

Grief Unites Srebrenica Massacre Survivors Across Two Continents

Seventeen years after the Srebrenica massacre, the wounds have still not healed for Nihad Sinanovic and [Beba Hadzic](#) - two friends of The Advocacy Project (AP) who escaped from the Bosnian town before it fell to the Bosnian Serbs on July 11, 1995, triggering one of Europe's worst-ever massacres.



Potocari, July 11, 2012 (photo Claire Noone)

The Serbs killed 8,375 men and boys at Srebrenica, and two of the victims were remembered by Beba and Nihad this past week on two continents.

In Bosnia, Beba joined over 40,000 mourners who gathered at the site of the massacre to rebury the remains of 520 victims, including those of her 17 year-old nephew Alem. Beba ran the primary school at Srebrenica

before she was forced to flee in 1992. She went on to form the women's group [Bosfam](#), a longtime partner of AP which has given succor to hundreds of Srebrenica survivors.



Nihad Sinanovic in 1995

On the other side of the Atlantic, in the American city of St Louis, Nihad remembered Srebrenica at an emotional ceremony in a mosque alongside 500 Bosnian-Americans. Nihad was 12 when he was evacuated from Srebrenica in 1993 (photo left) leaving his father, uncle and grandfather behind. The three were killed and are commemorated in a quilt (photo below) that was made by Beba's group in Bosnia and displayed last week in St Louis.

Meanwhile, the fall of Srebrenica is also being replayed in the Hague, where Ratko Mladic - the architect of the massacre - is on trial. After the town's defenses collapsed, Mladic's men separated the men and boys and sent the women and children away on buses. Mladic [was filmed](#) entering a bus and addressing panic-stricken refugees.

The Advocacy Project started work with Srebrenica refugees in 1999 and has sent 13

