

## Scholarships for Bosnian Students

In the last two years, an estimated 120,000 Bosnians have been killed, 40,000 Muslim women have been raped, and more than two million Bosnians have been driven from their homes. Among the victims of this war are Bosnian students trapped in Croatia.

Before the partition of Yugoslavia, education was free for Bosnian students anywhere in Yugoslavia. Historically, the best Bosnian students attended the University of Zagreb. After Croatia declared its independence in 1991, Bosnian students were treated as foreigners and charged high tuition and housing fees to continue their education.

In April 1993, Croatia started to attack Bosnian towns, attempting to divide the Republic of Bosnia between Serbia and Croatia. As a consequence, the lives of Bosnian students at the University of Zagreb have become endangered. During the summer, Croatian police raided areas frequented by them—swimming pools, coffee shops, bus stops and train stations. Dozens of Muslim students were arrested. Some were tortured and many were traded back to Bosnia in exchange for Croatian prisoners of war.

We must act quickly if these young Muslim students are to be saved. The Jerrahi Order of America is trying to help the young people of Zagreb. At the same time, it has found the US Embassy in Croatia unwilling to give refugee visas to them. Student visas can often be obtained, however, for qualified Bosnian students who have been accepted by US educational institutions. Because the majority of these students are completely out of touch with their families (largely trapped in Bosnia, dead or missing) these young people now have few resources.

We need your help in finding colleges and universities that will offer scholarships to these highly qualified students for the spring semester. We can send the names, biographies and transcripts of students selected by the Association of Students of Bosnia and Herzegovina to any person or educational institutions interested in considering such a scholarship.



*Bosnian students, brought to the US by the Jerrahi Order of America, who are studying in the New York area. Back l. to r.: Emir Pasalic, 16; Erna Susic, 17; Jasmina Hadzihasanovic, 16. Front l. to r.: Iris Kulasic, 17; Ismar Mahmutovic, 13; Dalila Suhonjic, 23. Story and photo: Doug Hostetter*

If an educational institution is only able to offer a tuition scholarship, your help is needed to find a home that would shelter, nurture and provide for the student while attending school. Some FOR groups may want to share the responsibility of assisting a student: one family offering room, and another offering board or financial assistance. The Jerrahi Order of America will be glad to discuss room and board arrangements. They would like to place at least two Bosnian students in any given area so that they could be close enough to offer each other support and companionship during this difficult transition. If a college or university is only able to offer one scholarship, the JOA would encourage you to seek another scholarship in a nearby school for a second student.

The FOR, in collaboration with the JOA, has established the Bosnian Students Project that seeks to rescue as many of the Bosnian student refugees as possible and bring them to US schools. A total of 581 students from the University of Zagreb are living in Croatia; their situation is now perilous. Cooperating with the Association of Students of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Merhamet, Muslim Relief Organization of Zagreb, the

project has been able to identify scores of Bosnian students in Zagreb whose command of English and academic excellence indicate they could easily transfer into US educational institutions.

For a complete information packet and list of qualified students write to: Scholarships for Bosnian Students, Jerrahi Order of America/FOR, Helen Morgan, 884 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977, (914) 356-0588; FAX (914) 356-2452. For other information on this project contact Doug Hostetter at FOR.

## Youth Violence Preventable, Study Says

Although statistics show that violence is rising among American youth, a panel of psychologists has released a report offering an optimistic view of what might be done to reverse the trend.

"Violence is learned, and we can teach children alternatives," said Ronald G. Slaby, a psychologist at Harvard University who is one of the panel's twelve members. Intervening at an early age, especially from ages four to eight—before children's habits of aggression are fixed—was among