Then Bosnia is Lost?

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"THEN BOSNIA IS LOST?"

Ivo Soljan

(Q: "Then Bosnia is lost, Mr. Secretary?"
A: "Oh, no, no; we are doing everything we can; no, no..."—Spring 1993)

Turning back (in anger?)
and seeing clearly: yes, then Bosnia is lost!
Lost in the coils of good wills,
of global love and cosmic order,
lost in the pragmatic betrayals,
in the fog of political correctness,
in fears, and tears, and global suspicions,
the global tribal "ancient hatreds",
in London, and Paris, Washington, Geneva,
in promises, and shares, and stocks, and concessions....

Lost and found, found and lost:
Destroyed—a dream, illusion, a promise?
Stretched on the negotiating and cocktail tables—
An item, a martini, a commodity, a pawn....
A scream, tearing the world apart,
A groan hardly audible next door!

Yes, WE are doing EVERYTHING WE can,
and even more...even more....

What a question!
Of course, Bosnia is lost.
Of course, Bosnias are lost.

What has shorn off the
What madness has l
What brains, what no

"There's special I
A sonnet rang, pr
"Ah, wherefore w
And with his pres

The swarthy little ma
Strutting and fretting
Becomes, in a t
To feed the ever hur
A vital, life-giving, bit

What has shorn off the
What brains, what ne
"Ring the alarm bell!
But, look, Nermin