OBN News Review, 13 December 1999

Headlines

- Croatian President buried on the Zagreb “Mirogoj” graveyard with full honours
- President of Sudan proclaimed state of emergency in the country
- Bombardment on Grozny continued
- Russian Duma ratified an agreement on the establishment of the union between Russia and Belorussia
- The High Representative will not impose solutions for the restructure of the BiH Council of Ministers
- The BiH Federation Ministry of Agriculture suggested decrease of special tax for some of imported food products

Zagreb

Today, the Croatian President, Franjo Tudjman, was buried on the Zagreb “Mirogoj” graveyard with full honours. The Croatian President died on Friday at the age of 77, after being ill for a longer period of time. The burial was attended by thousands of citizens from the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The report from Zagreb for TV INFO was produced by Gordana Simonovic.

Sarajevo

The BiH state delegation which attended the burial of the Croatian President was headed by the BiH Presidency Chairman, Ante Jelavic. Press agencies HINA and BH PRESS reported that Jelavic expressed his grief because the other two members of the Presidency were not in Zagreb, especially Mr. Izetbegovic. The BiH Presidency member, Alija Izetbegovic, sent a telegram expressing his condolence to the Tudjman family and the

Croatian people, to the Acting President, Vlatko Pavletic. There were no official comments regarding the above mentioned statement of the BiH Presidency Chairman, Ante Jelavic.

Mostar

According to an initial estimation, at least fifty buses from Srednja Bosna and Mostar headed towards Zagreb last night. In BiH towns with the predominant Croatian majority, citizens pay their last respect to the deceased Croatian President. The report from Mostar was produced by OBN reporter, Blazica Kristo, and Branka Vrebac from the Srednja Bosna area.

World

Russian and Chechen military sources announced that their forces clashed in the Chechen capital, Grozny. BBC reported that Russian troops captured two positions in the town. Chechen troops ceased a military airport in Grozny. The Lower House of the Russian Parliament, Duma, adopted a decision on amnesty for Chechen guerillas who surrender by February 1st 2000. This was followed by a report on current events in Sudan. President of Sudan proclaimed state of emergency in the country last night. Although increased number of troops is present on all important locations in the Sudan capita, agencies reported that the current situation in the country was calm. The Sudan President explained his decision with the external danger and internal problems of the country. However, the President's main political opponent, President of the Parliament said that this was a coup d'etat. Reports on events in Middle East and Pakistan followed. The report was produced by OBN journalist, Zeljka Lekic.

Banja Luka

Commander of SFOR, General Ronald Adams, met with the BiH Presidency member, Zivko Radisic, in Banja Luka today. The main topics of their conversation was de-militarisation of Brcko, overall decrease of military potential in Bosnia and

Herzegovina and the issue of establishment of a joint army. After the meeting with the BiH Presidency member, General Ronald Adams said if the parties were not able to reach an agreement on the de-militarisation of Brcko, he would use his authorities in order to implement the decision. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Dragan Stanimirovic.

Sarajevo

Office of the High Representative in BiH will not interfere in order to implement the decision of the BiH Constitutional Court on the annulling of co-chairmen and vice chairmen positions in the BiH Council of Ministers. If the BiH Council of Ministers do not reach a solution until December 28th, when the deadline expires, than the new procedure and the new decision of the Constitutional Court will be waited. This was confirmed by the OHR Spokesperson, Alexandra Stiglemayer. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic.

Banja Luka

Work meeting organised by the European Commission was held in Banja Luka today. The topic of the meeting was “Integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the European Union”. Participants of the meeting were the President of the European Commission and directors and economics experts of the most successful RS companies. The joint conclusion was that politicians in both BiH entities are stopping the process of bringing closer BiH to the European Union. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Biljana Arsic.

Sarajevo

The BiH Federation Ministry of Agriculture suggested decrease of special tax for some of imported food products such as chicken, milk and cheese. The aim of the suggestion is to decrease price of the products and thus support categories of citizens who are in a difficult economic position. The decision will be implemented at the beginning of next year4.

The report was produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic.

Gorazde

Teachers of elementary and secondary schools in the Bosansko-Podrinjski Canton went on strike today due to their difficult economic situation. Teachers ask payment of their three last salaries and balancing of the salaries with the rest of the BiH Federation.

Zenica

Members of the Association of those who temporarily use other people’s apartments clashed with the police in Zenica today. The cause for the incident was a try of the police to evict an Association member. Several people have been taken to the local police station. Association claim they were not against the return process but ask for an adequate alternative accommodation. At the end, the family Karalic was evicted. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Zenica, Koraljka Kurcenberger.

Copenhagen

The topic of the International Conference held in Copenhagen was “A Role of Media in the Protection and Promotion of Health”. Participants of the Conference were 180 ministers of health, representatives of non-governmental organisations and journalists from 47 European countries, OBN reporter, Sevko Bajic, attended the Conference.

Sport

A report on NBA was followed by a report on the European football matches.