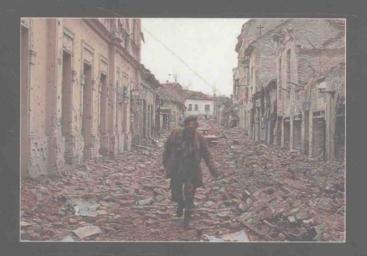
# BALKAN ODYSSEY



AN UNCOMPROMISING PERSONAL ACCOUNT
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PEACE EFFORTS FOLLOWING
THE BREAKUP OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA



# David Owen

"Nobody can talk authoritatively about the course of this war without engaging this text in detail."

-New York Times Book Review

# David Owen

# Balkan Odyssey

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Map 3: Ante Markotic, Ejup Sijencic, Asin Abdurahnanovic (Bosnia-Herzegovina: Altermedia NUB. 1991).

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# Balkan Odyssey



To Cyrus Vance and Thorvald Stoltenberg and all those from the UN and the EU who worked with us in the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia

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## Dramatis Personae

Abdic, Fikret Leader of Muslim faction in Bihac; Muslim member of Bosnia-Herzegovina Presidency

Ahrens, Geert: ICFY Chairman of Nationalities and Minorities Working Group; formerly member of EC Peace Conference on Yugoslavia

Ahtisaari, Martti President of Finland 1994-; ICFY Chairman of Bosnia-Herzegovina Working Group 1992-4

Akashi, Yasushi UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for former Yugoslavia, 3 December 1993–October 1995

Akmadzic, Mile Bosnian Croat leader; Prime Minister of Bosnia-Herzegovina 1992–3

Albright, Madeleine US Permanent Representative to the UN 1993– Annan, Kofi UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for former Yugoslavia, October 1995–

Babic, Milan Croatian Serb leader

Bartholomew, Reginald US Special Envoy to former Yugoslavia 1992-3

Bildt, Carl ICFY Co-Chairman of Steering Committee 1995-; former Prime Minister of Sweden

Boban, Mate Leader of the Bosnian Croats 1992-4

Boras, Franjo Bosnian Croat leader; member of Bosnia-Herzegovina Presidency

Boutros Ghali, Boutros UN Secretary-General 1992-

Briquemont, Francis UNPROFOR Commander for BH, 1993

Broek, Hans van den EU Commissioner for External Affairs; former Dutch Foreign Minister

Buha, Aleksa Bosnian Serb leader specializing in foreign affairs Bulatovic, Momir President of Montenegro

Bush, George President of the USA 1989-93

Carrington, Peter Chairman of EC Peace Conference on Yugoslavia 1991-2

Charette, Hervé de Foreign Minister of France 1995-Chirac, Jacques President of France 1995Christopher, Warren US Secretary of State

Churkin, Vitaly Russian Special Envoy to former Yugoslavia 1993-4

Claes, Willy Secretary-General of NATO 1994-; Foreign Minister of Belgium until 1994

Clinton, Bill President of the USA 1993-

Cosic, Dobrica Serbian writer; President of the FRY (Serbia and Montenegro) 1992–3

Cot, Jean Commander of UNPROFOR in former Yugoslavia 1993–4 Cutileiro, José Secretary-General of WEU; chaired negotiations on Bosnia-Herzegovina in EC Peace Conference 1992

Demirel, Suleiman President and former Prime Minister of Turkey Dole, Robert US Senator; Republican majority leader in Senate 1995–

Draskovic, Vuk Leader of the Serbian opposition party SPO

Eagleburger, Lawrence US Secretary of State 1992-3

Eide, Kai ICFY negotiator between the Croatian government and the leaders of the Croatian Serbs

Frasure, Robert, the late US Special Envoy to former Yugoslavia and US representative on Contact Group 1994–5

Galbraith, Peter US Ambassador to Croatia 1993-

Ganic, Ejup Vice-President of Bosnia-Herzegovina; Yugoslav member of Bosnia-Herzegovina Presidency; SDA leader; Vice-President of Croat-Muslim Federation of BH 1994-

Gligorov, Kiro President of Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Goldstone, Richard Chief Prosecutor, Yugoslav War Crimes Tribunal Granic, Mate Croatian Foreign Minister 1993–

Hadzic, Goran Croatian Serb leader

Hall, Peter ICFY deputy to Lord Owen 1992-3; member of EC Peace Conference on Yugoslavia; former UK Ambassador to Yugoslavia

Hannay, David UK Permanent Representative to the UN; retired 1995

Helveg Petersen, Niels Foreign Minister of Denmark 1993-

Holbrooke, Richard US Assistant Secretary of State 1994-

Hurd, Douglas UK Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; retired 1995

Izetbegovic, Alija President of Bosnia-Herzegovina; founding leader of SDA

Janvier, Bernard Commander of UNPROFOR in former Yugoslavia 1995-

Jovanovic, Vladislav Former Foreign Minister of FRY; former Foreign Minister of Serbia

Juppé, Alain Prime Minister of France 1995-; Foreign Minister of France 1994-5

Karadzic, Radovan Leader of the Bosnian Serbs

Kinkel, Klaus Foreign Minister of Germany

Kljujic, Stjepan Croat member of Bosnia-Herzegovina Presidency, removed by Boban 1992, reinstated 1994

Kohl, Helmut Chancellor of Germany

Koljevic, Nikola Bosnian Serb leader; former Serb member of Bosnia-Herzegovina Presidency

Kooijmans, Peter Foreign Minister of The Netherlands 1993-4

Kozyrev, Andrei Foreign Minister of Russian Federation

Krajisnik, Momcilo Bosnian Serb leader; former President of the Assembly of Bosnia-Herzegovina

Lake, Anthony US National Security Adviser

Lanxade, Jacques French Chief of Defence Staff

Lapresle, Bertrand de Adviser to Carl Bildt; UNPROFOR Commander in former Yugoslavia 1994-5

Ludlow, David Special Assistant to Lord Owen 1992-4; representative of ICFY Co-Chairmen on Contact Group 1994

Major, John Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

Manning, David UK representative on Contact Group 1994

Martic, Milan Leader of the Croatian Serbs

Masset, Jean-Pierre ICFY deputy to Lord Owen 1993-4

Mazowiecki, Tadeusz UN Special Rapporteur on human rights in former Yugoslavia 1992-5

Mérimée, Jean-Bernard French Permanent Representative to the UN until 1995

Mierlo, Hans van Foreign Minister of The Netherlands 1994-

Milosevic, Slobodan President of Serbia

Mitsotakis, Constantine Prime Minister of Greece until 1994

Mitterrand, François President of France until 1995

Mladic, Ratko Commander of the Bosnian Serb army

Morillon, Philippe Commander of UNPROFOR in Bosnia-Herzegovina 1993

Nambiar, Satish Commander of UNPROFOR in former Yugoslavia 1992-3

Ogata, Sadako UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Okun, Herbert ICFY Deputy to Cyrus Vance 1992-3

Panic, Milan Prime Minister of FRY (Serbia and Montenegro) 1992

Papoulias, Karolos Foreign Minister of Greece

Perry, William US Defense Secretary

Plavsic, Biljana Bosnian Serb leader; former member of Bosnia-Herzegovina Presidency

Poos, Jacques Foreign Minister

Powell, Colin Chairman of US Joint Chiefs of Staff to 1994

Ramcharan, Bertie Director of ICFY Secretariat

Redman, Charles US Special Envoy to former Yugoslavia 1993-4; member of Contact Group

Renwick, Robin UK Ambassador to the US; retired 1995

Roberts, Ivor Chargé d'Affaires, UK Embassy, Belgrade, 1994-

Robinson, Michael Chargé d'Affaires, UK Embassy, Belgrade, 1992-4

Rose, Michael Commander of UNPROFOR in Bosnia-Herzegovina 1994-5

Rugova, Ibrahim Leader of the Kosovar Albanians

Sacirbey, Muhamed Foreign Minister of Bosnia-Herzegovina 1995-; BH Permanent Representative to the UN 1992-5

Sarinic, Hrvoe Head of President Tudjman's office; former Croatian Prime Minister

Sédouy, Jacques-Alain de ICFY deputy to Lord Owen 1994-5; French representative on Contact Group

Seselj, Vojislav Leader of Serbian Radicals and leader of Serb militia Shalikashvili, John US Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff; former SACEUR

Silajdzic, Haris Prime Minister of Bosnia-Herzegovina; former Foreign Minister of Bosnia-Herzegovina

Smith, Rupert Commander of UNPROFOR in Bosnia-Herzegovina 1995-

Solana, Javier Foreign Minister of Spain

Sommaruga, Cornelio President of the International Committee of the Red Cross

Steiner, Michael German representative on Contact Group Stojanovic, Svetovar Personal adviser to FRY President Cosic

Stoltenberg, Thorvald ICFY Co-Chairman 1993-

Susak, Gojko Croatian Minister of Defence

Szasz, Paul ICFY legal adviser; representative of ICFY Co-Chairmen on Contact Group; former deputy head of UN legal department

Tarnoff, Peter US Under-Secretary of State for Political Affairs

Thomas, Charles US Envoy to former Yugoslavia 1994; member of Contact Group

Tudjman, Franjo President of Croatia

Vance, Cyrus Personal Representative of UN Secretary-General to former Yugoslavia 1991–2; Co-Chairman of ICFY Steering Committee 1992–3; former US Secretary of State

Wahlgren, Lars Eric Commander of UNPROFOR in former Yugoslavia 1993–4

Wilson, John UNPROFOR liaison officer on ICFY

Woerner, Manfred, the late Former NATO Secretary-General Yeltsin, Boris President of Russian Federation Zotov, Alexandr Russian Special Envoy to former Yugoslavia 1994– Zubak, Kresimir Bosnian Croat; President of the Croat–Muslim Federation 1994–

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## Chronology of Events

### 1992

- 3 Sept First meeting of ICFY Steering Committee, Geneva
- 9-12 Sept Co-Chairmen visit Zagreb, Sarajevo and Belgrade
- 12-13 Sept Lord Owen at EC Foreign Ministers' informal meeting, Brocket Hall
- 14 Sept UNSCR 776 authorizes additional UNPROFOR deployment
- 16 Sept Co-Chairmen meet Ibrahim Rugova, leader of Kosovar Albanians
- 18–19 Sept First meetings of ICFY Working Group on Bosnia-Herzegovina with parties
- 18 Sept Mr Vance meets Chairman of Arbitration Commission, Robert Badinter
- 22-3 Sept Co-Chairmen meet Greek Prime Minister Mitsotakis, Athens
- 25-6 Sept Co-Chairmen visit Banja Luka
- 28 Sept Co-Chairmen visit Belgrade
- 29 Sept Co-Chairmen meet President Izetbegovic, Geneva
- 30 Sept Presidents Tudjman and Cosic meet with Co-Chairmen, Geneva
- 3 Oct Lord Owen briefs Council of Europe
- 5 Oct Lord Owen addresses Council of Europe Assembly
- 9 Oct UNSCR 781 establishes no-fly zone over Bosnia-Herzegovina
- 10 Oct Co-Chairmen meet Foreign Minister Kozyrev, Moscow
- 13 Oct Lord Owen negotiates with Bosnian Serb leader Karadzic on grounding of aircraft
- 13-14 Oct First round of ICFY-brokered talks in Pristina; Mr Vance briefs UN Security Council on ICFY developments, New York
- 16 Oct Co-Chairmen meet Macedonian President Gligorov, Geneva
- 17 Oct Co-Chairmen meet FRY Prime Minister Panic, Geneva
- 19 Oct Presidents Cosic and Izetbegovic meet with Co-Chairmen, Geneva
- 20 Oct Second meeting of Presidents Tudjman and Cosic with Co-Chairmen, Geneva

- 21 Oct Co-Chairmen meet with President Izetbegovic
- 24 Oct Lord Owen meets Irish Prime Minister Reynolds, Dublin
- 28 Oct New constitutional proposals for Bosnia-Herzegovina, Geneva
- 28-30 Oct Co-Chairmen visit Belgrade, Zagreb, Pristina, Tirana, Skopje and Podgorica
- 31 Oct Lord Owen meets Italian Foreign Minister Andreatta, Rome
- 4 Nov Co-Chairmen meet Turkish Prime Minister Demirel, Ankara
- 5 Nov Co-Chairmen meet Bosnian Foreign Minister Silajdzic and Bosnian Serb leader Karadzic
- 6 Nov Lord Owen at European Parliament Foreign Affairs Committee, Brussels
- 7 Nov Co-Chairmen meet Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia President Gligorov
- 9 Nov Lord Owen at EC Foreign Affairs Council, Brussels
- 11-14 Nov Co-Chairmen address UN Security Council, New York
- 19-20 Nov Co-Chairmen visit UNPAs in Croatia
- 25 Nov Lord Owen meets Spanish Prime Minister Gonzales, Madrid
- 28–9 Nov Co-Chairmen pay private visit to President Tudjman, Brioni
- 30 Nov-2 Dec Co-Chairmen at Organization of the Islamic Conference Foreign Ministers' meeting, Jeddah
- 4 Dec Lord Owen meets NATO Secretary-General Woerner and Belgian Foreign Minister Claes, Brussels
- 11 Dec UNSCR 795 authorizes deployment of UNPROFOR contingent to Macedonia
- 14 Dec Lord Owen attends CSCE Council of Ministers in Stockholm
- 16 Dec Ministerial meeting of ICFY Steering Committee, Geneva
- 17 Dec Co-Chairmen meet Presidents Tudjman and Izetbegovic, Zagreb; Lord Owen meets Abdic, Velika Kladusa
- 18 Dec Mr Vance meets UN Secretary-General Boutros Ghali and Security Council, New York; meets President Bush and Secretary of State Baker, Washington
- 18-22 Dec Lord Owen visits Sarajevo, Kiseljak and Pale
- 19 Dec Mr Vance meets US President-elect Clinton's foreign policy advisers, Washington
- 27 Dec Co-Chairmen meet Presidents Tudjman and Izetbegovic, Geneva; meet Foreign Minister Kozyrev, Geneva
- 28 Dec UN Secretary-General Boutros Ghali and Co-Chairmen meet Presidents Tudjman, Izetbegovic and Cosic
- 29 Dec Lord Owen meets Croatian Defence Minister Susak, Zagreb
- 30 Dec Lord Owen meets President Milosevic and Karadzic, Belgrade

31 Dec Mr Vance and UN Secretary-General Boutros Ghali visit Sarajevo

## 1993

- 2-4 Jan Co-Chairmen convene plenary meeting on Bosnia-Herzegovina, Geneva
- 5-6 Jan Co-Chairmen visit Belgrade and Zagreb
- 7 Jan Co-Chairmen meet President Gligorov of Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Geneva
- 10-12 Jan Second plenary session on Bosnia-Herzegovina, Geneva
- 13 Jan Lord Owen meets President Mitterrand, Paris
- 15 Jan Co-Chairmen meet Presidents Tudjman and Izetbegovic, Zagreb
- 20-1 Jan Co-Chairmen visit Sarajevo and Zagreb
- 23-30 Jan Third plenary session on Bosnia-Herzegovina, Geneva
- 31 Jan Lord Owen reports to the Presidency of the EC, Brussels
- 1 Feb Co-Chairmen meet US Secretary of State Christopher
- 11 Feb Co-Chairmen meet Karadzic
- 18 Feb Co-Chairmen meet US envoy Bartholomew and Russian envoy Churkin
- 22 Feb Co-Chairmen meet Greek Foreign Minister Papaconstantinou
- 23 Feb Co-Chairmen meet Macedonian Deputy Prime Minister Crvenkovski
- 2 Mar Co-Chairmen meet President Izetbegovic, Akmadzic, Boban and Karadzic, New York
- 3 Mar President Izetbegovic signs military agreement for peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina
- 8 Mar Lord Owen at EC Foreign Affairs Council, Brussels
- 11 Mar Co-Chairmen meet President Mitterrand, Foreign Minister Dumas and President Milosevic, Paris
- 21 Mar Lord Owen meets Karadzic, New York
- 22 Mar Co-Chairmen meet permanent members of the Security Council, New York
- 24 Mar Co-Chairmen hold separate talks with President Izetbegovic, Karadzic and Boban, New York
- 25 Mar At plenary session on Bosnia-Herzegovina, President Izetbegovic and Boban sign the VOPP, New York
- 2 Apr Mr Stoltenberg to succeed Mr Vance, 3 May
- 5 Apr Lord Owen at EC Foreign Affairs Council, Luxembourg
- 12 Apr Co-Chairmen meet Croat and FYROM Foreign Ministers, New York

- 17 Apr UNSCR 820 imposes financial sanctions on FRY
- 21 Apr Lord Owen meets Presidents Cosic and Milosevic, Karadzic and Mladic, Belgrade
- 22 Apr Lord Owen meets President Gligorov, Skopje; meets Prime Minister Mitsotakis, Athens
- 23 Apr Lord Owen meets President Gligorov, Skopje; meets President Bulatovic, Podgorica; meets President Milosevic, Belgrade
- 24 Apr Lord Owen meets Karadzic, Krajisnik and Mladic, Belgrade; meets Presidents Izetbegovic and Tudjman, Zagreb; meets Milosevic and Karadzic, Belgrade
- 25 Apr Lord Owen holds talks with UNPROFOR Force Commander General Wahlgren to discuss implementation of the Vance-Owen Peace Plan
- 26 Apr Lord Owen meets Foreign Minister Kinkel, Bonn; meets President of the EC Council of Ministers Helveg Petersen, Copenhagen
- 27 Apr Lord Owen meets Prime Minister Balladur and Foreign Minister Juppé, Paris
- 1-2 May Plenary session on Bosnia-Herzegovina, Athens; Karadzic signs VOPP
- 5 May Lord Owen meets NATO Secretary-General Woerner, Brussels
- 6 May UNSCR 824 designates towns including Sarajevo as 'safe areas'
- 7 May Lord Owen and Mr Stoltenberg meet, London
- 10 May Lord Owen at EC Foreign Affairs Council, Brussels
- 16 May Co-Chairmen meet Foreign Minister Kozyrev, Moscow
- 18 May Co-Chairmen meet Izetbegovic and Tudjman, Medjugorje
- 19 May Co-Chairmen meet Admiral Boorda and General Shalikashvili, Naples
- 20 May Co-Chairmen visit Minsk and Kiev
- 22 May US, UK, France, Russia and Spain launch Joint Action Programme, Washington
- 25 May UNSCR 827 establishes Yugoslav War Crimes Tribunal
- 26 May Lord Owen meets Spanish Foreign Minister Solana, Geneva
- 2 June Co-Chairmen meet President Tudjman, Zagreb
- 3 June Co-Chairmen meet President Izetbegovic, Sarajevo; meet Karadzic, Pale
- 4 June UNSCR 836 enforces protection of 'safe areas'
- 8 June Lord Owen at EC Foreign Affairs Council, Luxembourg
- 9 June Co-Chairmen meet UN Secretary-General Boutros Ghali, Paris; meet President Milosevic, Belgrade
- 10-11 June Co-Chairmen meet Albanian President Berisha, Tirana;

- meet President Bulatovic, Podgorica; meet President Milosevic, Belgrade
- 14 June Co-Chairmen meet Chancellor Kohl and Foreign Minister Kinkel, Bonn
- 16 June Co-Chairmen meet Presidents Milosevic, Tudjman and Izetbegovic
- 18 June UNSCR 844 provides for implementation of 'safe areas' Resolution and for reinforcement of UNPROFOR
- 19 June Lord Owen meets Prime Minister Major, London
- 22 June Lord Owen at European Council, Copenhagen
- 23 June Co-Chairmen meet members of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Presidency, Geneva; meet Presidents Milosevic, Tudjman and Bulatovic, and Karadzic and Boban, Geneva
- 28 June Co-Chairmen meet Karadzic and Boban and members of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Presidency, Geneva
- 8 July Co-Chairmen meet President Milosevic and members of Draskovic's party (SPO)
- 9 July Lord Owen meets President Tudjman and Croatian Defence Minister Susak, Zagreb; Mr Stoltenberg meets President Milosevic, Belgrade
- 10 July Co-Chairmen meet President Tudjman and Bosnia-Herzegovina Presidency, Zagreb
- 12 July Mr Stoltenberg meets UN Secretary-General Boutros Ghali and UN Security Council and OIC representatives, New York
- 19 July Lord Owen at Foreign Affairs Council, Brussels
- 26 July Co-Chairmen have dinner with President Izetbegovic, Geneva
- 27-30 July Plenary session on Bosnia-Herzegovina; Co-Chairmen meet Presidents Milosevic, Tudjman, Izetbegovic and Bulatovic, and Karadzic and Boban, Geneva
- 3 Aug Co-Chairmen meet Presidents Milosevic, Tudjman, Izetbegovic and Bulatovic, Geneva
- 11 Aug Charles Redman replaces Reginald Bartholomew as US Special Envoy to former Yugoslavia
- 20 Aug Co-Chairmen issue package containing the constitutional papers and maps agreed upon during negotiations
- 31 Aug Co-Chairmen meet Presidents Izetbegovic, Milosevic, Tudjman and Bulatovic, also Karadzic and Boban, Geneva
- 11 Sept Lord Owen attends EC Foreign Ministers' informal meeting, Alden Bissen
- 17 Sept Co-Chairmen meet President Izetbegovic and Krajisnik; Muslim-Serb joint statement issued; Co-Chairmen meet Turkish Foreign Minister Cetin, Istanbul; meet President Gligorov, Skopje;

- visit UNPROFOR on border with Serbia
- 18-19 Sept Co-Chairmen visit Neum area; meet President Tudjman, Split
- 20 Sept Co-Chairmen meet Presidents Milosevic, Bulatovic, Tudjman and Izetbegovic, and Karadzic and Boban, on HMS Invincible
- 22 Sept Co-Chairmen at North Atlantic Council meeting, Brussels
- 29 Sept Bosnian Assembly votes for HMS Invincible peace plan, but rejects map
- 4 Oct Co-Chairmen at Foreign Affairs Council, Luxembourg
- 11 Oct Lord Owen meets Foreign Minister Kinkel, Bonn
- 15 Oct Lord Owen meets His Holiness the Pope and Foreign Minister Andreatta, Rome
- 17 Oct Co-Chairmen meet President Milosevic and Foreign Minister Jovanovic, Belgrade
- 21 Oct Lord Owen meets Foreign Minister Kooijmans, The Hague
- 25 Oct Lord Owen meets Foreign Minister Papoulias, Athens
- 26 Oct Lord Owen briefs Foreign Affairs Council, Luxembourg
- 28-31 Oct Mr Stoltenberg in Zagreb and Belgrade
- 11 Nov Lord Owen meets Croatian Defence Minister Susak, London
- 17 Nov Lord Owen meets President Mitterrand, Paris
- 18 Nov Co-Chairmen meet Silajdzic, Karadzic and Boban, Geneva
- 22 Nov Lord Owen attends FAC, attended by Generals Cot and Briquemont
- 29 Nov EC Foreign Ministers meet Presidents Milosevic, Bulatovic, Tudjman and Izetbegovic, and Karadzic and Boban, Geneva
- 3 Dec Mr Akashi appointed UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for former Yugoslavia
- 6 Dec Lord Owen attends FAC, Brussels
- 9 Dec Co-Chairmen meet President Milosevic and Karadzic outside Belgrade
- 10 Dec Lord Owen briefs EC Directorate-General for External Affairs, Brussels
- 21 Dec Co-Chairmen meet Presidents Milosevic, Bulatovic, Tudjman and Izetbegovic, and Karadzic and Boban, Geneva
- 22 Dec Co-Chairmen and EU ministers meet Presidents Milosevic, Bulatovic, Tudjman and Izetbegovic, and Karadzic and Boban, Brussels

#### 1994

8 Jan Co-Chairmen meet Presidents Izetbegovic and Tudjman, Petersberg