

= Jezdimir Dangi? =

Jezdimir Dangi? (Serbian Cyrillic : ????????? ; 4 May 1897 ? 22 August 1947) was a Bosnian Serb Chetnik commander during World War II . Born in the town of Bratunac , he was imprisoned during World War I for his membership of the revolutionary movement Young Bosnia . He subsequently completed a law degree and became an officer in the gendarmerie of the Kingdom of Serbs , Croats and Slovenes at the beginning of 1928 . In 1940 he was appointed to lead the gendarmerie detachment stationed at the Yugoslav royal palace . With the Axis invasion of Yugoslavia in 1941 , Dangi? commanded the gendarmerie unit that escorted King Peter II out of the country . In August of that year , General Dra?a Mihailovi? appointed him commander of the Chetnik forces in eastern Bosnia . Here , Dangi? and his men launched several attacks against the forces of the Independent State of Croatia (NDH) . In August , Dangi? 's Chetniks captured the town of Srebrenica . Afterwards , they became largely inactive in fighting the Germans , choosing instead to avoid confrontation . In December , Chetniks under Dangi? 's command massacred hundreds of Bosnian Muslims in the town of Gora?de . In December , his Chetniks captured five nuns and took them with them through Romanija to Gora?de , where they later committed suicide to avoid being raped .

In January 1942 , Dangi? ordered his forces to not resist German and NDH troops during the anti @-@ Partisan offensive known as Operation Southeast Croatia . Afterwards , he was invited to Belgrade to negotiate the terms of proposed Chetnik collaboration with the Germans with Milan Nedi? and General der Artillerie (lieutenant general) Paul Bader . Although a deal was struck , it was vetoed by the Wehrmacht Commander in Southeast Europe , General der Pioniere (lieutenant general) Walter Kuntze , who remained suspicious of Dangi? . Despite this , Dangi? 's Chetniks collaborated with German forces in eastern Bosnia over a period of several months beginning in December 1941 . In April , Dangi? was arrested when he travelled to Serbia despite promising to operate only within the territory of Bosnia , and was sent to a prisoner @-@ of @-@ war camp in German @-@ occupied Poland . In 1943 , he escaped from the camp and the following year participated in the Warsaw Uprising . In 1945 , he was captured by the Red Army and was extradited to Yugoslavia , where he stood accused of committing war crimes . In 1947 , he was tried , convicted , sentenced to death and executed by Yugoslavia 's new Communist authorities .

= = Early life and interwar period = =

Jezdimir Dangi? was born in the town of Bratunac on 4 May 1897 , as one of ten children . His father Savo was a Serbian Orthodox priest and his mother was a housewife . Dangi? attended high school in Tuzla and became a communist sympathizer . He was also one of the youngest members of the revolutionary organisation known as Young Bosnia (Serbo @-@ Croatian : Mlada Bosna , ????? ?????) . Following Gavrilo Princip 's assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria on 28 June 1914 , Dangi? was arrested by the Austro @-@ Hungarian police because of his membership . He was tried in Biha? alongside thirty @-@ two others in September 1915 and imprisoned for 2 ½ years for participating in revolutionary activities . Dangi? 's parents were also arrested . His father was charged with treason and sentenced to death , but his sentence was later reduced to 3 ½ years ' imprisonment . Dangi? 's mother was never tried , as she suffered a mental breakdown from spending several months in solitary confinement and her trial was postponed indefinitely .

Dangi? was released from prison at the end of World War I , in November 1918 . The following year , he and Bo?o Ili? organized a series of communist demonstrations in Belgrade , for which they were arrested and imprisoned . Following his release from prison , Dangi? became a member of the League of Farmers , a party which protected the interests of Bosnian Serb peasantry and which was the precursor to the Chetnik movement in Bosnia and Herzegovina during World War II . He also obtained a law degree and spent some time as a district officer in Belgrade , Subotica , Kratovo and Vlasenica . By 1928 , he had achieved the rank of cavalry sub @-@ lieutenant . He joined the gendarmerie on 3 January 1928 , and worked his way up to the rank of major . Over his career ,

Dangi? served in Skopje , Tuzla , Virovitica , and Zagreb . In 1940 , he was appointed to lead the gendarmerie detachment stationed at the Yugoslav royal palace . He was married and had two daughters born in 1931 and 1937 .

Between 1937 and 1941 , Dangi? published ten articles in the newspaper Politika . He published his first novel in 1938 , titled Our Imprisonment (Na?e tamnovanje) . The book was praised by academics such as Vladimir ?orovi? , and Dangi? received a literary award from the Serbian Royal Academy . In 1940 , he published a novel called Hunger and the Dungeon (Glad i tamnica) , for which he received another accolade from the Serbian Royal Academy . Bogoljub Srebi? and poet Milan ?ur?in praised the book as " an excellent depiction of prison life " .

= = World War II = =

= = = Invasion and occupation of Yugoslavia = = =

On 6 April 1941 , Axis forces invaded Yugoslavia . Poorly equipped and poorly trained , the Royal Yugoslav Army was quickly defeated . At this time , Dangi? was assigned to command the gendarmerie unit that escorted King Peter II to Nik?i? Airport as he left the country .

After the invasion , Yugoslavia was dismembered , with Serbia being reduced to its pre @-@ 1912 borders and placed under a government of German military occupation . Milan Nedi? , a pre @-@ war politician who was known to have pro @-@ Axis leanings , was then selected by the Germans to lead the collaborationist Government of National Salvation in the Territory of the Military Commander in Serbia . Meanwhile , the extreme Croat nationalist and fascist Ante Paveli? , who had been in exile in Benito Mussolini 's Italy , was appointed Poglavnik (leader) of an Usta?e @-@ led Croatian state ? the Independent State of Croatia (often called the NDH , from the Croatian : Nezavisna Dr?ava Hrvatska) . The NDH combined almost all of modern @-@ day Croatia , all of modern @-@ day Bosnia and Herzegovina and parts of modern @-@ day Serbia into an " Italian @-@ German quasi @-@ protectorate . " NDH authorities , led by the Usta?e militia , subsequently implemented genocidal policies against the Serb , Jewish and Romani population living within the borders of the new state . As a result , two resistance movements emerged ? the royalist and Serb Chetniks , led by Colonel Dra?a Mihailovi? , and the multi @-@ ethnic , Communist Yugoslav Partisans , led by Josip Broz Tito .

= = = Command in east Bosnia = = =

= = = = Background = = = =

At the time of the Yugoslav surrender , Dangi? was in Belgrade . He obeyed the summons of Milan A?imovi? , head of the first Serbian puppet government , to serve in the gendarmerie of the Serbian quisling state and did so until mid @-@ August . When news reached him of the Usta?e massacres of Serbs in Bosnia , he sought permission to travel there and escort his family and relatives to safety . In the summer his request was approved , and he travelled via Mihailovi? 's headquarters at Ravna Gora . Early on , Mihailovi? designated Dangi? as one of three men who were to succeed him as leaders of the Chetnik movement should anything happen to him . Within the first months of their occupation of Yugoslavia , the Germans had threatened to murder 100 Serb civilians for every German soldier killed and 50 for every German soldier wounded . As a result , Mihailovi? increasingly sought to avoid attacks that would bring German reprisals against the Serb population . Despite this , more than 25 @, @ 000 Serbs were killed in German reprisal killings by October 1941 . However , as early as that August , Mihailovi? had urged the Chetniks to " avoid clashes with the Germans for as long as possible . " Dangi? likewise sought to avoid conflict with the Germans and began to pursue a policy of " self @-@ defence against the Usta?e and revenge against the Croats and Muslims . " In August 1941 , Dangi? was sent by Mihailovi? to eastern Bosnia to take command

of the Chetnik detachments in the region and bring them under Mihailovi? 's control , and he collected a group of Bosnian Serbs and crossed the Drina into the NDH . Dangi? was accompanied by Major Bo?ko Todorovi? who had been appointed by Mihailovi? as his commander for east Bosnia and Herzegovina . Dangi? himself was appointed as the commander of the Mountain Staff of the Bosnian Chetnik Detachments , and had direct responsibility for east Bosnia , including the senior local Chetnik commanders , A?im Babi? and Rade Kosori? . According to the historian Dr. Marko Attila Hoare , Dangi? may have had more influence on Chetnik decision @-@ making , despite his formal subordination to Todorovi? . Todorovi? was responsible for negotiating with the Italians and Dangi? with the Germans . At the time Dangi? arrived in east Bosnia , some Chetnik detachments were still co @-@ operating with the Partisans in the region . At the beginning of the uprising in east Bosnia , the 20 @-@ strong Han Pijesak @-@ based Chetnik detachment of Babi? had accepted the command of the much larger Partisan Romanija company , but he became more independent as events unfolded and his own force grew . In early August , Babi? refused to participate in a joint attack on Vlasenica with the Bira? Partisan detachment due to the presence of " Turks " (derogatory term for Bosnian Muslims) in the Partisan force , and consequently the town was captured by the Partisans without Babi? 's assistance on 11 August . Babi? then moved his headquarters to Vlasenica and established a town administration that was completely independent of the Partisans . By this time Babi? was the most powerful local Chetnik leader in the region , and had become the self @-@ styled " vojvoda (warlord) of the Bosnian Uprising " .

= = = Initial activities and liaison with the Partisans = = =

Dangi? arrived in east Bosnia on 16 August . In the beginning , his operations were directed primarily against the Usta?e and the Bosnian Muslim population of the area , where Dangi? exercised considerable influence over the Serb population . On 18 August , a 400 @-@ strong Chetnik force led by Dangi? captured the town of Srebrenica . The Chetniks confiscated all weapons that were in the hands of the local inhabitants and began recruiting local Serbs to join the Chetniks . On 1 September , Babi? signed an agreement with the Partisan Sarajevo Oblast (district) Staff led by Slobodan Princip @-@ Seljo and Bori?a Kova?evi? to form a joint command . At the time , the Oblast Staff considered Babi? 's troops were " semi @-@ bandit " , and that they had undermined the position of the Partisans with local Muslims . Princip @-@ Seljo and Kova?evi? had also intercepted one of Babi? 's couriers carrying a message to the Germans . In the message Babi? offered to work with the Germans and assured them he was only interested in fighting the Usta?e . By early September , Dangi? had established himself as the leader of the Chetnik groups in eastern Bosnia , including those led by Babi? and Kosori? . On 5 September , in response to a failed joint Partisan @-@ Chetnik attack on Kladanj , he burnt a number of Muslim homes , and his Chetniks engaged in the robbing and beating of Muslim civilians . At this point , occasional killings of Muslims occurred , although Hoare describes this behaviour as being " not yet genocidal . " That month , under the direct orders of Dangi? , Chetniks burnt and looted the Muslim village of Novo Selo , killing Muslims and carrying out other crimes in the process . At the end of September , the Abwehr (German military intelligence) reported that Dangi? was supported by and was in contact with the Nedi? administration . It also reported that " [Dangi?] has had good relations with the Germans and does everything in order to avoid collision between his troops and the Germans . "

On 1 October 1941 , Dangi? and two other east Bosnian Chetnik commanders , Pero ?ukanovi? and Sergije Mihailovi? , met with the Partisan General Staff for Bosnia @-@ Hercegovina at the village of Drinja?a south of Zvornik . The Partisans were Svetozar Vukmanovi? (known as " Tempo ") , Rodoljub ?olakovi? and Princip @-@ Seljo . The meeting agreed on the creation of a joint Chetnik @-@ Partisan Staff , the " Command of the Bosnian Military and Partisan Detachments " , to consist of six members , three Chetniks and three Partisans . The meeting also agreed that joint Chetnik @-@ Partisan administration would be imposed on liberated areas , using the Partisan model of people 's liberation committees . The resulting declaration was a compromise , and called on the patriotism of both Serbs and Bosnians , although Dangi? opposed the inclusion of any call for the unity of Muslims or Croats with the Serbs of Bosnia @-@ Herzegovina , as he stated that all

Muslims were responsible for the Ustaše crimes against Serbs . According to Hoare , the Drinjska agreement represented the pinnacle of co -operation between Partisans and Chetniks in east Bosnia , but effectively sidelined the Provincial Committee . On 6 October , a further meeting was held at Milići near Vlasenica , and the composition of the joint staff was decided . Dangić , Babić and Sergije Mihailović became the Chetnik representatives , and Vukmanović , Đolaković and Princip -Seljo represented the Partisans , with Sergije Mihailović appointed as chief of staff . After the war , the Drinjska agreement was the subject of much heated debate between Vukmanović and Đolaković , with Vukmanović blaming Đolaković for the negative medium -term consequences of the agreement for the Partisan movement in east Bosnia . According to Vukmanović , these consequences included the virtual disappearance of an independent Partisan General Staff for Bosnia -Herzegovina , the domination of the joint staff by Sergije Mihailović , including his appointment of officers hostile to the Partisans as commanders of Partisan units , the diversion of weapons from the Partisan controlled arms factory at Ušice to Chetnik troops , and the alienation of the Muslim and Croat population of the region . When Vukmanović raised his concerns with Tito , the Bosnian Communists were forced to insist that the joint staff could have no contact with Chetnik units except during operations against Axis forces , and no joint Chetnik -Partisan operations would be permitted in Muslim areas .

Relations between the Partisans and Chetniks were placed under pressure by the continued targeting of Muslims by Chetnik units . Over the period of 13 -23 October 1941 , a joint Chetnik -Partisan operation captured the town of Rogatica . During and after its capture , Chetnik elements of the force burned and looted Muslim homes , and Partisan units refused to obey orders to stop the Chetniks , stating they would not defend the " Turks " .

During this time , Dangić and his men cooperated with the Partisans in accordance with Chetnik policy at the time . Chetnik -Partisan cooperation in areas under Dangić 's command continued to some extent even after the two groups began clashing . Dangić is said to have held a " fierce hatred " of Muslims , allegedly saying that he wished to " kill them all " , and that he had an " absolute willingness " to collaborate with the Germans . That fall in the village of Zaklopača , about 8 kilometres (5 @.0 mi) east of Vlasenica , they barricaded a group of Muslims in a local mekteb (Muslim religious school) which was then set alight , killing eighty @-@ one people . Chetnik persecution of Muslims worsened after the break with the Partisans . The largest Chetnik massacres took place in eastern Bosnia and preceded any significant genocidal campaigns by the Ustaše , which began in the spring of 1942 . According to Hoare , the massacres were " above all an expression of the genocidal policy and ideology of the Chetnik movement " .

Although his original objective was solely to protect the Serb population against the Ustaše , Dangić quickly became an important factor in the conflict between the two groups in eastern Bosnia . The Germans sought to win Dangić over to collaboration in order to strengthen anti -Partisan operations in the region , where Dangić 's Chetniks reportedly numbered about 10 @,000 men , but at this time neither Dangić nor any of Mihailović 's other commanders had any arrangement with the Germans .

On 9 November 1941 , Mihailović ordered Dangić to attack Partisan forces in the Serbian town of Ušice and to retain only his " most necessary units " in Bosnia . His order claimed that the Partisans were led by the Ustaše and were pursuing a " fratricidal war " amongst Serbs to " prevent the Chetniks from taking their revenge against the Croats . " However , Dangić failed to carry out the attack , likely because he considered the strengthening of Chetniks in eastern Bosnia a greater priority and because Partisans in Ušice had previously provided Chetniks in Srebrenica with arms and munitions from the local weapons factory . The factory later blew up on 21 November and the Partisans withdrew from Ušice on 29 November after being forced out by the German 113th , 342nd , and 717th Infantry Divisions .

== = Vlasenica conference = = =

The break between the forces of Mihailović and Tito in the Territory of the Military Commander in Serbia reached eastern Bosnia in early November . In response , a joint Partisan @-@ Chetnik

conference was held in Vlasenica on 16 November . It was convened by ?olakovi? and Vukmanovi? without consulting the Partisan Provincial Committee for Bosnia @-@ Herzegovina . Serbian Partisans were situated at Ljubovija at the time , ready to launch an offensive across the Drina against Dangi? 's forces in Bratunac and Srebrenica , but held off at ?olakovi? 's request . At the conference , ?olakovi? tried to maintain the alliance , but Vukmanovi? raised Mihailovi? 's attack on Tito 's headquarters at U?ice and the Chetnik 's failure to fight Axis forces . Dangi? questioned Vukmanovi? 's Montenegrin background and told him to return to Montenegro . The Partisan representatives sought a policy of brotherhood and unity among Serbs , Muslims , and Croats , whereas Dangi? stated that his Chetniks were fighting a purely Serbian war for the Serbian people . Dangi? 's envoys told them they intended " to slit the throats of the Turks , except for any pretty Turkish ladies " and " screw down the Croats so hard that they wouldn 't dare for a thousand years to look at a Serb askance . " At this conference the two sides failed to come to an agreement . The next day a separate Chetnik conference was held where a 14 @-@ article resolution was adopted in support of Dangi? 's views . Meanwhile , the Partisan General Staff of Bosnia and Herzegovina appealed to the Chetnik rank and file that Partisan @-@ Chetnik cooperation was broken due to the Chetnik importation of Royal Yugoslav Army officers from Serbia to Bosnia and due to Dangi? wanting " to turn our People 's Liberation Struggle into a war of Serbs against Muslims " as opposed to the Partisan belief " that the peaceful toiling Muslim people is not to blame for the crimes that the Usta?e have committed , and that the People 's Liberation Army must protect them from persecution and killing . " The Staff charged that Dangi? wished for " Serbs to gather for a war of revenge " instead of the Partisans ' " summon to our flag all honorable people , Serbs , Muslims , and Croats . " They claimed that Dangi? attempted to collaborate with the Germans and Italians .

= = = = Capture of Gora?de and atrocities = = = =

Sources vary to some extent in respect of the Chetnik massacre of Muslims in the town of Gora?de . According to Hoare , on 29 November 1941 , the Italians handed Gora?de over to the Chetniks , who immediately massacred Croatian Home Guard prisoners and NDH officials . This expanded into the systematic killing of the Muslim civilian population . Their corpses were left hanging in the town or were tossed into the Drina . Several hundred civilians were killed in Gora?de at this time . Todorovi? had reached an agreement with Lieutenant @-@ Colonel Castagnieri , commander of the Italian garrison in Gora?de , regarding Italian evacuation and hand over of Gora?de to the Chetniks . According to Tomislav Duli? , the town was occupied by Dangi? and his Chetniks on 1 December . Upon arrival , Dangi? gave a speech to a group of Serbs , Croats and Bosnian Muslims which contained references to Greater Serbia and ended with Dangi? proclaiming that Serbs and Bosnian Muslims could no longer live together . Following the speech , Chetnik bands spread through the town and began killing , raping , pillaging and torching homes . A significant number of victims were killed on a bridge over the Drina , after which their bodies were dropped into the river . Chetnik forces in Bosnia , including those of Dangi? , then set about pursuing an anti @-@ Muslim campaign to recompense for the persecution experienced by ethnic Serbs in the NDH . On 11 December , Dangi? 's Chetniks entered Pale and looted and burnt down the local convent . They captured five nuns (two Croats , two Slovenes , and one Austrian) and took them with them through Romanija to Gora?de , where on 15 December they committed suicide to avoid being raped .

= = = = Operation Southeast Croatia = = = =

In December 1941 and January 1942 , Chetniks under Dangi? 's command co @-@ operated with the Germans in eastern Bosnia . Between December 1941 and April 1942 , Dangi? engaged in direct negotiations with the Germans . During the latter half of December he met with Abwehr representatives numerous times in an effort to reach an agreement with them . In January 1942 , Dangi? and other Chetnik leaders met with Renzo Dalmazzo , the commander of the Italian 6th Army Corps . By this time , Dangi? 's cooperation with the Germans came to be seen as being even

more valuable because of the arrival of Tito and his First Proletarian Brigade to eastern Bosnia . The Germans and Croats launched Operation Southeast Croatia on 17 January . Dangi? and Todorovi? advised other Chetnik commanders that the operation was targeted at the Partisans , and there was no need for the Chetniks to get involved . Following this , their units withdrew from their positions on the front line , let the Germans pass through their areas , or went home . Many withdrew across the Drina river into the Territory of the Military Commander in Serbia to avoid being engaged . On 22 January , Dangi? ordered his own troops to permit the Germans to pass through Bosnia , saying " they are advancing peacefully and minding their own business without disturbing our unfortunate and long @-@ suffering people . " He urged Chetniks and Serbs to annihilate the Usta?e , Croats and Communists . Within a few days , the Germans and Croats succeeded in pushing the Partisans out of eastern Bosnia and southward into the Italian @-@ occupied zone of the NDH . The Chetnik actions in response to Operation Southeast Croatia severely weakened Partisan defences with the result that they suffered significant casualties and lost a great deal of territory . The result was the severing of any remaining cooperative links that remained between the Chetniks and Partisans in eastern Bosnia . In the same month Dangi? 's staff declared that the Partisans " are led by the Kike Mo?a Pijade , the Turk Safet Muji? , the Magyar Franjo Vajnert , and that so @-@ and @-@ so Petar Ili? whose real name nobody knows [emphasis in the original] " and announced the shared goal of the Partisans and Usta?e was " to break up and destroy Serbdom . That , and that alone ! [emphasis in the original] " . In February , Dangi? and other former Royal Yugoslav Army officers re @-@ entered eastern Bosnia from the Territory of the Military Commander in Serbia , where some of them had withdrawn to avoid Operation Southeast Croatia . They started to re @-@ form Chetnik units in eastern Bosnia and began agitating against the Partisans on a " conservative , Serb @-@ nationalist and anti @-@ Muslim basis . "

= = = Meeting in Belgrade = = =

In order to enlist further Chetnik aid and to intensify the Chetnik ? Partisan split , Dangi? was invited to Belgrade in late January by Nedi? and General der Artillerie (lieutenant general) Paul Bader . There , meetings were held from 30 January to 2 February 1942 . Present were Bader , Professor Josif Matl , and Colonel Erich Kewisch for the Germans , Dangi? and Pero ?ukanovi? for the Chetniks , and Nedi? and A?imovi? for the Serbian puppet government . Eventually , the involved parties reached an agreement . The terms of the agreement stipulated that :

Dangi? and his detachments bordered by the Drina , Sava and Bosna rivers in the east and the Italian ? German Demarcation Line to the south were to place themselves immediately under the command of Generalleutnant Johann Fortner , commander of the 718th Infantry Division and holder of executive power in the area .

Dangi? 's Chetniks were to remain aligned with the Germans , even in the event of a general uprising .

The town of Zvornik was to be Dangi? 's assigned seat of command .

Dangi? 's Chetniks were to help pacify northern Bosnia by ensuring that each Serb , Croat and Muslim there was to live in peace .

Murder was to be punishable by death .

The presence of NDH authorities was to be maintained .

Dangi? was to spread news of the agreement , fight the Yugoslav Partisans , and protect German industrial and mining enterprises in eastern Bosnia according to Fortner 's instructions .

Ammunition for Dangi? 's Chetniks was to be provided by Bader .

All prisoners held by Dangi? 's forces were to be released .

The parties all agreed that seventeen districts in east Bosnia would have its military control shifted from NDH control to Chetnik control with the German military in Serbia attaining authority over it and having the ability to supply certain Chetnik forces no longer considered illegal by the Germans . The Germans demanded the area remain formally a part of the NDH though Bader implied " East Bosnia from the Serbian frontier to the River Bosna together with Sarajevo will be incorporated into occupied Serbia . " Dangi? accepted it as formally being a part of the NDH , but informed the

Chetniks in east Bosnia that occupied Serbia would include " the following districts from the territory of Bosnia : Sarajevo , Višegrad , Rogatica , Srebrenica , Visoko , Vlasenica , Zvornik , Kladanj , Fojnica , Travnik , Brčko , Foča , Doboj , Bijeljina , Tuzla , Zenica , and Ajaniće . " Đukanović understood the agreement as meaning Serbian annexation of the districts . However , despite the concurrence of the parties , the agreement was not signed because negotiations had not been cleared in advance by General der Pioniere Walter Kuntze , the Wehrmacht Commander in Southeast Europe . Kuntze believed and informed Bader that " Major Dangić is a Serb and will remain one . He has only made the offer in order to use East Bosnia as his troop training ground , to overcome the winter months , and to make preparations to gain East Bosnia for Serbia . " Thus , he vetoed the conclusion of the agreement on 12 February . The agreement was also opposed by representatives of the NDH and the German Foreign Ministry . Siegfried Kasche , German envoy in Zagreb , Joachim von Ribbentrop , German foreign minister , and General Edmund Glaise von Horstenau , opposed the agreement with Kasche arguing it would harm the NDH 's position , expand the suffering of Muslims in east Bosnia who outnumbered the Serbs , and damage German Muslim world relations . This opposition led Bader to change his mind and not sign it .

Despite this , Dangić 's Chetniks collaborated with German forces in eastern Bosnia over a period of several weeks and with the understanding that Dangić and his forces would operate only inside Bosnia . Bader reported following the talks that " Dangić on this occasion declared that he and his men would , even in the conditions of a general uprising in the Balkans and the arrival of the English , fight loyally and without wavering on the German side . He declared on this occasion his belief that only German victory could guarantee Serbia the position due to it in the Balkans , while the victory of Bolshevism would mean the destruction of every nation , thus also including the Serb nation . " The plan of a Greater Serbia protected by the Germans continued to be pursued by Nedić and Dangić .

The Ustaše authorities were concerned about negotiations between the German and Italian commanders and Dangić , and were particularly worried that the Germans would permit the Italians and Chetniks to use Sarajevo as a base . In March , NDH gendarmerie in Tuzla reported " Nedić 's Chetniks are distributing weapons and ammunition from the quota they receive from the Germans for the struggle against the Communists . They are constantly sent from Serbia into Bosnia and are claiming that they will conquer the latter . " On 31 March , Jure Francetić , commander of the Black Legion , an Ustaše militia infantry unit consisting largely of Muslim and Croat refugees that fled from eastern Bosnia , launched a pre-emptive offensive primarily against Dangić 's Chetniks . Francetić captured Vlasenica , Bratunac and Srebrenica , meeting limited resistance from the Partisans , and then scattered the more numerous Chetniks while inflicting significant losses and committing atrocities against segments of the Bosnian Serb population . In mid-1942 , Đoka Đorđević , senior Serbian Interior Ministry official , asked Đukanović during a visit to Nedić : " Do you really still have Turks in Bosnia ? They must all be expelled and cleansed , so that we can enter Bosnia and establish our government . "

In early April , Dangić made the mistake of travelling to Serbia , where he met one of Nedić 's representatives and various other Chetnik leaders , and attended a public rally in Valjevo . Shortly afterwards , Kuntze ordered Dangić 's arrest . Dangić was then seized and taken to a prisoner-of-war camp in German-occupied Poland , being replaced by Stevan Botić as the Chetnik commander in eastern Bosnia . Dangić escaped from prison in 1943 . The following year he participated in the Warsaw Uprising , an anti-German rebellion which resulted in the deaths of 18,000 members of the Polish Home Army and over 200,000 Polish civilians .

= = Death = =

In 1945 , after the Soviets drove the Germans out of Poland , Dangić was captured by the Red Army and extradited to Yugoslavia 's new Communist authorities . Accused of committing war crimes , he was immediately arrested and charged . Dangić was then tried , found guilty by a court in Sarajevo and sentenced to death . He was executed by firing squad on 22 August 1947 . According to the indictment against Mihailović and others , Dangić was awarded the Order of the Star of Karađorđević by the Yugoslav government-in-exile on the recommendation of

Mihailovi? .