

# **OBN News Review, 3 December 1999**

## **Headlines**

- Refugees and displaced persons will have the same legal status on the entire territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina as from today – this is the result of the law adopted by the BiH Parliament House of Peoples
- New York Declaration divided representatives in the RS National Assembly
- BiH Council of Ministers held its session today – how did BiH entities' prime ministers usurp authorisations of the Council of Ministers?
- Exclusive story: M. Bouguelane still on strike by hunger in the Zenica prison – he asks to be handed over to France
- After 30 years of bloodshed, parliaments of the Northern Ireland governments took over broad authorisations from London
- "Miss World" competition will be held tomorrow in London – 89 TV stations will broadcast the event, including OBN – Samra Begovic will present Bosnia and Herzegovina

## **Sarajevo**

The BiH Parliament House of Peoples discussed recent dismissal of BiH officials by the OHR and OSCE and the new BiH draft election law. Several suggestions for laws were adopted, including the law on immigration and asylum in BiH. The representatives agreed to encourage BiH Council of Ministers to speed up implementation of the new procedure for entering Yugoslav and Croatian citizens to Bosnia and Herzegovina, based on equal rights. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Bakir Hadziomerovic.

## **Banja Luka**

Representatives in the RS National Assembly continued their discussion about the New York Declaration. They still have different opinions about the Declaration. The National Assembly announced they had serious doubts regarding offered solutions for the establishment of BiH border police, joint passports and joint military units for the participation in the UN peace missions. The Parliament asked these decisions should be made in accordance with the original provisions of the Dayton Peace Agreement. The report was produced by OB reporter from Banja Luka, Tatjana Lajsic.

## **Sarajevo**

A piece on the session of the BiH Council of Ministers followed. The representatives agreed to have regular sessions in the following period in order to implement all tasks of the Council's programme of work. The next session is scheduled for Wednesday next week. Today, the representatives discussed suggestion of the Republic Croatia to continue negotiations regarding the trade agreement between two states. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Adis Saranovic.

BiH Federation Prime Minister, Edhem Bicakcic, and the RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik, met recently in Banja Luka in order to agree the new customs law which should protect local production. However, according to the BiH Constitution, the customs policy and taxes are responsibility of the BiH Council of Ministers. One of the BiH Council of Ministers member, Neven Tomic, said that prime ministers wanted to show that they were more efficient than BiH joint institutions, although they did not achieve any concrete results. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic.

## **Mostar**

The Chairman of the BiH Presidency, Ante Jelavic, said that the decision of the OHR and OSCE to dismiss 22 BiH officials was a big surprise and a set back, OBN reporter from Mostar, Pejo Gasparevic, confirmed.

## **Sarajevo**

At today's meeting between the Deputy Special Advisor for the Dayton Peace Agreement Implementation, Robert Frowick, and the member of the BiH Presidency, Alija Izetbegovic. It was said that the fight against corruption was a strategic and permanent task. For TV INFO, Robert Frowick talked about corruption in BiH. The report was produced by OBN journalist, Duska Jurisic.

## **World**

The President of the Croatian Parliament who temporarily replace the President, Vlatko Pavletic, said there were no new information about the health state of the Croatian President, Franjo Tudjman, after his visit to the hospital. This was followed by a report on current events in Chechenia and entering of Russian troops into the strategic Chechen town, Argun. Reports on events in Seattle, USA, and Spain followed. The report was produced by OBN journalist, Zeljka Lekic.

This was followed by a report on the two-day meeting of NATO member countries defence ministers in Brussels. One of the issues discussed at the meeting was the intention of the European Union to establish troops for speed reaction. Although the number of troops in BiH was decreased for one third, the end of the SFOR Mission in BiH has not been determined. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Vedran Persic.

## **Zenica**

For two months, M. Bouguelane has been on strike by hunger in the Zenica prison. Bouguelane said he would stop his strike if Bosnia and Herzegovina hand him to France. He was charged for several murders and sentenced to 20 years in prison. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic.

## **Vares**

A report on the difficult situation in the Vares municipality regarding accommodation. The returnees can not return to their pre-war apartments because the apartments are occupied by people who moved in during the war. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Ana Drmac.

## **Sarajevo / Banja Luka**

A report on the International Day of Invalids. In Sarajevo, a Declaration which demands equal rights for this category of citizens and solving of their problems was presented today. This was followed by a report from Banja Luka on the invalid, Goran Krsmanovic.

## **Sport**

A report on the European Chess Championship was followed by reports on the forthcoming International Indoor Football Tournament and NBA.