OBN News Review, 11 May 2000

Headlines

- The new NATO Commander for Europe, Joseph Ralston is visiting B&H
- The Stability Pact will finance the de-mining process in B&H from now on
- Court trials will start for 32 owners of the tenancy rights who haven't used their flats
- More attacks on the media in Sarajevo and Banja Luka

Bratunac

A bus convoy with Bosniac women from Srebrenica was attacked today near Bratunac. A few of them were injured. Douglas Coffman, the <u>UN</u> Mission Spokesman in B&H, gave a statement for the OBN, concerning this event. "Local police arrested 25 people. We hope that more arrests will take place, and that those responsible for this will be punished", Coffman said.

Sarajevo

The new NATO Commander for Europe, Joseph Ralston is visiting B&H. The aim of the visit is to get acquainted with the <u>SFOR</u> units and headquarters in B&H. Ralston will not meet B&H officials. Apart from Sarajevo, he will visit the <u>SFOR</u> units in Banja Luka, Tuzla and Mostar. Reported by Zeljka Lekic.

Sarajevo

Experts estimate that there are about one million mines in B&H. The Regional Support Group for the de-mining activities in B&H has been founded in Sarajevo today, at the Stability Pact meeting. The retired Canadian general, Gordon Ray was appointed as the Group Chairman. "The de-mining projects should be regionally presented. This will attract donors", said Ray. The report was produced by Vedran Persic.

Sarajevo

The Federation of B&H Investment Bank signed an agreement for a KM 15 million loan with the German Development Bank. The loan will be used for funding of small and medium enterprises. In December 1999, at the Madrid Conference, it was decided that the ZPP would be dissolved. About 2400 people will lose their jobs in this process. The <u>EU</u> will implement a EURO 700 000 -worth-project for their employment. OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic, produced the report.

Sarajevo

Exhumations in the Federation of B&H have been stopped, because of lack of resources. The Ministry of Finance should provide the resources. The Finance Minister, Dragan Covic, refused to pay DM 700 000 last year, claiming that this would be a financial infringement. Exhumations were blocked at the time when teams were finally permitted to work in the area of Slunj in Croatia. Milan Martic's units killed many Bosniacs there. The report was produced by OBN reporter Amarildo Gutic.

World

Cechenian rebels killed at least 16 Russian policemen in Ingushetia this morning. The Council of Europe welcomed the change in Russian attitude towards Cechenia. The planned meeting of kidnappers and the Philippine Government didn't take place.

The Government's troops in Sierra Leone are building strongholds around Freetown, and thousands of refugees are pouring into the country's capital.

A huge forest fire spread to a part of the American Nuclear Research Centre in Los Alamos. The American Minister of Energy, Bill Richardson said that it is not possible for the fire to reach dangerous materials inside the Centre. The piece on current world events was produced by Gordana Frimel.

Mostar

The American Ambassador in B&H, Thomas Miller met the Mayor, Safet Orucevic and the HDZ's representative in Mostar, Neven Tomic behind closed doors. "Refugee return is the priority", said Miller. "I am an optimist regarding the future of Mostar", he added. Reported by Alisa Dzebo.

Sarajevo

174 sealed flats were returned to the owners of the tenancy rights. Court trials will start against 32 owners of leases, who haven't used their flats since November. Reported by Mirna Sadikovic.

Tuzla

200 employees of the Company "TDI" from Tuzla had a union assembly today. They discussed the implementation of article 143 of the Law on work, as well as the future of their factory. Reported by Adis Nisic from Tuzla.

Banja Luka

The RS Customs Administration informed the public of their results in the last 4 months. RS citizens helped them a great deal in their work and they had a fairly good results. This was the conclusion at today's press conference. The report was produced by Darko Savic.

Banja Luka

The magazine "Reporter" is faced with the possibility of being evicted from its offices, Nedeljka Breberina confirmed from Banja Luka.

Sarajevo

After yesterday's report of the OBN crew on irregularities in the work of Azem Kaljanac, the Director of the dairy "Milkos", he abused the crew during the company's union meeting today. The OBN crew were thrown out from the building. Mr Kaljanac obviously doesn't like the media's interest in his work, OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic confirmed.

Banja Luka

Tatjana Lajsic produced a piece on the celebration of the RS Army Day in Banja Luka.

Cannes

The first film was shown at the Cannes Film Festival this evening. It was the French film "Vatel" by Roland Joffe. The French film "Harry, un ami qui vous veut du bien" by Dominik Moll and the British film "Bread and Roses" by Ken Loach will also be shown tonight. The report was produced by Gordana Frimel.

Sport

Reports on international football, European Junior Tennis Tournament "Zenica 2000" and international chess championship that will take place in Sarajevo from 16-19 May were presented.