OBN News Review, 1 April 2000

Headlines

- More than 20 000 pensioners, who received their pensions in Croatia, became users of the B&H pension funds.
- The beginning of construction of the highway between Sarajevo and Zenica has been postponed
- A ship with more than 2 tones of heroin has been confiscated near the coast of Acapulco.
- New eruption of the volcano "Usu".
- How does the process of return to Nevesinje and Sapna go?

Banja Luka

Croatian Institution for Pensions decided not to pay pensions for the Bosnian pensioners any longer. B&H will take over about 21 000 pensioners. These are mostly refugees from the Federation of B&H and the RS. Reported by Darko Savic.

Zagreb

In a recent meeting of negotiating teams from B&H and Croatia, Sarajevo had no objections regarding the take-over of payments for 15 000 pensioners. They will agree on the remaining 6500 soon. Davorko Vidovic, Croatian minister for work and social care said that this would be a great relief for Croatia. He promised to find the best possible solution for the remaining 6500 pensioners. The report was produced by Gordana Simonovic.

Sarajevo

The three B&H Pension Institutions (PI) will from now on pay the pensions for about 21 000 pensioners, who received it in Croatia until now. The PI from Mostar will pay for 3900 pensioners, the PI B&H for 3300, and the RS PI will pay for about 5000 pensioners. The issue of their social and health insurance has not been solved yet. Reported by OBN reporter Mirna Sadikovic.

Sarajevo

Construction of the highway Sarajevo-Zenica should have started today. All attempts of OBN reporter to find out why it didn't happen were useless. Reported by Anes Alic.

Fojnica

The citizens of three villages near Fojnica blocked the road today, because no one helped them to repair it. Reported by Branka Vrebac.

World

A French officer was killed in Kosovska Mitrovica yesterday. The investigation is underway.

The <u>UN</u> High Commissioner for human rights, Mary Robinson, arrived to the northern part of Kavkaz, in order to inform herself about war crimes of the Russian armed forces in Cechenia.

A new eruption of the volcano "Usu" took place within the last 24 hours. At least 18 000 citizens were evacuated from the area.

Mexican Navy discovered about 2200 tones of cocaine on a ship near the Acapulco coast. Smugglers tried to transport it to the USA. 3 persons were arrested.

Sarajevo

The Institution for Exploring of the Information Technologies in Sarajevo has worked independently since 1991. Only one signature was missing for their registration when the war interrupted the procedure. After the war, the management found out that their rooms had been registered as a part of the neighbouring distribution centre. The former manager of the Institution, Davorin Ceplak, signed a contract on unification with the distribution centre just before he resigned, on 14th March, and has not informed his colleagues about this. The employees are against this, and they haven't received their salaries for several months. Reported by OBN reporter Amarildo Gutic.

Banja Luka

On the 1st February, offices of the RS "Telekom" received an order to increase the prices of the phone impulses by 12%. After a month, "Telecom" called this "an administrative mistake", and the RS Government decided that "Telekom" cannot change prices of their services without the approval from the Ministry of Traffic. Meanwhile, citizens paid their phone bills for February and March. The citizens will receive compensation by lowering their phone bills for April by 12%, said Mile Bajalica, the deputy director of "Telekom". Reported by Milena Letic-Joves.

Nevesinje

While no one returned to the town of Nevesinje, the pre-war citizens return to the surrounding villages. The NGO "Dom" partly helped this process. Their offices have been robbed in March. The municipality has not approved their initiative to open a club where all citizens would gather. Later, they decided to open a café. They received the support from the British Embassy. Reported by Damir Kaletovic from Nevesinje.

Sapna

About 200 Serb refugees expressed their wish to return to Sapna. The main problem is the lack of means for reconstruction. Bosniaks are not against their return, while they wait their houses to be reconstructed, so that they could return as well. Reported by Muhamed Berbic. Ismet Bajramovic Celo, Mahir Radzo, Mevsad Licina, Svjetlana Kostic and Aida Omerovic were arrested today under a suspicion to have committed the murder of Rahman Ajdarpasic, while Zeljka Gvozdenovic was seriously injured in "Fast Food Brajlovic" restaurant. During the investigation, Ismet Bajramovic Celo was transported to the hospital because of the heart problems. All visits and interrogations are excluded.

Banja Luka

A Press Conference was held today, after a basketball match ended by a heavy incident in Banja Luka 2 days ago. Reported by Milorad Milojevic.

Sport

Reports on football, tennis and NBA league were presented.