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REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
 MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
 STATE SECURITY DEPARTMENT
 SREMSKA MITROVICA STATE SECURITY DEPARTMENT CENTRE
 RUMA SECTION
 11 MAY 1992

- Serbian extremism
 PHOTOCOPY

OFFICIAL NOTE

On 6 May 1992, in Hrtkovci, Ruma municipality, the Board of the Serbian Radical Party held a rally, which was attended by Serbian Radical Party President Vojislav ŠEŠELJ. The open-air rally was attended by some 700 sympathisers and curious citizens from the municipalities of Ruma and Indija. About 60% of sympathisers of the Serbian Radical Party are refugees from Croatia (Podravska Slatina, Slavonska Požega, Virovitica). The aim and purpose of the rally was to exert psychological pressure on Croatian residents of Hrtkovci to leave their homes in order to make room for the accommodation of Serbian refugees.

The rally was opened by Milan ŽILIC, a refugee from Zagreb, temporarily accommodated in Hrtkovci, secretary of the SRS /Serbian Radical Party/ sub-board in Hrtkovci.

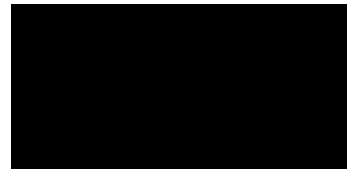
ŽILIC said in his speech that the evil in the Hrtkovci area had spawned an even greater evil, that 10 young men, namely the GRDIĆ brothers, the STEPIĆ brothers, the CINDRIĆ brothers, Mladen BRAŠO, Mata MARKUŠ, Ivica ŠOŠTARIĆ, Mr PORTNER, Mr NEMETI and others, had opted for the MUP /Ministry of the Interior/ and the ZNG /National Guard Corps/ of the Republic of Croatia although they had a secure existence. According to him, the young PUŠKARIĆ was apparently killed in an Ustasha raid in the village of Žujevac in Banija. Apparently no one in the village ignored appeals from Roman Catholic priests Nikola KRALJEVIĆ and Ilija GRIZELJ for assistance to the Ustashes from Komarevo, for whom over DM 300,000 had been raised. He went on to say that despite the above nothing was being done in the village because the Hungarians and the Croats were holding the strings because they were in power. Economic and social policy in the village is run by the head of the local office (a Croatian woman), the secretary of the local commune (Croatian) and the director of the DIRO /wood-processing factory/ Sava (Croatian), while the president of the local commune, although Serbian, is fully assimilated into the local community. The political life of the Serbs is under blockade and the only force that can change this politically is the Serbian Radical Party led by *Vojvoda* Vojislav ŠEŠELJ. ŽILIC's speech prompted cheers and chants of "Ustashes out", "There's no place for Croats in Serbia", "This is Serbia," etc.

After ŽILIC's speech, the floor was taken by Marija PAČANIN from Ruma, president of the Local Board of the Serbian Radical Party. After finishing her speech, she gave the floor to Vojislav ŠEŠELJ.

ŠEŠELJ said in his speech that there was no room for Croats in Hrtkovci, which belongs to Serbian Srem, and that Croats had no business in Serbia because TUĐMAN had expelled over 200,000 Serbs from Croatia. He said only the Croats and their families who had, together with Serbs, shed blood in the battlefield could stay, adding that they were in fact not Croats, because their minds were freed, but Catholic Serbs. His message was that all Croats should get out of Serbia, and that those who had locked up their homes and left would have nowhere to return because Serbian refugees would move into them. He went on to say that some of the Serbs would return to the Serbian Krajina, while those who would not be able to return would be given addresses of Croatian families which would be their future addresses. He noted that not even the police would be able to stop that, because they would do as told by the government and the SRS would soon be in power. The Serbian refugee families will give the Croats living here their addresses in Zagreb, Rijeka and other towns, we will put them on buses and take them to the Serbian border from where they will continue on foot. Should members of the SPO /Serbian Renewal Movement/, the Democrats, the Reformists and the UJDI /Association for Yugoslav Democratic Initiative/ feel sorry for the Croats living here, we will put them on the buses together with them so they can protest in Zagreb over the lack of democracy.

He went on to say that he would soon get the propaganda material of the Serbian Radical Party, its economic and social programme with plans for agriculture and social welfare, based on which they should vote in elections for the best candidate because the SRS election slogan is "Let the Best Win." He appealed for Serbian concord and unity with the hope that the Serbs here would very soon get rid of the remaining Croats and that, united, they would win and unite all Serbian lands and come out of the economic and social crisis. ŠEŠELJ's speech was accompanied by chants of "Ustashas out", "Croats, Go to Croatia" and "This is Serbia".

ŽILIC's speech was supposedly full of misinformation that had a negative effect, increasing unrest among the Croats and Hungarians and causing fear among them that it was the political position of Serbia that they should leave this area.



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