in Forensic Archaeology, Bournemouth University.

**Book:** In process, joint authorship (working title) Forensic Archaeology, Anthropology and the Investigation of Mass Graves {to be published December 2005}

**Book:** In progress, joint authorship with Dr Soren Blau and Dr Douglas Ublaker {to be published in 2006}

**Book:** 'The Archaeology of Mass Graves' joint authorship with Prof Richard Wright and Ian Hanson, which is to be included in 'Forensic Archaeology', edited by John Hunter and Margaret Cox.

**Scientific Paper:** Turf Wars: Authority and responsibility for the investigation of mass graves, joint authorship with Dr Mark Skinner {Forensic Science International}

**Professional Affiliations**

- 2002-2005            Advisor to the INFORCE Foundation (Archaeology)
- 2002-present        Member of Kenyon International Emergency Services (Europe)
- 1997-present        Member of the Forensic Search Advisory Group (F.S.A.G.)
- 1986-1995           Committee Member University of Birmingham Insurance and Safety at work group
- 1990-present        Associate Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (I.F.A.)

**Relevant Qualifications****C.I.T.B. (Construction Industry Training Board)**

- 1986-2001-present    Plant operator licence for the following: Telescopic handler, 360 and 180 degree excavator machine and wheeled dumper truck up to 10 ton (weight).
- 2001                    Safety at work.
- 2001                    Health and Safety in the construction industry.
- 1984-1993            ST. John's Ambulance    First Aid at Work.
- 1995                    Oxford University centre for continuing studies. Health and Safety for Archaeologists.
- 1995-1997            Birmingham University works appraisal group.
- 1977-1979            Sutton Coldfield College of Further Education, Graphic Art and Design.

**Professional Experience****April 2004 to present, International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)**

Head of Excavation and Examination Division: Managing a local and international division of scientists involved in the excavation and recovery of human remains and forensic evidence from mass graves and the management of three facilities involved with the analysis and repatriation of those remains. Liaison to US State Department, IST, UN and local BiH governments and project management for overseas missions. Implementation of training and assistance for national and international professionals.

**April 2002 to April 2004**

Senior Forensic Archaeologist: Excavation and recovery of human remains and forensic evidence from gravesites in Serbia and Bosnia.

**August 2003-May 2004 Advisor to Director of Human Rights and Transitional Justice, Coalition Provisional Authority, Baghdad, Iraq.**

Duties included: advice to the director on forensic matters, consultation with Human Rights Ministries, site assessment work, coordination with international teams and coalition military elements within Iraq, procurement of funds and equipment for excavation work, production of reports and guidelines for work within Iraq, updating relevant databases with information from differing sources, providing relevant advice to the FCO in London and giving press briefings.

**August 2004 Metropolitan Police Force**  
Excavation and recovery of a 'drugs mule' from a shallow burial in the London area.

**United Nations (ICTY)**

**June-November 2001**  
**March-October 2000**  
**March-October 1999**  
**April-October 1998**  
**October 1997**  
**June-July 1997**  
**May 1997**

Excavation and recovery of the forensic evidence and human remains from more than 30 mass gravesites located in Croatia, and Bosnia-Herzegovina, including primary, secondary and robbed graves. Basic analysis of human remains recovered from those excavated gravesites. Training and monitoring of excavations, including liaising with local commission teams and with ICMP. The production of site reports and evaluations of several suspect mass gravesites for submission to the Tribunal and the production of related evidence reports for submission to the tribunal.

**June 2000 United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL)**

Project Manager and Senior Forensic Archaeologist. Tasked with undertaking the recovery and analysis of the remains of several United Nations soldiers killed in action against rebel forces (RUF) operating in the area of Rogberi Junction, West Africa. Liaison with UN and international military forces and the production of related evidence reports for submission to the Tribunal.

**February 2000 Lincoln Police Force**  
Search and subsequent excavation of human remains relating to the murder of an adult.

**February 2000 West Mercia Police Force**  
Excavation and recovery of skeletal human remains relating to the death of an adult.

**1997-1999 Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit**  
Project Officer/Technical Manager

**November 1997 Thames Valley Police Force**  
Excavation and recovery of human remains relating to the murder and subsequent burial of an adult.

- October 1997**      **Greater Manchester Police Force**  
Search, location and recovery of skeletal human remains relating to the murder of a juvenile.
- September 1997**    **Derbyshire Police Force**  
Search and recovery of scattered human remains.
- May 1997**            **Greater Manchester Police**  
Search for possible human remains relating to the murder of an adult.
- 1993-1997**            **Technical Manager** with Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit.
- 1989-1993**            **Field Officer** with Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit.
- 1986-1989**            **Project Supervisor** Manpower Services Commission Roving Team based at Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit.
- 1985-1986**            **Archaeologist**, Sandwell County Council, Castle Bromwich Hall Garden Trust.
- 1983-1985**            **Site Assistant**, Manpower Services Commission Roving Team based at Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit.

### **Forensic Reports**

- 2002-2005**            Various excavation and monitoring reports for ICMP and action and assessment reports for ORHTJ. The production of a series of monographs for ICMP concerning linked mass grave sites within BiH {in production}.
- 2000-2001**            (ICTY), Reports on excavations and forensic findings from several contemporary mass graves. (Reports to be integrated into ongoing casework for the Criminal Tribunal).
- 2000**                    (UNAMSIL), Report on the recovery of United Nations soldiers from Rogberi Junction, West Africa. United Nations, New York. (Reports to be integrated into ongoing casework for the Criminal Tribunal).

### **Archaeological Reports (various)**

- 1996-2000**            Various reports on various evaluations and excavations, awaiting report numbers.
- 1995**                    *Archaeological evaluation at the Wolverhampton Art Gallery* BUFAU Report No.365.
- 1995**                    *Excavations at Milcote Manor Farm, Warwickshire.* BUFAU Report No.367.

- 1995 *Archaeological watching brief at Harrdon Street, Bloxwich, Walsall* BUFAU Report No.364.
- 1995 *Archaeological evaluation at Showells Farm Moat, Wolverhampton.* BUFAU Report No.361.
- 1994 *Archaeological watching brief at Kenilworth Castle (with C.A.Mould).* BUFAU Report No.296.
- 1991 *Archaeological evaluations at Warmwell Quarry, West Knighton, Dorset.* BUFAU Report No.187.
- 1991 *Excavations on Offa's Dyke, Brompton Shropshire.* BUFAU Report No.155.
- 1991 *Geophysical survey and Trial Excavations at Dingle Quarry, Chelford, Cheshire.* BUFAU Report No.137.
- 1990 *Archaeological evaluation at Watling Street North, Church Stretton, Shropshire.* BUFAU Report No. 98.
- 1989 *Archaeological evaluation at Tanners Allotment, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.* BUFAU Report No.95.
- 1989 *Archaeological evaluation of Manor Farm, Wall, Staffordshire.* BUFAU Report No.65.
- 1989 *Survey of Wall Town Camp, Shropshire.* BUFAU Report No.59.
- 1989 *St.Michael's Chapel, Much Wenlock Priory, Shropshire.* BUFAU Report No.54.
- 1988 *Archaeological evaluation of the Butts, Wall, Shropshire.* BUFAU Report No 38.
- 1987 *Langley Gatehouse, Structural and Archaeological Survey* BUFAU Report No.28, and *Langley Gatehouse, II.* BUFAU Report No.29.
- 1987 *Archaeological evaluation at Tamworth Medieval Deanery, Staffordshire* BUFAU Report No.13.

### **Additional Information**

- 1979-1982** H.M. Forces.  
Regiment. 9/12th Royal Lancers. Three year term of service.
- 1983-1984** Territorial Army 225 Royal Monmouth Engineers. One year of service.  
Working in a variety of roles including general engineering tasks, bridge construction, and specifically as part of a two-man demolition team.
- Trades** Driving licence group H/A (clean licence)  
C.I.T.B. licences (see previous)
- RAC Crewman 2, NBC (Nuclear, Biological and Chemical) trained,  
Crewman driver AFV (Armoured fighting vehicle) 3,  
RAC soldier 3,

RAC map reading – class 2  
Crewman gunner AFV Rarden trained  
Crewman gunner AFV Scorpion trained  
RAC crewman - combat vehicle  
Reconnaissance (tracked) trained  
Crewman driver AFV combat vehicle  
Reconnaissance (tracked) trained  
Second phase signal-training reconnaissance

All arms demolition and mine warfare.

Annex 4

**Grant Agreement between the Coordination Centre For Kosovo and Metohija (CC) of The Federal Government of the Republic of Serbia and the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)**

**Grant Agreement**

**Between**

The Coordination Centre for Kosovo and Metohija (CC) of the Federal Government and the Government of the Republic of Serbia,

**And**

The International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)  
Legally described and registered as an international inter-governmental organization

**Concerning**

ICMP funding of CC activities on examination and identification of the remains of persons missing from Kosovo and Metohija

**The signatories to the present Agreement, recognizing**

- i. That there are an estimated 40,000 persons missing from the conflicts in the regions of the former Yugoslavia, which began in 1991 and that the uncertainty surrounding the fate of the missing has been a continuing source of anguish to the families concerned and an obstacle to rebuilding civil society in the former Yugoslavia.
- ii. That the majority of persons missing in former Yugoslavia are dead
- iii. That the processes of identifying the remains of the missing has been dramatically improved using DNA identification methods to complement the on-going recovery of mortal remains in the region
- iv. That in order for DNA to aid in the identification process, DNA profiles from blood samples taken from family members with missing relatives must be compared to DNA profiles from exhumed bodies
- v. That the cost and rate of identifying the missing is reduced significantly by building regional scientific capacity in the countries of the former Yugoslavia while the social significance of the process is greatly enhanced
- vi. That the credibility of the process and its benefits to society depend on ensuring the process' scientific integrity and consonance with human rights including privacy and other civil rights.

## And in view of

- vii. ICMP maintaining presence in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and in the Republic of Serbia and that ICMP's stated mandate includes:
  - a. Building DNA identification capacity in the countries of the former Yugoslavia
  - b. Maintaining adequate mechanisms to ensure the scientific integrity by internationally accepted standards of DNA based identification processes
  - c. Ensuring that ICMP activities and mechanisms benefit all people of former Yugoslavia irrespective of their religious or ethnic background
  - d. Other activities relevant to the resolution of the missing persons question, including the operation of DNA laboratories, maintenance of databases, collection of ante-mortem and other relevant data, facilitating exhumation processes and promoting social and political commitment to the resolution of cases of persons missing as a consequence of the recent armed conflicts in former Yugoslavia
- viii. The CC having been established with its mandate to include activities related to the missing from Kosovo and Metohia, but not activities related to persons missing from other parts of Serbia or the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
- ix. The CC having established, under its auspices, a Commission on Missing Persons and a Working Group on Exhumations and Identifications
- x. The fact that the legal authority for conducting an exhumation process in Serbia lies with the District Courts and that the authority of the CC includes coordinating the work of the District Courts to conduct exhumations with the objective of identifying exhumed mortal remains for families with missing loved ones
- xi. CC's plans to exercise its mandate in Kosovo and Metohia with the agreement of UNMIK authorities
- xii. The CC, in understanding the continuing pain of families with missing relatives from the earlier conflicts in the region will recommend a proposal to engage in future co-operation activities in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia with the agreement of the Federal Government of Yugoslavia and the Government of the Republic of Serbia
- xiii. The desirability of establishing co-operation between ICMP and the relevant offices of the CC engaged in the missing persons issue, to further the aims of both organizations

## Therefore Acknowledging

That awarding CC with a grant agreement is desirable as part of co-operation between ICMP and CC provided that:

- a. The Federal Government of the Republic of Yugoslavia and the Government of the Republic of Serbia agree to the terms and conditions of such an agreement
- b. That CC can exercise its mandate in Kosovo and Metohia in fact and in co-operation with UNMIK as well as in accordance with ethical principles endorsed by ICMP

The Parties Agree As Follows:

1. In kind and financial support, reciprocity
  - 1.1 Over a period of three years as of signature of the present agreement, ICMP will make to CC the in kind and financial support described in this Agreement and under the conditions set out therein.
  - 1.2 ICMP may substitute all or part of the in kind support identified in this agreement with financial support and all or part of the financial support identified in this Agreement with in kind support. ICMP shall exercise this option by notice to CC. No provision of this Agreement shall be interpreted to limit this option.
  - 1.3 In kind support shall consist of infrastructure and accessory installations, expertise and expert support as well as training as described in this agreement. Financial support shall consist of US Dollar funds to be held in a separate ICMP account for use CC in the form and manner set out in this agreement.
  - 1.4 ICMP shall provide the in kind and financial support described in this agreement in the form and according to the conditions and terms of this agreement and CC shall comply with the conditions and terms of this agreement in return for the in kind and financial support by ICMP under this agreement.
2. ICMP shall make available to CC the in kind support described hereafter.
  - 2.1 ICMP shall provide executive, expert, training, and technical assistance. CC shall accept such support and the conditions of such support.
  - 2.2 ICMP will provide CC with executive tools and DNA technical equipment, installations, fixtures and accessories as listed in Annex 1 to this agreement.
  - 2.3 ICMP shall seek to ensure that equipment identified as part of Annex 1 to this Agreement is of sufficient capacity to accommodate the needs of CC in the missing persons context, as well as the tasks of ICMP in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.
3. ICMP shall make available for the use by CC the financial support described hereafter.
  - 3.1 ICMP intends to make available to CC a non-refundable grant of 1.5 million US Dollars.
  - 3.2 The Grant shall be made available in instalments over a three-year period.
  - 3.3 The first instalment in the amount of USD 300,000.00 (in words: three hundred thousand) shall be held in a separate USD account of ICMP for the purchase by CC of equipment, accessories and supplies as set out in Annex 1 to this Agreement. ICMP shall settle invoices presented by CC for the purchase of items listed in Annex 1 provided that such purchases were effected according to the terms and conditions and within the timeframe set out in Annex 1 to this Agreement. In the event that ICMP opts to substitute the first instalment with in kind support, it shall purchase the equipment identified in Annex 1 and ensure shipment of the same.
  - 3.4 The ICMP Forensic Science Director shall co-sign purchase orders for items set-out in Annex 1 to this Agreement and assist CC in drafting the purchase orders. CC shall not make purchase orders under this agreement without the ICMP Forensic Science Director of ICMP co-signing purchase orders. The ICMP Forensic Science Director has the right to refuse signing purchase orders if he

or she deems that the orders are not consistent with this agreement or that preconditions for receiving the equipment are not met.

- 3.5 Subsequent instalments shall be in the amount of USD 200,000.00 (in words: two hundred thousand) and shall be held in the same separate ICMP account unless ICMP deems that all or part of any subsequent instalment shall be transferred to an account of CC or that ICMP opts to substitute all or part of a subsequent instalment with in kind support.
- 3.6 Subsequent instalments to the same separate ICMP account shall be effectuated every six months following timely use by CC of the first instalment in accordance with the terms and conditions of this agreement.
- 3.7 Unless ICMP decides to make transfers to an account of CC, ICMP shall settle invoices by CC for the purchase of goods, services and recurrent expenditures provided that such purchases were effected in a manner consistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement including its Annexes.
- 3.8 The ICMP Forensic Science Director shall co-sign invoices to ICMP by CC, unless the ICMP Program Director effected the purchases or the contracts giving rise to recurrent expenditures, in which event CC shall co-sign the invoices. The ICMP Forensic Science Director has the right to refuse signature of purchase or other contractual arrangements if he or she deems that the orders are not consistent with this agreement.
- 3.9 In the event that ICMP decides to make transfers to an account of CC, CC shall submit to ICMP financial and narrative reports accounting for the use of such funds on a quarterly basis. The reports shall be submitted in the English and Serbian languages.
- 3.10 All instalments shall be effected upon a request for payment by CC accompanied by a project proposal detailing the use of funds requested. ICMP shall not refuse allocation of funds granted under this agreement unless the proposal contravenes the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
4. CC shall maintain a Commission on Missing Persons with responsibility for missing persons under the full extent of CC's mandate throughout the period covered by the Agreement.
- 4.1 As of the date of entry into force of this Agreement, CC appoints ICMP as an observer to the Commission on Missing Persons of CC.
- 4.2 As an observer, ICMP is entitled to participate in, and to receive timely invitations to, the regular sessions of the Commission on Missing Persons of CC. ICMP will be represented by the Chief of Staff, or by a designated representative of the Chief of Staff.
- 4.3 The ICMP representative may address the Commission.
- 4.4 As of the date of entry into force of this Agreement, CC will appoint one member of the Commission on Missing Persons of CC as Advisor to ICMP in Yugoslavia and the Advisor may address ICMP in Yugoslavia.
- 4.5 The CC representative shall facilitate ICMP efforts on the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to resolve cases of persons missing. The representative shall also facilitate the transmission of information and data between ICMP on the one hand, and CC and other agencies of the Federal Government and the Republic of Serbia on the other. The representatives should also facilitate the transmission of information and data between ICMP, CC and UNMIK.

5. CC shall undertake to further the aims of ICMAP in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the region.
- 5.1 CC shall facilitate efforts by ICMAP in Kosovo and Metohia and shall undertake to develop a joint project with ICMAP on examinations and the collection of blood and bone samples on the territory of Yugoslavia and to coordinate the joint effort with Federal and Republic authorities.
- 5.2 The Institute for forensic medicine, located at Dalgardija street, number 31A, in Belgrade, agrees to allocate its premises to the CC for the purposes of this Agreement. The annual payment to the Institute for utilities shall not exceed USD 6,000,00 (six thousand). CC shall retain the services of ICMAP's Forensic Science to equip the laboratory and to implement the working methods and objectives of the laboratory.
- 5.3 The Institute shall provide adequate laboratory, administrative and storage space for the DNA Identification Laboratory, security cover access to the DNA Identification Laboratory in order to ensure the safety of the equipment, specimens, supplies, reagents and personnel.
- 5.4 Human remains or blood samples either collected by the Institute or in possession of the Institute shall be kept on the premises of the Institute, unless the parties identify another location within the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, where such remains and samples shall be kept. Human remains and blood samples collected or taken from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia shall not be removed from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia without approval of CC and in co-operation with ICMAP.
- 5.5 CC warrants that ICMAP shall have unrestricted access and use of the laboratory and accessory facilities described in Paragraph 5.2 above. CC also warrants that ICMAP shall have unrestricted access and use of the installations and equipment described in Paragraph 3.3 above. CC also warrants that day-to-day management of the laboratory and of its accessory facility, installations and equipment shall be the responsibility of the ICMAP DNA Director.
- 5.6 Within seven days of entry into effect of this Agreement, CC shall establish as part of its Commission on Missing Persons a working group on standard operating procedures (SOPs) for DNA identification of human remains. The working group shall be co-chaired by the ICMAP Forensic Science Director, who shall present to the working group draft SOPs for discussion and adoption by CC.
- 5.7 SOPs adopted by the CC shall be subject to approval by the ICMAP Scientific Advisory Board and shall thereafter form integral part of this agreement.
- 5.8 ICMAP shall not be obliged to disburse funds or provide in kind support under this Agreement until approval of CC's SOPs by ICMAP's Scientific Advisory Board. The ICMAP Scientific Advisory Board shall render its decision within 14 days upon adoption of SOPs by CC.
6. Any notice required or permitted under this Agreement shall be deemed sufficiently given or served if sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed as follows:  
If to ICMAP to:  
Gordon Bacon  
Chief of Staff

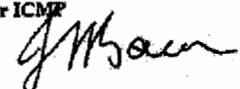
Alipascina 45a  
Sarajevo  
BiH

If to CC to:  
Nebojsa Covic  
President  
Uzicka 25  
Belgrade  
Yugoslavia

- 6.1 ICMP and CC shall each have the right to change the place notice is to be given under this paragraph by written notice thereof to the other party.
- 6.2 This Agreement shall enter into effect upon signature by the parties following signature by the representatives of the Governments of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Serbia.—
- 6.3 This Agreement shall not take effect until CC in fact and with the consent of UNMIK exercises its mandate in Kosovo and Metohia and provides ICMP with a written statement evidencing the consent of UNMIK.
- 7. Annex I referred to above is integral part of this Agreement.
- 7.1 Annex 1: "Quantities and Technical Specifications of Installations, Equipment and Accessories for use in ICMP funded DNA Identification Programs"
- 8. This agreement is signed in four copies; two in the English language and two in the Serbian language.
  - 8.1 The parties agree to settle any disputes amicably.
  - 8.2 In the event of dispute, the English version shall be deemed authentic.
  - 8.3 Amicable resolution failing, disputes shall be resolved by arbitration.
  - 8.4 In the event of dispute resolution by arbitration, each side shall appoint an arbitrator who shall jointly appoint a third arbitrator. In the event that either side determines that agreement on a third arbitrator cannot be reached, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall nominate an Arbitrator.
- 9. Neither this agreement nor any part thereof shall be construed to constitute any waiver, whether expressed or implied, of any privileges and immunities that apply to ICMP, ICMP officers, accounts, ICMP commissioners, experts and staff.

 Signed in ..... on 19.10.2001  
For the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

 Signed in ..... on 19.10.2001  
For the Government of the Republic of Serbia

For ICMP  


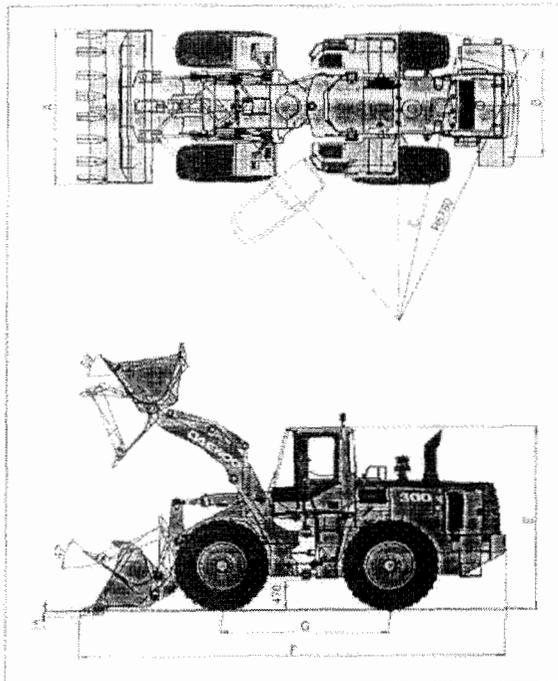
For CC  
Signed in ..... on 23.10.2001



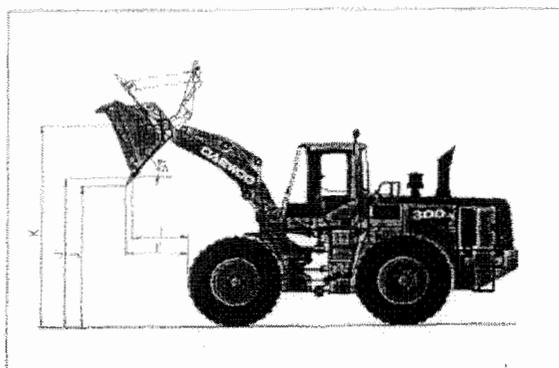
## Annex 5 "Ramp Grave"

1. The definition of the "ramp grave" was originally conceived by Prof Richard Wright who acted as an ICTY expert in charge of excavations during 1997-2000 in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The construction of these particular type of grave is undertaken using a wheeled machine termed "Wheeled Front-end Loader, as depicted below."

### Dimension



### Working ranges



2. The machine itself is articulated centrally beneath the operators cab allowing the machine a certain amount of flexibility both in the central axis (see top image) but also between the axles of the machine. The range of the bucket means that it can only dig (excavate) on a level surface and is generally seen in gravel or sand quarries where its large capacity front bucket can be used to load trucks from the side.

3. The machine is ideally suited to the construction of defensive positions that need a ramped base/floor to drive a tank or other armoured vehicle or artillery piece into. The operation involves removing soil in a series of 'spits' starting at the same level and in digging in the same direction, e.g. digging down and forward at the same time as forming the ramp, the operation of removing the soil causes the sides of the open feature to have vertical sides which are very stable through compaction of the soil the machine is driving through. As the machine is always pushing or digging in a frontal direction the last bucket load is usually deposited at the top of the completed deep or 'blunt' end of the ramp. This type of position allows extra frontal armour protection from attacking infantry or attack by opposition tanks whilst at the same time allowing only the turret to be exposed. This type of position also allows the vehicle to reverse out of position if it becomes unattainable.
4. Excavated ramped positions range in size depending on the size of vehicle that is to be placed within the position. In certain cases the operation of digging the original width position (generally 2.50m to 2.80m) may have to be extended in a sideways direction to accommodate wider vehicles: for instance a T-55 tank (3.80m) this produces a doubling of the evidence of machine marks that can be located and recovered from the base of the feature.
5. Typically, this type of feature has been used in the former Yugoslavia to clandestinely bury human remains; the ramped surface forming an ideal approach for a reversing truck for example. The truck can then 'tip' its load whilst at the same time as driving forward out of the feature which in effect then becomes a 'grave'. Impressions of truck and machine tyre treads have been recovered from several of these gravesites.
6. The process continues until the available space is occupied, after which the original excavated soil is pushed back into the grave sealing the remains within, any additional remaining material is spread across the area causing the classic 'grave footprint' that is often seen in aerial imagery.
7. One point that has been noticed by ICTY and ICMP archaeologists within the former Yugoslavia is the similarity to size of these 'graves'. They exist as a single machine operation, i.e. one width with no side expansion. Range in length between 15-20m in length, 2.5-2.8m in width and generally have a blunt end of between 1-2.5m in depth.
8. The only exception to this so far noticed is one of the ramp graves at Batajnica in Serbia (BA05) which had a very long base surface and entrance ramp. This extra length, may have been due to the soil into which the grave was dug, a very stable river alluvium of sand and silt/clay matrix.
9. ICMP archaeologists are using geographical information systems (GIS) to investigate other characteristics to the location of these graves based on recorded survey data, soil analysis and aerial and satellite imagery.

Annex 6a Body Recovery Report

BODY RECOVERY REPORT Site: (code) 6025 Body/(Body Part) No. 505/E  
(Complete in ink. Do not write on reverse. Initial errors)

Recorder: (Full Name) ONI SUGARLO Time/Date: 3/10/02

Body: Skeletonised - Partly Skeletonised - Saponified

Coordinates Surveyed  WATER

Lies on:	Front	Back	Thighs	Right Side	Left Side
Body:	Extended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bent at hips	Tightly bent	Tightly bent	
Left Arm:	Extended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bent at elbow	Tightly bent	Tightly bent	
Right Arm:	Extended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bent at elbow	Tightly bent	Tightly bent	
Left Leg:	Extended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bent at knee	Tightly bent	Tightly bent	
Right Leg:	Extended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bent at knee	Tightly bent	Tightly bent	

Clothing (Using standard description list) SHORTS - TRUNKS - HATS - SHOES - GLOVES -  
JACKET - (EVIDENCE BAGS OF MINOR GEAR?) - RING ON LEFT

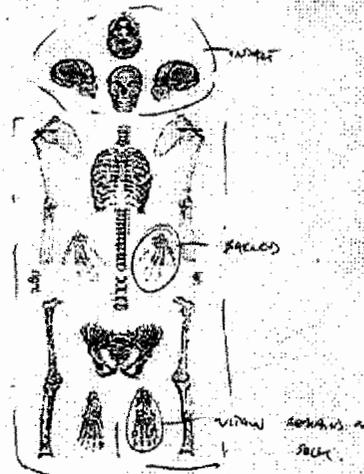
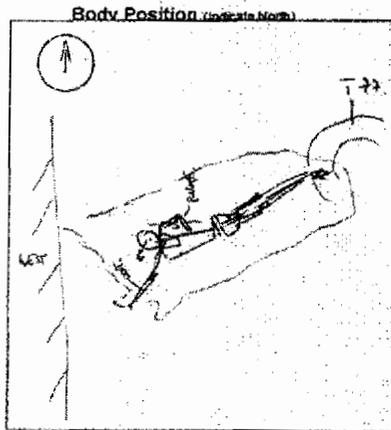
Artefacts associated to body: (i.e. Documents/Jewellery/Watch) Blindfold: Y/N? Ligature: Y/N?

Additional Information: (Factual observations and information to assist in determining cause of death or identification of victim)

YES WITHIN DEPTH (10) - HAND TO WRIST (GARDING WITH GAGE OF 21 (10))

COMING IN FROM POSITION 'MARKS' IN

REMOVE SHOES AND SET AS NEAR AS BODY



This statement, consisting of one page, is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing, that if it is tendered in evidence I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signed [Signature] Date 3/10/02

MJH 2001

Annex 6b Artifact Log

Drušká lokacija		Oznaka lokacije		Zastupnik		Datum		Kategorija		Površina	
Broj	F	T	DT	Ukupno	Kritični	Datum	Primenjena	Mesto nalaza	Otkriveno	Fotografija	Prilozi
263	X			TC-10	V.F.	21.05.2007.		8	100%	(FS) 14	7 in
264	X			TC-10	V.F.	21.05.2007.		2	100%	(FS) 15	7.5
265		X		TC-10	V.F.	21.05.2007.		11	100%	(FS) 16	7.5
266		X		TC-10	V.F.	21.05.2007.		8	100%	(FS) 17	7 in
267	X			TC-10	V.F.	21.05.2007.		1	100%	(FS) 18	7 in

ICMP (FSD) Operations Section

Formica: F (du), DT-02 (du)

Rev. 08/2007 (ICMP 2007)

**Annex 7 Note on the Meaning of "Primary" and "Secondary" Mass Graves**

1. The scientific community has yet to arrive at a definitive answer regarding what constitutes a mass grave. Many scientists have tried to put known types of graves into some sort of category (Haglund 2002, Schmitt 2002, Sterenberg and Simpson 2003, Jese and Skinner 2004) however this is a difficult task as mass graves can take many forms, sizes and can be found in many locations. The mass graves at Batajnica are slightly problematic in that the victims were killed in another country and transported to a burial site that is "primary" in the other country.
2. In scientific terms the location of death would be the 'execution' site and the mass graves at Batajnica the Primary site. However it is suspected that some of the remains recovered from BA07 may have been exhumed from an original site located in another country; in effect causing BA07 to be both a primary and secondary burial site.
3. Batajnica primary sites are those that contain the following elements:
  - a. A grave into which the individuals were placed soon after death (Manning 2000);
  - b. A location where the individuals were executed and then buried (Manning 2000);
  - c. A grave that contains the remains of more than one victim who share some common trait connected with the cause and manner of death (Schmitt 2002);
  - d. A grave that contains several individuals; e.g. six, or where two or more bodies are found to be physically touching (Skinner 1987, Mant 1987).
4. Primary sites contain evidence that has not been moved and the context of which constitutes forensic evidence.
5. "Secondary" mass graves can then be defined as a grave in which bodies that were removed or "robbed" from a primary grave were placed (Manning 2000). The term "robbed" is used to indicate the opening of the grave and the removal of some or all of the bodies. This produces disturbance within the body mass and associated evidence. The process of removal may itself be a criminal act that can be documented.
6. A secondary gravesites may result from varieties of post-burial disturbance such as body trading, mandated exhumations with reburial and body relocation. General observations show that primary gravesites contain complete intact remains either fully fleshed, skeletonised or in a variety of stages of decomposition. Associated evidence is easily retrievable as it still 'attached' to the bodies and is generally in situ.
7. A general indicator of a secondary gravesites is the high number of disjoint body parts, as opposed to whole or almost whole bodies in primary graves. Clothed bodies tend to weaken into three parts, separating at the neck and lower back. Therefore bodies that have been allowed to decompose in a primary grave, once disturbed or 'robbed' will become disarticulated during the disturbance or robbing operation. Further disarticulation also occurs during transport to the secondary site of burial.
8. Evidence, which was in situ in the primary site, will now be seen as disassociated or 'floating' in the redeposited material. Evidence linking the primary to secondary graves, such as similar blindfolds and ligatures, consistent soil/pollen samples and various artifacts such as broken colored glass, bottle labels, plastic water pipe and cartridge or shell cases can still be recovered if careful excavation of the site is undertaken.

K0525475

**icmp** International Commission on Missing Persons

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Tel: +387 33 21 86 60 Fax: +387 33 20 32 97  
Email: icmp@ic-mp.org  
Web: www.ic-mp.org

Sarajevo, 21<sup>st</sup> December 2005  
267-021/2005

Dear Mr. Sutch,

Please find enclosed document:

- Expert Report on Exhumations (Batajnica; Petrovo Selo; Derventa Canyon, Lake Perucac);

Yours sincerely,



Nada Simanic  
Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Staff  
/ICMP

Mr. Jonathan Sutch  
ICTY  
Churchillplein 1  
2517 JW, The Hague  
Netherlands

K0525476

# **EXPERT REPORT ON EXHUMATIONS**

**BATAJNICA  
PETROVO SELO  
DERVENTA CANYON, LAKE PERUCAC**

**Distribution:**  
Restricted  
Sarajevo, November 24, 2005  
ICMP.FSD.31.05.1.doc

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**PART 1: BATAJNICA****A REPORT REQUIRED**

The International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)<sup>1</sup> is requested by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) to provide an expert report<sup>2</sup> regarding the excavations, examinations and repatriations of mortal remains relevant to the 1999 Kosovo conflict<sup>3 4</sup> as follows:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Date of excavation</u>
BA01	June 2 <sup>nd</sup> to June 26 <sup>th</sup> 2001
BA02	July 16 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup> September 2001
BA03	20 <sup>th</sup> June to 26 <sup>th</sup> July 2002
BA04	30 <sup>th</sup> July to 2 <sup>nd</sup> August, 5 <sup>th</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2002
BA05	2 <sup>nd</sup> August to November 26 <sup>th</sup> 2002
BA06	19 <sup>th</sup> August to 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2002
BA07	4 <sup>th</sup> November to 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2002
BA08	21 <sup>st</sup> November to 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2002

**Complete Bodies Recovered During Excavation (from archaeological record)**

BA01	36	
BA02	269	
BA03	39	
BA04	0	
BA05	287	
BA06	0	
BA07	74	
BA08	0	<b>Total: 705</b>

**Recovered Artifacts of Forensic Importance Recovered during Excavation (based on survey data)**

BA01	unknown	
BA02	unknown	
BA03	112	
BA04	5	
BA05	187	
BA06	23	
BA07	46	
BA08	7	<b>Total: 380</b>

<sup>1</sup> For origin, mandate and activities of the Commission generally see Annex 1a; activities relating to forensics, see Annex 1b.

<sup>2</sup> For qualifications of the reporting expert Annex 2a; for other foundations and sources for this report see Annex 2b.

<sup>3</sup> With respect to Kosovo, ICMP has signed agreements with UNMIK providing for ICMP to perform DNA identifications. For an overview on the state of ICMP DNA work to date, see Annex 3.

<sup>4</sup> With respect to Serbia and Montenegro, ICMP has signed agreements with the Kosovo Coordination Centre, see Annex 4.

K0525480

**1. Batajnica 1 (BA01) Participants**

**Court**

Judge NENAD CAVLINA

Belgrade District Court

**Archaeological Team Members (based on Starovic 2001)**

Mr. ANDREJ STAROVIC

Archaeologist (Petnica Research Centre), Head of the  
Archaeological Excavation

Mr. ALEKSANDER KAPURAN

Archaeologist (Belgrade), Excavation and Field Documentation  
(3 days)

Mr. RADIVOJE ARSIC

Graduate Student of Archaeology (Paracin) Excavation, Field  
Drawings (replaced above)

Mr. VOJISLAV FILIPOVIC

Senior Year Student of Archaeology (Belgrade), Excavation

Mr. IGOR VADUVESKOVIC

Sophomore Year Student of Archaeology (Zajecar), Excavation

**International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) Monitor**

Dr. BRENDA KENNEDY

Senior Forensic Anthropologist (ICMP)

**2. Batajnica 2 (BA02) Participants**

**Court**

Judge MILAN DILPARIC

Belgrade District Court

**Forensic Institute of Belgrade Team**

Dr. Prof. DUSAN DUNJIC

Specialist in Forensic Medicine (Head of Expert Team)

Dr. Prof. MIROLJUB OBRADOVIC

Specialist in Forensic Medicine

Dr. Prof. MARIJA DURIC

Anthropologist

Asst. Dr. DANIJELA DJONIC

Anthropologist

Doc. Dr. IVANKA BARALIC

Specialist in Forensic Medicine

Asst. Dr. SLOBODAN NIKOLIC

Specialist in Forensic Medicine

Asst. Dr. DJORDJE ALEMPIJEVIC

Specialist in Forensic Medicine

Asst. Dr. DRAGAN JECMENICA

Specialist in Forensic Medicine

Asst. Dr. SNEZANA PAVLEKIC

Specialist in Forensic Medicine

Dr. Prof. ZORAN RAKOCEVIC

Maxillo-Facial Surgeon and Specialist in Radiography

**Technical Element of the Team**

**Autopsy assistants:**

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Mr. REDZEP MAMUTOVSKI

**Photographs and video by:**

Mr. PETAR ILINCIC

**Technical Security:**

Mr. DUSKO NENEDOVIC

**Typing and Technical Services:**

Ms. GORDANA VELIMIROVIC

Ms. MILIJANA KRSTIC

**International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) Monitor**

Dr. MARK SKINNER PhD. DABFA

Senior Forensic Anthropologist

K0525481

**3. Batajnica 3/4/5/6 (BA03/04/05/06) Participants****Court**

Judge MILAN DILPARIC

Belgrade District Court

**ICMP Archaeological Team**

Dr. MARK SKINNER, PhD. DABFA

Senior Forensic Anthropologist (BA03 only)

Mr. JON STERENBERG, MSc. AIFA

Senior Forensic Archaeologist/Manager/Plant Operator

Mr. HUGH TULLER MA.

Forensic Archaeologist/Manager

**ICMP (Local Archaeological Expertise)**

Mr. ANDREJ STAROVIC, MSc.

Archaeologist/Supervisor

Mr. IGOR VADUVESKOVIC

Archaeologist/Surveyor/Data Entry

Mr. VOJISLAV FILIPOVIC

Archaeologist/Surveyor/Data Entry

Mr. SLOBODAN MITROVIC

Archaeologist/Surveyor/Data-Entry/Survey Manipulation

**ICMP Government Relations Officer**

Mr. VLADIMIR GACESA

Project Monitor

Ms. ANA KRON

Political Officer

**Forensic Institute of Belgrade Team**

Dr. Prof. DUSAN DUNJIC

Director of the Institute of Forensic Medicine,  
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Applied Photography

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Archaeologist/Site Manager

University of Birmingham (Visiting)

Anthropologist

Senior Archaeologist/Surveyor

Archaeologist

Archaeologist/Surveyor

Anthropologist

Archaeologist/Surveyor

Archaeologist/Data Management

Anthropologist

**B** ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESPONSE

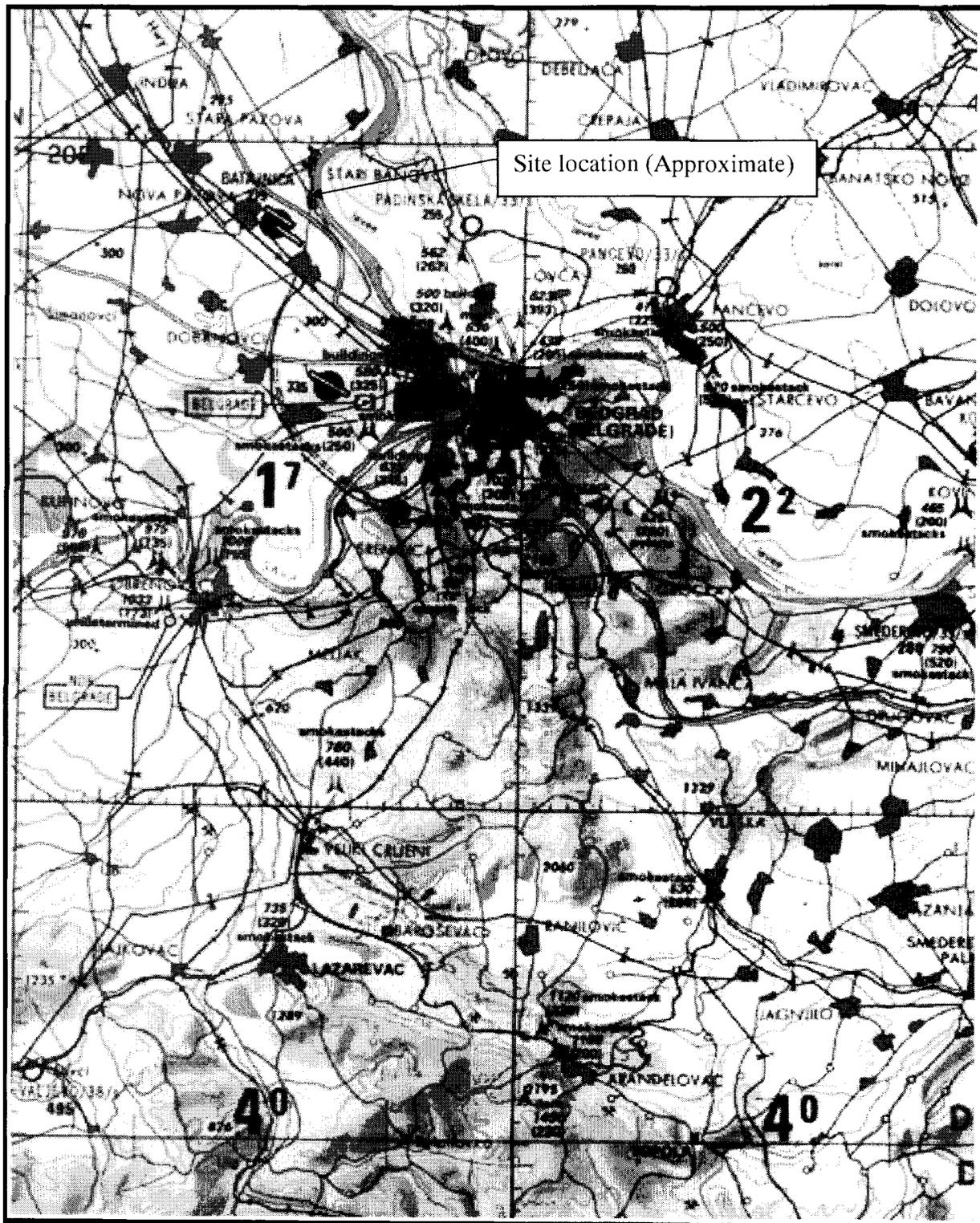


Figure 1: Location plan (Based on Tactical Pilotage Chart TPC F-3A, scale 1:500,000)

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1. The excavations at the site situated to the North-West of the City of Belgrade, Serbia, known as Batajnica 1 (BA01) had commenced on June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2001 on the grounds of the Yugoslavian Government Anti Terrorist Police, Policija Srbije (SAJ), outside the area of a firing range which contained the remaining mass graves. The archaeological response was initiated later that month by the Institute of Forensic Medicine, Belgrade, which brought archaeologists from Belgrade University to site. Following classical approaches, the team identified and excavated archaeological features that elucidated the overall interpretation of the site, the feature itself, its contents and the backfilling process.
2. A second mass grave, known as Batajnica 2 (BA02), was excavated between July 10<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> September 2001. This grave was situated within the firing range of and was similar in size, shape and construction as BA01. It was excavated without archaeological expertise. However, the ICMP monitor assisted the process of recovering human remains and associated artifacts from the grave. The monitor reported that BA02 was placed in a west to east direction and was ramped at the western end. This would suggest that it was positioned close to and in the same direction as BA03.
3. A third site, Batajnica 3 (BA03) was excavated on 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> July 2002 also on the firing range slightly North of BA02. The introduction of archaeological and anthropological presence by ICMP in June of that year enabled the Belgrade Forensic Institute to undertake the controlled excavation of human remains and associated artifacts. Supervised machine stripping followed by manual excavation allowed the recovery of approximately 39 bodies.
4. Controlled mechanical removal of overburden and careful supervised stripping of the entire site was undertaken and four other features, two of which were shown later to be mass graves Batajnica 5 (BA05) and Batajnica 7 (BA07), were identified. Throughout the areas cleared by mechanical excavation, surfaces were cleaned by hand to expose and define the boundaries of potential archaeological deposits and features surviving at the subsoil horizon. These were recorded by detailed three-dimensional survey and photographed before excavations were commenced. In conjunction with this procedure, detailed recording, artifact recovery and selective environmental sampling were undertaken. Most of the work was carried out under the cover of tents. With respect to BA07, geophysical investigation was undertaken prior to excavation applying the techniques of resistivity to the non-invasive investigation of the grave.
7. In the following report archaeological features and contexts defined during fieldwork, and subsequently in post excavation analysis, are discussed within the chronological event system defined in the first instance through stratigraphic relationships or likely spatial associations. The report presents the excavated features in order of excavation and examines the potential of the associated forensic artifacts from within each grave or feature. The analysis of the recovered remains and associated artifacts enabled the archaeological team to construct an opinion based on this evidence surrounding the activities and events at Batajnica in 1999.

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### C BATAJNICA GEOGRAPHY: LOCATION, LANDSCAPE AND GEOLOGY

8. The site area Batajnica (hereafter referred to by BA followed by site code) is situated approximately 200m from the western edge of the River Danube in an area of land belonging to a training centre used by the Yugoslavian military, the Special Anti-terrorist unit (SAJ) and police units of the Serbian Government.

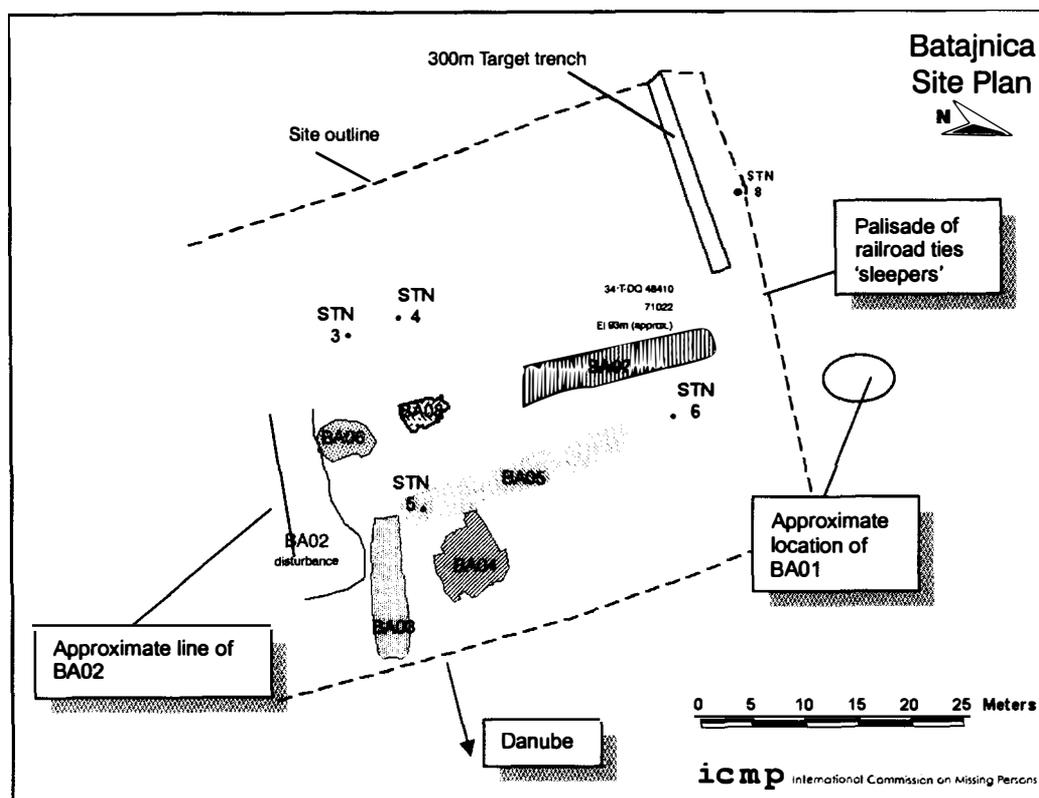


Figure 2: Location plan showing extent of features excavated within area

9. The characteristics of the land in the area of the firing range, are similar to flood plane deposits, that is a very light brown/buff topsoil/subsoil of overbank silts overlying a hard brown silt/clay alluvial material. This deposit extends to an unknown depth across the area, but was observed by the archaeological team to a depth of at least 4m within a series of rubbish and drainage pits excavated across the area of the site.
10. The site area (BA) is located at the far northern end of the 300m firing range and is used as a live fire range for various government departments. An area approximately 50m x 45m to the north of the range is bordered by large sloping anti ricochet 'berms' of compacted soil approximately 10m in height. Embedded into the upper surface of these berms are a series of closely placed vertical rail sleepers of which some 2 to 3m is upstanding. These are located on the north, east and western sides of the site. Towards the south is a long flat area of pasture approximately 200m in length forming part of the shooting range. At 200m and 300m locations are concrete slit trenches which house the mechanisms for 'pop-up' targets. The entire length of this part of the range is also bordered by anti-richocet berms of compacted soil. Access to the site is through the armoury buildings to the south and a passage cut through the defensive berm in this general area. Access to the base itself is security controlled.



Figure 3: View of Batajnica site looking north, June 2002

11. Close to the south and west of the firing range are a series of hangers, offices and barrack accommodation. The barracks were originally built as a support centre for the military and were constructed in the 1950s. The 300m firing range where the graves and related features are situated was apparently heavily modified and extended in 1994, as could be observed at the end of the southern ricochet berm and the mid point of the northern berm. Evidence of the removal of several large trees along that original line was recovered during the excavation of BA08.

#### 1. Site History and Pre-visit Data

12. An initial visit was made by ICMP at the beginning of June 2002 before invasive work was undertaken. The area of investigation was under grass, changes in the local vegetation were surveyed by the archaeology team as it is known that these changes of vegetation may indicate the position of large areas of disturbance or mass grave sites. A thick growth of thistle had grown abundant in the general area of the excavations of BA02, although the visual survey of the site showed little indication of any sizeable disturbance. Two areas of slightly different flora and fauna to the north of the previously excavated sites of BA02 excavated in 2001 were noted and plotted. Several destroyed cars were recorded and photographed on the site before removal by heavy machinery. These cars had been placed on top of the locations of the mass graves in 2001-2 to use for target practice.
13. Following the completion of work on BA02 the site had been turned over to the SAJ who had conducted various ballistic experiments and live fire exercises on the range. These included the use of small arms, submachine pistol weapons, rifles of various calibres, grenades of various types, rifle grenades and shoulder launched rockets. Consequently scattered across the site were hundreds of cartridge cases of differing calibres along with intact/deformed bullets of differing calibre, shrapnel fragments, grenade 'fly off' levers and several discarded propellant cases of rocket propelled ammunition.

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14. Recent activity relating to the exhumation of BA02 in 2001 was observed, in particular a series of small drainage/rubbish pits concentrated to the western side of the site. Evidence of activity relating to the exhumation of BA02 could be observed to the south of the eastern side of the site with the remains of several partially buried parts of a large truck protruding through the soil within this area. During the visit in June 2002 the chassis of a large truck trailer was observed partially hidden behind a wall of disused vehicle tires. Placed in the north eastern corner of the site the chassis was approximately 15m in length and 3m in width. Although the original origin of the trailer was unknown, it was reported to ICMP that the chassis belonged to the truck that contained the bodies within BA02. To the south eastern corner of the site a series of large 3m tall walls had been constructed from timber and vehicle tires, this was used as a makeshift rest area during the excavation of BA02.
15. It was reported to ICMP that 22 truckloads (i.e. approximately 220 cubic meters) of soil had been brought onto the site to remodel the surface of the area, presumably following the backfilling of the graves, in particular the north-east end of the range where the activity of grave construction had altered the ground water table. The soil was also to be used to combat the problem of the area where the ground had now taken on a swampy appearance. Finally it was used to create a false horizon that sloped from the original ground surface, approximately the centerline (north south) of the site and extended towards the eastern berm.

## 2. Site Recording and Archaeological Methodology

16. Pro-forma sheets (i.e. Body Recovery Report)<sup>5</sup> similar to those used by ICTY archaeologists and Scene of Crime (SOCO) personnel from 1997 to 2001 were used on site. These were slightly modified to include versions in both English and Serbian. Use of a sequential numbering system allowed easy tracking of recovered body/body parts and associated artifacts from recovery through autopsy to final storage. Additional numbers/letters were added during autopsy if and when the pathology team required. The Pro Forma Sheet included the surveying points that were to be taken (15 points). Sections on this form also covered the state of decomposition of the relevant body/ body part and a section for the recorded temperature of the body pre-lift.
17. After the removal of overburden, each body or body part was cleaned by hand, and allocated the next sequential number from the main evidence log. These were recorded within the log as either 'Body' (B) (if complete or near complete), or Body Part (BP). As the pathology and anthropology team were local the letter codes were changed to reflect the local language; (T) *telo*, [body], (DT) *deo tela* [body part] or (P) *predmet* [artifact]. No evidence of funeral rites or evidence of proper burial was observed during the excavations.
18. Non-invasive detailed records were made by the field team relating to position of the body or body part within the grave, remaining clothing present on the body/body part, and associated forensic evidence such as the presence of blindfolds or ligatures. Separate bags were assigned to general bones (those bones which could not be associated) and general artifacts (loose items of clothing or other material, e.g. concrete fragments, recovered throughout the excavation). Artifacts of forensic importance were also recovered and given a sequential number and logged within the main evidence log, again in sequential order as 'Artifact' (A) or *predmat* (P).<sup>6</sup>
19. Particular note was also made if the body was found to be wrapped within blankets or plastic sheeting. Special note was made of bullets if observed. Survey of the bodies was undertaken using a Sokkia (SET 600)

<sup>5</sup> See exhibit in Annex 6a

<sup>6</sup> See exhibit in Annex 6b

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Total Station and associated (SDR 31) Data logger, this included a 15-point survey of the major landmarks of each set of intact remains. Similarly, body part surveys were also undertaken identifying the major visible landmarks. In order to avoid confusion at a later date each body was given its own file within the data logger. Body parts and other forensic evidence i.e. shell cases, etc were placed within an item specific general file. This system allowed the precise plotting of all of the forensic evidence, i.e. bodies, shell cases, bullets, tires etc, to be recorded in three dimensions by the onsite archaeological personnel.

20. ICMP made general observations as to type of clothing, artifacts such as 'prayer beads', Korans etc but made no direct link to ethnicity. Basic analysis was undertaken for anthropological data that could be included in the pathology report at the site, further analysis was undertaken at the Forensic Institute in Belgrade.
20. After recording, each body or body part was placed into a separate white plastic body bag, with externally written (in indelible pen) identifying evidence number and transported from the grave to the on-site storage tent to await future autopsy by the Forensic Institute team. Artifacts were similarly treated and placed within an appropriately sized bag.
21. ICMP does not deal with presumptive Identifications as it relies on the science of DNA identification in order to confirm identity of an individual. Therefore during the excavations at Batajnica a system was put into place to assist the Forensic Institute team with any recovered documents located during the excavation itself. Due to the rough handling of the remains during transport and their initial internment in the mass graves, items such as passports, driving licenses and various paper documentation were routinely found between the remains and more rarely within the clothing of the individuals. The system put into place sought to ensure that any item as delicate as a paper document and recovered from a dark, cold and wet location would be stored under similar conditions until proper analysis can be performed.
22. The ICMP team was careful not to open or overly disturb through rough handling, any documentation recovered. It was recorded on the body form as an artifact associated with the remains; surveyed in-situ using the total station and data-logger and photographed. Once this process was complete the archaeologist placed the item into a brown paper envelope with evidence number code or artifact code, which was in turn sealed and placed within the refrigerated unit located inside the autopsy tent. Items within clothing were also recorded on the appropriate body form and photographed. Documents in this situation were directly pointed out to Forensic Institute staff.
22. The main evidence log was maintained by the ICMP staff on site and as such all recovered forensic evidence was logged in sequential order.<sup>7</sup> Additional numbers were allocated during autopsy to cover specific artifacts. Transfer of the written file into an electronic format was undertaken by the Forensic Institute team. All related forensic evidence and remains were photographed *in-situ* within the grave using a dedicated 35mm camera/with flash and color negative film. Each body/ body part being photographed in situ within the grave context with plastic scales to delineate the extremities and an arrow indicating the position of North, in this case a white arrow, before detailed non-invasive written records and detailed 3 Dimensional plotting.
23. A printed number was also included in the photograph and contained information relating to; site code, evidence number and associated B, BP or A number. Video footage was also taken by Serbian authorities during the early stages of the excavation process to record the progress of work and to record the location of evidence and bodies. These photographic images form the main visual evidence log on the excavation. Further photography was made at autopsy again with evidence number, scale etc. The use of two dedicated cameras allowed the logging of images to be undertaken without the fear of possible confusion. All of the photographic logs were translated into Serbian and kept by the photographer. In accordance with the

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<sup>7</sup> *idem*

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investigating judge's instructions no personal photographs or video footage was taken by any member of the archaeology team, and a non-disclosure agreement was signed by all team members present forbidding any release of information to either the press or outside organization. ICMP was given permission at a later stage to publish its findings.

### 3. Processing of Human Remains

24. It is difficult to generally comment on the state of the remains from Batajnica due to several pre-burial taphonomic factors. It is fair to say that the remains located within the series of mass graves at Batajnica varied between fully fleshed remains to partially cremated remains. In some instances a series of decompositional states could be seen on one individual, e.g fleshed arms/hands; skeletonised skull; saponified torso, liquified pelvic area and upper legs and cremated lower limbs. Care was taken with every set of remains to recover as much of a body as possible. Many bodies were recovered within blankets which caused them to have a slightly mummified appearance. Bodies that were enclosed within plastic sheeting were generally fully fleshed and completely encased in water sodden clothing and plastic sheeting.
24. Processing of human remains and associated forensic evidence was implemented using the main evidence log as a means of tracking material through the process. All recovered evidence was stored within a large framed tent placed close to both the washing and autopsy facilities.

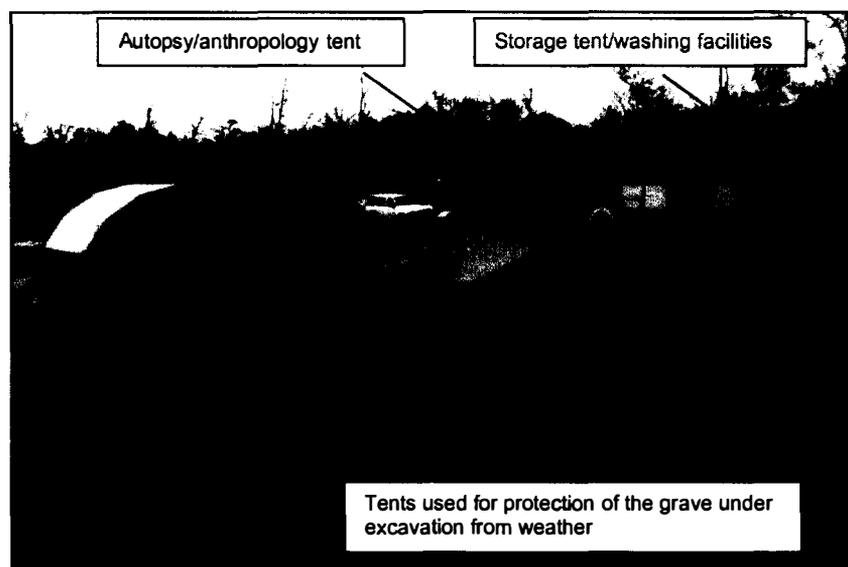


Figure 4: General view of BA05 during excavation.

25. Bodies/body parts and associated artifacts were worked on as and when decided by the pathology team. Bodies for autopsy were collected by the lab technicians who delivered the bodies within their body bags to one of three autopsy tables within the autopsy tent. The bags were opened and photographs were taken

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complete with evidence numbers on the remains. Each body or item was given a separate report file using a laptop computer. The process of autopsy was accelerated through dictation with additional photographs taken during autopsy of injuries, documents recovered etc. At any one time four pathologists could be at work, two at autopsy and two receiving dictation. All of these generated reports were standardized. Removed clothing was washed and placed within the storage tent for drying; careful attention was given to this process in order to keep items of clothing from different individuals separate. Dry clothing was checked for indicators of injury, e.g. gunshot holes, blast damage or fire damage, and recorded both verbally and photographically before being sealed within heavy brown paper sacks, labeled with the correct evidence number.

26. Anthropological analysis was undertaken on site by forensic anthropologists from the Institute of Forensic Medicine Belgrade.<sup>8</sup> Skeletal elements were cleaned by hand, usually by a lab technician, photographed and then handed to the anthropologist for examination of sex, age, stature and obvious skeletal pathology. Evidence was recorded of trauma and osteological changes to the bone. Items deemed to need radiographic analysis were transported to the Institute of Forensic Medicine. Once analysis had been completed the skeletal elements were returned to the corresponding body bag, and replaced within the storage tent.
27. Throughout the process, on-site lab technicians maintained the storage tent. Their role included the keeping of a log system of storage for both new body bags and artifacts, and also for stored autopsied remains and clothing. Once the storage area had accrued enough material, the remains, artifacts etc were transported by flat bed vehicle (tractor and trailer) to a series of tunnels located on the far side of the berm at a distance of approximately 400m. These tunnels were used for two reasons: firstly they were deemed to be secure and could be sealed. Secondly they were considered rodent free and to have a stable ambient temperature of around 21°C.
28. Material (including waste flesh, muscle etc) removed from skeletal elements was disposed of within a large 'burial pit' between the autopsy and storage tents. This was excavated by machine and had sufficient depth for this procedure, lime or similar was introduced on a regular basis to reduce smell.
29. Throughout the excavation, the archaeologists monitored the internal temperatures of the storage tent and the excavated remains, from initial exposure, through lifting, storage and autopsy. Control temperatures were taken within the storage tent and the excavation tent generally during the morning before work. A temperature log was kept to permit DNA analysts to later review samples' exposures to temperature.

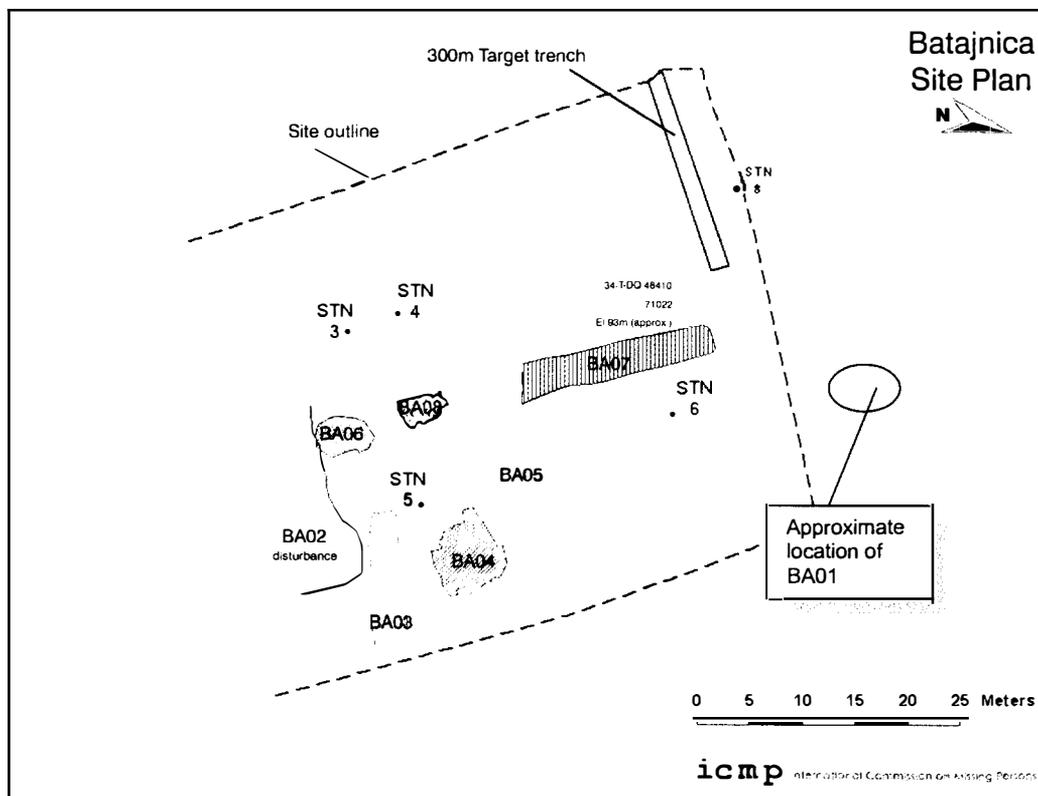
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<sup>8</sup> It is essential that the individual uncovering the remains be thoroughly familiar with the hard and soft tissues of a human body so that complete documentation and recovery are completed. The anthropologist or suitably trained archaeologist is equipped by training and experience to observe and understand anatomical relationships of decomposing remains as well as the association of, for example arms, to ligatures. Ideally any evidence of wounds and their differential diagnosis from other taphonomic agents of disruption can be noted before the remains are changed during the recovery operation. Similarly, there may insect or botanical evidence which is most likely to be recognized as important associated evidence by the anthropologist. Pollen is found in lungs while food stuffs are separated by the diaphragm in life and this spatial relationship should be understood when testing soil residues from these spatially separated areas within the chest and stomach.

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**D EXCAVATION OF BATAJNICA 1 (BA01)**

2nd June to 26th June 2001

Report submitted to Belgrade Court, 3rd July 2001<sup>9</sup>

30. The original report by the Belgrade Forensic Institute pertaining to the archaeological input and consequent excavation of a large primary mass grave<sup>10</sup> excavated at Batajnica had been written in the Serbian language and was subsequently translated by ICMP. The following is based on the original report as well as on the notes taken by the ICMP monitor.<sup>11</sup>
31. The on-site archaeological fieldwork commenced on the 2nd of June 2001 and finished on the 26th June 2001. The remains of 36 individuals were recovered from a single ramp grave aligned approximately north south.

**E EXCAVATION OF BATAJNICA 2 (BA02)**

July 10th to September 21st 2001

Report submitted (date unknown)

32. The excavation of BA02 was undertaken following the exhumation of BA01, approximately 50m to the South on the interior side of the firing range. The recovery of human remains and associated artifacts was

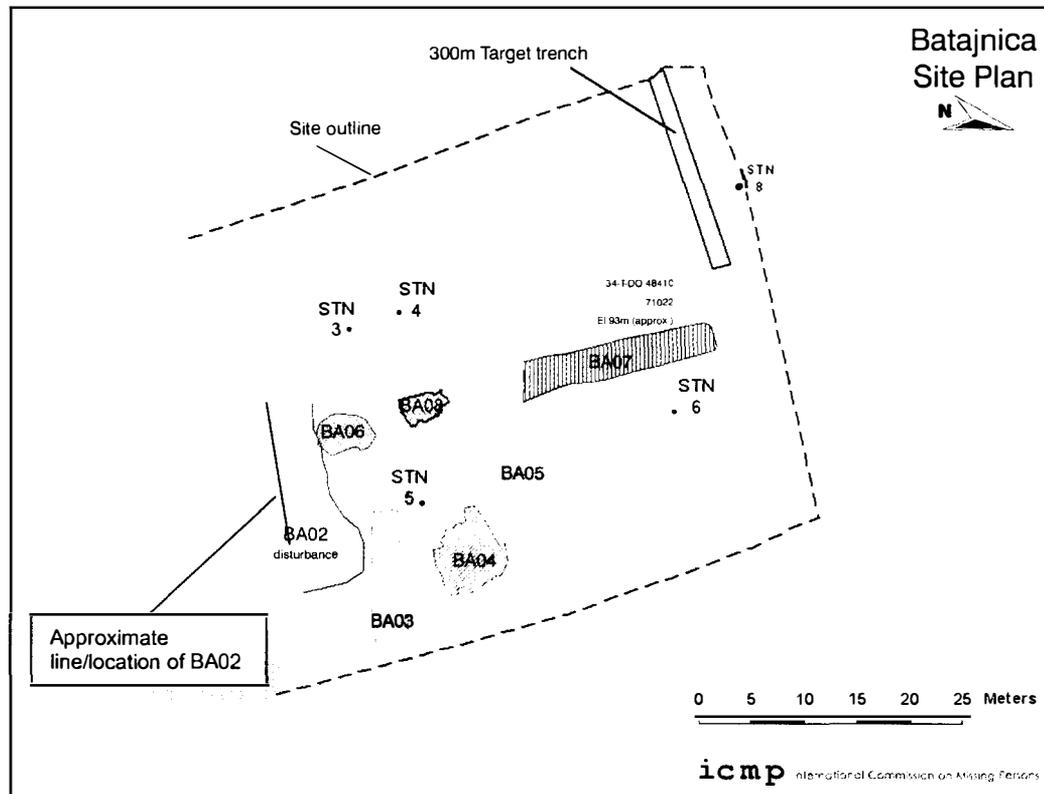
<sup>9</sup> Available from ICMP upon request

<sup>10</sup> See Note on the Meaning of "Primary" and "Secondary" Mass Graves, Annex 7

<sup>11</sup> Field notes are typically entered into hard-copy note books only, which have been consulted for the above.

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carried out under the supervision of Dr. D. Dunjic, the representative of the Institute of Forensic Medicine Belgrade. The team involved on site was comprised of pathologists, manual workers, laboratory technicians and two anthropologists. Monitors for the ICTY and for ICMP were present during the excavation.



33. The excavation was undertaken through the Belgrade District Court, with the assistance of a team from the Belgrade Forensic Institute and Belgrade University. Observers from several organizations attended the exhumation at various times, including ICTY, the Humanitarian Law Center (HLC), the OSCE and a representative of the FRY Committee for Compiling Data on Crimes Against Humanity and International Law as well as an observer from the Institute of Forensic Medicine and Science, Pristina. The bodies were autopsied at an on-site mortuary facility and the remains stored within a sealed tunnel system located close to the firing range.
35. The recovery operation was complicated by several factors, the most awkward of which revolved around the contorted and commingled remains being intertwined with the remains of a large number of destroyed vehicle tires and their constituent wire reinforcing which had been burned in an attempt to destroy the remains. Similar burnt tires were recovered from BA03 and BA05.
36. A single large ramp grave was located using several items of large machinery (wheeled front end loader and/or a large tracked 360 degree excavator, probably the same type of machine used for the investigative stripping of BA01). The graves boundaries were found by using the 360 degree machine to excavate a large deep trench running in an north-south direction across the eastern area of the range. This trench reached depths of 3.5m well into the undisturbed natural layers. Following 3 days of trenching this trench was abandoned and a further deep trench was now excavated in a east-west direction. This second trench located

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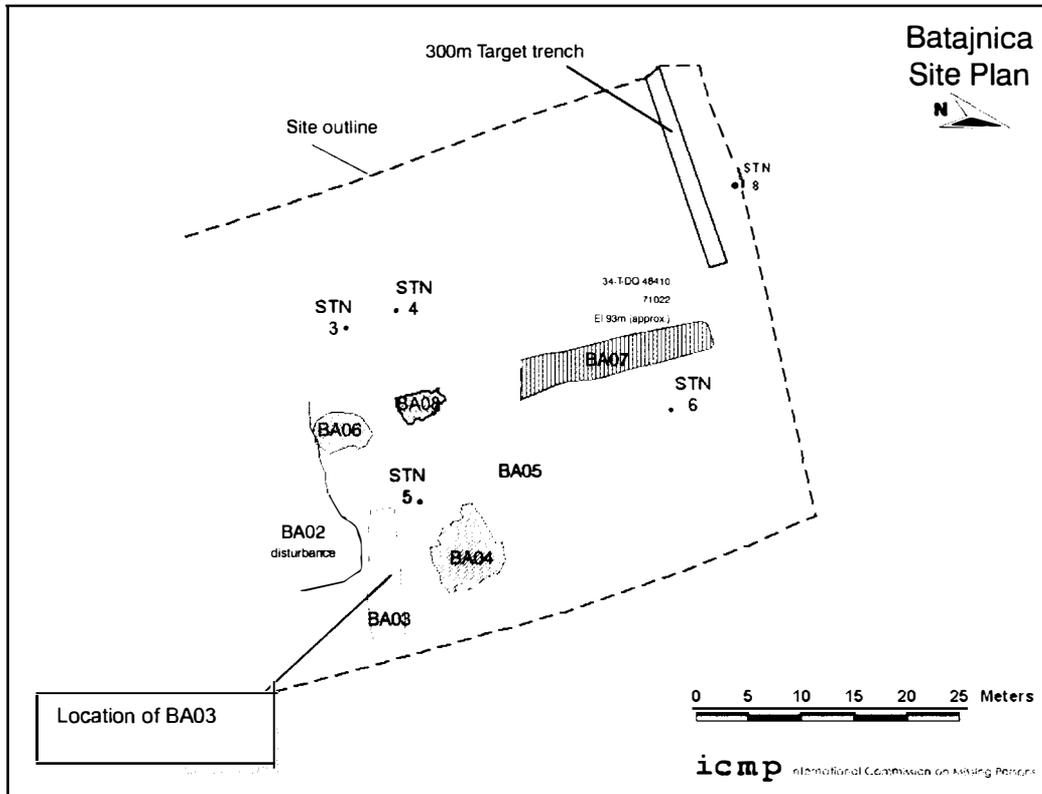
human remains at a depth of two meters somewhere along its length. It should be emphasized that as human remains were contacted in the section of the excavated trench the original walls of the grave cut were destroyed in the process.

36. Following the identification of the position of the bodies a machine was used to remove 0.20m of overburden from the suspected area of the grave. Several items were noted within the upper fill; these included stained soil, fragments of burnt clothing, burnt human bone and several buried vehicle tires and parts of a truck trailer. The area of interest measured approximately 12m in length, 3m in width and approximately 2 to 3m in width. A large military tent was placed over the grave before excavation. The Belgrade Forensic Institute staff reported that it was ramped and sloped from the west (ramp entrance) to the east. The eastern end of the grave was discovered to be the deepest point (approximately 3m) of deposition of both human remains and artifacts, in this case several large parts of a large truck. BA02 was similar in size to that of BA03. A large trench was excavated around the graves exterior by machine, in effect pedestalling the body mass. The westerly extent of the evidence was not established until late in the operation. There was some concern following minor flooding of BA01 that this would occur during the excavation of BA02, hence several other trenches were excavated to allow water run off to occur. These trenches were excavated at depth around the perimeter of the pedestalled remains, and were noted and located by the archaeological/anthropological team assigned to BA03. However due to misunderstandings at the start of BA03 the extent of this trench system and the grave position was not plotted.
37. In total the remains of approximately 269 individuals were reported to have been recovered from the grave. Many of which were found to show signs of damage from intensive fires that had been lit within the grave itself. The bodies within the deeper part of the grave (identified as an area of approximately 7 x 3m) were commingled and possibly mixed in several layers. The largest concentration was at the centre and the northern end of the grave. The presence of wire coils which were derived from the remains of burnt tires within the body mass which made the recovery process reportedly very difficult. The removal of the wire coils was further exasperated by having to excavate around the intertwined parts of a large tarpaulin covered truck (the remains of which were identified as having belonged to a large articulated truck chassis which was investigated at the time of the BA03 site survey). This chassis was hidden unnoticed behind a large wall of truck/car tires covered dirt at the time of excavation of BA02.
38. Preservation of the remains varied mainly due to the depositional process and subsequent attempts of destruction through fire. Adding to the difficulties was the clothing which was pulled partially off the bodies. Deeper within the site, body completeness increased but was negatively impacted by concentrated areas of burning which on occasion had burnt completely through limb bones leaving only stumps. Skulls were often smashed and at odd angles so they were not as useful as one might have thought in isolating a body. Most useful were hips and spines; from these areas the rest of the body could be traced. Sometimes, due to the complexity of the site, a body part or personnel effect would be encountered and marked but up to one or two weeks would pass before the rest of the body could be extricated.
39. It is unknown what associated forensic evidence or archaeological evidence was recovered by the Forensic Institute team. On-site processing of the recovered remains was undertaken within a large tented structure located on the western edge of the firing range close to the grave. Several pits, used for the depositing of removed human material (skin/muscle etc), and general rubbish, were excavated by machine close to these tents. Excavation ceased on September the 21st 2002.

**F EXCAVATION OF BATAJNICA 3 (BA03)**

20<sup>th</sup> June 2002 to 26<sup>th</sup> July 2002 (Main Excavation)

Report submitted to the investigating judge 8th August 2002.



40. Between 20<sup>th</sup> June 2002 and 26<sup>th</sup> July 2002 the Belgrade Forensic Institute and ICMP undertook the excavation of human remains and forensic evidence from another mass grave located slightly to the North of BA02 on the firing range. In total the remains of approximately 39 individuals were recovered from the grave along with approximately 10 sets of presumptive identification documents.

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**G EXCAVATION OF BATAJNICA 5 (BA05)<sup>12</sup>**

2nd August to 26th November 2002

Report submitted November 2002.

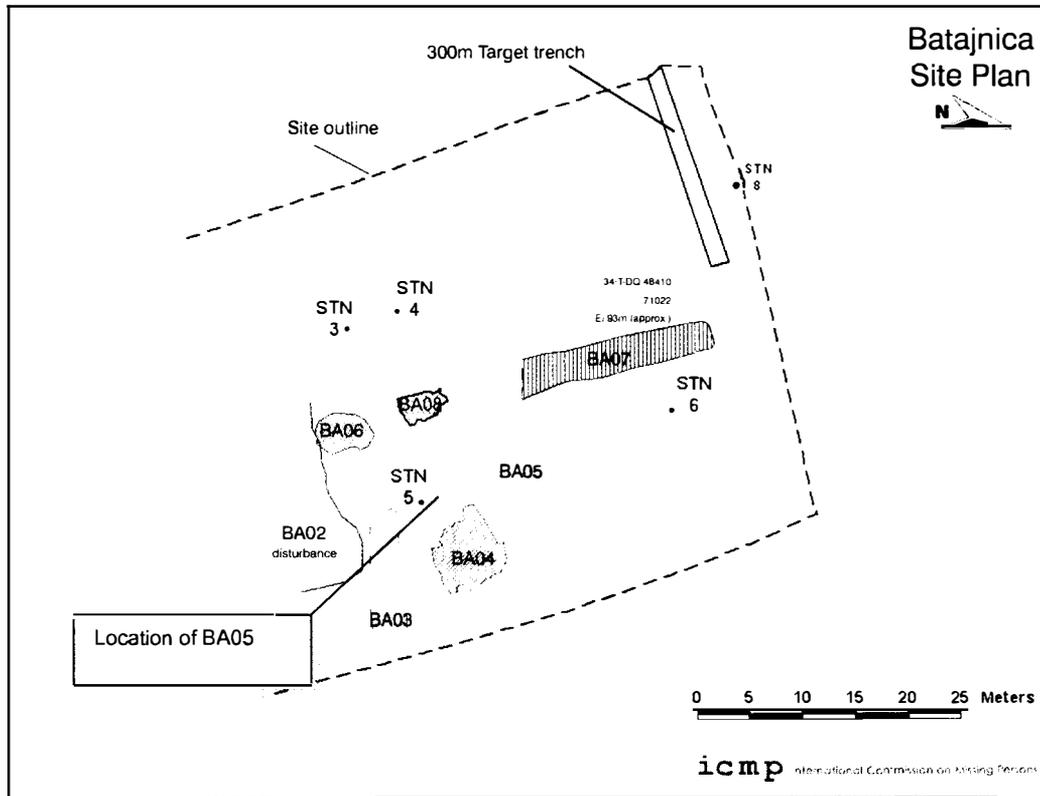


Figure 5: Grave BA05 fully excavated, grave BA07 is situated to the left under Air tent

<sup>12</sup> (BA04) see *infra*

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45. By August 2002 three mass graves containing mortal human remains and two archeological features relating directly to the construction of these graves had been excavated at the site of Batajnica. Between the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2002 and the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2002, the Belgrade Forensic Institute and ICMP undertook the excavation of human remains and related forensic material from a large mass grave located on the firing range. B05 is located to the east of BA03.
44. A single large ramp grave approximately 25m in length, 2.80m to 2.90m in width and having a depth of 1.50m to 2m at its northern end was identified by supervised machine stripping, and excavated primarily by hand using archaeological techniques under the supervision of ICMP.
44. Twelve separate deposits of human remains were recovered. The largely intact remains of approximately 287 individuals were recovered from a large ramp grave. Many of the individuals had associated documents that were recovered by the archaeological team. The recovered remains were deposited in an irregular manner within the grave, and apart from the remains of one partial coffin. No evidence of proper funeral were observed.



Figure 6: The grave fully excavated showing the ramped entrance (looking north)

46. Approximately 90% of the remains were clothed; the majority of the observed clothing being heavy winter style, none of which were observed by the archaeological team as military style clothing. No evidence of ligatures or other bindings or blindfolds were observed, although small plastic tags were stapled to some of the item of clothing of several individuals, primarily within the inner neck region of jackets. These were presumed to be some sort of identification, and have been reportedly observed attached to the clothing of mental patients. The grave showed no sign of subsequent disturbance or 'robbing' activity and was therefore classed by the archaeology team as being a primary grave.<sup>13</sup>
47. The recovered remains were the subject of autopsy and anthropological work undertaken at an on-site mortuary by the Forensic Institute team in order to determine the cause and manner of death. Separate reports by the Institute team have been prepared on the results of these autopsies.

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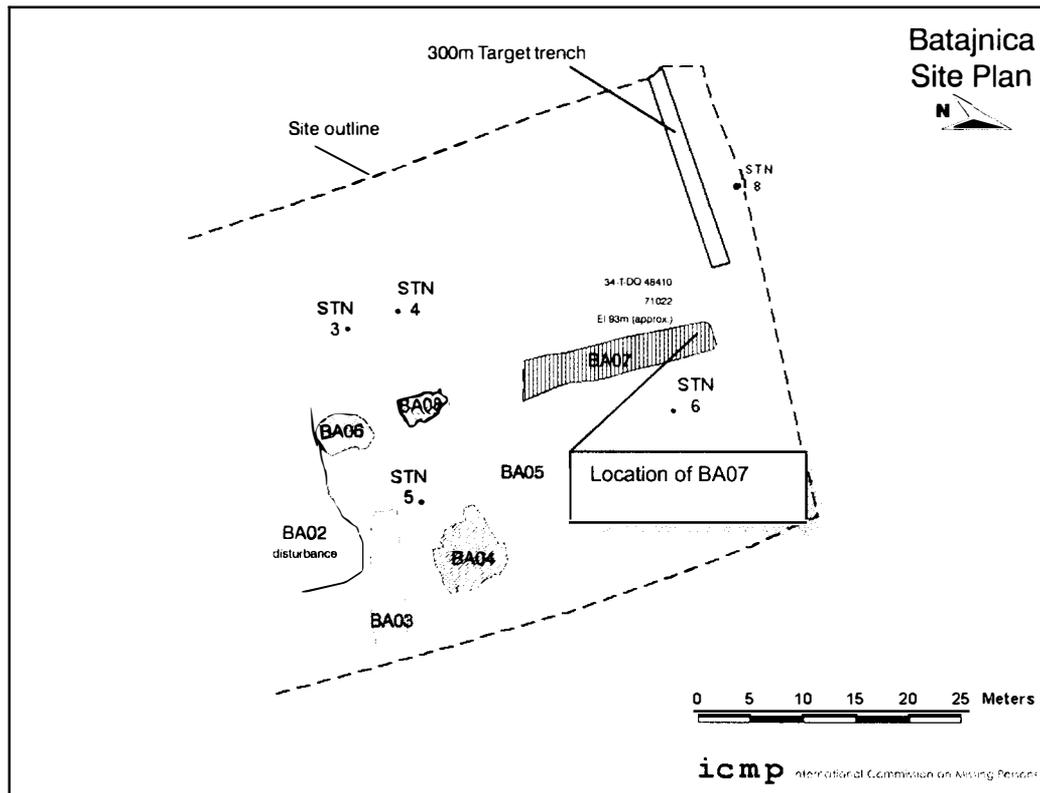
<sup>13</sup> *Supra*

48. Artifacts recovered during the archaeological excavation of the site were also handed over to the Forensic Institute for further study.

### **H EXCAVATION OF BATAJNICA 7 (BA07)**

4<sup>th</sup> November to 16<sup>th</sup> December 2002

Report submitted 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2003



49. A single large ramp grave approximately 14m in length, 2.80m to 2.90m in width and 2.7m in depth was located to the north of BA05 and was excavated by careful supervised machining until the grave contents were roughly exposed. A team of forensic archaeologists and anthropologists then continued the excavation by using hand tools and archaeological techniques, under the supervision of ICMP. The remains of approximately 74 individuals, based on archaeological findings, were recovered.
50. Five separate deposits (labeled Deposit 1-5, deposit 5 being the earliest deposit within the feature) were recovered and each deposit was found to contain human remains in various states of preservation along with associated artifacts of forensic interest. All of the deposits were placed within the open grave in an irregular manner. No evidence of proper burial or funeral rites was observed by the archaeological/anthropological team. Preservation of the human remains was variable, with many of the bodies showing signs of skeletonisation, saponification, and mummification. Several of the human remains showed signs of attempted destruction by fire. Approximately 90% of the remains were recovered with clothing intact, none were observed by the archaeological team to be wearing military style clothing. No evidence of ligatures or other bindings or blindfolds was recovered or observed by the archaeological team. The grave showed no sign of subsequent disturbance or 'robbing' activity. The final deposit excavated, deposit 5, contained three

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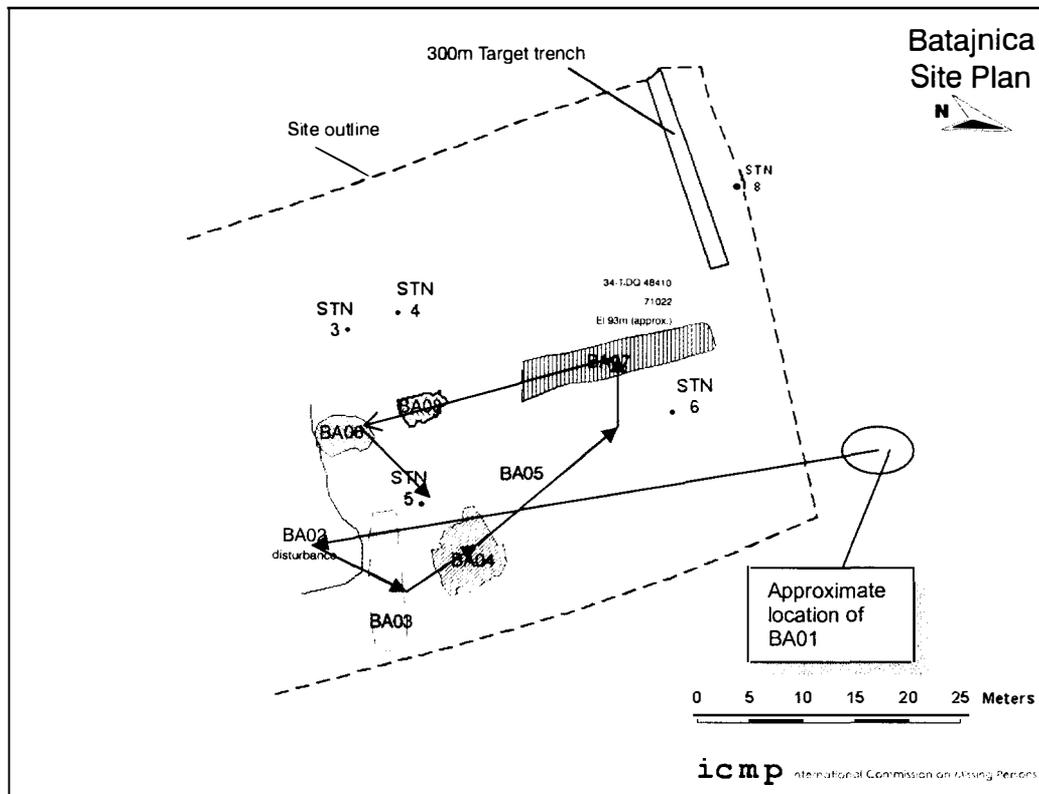
very different types of soil possibly from original burial locations. Samples of these soil types were gathered and was recommended they be further analyzed in order to attempt to locate their point of origin. In addition, two samples of plant material were taken and it was suggested that they be further analyzed for type, origin and season of growth.

51. The remains were the subject of autopsy and anthropological work undertaken at an on-site mortuary by the Forensic Institute team in order to determine the cause and/or manner of death and to gather data to assist in the identification of the remains. Separate reports by others have been prepared on the results of these autopsies.
54. Artifacts recovered during the archaeological excavation of the site were also handed over to the Forensic Institute investigators for further.

### **I POST EXCAVATION ASPECTS**

57. The archaeology of the sites and related features can be tentatively sequenced by way of analyzing the deposition processes within each grave or feature. These were varied and included a wide variety of bodies intertwined, co-mingled, thrown or deliberately placed. Many of the bodies expressed signs of damage through fire, some to the point of total destruction. Damaged by machinery was the result of either re-excavation or deposition into the graves. Several deposits were observed as having been deliberately compacted through the use of heavy wheeled machinery. Parts of the vehicles recovered on site were assumed to be linked to vehicles used to bring in the bodies to the site. One partial coffin was recovered complete with occupant, suggesting that some remains brought to the site had earlier been re-exhumed at a regular cemetery. Bodies recovered included those of women, the majority however being adult males.
60. The available evidence has been used to recreate the sequence in which the graves were constructed, indicating the following sequence:
  1. BA01 was constructed and backfilled.
  2. BA02 was constructed and backfilled.
  3. BA03 was constructed and backfilled.
  4. BA04 is the location where the spoil or backfill from BA03 was stored prior to being backfilled in to BA03.
  5. BA05 was constructed and partially backfilled except for an area on the entrance ramp.
  6. BA06 was an area of intense burning, some of the remains are within BA05.
  7. BA08 was filled with some remains from BA06.
  8. BA05 was completely backfilled.
  9. BA07 was constructed and completely backfilled.
61. The entire area was remodeled concealing the grave locations following the burial of the bodies. If we look at the recovered evidence from each grave we can build a picture of events that may have occurred.

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### 1. Phase 1: BA01

64. The site of BA01 is outside the area of the firing range. The construction of the timber grill at the base of the body mass, which would have taken some time to construct, suggests that BA01 was probably the first of the series of graves to be constructed. The small amount of remains recovered, 36, would tend to suggest that one vehicle, most probably a covered truck of some kind had been used to transport the remains to this location.

### 2. Phase 2: BA02

65. Unlike BA01, this grave was constructed to bury a larger amount of bodies. The safe manoeuvring of a large vehicles within the small confines of the area of BA01 would seem difficult. Perhaps it was felt that the larger area of the northern end of the firing range was more suitable. Given the size of some of these vehicles the area being obscured from direct view from the armory buildings and external areas by high berms. Construction of a bridge of rail sleepers and soil at the eastern edge of the 200m target trenches onto the northern area of the site.

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66. The subsoil in the area of the range is a very fine unstable sand/silt, at least for the first 2m of depth after which it begins to become a more stable matrix that includes clay lenses.<sup>14</sup> It is reasonable to assume that a large articulated truck containing the bodies had been parked too close to the southern edge of the open grave. The southern side of the grave gave way under the weight and the truck toppled or fell into the open grave on its side. As the depth of the grave was less than the heights of the truck chassis this would have meant that the truck was now visible above ground lying on its side. To extract the truck involved pulling the chassis from the gravesite. The resulting action could explain why the body mass was intermingled with the support hoops, tarpaulin and side panels of the truck and may also explain why BA02 contained the highest percentage of fragmented bodies and body parts of all the features excavated at Batajnica.

### 3. Phase 3: BA03

67. The construction of BA03 was by a wheeled front loader machine, as revealed by the exposure of tire tread impressions within the grave base. The human remains were dumped into the grave as one deposit. The body mass contained bodies that had been wrapped within plastic sheeting, sealed with parcel tape, loose sheeting, blankets and within military body bags. It seems probable that small groups were recovered from different locations and, as with BA01 and BA02 the bodies were probably brought to the grave within one truck. One double tire mark belonging to a twin-axle vehicle was found during the cleaning of the grave ramp close to the western edge of the body mass.
68. There is evidence that BA03 was constructed following the backfilling of BA02, this is supported by the inclusion of a bar belonging to part of the tarpaulin covered truck, a tow bar, a broken steel tow strop and possibly the back-end of the truck [artifact number: 032/A], which may have fallen to the side of BA02 during the towing operation and consequently been thrown or pushed onto the bodies in BA03. Fires had then been ignited within the grave which had damaged many of the bodies.

### 4. Phase 4: BA04

69. Strictly speaking BA04 is not a grave, nor was any evidence uncovered indicating it was ever used to bury human remains. However it cannot be dismissed as an irrelevant feature. As a spoil-heap linked to the construction of BA03, it helps phase the construction and backfilling operation of BA 03 and BA 05.

### 5. Phase 5: BA05

70. During the excavation of the ramp of BA05 a shallow flat cut could be discerned on the eastern facing section. It was suggested that this cut was made prior to the construction of BA05 and was possibly associated with the backfilling of BA03. This conclusion was supported by the lack of machine tire impressions that would have run west to east across the upper fills of the BA05 ramp. It is also evident that BA07 could not have been open at the time of backfilling of BA05. Several vehicles would have had to be involved in bringing the bodies to the western graves edge and at least one front-end loader would have had to be operating to the north of BA05. BA05 can not have been open at the same time as BA07, because BA07 has a deep cross section and considering the close proximity and unstable subsoil of the area, the weight of vehicles and machinery would have collapsed any deep excavation in the area. Several large fires had been ignited between the deposits of bodies using fuel and vehicle tires which had caused damage to many of the bodies.

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<sup>14</sup> Skinner (2001)

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**6. Phase 6: BA06**

71. Like BA04, BA06 is not a mass grave, but it is still a significant feature created following a fire and subsequent movement of remains into the open end of BA05. The remains of the truck and human cargo having been bulldozed or scooped up and moved.

**7. Phase 7: BA08**

72. Excavation showed that BA08 was the remains of an irregular shallow circular depression caused by the removal of the root bowl of a large tree and subsequently filled with human remains by machine activity, related to BA06 whereas a small amount of smouldering material fell from the bucket of the machine as it approached BA05 and was pressed into the deepest edges of the depression by the machine's tires.

**8. Phase 8: Completing back-filling of BA05**

73. As previously mentioned the southern end of the grave was probably open at the time of the fire of BA06. It appears that at some stage before that the final deposit of remains (deposit 10) was placed on the ramp surface following the introduction of material from BA06 the grave was backfilled completely.

**9. Phase 9: BA07**

74. The archaeological observations of the site would suggest that BA07 was constructed and backfilled as one event. BA07 contained several deposits which may have been re-exhumed and transported from different areas in Kosovo. At least two trucks containing a mixture of bodies, soil and imported items were involved. Evidence for which was gathered from the base of the grave ramp, where a heavy-wheeled vehicle had entered the grave in an attempt to compact the deposits and remains. No evidence of the intense fire damage evident within the previously excavated graves was observed, although an unsuccessful attempt to set fire had been made. This suggests that either BA07 was constructed at some stage after the other graves had been backfilled, or that it was decided to bury any evidence and not to ignite fires.

**10. Phase 10: Grave Sealing and Concealment**

75. Attempts to disguise the entire site consisted of depositing truckloads of imported soil across the area of the graves, forming a new false horizon. Evidence thereof was recorded during the initial ICMP supervised machining and delineation of the features.

**J GENERAL TIME OF DEPOSITION**

76. No sign of the graves having been open for any length of time was observed during the excavation. This would suggest that the graves were excavated, bodies deposited and backfilled within a short time frame, perhaps hours. It may also indicate that the vehicles that contained the bodies were parked on or near the firing range and were unloaded when an opportune moment presented itself. As for time of death or deposition in the graves no observations could be made. The wristwatches recovered from the remains

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appear to have had automatic rewind clockworks that may or may not have re-started dial movement during transport of the bodies.



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## PART 2: PETROVO SELO

### EXHUMATIONS undertaken at PETROVO SELO

July 2001

#### Negotin District Court

Mr. Miroslav ARZENCIC	Chief Prosecutor
Mr. Milorad MOMCILOVIC	Judge
Mr. Bosko RADOJKOVIC	Crime Technician
Mr. Vukasin SPERLIC	Chief of Police

#### Institute of Forensic Medicine, Nis

Ms. Aleksandra ANTOVIC, Dr.	Student in forensic pathology
Mr. Dragan DJORDJEVIC	Medical technician-autopsy assistant
Ms. Tatjana R. DJORDJEVIC, Dr.	Forensic pathologist
Mr. Goran ILIC, Dr.	Forensic pathologist
Mr. Radovan KARODIC, Dr.	Forensic pathologist
Ms. Lidija KOSTIC-BANOVIC, Dr.	Forensic pathologist
Mr. Stojan MILOSAVELJEVIC	Autopsy assistant
Mr. Vujadin OTASEVIC, Dr.	Forensic pathologist and project leader
Mr. Milija SPALEVIC, Dr.	Forensic pathologist
Mr. Jovan STOJANOVIC, Dr.	Head of Institute and forensic pathologist
Mr. Miodrag ZDRAVKOVIC, Dr.	Forensic pathologist

#### International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)

Mr. Mark SKINNER, PhD, DABFA	International Observer, forensic anthropologist
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#### International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY)

Mr. William FULTON	International Observer, Investigator
Ms. Marina KRSTIC	Translator

#### Humanitarian Law Center, Belgrade

Ms. Mojca SIFERT	Observer, legal analyst
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#### Security

District Police

### A SUMMARY

1. The investigation of two sites in the area of Petrovo Selo, near Kladova, Eastern Serbia was conducted by the Negotin District Court, with the assistance of an expert team from the Nis Institute of Forensic Medicine. The remains of a total of 75 individuals were recovered from deep pits in the vicinity of a special police training center. The pits had been refilled with a mix of soil and waste materials. The remains are alleged to be those of Kosovar Albanian victims of the Kosovo conflict, whose remains were transported to this area in the spring of 1999. Evidence of gunshot wounds in soft or hard tissue of the recovered remains were observed at both sites.

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2. Petrovo Selo I (hereafter abbreviated as PS/I) GPS coordinates: 13898, 43561 (elev. 437 m) was the smaller of the two sites and is located ca. 75 meters to the north of the forensic field camp on the west side of a faint road which was recently widened, apparently to move farm vehicles.
3. Petrovo Selo II (abbreviated PS/II) GPS coordinates: 13946, 43423 (elev. 432 m) is located approximately 150 meters southeast of PS/I and virtually due east of the field camp. 59 bodies were removed from a small but relatively deep pit, with estimated dimensions of approximately 3m by 3m in area and 3.5 m in depth. This grave was located on the south side of a faint road that extends beyond the site before petering out in hilly fields. Some of the remains within this grave were in body bags.
4. Work at the site of PS/I had started prior to the ICMP initial visit on June 25, 2001. Exhumation at this site was completed on June 26, 2001. Late on the same day exhumation began at PS/II and was completed on June 28, 2001. Autopsies on remains from PS/I were underway on June 25 and finished on June 27. Autopsies on remains from PS/II commenced on June 27 and were completed on July 1, although dealing with clothing lasted through July 4.
5. Problems with obtaining a suitable refrigerated truck meant that the recovered remains, once analyzed were re-interred in a purpose built temporary cemetery close to the site. To this end, several large earthmoving machines were brought to the site for constructing the temporary cemetery. Each re-interred case was marked by a wooden grave marker with relevant numbers and information branded into the surface of the wood.

## **B EXHUMATION STRATEGY**

6. Prior to the arrival of the ICMP observer, heavy earth-moving equipment was used to remove the overburden at both sites. The original surface contours were not recorded by the monitor. Apart from the earthmoving machines, exhumation tools were limited to shovels and a trowel which were used to clean exposed body bags and human remains before recovery. This process involved one forensic pathologist who was assisted by workmen. Once a body or container (typically a body bag) was sufficiently isolated, it was recorded, recovered and transferred to the autopsy tent for postmortem analysis. At PS/II, the backhoe was used to create a ramp that allowed easy accessibility to the pit and greatly expedited removal of bodies.
  1. **Off-site Processing of Human Remains**
7. Recovered remains/bodies were placed within the storage tent until autopsy which was undertaken in a separate tented area. All autopsy observations and clothing descriptions were hand recorded or typewritten from dictation by the pathologists working in pairs.
8. The disposition of the bodies and their fairly good state of preservation enabled the Nis forensic team to perform high quality autopsies. They did not however have an on-site physical anthropologist.
9. The condition of the bodies ranged from somewhat saponified to pasty, crumbly flesh. Skin was usually in good condition and hair adhered to the scalp. Internal organs were often in a quite suitable state for preservation for histological analysis. With intact crania, which were in a minority, brains however were invariably an amorphous paste inside the meninges. Flesh was usually in a state where one might detect perimortem defects but also where only slight prodding or pressure would create significant postmortem artifacts. Hard tissue samples for DNA analysis were taken on all bodies. Many, if not almost all, of the

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bodies exhibited serious perimortem damage which had tended to lead to further degradation of the tissues in that area after death. Bullet trajectories were reconstructed by meticulous dissection and probing and disclosed with probes for photography. Entrance and exits were distinguished and discussed among team members. Postmortem fractures were identified as such.

10. The procedure was to note the general condition of the body and then to remove the clothing ensuring separation of all layers of clothing, which ranged from 7 articles for the upper body and 5 for the lower body. Almost all bodies were clothed to some degree and often to an extreme extent. Many had fleeced-lined jackets, occasionally two. Similarly many individuals had long underwear, two sweaters and two pairs of trousers. Basically these individuals seem to be dressed for severe cold.
11. Upon completion of the autopsy the remains were replaced in a body bag, without the clothing and personal effects, with a glass specimen bottle containing the body number. Similarly, the body number was placed inside a clear plastic envelope, stapled to prevent ingress of moisture, and the label attached to the zipper pull on the outside of the body bag.

## **2. Formation Processes**

### **2.1. Dimensions, Character and Construction of the Grave**

12. The following information is included here at it bears upon the appropriateness of field methods, exhumation methods, autopsy procedures and the collection of forensic evidence. The approach used here is chronological. According to the Criminal Police evidence officer, PS/II was created first, then PS/I was created.
13. At both sites, following the deposition of the bodies and backfilling, further holes were dug (one at PS/I and two at PS/II) at an unknown later time, adjacent to the filled body pits. Dirt from these so-called "traps" was dumped on top of the body pits while the newly created holes were filled with garbage, primarily hundreds of plastic water and soda bottles. These additional pits may have been created deliberately to mislead any future investigations.

### **2.2. PS/I**

14. Based on cross-sections sketched during the exhumation indicate that the machine-excavated pit was 'lined' with a very large plastic sheet similar to that observed within Batajnica 05 excavated in 2002. A black plastic garbage bag located at the base of the pit above the plastic sheeting was found to contain many surgical gloves, plus a complete set of clothes including shoes, trousers, shirt, sweater and jacket. The trousers contained a scrunched paper mass from a surgical glove wrapper. In addition, the bag contained a green rubbery gas mask with one broken lens and clothing which was assumed to have belonged not to a victim but to someone involved with handling the remains.
15. A jumbled mass of 13 bodies were located below a layer of general garbage (plastic bottles, etc.). Mixed within the body mass were eight blankets and four camouflage-pattern canvas sheets. As far as could be determined, the bodies were not wrapped in the blankets. Above this, layer was a deposit of soil, then three bodies lying beside each other. The backfill of the pit was soil. Short grass and three small bushes had grown over the surface since the event. The indicated depth between the three upper bodies and the top of the central mass of bodies was 1.8 meters. In a photograph shown to the forensic monitor, the three bodies lay about half a meter apart from each other with their heads pointing in the same direction. Ligatures,

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blindfolds, and ballistic evidence as well as a document bearing three names were recovered in association with these three bodies.

### **2.3. PS/II**

16. This machine-excavated pit was approximately 3.5m in depth, at the base of which was a jumbled deposit of bodies. No evidence of body bags was observed, however some of the bodies were wrapped in a sheet of clear plastic with ends taped. The wrappings were similar to those recovered at BA 05. Bodies recovered from a higher level were in open black or blue body bags. There appeared to have been about two meters of overburden.
17. At both sites, there were strong indicators that the bodies had lain decomposing for several days to a week prior to their collection for burial (e.g., teeth missing postmortem, dead insect larvae and grubs as well as pupae from which adult flies had not to emerge). There were several indicators that the bodies may have been from different contexts (spatial and temporal). For example, there was quite a variety of body bags, ranging from a majority of black body bags to a few blue ones to several makeshift bags. At PS/I the three uppermost bodies were not in body bags which contrasted with the others from that location.
18. Their parallel orientation of these three remains, together with the fact that gunshot injuries were observed, as well as blindfolds and ligatures, would suggest that these three individuals had been executed at the site. There was reportedly a layer of soil between these bodies and those underneath, which could indicate two distinct burial episodes. Course, hay-like grass adhered to several body bags from PS/II. One body showed burning. Some body bags, but not all, particularly those from PS/I, contained leaves and twigs which were collected by the forensic team.
19. Although the majority of the bodies seemed to be remains of civilians, one body donned a VUK (Kosovo Liberation Army) uniform, two other bodies were dressed in partial uniforms and a forth was in the uniform of a special policeman.

## **3. Human Remains**

### **3.1. Basic Biological Aspects**

20. Observations made at the time of postmortem examination indicated that:
  - That the 16 individuals recovered from PS/I were male.
  - That out of 59 individuals recovered from PS/II 7 were female.

### **3.2. Individual Traits**

21. Dentitions were not charted, but presence/absence was noted as were restorations, bridges and dentures. Distinctive dental work was photographed. The forensic monitor did not observe any healed pre-mortem fractures. One premortem amputation of a little toe was pointed out.

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**4. Physical Evidence**

22. A great variety of physical evidence was observed, collected, labeled, and individually photographed. This included botanical and insect samples, medications and bandages, blankets and sheets, wire, rope, batteries, glass, and a wide variety of typical personal effects. Several documents were found that bore names, some of which appear in the ICRC *Persons Missing in Relation to the Events in Kosovo from January 1998* (second edition).
23. Ligatures were found at both sites including on bodies with their wrists tied together. Two bodies were also recovered with their ankles wired together and the wire attached to a length of rope. The three uppermost bodies at PS/I were reportedly blindfolded and had been shot in the head. A possible blindfold from PS/II was also recovered.
24. A total of 8 bullets were recovered including a 8.7mm pistol bullet and seven high-powered rifle bullets. Evidence of burning was minimal.

**5. Storage**

25. Since no refrigerator truck could be obtained by the team, a temporary graveyard was created. Three, north-south oriented, large ditches were dug, 1.2 meters deep, on a gently sloping field between the two sites. The first contained the remains of PS/I-1-16 arranged in that order side by side in body bags from north to south. The second ditch was located to the north of the first and contained bodies in body bags 1-30 in that order from PS/II, while the third was located parallel to the first on the easterly side. It contained body bags 31-58 in that order arranged south to north. Wooden grave markers with permanently branded burial numbers were placed along the west side of all three ditches indicating the contents. All ditches were backfilled. The ground surface was prepared with sloping sides and a flat top.

**C CONCLUSION**

26. Despite the challenges presented at the two sites, the forensic team performed its tasks of evidence discovery, recovery and preservation to acceptable international standards. The team expedited the task of the international observer's forensic monitoring with full disclosure of their methods and with frank and prompt explanations. It should be noted that the Court did not permit the international observers to record any of the site's contents or forensic team's activities photographically. Moreover, the Court ordered all photographs taken by the crime technician on site to be turned over at the close of the operation.

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### **PART 3: DERVENTA CANYON, LAKE PERUCAC**

#### **EXHUMATION of DERVENTA CANYON, LAKE PERUCAC**

September 2001

##### **Uzice District Court (including court officials from Bajina Basta)**

Mr. Dragutin JOVANOVIC	Crime Technician
Mr. Miodrag KRIVOKAPIC	Investigative judge
Mr. Dragan MANOVIC	Prosecutor from Bajina Basta
Mr. Branimir PETRONIJEVIC	District Prosecutor from Uzice
Mr. Ljubisa RADULOVIC	President of the District Court
Mr. Milan RADULOVIC	President of the Municipal court

##### **Consultant specialists (refrigerator container trucks)**

Mr. Dragan NIJEMCEVIC	Chassis
Mr. Zvenko LAPTOSEVIC	Superstructure

##### **Belgrade Military Medical Academy, Institute for Pathology and Legal Medicine**

Maj-Gen Zoran STANKOVIC, MD	Forensic Pathologist
Ms. Nadica MARINKOVIC, MD	Forensic Pathologist

##### **University of Belgrade Medical School**

Mrs. Marija DJURIC-SREJIC, Prof. Dr. Physical Anthropologist

##### **International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)**

Mr. Mark SKINNER, PhD, DABFA International Observer, Forensic Anthropologist

##### **International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY)**

Mr. William FULTON	International Observer, Investigator
Ms. Marina KRSTIC	Translator

##### **Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)**

Ms. Ljiljana BOGDANOVIC	Observer
Ms. Silvija PANOVIC-DJURIC	Observer
Mr. Chris KAPHAMMAR	Observer

##### **Humanitarian Law Center, Belgrade**

Mr. Vladan MILADINOVIC Legal analyst/Observer

##### **Security**

Republic of Srpska Police

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**A SUMMARY**

1. The investigation at the site at Derventa Canyon on Lake Perucac, near Bajina Basta in western Serbia was conducted by the Uzice District Court, with the assistance of an expert team led by military pathologist Dr. Zoran Stankovic based in Belgrade. The remains were recovered from a secondary burial site and consequently were somewhat fragmentary and mixed. Postmortem examination indicated a minimum of 48 individuals, mostly adult males alleged to be those of Kosovar Albanian victims of the Kosovo conflict, whose remains were transported to this site in the spring of 1999. There was also considerable ballistic evidence present.
2. Work at the site commenced on Sept. 6, 2001. The team of experts spent three full days exhuming the site. An ICMP observer was present at the exhumation site from Sept. 10. The exhumed site had been left open until Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> when it was backfilled. Autopsies were conducted at a temporary facility commencing on Sept. 9, with monitoring commencing on Sept. 10 in the afternoon, and lasting through Sept. 14.
3. Significant logistical requirements, including heavy earth-moving equipment, transport, supporting structures and routine supplies were supplied for the operation which included facilities for washing clothes and processing remains.
4. Autopsies were performed in the tunnels of an apparently abandoned cement factory half way up the side of Mt. Tara. The recovered remains were temporarily housed at this location before being moved to Belgrade for final analysis and disposition.

**1. Geography: Location, Landscape and Geology**

5. The grid coordinates for the site are 34T DQ 68487 (e-w) and 69190 (n-s), elevation of 292 meters, with accuracy of 68 meters (determined using a Garmin Etrex 12 Channel GPS unit). The exhumation was conducted on the north bank of Derventa River close to its junction with Lake Perucac approximately 13 km from Bajina Basta. The remains allegedly originate from the lake itself. Access to the site necessitated at the time of the exhumation (September) fording the river which was about 45 cm deep due to recent rains.
6. Derventa Canyon is a very deep and picturesque gorge that debouches suddenly into the lake at a small bay. The channel of this river has visibly shifted over the years and there are remnants of an old channel depression located on the north side where the site itself is currently located. The existing channel on the south creates a second depression. Dividing these is a gravel spit, oriented roughly north-south which looks artificial, being very flat, largely devoid of vegetation, and composed of coarse gravel which lies unconformably on lake sediments visible on the north margin of the spit. The site is located on the north side of the spit; about 17 meters from an arbitrary center line of the spit and 53 meters from the furthest northerly margin of the spit. The excavated area which contained the bodies is located close under an unstable looking talus slope of coarse boulders.

**2. Site History: Local Accounts and Pre-visit Data**

7. The history of the site is well documented. As previously noted, the site is located on the north-west side of an artificial gravel spit. The reason for emphasizing the gravel spit is that although its age is unknown there was large scale digging at the site with large machinery to create the mass grave. Examination of a video taken at the time of the exhumation indicated a uniform appearance for the whole gravel spit suggesting possible contemporaneity of the gravel spit (or at least its upper layer) and the grave.

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8. Pre-visit data, how the ground was prepared to receive the bodies, the act of depositing the bodies and steps taken to hide the bodies was unavailable to ICMP monitors. However, the ICMP monitor was allowed to view the video taken of the exhumation and made independent observations of those portions of the site unaffected by the exhumation.

## **B EXHUMATION STRATEGY**

### **1. Site Recording and Exhumation Methodology**

9. At the time of the ICMP monitor's visit to the exhumation site on Sept. 10, 2001, there was a large excavation, about 1.5 meters deep, containing the occasional human skeletal element and fragments of metal and fiberglass insulation. Very coarse angular cobbles mixed within a minimum of soil was observed. On either side of the excavation was a large pile of excavated cobbles containing similar materials. A few meters to the southeast of the more northerly cobble pile but still on the northwestern half of the gravel spit, were twisted and burnt metal parts and fiberglass (later identified as a small part of a truck refrigerator container) about 1.5 meters in diameter and 1 meter high.
10. The general area of the gravel spit was flattened with tall but sparse coarse grass. There were no bushes of note except on the very periphery near the river channel itself and the margins of the flat area. Notably, neither the excavation area nor the surrounding area looked natural. The latter terrain was very uneven with only small bushy trees growing on what looked like older, piled up, areas of very coarse gravel. On current evidence, the surrounding terrain was created either during the exhumation of the mass grave, presumably in 1999, or at the same time the gravel spit was created and flattened; these two processes may have happened at the same time.
11. It was reported that the entire area of the site was examined by a metal detector, during which a strong signal caused the team to stop and bring into operation large earth-moving equipment which dug in the indicated spot, creating a pit 4m by 6 meters, to a depth of about 1.5m. It was at this depth that skeletal remains and metal parts were encountered. It would appear that the human remains were deposited first within the base of the pit and that various metallic parts had been pushed into/onto the body mass by the bucket of the original digging machine. Video taken at the time shows metal parts starting to appear at the same time as the ninth relatively complete body and indicates that some bodies were encountered prior to finding the metal.
12. As soon as remains were encountered further cleaning and definition was undertaken by hand. Both complete bodies and body parts were observed in the same vicinity also adding to the 'secondary' grave construction hypotheses.

### **2. Autopsy Procedures**

13. Recovered human remains were placed within body bags (complete) and in blue plastic bags (parts). These were stored, awaiting processing, in a lockable room inside one of the tunnels of the cement works.<sup>15</sup> Autopsies were conducted on one of four autopsy tables in a second larger tunnel entrance where the available floor space enabled the team later to lay out all skeletons on plastic sheets either on racks or on the floor; a procedure which expedited enormously the task of matching body parts.

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<sup>15</sup> Supra at x.

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14. This system allowed typically three bodies to be worked on at any one time. The pathologists followed their standard postmortem protocol and did not use written protocols but relied upon a familiar sequence of steps. Typically the chief forensic pathologist dictated observations to his partner. An opinion was derived as to age at death based on obvious markers like degenerative joint changes, epiphyseal surfaces *inter alia*. The pelvis was examined for sex markers by the physical anthropologist. The pathologists examined the skeletal elements for indicators of cause of death, and recorded skeletal completeness by means of diagrams and notes. The dentition was examined and recorded in detail including restorations and prostheses. Personal effects and specific items were collected, recorded and seized for separate analysis. Preliminary photography and videotaping of a body bag's contents, was followed by the removal of any clothing (The types of clothing suggested that these individuals had died in a cool to cold time of the year. Some fleece jackets were observed and one individual was wearing three sweaters) for washing and placing the skeletal elements in approximate anatomical position. These tasks were performed by general staff and autopsy assistants, respectively.
15. The anthropologist's contribution to the overall analysis was considerable. An MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals) was completed using the most common skeletal element. In addition the anthropologist confirmed the opinion formed by the pathologists that there were one or two females within the recovered number. Tissue samples suitable for DNA analysis were taken from the right femur and submitted to ICMP for analysis. At the end of the anthropologist's examination, all bones from a particular individual were put into plastic bags and all associated clothing placed in a similar sized bag; each of these was sealed.

### **3. Human Remains**

#### **3.1. Basic Biological Aspects**

16. There was considerable commingling of remains at the site, arising primarily from the remains being secondary in origin. A basic demographic breakdown of the sample was provided by the courts to the media. Based on the ubiquity of right femora, a minimum number of individuals was determined to be 48 including one female.
17. The youngest individual was a teenager; several long bones thought to be from this single individual showed unfused epiphyses of the long bones. The physical anthropologist concluded that a reasonable age estimate for this individual was 17 years. The pathologists provided a running description of hair length and color, dental complement and restorations including pontics and removable prostheses of which there were several suggesting a middle class sample. Dental anomalies that might help individualize a case were photographed.

#### **3.2. Physical Evidence**

18. There was a great variety of physical evidence, apart from clothing and footwear, including licna karta, driver's license, bead bracelet, comb, blister pack for pills. The female individual had a surgical plate to repair a fracture of the lower leg (tibia). Metal parts and fiberglass from a refrigerator container were also recovered.

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### 3.3. Cause of Death

19. There was a clear pattern of more or less shattered crania (21 instances noted). Eight bullets were observed, from seven individuals. Direct evidence of gunshot wound to the cranium (bullets and/or classic wounding) was pointed out by the pathologists in 9 instances. Entrance wounds were visible on several of the skulls. Most of these were in the lower part of the occipital bone; indicating that these individuals had been shot in the back of the head. Other gunshot wounds to the crania were noted. One bullet was recovered lodged in a vertebra. It was stated by the chief forensic pathologist that he observed only a single cause of death, i.e. gunshot wounds, in his examination of all the remains.

### 4. Analysis of Metallic Parts

20. A jumbled pile of twisted metal including fiberglass sheets and insulation was examined by two experts in the manufacture of refrigerator trucks (chassis and superstructure) in the presence of the ICMP representative (12 Sept. 01), the following observations were volunteered:
  - a) the metal and plastic, polyester parts were from a single refrigerator container; no parts from the chassis or vehicle were present.
  - b) most of the material was from the right rear of the container but there was one small part from the front.
  - c) It was of a size associated with 16-18 ton vehicles; that is, the dimensions of the whole container would have been 6 meters long by 2.5 meters square.
  - d) There would have been 16 attachment sites around the floor perimeter, spaced 50 cm apart.
  - e) this type of container had not been manufactured in Yugoslavia during the past 20 years; but was from said to be from the "west".
21. The largest piece of refrigerator container was identified as being from the rear floor region. Evidence of fire damage was observed on the interior face of this panel. The loading doors represented only by metal also indicated that a fire had been within the container at some stage; the fiberglass sheeting presumably having burned away. This may indicate that there was an attempt to burn the bodies while they were inside the refrigerator container; the floor being protected somewhat from burning by the body mass.

### 5. Fire Damage/Burning

22. Skeletal elements and clothing showed evidence of burning in isolated patches consistent with a jumbled mass of bodies being exposed to fire. Examination of the remains and refrigerator container parts indicated that although the pit clearly had contained burnt items no evidence of burning at the exhumation site could be observed. This would indicate that the episode of burning had occurred elsewhere, and not in the grave.

### 6. Publicity

23. The chief pathologist provided information to the press at the end of the exhumation process and at the end of the autopsies. At the former, the processed site was allowed to be photographed.

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**C CONCLUSIONS**

24. Despite the challenges presented by the state of the remains, the Serbian team performed its tasks of evidence discovery, recovery and preservation to reasonably acceptable international standards. The team expedited the task of the international observers forensic monitoring with full disclosure of methods including access to videography of the exhumation.

**Jon Sterenberg, MSc. AIFA**  
Head of Excavation and Examination Division  
Forensic Sciences Department  
International Commission on Missing Persons

## Annex 1a ICMP Fact Sheet

i c m p	Fact Sheet
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**Overview**

As a political transition unfolds after a period of armed conflict, violence or repression, a society is confronted with a difficult legacy of human rights abuses that often include large numbers of disappearances of persons, never to be heard from again. Resolving their fate is important.

The existence of large numbers of missing persons often poses a significant impediment to post-conflict institution building, peace initiatives and reconciliation. Resolving the fate of the missing is a crucial political concern between former warring parties.

High-level attention from the international community can effectively support post-conflict societies in engaging in peace building and reconciliation. Such support is provided by ICMP.

**Mandate**

ICMP endeavors to secure the co-operation of Governments and other authorities in locating and identifying persons missing as a result of armed conflicts, other hostilities or violations of human rights and to assist them in doing so. ICMP also supports the work of other organizations in their efforts, encourages public involvement in its activities and contributes to the development of appropriate expressions of commemoration and tribute to the missing.

**Background**

ICMP is an international organization that was created in 1996, following the G-7 Summit, in Lyon, France, to address the issue of persons missing as a result of the different conflicts relevant to Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), the Republic of Croatia (RoC) and Serbia and Montenegro from 1991 to 1995.

Following the conflict in Kosovo and the crisis in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYRoM), ICMP expanded its operations to address missing persons cases from these areas. ICMP is headquartered in Sarajevo, BiH, but also has offices in the Republic of Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, and UN administered Kosovo.

ICMP has recently responded to a request for assistance from the authorities in Iraq and maintains contacts with other countries that have large numbers of missing persons. As a humanitarian measure, ICMP is also assisting in the identification of victims of the tsunami in South-East Asia.

**ICMP Areas of Work****Science in Service of Truth and Justice: Forensic Sciences**

ICMP's Forensic Science Department (FSD) has the primary responsibility within ICMP for developing, implementing and managing the technical process of assisting governments in exhumations, examinations and identifications of persons missing as a result of violent conflicts. In the region of the former Yugoslavia, the FSD incorporates the use of a population-based, DNA-led system of identifications, which requires the collection and profiling of blood samples from family members with missing relatives and bone samples from

exhumed mortal remains. The ICMP identification process is subject to quality assurance and quality control mechanisms and to external review. The FSD is organized into three divisions:

**Telling the Story of a Mass Grave:**

**Excavations and Examination Program:** The Excavations and Examination Program is predominantly involved in the detection of sites, the recovery and anthropological examination of mortal remains and in the use of scientific methods to compare premortem and postmortem records for forensic identification.

**A Profile of the Missing:**

**Identification Coordination Division:** The Identification Coordination Division is responsible for the collection of blood samples from families with missing relatives, the preparation of bone samples for DNA extraction, administration of the DNA matching software, the production and archiving of DNA reports and the archiving of biological samples.

**Irrefutable Evidence of Identity:**

**DNA Laboratories:** The DNA Laboratories program is responsible for extracting DNA from biological samples, for profiling (obtaining the unique code from) DNA and for generating and reviewing DNA reports in an effort to identify mortal remains. In addition DNA scientists are involved in research and development activities to reduce costs and to improve the identifications process.

**Public Involvement: Civil Society Initiatives**

In addition to the impediments to post-conflict institution building, peace initiatives and reconciliation that unresolved missing persons issues create, families of the missing are poorly informed about existing and possible mechanisms to seek the truth about the fate of their missing loved ones. Linkages between victims groups and other NGOs and decision makers are often insufficient, thus creating a weak and uncoordinated civil society in pursuing truth, justice and reconciliation. ICMP believes that family members of the missing and the associations they have formed can play a crucial role in addressing the missing persons issue through advocacy, education, data collection and raising public awareness. Therefore, the objectives of the Civil Society Initiatives Department are to encourage effective engagement of family members and other members of civil society in the representation of their interests and in advocacy activities geared towards achieving more effective resolution of the missing persons issue, through:

**Empowerment:** To ensure that associations of families of missing persons are strong, independent and fully engaged in clarifying the fate of their missing relatives; implemented through project grants to family associations and training and technical assistance.

**Networking:** To engage family associations in effective regional networks that address the specific rights and needs of family members with missing relatives; implemented through conferences, meetings, and publications.

**Awareness:** To work towards improved understanding of the missing persons issue and the situation of surviving family members; implemented through activities addressing the legal, social and economic rights of family members of the missing and raising public awareness about the missing persons issue as a human rights issue.



## Special Projects

### Mapping Crimes against Humanity:

The Forensic Database Management System (FDMS):

The FDMS is an electronic database of ICMP Forensic Science activities that tracks the process of exhumations and identifications from reconnaissance and exhumation to identification, notification and burial. ICMP has provided user access of this database to governments in the former Yugoslavia and in Iraq.

### Paths to Reconciliation:

A project designed for the regions of the former Yugoslavia to explore various pillars of transitional and restorative justice by opening a space for informed dialogue between victims groups and encouraging exchange of experience on a regional and international level on truth seeking, trust building, documentation, justice, and compensation mechanisms.

### Finding Long-term Solutions: Institution Building

An ICMP initiative, the Missing Persons Institute (MPI) for Bosnia and Herzegovina was inaugurated as a State-level institution in August 2005. ICMP and the Government are co-founders of the MPI, which will provide a long term mechanism to address the issue of persons missing as a result of the conflicts in Bosnia and Herzegovina, regardless of their ethnic, religious or national origin. ICMP has engaged in other institution building initiatives in the region of the former Yugoslavia

### ICMP Commissioners:

The eminence of ICMP's Commissioners highlights the significance that the international community attaches to the issue of the missing.

James V. Kimsey (Chairperson)

Willem Kok

Her Majesty Queen Noor

Michael Portillo

Rolf Ekéus

Previous chairs included:

Bob Dole (Chairperson 1997 - 2001)

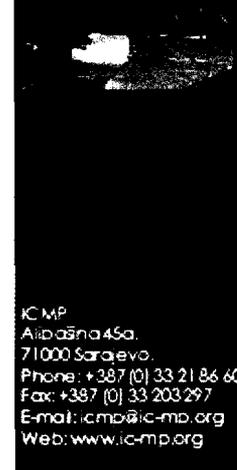
Cyrus Vance (Chairperson 1996 - 1997)

### Funding:

ICMP is funded through voluntary grants, donations and contributions by participating Governments, including Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, the Holy See, Iceland, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union. The C.S. Mott Foundation provides funding to ICMP for the "Paths to Reconciliation" project.



**The Missing  
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**Annex 1b      Activities Relating to Forensics**

1. The Forensic Science Department (FSD) is integral part of ICMP activities.
2. FSD has three Divisions:
  1. Identification Coordination Division (ICD);
  2. Excavation and Examination Division (Ex and Ex);
  3. DNA Laboratory Division (DNA).
4. **ICD** main responsibilities resolve around the collection and maintenance of large amounts of data from family visits and blood collection drives, all of this data is currently held in ICD. This data can include:
  - Names and ages of missing persons;
  - Names of relatives;
  - Site locations;
  - Skeletal inventories;
  - Bone and tooth inventories for DNA extraction;
  - Relatives blood sample inventories for DNA extraction;
  - DNA profiles for bone and for blood;
  - Matched DNA profiles.
5. Their primary task using strict SOPs is to assist in the identification of recovered remains by:
  - Analyzing bone samples taken from stored remains;
  - Anonymizing those samples using a barcode;
  - Matching the DNA results from bone and blood samples;
  - Reviewing and matching DNA profiles.
6. These in turn are used to assist the pathologist and anthropologist in the identification process.
7. **Excavation and Examination Division** is responsible for assisting the local courts and commissions for missing persons from the Federation, Republic and Croatia with expert support in order to maximize the recovery of human remains and associated forensic evidence from a variety of grave types located anywhere in the former Yugoslavia. This is part of the Joint Exhumation Process (JEP) which was established in 1996 as a way of entity commissions to undertake exhumations in each others territories. This includes liaison between organizations e.g. EUFOR (military), EUPM, OHR, ICRC, MPI, ICTY and entity judicial and state judicial processes. ICMP experts include forensic archaeologists, forensic anthropologists, forensic pathologists and logistical support in the form of specialized machinery, consumables and equipment that the commissions lack.
8. Excavation staff also undertake the location of suspected mass gravesites using a variety of geophysical methods including the study and analysis of satellite and aerial imagery. Variations in sites where remains have been deposited include:
  - Surface;
  - Cemeteries and single graves;
  - Caves and wells;
  - Cremations (destroyed buildings);

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- Burials (mass graves):
    - a) Primary,
    - b) Secondary (largest problem area for ICMP, heavily fragmented and destroyed remains),
    - c) Tertiary.
11. Each site type requires different archaeological methods for the maximum retrieval of remains.
  12. The Ex and Ex Division also maintains and runs three full-time facilities in BiH located at Tuzla (PIP), Lukavac (PIPLC) and Sanski Most (KIP) which cover the analysis, identification and expert assistance required to repatriate recovered remains.
  13. Each facility has national and international staff and is designed to identify and work on specific areas of recovery, for example: PIP undertakes the analysis of a variety of sites linked to the fall of Srebrenica; PIPLC is designed to work expressly on the highly fragmented remains from the large amount of secondary mass graves located in the eastern areas of BiH; whereas KIP is responsible for the remains recovered from the Krjina area of the Republic of Srpska (RS). ICMP also maintains a staff at one of the primary centers of analysis and repatriation based in Banja Luka (RS).
  14. Ex and Ex also operates a small external operations section which is involved with establishing contacts with external governments and encourages those that are interested to visit ICMP in order to observe the ways that ICMP have addressed the issue of the missing within the former Yugoslavia. They also work on external operations proposals and training for professionals within ICMP facilities in BiH.
  15. **DNA Division** is primarily responsible for the processing, DNA extraction and analysis of DNA results. It operates from several Laboratories across Former Yugoslavia with operational Laboratories in Zagreb (Croatia), Belgrade (Serbia), Tuzla and Sarajevo (BiH).
  16. ICMP introduced in 2001 a DNA based system of identification which has pioneered the international recognition that classical markers of identification can be largely replaced with a DNA based system. This includes a revolutionary new DNA technique of extraction developed in ICMP laboratories together with a purpose designed electronic based matching software which is capable of matching bone to bone even if the remains are recovered from different sites.
  17. Therefore the essential contributions and structure of FSD include good standard working practices and goals surrounding the following:
    - Archaeological techniques and standardized recording (Ex and Ex)
    - Database foundations (ICD)
    - DNA based identifications (DNA Division) which includes:
      - a) Blood collection from biological relatives of the missing person,
      - b) Collection of bone samples to retrieve a DNA profile from the victim to match a profile from a relatives blood.

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**Annex 2a ICMP DNA Tracking chart for Kosovo, November 2005**

<b>Blood Sample Status</b>	<b>Kosovo</b>	<b>SCG</b>	<b>Total</b>		
<b>Blood Samples Collected</b>	10629	2343	<b>12972</b>		
<b>Blood Profiles in Database</b>	10432	2175	<b>12607</b>		
<b>Number of Missing Individuals Represented by the Blood Samples Collected</b>	3328	667	<b>3995</b>		
<b>Bone Sample Status</b>	<b>Kosovo</b>	<b>SCG</b>	<b>Total</b>		
<b>Received in ICMP ICD (Tuzla)</b>	3172	1010	<b>4182</b>		
<b>Archived</b>	2676	960	<b>3636</b>		
<b>Sent to DNA Laboratory</b>	2676	960	<b>3636</b>		
<b>Bone Profiles in Database</b>	2325	925	<b>3250</b>		
<b>DNA Reports</b>	<b>Kosovo</b>		<b>SCG</b>	<b>Total</b>	
	<b>Albanians</b>	<b>Serbs</b>	<b>Albanians</b>	<b>Serbs</b>	
<b>Total Number of Reports</b>	1277	301	819	0	<b>2397</b>
<b>Individuals Represented</b>	877	172	723	0	<b>1772</b>
<b>Re-association of Separated Skeletal Elements</b>	323	85	86	0	<b>494</b>
<b>Exclusion of Presumptive Cases</b>	77	44	10	0	<b>131</b>
<b>Submitted Reports</b>	1198	254	811	0	<b>2263</b>
<b>Reports in Review</b>	26(Sa)	1(Sa)	11(Sa)	0	<b>38(Sa)</b>

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## Annex 3 Author's CV

## Jon Sterenberg

**Profile**

I have been a professional archaeologist since leaving H.M.Forces in 1982. I joined Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit (B.U.F.A.U.) as a site assistant in 1983, eventually leaving BUFAU with the position of Technical manager/Project manager. I am experienced in all aspects of archaeological evaluation and excavation, including site survey work, photography, and contextual recording. During my time at BUFAU I was responsible for several diverse roles which also included the training of postgraduate students from the University Department of Ancient History and Archaeology and extensive work on the recording and interpretation of historic buildings and their garden features. My skills include logistics, including plant operation and surveying, technical services, excavation of complex cemeteries, complex urban sites, post-excavation analysis and report production including illustration.

I acquired my Master of Science (MSc) in Forensic Archaeology in 2002 and Post Graduate Diploma (PGDip) in Forensic Archaeology in 2000 from Bournemouth University in the United Kingdom. I am currently in the process of writing an academic textbook based on my MSc dissertation on the uses of archaeology within the excavation of complex mass graves, and have been asked to provide chapters for further books, I have also written a joint scientific paper on the subject.

In 1997, I was invited to work for the International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) forensic team investigating and excavating mass gravesites related to the conflict in the Balkans and worked in an archaeological management role. In June 2000 I was asked by the United Nations in New York to undertake the excavation and recovery of UN soldiers killed during fighting in Sierra Leone, West Africa. I acted as the Senior Forensic Archaeologist and Project Manager as well as working in a variety of roles in the field and acting as liaison with UN forces and other UN offices.

At the beginning of 2001 I was asked to undertake a new role for ICTY, as their archaeological monitor/field manager. This role involved liaison with local entity courts and commissions as ICTY expert witness whilst simultaneously training a Bosnian commission team in order to maximize their own collection of forensic evidence.

After completing my work with ICTY, during which time I participated in the excavation of over thirty mass graves, I was invited to work as the Senior Forensic Archaeologist/Field Manager for the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP). I was initially based in Belgrade, Serbia during 2002 and was attached to a Serbian special commission team in a senior role undertaking the excavation of mass gravesites in the Belgrade area. I also taught a team of local archaeologists from Belgrade University in forensic excavation. My other duties included the monitoring of sites being exhumed by local entity commissions throughout Bosnia and the Balkans region. In order to assist in this process I

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designed a 'three phase' approach to the recording of mass graves, which I successfully implemented in Iraq as part of my seconded post as Forensic Advisor to the Director of Human Rights and Transitional Justice(OHRTJ) within the Offices of the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) based in Baghdad, Iraq between 2003 and 2004.

Following my time in Iraq I returned to ICMP in early 2004 as the Head of ICMP Excavation and Examination Division within the Forensic Science Department which currently employs 121 national and international staff. At present I am based in Sarajevo and am working on the issues of mass gravesites and missing persons with local governments in both advisory and management roles. I have recently been tasked with assisting in various projects within Iraq, East Timor, Georgia and Chechnya and am in the process of formulating plans to combine international teams of experts and local teams to provide an adequate scientific response to requests from local Human Rights Ministries and families of victims. I am also responsible for liaison between the United States State Department and the newly formed Forensic Teams attached to the Iraqi Special Tribunal and have recently attended several United Nations meetings in Jordan and Kuwait in a supporting role for ICMP with Iraqi government officials.

Although my primary task is now related to human rights work I have actively followed the progress of archaeology in the United Kingdom through my friends and colleagues based at Birmingham Archaeology and through my other contacts across the world.

## Education

- 2002 **Master of Science (MSc)** in Forensic Archaeology, Bournemouth University. Dissertation title: *'Archaeological techniques and methods that may be used in the excavation and recording of contemporary primary and secondary mass graves'*.
- 2001 **Post Graduate Diploma (PG Dip)** in Forensic Archaeology, Bournemouth University.

**Book:** In process, joint authorship (working title) Forensic Archaeology, Anthropology and the Investigation of Mass Graves {to be published December 2005}

**Book:** In progress, joint authorship with Dr Soren Blau and Dr Douglas Ublaker {to be published in 2006}

**Book:** The Archaeology of Mass Graves' joint authorship with Prof Richard Wright and Ian Hanson, which is to be included in 'Forensic Archaeology', edited by John Hunter and Margaret Cox.

**Scientific Paper:** Turf Wars: Authority and responsibility for the investigation of mass graves, joint authorship with Dr Mark Skinner {Forensic Science International}

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**Professional Affiliations**

- 2002-2005 Advisor to the INFORCE Foundation (Archaeology)
- 2002-present Member of Kenyon International Emergency Services (Europe)
- 1997-present Member of the Forensic Search Advisory Group (F.S.A.G.)
- 1986-1995 Committee Member University of Birmingham Insurance and Safety at work group
- 1990-present Associate Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (I.F.A.)

**Relevant Qualifications**

**C.I.T.B. (Construction Industry Training Board)**

- 1986-2001-present Plant operator licence for the following: Telescopic handler, 360 and 180 degree excavator machine and wheeled dumper truck up to 10 ton (weight).
- 2001 Safety at work.
- 2001 Health and Safety in the construction industry.
- 1984-1993 ST. John's Ambulance First Aid at Work.
- 1995 Oxford University centre for continuing studies. Health and Safety for Archaeologists.
- 1995-1997 Birmingham University works appraisal group.
- 1977-1979 Sutton Coldfield College of Further Education, Graphic Art and Design.

**Professional Experience**

**April 2004 to present, International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)**

Head of Excavation and Examination Division: Managing a local and international division of scientists involved in the excavation and recovery of human remains and forensic evidence from mass graves and the management of three facilities involved with the analysis and repatriation of those remains. Liaison to US State Department, IST, UN and local BiH governments and project management for overseas missions. Implementation of training and assistance for national and international professionals.

**April 2002 to April 2004**

Senior Forensic Archaeologist: Excavation and recovery of human remains and forensic evidence from gravesites in Serbia and Bosnia.

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**August 2003-May 2004 Advisor to Director of Human Rights and Transitional Justice, Coalition Provisional Authority, Baghdad, Iraq.**

Duties included: advice to the director on forensic matters, consultation with Human Rights Ministries, site assessment work, coordination with international teams and coalition military elements within Iraq, procurement of funds and equipment for excavation work, production of reports and guidelines for work within Iraq, updating relevant databases with information from differing sources, providing relevant advice to the FCO in London and giving press briefings.

**August 2004 Metropolitan Police Force**

Excavation and recovery of a 'drugs mule' from a shallow burial in the London area.

**United Nations (ICTY)**

**June-November 2001**

**March-October 2000**

**March-October 1999**

**April-October 1998**

**October 1997**

**June-July 1997**

**May 1997**

Excavation and recovery of the forensic evidence and human remains from more than 30 mass gravesites located in Croatia, and Bosnia-Herzegovina, including primary, secondary and robbed graves. Basic analysis of human remains recovered from those excavated gravesites. Training and monitoring of excavations, including liaising with local commission teams and with ICMP. The production of site reports and evaluations of several suspect mass gravesites for submission to the Tribunal and the production of related evidence reports for submission to the tribunal.

**June 2000**

**United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL)**

Project Manager and Senior Forensic Archaeologist. Tasked with undertaking the recovery and analysis of the remains of several United Nations soldiers killed in action against rebel forces (RUF) operating in the area of Rogberi Junction, West Africa. Liaison with UN and international military forces and the production of related evidence reports for submission to the Tribunal.

**February 2000**

**Lincoln Police Force**

Search and subsequent excavation of human remains relating to the murder of an adult.

**February 2000**

**West Mercia Police Force**

Excavation and recovery of skeletal human remains relating to the death of an adult.

**1997-1999**

**Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit**

Project Officer/Technical Manager

**November 1997**

**Thames Valley Police Force**

Excavation and recovery of human remains relating to the murder and subsequent burial of an adult.

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- October 1997**      **Greater Manchester Police Force**  
Search, location and recovery of skeletal human remains relating to the murder of a juvenile.
- September 1997**    **Derbyshire Police Force**  
Search and recovery of scattered human remains.
- May 1997**            **Greater Manchester Police**  
Search for possible human remains relating to the murder of an adult.
- 1993-1997**          **Technical Manager** with Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit.
- 1989-1993**          **Field Officer** with Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit.
- 1986-1989**          **Project Supervisor** Manpower Services Commission Roving Team based at Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit.
- 1985-1986**          **Archaeologist**, Sandwell County Council, Castle Bromwich Hall Garden Trust.
- 1983-1985**          **Site Assistant**, Manpower Services Commission Roving Team based at Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit.

### Forensic Reports

- 2002-2005**          Various excavation and monitoring reports for ICMP and action and assessment reports for ORHTJ. The production of a series of monographs for ICMP concerning linked mass grave sites within BiH {in production}.
- 2000-2001**          (ICTY), Reports on excavations and forensic findings from several contemporary mass graves. (Reports to be integrated into ongoing casework for the Criminal Tribunal).
- 2000**                (UNAMSIL), Report on the recovery of United Nations soldiers from Rogberi Junction, West Africa. United Nations, New York. (Reports to be integrated into ongoing casework for the Criminal Tribunal).

### Archaeological Reports (various)

- 1996-2000**          Various reports on various evaluations and excavations, awaiting report numbers.
- 1995**                *Archaeological evaluation at the Wolverhampton Art Gallery* BUFAU Report No.365.
- 1995**                *Excavations at Milcote Manor Farm, Warwickshire.* BUFAU Report No.367.

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- 1995 *Archaeological watching brief at Harrdon Street, Bloxwich, Walsall* BUFAU Report No.364.
- 1995 *Archaeological evaluation at Showells Farm Moat, Wolverhampton.* BUFAU Report No.361.
- 1994 *Archaeological watching brief at Kenilworth Castle (with C.A.Mould).* BUFAU Report No.296.
- 1991 *Archaeological evaluations at Warmwell Quarry, West Knighton, Dorset.* BUFAU Report No.187.
- 1991 *Excavations on Offa's Dyke, Brompton Shropshire.* BUFAU Report No.155.
- 1991 *Geophysical survey and Trial Excavations at Dingle Quarry, Chelford, Cheshire.* BUFAU Report No.137.
- 1990 *Archaeological evaluation at Watling Street North, Church Stretton, Shropshire.* BUFAU Report No. 98.
- 1989 *Archaeological evaluation at Tanners Allotment, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.* BUFAU Report No.95.
- 1989 *Archaeological evaluation of Manor Farm, Wall, Staffordshire.* BUFAU Report No.65.
- 1989 *Survey of Wall Town Camp, Shropshire.* BUFAU Report No.59.
- 1989 *St.Michael's Chapel, Much Wenlock Priory, Shropshire.* BUFAU Report No.54.
- 1988 *Archaeological evaluation of the Butts, Wall, Shropshire.* BUFAU Report No 38.
- 1987 *Langley Gatehouse, Structural and Archaeological Survey* BUFAU Report No.28, and *Langley Gatehouse, II.* BUFAU Report No.29.
- 1987 *Archaeological evaluation at Tamworth Medieval Deanery, Staffordshire* BUFAU Report No.13.

### **Additional Information**

- 1979-1982** H.M. Forces.  
Regiment. 9/12th Royal Lancers. Three year term of service.
- 1983-1984** Territorial Army 225 Royal Monmouth Engineers. One year of service.  
Working in a variety of roles including general engineering tasks, bridge construction, and specifically as part of a two-man demolition team.
- Trades** Driving licence group H/A (clean licence)  
C.I.T.B. licences (see previous)
- RAC Crewman 2, NBC (Nuclear, Biological and Chemical) trained,  
Crewman driver AFV (Armoured fighting vehicle) 3,  
RAC soldier 3,

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RAC map reading – class 2  
Crewman gunner AFV Rarden trained  
Crewman gunner AFV Scorpion trained  
RAC crewman - combat vehicle  
Reconnaissance (tracked) trained  
Crewman driver AFV combat vehicle  
Reconnaissance (tracked) trained  
Second phase signal-training reconnaissance

All arms demolition and mine warfare.

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Annex 4

**Grant Agreement between the Coordination Centre For Kosovo and Metohija (CC) of The Federal Government of the Republic of Serbia and the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)**

**Grant Agreement**

**Between**

The Coordination Centre for Kosovo and Metohia (CC) of the Federal Government and the Government of the Republic of Serbia,

**And**

The International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)  
Legally described and registered as an international inter-governmental organization

**Concerning**

ICMP funding of CC activities on exhumation and identification of the remains of persons missing from Kosovo and Metohia

**The signatories to the present Agreement, recognizing**

- i. That there are an estimated 40,000 persons missing from the conflicts in the regions of the former Yugoslavia, which began in 1991 and that the uncertainty surrounding the fate of the missing has been a continuing source of anguish to the families concerned and an obstacle to rebuilding civil society in the former Yugoslavia.
- ii. That the majority of persons missing in former Yugoslavia are dead
- iii. That the processes of identifying the remains of the missing has been dramatically improved using DNA identification methods to compliment the on-going recovery of mortal remains in the region
- iv. That in order for DNA to aid in the identification process, DNA profiles from blood samples taken from family members with missing relatives must be compared to DNA profiles from exhumed bodies
- v. That the cost and rate of identifying the missing is reduced significantly by building regional scientific capacity in the countries of the former Yugoslavia while the social significance of the process is greatly enhanced
- vi. That the credibility of the process and its benefits to society depend on ensuring the process' scientific integrity and consonance with human rights including privacy and other civil rights.

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And in view of

- vii. ICMP maintaining presence in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and in the Republic of Serbia and that ICMP's stated mandate includes:
  - a. Building DNA identification capacity in the countries of the former Yugoslavia
  - b. Maintaining adequate mechanisms to ensure the scientific integrity by internationally accepted standards of DNA based identification processes
  - c. Ensuring that ICMP activities and mechanisms benefit all people of former Yugoslavia irrespective of their religious or ethnic background
  - d. Other activities relevant to the resolution of the missing persons question, including the operation of DNA laboratories, maintenance of databases, collection of ante-mortem and other relevant data, facilitating exhumation processes and promoting social and political commitment to the resolution of cases of persons missing as a consequence of the recent armed conflicts in former Yugoslavia
- viii. The CC having been established with its mandate to include activities related to the missing from Kosovo and Metohia, but not activities related to persons missing from other parts of Serbia or the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
- ix. The CC having established, under its auspices, a Commission on Missing Persons and a Working Group on Exhumations and Identifications
- x. The fact that the legal authority for conducting an exhumation process in Serbia lies with the District Courts and that the authority of the CC includes coordinating the work of the District Courts to conduct exhumations with the objective of identifying exhumed mortal remains for families with missing loved ones
- xi. CC's plans to exercise its mandate in Kosovo and Metohia with the agreement of UNMIK authorities
- xii. The CC, in understanding the continuing pain of families with missing relatives from the earlier conflicts in the region will recommend a proposal to engage in future co-operation activities in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia with the agreement of the Federal Government of Yugoslavia and the Government of the Republic of Serbia
- xiii. The desirability of establishing co-operation between ICMP and the relevant offices of the CC engaged in the missing persons issue, to further the aims of both organizations

Therefore Acknowledging

That awarding CC with a grant agreement is desirable as part of co-operation between ICMP and CC provided that:

- a. The Federal Government of the Republic of Yugoslavia and the Government of the Republic of Serbia agree to the terms and conditions of such an agreement
- b. That CC can exercise its mandate in Kosovo and Metohia in fact and in co-operation with UNMIK as well as in accordance with ethical principles endorsed by ICMP

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The Parties Agree As Follows:

1. In kind and financial support, reciprocity
  - 1.1 Over a period of three years as of signature of the present agreement, ICMP will make to CC the in kind and financial support described in this Agreement and under the conditions set out therein.
  - 1.2 ICMP may substitute all or part of the in kind support identified in this agreement with financial support and all or part of the financial support identified in this Agreement with in kind support. ICMP shall exercise this option by notice to CC. No provision of this Agreement shall be interpreted to limit this option.
  - 1.3 In kind support shall consist of infrastructure and accessory installations, expertise and expert support as well as training as described in this agreement. Financial support shall consist of US Dollar funds to be held in a separate ICMP account for use CC in the form and manner set out in this agreement.
  - 1.4 ICMP shall provide the in kind and financial support described in this agreement in the form and according to the conditions and terms of this agreement and CC shall comply with the conditions and terms of this agreement in return for the in kind and financial support by ICMP under this agreement.
2. ICMP shall make available to CC the in kind support described hereafter.
  - 2.1 ICMP shall provide executive, expert, training, and technical assistance. CC shall accept such support and the conditions of such support.
  - 2.2 ICMP will provide CC with executive tools and DNA technical equipment, installations, fixtures and accessories as listed in Annex 1 to this agreement.
  - 2.3 ICMP shall seek to ensure that equipment identified as part of Annex 1 to this Agreement is of sufficient capacity to accommodate the tasks of CC in the missing persons context, as well as the tasks of ICMP in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.
3. ICMP shall make available for the use by CC the financial support described hereafter.
  - 3.1 ICMP intends to make available to CC a non-refundable grant of 1.5 million US Dollars.
  - 3.2 The Grant shall be made available in instalments over a three-year period.
  - 3.3 The first instalment in the amount of USD 300,000.00 (in words: three hundred thousand) shall be held in a separate USD account of ICMP for the purchase by CC of equipment, accessories and supplies as set out in Annex 1 to this Agreement. ICMP shall settle invoices presented by CC for the purchase of items listed in Annex 1 provided that such purchases were effected according to the terms and conditions and within the timeframe set out in Annex 1 to this Agreement. In the event that ICMP opts to substitute the first instalment with in kind support, it shall purchase the equipment identified in Annex 1 and ensure shipment of the same.
  - 3.4 The ICMP Forensic Science Director shall co-sign purchase orders for items set-out in Annex 1 to this Agreement and assist CC in drafting the purchase orders. CC shall not make purchase orders under this agreement without the ICMP Forensic Science Director of ICMP co-signing purchase orders. The ICMP Forensic Science Director has the right to refuse signing purchase orders if he

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or she deems that the orders are not consistent with this agreement or that preconditions for receiving the equipment are not met.

- 3.5 Subsequent instalments shall be in the amount of USD 200,000.00 (in words: two hundred thousand) and shall be held in the same separate ICMP account unless ICMP deems that all or part of any subsequent instalment shall be transferred to an account of CC or that ICMP opts to substitute all or part of a subsequent instalment with in kind support
- 3.6 Subsequent instalments to the same separate ICMP account shall be effectuated every six months following timely use by CC of the first instalment in accordance with the terms and conditions of this agreement.
- 3.7 Unless ICMP decides to make transfers to an account of CC, ICMP shall settle invoices by CC for the purchase of goods, services and recurrent expenditures provided that such purchases were effected in a manner consistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement including its Annexes.
- 3.8 The ICMP Forensic Science Director shall co-sign invoices to ICMP by CC, unless the ICMP Program Director effected the purchases or the contracts giving rise to recurrent expenditures, in which event CC shall co-sign the invoices. The ICMP Forensic Science Director has the right to refuse signature of purchase or other contractual arrangements if he or she deems that the orders are not consistent with this agreement.
- 3.9 In the event that ICMP decides to make transfers to an account of CC, CC shall submit to ICMP financial and narrative reports accounting for the use of such funds on a quarterly basis. The reports shall be submitted in the English and Serbian languages.
- 3.10 All instalments shall be effected upon a request for payment by CC accompanied by a project proposal detailing the use of funds requested. ICMP shall not refuse allocation of funds granted under this agreement unless the proposal contravenes the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
4. CC shall maintain a Commission on Missing Persons with responsibility for missing persons under the full extent of CC's mandate throughout the period covered by the Agreement.
- 4.1 As of the date of entry into force of this Agreement, CC appoints ICMP as an observer to the Commission on Missing Persons of CC.
- 4.2 As an observer, ICMP is entitled to participate in, and to receive timely invitations to, the regular sessions of the Commission on Missing Persons of CC. ICMP will be represented by the Chief of Staff, or by a designated representative of the Chief of Staff.
- 4.3 The ICMP representative may address the Commission.
- 4.4 As of the date of entry into force of this Agreement, CC will appoint one member of the Commission on Missing Persons of CC as Advisor to ICMP in Yugoslavia and the Advisor may address ICMP in Yugoslavia.
- 4.5 The CC representative shall facilitate ICMP efforts on the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to resolve cases of persons missing. The representative shall also facilitate the transmission of information and data between ICMP on the one hand, and CC and other agencies of the Federal Government and the Republic of Serbia on the other. The representatives should also facilitate the transmission of information and data between ICMP, CC and UNMIK.

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- 5. CC shall undertake to further the aims of ICMP in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the region.
- 5.1 CC shall facilitate efforts by ICMP in Kosovo and Metohia and shall undertake to develop a joint project with ICMP on exhumations and the collection of blood and bone samples on the territory of Yugoslavia and to coordinate the joint effort with Federal and Republic authorities.
- 5.2 The Institute for forensic medicine, located at Deligradska street, number 31A, in Belgrade, agrees to allocate its premises to the CC for the purposes of this Agreement. The annual payment to the Institute for utilities shall not exceed USD 6,000.00 (in words: six thousand). CC shall retain the services of ICMP's Forensic Science to equip the laboratory and to implement the working methods and objectives of the laboratory.
- 5.3 The Institute shall provide adequate laboratory, administrative and storage space for the DNA Identification Laboratory, security over access to the DNA Identification Laboratory in order to ensure the safety of the equipment, specimens, supplies, reagents and personnel.
- 5.4 Human remains or blood samples either collected by the Institute or in possession of the Institute shall be kept on the premises of the Institute, unless the parties identify another location within the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia where such remains and samples shall be kept. Human remains and blood samples collected or taken from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia shall not be removed from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia without approval of CC and in co-operation with ICMP.
- 5.5 CC warrants that ICMP shall have unrestricted access and use of the laboratory and accessory facilities described in Paragraph 5.2 above. CC also warrants that ICMP shall have unrestricted access and use of the installations and equipment described in Paragraph 3.3 above. CC also warrants that day-to-day management of the laboratory and of its accessory facility, installations and equipment shall be the responsibility of the ICMP DNA Director.
- 5.6 Within seven days of entry into effect of this Agreement, CC shall establish as part of its Commission on Missing Persons a working group on standard operating procedures (SOPs) for DNA identification of human remains. The working group shall be co-chaired by the ICMP Forensic Science Director, who shall present to the working group draft SPOs for discussion and adoption by CC.
- 5.7 SOPs adopted by the CC shall be subject to approval by the ICMP Scientific Advisory Board and shall thereafter form integral part of this agreement.
- 5.8 ICMP shall not be obliged to disperse funds or provide in kind support under this Agreement until approval of CC's SOPs by ICMP's Scientific Advisory Board. The ICMP Scientific Advisory Board shall render its decision within 14 days upon adoption of SOPs by CC.
- 6. Any notice required or permitted under this Agreement shall be deemed sufficiently given or served if sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed as follows:

If to ICMP to:  
 Gordon Bacon  
 Chief of Staff

K0525535

Alipasina 45a  
Sarajevo  
BiH

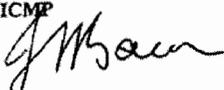
If to CC to:  
Nebojsa Covic  
President  
Uzicka 25  
Belgrade  
Yugoslavia

- 6.1 ICMP and CC shall each have the right to change the place notice is to be given under this paragraph by written notice thereof to the other party.
- 6.2 This Agreement shall enter into effect upon signature by the parties following signature by the representatives of the Governments of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Serbia.
- 6.3 This Agreement shall not take effect until CC in fact and with the consent of UNMIK exercises its mandate in Kosovo and Metohia and provides ICMP with a written statement evidencing the consent of UNMIK.
7. Annex 1 referred to above is integral part of this Agreement.
- 7.1 Annex 1: "Quantities and Technical Specifications of Installations, Equipment and Accessories for use in ICMP funded DNA Identification Programs"
8. This agreement is signed in four copies, two in the English language and two in the Serbian language.
  - 8.1 The parties agrees to settle any disputes amicably.
  - 8.2 In the event of dispute, the English version shall be deemed authentic.
  - 8.3 Amicable resolution failing, disputes shall be resolved by arbitration.
  - 8.4 In the event of dispute resolution by arbitration, each side shall appoint an arbitrator who shall jointly appoint a third arbitrator. In the event that either side determines that agreement on a third arbitrator cannot be reached, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall nominate an Arbitrator.
9. Neither this agreement nor any part there of shall be construed to constitute any waiver, whether expressed or implied, of any privileges and immunities that apply to ICMP, ICMP offices, accounts, ICMP commissioners, experts and staff.

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Signed in ~~BEGRAD~~ on 19.10.2001  
For the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

  
Signed in ~~BEGRAD~~ on 19.10.2001  
For the Government of the Republic of Serbia

For ICMP  


For CC  
Signed in ~~BEGRAD~~ on 23.10.2001

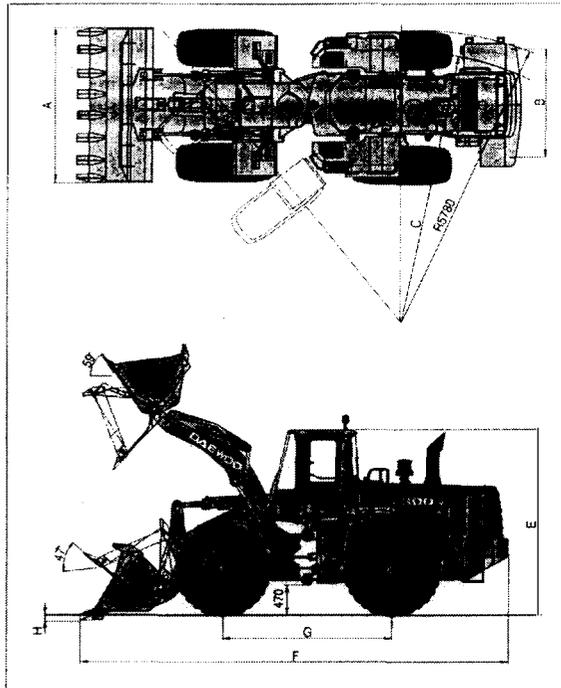


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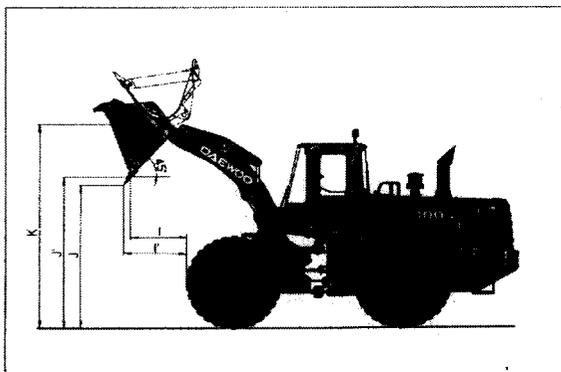
## Annex 5 "Ramp Grave"

1. The definition of the "ramp grave" was originally conceived by Prof Richard Wright who acted as an ICTY expert in charge of excavations during 1997-2000 in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The construction of these particular type of grave is undertaken using a wheeled machine termed "Wheeled Front-end Loader, as depicted below."

## Dimension



## Working ranges



2. The machine itself is articulated centrally beneath the operators cab allowing the machine a certain amount of flexibility both in the central axis (see top image) but also between the axles of the machine. The range of the bucket means that it can only dig (excavate) on a level surface and is generally seen in gravel or sand quarries where its large capacity front bucket can be used to load trucks from the side.

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3. The machine is ideally suited to the construction of defensive positions that need a ramped base/floor to drive a tank or other armoured vehicle or artillery piece into. The operation involves removing soil in a series of 'spits' starting at the same level and in digging in the same direction, e.g. digging down and forward at the same time as forming the ramp, the operation of removing the soil causes the sides of the open feature to have vertical sides which are very stable through compaction of the soil the machine is driving through. As the machine is always pushing or digging in a frontal direction the last bucket load is usually deposited at the top of the completed deep or 'blunt' end of the ramp. This type of position allows extra frontal armour protection from attacking infantry or attack by opposition tanks whilst at the same time allowing only the turret to be exposed. This type of position also allows the vehicle to reverse out of position if it becomes unattainable.
4. Excavated ramped positions range in size depending on the size of vehicle that is to be placed within the position. In certain cases the operation of digging the original width position (generally 2.50m to 2.80m) may have to be extended in a sideways direction to accommodate wider vehicles: for instance a T-55 tank (3.80m) this produces a doubling of the evidence of machine marks that can be located and recovered from the base of the feature.
5. Typically, this type of feature has been used in the former Yugoslavia to clandestinely bury human remains; the ramped surface forming an ideal approach for a reversing truck for example. The truck can then 'tip' its load whilst at the same time as driving forward out of the feature which in effect then becomes a 'grave'. Impressions of truck and machine tyre treads have been recovered from several of these gravesites.
6. The process continues until the available space is occupied, after which the original excavated soil is pushed back into the grave sealing the remains within, any additional remaining material is spread across the area causing the classic 'grave footprint' that is often seen in aerial imagery.
7. One point that has been noticed by ICTY and ICMP archaeologists within the former Yugoslavia is the similarity to size of these 'graves'. They exist as a single machine operation, i.e. one width with no side expansion. Range in length between 15-20m in length, 2.5-2.8m in width and generally have a blunt end of between 1-2.5m in depth.
8. The only exception to this so far noticed is one of the ramp graves at Batajnica in Serbia (BA05) which had a very long base surface and entrance ramp. This extra length, may have been due to the soil into which the grave was dug, a very stable river alluvium of sand and silt/clay matrix.
9. ICMP archaeologists are using geographical information systems (GIS) to investigate other characteristics to the location of these graves based on recorded survey data, soil analysis and aerial and satellite imagery.

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Annex 6a Body Recovery Report

BODY RECOVERY REPORT Site: (code) R405 Body/(Body Part) No. 505/2  
(Complete in ink. Do not write on reverse. Initial errors)

Recorder: (Full Name) JIM TAYLOR Time/Date: 3/14/02

Body: Skeletonised - Partly Skeletonised - Saponified ✓

Coordinates Surveyed: ✓

Lies on:	Front	Back ✓	Right Side ✓	Left Side
Body:	Extended ✓	Bent at hips	Tightly bent	
Left Arm:	Extended ✓	Bent at elbow	Tightly bent	
Right Arm:	Extended ✓	Bent at elbow	Tightly bent	
Left Leg:	Extended ✓	Bent at knee	Tightly bent	
Right Leg:	Extended ✓	Bent at knee	Tightly bent	

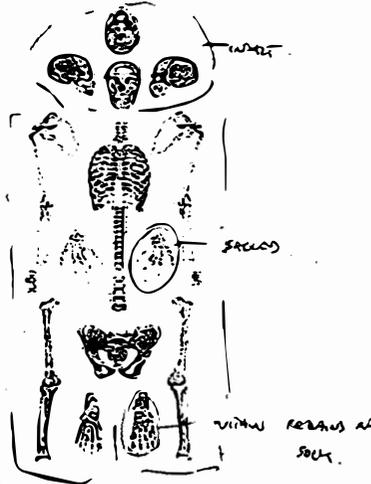
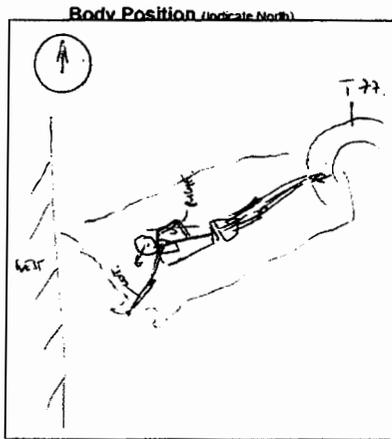
Clothing: (Using standard description list) ... SKIRT - TANK TOP - LINGERIE - JACKET - JEANS - SHOES - (BASIC ELEMENTS OF MURDER SUIT?) ...

Artefacts associated to body: (i.e. Documents/Jewellery/Watch) Blindfold: Y/N? Ligature: Y/N?

Additional Information: (Factual observations and information to assist in determining cause of death or identification of victim)

YES WITHIN DEVIANT (10) - HEAD TO WEST. (EVIDENCE WITHIN WKT OF DEV (10)).

COMING IN ROADS POSITION 'NEEDS' IN  
RACE STREET AREA BUT NO MARKS BODY



This statement, consisting of one page, is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing, that if it is tendered in evidence I shall be liable to prosecution if I have willfully stated in it anything I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signed [Signature]

Date 3/14/02

MAR 2001

Annex 6b Artifact Log

Broj:	P	T	DT	Opis	Ure	Ure	Opis	Opis	Opis	Opis	Opis
263		X		TELO	V.F.	24.02.	2002.	Gornja 8	Vredn. na Telo	(FS) 14	Tim
264	X			Novi deo se odvajanja	-	-	Vredno i specifikno	Gornja 3	/	(FS) 15	J.S.
265		X		Lozica	-	-		-	Vredn. na deo Telo	(FS) 16	J.S.
266			X	-	-	-		Gornja 8	-	/	Tim
267		X		TELO	-	-	TELEFON U DELO	-	Vredn. na Telo	(FS) 17	-

ICMP/FRY @operations Serbia

P-product, T-telo, DT-deo tela

Jon Sternberg ICMP 2002

K0525541

**Annex 7 Note on the Meaning of "Primary" and "Secondary" Mass Graves**

1. The scientific community has yet to arrive at a definitive answer regarding what constitutes a mass grave. Many scientists have tried to put known types of graves into some sort of category (Haglund 2002, Schmitt 2002, Sterenberg and Simpson 2003, Jese and Skinner 2004) however this is a difficult task as mass graves can take many forms, sizes and can be found in many locations. The mass graves at Batajnica are slightly problematic in that the victims were killed in another country and transported to a burial site that is "primary" in the other country.
2. In scientific terms the location of death would be the 'execution' site and the mass graves at Batajnica the Primary site. However it is suspected that some of the remains recovered from BA07 may have been exhumed from an original site located in another country; in effect causing BA07 to be both a primary and secondary burial site.
3. Batajnica primary sites are those that contain the following elements:
  - a. A grave into which the individuals were placed soon after death (Manning 2000);
  - b. A location where the individuals were executed and then buried (Manning 2000);
  - c. A grave that contains the remains of more than one victim who share some common trait connected with the cause and manner of death (Schmitt 2002);
  - d. A grave that contains several individuals; e.g. six, or where two or more bodies are found to be physically touching (Skinner 1987, Mant 1987).
4. Primary sites contain evidence that has not been moved and the context of which constitutes forensic evidence.
5. "Secondary" mass graves can then be defined as a grave in which bodies that were removed or "robbed" from a primary grave were placed (Manning 2000). The term "robbed" is used to indicate the opening of the grave and the removal of some or all of the bodies. This produces disturbance within the body mass and associated evidence. The process of removal may itself be a criminal act that can be documented.
6. A secondary gravesites may result from varieties of post-burial disturbance such as body trading, mandated exhumations with reburial and body relocation. General observations show that primary gravesites contain complete intact remains either fully fleshed, skeletonised or in a variety of stages of decomposition. Associated evidence is easily retrievable as it still 'attached' to the bodies and is generally in situ.
7. A general indicator of a secondary gravesites is the high number of disjoint body parts, as opposed to whole or almost whole bodies in primary graves. Clothed bodies tend to weaken into three parts, separating at the neck and lower back. Therefore bodies that have been allowed to decompose in a primary grave, once disturbed or 'robbed' will become disarticulated during the disturbance or robbing operation. Further disarticulation also occurs during transport to the secondary site of burial.
8. Evidence, which was in situ in the primary site, will now be seen as disassociated or 'floating' in the redeposited material. Evidence linking the primary to secondary graves, such as similar blindfolds and ligatures, consistent soil/pollen samples and various artifacts such as broken colored glass, bottle labels, plastic water pipe and cartridge or shell cases can still be recovered if careful excavation of the site is undertaken.