Report for the Visegrad Scholarship

by Didem Pekün

I have applied to the Visegrad Scholarship with the purpose of starting a new film on the Bosnian War after my recent film *Araf*, which focused on the thereafter of the war from the point of view of an exile, highlighting what impact the war left in Bosnia and Herzegovina. With this new research I wanted to approach the same subject matter from a different angle, and work with archival material pertaining to the international community's inaction in preventing such a massacre. For this angle I have consulted the David Rohde archive, which consists of 10 archival boxes of subject files and 2 boxes of his Mission Notebooks.

David Rohde was an investigative journalist who at the time was working for the Christian Science Monitor and he was the first journalist to uncover what has happened in Srebrenica. He then went onto writing a book about it titled *Endgame: The Betrayal and Fall of Srebrenica: Europe's Worst Massacre Since World War 2.* This unique archive that he has donated to OSA forms his research. David Rohde is currently Executive News Editor at the New Yorker and we have agreed to collaborate on this new film, which I will direct. The film will be led by his mission notebooks, some thirty news reporter notebooks from the field, which he wrote during and after the war on the field.

Below are a list of materials that were of particular interest to me and that I would be referring to in my filmmaking, although I went through and photographed most of the 10 boxes:

Subject files:

Box 1

- testimonies / no diesel / no medication / Dutchbat
- CIA pictures
- Bosnian dissapearences
- Crisis committee

Box 2

- Dutch Ministry of Defense Report based on the debriefing of Srebrenica
- Dutch Ministry of Defense, Foreign Affairs & the Parliament (Inc David Rohde's questions / his notes on the press releases and remarks!)

BOX 3

- Press account // Bosnia // Dutch
- Medicine Sans Frontier
- Karadzic & Mladic ICTY materials 1995-7

BOX 4

- Press Accounts // US press stories 1995
- Press Accounts // US press stories 1993-6
- Press accounts // US and British (actual papers, as above are documents)
- Press Accounts // Serbian media
- Press Accounts // French Article

BOX 9

- UN documents reporting daily from ground to Annan
- US State department briefings July 5-10
- UN Documents on Srebrenica
- UN Militariy observer reports

BOX 10

- Milenko Zivanovic / 1996
- US State Department briefings (Nicholas Burns) (11-16 July)

I have also consulted the Balkan Archive to source film clips for my documentary. Amongst the important ones for my research are:

- 350-1-1_2 news on what used to be Yugoslavia children refugees

"old people, especially children, are never gonna see the spring"

- 350-1-1-8

Larry Hollingworth UNHCR /

* very important clip re Srebrenica whereby he tells the urgency of the situation (1993)

- 350-1-1-435

TRYING TADIC

ICTY Dusko Tadic / Omarska / first war criminal Judge Gabrielle Kirk McDonald * timecode 23.30

- 304-0-17

Sound recordings relating to the conflict

*** all in Bosnian (to come back with Hana Semanic)

Thank you for this scholarship; I will be coming in the fall to spend more time at
the Open Society Archive, which has been of tremendous help to my research.

Kind regards,

Didem Pekün