

# OBN News Review, 12 November 1999

## Headlines

- Health state of the Republic of Croatia President, Franjo Tudjman, is still difficult – the Representative House of Sabor has not been dismissed
- Situation in BiH is on the crossroad – Chairman of the [UN](#) Security Council gave a statement for OBN
- Prime Minister of the Neretva Canton, Frano Ljubic, dismissed
- Staff policy issue provoked heated discussion in the RS National Assembly
- Several car bombs exploded in the capital of Pakistan near USA and [UN](#) headquarters

## Zagreb

Health state of the Croatian President, Franjo Tudjman, is still difficult. Because of that, the advisory body of the President, the Presidential Council, decided not to dismiss the Representative House of the Croatian Sabor. The dismissal of Sabor was asked by HDZ Party. According to the Constitution, the President of Sabor is replacing the President when he is not able to execute his duties. If the Sabor was dismissed, the country could have end in a political crisis. The report from Zagreb for OBN was produced by Goran Vezic.

## UN Security Council

Bosnia and Herzegovina will be the topic of the [UN](#) Security Council session, scheduled for November 15th. Three members of the BiH Presidency will take part in the discussion. The Chairman of the [UN](#) Security Council, Ambassador Danilo Turk, explained importance of the first attendance of the BiH

Presidency at the Security Council in an exclusive interview for OBN. The Ambassador said that the issue of Bosnia and Herzegovina was still on the agenda of the [UN](#) Security Council and that it was very important to present positions of the BiH top authorities to the Council. The Ambassador added that the situation in BiH had been on the crossroad. The future developments in BiH could be positive if there would be goodwill and mobilisation of the international support. The Ambassador also said that the world had been a bit tired regarding providing of support to many countries in the world, including BiH. Because of that, arrival of the BiH Presidency at the [UN](#) Security Council session, could provide new motive and new vision. The Ambassador also discussed the implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement to date. His position on this was that the Agreement had been implemented step by step.

## **Mostar**

Prime Minister of the Neretva Canton, Frano Ljubic, was dismissed today by the Vice President of the Canton and the Head of the Canton HDZ, Rade Bosnjak, with the support of the Canton Governor, Hamo Maslesa. It has been well-known fact that the functioning of the Neretva Canton Government was in crises for the last several months. Frano Ljubic has been known as one of the last HDZ politicians from the Herceg-Bosna period. Frano Ljubic said that he was not informed about reasons for his dismissal. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Pejo Gasparevic.

This was followed by a report on the recent decision of Mostar authorities Bosniak representatives to freeze their communication with the OHR's Regional Office in Mostar. The cause for the decision was that on Monday, the Mostar Grammar School started to work according to the Croat school programme. The Spokesman of OHR in Sarajevo, James Fergusson, said that the decision by Bosniak representatives to freeze their communication with their regional office was a decision

on freezing communication with the entire OHR and that it was not good for anyone. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Vedran Persic.

## **Banja Luka**

A report on the third day of the RS National Assembly session. The main topic was efficiency of the RS Government in the implementation of the National Assembly's decisions. However, the discussion about staff policy, and how much the membership in a political party was important, provoked a heated discussion. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Tatjana Lajsic.

This was followed by a report on the recently made decision by the RS Assembly to stop evictions during the winter. The High Representative Deputy, Simon Haselock, said today in Banja Luka that OHR would probably not accept this decision. The High Representative Deputy also discussed the recent dismissal of the General Director of SRT (Radio and Television of Republika Srpska), Andjelko Kozomara. Asked to comment the RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik, statement that he would persist in his decision to dismiss SRT General Director, Simon Haselock said that the RS Prime Minister had been badly informed by his Minister of Information. It was not made sufficiently clear to the Prime Minister how seriously the International Community considered the reform of the media and that particular issue, the High Representative Deputy added. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Darko Savic.

Today in Banja Luka, a round table meeting about security of journalists was held. Editor-in-chief of "Nezavisne novine", Zeljko Kopanja, who was severely injured in the attempted assassination at the beginning of October, attended the meeting. He said that he did not have trust in police protection, OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Nedeljka Breberina, confirmed.

## **World**

A report on the continuation of Russian troops progress in Chechenia was followed by a report on several explosions of car bombs in the capital of Pakistan near USA and [UN](#) headquarters. Reports on current events regarding membership in [EU](#), summit of Commonwealth and Kosovo followed. The piece was produced by OBN journalist, Zeljka Lekic.

## **Brod**

A bridge which was linking Bosanski (Srpski) Brod and Slavonski Brod before the war, was destroyed at the end of 1992. The new bridge will be finished by the end of December and its opening is scheduled for March next year. Today, start up of ferry between two towns was postponed due to technical problems on BiH side. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Anes Alic.

## **Stup (Sarajevo)**

A piece on the construction of houses for Bosniak dead soldiers' families in the Sarajevo residential quarter with mainly Croat population, Stup. HDZ party considers the construction illegal and against construction plan, Ana Drmac confirmed for OBN.

## **Zenica**

A piece on the construction of flats on tops of already existing buildings by steel factory in Zenica. However, the construction has been stopped and buildings were left without roofs. Who is to blame, OBN reporter from the town, Nela Kacmarcik, researched.

## **Sport**

A report on the BiH basketball team was followed by reports on the NBA matches and international football.