OBN News Review, 12 July 2000

Headlines

- Two employees of the company "Buco" were arrested, under suspicion that they were responsible for the car accident near Kakanj, two months ago
- Eight people were injured in a bomb explosion in Madrid
- The High Representative suspended the Double Occupancy Phone-Line
- Theme of TV INFO: Gypsies announce their mass departure from B&H

Kakanj

The results of investigation into the car accident near Kakanj, which took place two months ago were announced. The Director of the company "Buco", Vehid Dzananovic and the Manager for maintenance of vehicles, Enes Dzano were arrested. "According to expert analysis, damage on the road was not the cause of the accident", said the Canton Prosecutor, Zahid Kovac. The report was produced by Amarildo Gutic.

Mostar

EU Ambassadors and Mostar officials signed a "Document on Mostar", which should improve the return process.

Brcko

The High Representative, <u>Wolfgang Petritsch</u>, the Head of the <u>OSCE</u> Mission in B&H, Robert Barry and the Austrian Ambassador in B&H, Gerhard Jandl visited the Brcko District. They met local officials and representatives of international organisations in the area. The main theme of the discussions was development of the economy. The High Representative said that he was not satisfied with the return process in Brcko. Reported by Slobodanka Radojkovic.

Sarajevo

Judges of the Federation Constitutional Court appointed Mr. Omer Ibrahimagic as the new Chairman. The duration of his mandate is 12 months. The issue of the Court's mandate duration has not been resolved yet. Anes Alic produced the report.

Sarajevo

Ombudsmen of the Federation of B&H submitted a proposal to the OSCE and the Temporary Election Commission on making a decision regarding the elections. According to the decision, board members in education institutions could not be candidates on the election lists. Ombudsmen reported that there was a large number of abuses of political positions in the education system. The report was produced by Mirna Sadikovic.

World

Eight persons were injured in a bomb explosion in front of a department store in Madrid.

Security forces were put on alert in order to prevent new violence in Northern Ireland during the Orange march.

Preparatory discussions before a Summit of world industrial countries and Russia started in Japan. The Summit will take place next week in Okinawa.

The US Deputy Secretary of State, Strobe Talbot said that the G8 were preparing a joint statement to condemn the latest moves of Slobodan Milosevic.

The peace negotiations on the Near East are taking place in Camp David. The three leaders are trying to solve the most important issues: the status of Jerusalem, borders of the Palestinian state and the return of Palestinian refugees. Zeljka Lekic produced a piece on world events. The High Representative, <u>Wolfgang Petritsch</u> suspended the Double Occupancy Phone-Line in Mostar. "We are disappointed in the attitude of some of the Municipal Housing Offices in Mostar to the Phone-line – those in positions of authority have often avoided their own responsibilities, and used the Phone-line to divert all kinds of claimants to the International Community. As a result, the system for receiving double occupancy claims has become blocked with other calls", Mr. Petritsch said in his decision.

Bijeljina

More than 6000 requests for property restitution were submitted to the Ministry for Refugees in Bijeljina. International organisations are trying to improve the implementation of property laws by organising various seminars, Vesna Mladenovic confirmed from Bijeljina.

Sarajevo

On the 1st April, <u>UNHCR</u> stopped distributing aid to refugees who live in collection centres around B&H. According to the B&H Council of Ministers, about 14 000 people live in the centres at the moment. The aim of the Ministry for refugees is to gradually close all centres. The Council of Ministers expects help from entity ministries and the international community in implementation of this aim. OBN journalist Sanjin Beciragic produced the report.

Sarajevo

Gypsies are the largest minority in B&H. They announce their mass departure from B&H, if the State does not provide them with conditions for normal living. The report was produced by Slobodan Maksimovic.

Sarajevo

Vedran Persic produced a piece on the new B&H Border Service.

The International Community is not satisfied with the tempo of establishment of the service so far. On the other hand, the Border Service lacks financial resources for more concrete results.

Sarajevo

B&H agricultural producers are in a very difficult situation, because of the illegal import of foreign products. Reported by Sevko Bajic.

Sarajevo

The International Forum "Bosna" organised a discussion of intellectuals from Croatia and B&H. Reported by Adis Saranovic.

Sport

Reports on international football and tennis, and the "Tour d' France" were presented.