The integral text of the Agreement signed in Konçul

The integral text of this agreement is as follows:

P. C Feith, Personal Representative of the General Secretary of NATO.

1. The signatories agree unconditionally to respect and observe the ceasefire and they will refrain from all military actions, violence and the use of force against each other and the other's forces.

2. The signatories agree to maintain authority and control over all their armed elements and paramilitary forces, wherever they are placed, and to accept full responsibility for their actions.

3. The signatories recognise and observe the protocol extensions of Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949, related to the protection of victims of non-international conflicts.

4. The agreement applies to all armed and paramilitary forces, including the police within or close to the borders of the Security Zone, which are defined in the Military Technical Agreement and Resolution 1244 of the United Nations Security Council.

5. The armed forces means all parties, groups and individuals that accept and acknowledge the authority and command of the undersigned including the regular forces, police forces, groups of armed civilians, paramilitaries, national guards, militia, border police, military reservists, military police, intelligence services, Federal Ministry and Serbian Ministry of the Interior, local special rebellion and counterterrorism police as well as all irregular forces.

6. The conditions of the Agreement shall enter into force after the exchange of the signed copies, in the presence of the Special Envoy of the General Secretary and they will be effective starting from 00.01h, 13th March 2001.

7. MODALITIES

a) The parties agree to keep and to respect the ceasefire, which includes all kinds of weapons and the placing of mines or other improvised explosive means.

b) The parties agree to undertake all the necessary means in order to ensure security and freedom of movement of any personnel in the region of international community membership.

c) The parties agree to hold the current positions of their armed forces, with the exception of the heavy weapons around Bujanovac, which should be returned to barracks, and not to utilize the ceasefire to change their positions.

8. RESTRICTIONS

a) The parties accept that KOMFOR at this stage shall keep the authority under the terms of the Military Technical Agreement in the Ground Safety Zone and Air Safety Zone. They accept KOMFOR as the only authority, which decides whether and under what conditions, the FRY forces are allowed

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to control and to return gradually to the Ground Safety Zone. If it decides to allow such re-entry, the zones in which the FRY forces can enter will be defined geographically and such definition will replace previous references, given in this agreement to "current locations". In all other aspects, the given conditions will continue to apply.

b) After the re-entry by the police, they will be required to act impartially and to implement the laws of FRY/Serbia, without discrimination on an ethnic, religious or racial basis.

c) None of the conditions of this agreement can be interpreted as something that cancels the right of self-defence. Self-defence means the use of necessary and proportionate force, to defend yourself or others, from an attack or from any possible attack. Each use of force should be reduced to the scale, intensity and necessary duration for self-defence and not more. Revenge is not self-defence and would violate the ceasefire of the Ground Safety Zone. This restriction is added to the following:

 d) With regard to the paragraph 8 under (a), I declare here that I and my commanders do not accept responsibility for the spontaneous actions of local Albanian elements in Sector C (East), in the Ground Safety Zone

Shefket Musli, Staff-Commander General of UÇPMB (Liberation Army of Presevo, Medvedja and Bujanovac)

Witnessed, P.C. Feith, Personal Representative of General Secretary of NATO

Source: On file with the Political Settlements Research Project, University of Edinburgh

Translated by Matilda Karcanaj and Laura Wise