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REPORT ON THE EXHUMATION OF MASS GRAVESITES IN
EASTERN BOSNIA, AUGUST-OCTOBER 1999

By

Jose Pablo Baraybar, MSc
Anthropologist, ICTY

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Acknowledgements

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00911862



2

SUMMARY FINDINGS

During the second half of the 1999 forensic campaign in Eastern Bosnia, three main locations: Nova Kasaba, Konjevic Polje and Glogova, were explored. Each contained graves in which the alleged remains of victims from the Safe Area of Srebrenica were disposed.

The remains of at least 208 individuals were recovered from 10 graves; 184 were determined as males, 1 was a female and in 23 cases sex could not be determined. 76 individuals were between 13 and 24 years while 132 were over 25 years of age at death.

The documents bearing the name of 19 people reported as missing by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) were found in 6 of the graves. According to the same report, the place of disappearance of these people was in the vicinity of the graves. Religious paraphernalia, such as prayer beads, were found in three of the graves.

00911863

In the location of Nova Kasaba, four graves were exhumed. Three of the graves were located in the front and back garden of a house, in close proximity to each other. The fourth grave was in a neighboring field to the East. The 1999 Nova Kasaba graves were roughly 1.5 kilometers up the road from those dug in 1996.

Nova Kasaba 04

Nova Kasaba 04 was a roughly elongated grave with jagged edges. Its characteristics were suggestive of it having been dug with a backhoe.

Nineteen adult males, but two with mean ages of 17 years of age at death, were found in the grave.

According to the pathologist report, eleven died of gunshot wounds while the cause of death of the eight others was unascertained.

Three individuals showed dressings and a splint and may have been injured prior to their disposal in the grave. According to the pathologist's report, two of them died of multiple gunshot wounds other than the dressed ones. Two



stretchers/litters were found in the grave and they could have been used to carry the wounded individuals.

Nova Kasaba 06

Nova Kasaba 06 was a shallow grave, dug by hand. It contained the remains of two male individuals, one between 14 and 24 years and the other between 22 and 50 years of age at death. The presence of four bullets under the latter individual was consistent with him being shot while in the grave.

Nova Kasaba 07

Nova Kasaba 07 was a rectangular trench with an access ramp. Its characteristics were consistent with having been dug with a front-end loader. The remains of an adult male between 31 and 65 years of age at death were found. The evidence is consistent with him having been shot while in the grave. The presence in the grave of large calibre ammunition shell casings (i.e. 30mm) together with the fact that only one body was disposed therein, suggested that the trench was originally used as a gun emplacement.

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Nova Kasaba 08

Nova Kasaba 08 was a grave with an access ramp and its characteristics suggested that it had been dug by a front-end loader. The bodies were put in the grave in three distinct groups (clusters 1, 2 and 3). A total of 33 individuals were found; 32 males and one whose sex determination could not be performed. According to the pathologist's report the cause of death of 30 individuals was gunshot wounds.

Some individuals in cluster 1 and 3 (first and last group of bodies to be placed in the grave, respectively) could have been shot while in the grave.

The presence of willow leaves and branches in close association to the bodies of cluster 1 could link them to NK05, a possible execution site.

Konjevic Polje 1

Konjevic Polje 1 was located in a field off the road Konjevic Polje-Nova Kasaba. It was a shallow grave with an access ramp. The characteristics of the grave



4

suggested that it had been dug by a front-end loader. The bodies of nine individuals buried in two clusters were found. Eight of the bodies were males: seven between 25 and 65 years and one between 16 and 23 years of age at death. The remains of a female between 16 and 30 years were also found.

A SEIKO wristwatch that stopped at 12:35 on Friday 15 suggests that the person stopped moving (i.e. died) between 32 and 36 hours before, that is on the 13th (Mills 1999). Evidence consistent with at least one individual being shot while in the grave was found.

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Konjevic Polje 2

Konjevic Polje 2 consisted of two graves in close proximity to each other. They were located in a field off the road Konjevic Polje-Bratunac.

The graves had been dug by hand and contained one and two individuals respectively.

In grave 1, the body of an adult male between 31 and 71 years of age at death was found. The body could have been scooped mechanically from a location different than the grave.

In grave 2, the remains of two young males between 15 and 21 years of age at death were found. The presence of bullets under the bodies matching the location of their injuries was consistent with the individuals being shot while in the grave

Glogova 02

The location known as Glogova 2 was located on the side of a track off the main road Konjevic Polje- Bratunac, after the village of Glogova. It contained at least six graves in close proximity to each other, three of which had been robbed. Two graves were discovered to be intact and one, presumably robbed, was not exhumed.

GL02 proper was a large crater in which the traces of three distinct graves were recovered (GL02-grave, GL06 and GL03). While it was not possible to determine which grave was dug first, the evidence was consistent with all three graves having been robbed simultaneously. The evidence recovered suggests that after the primary disposal of the bodies, a mechanical excavator such as a 360 degrees backhoe probed the area by means of trenches. After exposing the graves, an in

depth excavation took place and the remains were extracted from them. During the robbing process the machine changed direction constantly and dragged remains from one area to another. The fact that a large area between GL06-GL03 and GL02-grave contained no structural features of a grave could suggest that there was, yet another grave in that area which had been completely destroyed.

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The remains of at least 39 individuals, 20 of which were determined to be male, were represented in the crater.

A SEIKO automatic watch found in one of the bodies stopped at 8:15 with the date displayed as Friday 15. This suggests that the person stopped moving (i.e. died) between and 32 hours before, that is on the 13th (Mills 1999).

GL05 was an untouched site composed of two graves coalescing with each other. The graves contained 73 complete to almost complete bodies and a number of body parts. Most bodies had multiple fractured bones and some of the lower or upper limbs missing.

The remains were in clay soil rich in vegetation. The clay soil was foreign to the grave and was deposited with the bodies.

At least 90 individuals, 82 of which were determined to be male and 8 in which sex could not be determined, were recovered from both graves. Roughly 50% of the individuals were between 13 and 24 years of age at death (n=41) while the remaining ones, were adults over 25 years.

According to the pathologist's report 55 individuals died of gunshot wounds.

The presence of charring both in bones and clothing, the fragmentary nature of the remains and the fact that they were disposed with a large amount of sediment, suggested that the bones were fragmented prior to their disposal and collected mechanically (i.e. with a backhoe) from an unknown location.

Pollen analyses linked the sediment of GL03, GL05 and GL07 (not yet exhumed) to the secondary site of Zelani Jadar, exhumed during 1998. Considering that GL05 was an intact grave the most likely source of the bodies in Zelani Jadar may be GL03, the crater of GL02 and GL07.

Nova Kasaba 04

Summary and Conclusions

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The exhumation of this site took place between 18 and 21 August 1999. This grave was roughly elongated, as a trench, with jagged edges. Its characteristics were suggestive of it being dug with a backhoe.

Nineteen adult males, but two with mean ages of 17 years of age at death, were found in the grave. According to the pathologist report, eleven died of gunshot wounds while the cause of death of the eight others was unascertained. In a few cases the presence of shotgun pellets was recorded in addition to other gunshot injuries.

The majority of the bodies were put in the grave with the arms and legs extended and were concentrated against the Southwest corner of the grave. The latter suggested that they could have been thrown manually from the South side.

Three individuals showed dressings and a splint and may have been injured prior to their disposal in the grave. According to the pathologist's report, the injuries of two of the three were caused by gunshot. The latter two died of multiple gunshot wounds other than the dressed ones. Two stretchers made of thick branches and a blanket tied between them with rope, were found in the grave and they could have been used to carry the injured individuals.

The various types of canned food and clothing found in the grave suggested they were part of the people's luggage at the time the grave was made. Two sets of religious paraphernalia, such as prayer beads was recovered

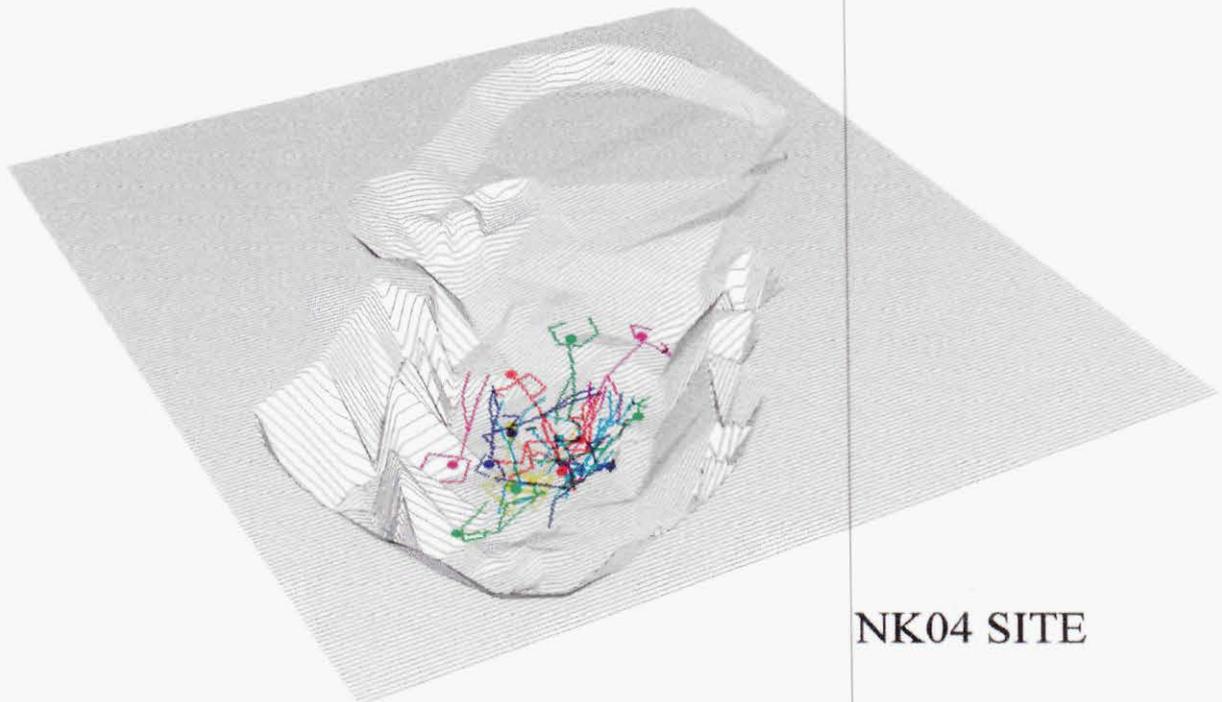
No conclusive evidence of anybody shot while lying in the grave, was found.

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The grave was situated behind the shed of a nearby house (**Photograph 1**, also see **Maps 1, 2 and 3**).



Its shape was roughly elongated, as a trench, with jagged edges measuring 8.7 x 3 x 1.4 m and oriented North- East to South - West (**Figure 1**).



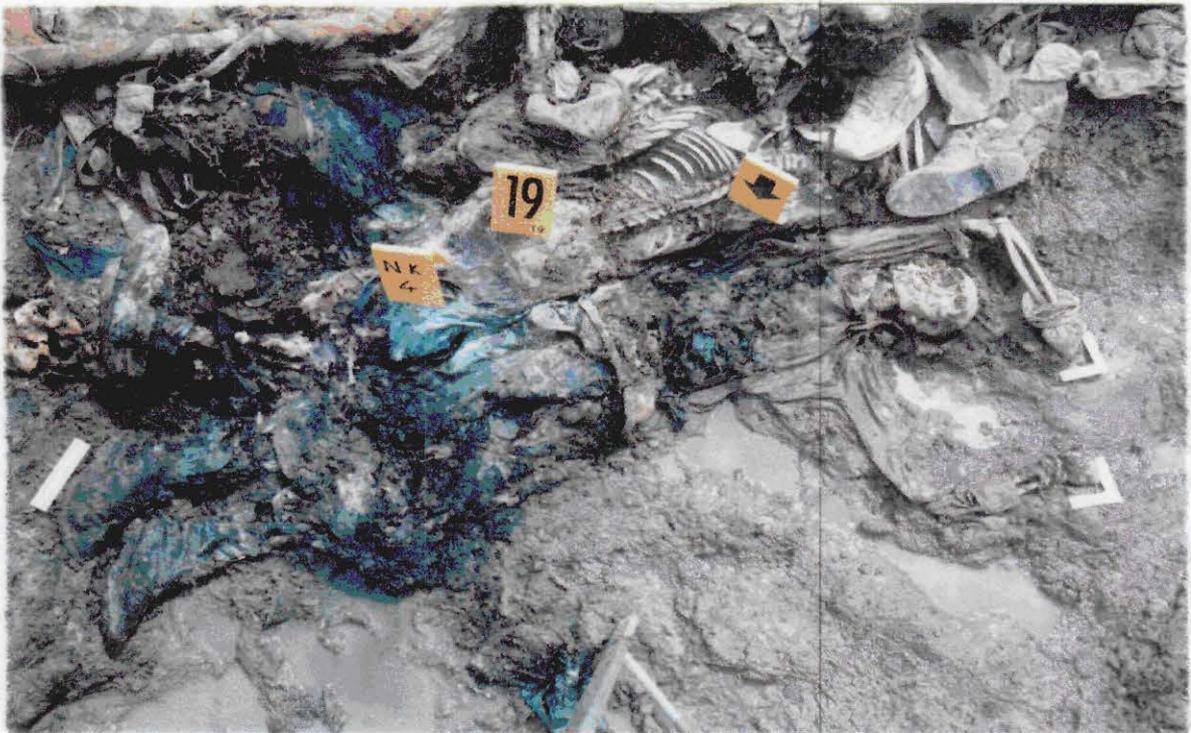
NK04 SITE

Figure 1. Contour map of NK04 with sketch of bodies.

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In section the grave appeared to be roughly “V” shaped. The North Slope was steep while the South was gentle. The characteristics of the grave (i.e., jagged edges and “V” shaped section) were consistent with it being dug with a backhoe. Most of the bodies were located against the South slope and clustered in the south-west area of the grave suggesting that they were thrown in from the south side. Nineteen bodies were recovered (**Figure 1**).

All 19 individuals found in the grave were adult males with the exception of two with a mean age of 17 years of age at death (NK04 040B and NK04 043B). According to the pathologist’s report, eleven died of gunshot wounds while the cause of death of eight others remained unascertained. In a few cases the presence of shotgun pellets was recorded in addition to other gunshot injuries. The majority of the bodies were put in the grave with the arms and legs extended. The latter suggested that they could have been thrown in manually (**Photograph 2**).



Photograph 2. Body NK04 019B showing arms and legs extended.

There was no clear indication that people were shot in the grave. However, in only one occasion; however, a fired but intact bullet (NK04 045A) was found lying on the southwest slope. The bullet was not associated with any specific body and it may have migrated from soft tissue of one of the bodies.

Two stretchers were found covering some of the bodies. They were made of thick branches and a blanket tied between them with rope (NK04 016A and 027A). After lifting each stretcher a number of items such as clothing, shoes and food items were recovered (**Photograph 3**).



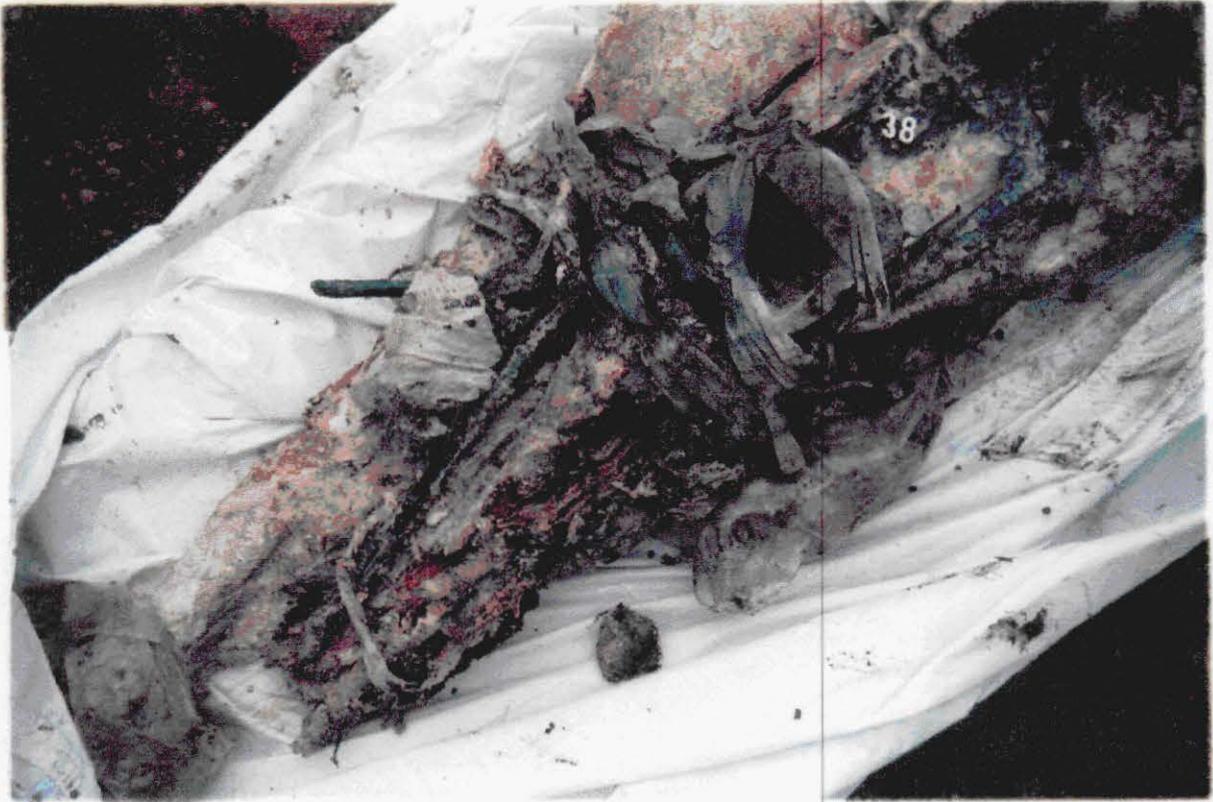
Photograph 3. NK04, stretchers among the bodies.

The latter implies that the stretchers were emptied out of their contents and then thrown in after the bodies. A number of ID papers were found loose in the grave representing six people (NK04 002A, 003A, 012A, 013-014A, 021A, 028A). In three further cases, ID documents were found in association with the bodies (NK04 017B, 022B, and 025B). All cases were listed as missing by the ICRC.

Three individuals may have been wounded prior to their disposal in the grave. One showed a bandage around the ankle without any bone injury in that location (NK04 023B). Another presented a splint on the left leg (NK04 038B) [**Photograph 4**], and a third showed a bandage around the broken shaft of the right lower leg (NK04 040B).

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10

Photograph 4. Makeshift splint on left lower leg of body NK04 038B.

According to the pathologist's report, the injuries of the latter two cases were caused by gunshot. The cause of death of both individuals was multiple gunshot wounds other than the dressed wounds. It is possible that the individuals with leg injuries were being transported in the stretchers. The latter would have been used to collect the items that the people were carrying, to throw them in the grave.

No body was dressed in military clothing; however, body 043B, a young adult male (between 15 and 19 years of age at death) was found together with 54 7.62-mm live rounds.

A possible cloth ligature was found loose in the grave fill. However, no evidence of individuals tied or blindfolded was found. One set of prayer beads was found associated to a body while a second set was found loose in the grave.

11

Summary and Conclusions

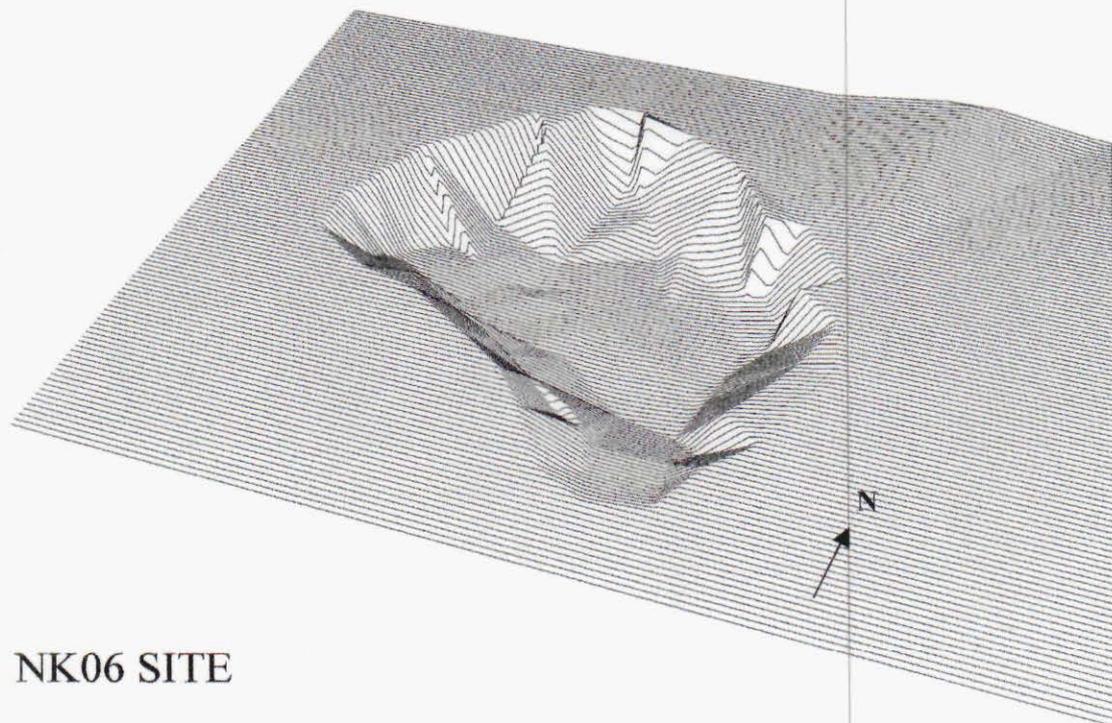
The exhumation of the grave took place on August 25 1999. This was a shallow grave, dug by hand. It contained the remains of two male individuals, one between 14 and 24 years and the other between 22 and 50 years of age at death.

The presence of four bullets under the older individual was consistent with being shot while in the grave. According to the pathologist's report, this individual died of a gunshot wound to the head and the cause of death of the second individual was unascertained.

According to the investigative team, a photograph dated 27 July 1995 showed an area of soil discoloration, roughly shaped as a bottle and oriented North – South (see **Maps 1 and 2**). The top of the bottle was pointing North. The area was in the same property were NK04 and NK08 were located (see **Map 3**).

Before the exhumation began, the area was screened with a metal detector and fourteen shell casings and a 7.62-mm live round were found lying on the surface (**Map 3**).

As soon as the topsoil was removed the cut of a shallow grave was found. The shape was roughly that of a trapezium measuring 1.9 meters at the base x 1 meter at the top and sloping to 0.7 meters at the bottom (**Figure 2**).



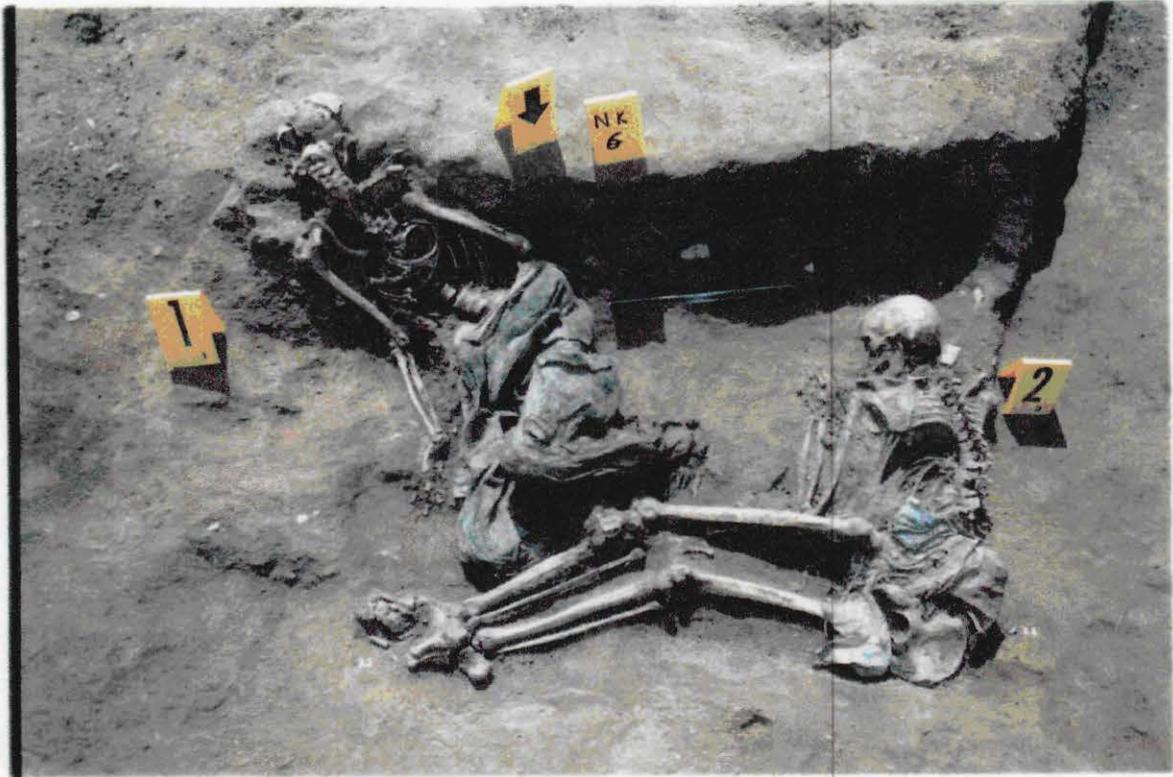
NK06 SITE

Figure 2. Contour map of NK06.

12
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The walls of the grave were irregular and marks as that of a shovel were found.

Two bodies, NK06 001B and NK06 002B, were found in the grave (**Photograph 5**).



Photograph 5. Overview of NK06 bodies 1 and 2.

Body 1, a young adult male between 14 and 24 years at death, was put in the grave first. He was lying on his back, bent at the hips and with his left arm resting on the chest. A fired bullet (NK06 008A) was found lying next to his left knee. According to the pathology report the fragmentation of some of the bones of the left hand (2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th metacarpals) could have been caused by a gunshot. The cause of death however was unascertained.

Body 2, an adult male between 22 and 50 years of age at death, was put in last. He was lying on his right side, bent at the hips and with both arms flexed. His right leg was partially over the feet of body 1.

Under body 2 four bullets were found (figure 3). One was under the head (NK06 009A), another under the chest (NK06 005A) and two under the pelvic area (NK06 004A and 007A). Two spent 7.62-mm shell casings were found at the feet of body 2 (NK06 003A and 006A).

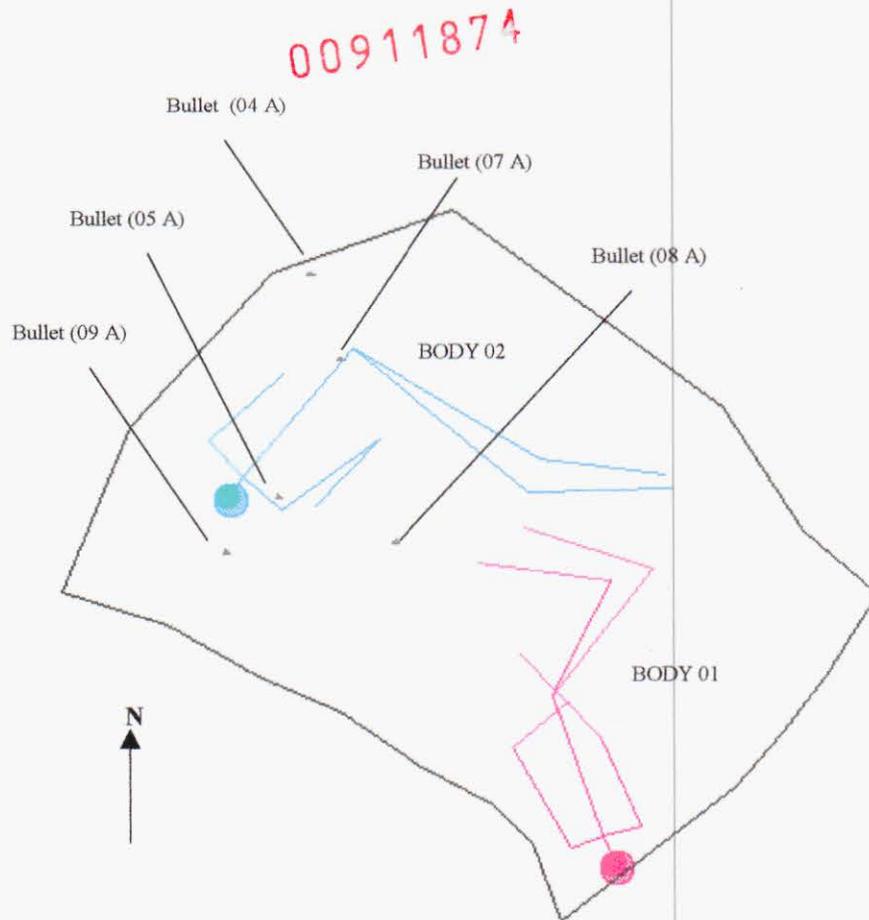


Figure 3. Sketch map of bodies 1 and 2 with bullets.

According to the pathologist report no bone injuries associated with the position of the bullets under the chest and pelvic area were found. The cause of death of this individual was a gunshot wound to the head.

The evidence recovered suggests that at least one individual (Body 2) was killed in the grave. It is not possible to determine whether the shell casings found on the surface on the vicinity of the grave are related to the killing of the two individuals or not.

Summary and Conclusions

The exhumation took place on 22 August 1999. The site was located in a field east from the other Nova Kasaba sites. According to the investigative team, in an aerial photograph of the location dated 27 July 1995, an empty rectangular trench was visible. The grave had an access ramp and its characteristics were consistent with having been dug with a front-end loader.

The excavation exposed the remains of an adult male between 31 and 65 years of age at death. Roughly at the feet of the body a number of bullets and shell casings were found. According to the pathologist's report, this individual sustained at least two gunshots, one to the back of the head and one to the left forearm. No bullets were recovered during autopsy suggesting that those recovered on site were those fired at him. However, unlike other cases (i.e., NK06) no bullets were recovered from under the body itself.

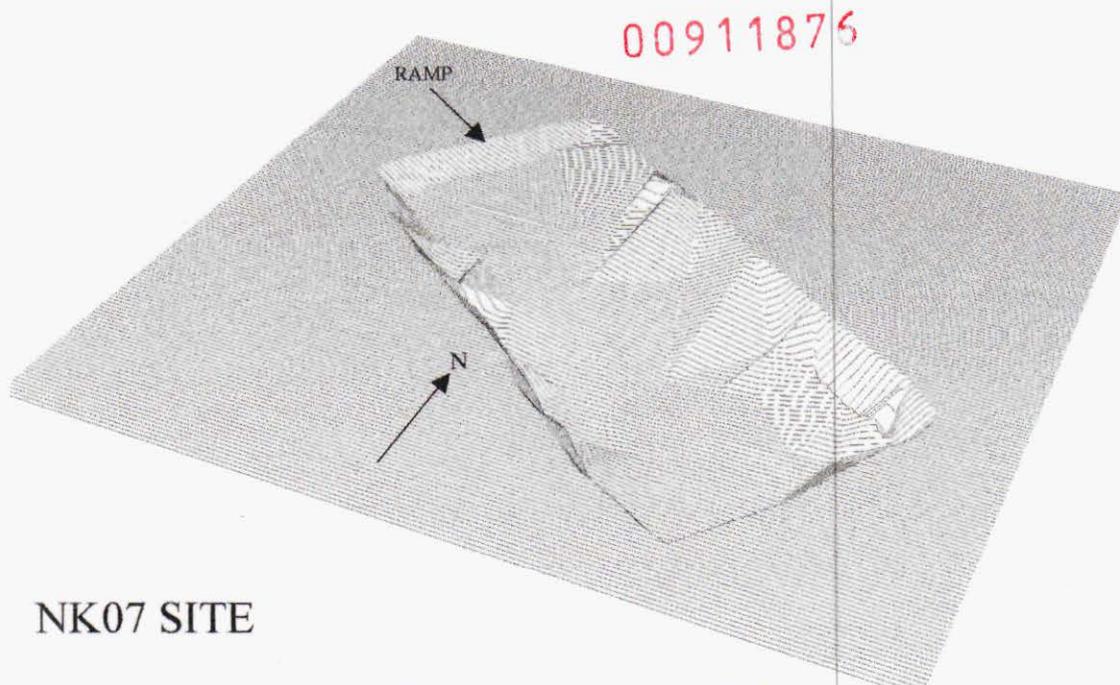
The presence in the grave of large calibre ammunition shell casings (i.e., 30mm) together with the fact that only one body was disposed therein, suggested that the trench was originally used as a gun emplacement.

According to the information already mentioned, the trench would have been backfilled after 27 July 1995. The body was disposed in the trench when it was partially backfilled.

According to the investigative team, an empty rectangular trench was visible in an aerial photograph dated 27 July 1995. The trench was located in what once was the front yard of a house East of the other Nova Kasaba sites (Map 3). In the same photograph, a tree and the fence that separated the property from the road were visible.

Upon examination of the area, it was clear that the aforementioned tree had been cut down. Also, two poles of the fence were twisted and broken as if a heavy vehicle had run over them.

After scraping the first 50cm of the topsoil, a rectangular outline oriented Northwest - Southeast was found. The dimensions were 4.9 m x 2.7 m x 1.29 m deep with an access ramp at the North West End sloping down to 1.29 meters (Figure 4). Two tooth marks were visible on the ramp. The tooth width was 9cm and the gap between the marks about 16cm. The latter suggested that the grave was dug with a front-end loader.



NK07 SITE

Figure 4. Contour map of NK07.

The body of an adult male between 31 and 65 years of age at death was found against the north east wall of the trench (see **Photograph 6**).

The body was lying on his front, slightly tilted to the left side, with the left arm extended and the right arm flexed. He was wearing shoes, dark trousers and no shirt. The left forearm was fractured and the bone fragments were spread about 30cm away from the body. The body was put headfirst with his left foot shallowly buried. A wooden stick was found lying over the left leg (NK07 005A).

When the body was buried, the trench was already partially backfilled. Therefore, the body was not lying directly on the ramp but on a slope made by some 30cm of sediment over the ramp, against the north east wall.

In the fill above the ramp and below the body, two 30mm shell casings (NK07 001A and NK07 007A) one of them smashed at the neck, were found. Close to the previous artefact, but lying on the ramp a magazine for AK-47 was also found (NK07 004A).

At the feet of the body and in the fill where he was lying, a number of bullets and shell casings were found. There were 3 7.62mm shell casings, 2 7.62mm bullets, 1 bullet jacket fragment and a 7.65mm pistol bullet (**Figure 5**).

The presence of casings and bullets suggests that the individual might have been shot in the grave. Unlike other cases however (i.e., NK06) no bullets were recovered under the body itself. This posed questions as to what was the position of the body whilst been shot or whether he was shifted from his original position.

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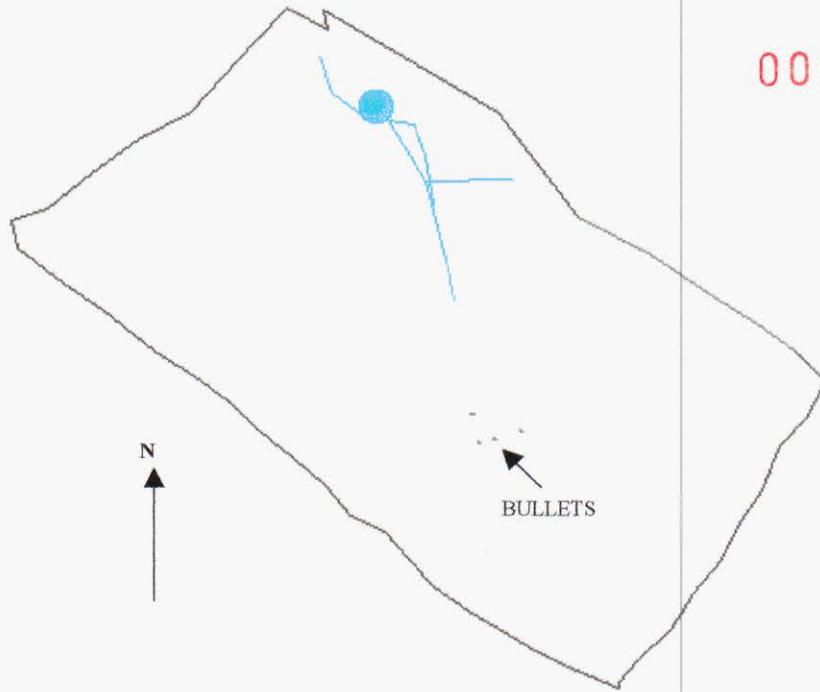


Figure 5. NK07 sketch of body and bullets.

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Summary and Conclusions

The exhumation of this grave took place between 27 August and 6 September 1999. The grave was located a few meters to the East of NK04. This was a grave with an access ramp and its characteristics suggested that it had been dug by a front-end loader.

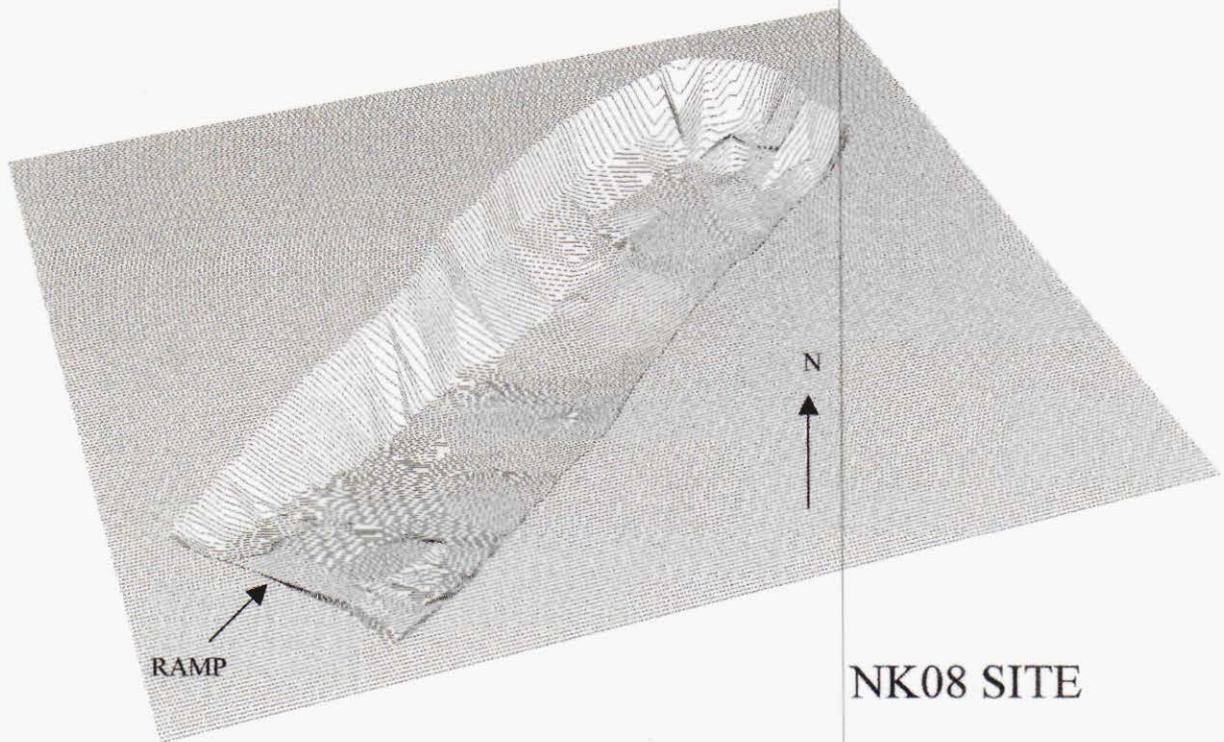
The bodies were put in the grave in three distinct groups (clusters 1, 2 and 3). A total of 33 individuals were found; 32 males and one who's sex determination could not be performed. According to the pathologist's report the cause of death of 30 individuals was gunshot wounds and in three cases unascertained.

The evidence suggested that some individuals in cluster 1 and 3 (first and last group of bodies to be placed in the grave, respectively) could have been shot while in the grave.

The presence of turf under the bodies of clusters 1 and 2 is consistent with them being mechanically removed from an unknown location and disposed of in the grave.

The presence of willow leaves and branches in close association to the bodies of cluster 1 could link them to NK05, a possible execution site nearby to a willow tree. At present, the evidence gathered so far is suggestive of NK05 being an execution site for some of the individuals disposed in NK08.

The grave was located to the East of NK04 on the same terrace and behind the shed. A haystack was placed on the area where the grave would later be discovered. The shape of the grave was rectangular with straight edges measuring 9.7 x 2.5 x 1.34 m and oriented Northeast to Southwest. The grave had an access ramp on the Southwest End (Figure 6). A number of shell casings were found lying on the surface (Map 3).



NK08 SITE

Figure 6. Contour map of NK08.

About four teeth marks and two tyre marks were visible on the ramp. The width of the teeth was about 8cm, the space between them 18cm and that of the tyres 50cm (**Photograph 7**).

Three distinct groups of bodies separated by soil were identified in this grave totalling 33 individuals (**Photograph 7**). The numbering of these groups or clusters followed the order in which they were put into the grave (i.e., 1 was the first and three the last).



Photograph 7. Overview of NK08 with Clusters 1-3. On the upper right hand corner ramp with tooth marks.

Cluster 1 was composed by 12 individuals lying directly on the ramp and located at the Easternmost End of the grave. All the bodies were adult males, but four that were between 13 and 25 years of age at death.

Most of the bodies were put in the grave extended and intertwined with each other. Some branches and green willow leaves were found between the legs or at the feet of four bodies in this cluster (NK08 069B, 072B, 073B, and 074B). The leaves were green and the branches about 3-4mm thick. No willow trees were seen in the immediate vicinity of the grave. This issue will be explored further when discussing NK05.

Three deformed 7.62mm bullets and one jacket fragment were found embedded in the bottom of the grave (075A, 076A, 077A and 078A) under or in close proximity of bodies 061B, 064B and 066B. The latter is consistent with these individuals being shot while lying in the grave. According to the pathologist's report, the cause of death of 10 individuals in this cluster was gunshot injuries. In two other cases the cause of death remained unascertained.

After the bodies of cluster 1 were disposed in the grave, some 30cm of soil were laid over them. Then cluster 2 consisting of 17 bodies was disposed. These bodies, however, were not put over cluster 1 but at their feet (**Photograph 7**).

Cluster 2 was composed by adult males with the exception of two between 13 and 22 years of age at death.

The bodies in this cluster were extended and intertwined with each other. They were primarily resting over a layer of soil and turf put over the ramp. The only exception to this was body NK08 043B that was lying directly over the ramp. In the turf under the bodies, a shrapnel fragment was found (NK08 054A). No bullets were found under the bodies in this cluster.

Cluster 3 was the last to be put in the grave. It consisted of four adult males, three of which were between 15 and 21 years of age at death. The bodies of this cluster were put over the layer of dirt covering cluster 2.

As with cluster 1, three of the four individuals in this cluster may have been shot while lying in the grave. Three bullets were found in the vicinity of the head of body NK08 016B and a bullet and a jacket fragment were found under his head. Under the head of body NK08 021B three 7.62mm bullets and 2 jacket fragments were found. Finally, adjacent to body 025B three bullets were found and under it one bullet and five jacket fragments (see NK08.rot in CD1). According to the pathologist's report, the cause of death of these individuals was multiple gunshot wounds.

One individual in cluster 1 and another one in Cluster 2 were found carrying prayer beads.



Nova Kasaba 05

According to the investigative team, on a photograph of 27 July 1995, a rectangular area of light soil parallel to the road was visible. The area referred to as NK05, measured approximately 6 x 3 meters. From this area two narrow tracks (possible tyre marks) led to a small mound at the foot of a Crack Willow tree (*Salix fragilis*). At the time of the inspection, the tree, as well as the small mound were still in place.

A series of trenches were dug in this location (rectangular area of light soil) and did not show any evidence of a grave. The feature referred to as NK05 was then interpreted as a scrape of turf exposing lighter soil. It was hypothesised that the willow leaves and branches found among some of the bodies of cluster 1, could indicate that they were killed next to the road and then were picked up and taken to NK08. The willow leaves and branches would have had fallen over the bodies whilst they were being lifted with a front-end loader. The blade from the loader would have also exposed lighter soil mimicking the shape of a trench (explaining the scrape of NK05). In the process of scraping and shifting, dirt the small mound at the foot of the willow may have been created. If the victims were shot in the NK05 area (scrape) shell casings if any may have also been shifted from their original location and may be found in the mound at the foot of the willow tree.

In order to test the hypothesis the following steps were taken: first, a sample of willow leaves and branches were collected and compared to those found in the grave (NK08). A. Brown (see 1999 statement) examined the leaves found in the grave and those collected from the tree by the road. He concluded that both were from Crack Willow (*Salix fragilis*). Secondly, the small mound under the tree was examined and five 7.62mm shell casings, a fragment of a speed loader and a mortar fragment were found (see **Map 2**).



Konjevic Polje 01**Summary and Conclusions**

The exhumation of this site took place between September 7 and 9 1999. This was a shallow grave with an access ramp located in a field off the main road Konjevic Polje-Nova Kasaba. The characteristics of the grave suggested that it had been dug by a front-end loader.

The bodies of nine individuals buried in two clusters were found. Eight of the bodies were males: seven between 25 and 65 years and one between 16 and 23 years of age at death. The remains of a female between 16 and 30 years were also found. According to the pathologist's report she sustained multiple gunshots to the left leg and possibly to the chest. The remaining individuals died of multiple gunshot wounds.

The presence of a stretcher/litter and a bag of garments were consistent with them being someone's luggage at the time the grave was made.

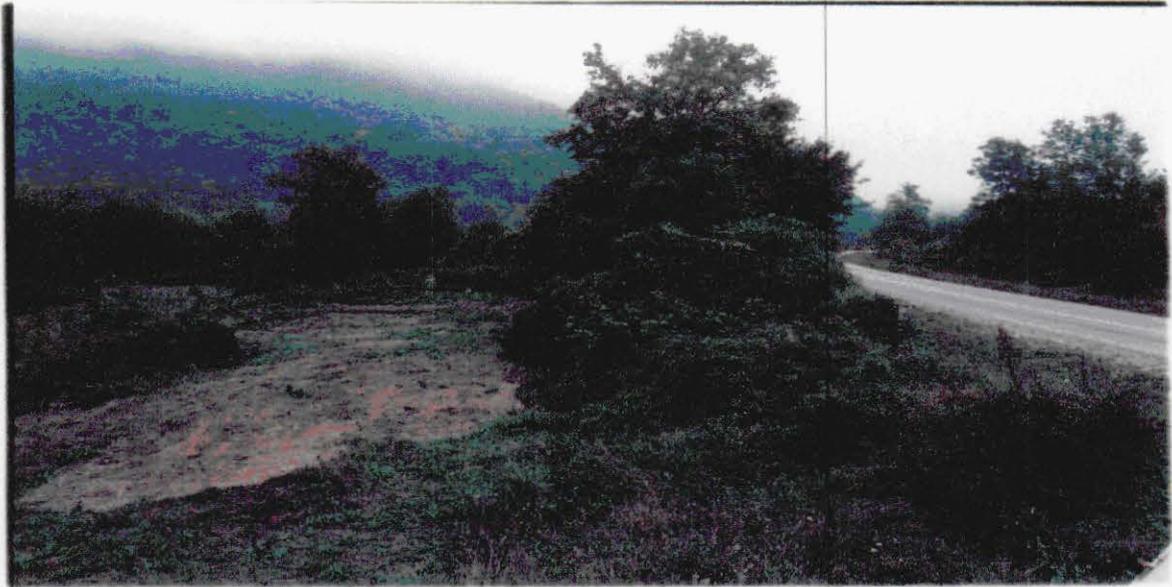
A SEIKO wristwatch that stopped at 12:35 on Friday 15 suggests that the person stopped moving (i.e., died) between 32 and 36 hours before, that is on the 13th (Mills 1999).

The turf found under the bodies suggests that some if not all of the bodies were scooped (i.e., with a front-end loader) from a different location and then put in the grave.

The presence of a non-indigenous white powder (possibly lime) suggested that it must have been placed in the grave. Evidence consistent with at least one individual being shot while in the grave was found.

The site was located in a field off the road Konjevic Polje - Nova Kasaba. According to the investigative team, an area of disturbed earth behind a line of bushes parallel to the road was identified in July 1995 (see **Photograph 8** and **Map 2**).





Photograph 8. Overview of KP1 from the South. On the left hand side, grave area prior to exhumation.

Professor Richard Wright, who probed the area initially, ascertained the presence of multiple human remains. The grave was dug into a gravelly terrace. It was rectangular with straight edges measuring 8.3 x 2.8 meters and oriented North - South. It had an access ramp running from South to North down to an approximate depth of about 50cm (**Figure 7**). The traces of a tooth mark were visible on the ramp.

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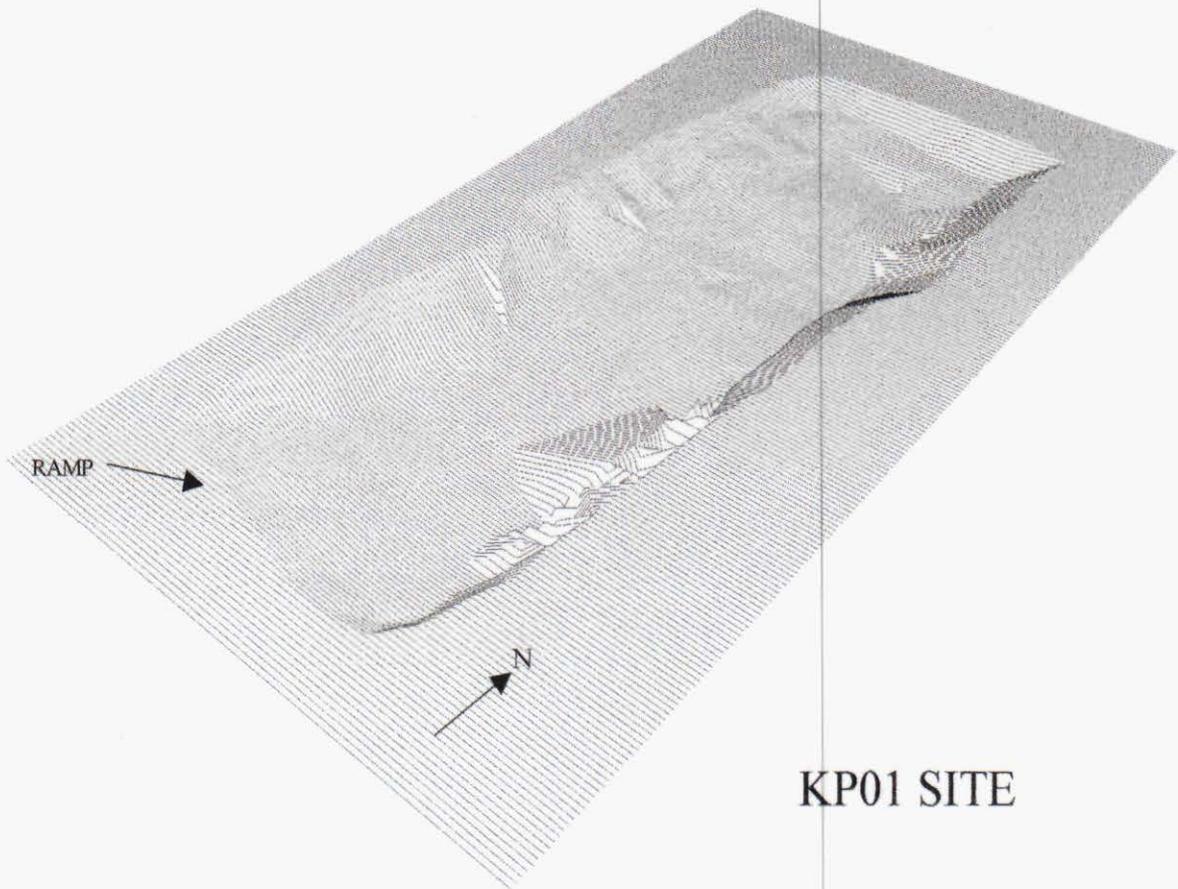


Figure 7. Contour map of KP-1.

The morphology of the grave was consistent with it being dug with a front-end loader type of machine. The fill of the grave was a combination of clay and gravel containing roots and some inclusions of a white powder, possibly lime.

The bodies of nine individuals disposed into two clusters against the eastern edge of the grave, were exhumed (**Figure 8**).

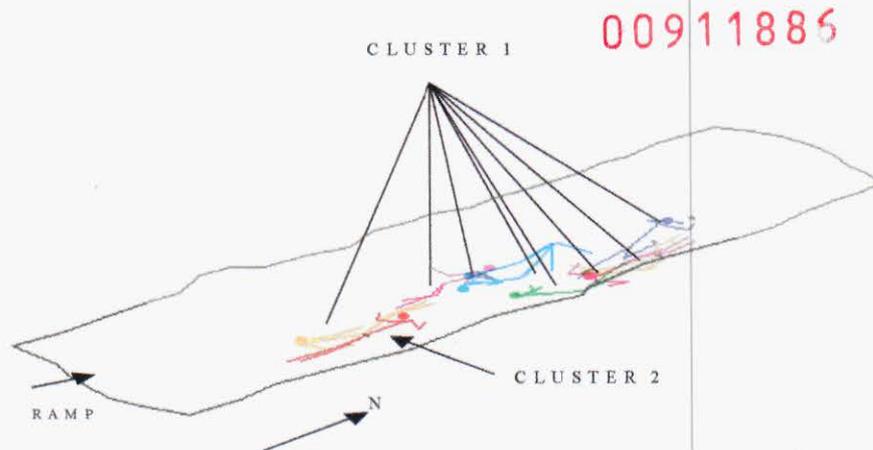
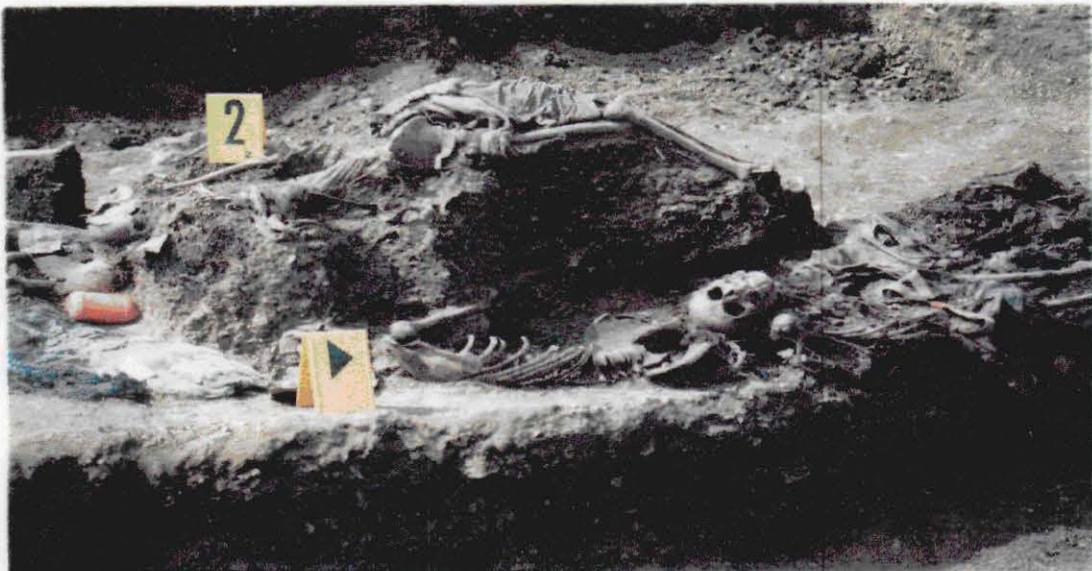


Figure 8. Overview of KP-1 with clusters 1 and 2.

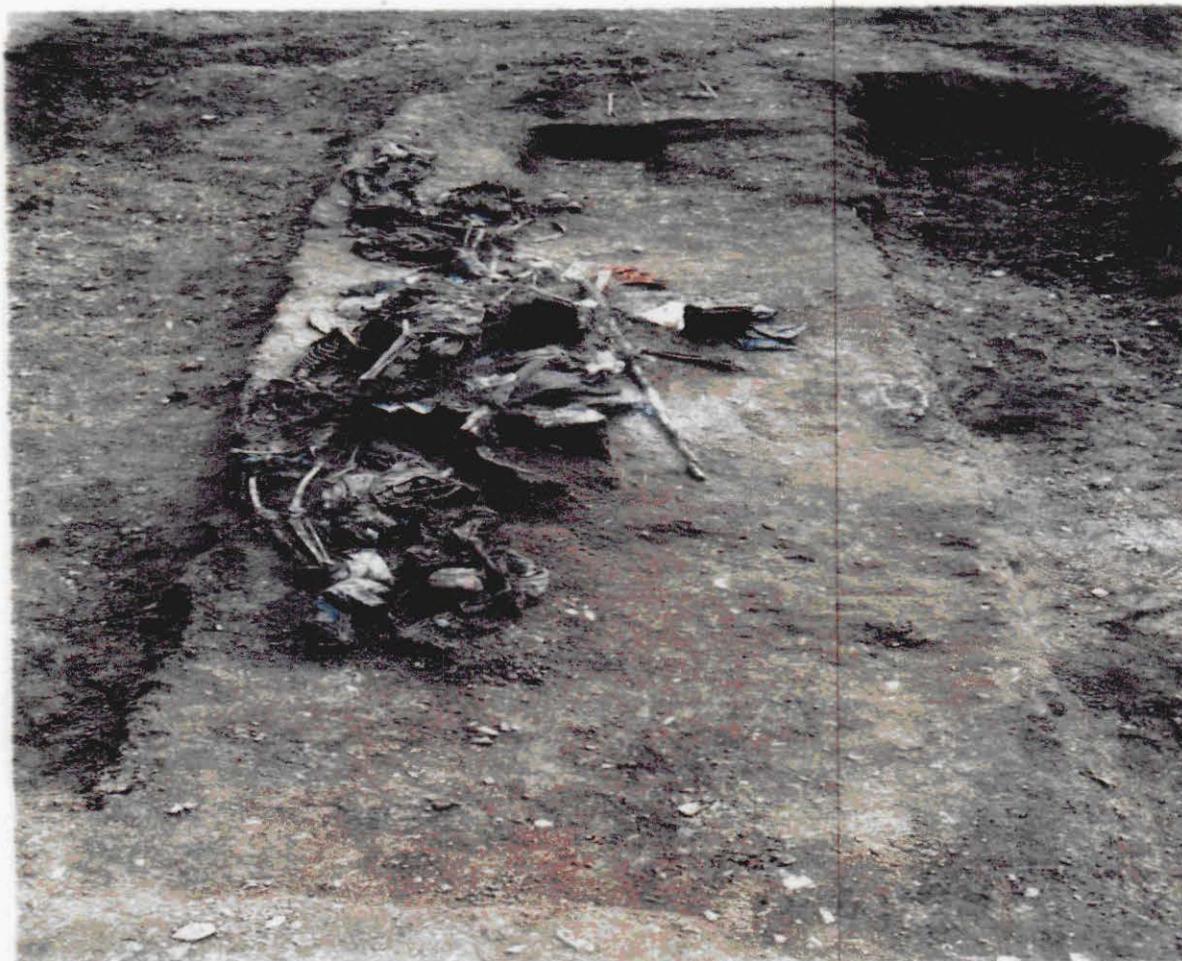
Cluster 2 consisted of the skeletal remains of a single individual (KP1-015B) lying on his back close to the surface and put in last (**Photograph 9**).



Photograph 9. Detail of single individual in cluster 2.

He was a male between 31 and 60 years of age at death. According to the pathologist's report, he died of multiple gunshot wounds. Close to his body and loose in the fill, the ID card of a female with the name Muminovic (Dutchbat Laundry # 15) was found. After the grave was back-filled and the terrain plodded by the machine to make it more even, body 015B was partially disturbed.

Cluster 1 consisted of nine individuals primarily extended and intertwined with one another (**Photograph 10**).



Photograph 10. KP-1. Overview of bodies in cluster 1.

After being put in the grave, a layer of soil was placed over them. Seven bodies were those of males between 25 and 65 years, but one was between 16 and 23 years of age at death. The last body was that of a female (KP1-029B) between 16 and 30 years of age at death. According to the pathologist's report she was shot twice in the left leg shattering the bone. She may have also sustained a third shot to the chest. The rest of the individuals in the grave died from multiple gunshot wounds.

The remains of a litter/stretchers (KP1-024A) were found covering some of the bodies of cluster 1. The litter was made of two tree branches with a blanket tied to them with string. The litter was thrown inside out after the bodies. Once the litter was lifted remains of a non-indigenous white powder, possibly lime, were found. This suggested that after the bodies were put in the grave, the litter was used to transport the white powder which was thrown over them. The bodies of cluster 2 were not lying directly against the ramp floor but over a layer of turf and vegetation.

The various items recovered from the grave included a bag containing clean and pressed garments and toiletries. Loose items of clothing were also recovered. As in a previous case (NK04), the garments were pressed as if part of someone's luggage. Other items recovered in the grave fill were Polaroid photographs, canned food and toiletries. A loose ID document, a bankcard with the name of Selinovic Ramiz, was also found. A SEIKO watch marking 12:35 of Friday 15 was found on a body (**Photograph 11**).



Photograph 11. Details of body KP1-022B with SEIKO wristwatch.

Bullets and/or shrapnel were found under some of the bodies. Under the waist area of body 033B, several pieces of shrapnel and a 7.62mm bullet from a handgun (identified by the demining team as Crvena Zastava-CZ) were found. According to the pathologist's report this individual sustained a gunshot through the left side of the pelvis. The evidence was consistent with this individual being shot while in the grave. In addition, a 7.62mm bullet was found in the turf under body 022B and finally, a 7.62mm bullet was found under the broken left arm of body 023B.

Konjevic Polje 02

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Summary and Conclusions

The exhumation of the graves took place on 10 September 1999. The site was located in a field off the road Konjevic Polje - Bratunac. Two graves were identified containing one and two individuals respectively. Both graves were shallow and had been dug by hand.

In grave 1, the body of an adult male between 31 and 71 years of age at death was found. According to the pathologist's report, he died of gunshot wounds to the trunk. The body was not lying on the grave floor but on a pedestal of turf, branches and some flowers. The latter suggested that he was scooped mechanically from a location different than the grave.

In grave 2, the remains of two young males between 15 and 21 years of age at death were found. The presence of bullets under the bodies matching the location of injuries was consistent with the individuals being shot while in the grave. According to the pathologist report, the cause of death of both individuals was multiple gunshot wounds.

It is possible that the first body to be put in the grave was that who dug it. The large amount of turf and branches between the second body and the grave wall suggested he was pushed in the grave by a front-end loader or similar machine.

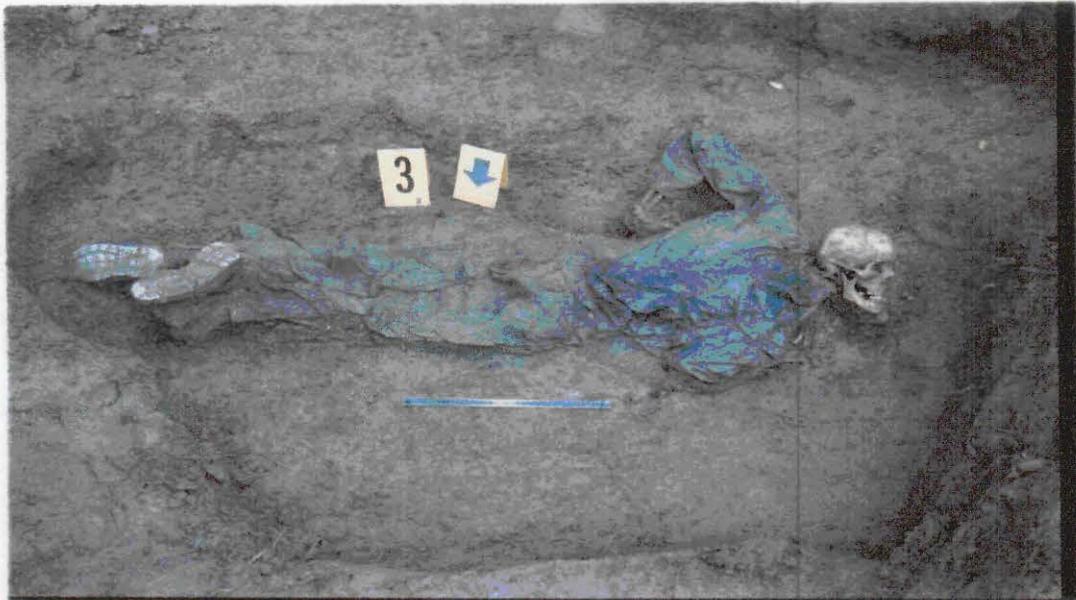
The site was located on a field off the road Konjevic Polje- Bratunac (Maps 2 and 5). According to the investigative team, an area of soil disturbance adjacent to the tree line was visible in an aerial photograph of July 1995. In a previous mission the investigative team dug a series of trenches in the area and found a single grave labelled as KP2 grave 1. The grave was excavated but the body was not exhumed.

In order to demonstrate whether there were more undetected graves or not, an area of 50 x 11 meters parallel to the tree line was stripped down to some 30cm below the surface. The outline of a second grave, a few meters away from KP2-grave 1 was identified. Between the two graves a refuse pit, not related to any of the graves, was also identified (Map 3).

Grave 1

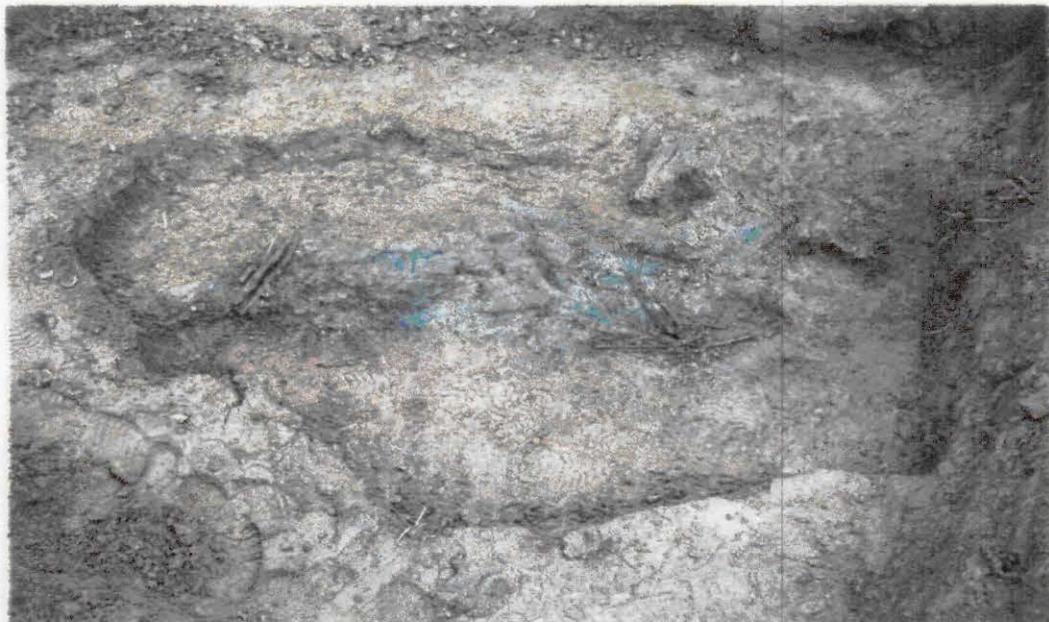
The shape of this grave is slightly elongated and wider in the middle. It measured 215 x 140 x 50 cm (map 3). The characteristics of the grave suggested that it was dug by hand and not mechanically. In the fill of the grave two rusty shell casings were found. According to the demining team, they were ballistic rounds of the PAP rifle (Polu Automatska Puska) to propel grenades.

The body of an adult male between 31 and 71 years of age at death was found lying on his front and heading West (**Photograph 12**).



Photograph 12. KP-02 grave 1.

He was dressed with shoes, trousers, a shirt and a jacket. The body was lying on a pedestal of turf, branches and some flowers above the grave floor. According to the pathologist's report, he died of gunshot wounds to the trunk. The fact that the body was not lying directly on the grave floor suggested that he was scooped out of a location other than the grave (**Photograph 13**).



Photograph 13. KP-02 grave 1. Pedestal of vegetation under body.

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Grave 2

This was a shallow grave, possibly dug by hand, 1.8 x 0.8 meters oriented East-West with two bodies heading West (**Map 3**). Body 004B was put first in the grave and body 007 B last. Body 004B was extended lying on his back while body 007B was pushed against him and lying on his right side (**Photograph 14**).



Photograph 14. KP-02 grave 2.

Both were young males, between 15 and 21 years of age at death. Between body 007B and the North edge there was a large amount of grass and branches lining the edge of the grave.

Below the waist, chest and right shoulder of body 004B and embedded in the grave floor three 7.62 mm bullets were found (008A, 009A and 010A). Under the chest of body 007B a 7.62mm bullet was also found. According to the pathologist's report, the cause of death of both individuals was multiple gunshot wounds. In both cases the location of the bullets matched the injuries recorded during the post-mortem examination. The available evidence was consistent with both individuals being shot whilst in the grave. Considering that the grave was dug by hand and that 004B was the first body disposed, it is possible that he dug his own grave. Body 007B on the other hand, may have been put in the grave by mechanical means. The vegetation found between the body and the North edge of the grave suggested that the blade of a front-end loader or similar machine pushed the body into the grave from North to South. In that way the body ended up placed against 004B and the vegetation between the former and the grave wall (**Photograph 14**).

Glogova

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Summary and Conclusions

The location known as Glogova consisted of two sites on either side of a track running off the main road Konjevic Polje - Bratunac, after the village of Glogova. The track cut a slope running North to South. The area South of the road was labeled GL01 while that to the North GL02. During 1999, GL02 was the first location to be explored.

Glogova 02 (GL02) contained at least six graves, three of which had been robbed. Two graves were discovered to be intact and one, presumably robbed, was not exhumed.

GL02-crater was a large hole in which the traces of two distinct graves were recovered (GL02-grave and GL06). While it was not possible to determine which grave was dug first, the evidence was consistent with both graves having been robbed simultaneously. The evidence recovered suggests that after the primary disposal of the bodies, a mechanical excavator such as a 360 degrees backhoe probed the area by means of trenches. Evidence of the coalescing trenches showed up as a continuous scrape.

After exposing the graves, an in depth excavation took place and the remains were extracted from them. During the robbing process, the machine changed direction constantly and dragged remains from one area to another (see Map 6).

At least 39 individuals, 20 of which were determined to be male, were represented in the GL02 graves (GL02-crater, GL02-grave and GL06).

The fact that a large area between GL06-GL03 and GL02-grave contained no structural features of a grave could suggest that there was, yet another grave in that area (see Map 6).

After robbing the graves, a number of artefacts and human remains were left behind. A SEIKO automatic watch found in one of the bodies stopped at 8:15 on Friday 15. This suggests that the person stopped moving (i.e., died) between and 32 hours before, that is on the 13th (Mills 1999).

GL03 was a shallow grave with an access ramp roughly oriented North-South and its characteristics were consistent with it having been dug with a front-end loader.

The middle part of the grave was disrupted by a robbing trench roughly oriented East- West. The eastern side of the grave (where the robbing trench was located) coalesced with the crater of GL02 (Map 6). The trench sectioned the ramp at an oblique angle and was labeled GL04 to differentiate it from the grave itself.

On the northernmost end of the grave, the remains of at least 11 bodies were found. The bodies were still in their original position, seven were male and most of them were over 25 years of age at death. Only two were between 15 and 24 years of age at

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death. According to the pathologist's report, the cause of death of 7 individuals was gunshot injuries.

The pollen analysis of a soil sample from under the bodies, showed that the sediment possibly came from a meadow that in the past was under cereal cultivation including Maize.

GL05 was an untouched site composed of two graves coalescing with each other. It is possible that grave "a" was dug first and that "b" was dug later. A narrow wall of earth separated the two graves and was partly destroyed during the original excavation of grave "b".

The grave contained 73 complete to almost complete bodies and a number of body parts. Most bodies had multiple fractured bones and some of the lower or upper limbs missing.

The remains were in clay soil rich in vegetation. The clay soil was foreign to the grave and was deposited with the bodies. According to pollen analyses the soil possibly came from a meadow that in the past was used for cereal cultivation including Maize.

At least 90 individuals, 82 of which were determined to be male and 8 in which sex could not be determined, were recovered from both graves. Roughly 50% of the individuals were between 13 and 24 years of age at death (n=41) while the remaining ones, were adults over 25 years.

According to the pathologist's report 55 individuals died of gunshot wounds. Twenty-two cases showed evidence of charring of the bones of the lower limbs and occasionally of the upper limbs as well. In some cases, the fractured surfaces of broken bones were charred, suggesting that charring took place after the fracture. Forty-seven cases of miscellaneous clothing (both upper and lower body garments) also showed evidence of charring.

The fragmentary nature of the remains and the fact that they were disposed of with a large amount of sediment suggested that they were fragmented prior to their disposal and collected mechanically (i.e., with a backhoe) from an unknown location. The mechanisms of fragmentation remain unknown.

Considering that the soil profile of GL03 and GL05 is identical to that of Zelani Jadar (ZJ05), a secondary site exhumed in 1998, it must be assumed that at least GL03 is the source of Zelani Jadar. It has been demonstrated, however, that GL05 was an untouched grave. The latter suggests that the bodies found in Zelani Jadar may be a combination between those of GL03 and GL02-crater, GL02-grave and GL06. This conclusion is drawn from the fact that the robbing of the GL02 and GL03 graves occurred simultaneously.

On the photographs shown to me by the investigative team, two locations of soil disturbance were observed on July 27 1995. They were located on either side of a track running off the main road Konjevic Polje – Bratunac, after the village of Glogova (**Maps 1, 4 and 6**). The track cut a slope running North to South. The area South of the road was labeled GL01 while that to the North GL02. Based on the above-mentioned photographs, the size of the disturbance was calculated to be approximately 63 X 20 meters for GL01 and 60 x 15 meters for GL02, respectively. GL02 was the first location to be explored.

Tatar Glogova 2 (GL02)

The topography was irregular, overgrown and a presumably dead tree was visible in the center of the suspect area. By means of trenching it was determined that the extent of disturbed soil resting on the area (matching the aerial imagery) was approximately 65 cm thick. It was then decided to strip down the surface to a depth of about 70cm (**Photograph 15**).

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Photograph 15. Overview of GL02 prior to exhumation , taken from the road.

In the newly exposed ground, a large back-filled crater was found. The fill was composed of grey clay and large blocks of natural light brown clay. Numerous body parts and artefacts were found in the fill. The crater measured approximately 15 x 11 meters. After removing some 1.2 meters of soil it became apparent that GL02 contained the remains of more than one grave (**Map 6**).

A handwritten signature in black ink, located in the bottom right corner of the page.

All the artefacts and body parts initially collected from the backfill of the crater were labeled as GL02. As the different graves were differentiated and demarcated, the items collected from each were labeled accordingly. Two distinct graves were found in the crater: GL02-grave and GL06.

GL02-Crater

This area refers to the crater where GL06 and GL02-grave were found (see **Map 6**).

The grave fill contained numerous body parts and artefacts. Among the latter, two makeshift litters/stretchers (031A and 046A) were found. They were made of two thick tree branches and a canvas sheet in between. Some white powder, possibly lime was found in one of them (046A). A canvas bag with canned food and clothes was also found in the fill (056A). Documents bearing the name of two individuals listed as missing persons by the ICRC were also found loose in the fill. The remains of a young adult male (081B, 17-23 years) had a SEIKO wristwatch marking Friday 15 at 8:15.

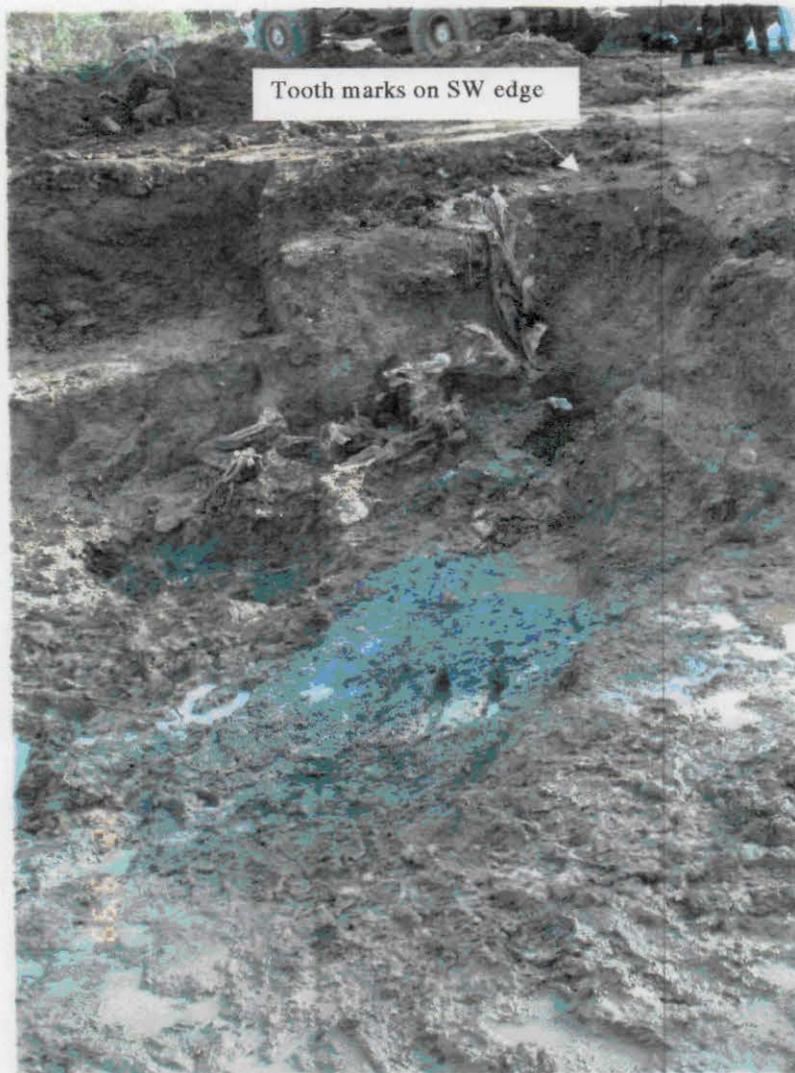
The remains of six almost complete bodies were found in the fill. They were all male, three between 15 and 23 and three between 25 and 71 years of age at death.

GL02-Grave

This was a rectangular trench oriented northeast to southwest, measuring 4.3 x 2.3 meters. On the Southwest edge of the trench teeth marks such as those made by the bucket of a mechanical excavator were found (**Photograph 16**).

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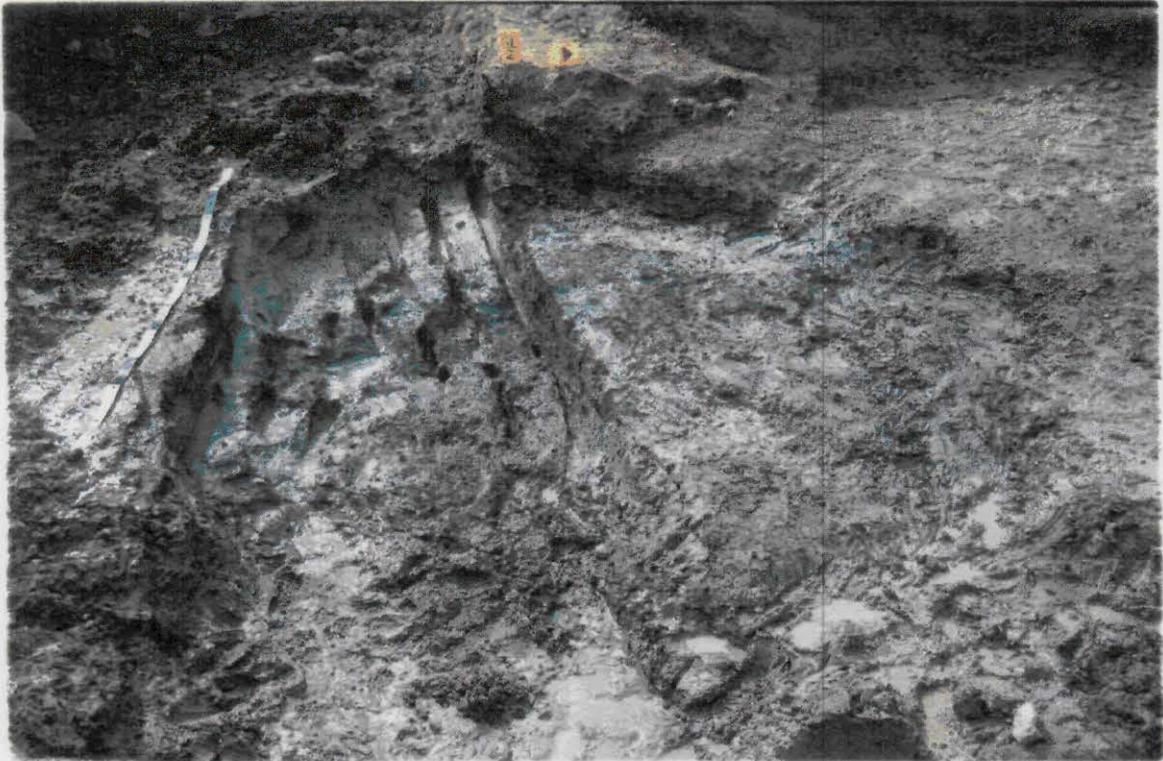
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Photograph 16. GL02-grave from NE.

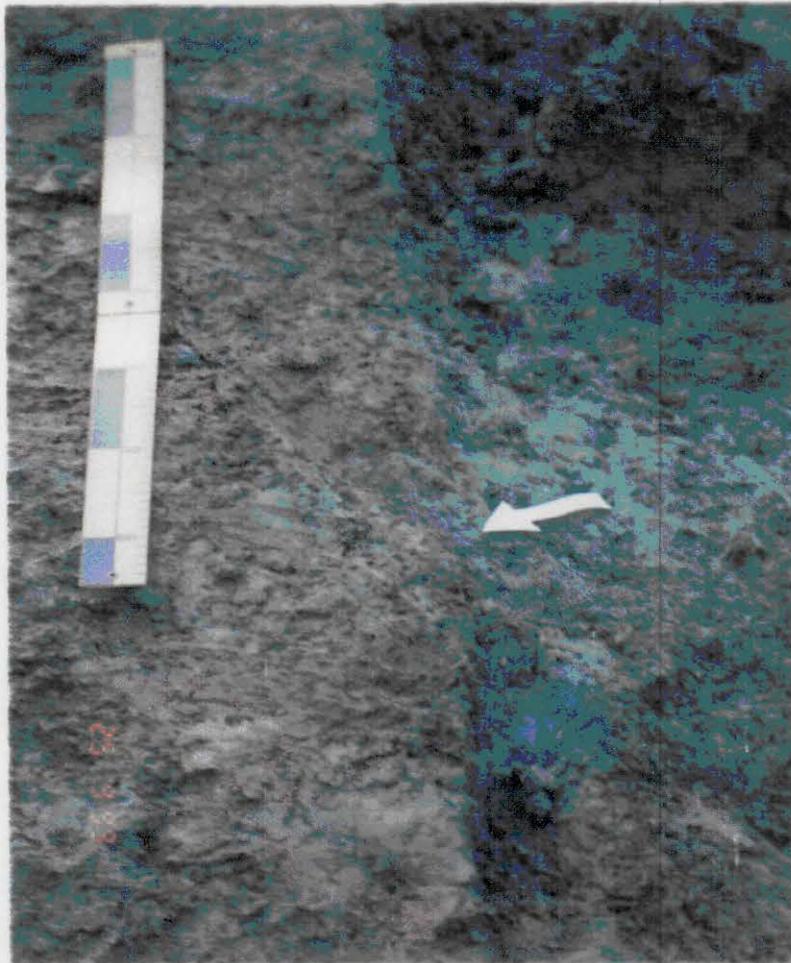
The width of the bucket was approximately 59cm with three teeth. This was consistent with the grave being dug with a backhoe, by means of coalescing rows of scoops. The robbing process of the GL02 graves (to be discussed later) left only the bottom of GL02-grave, intact.

The remains of 6 individuals still in their original position were found covered by a thick layer of a white substance, possibly lime. The substance was laid over them at the time of disposal. The bodies were not resting on the grave floor but on a layer of soil some 40cm thick. Once the bodies were removed, the continuing tooth marks already recorded on the Southwest edge became apparent (**Photograph 17**).



Photograph 17. GL02-grave from NE, tooth marks on grave floor once the bodies were removed.

On the south edge of the grave, a tooth mark aligned transversally to the previous ones was found (**Photograph 18**). On the North side of GL02-grave once the bottom of the crater was reached, traces of tooth marks aligned in roughly the same direction to the previous one were also identified.



Photograph 18. Tooth mark aligned transversally to the grave axis.

In the area where these traces were found, there was no clear evidence of a grave. Grave contents, however, such as body parts and different kinds of artefacts, were found.

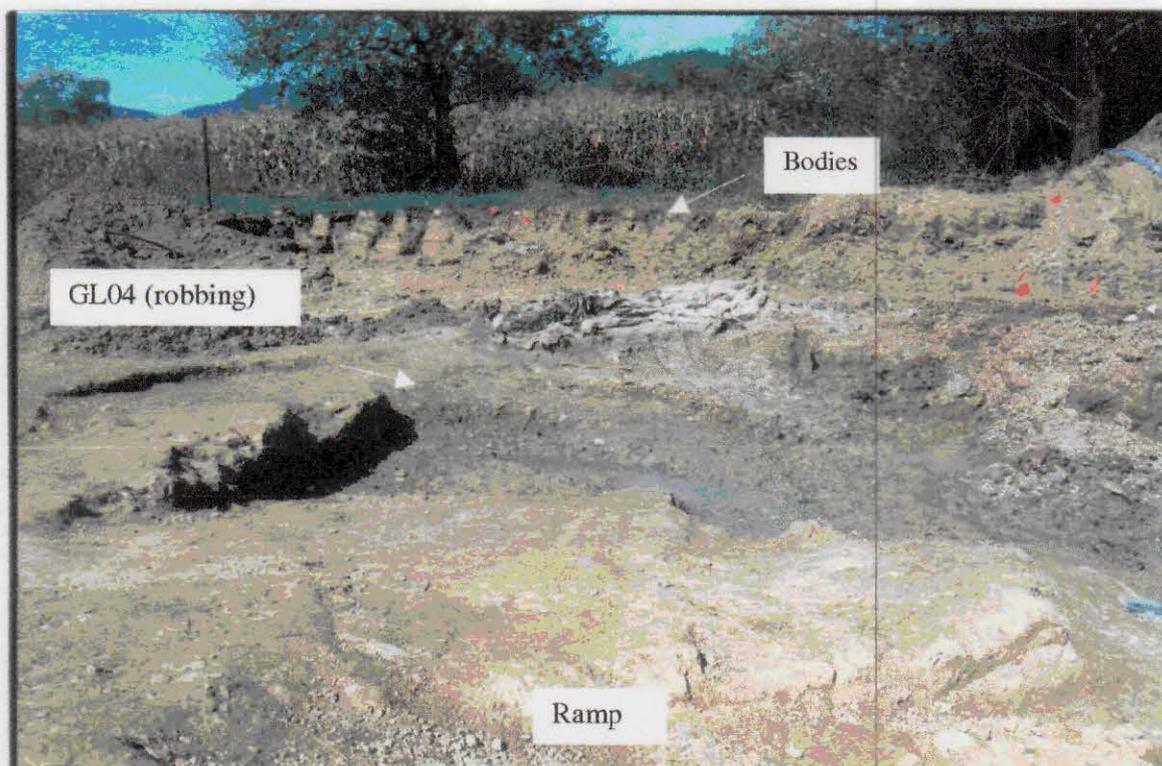
The grave contained the complete (to almost complete) remains of seven adult male individuals and one between 13 and 17 years of age at death (GL02 107b). According to the pathologist's report this individual died of a gunshot wound to the head.

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GL03 - Grave

This was a shallow grave with an access ramp roughly oriented North-South. The grave measured 8.75 x 2.5m. Two tyre marks (50 cm in width) and at least two tooth marks (6 cm in width) were identified on the ramp. The middle part of the grave was disrupted by a robbing trench roughly oriented East-West. The eastern side of the grave (where the robbing trench was located) coalesced with the crater of GL02 (**Map 6**). The trench measured 3.3 x .9 x .5 m and sectioned the ramp at an oblique angle. This trench was labeled GL04 to differentiate it from the grave itself. Body parts and clothing were recovered from the trench. No bodies were found between the trench and the ramp.

On the northernmost end of the grave, a cluster of 11 bodies still in their original position were found (**Photograph 19**)



Photograph 19. Overview of GL03 from ramp with bodies in the background.

The bodies were found isolated in a section of the grave. On the South edge a clear mark from the bucket of an excavator was found (see **Photograph 20**).

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Photograph 20. GL03 tooth marks on isolated cluster of bodies.

Seven of the bodies were male and four could not have its sex ascertained. Most individuals were over 25 years, but two were between 15 and 24 years of age at death. Most of the body parts recovered became separated from their respective bodies when the bodies were sectioned by the robbing of the grave. In one case, however, the isolated remains of a skull and some pelvic bones were deposited first in the grave and then covered by the rest of the bodies. The skull (022 BP) was that of an individual of undetermined sex between 15-24 years of age and death and showed an entrance wound from a gunshot injury. According to the pathologist's report, the cause of death of six other individuals was also the result of multiple gunshot injuries.

(007A). A SEIKO wristwatch that stopped on Saturday 15 was found laying directly on the ramp.

GL05

GL05 was an untouched grave, fully separated from the crater of GL02. It was shaped as a trench (10.3 x 2.7m) with jagged edges and roughly oriented east – west. The western two thirds of the grave followed a roughly rectangular outline while the eastern third flared out to the South (see map 6). The grave was dug in a gravel matrix down to a mean depth of about 1.2 meters. The morphology of the grave suggested that it had been dug with a backhoe. During the excavation it was realized that GL05 was made of two coalescing graves. The westernmost one was called "a" and the easternmost "b". All the materials recovered in "a" and "b" were labeled as GL05, however.

The grave contained 73 complete to almost complete bodies and a number of body parts. Most bodies had multiple fractured bones and some of the lower or upper limbs missing. The remains were in a clay matrix rich in vegetation. The clay matrix was foreign to the grave and was deposited with the bodies. Dr. A. Brown analyzed a sample of sediment and concluded that it was consistent with that from a meadow, which was under Maize the previous year. The sediment from GL05 was identical to that of GL03 (Brown 1999a).

At least 90 individuals, 82 of which were determined to be males and 8 in which sex could not be determined, were recovered from both graves. Roughly 50% of the individuals were between 13 and 24 years of age at death ($n=41$) while the remaining ones were adults over 25 years. According to the pathologist's report 55 individuals died of gunshot wounds.

Twenty-two cases showed evidence of charring primarily on bones of the lower limbs and occasionally on those of the upper limb as well. Forty-seven cases of miscellaneous clothing (both upper and lower body garments) also showed evidence of charring.

Several documents belonging to five different individuals listed as missing persons by the ICRC were recovered in the grave.

In grave "a" a loaded Beretta pistol (7.65mm) in a leather holster was found associated to one of the bodies (152B). Some larvae, presumably from flies, were found under the chest of body 153B and also in its sweatshirt.

GL05a

The outline of the grave was roughly rectangular with jagged edges. The measurements were 6.7 x 2.8 meters at the widest point and about 2 meters in the narrowest point. On the westernmost part of the grave a large deposit of a white substance, possibly lime covering some bodies, was found (photograph 22). A wristwatch marking the date 14 (no day) was found on a body laying against the wall separating this grave from grave "b".

GL05b

The outline of the grave is more orthogonal than grave "a" caused by an expansion to the South, which disrupts the rectangular outline of both graves when viewed together. The measurements were 3.6 x 2.6 meters. The graves were separated by a narrow wall (about 30cm) partially destroyed when grave "b" was originally excavated (photograph 23). The morphology of the grave was consistent with it being dug by a backhoe type of machine. Some body parts from grave "a" may have collapsed into "b" when the latter was excavated. This may also suggest that grave "b" was dug after grave "a". Further support for this hypothesis is the fact that grave "b" disrupt the outline of grave "a" (see **Map 6**). The contents of grave "b" were identical to grave "a".

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GL07

Between the crater of GL02 and GL05, an area containing multiple human remains was found. However, it was not exhumed. It was not known whether the area contained one or multiple graves. A preliminary inspection suggested that at least part of the grave(s) were robbed. Further investigations on those sites will wait until next year.



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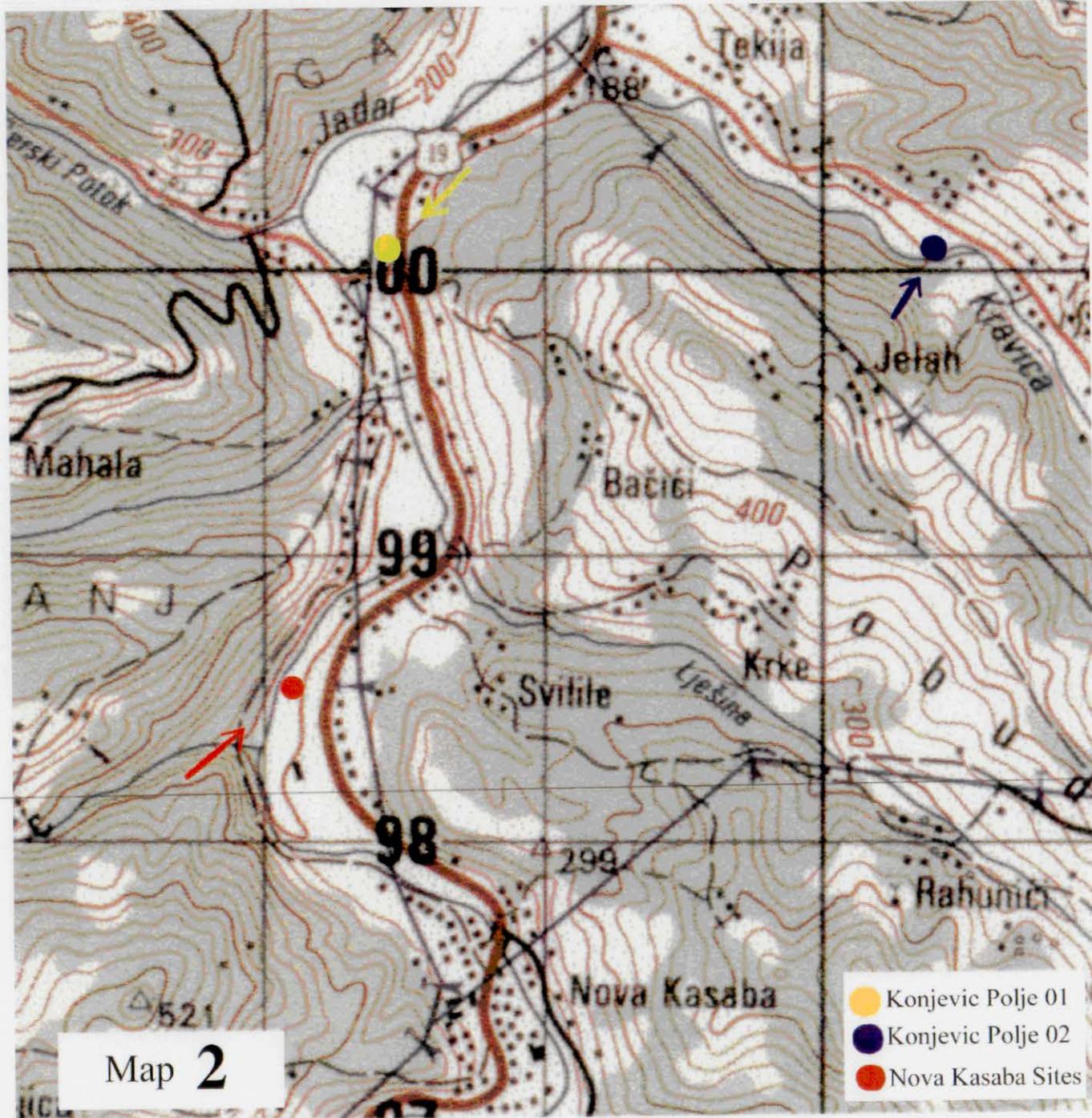


Map 1



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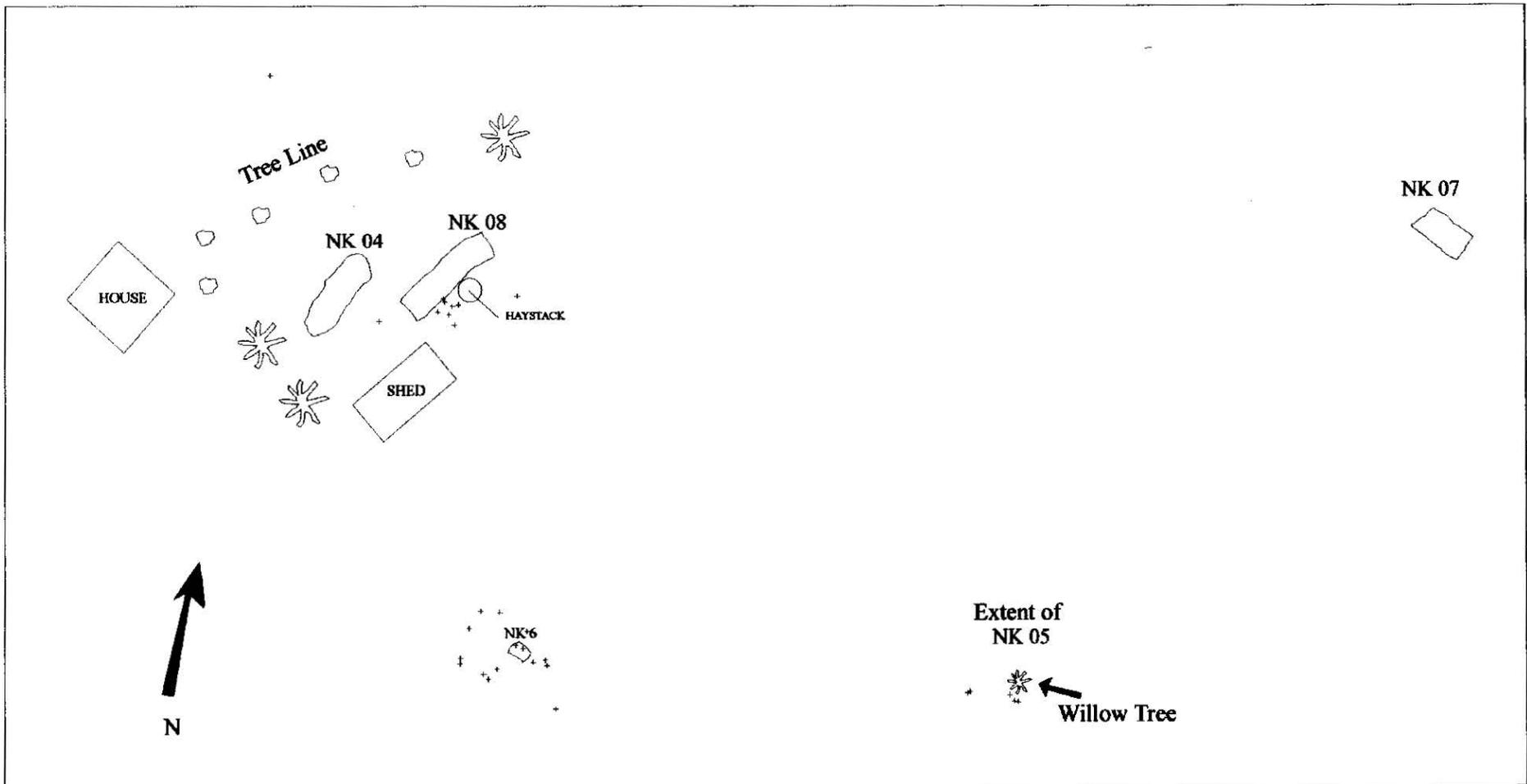
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Map 2

- Konjevic Polje 01
- Konjevic Polje 02
- Nova Kasaba Sites

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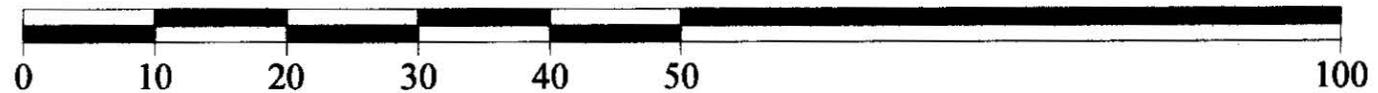


LOCATION OF NOVA KASABA SITES

- + Surface Shell Casings
- ◇ Site
- ★ Tree

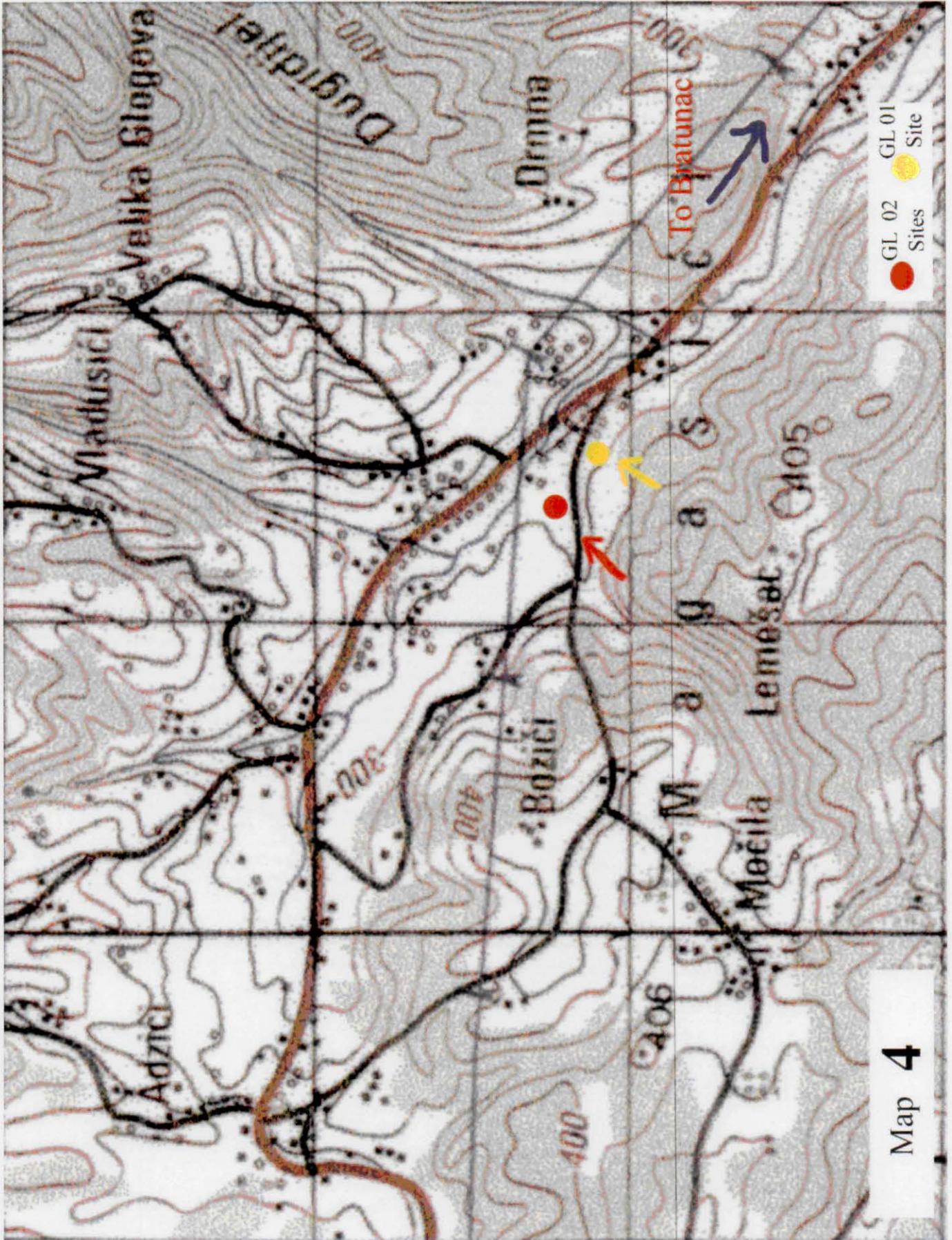
SCALE IN METERS

Map 3

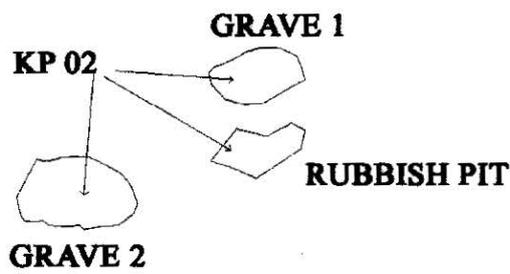


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00911907



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LOCATION OF KONJEVIC POLJE 02 GRAVE

Map 5



SCALE IN METERS



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