

# CPE MESSAGE CPE DIFFUSION RESTREINTE

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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The Secretariat of the Conference on Yugoslavia has asked the  
Presidency to transmit the following report:

subject : Conference on yugoslavia, Sixth Plenary session  
of the Conference on Yugoslavia, 18th October 1991.

I. Meeting between Minister van den Broek, Lord Carrington  
President Badinter, UN Special representative Cyrus Vance, the  
Federal Presidency, President Tudjman and President Milosevic.

The Yugoslav parties adopted and signed the following statement  
on the cease-fire:

quote

The collective Presidency of the SFRY and President Tudjman, in  
the presence of President Milosevic, agreed to give the  
following instructions to their respective forces immediately:

- Immediate and unconditional cease-fire
- Immediate deblocking of all JNA barracks and installations in Croatia

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- Evacuation of these JNA barracks and installations which were blocked as soon as possible directed towards evacuation out of Croatia according to a time schedule to be devised in the tripartite cease-fire working group in Zagreb

Unquote

All members of the Presidency, President Tudjman, President Milosevic and Minister van den Broek signed this document.

It has to be noted that the members of the Presidency from Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo and Voivodina stressed the need for a lifting of the blockade of the barracks as a required first step. They could not accept the principle of a withdrawal of JNA from Croatian crisis areas before a political settlement. However, unblocked units should leave Croatia. President Tudjman called for an immediate and complete withdrawal of JNA from Croatia.

## II. Plenary session

The plenary met in the presence of the above-mentioned plus the presidents and foreign ministers of the republics, federal prime-minister Markovic and Foreign minister Loncar, President Badinter and UN special representative Cyrus Vance.

Lord Carrington invited the Yugoslav parties to give their agreement on chapter I of the "Arrangements for a General Settlement" previously circulated to partners (cpe/pres/hag 1202), which are an elaboration of the results of the meeting between Minister Van den Broek and Messrs Milosevic and Tudjman of October 4th.

President Milosevic made a formal reserve on the first chapter of the proposed text of the Chair since the paper started from the premise that an internationally recognised state should be abolished. Such a change could only come about by a just and legal procedure. The Arbitration Commission set up by the conference should be asked to pronounce on issues like the right of self-determination of peoples as opposed to the right of self-determination of federal units or the right to secede or the status of international and internal borders.

President Milosevic indicated that a final decision on the future arrangements between the Yugoslav components could only be taken by the Yugoslav peoples on the basis of a referendum. Lord Carrington replied that, the differences between the paper and Mr. Milosevic's views were principally in the approach taken, the paper starting from the concept that joint interests should be built up from the bottom, rather than imposed at a federal level which is no longer credible.

In reply to President Milosevic, President Badinter, as Chairman of the Arbitration Commission, recalled the conditions for his commission to offer its services to the Conference in

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the Yugoslav parties. Arbitration could not take place in a war situation, nor could it function without precise questions being formulated. Furthermore President Badinter indicated the areas where his commission could become active such as status of minorities (eg. second nationalities), system of judicial guarantees for human rights. President Milosevic said he would refine his proposals for arbitration.

President Tudjman found the proposals in chapter I of the paper acceptable, and the paper in general broadly on the right lines. On the basis of the principles enunciated in the paper, Croatia could claim its independence and sovereignty. Regarding paragraph 2.5 of the paper (special status for certain regions) he indicated that the concept of second nationality needed clarification. However, he pointed out that with the war continuing no solution could be valid. The other four presidents of the republics, including Montenegro, could accept chapter I of the paper, thus isolating Serbia.

Lord Carrington indicated that the Serbian reserve should not preclude the conference from pursuing its work and invited comments on chapter II and III of the paper on the Arrangements for a Settlement.

In his second intervention, Mr. Milosovic modified his presentation. He said that the Serbs of Croatia had been the subject of violent attacks and that therefore their rights had to be internationally guaranteed. Paragraph 2.5 contains good points and is a valid basis for a solution but that the Serb areas of Croatia would also have to be de-militarised and that the people of the regions have to decide their own destiny.

President of Montenegro asked if the special status foreseen in the document of the Chair would also apply to Serbs in Bosnia-Hercegovina. The Chair and President Izetbegovic stressed that the status of the Serbs in Bosnia-Hercegovina as a constituent nation probably provided for forms of power-sharing much above any special status.

Prime Minister Markovic seemed to regret the low key approach of the document on economic matters and indicated that a common currency and that an overall economic programme are essential to pave the way for association with the European Community.

President Kucan of Slovenia spoke of the blocked Slovene accounts and other unilateral economic measures and that the facilitation of an agreement on state succession on assets and debts should be a function of the conference. Slovenia could agree to a free trade area with the other republics and asked for a special working group to be set up to tackle the question of succession.

Federal Vice-President Kostic denounced the proposals in the paper as sanctioning unilateral acts of secession. He was ruled

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out of order by the Chair which indicated that he was speaking on his own behalf and not on behalf of the federal presidency.

Lord Carrington concluded:

- that the conference had given broad approval to chapter I of the paper. On this basis the working groups will be convened again in the week beginning 21st October to consider how to amplify the paper and to formulate the basis of a treaty
- if the working groups encounter problems these could be dealt with by plenary as constituted today. (Such a plenary has been convened for 25th October).

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end of text



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