

# OBN News Review, 14 December 1999

## Headlines

- The Hague – Goran Jelusic sentenced to 40 years in prison for war crimes and crimes against humanity
- Sarajevo – German President in an official visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Slovenian Government approved support to BiH worth three million one hundred and seventy five thousand dollars
- Pre-election campaign started in Republic of Croatia
- The USA handed over the Panama Canal to Panama after one hundred years of the US monitoring of the Canal
- Five Sarajevo catering trade and commerce companies announced going on strike

## Hadzici (Sarajevo)

Three employees of the BiH “Elektroprivreda” were killed today while repairing the electricity supply system in Koscan near Hadzici. The accident occurred because of initiation of an explosive device. Another five workers were wounded.

## The Hague

The International Hague Tribunal announced its severest sentence to date. Goran Jelusic (31) is sentenced to 40 years in prison for war crimes and crimes against humanity committed against Bosniaks and Croats in 1992 in Brcko. Jelusic admitted murders of 13 people. The report for TV INFO from Hague was produced by Vjera Bogoti.

## Sarajevo

After a short visit to Kosovo and KFOR German troops, President of the Federal Republic of Germany arrived in an official visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina in the afternoon.

German President was welcomed by the BiH Foreign Ministry delegation at Sarajevo airport. After a meeting held with the BiH Presidency, there were no expected statements for media. Only information was that Germany would continue to support Bosnia and Herzegovina. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Bakir Hadziomerovic.

This was followed by a report on the signing of an agreement between the BiH Council of Ministers and the Republic of Slovenia Government. According to the agreement, Slovenia will present BiH with an irretrievable support worth 3,175,000 dollars. The support will be implemented as projects of reconstruction and technical support. At the regular session of the BiH Council of Ministers, the Council did not accept the suggestion made by the Social-Democrat Party and the Sloga Coalition on the law on the Council of Ministers. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Zeljka Lekic.

## **Banja Luka**

A piece on the session of the RS Government held in Banja Luka today. The final suggestion for the next year budget and the draft law on the privatisation of state owned apartments in the RS were determined. There were no detailed report for media on the RS Government session, OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Dragan Stanimirovic, confirmed.

## **World**

The pre-election campaign officially started in Croatia. Fifty five political parties, fifteen coalitions and candidates from independent lists will participate in the forthcoming parliamentary elections in Croatia scheduled for January 3rd. This year campaign will be the shortest to date, and because of the Christmas and New Year, it will last fifteen days only. This was followed by a report on the continuation of the Russian Army offensive in Chechenia. Russian troops entered a town only 20 kilometres from Grozny. Russian attacks on

suburbs of Grozny continued. This was followed by reports on current events in Rumania, Israel and Panama. The report on current events in the world was produced by OBN journalist, Mladen Maric.

## **Zenica**

Yesterday, police officers in Zenica had to intervene when members of the Association for the protection of human rights of temporary users of apartments tried to stop implementation of an eviction order. Several citizens were hurt and some of them were brought to the police station. Today, first reactions on the incident have been announced. The Head of the Police Management Zenica, Nihad Topalovic, said that yesterday police officers strictly behave according to the law provisions and instructions received from IPTF, [OSCE](#), [UNHCR](#) and OHR. At the press conference held today by the Association, it was said that they would raise charges against "oppressors and those who gave orders to them". The report was produced by OBN reporter from Zenica, Koraljka Kurcenberger.

## **Mostar**

Citizens who were in BiH during the war, have to pay 600 DEM, and those who were not, have to pay 1,200 DEM for a telephone connection. Because of that, citizens of the Mostar Municipality Sjever decided to raise charges against the PTT Mostar Hub and the Mostar Municipality Sjever. Citizens claim they did not have an accurate information how much money they had to pay the services. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Sanjin Beciragic.

## **Sarajevo**

Workers of "TP Market", "Simens", "Trzni centar", "UPI servis" and "Bosnia hoteli" have been unsatisfied with the process of privatisation and the relation of the Canton authorities towards their problems. Business premises in the possession of these companies on attractive locations seem to be the main

reason for the manipulation of workers and their destinies. An example is the story about commerce company "Market Sarajevo", produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic. The strike is announced for December 21st.

This was followed by a report on the BiH police. The Head of the [UN](#) Mission in BiH, Jacques Paul Klein, said that BiH police had been professional, and that they lack better equipment in order to improve their professional standard. Because of that, the UK Government through [UN](#) Mission in BiH and IPTF, donated equipment to the Federal ministry of internal Affairs worth 160,000 KM, mainly cameras and forensic equipment. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic.

An expert team of the International Fund for Agriculture Development has spent last fifteen days in Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to check how the support of 15 million dollars to the BiH Federation was spent. The funds were spent through so called "social programs" of support to farmers. Although farmers have been faced with the difficult economic situation, investments will be continued. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Sevko Bajic.

## **Tuzla**

Humanitarian Office of the European Commission – ECO, has been the main donor for the implementation of the project for an integrated health system in BiH. They reconstructed the building of the Institution for Public Health System in the Tuzla Canton. The project is worth 600,000 DEM. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Tuzla, Alma Hadziefendic.

## **Tesanj**

This was followed by a report on a donation in medical equipment of the French Cultural Centre "Andre Marleaux" to the Tesanj General Hospital, handed over by the Commander of the [SFOR](#) French Contingent, General Henri de Monchy. The

report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Muhamed Cabric.

## **Sport**

A report on the forthcoming Christmas Tournament in Indoor Football was followed by reports on NBA and international skiing.