

Since July
1997

Senior Deputy High Representative, Sarajevo, B

On 17 September 1997, five members of the OHR – Senior Deputy High Representative Gerd Wagner, Charles Morpeth, Leah Melnick, Thomas Reinhardt and Juergen Schauf – and seven members of UNMIBH lost their lives in a helicopter crash near Fojnica in central Bosnia. The OHR officials were en route to Bugojno to meet with local authorities to discuss key issues related to peace implementation. The UN officials intended to fly on to Brcko for talks on police reform matters.

The OHR remembers the victims of this tragic accident as committed members of a community striving to ensure that the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina can live in peace. It has felt a sense of loss ever since and continues to extend its deepest sympathy to their relatives and friends. At the first anniversary in 1998, a memorial monument was erected near the crash site.