OBN News Review, 11 December 1999

Zagreb

The Croatian President, Franjo Tudjman, died last night at 11:15 p.m. in the Zagreb hospital "Dubrava". The Croatian President was in the hospital since November 1st. At approximately 2 p.m. today, citizens started visiting President's catafalque. The deceased Croatian President will be buried on Monday, December 13th. The President of the Croatian Parliament, Vlatko Pavletic, will be the Head of the state until the presidential elections are held. The report for OBN from Zagreb was produced by Gordana Simonovic.

Sarajevo

The Chairman of the BiH Presidency and the President of HDZ Party in BiH, Ante Jelavic, send a telegram presenting his condolence to the provisional Head of the Republic of Croatia, Vlatko Pavletic. Ante Jelavic expressed condolence in behalf of the BiH Presidency and his own. He said that Franjo Tudjman was the founder and creator of the modern, independent and democratic Croatia.

Mostar / Kiseljka / Vitez / Busovaca

Death of the Croatian President disturbed Croats in Herzegovina. Books of mourners have been opened in all towns in Herzegovina and in the towns of the Srednja-Bosna Canton with predominant Croat population. The main commemoration organised by the HDZ party in BiH will be held today in Mostar. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Mostar, Blazica Kristo and OBN reporter from Kiseljka, Ana Drmac.

This was followed by reactions of citizens from the capitals of the ex-Yugoslavia countries regarding the death of the

Croatian President, Franjo Tudjman.

Skoplje

President of the Macedonian Parliament and the Macedonian Prime Minister send a telegram to the Croatian leadership expressing their sincere condolence. They emphasised the role of Franjo Tudjman in the establishment of the modern Croatian state and his personal contribution regarding the improvement of the cooperation between the two countries. The report from Skoplje for TV INFO was produced by Mirjana Vasileva.

Podgorica

There were no official reactions in Montenegro regarding the death of the Croatian President. The information was presented by Montenegrin electronic media. The report from Podgorica for OBN was produced by Olja Bulatovic.

Belgrade

This was followed by a report on reactions from Belgrade. The information was presented by state media, short and without any comment. The only official reaction came from the office of the Serbian Minister of Information, Aleksandar Vucic, who said that he did not like Croatian President and that the Serbian people would never forget nor forgive expelling of Serbs and occupation of Serb territory. The report from Belgrade for TV INFO was produced by Danica Ilic.

Ljubljana

The state political leadership of Slovenia send telegrams to the Croatian leadership and members of the deceased Croatian President, Franjo Tudjman, expressing their condolences. The Slovenian President, Milan Kucan, laid a wreath on the catafalque of the President Tudjman in the afternoon in Zagreb. The report from Ljubljana for TV INFO was produced by Tomaz Gerden.

Washington / Koln

World top media announced the news on the death of the Croatian President just after the Croatian Television announced it at approximately 2 a.m. The US media published stories about Tudjman's mixed inheritance. On the one hand, his role in the establishment of the Croatian statehood was emphasised and on the other, he left the country economically deeply neglected. The report from Washington for OBN was produced by Kemal Kurspahic. This was followed by a report on how German media presented the news on the Croatian President death. The information was in the top of all electronic media news. The German President send a telegram to the Croatian leadership. The report for TV INFO from Koln was produced by Zdravko Lipovac.

This was followed by a short biography of the deceased Croatian President and analysis what the Republic of Croatia will have to face with after the President's death. Although Franjo Tudjman played an important role in the establishment of the state, economic problems which occurred during past several years have decreased his popularity as well as popularity of the HDZ party. The death of Franjo Tudjman marked the end of a period in the political life of Croatia. Now, new trials are in front of the country. The report was produced by OBN journalist, Mladen Maric.

World

A report Chechenia was presented. According to different sources, there are fifteen to forty five thousand civilians in Grozny. Reports on the <u>EU</u> warning to Russia because of the offensive in Chechenia and arrival of the Turkish President to Helsinki in order to meet European leaders followed. The report on current events in the world was produced by OBN reporter, Zeljka Lekic.

Sarajevo

After his visits to Banja Luka and Srednja-Bosna cantons, the International Mediator for the BiH Federation and the RS, Christian Schwarz Schilling, expressed his satisfaction with some of the steps forward in the implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement and the refugee return process. The Mediator emphasised that the responsibility for the implementation of the Agreement belongs to local leaderships, citizens and the High Representative in BiH. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Adis Saranovic.

This was followed by a report on apartment claims in the Sarajevo Canton. Out of 32,000 apartment claims submitted in the Sarajevo Canton, only 9,000 of them were solved to date. During this year only, ombudspersons had to intervene in 2,000 cases. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic.

Brcko

One of the key towns in the implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement is Brcko. On February 28th 2000, the Statute of the Brcko District will be officially enacted. This is the founding block for the future of the entire territory of the pre-war Brcko Municipality. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Slobodanka Radojkovic.

Sport

A report on local football was followed by a report on international swimming.