



SOMMET ÉCONOMIQUE DE TOKYO 7-9 JUILLET 1993

THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

The past year has offered no relief from devastation and death in the former Yugoslavia. The concern expressed in the "Declaration on Former Yugoslavia" issued in July 1992 at the end of the Munich Summit could be equally valid today, but for the even more tragic and horrifying examples of inhumanity and wanton destruction seen over the past year.

Intense fighting, most particularly in Bosnia and Hercegovina, has resulted in countless violations of the most basic human rights by all parties to this conflict, although the majority of violations have been committed by the Serbian side.

There is support for the work being done by the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, first led by Lord Carrington, then by Lord Owen for the European Community and by Cyrus Vance, and now by Thorvald Stoltenberg for the United Nations. Long rounds of negotiations in Europe and New York have led to some progress, but peace remains elusive. Many cease-fires and agreements have not been respected. Sanctions and similar non-violent forms of coercion have been established through the United Nations Security. Council and implemented by individual countries and by multinational groups.

The lifting of the siege of Sarajevo airport, carried out by Canadian troops as members of the United Nations Protection Force (Unprofor), has done much to ease the crisis in that city. Canada has continued to provide humanitarian assistance to the victims of violence in the former Yugoslavia, including \$9.5 million in humanitarian relief and a further \$1.75 million this year for victims of sexual violence. Canadian humanitarian contributions since the fall of 1991 total more than \$36 million.

Canada has also provided Canadian Forces aircraft to carry supplies into Sarajevo. Over 6,000 tonnes of food and medical supplies have been transported on more than 450 flights. The UN secretary general appointed a Canadian specialist in international humanitarian law to a commission of experts investigating war crimes in the former Yugoslavia.

One positive element over recent months has been the development of a complex peace plan by Lord Owen and Mr. Vance. While recognized as less than perfect, it attempts to be equitable and calls for compromise on all sides. It consists of an interrelated set of constitutional principles, ceasefire arrangements and a map dividing the country into 10 provinces based primarily, but not exclusively, on ethnicity. The Croatian and Muslim leadership in Bosnia accepted the peace plan, but the Bosnian Serb assembly and population rejected it in a referendum.

Canada strongly supports efforts to reach a peaceful outcome to this conflict. The peace-overseeing mandate for Unprofor I (related to the UN-protected areas in Croatia) was up for renewal in June. Canada remains committed to Unprofor II, which has a mandate to protect the delivery of humanitarian assistance in Bosnia, but Canada recognizes the difficulties which our troops and others face. Sanctions have been agreed to and implemented, and international efforts continue to ensure their most effective enforcement.

