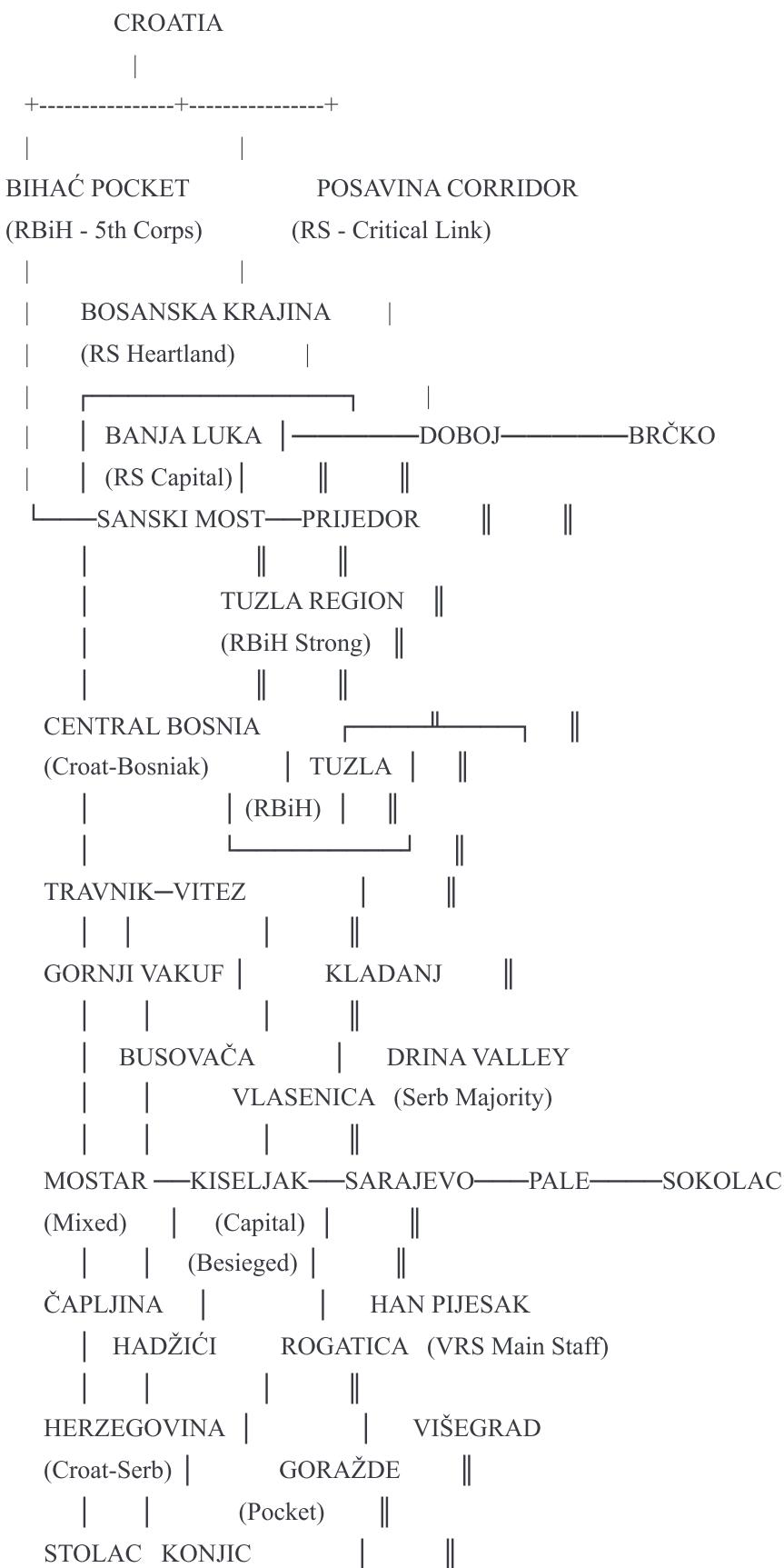
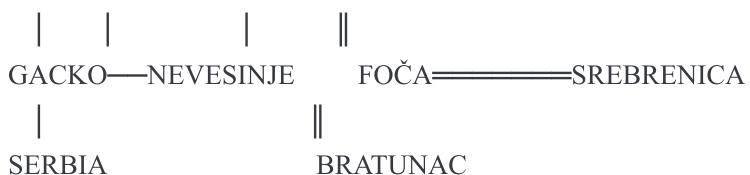


Geographic and Strategic Reference Map

Bosnia and Herzegovina - Strategic Overview (1992)





Legend

- Posavina Corridor (RS lifeline - 5km wide at narrowest)
- || Drina Valley (Border with Serbia)
- Major road connections
- Cities/strategic points

Regional Breakdown

1. POSAVINA CORRIDOR (Critical - RS)

Municipalities: Gradiška → Derventa → Doboј → Brčko → (to Serbia)

Status: Republika Srpska controlled, extremely vulnerable **Width:** 5km at narrowest point (Brčko area)

Importance: If cut, splits RS in half. No connection between Banja Luka and Serbia.

JNA Presence:

- Gradiška: 2,500 troops (moderate)
- Derventa: 1,500 troops (light)
- Doboј: 3,500 troops (moderate) + railway junction

Key Facts:

- Under constant RBiH/HVO pressure
- Only land route connecting RS territories
- Loss would be catastrophic for RS
- Defended by some of VRS's best units

2. BOSANSKA KRAJINA (RS Heartland)

Core: Banja Luka → Prijedor → Sanski Most → Bosanski Novi

Status: Strongest Serb control in Bosnia **Population:** Heavy Serb majority (except Prijedor municipality)

Importance: Economic and political center of RS

JNA Presence:

- **Banja Luka:** 25,000 troops (5th Corps HQ) - LARGEST GARRISON
- Prijedor: 3,000 troops (moderate)
- Sanski Most: Minimal

Key Facts:

- Site of ethnic cleansing operations (Prijedor, Sanski Most)
 - Surrounded Bihać pocket
 - Industrial capacity (Banja Luka)
 - Strong SDS organization
-

3. BIHAĆ POCKET (RBiH - 5th Corps)

Municipalities: Bihać → Cazin → Velika Kladuša → Bosanska Krupa

Status: RBiH controlled, completely surrounded **Population:** Bosniak majority **Importance:** Isolated but resilient RBiH enclave

JNA Presence:

- Bihać: 1,000 troops (light, border units)

Key Facts:

- Cut off from rest of RBiH by autumn 1992
 - Fierce defense by 5th Corps
 - Internal power struggles (Fikret Abdić vs. Sarajevo)
 - No land connection to Sarajevo or Tuzla
 - Survived until 1995
-

4. SARAJEVO SIEGE ZONE

Core: Sarajevo (Centar) surrounded by Pale → Sokolac → Vogošća

Status: RBiH holds city, RS controls surrounding highlands **Population:** Multi-ethnic city, Serb-controlled surroundings **Importance:** Capital, symbolic value, international attention

JNA Presence:

- Sarajevo: 15,000 troops (2nd Military District HQ)
- Pale: 1,000 troops (light)
- Sokolac: 800 troops (light)

Key Facts:

- Longest siege of modern warfare (1,425 days)
 - Tunnel under airport = only supply route
 - RS artillery on surrounding hills
 - Airport held by UN/international forces
 - Sniper warfare, daily shelling
-

5. TUZLA REGION (RBiH Stronghold)

Core: Tuzla → Živinice → Srebrenik → Gradačac

Status: Firmly RBiH controlled **Population:** Heavy Bosniak majority **Importance:** Industrial center, 2nd largest city, recruitment base

JNA Presence:

- Tuzla: 5,000 troops (garrison + air base)

Key Facts:

- Never fell to VRS
 - 2nd Corps HQ
 - Industrial capacity
 - Supply route to Sarajevo (contested)
 - Relatively stable rear area for RBiH
-

6. DRINA VALLEY (Ethnic Cleansing Zone)

Municipalities: Zvornik → Vlasenica → Srebrenica → Bratunac → Višegrad

Status: Fell to VRS early in war, except Srebrenica/Goražde pockets **Population:** Originally mixed, heavy ethnic cleansing **Importance:** Border with Serbia, direct support from Belgrade

JNA Presence:

- Zvornik: 1,200 troops (light, border units)
- Srebrenica: 500 troops (minimal)

Key Facts:

- First major ethnic cleansing operations (April 1992)
 - Direct support from Serbia across Drina River
 - Srebrenica pocket survived until 1995 (genocide)
 - Goražde pocket survived entire war
 - Višegrad bridge massacre site
-

7. CENTRAL BOSNIA (Croat-Bosniak War Zone)

Core: Travnik → Vitez → Busovača → Kiseljak

Status: Initially cooperative, then Croat-Bosniak war (1993-1994) **Population:** Mixed Croat-Bosniak

Importance: Communication route, mixed control

JNA Presence:

- Travnik: 800 troops (light, TO units)

Key Facts:

- HVO vs. RBiH fighting (1993-1994)
 - Ahmići massacre
 - Washington Agreement (1994) ended fighting
 - Became Federation territory
 - Critical for supply routes
-

8. HERZEGOVINA (Croat Stronghold)

Core: Mostar → Čapljina → Stolac

Status: Split between HVO (west) and mixed control (east) **Population:** Croat majority in west, mixed in east **Importance:** Connection to Croatia, Adriatic access

JNA Presence:

- Mostar: 4,000 troops (moderate, Herzegovina command)

Key Facts:

- Mostar divided (Croat west, Bosniak east)
 - Old Bridge destroyed 1993
 - Strong Croatian state support
 - HVO vs. RBiH fighting
 - Became Federation territory after Washington Agreement
-

9. EASTERN HERZEGOVINA (RS Territory)

Core: Foča → Gacko → Nevesinje

Status: RS controlled **Population:** Serb majority, ethnic cleansing **Importance:** Connection to Montenegro, secure rear

JNA Presence:

- Foča: 2,500 troops (moderate)

Key Facts:

- Heavy ethnic cleansing
 - Relatively stable RS rear area
 - Goražde pocket surrounded
 - Connection to Montenegro
 - Little fighting after 1992
-

Strategic Chokepoints

1. Brčko (Posavina Corridor)

- **Coordinates:** Junction of Posavina Corridor
- **Width:** 5km at narrowest
- **If Lost:** RS split in half, no Banja Luka-Serbia link
- **Status:** Constantly contested, never fell

2. Doboј (Railway Junction)

- **Coordinates:** Major railway hub
- **Importance:** Communications, supply lines
- **If Lost:** Corridor severed, Posavina isolated
- **Status:** Held by VRS throughout war

3. Pale (Sarajevo Access)

- **Coordinates:** Mountain town east of Sarajevo
- **Importance:** RS wartime capital, siege command
- **If Lost:** Siege lifted, RS control over Sarajevo lost
- **Status:** Secure VRS control

4. Konjic (Neretva Valley)

- **Coordinates:** Central between Sarajevo-Mostar
- **Importance:** North-south route control
- **If Lost:** Herzegovina isolated from central Bosnia
- **Status:** Contested throughout war

Distance Reference (Approximate Road KM)

Banja Luka → Doboј:	85 km (via Gradiška)
Doboј → Brčko:	40 km
Sarajevo → Pale:	15 km
Sarajevo → Tuzla:	110 km
Tuzla → Bihać:	180 km (if not cut off)
Mostar → Sarajevo:	130 km (via Konjic)
Bihać → Banja Luka:	100 km (hostile territory)

1991 JNA Deployment Summary

Corps-Level Headquarters

- **Banja Luka (5th Corps):** 25,000 troops

- **Sarajevo** (2nd Military District): 15,000 troops

Major Garrisons (3,000+ troops)

- **Tuzla**: 5,000 (air base)
- **Mostar**: 4,000 (Herzegovina command)
- **Doboj**: 3,500 (railway junction)
- **Prijedor**: 3,000 (Krajina control)

Strategic Garrisons (1,000-3,000 troops)

- **Foča**: 2,500
- **Gradiška**: 2,500 (corridor)
- **Han Pijesak**: 2,000 (command complex)
- **Derventa**: 1,500 (corridor)
- **Zvornik**: 1,200
- **Bihać**: 1,000

Light Presence (500-1,000 troops)

- **Pale**: 1,000
- **Sokolac**: 800
- **Travnik**: 800
- **Rogatica**: 800
- **Bosanski Novi**: 600
- **Srebrenica**: 500

Total JNA Personnel in BiH (1991): ~70,000-80,000 troops

Corridor Vulnerability Assessment

Corridor	Importance	Vulnerability	Width	Status
Posavina	Critical	Extreme	5-30 km	Contested
Sarajevo-Pale	Critical	Moderate	Secure	RS Control
Drina Valley	High	Critical	Varies	RS Control

Corridor	Importance	Vulnerability	Width	Status
Neretva Valley	High	High	Varies	Mixed
Bihać Internal	Critical	Extreme	20-40 km	Isolated
Tuzla-Sarajevo	High	Moderate	Varies	Contested

Phase-Based Strategic Situation

Phase 1: Sept 1991 - April 1992 (Pre-War)

- JNA in barracks
- Political positioning
- Territorial organization
- No flips, build-up phase

Phase 2: April - August 1992 (Initial Offensive)

- Rapid ethnic cleansing (Prijedor, Drina Valley)
- Sarajevo siege begins
- Posavina Corridor established
- Bihać pocket surrounded
- Most territorial changes occur

Phase 3: Sept 1992 - Dec 1993 (Stabilization)

- Frontlines harden
- Goražde/Srebrenica pockets hold
- Croat-Bosniak conflict begins (Central Bosnia)
- Less territorial movement

Phase 4: 1994-1995 (Federation & Offensives)

- Washington Agreement (March 1994)
- Operation Storm (Croatia, August 1995)
- Operation Maestral/Sana (Fall 1995)
- Dayton Agreement (November 1995)

Game-Mechanical Implications

Critical for RS Survival

1. **Posavina Corridor** - Must hold at all costs
2. **Banja Luka** - Capital, industrial base
3. **Doboj** - Railway, corridor junction
4. **Pale** - Wartime capital, Sarajevo siege

Critical for RBiH Survival

1. **Sarajevo** - Capital, legitimacy
2. **Tuzla** - Industrial base, recruitment
3. **Bihać Pocket** - 5th Corps survival
4. **Goražde** - Symbolic resistance

Critical for HR H-B

1. **Mostar (West)** - Capital
2. **Central Bosnia towns** - Control zone
3. **Herzegovina corridor** - Croatia link

Flip Cascades Most Likely In:

- **Drina Valley** (weak RBiH control, strong Serb demographics)
- **Prijedor** (demographic minority despite SDA election win)
- **Posavina front** (mixed municipalities, corridor pressure)
- **Rogatica area** (Sarajevo surroundings)