

## FORENSIC ASSISTANCE PROJECT

Consultant Report 1999-058

### Goražde III

Republika Srpska Commission on Tracing Prisoners and Missing Persons  
20 – 22 September 1999

Geraldine Hodgson  
Forensic Consultant  
Forensic Assistance Project  
Sarajevo, Bosna i Hercegovina  
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Physicians for Human Rights  
100 Boylston Street, Suite 702  
Boston, MA 02116 USA  
Tel. (617) 695-0041  
Fax. (617) 695-0307  
Email: [phrusa@phrusa.org](mailto:phrusa@phrusa.org)  
<http://www.phrusa.org>

Physicians for Human Rights  
Hasana Kaimije br. 11  
71000 Sarajevo  
Bosna i Hercegovina  
Tel: 387-71-232-941  
Fax: 387-71-233-767

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## Summary of Events

Between 20 September and 22 September 1999, a Physicians for Human Rights (PHR) Forensic Consultant monitored ten site investigations by the Republika Srpska (RS) Commission on Tracing Prisoners and Missing Persons. During these investigations, 14 recoveries were made. Thirteen of the individuals appeared to be civilian adults; the fourteenth recovery was that of a child.

On the first day of investigation, 20 September 1999, investigators exhumed the remains of six persons from five sites in the area of Goražde. No remains were recovered from the first site of investigation at Batetovina. The remains of three individuals were recovered from the Vučevića, Goražde No.2 and Goražde No.3 sites. A further three individuals were recovered from the site identified as Goražde No.4.

On the second day of investigation, the remains of eight individuals were recovered from four sites. The recoveries included the remains of three adults and a child that were exhumed from unmarked graves in Kolevke Cemetery. The remains of a further three adults were exhumed from sites Mravinjaci No. 1 and Crkvine. One additional individual was recovered from the Vitkovići site.

The identified sites of Goražde No.5 and Bogovići were investigated on day three of the investigation, 22 September 1999. No recoveries were made. A revisit was also made to the Vučevića site where no further remains were found..

(Editor's note: In 1999, it was agreed that the "State Commission on Missing Persons (Bosniak Side)" and the "Federal Commission on Missing Persons – Croat Side" would eventually be referred to as the "Federation Commission on Missing Persons – Bosniak Side" and "Federation Commission on Missing Persons – Croat Side," respectively. For purposes of simplicity and clarity, any reference to either of these commissions in 1999 reports will use the "Federation" names.)

## Participants and Observers

### Republika Srpska Commission on Tracing Prisoners and Missing Persons

BOGDANIĆ Milan, President of the State Commission  
AVLIJAŠ Slobodan, Member of the State Commission  
SLADOJE Nikola, Judge  
Crime Inspector, RS Police  
Crime Technicians, RS Police

### Federation Commission on Missing Persons - Bosniak Side

BJELLAJAC Mirsad, Deputy Prosecutor  
RAŠČIĆ Zafer, Member  
DELAMMET Šefik, Member  
Crime Technicians, BiH Police

### Physicians for Human Rights (PHR)

HODGSON Geraldine, Forensic Consultant (Anthropologist)  
H. JAŠARAGIĆ Edin, Field Assistant

### Office of the High Representative (OHR)

CHILVERS Peter, Exhumations Officer  
ČELEBIĆ Amra, Assistant Exhumations Coordinator

### Other

Witnesses  
Labourers, drivers and backhoe operator  
International Police Task Force Representatives  
SFOR Representatives Day 1, 20 September 1999

## NARRATIVE

Below are brief descriptions of operations at the sites. Grid coordinates at all sites were determined using a hand held 'Eagle Explorer' Global Positioning System (GPS) Unit.

All background information was obtained from the RS Commission members and witnesses. The PHR Consultant in attendance did not obtain the Federation Commission on Missing Persons - Bosniak Side version of these events or alternatively confirm this account independently.

**Day 1, 20 September 1999**

The exhumation team investigated five sites in the area of Goražde.

**SITE DESCRIPTION - SITE 1**

**SITE NAME: BATETOVINA**

Topographic Map: Goražde; Sheet: 2882 II; Edition: 5B-DMA; Series: M709; Scale: 1:50,000; Horizontal Datum: WGS 84; grid coordinate 34T CP 382 384 (Figure 1). The site is located off Highway 5, approximately 500 m west of the perimeter of the township of Goražde.

The area of investigation was located approximately at the level of the high water mark (4 m above the water level at the time of investigation) on the northern bank of the Drina River. Site access is via a pathway that follows the river meanders or is alternatively gained by crossing a small area of cultivation that lies between the foot pathway and the highway.

The investigation relates to an event that took place in 1992. It is alleged that the remains being sought are those of an individual whose body was found by civilians and was later buried at this site.

**EXHUMATION PROCESS and CONDITION OF REMAINS**

RS Commission members, assisted by an attending witness, identified the location of the area under investigation. A site name and date identified the area that was photographed by crime scene technicians (Photo 1).

The area under investigation was an ill-defined location on a sloping riverbank of the Drina River. It was indicated that the individual had been buried just below the line of vegetation above the high water mark. The physical nature of the moist and fine-grained sandy river loam of the site ensured that any visible traces of a burial would have been erased during the lapse of time.

Labourers using garden tools excavated an area approximately 1 m<sup>2</sup> of the riverbank to a depth of 0.6 m when gley sediment approximating the water table was reached (Photo 2). Instructions were given to the excavating team to excavate several other test trenches within this area.

Senior team members left the site while other investigations were made.

A return visit to the site later in the day revealed that no evidence of a burial had been found.

**PROCESS EVALUATION**

Given the location of the site and the physical nature of the sediment in which the burial had been placed, the PHR Consultant considers that an appropriate investigation of this site was made.

## **MAP and PHOTOGRAPHIC FILE**

The site reported here is indicated on a map (Figure 1). Photo nos. 1 and 2 are the photographs cited in this report.

A photographic record of the recoveries was compiled and is filed separately (Film no. GH 99 – 6727).

## **SITE DESCRIPTION - SITE 2**

### **SITE NAME: VUČEVIĆA**

Topographic Map: Goražde; Sheet: 2882 II; Edition: 5B-DMA; Series: M709; Scale: 1:50,000; Horizontal Datum: WGS 84; grid coordinate 34T CP 371 365 (Figure 1). The site is located an urban area of Goražde.

The area of investigation was located in the area of a rubbish dump, adjacent to a communal garden environment and a chicken run which was central to apartment blocks and other domestic dwellings. The PHR Consultant was informed that the RS Commission had previously conducted an investigation of this site.

The investigation relates to an event that took place in 1992. It is alleged that the remains being sought are those of three individuals (two civilian females and one male, a soldier) whose bodies were found by civilians and were later buried at this site.

## **EXHUMATION PROCESS and CONDITION OF REMAINS**

RS Commission members, assisted by an attending witness, identified the location of the area under investigation (Photo 3).

It was obvious to the investigating team that the area under investigation was currently in use as a communal rubbish repository. The surface of the area was littered with domestic garbage and sawdust. No ground surface features were able to be determined.

RS Commission members initially employed a backhoe to excavate several test trenches across the site. The PHR Consultant was asked to assist in this process by identifying any features of importance that may indicate the presence of human remains. This assistance included the exclusion of numerous animal bones that were found in the ground fill (Photo 4).

At a depth of approximately 0.4 m below the ground surface level, the PHR Consultant identified several human skeletal elements that were exposed by the backhoe (Photo 5). These items included a skull, vertebrae and ribs. The skeletal elements were identified by a site name and number and photographed *in situ* by crime scene technicians. From this point, labourers with hand spades and shovels under the supervision of the PHR Consultant conducted the excavation.

The remains were those of a young male adult.

## GORAŽDE III CONSULTANT REPORT

Although the skeletal recovery was incomplete (Photo 6), relatives of the deceased were able to positively identify shoes that were found in association with the skeletal remains.

### **PROCESS EVALUATION**

Although the RS Commission members conducting the investigation were not prepared for the PHR Consultant to physically recover the remains, the PHR Consultant considers that this restriction was imposed because of the time constraints and the pressure of other investigations which were scheduled for completion on this particular day. As there was no pathologist present on site, RS Commission members considered the advice of the PHR Consultant during the exhumation process and requested assistance to confirm the approximate age and sex of the recovered individual. In consideration of the site history (the previous disturbance by backhoe excavation), the physical nature of the area and the time constraints, the PHR Consultant is of the opinion that an appropriate investigation of this site was made at this time.

### **MAP and PHOTOGRAPHIC FILE**

The site reported here is indicated on a map (Figure 1). Photo nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6 are the photographs cited in this report.

A photographic record of the recoveries was compiled and is filed separately (Film no. GH 99 - 6727 and GH 99 - 6720).

### **SITE DESCRIPTION - SITE 3**

#### **SITE NAME: GORAŽDE No. 2**

Topographic Map: Goražde; Sheet: 2882 II; Edition: 5B-DMA; Series: M709; Scale: 1:50,000; Horizontal Datum: WGS 84; grid coordinate 34T CP 371 366 (Figure 1). The site is located in an urban area of Goražde.

The area of investigation was located in a small unofficial cemetery area adjacent to a communal garden environment, apartment blocks and other domestic dwellings in close proximity to the Vučevića Site. The site that was indicated to the team members was a grave identified by a traditional, Muslim timber grave marker.

The RS Commission members informed the PHR Consultant that the remains that were sought were of an individual who had not previously been listed as missing. It was only through the cooperation of the Federation Commission that this exhumation could be conducted.

The investigation relates to an event that took place in 1992. It is alleged that the remains being sought are those of a woman whose body was found by civilians. She was later buried at this site.

## **EXHUMATION PROCESS and CONDITION OF REMAINS**

RS Commission members identified the location of the area under investigation. The site was marked with an identifying site card and number and photographed by crime scene technicians.

Labourers using garden picks, spades and shovels excavated the garden loam to a depth of 50 cm to expose skeletonized human remains and associated clothing (Photo 7). The remains were lifted by the workers and placed in a suitably labeled body bag (Photo 8). The remains were of an adult female.

## **PROCESS EVALUATION**

Although the RS Commission members conducting the investigation were not prepared for the PHR Consultant to physically recover the remains, the PHR Consultant considers that this restriction was imposed because of the time constraints and the pressure of other investigations which were scheduled for completion on this particular day. As there was no pathologist present on site, RS Commission members considered the advice of the PHR Consultant during the exhumation process and requested assistance to confirm the sex of the recovered individual.

## **MAP and PHOTOGRAPHIC FILE**

The site reported here is indicated on a map (Figure 1). Photo nos. 7 and 8 are the photographs cited in this report.

A photographic record of the recoveries was compiled and is filed separately (Film no. GH 99 – 6720).

## **SITE DESCRIPTION - SITE 4**

### **SITE NAME: GORAŽDE No. 3**

Topographic Map: Goražde; Sheet: 2882 II; Edition: 5B-DMA; Series: M709; Scale: 1:50,000; Horizontal Datum: WGS 84; grid coordinate 34T CP 368 363 (Figure 1). The site is located an urban area of Goražde.

The area of investigation was located in the area of vegetable garden, adjacent to a fenced allotment with a destroyed domestic dwelling and situated at the following address: Zaima Mamovica no. 25.

The investigation relates to an event that took place in 1992. It is alleged that the remains being sought are those of an elderly female who was born in 1902. The witness, a granddaughter of the deceased, was present on site. According to the witness statement, neighbours who found the remains in the adjacent burnt out home later buried the woman's remains at this site.

## **EXHUMATION PROCESS and CONDITION OF REMAINS**

RS Commission members identified the location of the area under investigation. The site was marked with an identifying site card and number and photographed by crime scene technicians.

Labourers using garden picks, spades and shovels excavated the dry friable garden loam to a depth of 1.0 m to expose a tapered, timber plank unlined coffin with a flat masonite lid. The coffin was intact at the time of exhumation. The lid was lifted to expose skeletonized human remains and associated clothing (Photo 9). The remains were lifted by the workers and placed in a suitably labeled body bag (Photo 10).

The remains were of an elderly adult female.

## **PROCESS EVALUATION**

Although the RS Commission members conducting the investigation were not prepared for the PHR Consultant to physically recover the remains, the PHR Consultant considers that this restriction was imposed because of the time constraints and the pressure of other investigations which were scheduled for completion on this particular day. As there was no pathologist present on site, RS Commission members considered the advice of the PHR Consultant during the exhumation process and requested assistance to confirm the sex of the recovered individual.

## **MAP and PHOTOGRAPHIC FILE**

The site reported here is indicated on a map (Figure 1). Photo nos. 9 and 10 are the photographs cited in this report.

A photographic record of the recoveries was compiled and is filed separately (Film no. GH 99 – 6720).

## **SITE DESCRIPTION - SITE 5**

### **SITE NAME: GORAŽDE No. 4**

Topographic Map: Goražde; Sheet: 2882 II; Edition: 5B-DMA; Series: M709; Scale: 1:50,000; Horizontal Datum: WGS 84; grid coordinate 34T CP 371 363 (Figure 1). The site is located an urban area of Goražde.

The area of investigation was located in the rear garden of a domestic dwelling, situated at the end of a blind street that was identified as Ulica Fazlazića.

The investigation relates to an event that took place in 1992. It is alleged that the remains being sought are those of two individuals, an adult male and female who were killed and buried by unknown persons.

The informant, a son of the deceased, attended the exhumation.

## **EXHUMATION PROCESS and CONDITION OF REMAINS**

RS Commission members identified the location of the area under investigation. The site was marked with an identifying site card and number and photographed by crime scene technicians.

Labourers using garden picks, spades and shovels excavated an area of the rear garden approximately 10 m north west and up slope of the domestic home.

The remains of two individuals were identified adjacent to each other at a depth of 70 cm below the ground surface. The clothed, skeletonized remains of both were wrapped in individual synthetic blankets. The remains were photographed *in situ* by crime scene technicians (Photo 11).

Labourers recovered the remains to labeled body bags (Photo 12).

The remains were those of an elderly male and female. The witness was able to identify features of the dentition of the elderly female. Some identification papers were found in clothing associated with the male skeleton.

## **PROCESS EVALUATION**

Although the RS Commission members conducting the investigation were not prepared for the PHR Consultant to physically recover the remains, the PHR Consultant considers that this restriction was imposed because of the time constraints and the pressure of other investigations which were scheduled for completion on this particular day. As there was no pathologist present on site, RS Commission members considered the advice of the PHR Consultant during the exhumation process and requested assistance to confirm the sex and approximate age of the recovered individuals.

## **MAP and PHOTOGRAPHIC FILE**

The site reported here is indicated on a map (Figure 1). Photo nos. 9 and 10 are the photographs cited in this report.

A photographic record of the recoveries was compiled and is filed separately (Film no. GH 99 – 6720).

**Day 2, 21 September 1999**

The exhumation team investigated four sites in the area of Goražde

**SITE DESCRIPTION - SITE 6**

**SITE NAME: KOLEVKE CEMETERY**

Topographic Map: Goražde; Sheet: 2882 II; Edition: 5B-DMA; Series: M709; Scale: 1:50,000; Horizontal Datum: WGS 84; grid coordinate 34T CP 377 358 (Figure 1). The site, A suburban cemetery is located in the township of Goražde.

The area of investigation was located in close proximity to the southern perimeter fence of the cemetery and adjacent to rows of formal graves. Grave markers did not identify the area nor were there visible signs of the presence of graves on the ground surface.

The investigation relates to an event that took place in 1992. It is alleged that the remains being sought are those of unknown persons. An informant statement has prompted this investigation.

**EXHUMATION PROCESS and CONDITION OF REMAINS**

RS Commission on Tracing Prisoners and Missing Persons (RS) Members assisted by an attending witness, identified the location of the area under investigation (Photo 13).

The area under investigation was a poorly defined area on the boundary of rows of formal graves. Several test trenches were excavated by the backhoe before a witness indicated a more defined location.

Exploratory excavation with the backhoe continued until the remains of an adult were exposed at a depth of 1 m.

Labourers using garden tools exposed the skeletonized remains, associated clothing and fragments of degraded timber. The burial was identified with the site name, date and ID no. Crime scene technicians recorded *in situ* photographs of the remains. Under the supervision of the PHR Consultant, the remains were individually lifted by labourers and placed in an identified body bag.

Several more test trenches were excavated within close proximity to the first burial. This activity resulted in a further three recoveries that were conducted in the same manner as the first.

The PHR Consultant assisted in the physical identification of the recovered remains. These resulted in the following description:

**Recovery # 1 (Photo 14)**

- Middle aged female skeletonized remains
- Healed fractures of the left radius and ulna and the right radius
- No visible peri mortem trauma was observed

## GORAŽDE III CONSULTANT REPORT

### Associated clothing

#### Recovery # 2 (Photo 15)

Middle aged male skeletonized remains  
Fused lumbar and cervical vertebrae  
No visible peri mortem trauma was observed  
Associated clothing and a synthetic blanket

#### Recovery # 3 (Photo 16)

Adult male skeleton  
No visible peri mortem trauma was observed  
Associated clothing

#### Recovery # 4 (Photo 17)

Child 6 – 7 years of age  
Skull fragmented by non united sutures, mandible intact  
Associated clothing and wrapped in shroud

### **PROCESS EVALUATION**

Although the RS Commission members conducting the investigation were not prepared for the PHR Consultant to physically recover the remains; PHR Consultant considers that this restriction was imposed because of the time constraints and the pressure of other investigations which were scheduled for completion on this particular day. As there was no pathologist present on site, Commission members considered the advice of the consultant during the exhumation process and requested assistance to confirm the sex and approximate age of the recovered individuals. The consultant was also requested to hastily observe any identifying features and/or obvious peri mortem trauma.

### **MAP and PHOTOGRAPHIC FILE**

The site reported here is indicated on a map (Figure 1). Photo nos. 13 - 17 are the photographs cited in this report.

A photographic record of the recoveries was compiled and is filed separately. Film no. GH 99 – 6720.

### **SITE DESCRIPTION - SITE 7**

**SITE NAME: MRAVINJACI – No. 1, CRKVINE  
MRAVINJACI – No. 2, CRKVINE**

Topographic Map: Goražde; Sheet: 2882 II; Edition: 5B-DMA; Series: M709; Scale: 1:50,000; Horizontal Datum: WGS 84; grid coordinate 34T CP 344 326 (Figure 2). The site is located off Highway 20, approximately 3 km south of the township of Goražde.

The area of investigation was located in a gully adjacent to and on the western side of a gravel road leading north of Highway 20. The gravel road led up a rise to a small cluster of rural homes.

The investigation relates to an event that took place in 1992. It is alleged that the remains being sought are those of four known persons (two males and two females).

### **EXHUMATION PROCESS and CONDITION OF REMAINS**

RS Commission members, assisted by an attending witness, identified the location of the area under investigation.

Labourers using scythes and axes cleared branches from small trees on the perimeter of the gully to facilitate access of a backhoe to the identified site area (Photo 18).

Exploratory excavation of test trenches with the backhoe was commenced and continued until the remains of an adult were exposed at an approximate depth of 0.8 m. The progress of excavation was hampered but not interrupted by a violent thunderstorm.

Labourers using garden tools exposed the skeletonized remains of an adult individual, no. 1 (Photo 19). The remains and associated civilian clothing were wrapped in a synthetic blanket. The burial was identified with the site name, date and ID no. Crime scene technicians recorded *in situ* photographs of the remains and associated cultural items. Under the supervision of the PHR Consultant, the remains were lifted by labourers and placed in an identified body bag.

Further exploratory trenches that were excavated by the backhoe uncovered the remains of a further two individuals that were located in close association with recovery no. 1. The remains of individuals nos. 2 and 3, also skeletonized, wore civilian clothing and were individually wrapped in blankets. The remains identified with an identification number and site name. Photographs of the *in situ* remains were recorded by crime scene technicians (Photo 20 and 21).

Several more test trenches were excavated within close proximity to previous burials however; the remains of a fourth individual were not located.

The PHR Consultant was not asked to assist in the physical identification of the recovered remains as it was explained that the identity of the remains was known.

The PHR Consultant monitored further exploratory trenches that were excavated by the backhoe on the eastern side of the gravel road (Photo 22), Site name: Mravinjaci No. 2 – Crkvine; GPS 34T CP 343 327. The result of these excavations was negative.

### **PROCESS EVALUATION**

The RS Commission members conducting the investigation were not prepared for the PHR Consultant to physically recover the remains; PHR Consultant considers that this restriction was imposed because of the time constraints and the pressure of other investigations which were scheduled for completion on this particular day. The inclement weather of the day considerably hampered the recovery process.

## **MAP and PHOTOGRAPHIC FILE**

The site reported here is indicated on a map (Figure 2). Photo nos. 18 - 22 are the photographs cited in this report.

A photographic record of the recoveries was compiled and is filed separately (Film no. GH 99 - 6720).

## **SITE DESCRIPTION - SITE 8**

### **SITE NAME: VITKOVIĆI**

Topographic Map: Goražde; Sheet: 2882 II; Edition: 5B-DMA; Series: M709; Scale: 1:50,000; Horizontal Datum: WGS 84; grid coordinate 34T CP 359 331 (Figure 2). The site is located off Highway 20, approximately 3.5 km south of the township of Goražde.

The area of investigation was located in a neglected the vegetable garden of a domestic home adjacent to a minor road leading to abandoned railway yards.

The investigation relates to an event that took place in 1992. It is alleged that the remains being sought are those of two known persons (a male and female). A resident of the nearby home indicated the location of the area of the suspected graves to the RS Commission members.

## **EXHUMATION PROCESS and CONDITION OF REMAINS**

RS Commission members, assisted by an attending informant, identified the location of the area under investigation.

To allow free access of the backhoe to the area initially, labourers cleared metal sheeting from the identified area. An exploratory excavation begun by the backhoe uncovered human remains at a depth of 20 cm below the ground surface (Photo 23).

Labourers using garden tools exposed the skeletonized remains of an adult male individual, (Photo 24). The remains and associated civilian clothing were identified with the site name, date and ID no. Crime scene technicians recorded *in situ* photographs of the remains and associated cultural items. Under the supervision of the PHR Consultant, the remains were lifted by labourers and placed in an identified body bag.

Further exploratory trenches that were excavated by the backhoe were unable to locate any further indication of burials at this site.

The PHR Consultant was asked to assist in the physical identification of the recovered remains.

## **PROCESS EVALUATION**

The RS Commission members conducting the investigation were not prepared for the PHR Consultant to physically recover the remains; PHR Consultant considers that this restriction was imposed because of the time constraints and the pressure of other investigations which were scheduled for completion on this particular day. The inclement weather of the day and failing light considerably hampered the recovery process of this site.

## **MAP and PHOTOGRAPHIC FILE**

The site reported here is indicated on a map (Figure 2). Photo nos. 23 and 24 are the photographs cited in this report.

A photographic record of the recoveries was compiled and is filed separately (Film no. GP 99 6720).

### **Day 3, 22 September 1999**

The exhumation team investigated two new sites and revisited one site in the area of Goražde

### **SITE DESCRIPTION – Revisit SITE 2 and SITE 9**

#### **SITE NAMES: VUČEVICA and GORAŽDE No. 5**

##### **VUČEVICA**

Following additional witness information, a return visit was made to the Vučevica Site in suburban Goražde.

Topographic Map: Goražde; Sheet: 2882 II; Edition: 5B-DMA; Series: M709; Scale: 1:50,000; Horizontal Datum: WGS 84; grid coordinate 34T CP 371 365 (Figure 1).

Labourers dismantled a chicken yard (Photo 25), and the backhoe excavated further exploratory trenches, which were monitored by the PHR Consultant.

There was no indication of an additional burial located at the site on this occasion.

##### **GORAŽDE No. 5**

Topographic Map: Goražde; Sheet: 2882 II; Edition: 5B-DMA; Series: M709; Scale: 1:50,000; Horizontal Datum: WGS 84; grid coordinate 34T CP 370 366 (Figure 1).

The area of investigation was located in close proximity to the previous investigations and recoveries conducted at the sites of Vučevica and Goražde no.1, within the suburban area of Goražde.

## GORAŽDE III CONSULTANT REPORT

The investigation relates to an event that took place in 1992. It is alleged that the remains being sought are those of unknown persons. An informant statement prompted this investigation.

### **EXHUMATION PROCESS and CONDITION OF REMAINS**

RS Commission members, assisted by an attending witness, identified the location of the area under investigation, in close proximity to the Goražde site no. 1 (Photo 26).

The area under investigation was located in a grassed area adjacent to a vegetable garden. A test trench was excavated by the backhoe in an area indicated by a witness. The trench was excavated into a fine, homogeneous sandy loam. The team was unable to locate any evidence of a burial at this location (Photo 27).

### **PROCESS EVALUATION**

On this occasion, the PHR Consultant considers that reasonable effort was made to locate the burials under investigation. The RS Commission members agreed to conduct further investigations to clarify the location of the burial.

### **MAP and PHOTOGRAPHIC FILE**

The sites reported here are indicated on a map (Figure 1). Photo nos. 25, 26 and 27 are the photographs cited in this report.

A photographic record of the recoveries was compiled and is filed separately (Film no. GH 99 – 6726).

### **SITE DESCRIPTION – SITE 10**

#### **SITE NAME: BOGOVIĆI**

Topographic Map: Foča; Sheet: 2882 III; Edition: 6A-DMA; Series: M709; Scale: 1:50,000; Horizontal Datum: WGS 84; grid coordinate 34T CP 173 365 (Figure 3).

Site access is via 10 km of gravel road north west of the township of Ustikolina. The site is reached by 300 m of uphill walking track. The area of investigation was located within 15m of a small running mountain stream.

The investigation relates to an event that took place in 1992. An eyewitness alleges that the remains being sought are those of a sixty-four year old male person who was killed during local conflict. Neighbours later buried his body at this location.

The victim's daughter was present on site.

### **EXHUMATION PROCESS and CONDITION OF REMAINS**

RS Commission members, assisted by an attending witness, identified the location of the area under investigation.

The area under investigation was located in a rural environment adjacent to a small running stream (Photo 28).

Using hand tools, labourers excavated a test trench in an area indicated by the witness.

Test trenches were additionally excavated in several alternative areas of the same site.

No indication of a burial was found.

### **PROCESS EVALUATION**

On this occasion, the PHR Consultant considers that reasonable effort was made to locate the burials under investigation. The RS Commission members agreed to conduct further investigations to clarify the location of the burial.

### **MAP and PHOTOGRAPHIC FILE**

The site reported here is indicated on a map (Figure 3). Photo no. 28 is the photograph cited in this report.

A photographic record of the excavation was compiled and is filed separately (Film no. GH 99 – 6726).

EXHUMATIONS IN THE AREA OF GORAŽDE

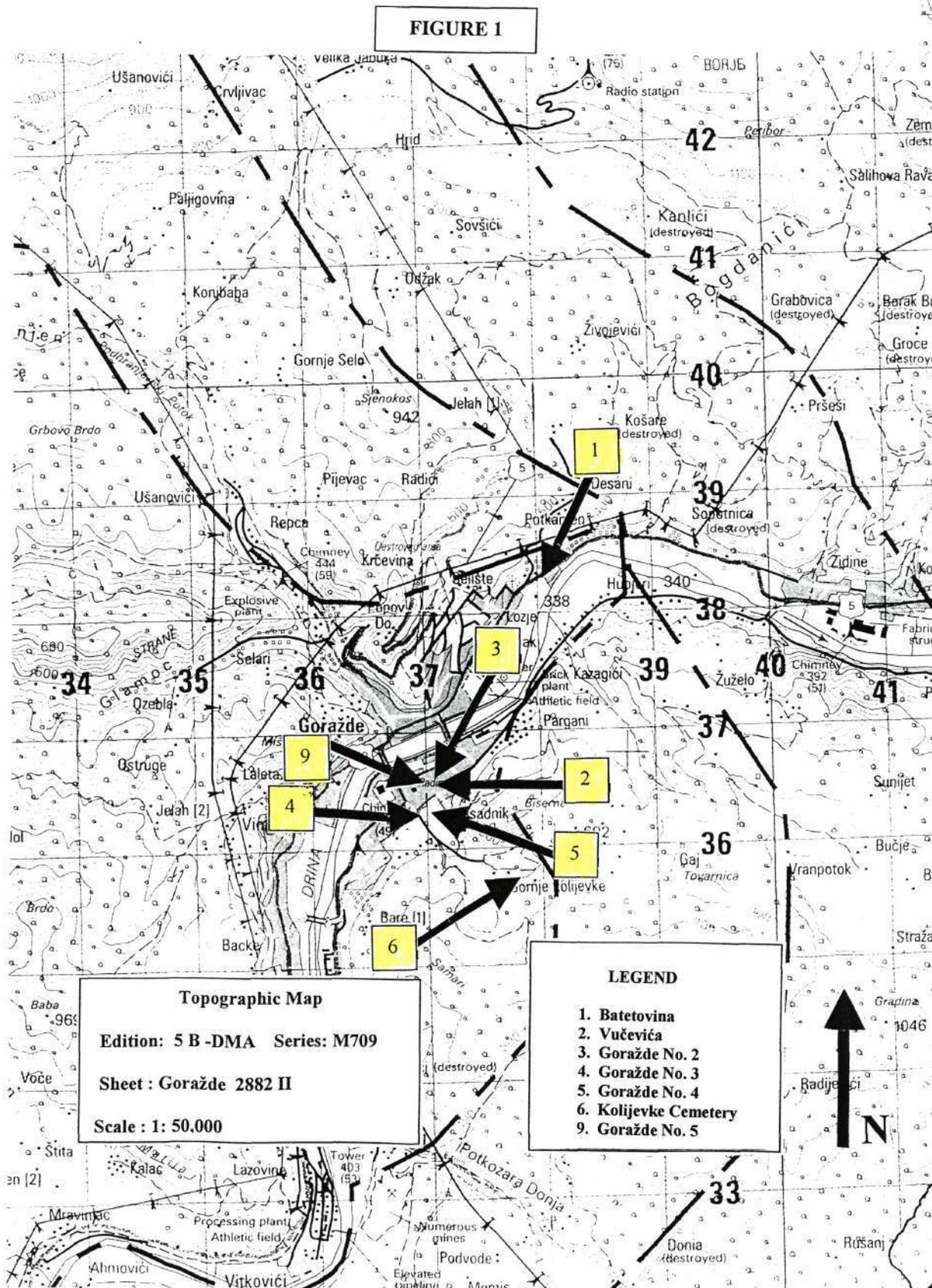








Photo 1. The identified Batetovina Site.



Photo 2. Labourers excavating the first test trench of the identified Batetovina Site.



Photo 3. Investigators discussing the area in which to place a test trench at the Vučevića Site.



Photo 4. Backhoe excavation in progress at the Vučevića Site.



Photo 5. The exposed human remains at the Vučevića Site, identified by a site ID card and number.



Photo 6. The recovered remains from the Vučevića Site.



Photo 7. The exposed *in situ* remains at the Goražde Site No. 2.



Photo 8. The recovered remains from Goražde Site No. 2.



Photo 9. The exposed *in situ* remains at the Goražde Site No. 3.



Photo 10. The recovered skeletal remains at the Goražde Site No. 4.



Photo 11. The exposed *in situ* remains of recoveries identified as Nos. 4 and 5 at the Goražde Site No. 4.



Photo 12. The recovered remains of Goražde Site No. 4.



Photo 13. RS Commission members in discussion at the identified area of investigation at Kolvek Cemetery.



Photo 14. The disturbed *in situ* remains of recovery No. 1 – Kolvek Cemetery.



Photo 15. The exhumed remains of recovery No. 2 – Kolvevke Cemetery.



Photo 16. The disturbed *in situ* remains of recovery No. 3 – Kolvevke Cemetery.



Photo 17. The exhumed remains of the child identified as recovery No. 4 – Kolevke Cemetery.



Photo 18. Labourers clearing overhanging branches to allow backhoe access to Site, Mravinjaci No. 1 – Crkvine.



Photo 19. The *in situ* exposed remains of recovery # 1, Mravinjaci No. 1 – Crkvine Site.



Photo 20. The *in situ* exposed remains of recovery # 2, Mravinjaci No. 1 – Crkvine Site.



Photo 21. The *in situ* exposed remains of recovery # 3, Mravinjaci No. 1 – Crkvine Site.



Photo 22. Exploratory backhoe trench investigation, Mravinjaci No. 2 – Crkvine Site.



Photo 23. Exploratory backhoe trench investigation at the Vitkovići Site.



Photo 24. The exposed and disturbed remains of the Vitkovići Site.



Photo 25. Labourers dismantling the chicken run at the Vučevica Site revisit.



Photo 26. Looking towards Goražde Site No. 1.



Photo 27. One of a series of exploratory backhoe trenches excavated at Goražde Site No. 5.



Photo 28. The area under investigation at the Bogovići Site.