

# OBN News Review, 11 February 2000

## Headlines

- Rescue teams search for survivors under the rubbles after an accident of sliding of the ground in the Zenica residential quarter, Mala Broda
- Croatian Foreign Minister, Tonino Picula, officially visited BiH – the BiH Foreign Minister, Jadranko Prlic, said this was a new phase in the relations between Croatia and BiH
- President of the Volkswagen Concern, Lothar Sandel, said that the factory in Sarajevo had future
- Exclusively for OBN, the French Minister of Defence talks about role of French troops within [SFOR](#) and KFOR
- A law on the establishment of a direct British administration in Northern Ireland enacted again

## Mala Broda (Zenica)

Last night, under-ground waters initiated sliding of 600,000 cubic meters of ground in the Zenica residential quarter, Mala Broda. Three individuals were killed and another six have disappeared. Rescue teams search for the survivors. Some 136 inhabitants of Mala Broda were evacuated. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Koraljka Kurcenberger.

## Sarajevo (Croatian Foreign Minister Visit)

Bosnia and Herzegovina is the first country which the new Croatian Foreign Minister, Tonino Picula, officially visited. The BiH Foreign Minister, Jadranko Prlic, said this was a new phase in the relations between Croatia and BiH. BiH officials expect concrete steps regarding the return of Serbs to the Republic of Croatia. The piece was produced by OBN reporter, Danijela Bozic.

The High Representative in BiH, [Wolfgang Petritsch](#), met with the Croatian Foreign Minister as well. The High Representative and Foreign Minister Picula noted the historic importance of the Foreign Minister's visit to Sarajevo, given the fundamental role of the Republic of Croatia at the Dayton and Paris Peace Conferences and in the years since those pivotal events. In light of this, both observed that it was particularly appropriate that the Foreign Minister's first trip abroad was to Bosnia and Herzegovina to address issues of concern to all constituent peoples and other citizens of BiH.

During the afternoon, Tonino Picula, visited OBN premises in Sarajevo, wanting to found out more about activities of this electronic media company. In an interview to OBN, the Foreign Minister stressed that a part of the Croatian Government will travel to Lisbon, Brussels and Berlin tomorrow.

In their talks with the [EU](#) officials, Government's representatives will reiterate that the new Croatian authorities were ready to establish a completely new foreign policy, based on the principles of good neighbouring relations. In that respect, relations with BiH will not have tactical, but strategy importance. Danijela Bozic produced the interview.

## **French Defence Minister Visit**

This was followed by an item on the visit of the French Defence Minister, Alan Richard, to Bosnia and Herzegovina. The French Minister visited French troops in Mostar and than came to Sarajevo. Upon his arrival to Sarajevo, he said that no government could say they were not arresting those who committed war crimes. Last month, [SFOR](#) French troops arrested Mitar Vasiljevic. In an exclusive interview for OBN produced by OBN reporter, Vedran Persic, the French Minister of Defence talked about role of French troops within [SFOR](#) and KFOR.

## **World**

A law on the re-establishment of a direct British administration in Northern Ireland enacted. The Queen Elizabeth the Second approved the law, previously adopted by both houses of the UK Parliament. The regional Government was established only two months ago, and the decision was made because IRA refused to hand over arms. In Chechnia, Russian troops continued their attacks on the South of the country. OBN journalist, Gordana Frimel produced the report.

### **Banja Luka**

The Chairman of the Representative House of the BiH Parliament, Mirko Banjac, accused Bosniak representatives in the body of activities on changing the BiH Constitution. As an example, he quoted their suggestion for the permanent election law of BiH, OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Tatjana Lajsic, confirmed.

### **Sarajevo**

Today in Sarajevo, meetings closed for public, between the BiH Federation Government and the Managing Board of the car factory Volkswagen, have been held. Sources close to OBN reveals that the Board of the factory decided that during this year, Volkswagen Concern lends funds for the start of production for three projects. President of the Volkswagen Concern, Lothar Sandel, said that the factory in Sarajevo had future. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic.

### **Gorazde**

Workers of the "Unis Gomas" company from Gorazde have gone on strike four days ago. Although the Director and the President of the Managing Board have resigned, workers ask from them to fulfil their demands, OBN reporter from the area, Ehlimana Poturak, confirmed.

### **Sarajevo**

This was followed by an item of the fifth day of strike in the "Zrak Holding" company, OBN reporter, Anes Alic, confirmed. Negotiations organised on the daily basis between the trade union and the management did not have results.

## **Mostar**

Associations of 65 pensioners from Herzegovina and Srednja Bosna cantons warned they would stop the traffic in the area if the BiH Federation authorities do not fulfil their demands by March 18th. The piece was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Blazica Kristo.

## **Ilijas**

A piece on Vrucica, Vukosavici, Gornji Cevljanovici and Ovcija Ravna in the Ilijas Municipality which still do not have electricity and water. The houses were reconstructed by humanitarian organisations three years ago, OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic, confirmed.

## **Banja Luka**

A three day International Conference on the perspectives of bilateral relations between Yugoslavia and Bosnia and Herzegovina has begun. Representatives of the BiH democratic alternative, Serbian democratic opposition, RS and Montenegrin authorities, non-governmental organisations and International Community, attend the Conference. The report was produced by Sanela Zivkovic from Banja Luka.

## **Sport**

Reports on international skiing and football were presented.