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THE POSITION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA IN THE
INDEPENDENT STATE OF CROATIA ACCORDING TO THE
SARAJEVSKI NOVI LIST

Summary

In the texts published in the »*Sarajevski novi list*« are elaborated all the essential elements of the *ustaši* conception of Bosnia and Herzegovina: a) Bosnia and Herzegovina in the historical, i.e. in the constitutional rights, is considered as a Croatian land, b) in the ethnic sense, Bosnia and Herzegovina are populated mainly by the Croatian element, Moslems being treated as a constitutive part of that element, c) for reasons of propaganda, Bosnia and Herzegovina were given the central role in the creation and survival of the *ustaši* state. Since the »*Sarajevski novi list*« — from May 11, 1941 to April 3, 1945 — figured as the principal messenger of the so-called Independent State of Croatia in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in the sphere of its interest were primarily the events and problems that took place in Bosnia and Herzegovina, with a visible change of stress, depending on what region, or theme, at that moment was in the focus of the *ustaši* authorities. The propagandistic function of the paper completely overpowered the informative side.

Generally speaking, the *ustaši* conception of the place and rôle of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the creation of the so-called Independent State of Croatia was, from the very coming to power of the *ustaši*, seriously shaken. Besides the lack of theoretical foundation in the interpretation of the historical development of Bosnia and Herzegovina as exclusively Croatian lands, their concept was under the war conditions, particularly undermined by the following two elements of the *ustaši* policies: the policy of clash with the Serbs on one hand, and the thesis that the Moslems of Bosnia and Herzegovina were of Croat origin, on the other.