BACKGROUND: Diaries are registers or records of personal experiences, observations, thoughts, or feelings, kept daily or at frequent intervals. They are usually written as an aid to memory or reflection and are customarily intended for private rather than public use. The procedures below describe the specific treatment of works consisting of true personal diaries. This instruction sheet is not intended to cover fiction written in diary form, memoirs, reminiscences, or personal narratives of events that are not in diary entry form and contemporaneous with the events described. It is also not intended to be applied to official logs of activities.

1. **Array of headings.** Assign the following array of headings to individual diaries or collections of diaries:

   600 #1 $a [name of diarist(s)] $v Diaries.
   650 #1 $a [classes of persons, or ethnic group] $v Diaries.
   650 #1 $a [special topics discussed in the diary or diaries].
   650 #1 $a Diaries.

2. **Individual diarists.** Assign as subject headings the names of the individual writers of the diaries, up to a maximum of three. If there are more than three diarists, do not designate any individual writer. Subdivide the name(s) by the free-floating subdivision —Diaries.

   **Title:** *The Lewis and Clark journals.*
   600 11 $a Lewis, Meriwether, $d 1774-1809 $v Diaries.
   600 11 $a Clark, William, $d 1770-1838 $v Diaries.
   650 #1 $a Explorers $v Diaries.
   650 #1 $a Diaries.

3. **[class of persons, or ethnic group]—Diaries.** Assign headings for the type of [class of persons, or ethnic group]—Diaries if the writer(s) (not addressees) of the diary or diaries can be identified with a particular subject area or discipline or a particular ethnic group. If applicable, assign headings for both class of persons and ethnic group. **Examples:**

   650 #1 $a Explorers $v Diaries.
   650 #1 $a Presidents $v Diaries.
   
   650 #1 $a Physicists $v Diaries.
   650 #1 $a Scientists $v Diaries.
   650 #1 $a African Americans $v Diaries.

   [not 650 #1 $a African American physicists $v Diaries.
   650 #1 $a African American scientists $v Diaries.]
4. **Special topics.** If the diary contains information about topics not covered by headings of the type [class of persons]—Diaries, or [ethnic group]—Diaries, assign additional headings for the topics, including headings of the type [place]—Biography (cf. C 1330, sec. 2.c) or [individual war or event]—Personal narratives (cf. C 1928), if appropriate.

**Title:** Sarajevo's childhood wounded by war.  
650 #1 $a Yugoslav War, 1991-1995 $z Bosnia and Herzegovina.  
600 11 $a Halilbegović, Nadja, $d 1979- $v Diaries.  
650 #1 $a Yugoslav War, 1991-1995 $v Personal narratives.  
651 #1 $a Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina) $x History $y 20th century.  
651 #1$a Bosnia and Herzegovina $x History.

Since the diary or diaries of any individual person may or may not be regarded as historical source material, depending on the viewpoint of the reader, do not add the subdivision –Sources to the additional headings assigned for special topics.

5. **Diaries as a literary genre.** Assign the heading Diaries only to collections of diaries by more than one writer that are classed as literary works.