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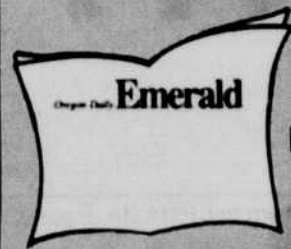
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CROATIA

Continued from Page 29A



because those areas are important for transportation and tourist industry. According to a U.N. Security Council resolution, HVO was to withdraw from the bridge at midnight on Aug. 1. The bus was to cross the bridge about midnight, so people in the bus were talking about it. As the bus approached the village, some people were getting nervous and looking around the bus carefully, especially car lights. When the bus crossed the bridge, it was 10 past midnight. It was dark and calm. In fact, there were only a few HVO soldiers. They hadn't withdrawn from the bridge yet (Of course, it was much better for us.). Fortunately, nothing happened, and the bus continued to travel to Split. A few days later, Maslenica bridge was shelled by Serbs, and the conflict has not been resolved yet.

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Mir Sada and Peace Movements (Aug. 2)

There are many people from all over the world who are getting involved in humanitarian activities in ex-Yugoslavia, particularly in Bosnia-Herzegovina. People are sending food and medicine to needy people in BiH both individually and as a group or organization. Doctors are getting into war-torn areas to treat sick or injured people, and while risking their lives, drivers are delivering aid to starving people. There are many peace organizations that are helping and giving a comfort to refugees and displaced people. Keeping support to people seems to be the best and only thing that people can do. But when I was in Split, I encountered one international movement actually dedicating to peace making. That was "Mir Sada (Peace Now)."

In this Mir Sada, peace activists from all over the world (mainly from Europe and the United States) were to stay in Sarajevo Aug. 4-14. Delivering humanitarian aid was one thing, but the thing that amazed me was their intention of humanitarian intervention to stop the war. What they wanted was to make war factions realize that there were so many people from the world concerned about peace in BiH and then to let them consider seriously about cease fire and negotiation for peace. They were not taking any sides but supporting multi-ethnic culture of Bosnian state. They opposed any military intervention but tried to pursue their aims with absolutely peaceful means. So, this was a serious attempt of humanitarian intervention of people for peace making.

The participants of Mir Sada had a camp in Split before their march into BiH. I met some Italian members on the street near UNHCR building, and I asked

them to take me to the camp. I thought that I might be able to join them although I didn't have any preparation for the 10-day trip at that time. While western governments were doing nothing effective for peace and justice in BiH, I had already seen so many people from all over the world (mainly Europe) coming to BiH to help people, even risking their lives. They had to keep coming back again and again because they saw no prospect for the end of the war. And now I encountered Mir Sada people who were committed to peace making in BiH. Although I thought that their action was idealistic, I wanted to witness the process and might be able to see some positive turnout. The Italian members welcomed me and took me to the camp. In the camp, I didn't know how many people were there, but I heard that the number of the participants was going to be 2,500. I was near the reception area in order to get registered. I thought that I was going to prepare everything after registration.

In the camp, Italians were the biggest in numbers, followed by the French and other Europeans. There were Americans who had already arrived at the camp. There were two Japanese monks as well. The participants were divided into small groups and were supposed to go into BiH by buses and cars. Of course, it was going to be a dangerous trip, but they asked their governments not to react militarily even if they got attacked. The positive points were that direct distribution of aid to people in Sarajevo and an attempt to deliver the message to relatives (Sarajevo residents) of refugees who were already in foreign countries. Although I was pessimistic about immediate peace in BiH, considering the situation of that country, I hoped that they could make some positive impact on the course of the war.

I was taken to a camping place where the American group was staying. I thought that it was better to participate as an outsider (as a journalism student). There was a group of journalists besides Mir Sada ones. Regardless of the consequences, I didn't have any objections against the principles of the Mir Sada movement. So, I thought that it was all right to join in one of the groups. I asked the American group if I could join them. But they turned out to be extreme pacifists, and I found that there were differences between me and them in terms of political position in this conflict. I frankly stated my opinion about this war and said that it was sometimes necessary to use force to fulfill justice. I didn't want to make any misunderstanding, but as soon as I used the word "force," some of them turned their backs to me. They didn't want to have anyone who had different ideas because they all agreed on one thing and took a pledge for it even before they left the United States. Although I agreed on the principles of Mir Sada, that was not enough for them. I didn't continue my argument because I realized that some of them were not even listening to me. Others sympathized with me, but I thought that I

Turn to CROATIA, Page 31A

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