OBN News Review, 15 July 2000

Headlines

- Ante Jelavic was re-elected as the Chairman of the HDZ at the 6th Assembly session of the party
- 16 European Mayors signed a Declaration on Peace and Friendship in Sarajevo
- A religious gathering for Bosniac returnees was organised in the village of Kljune
- At least 8 people died in a tornado in Canada

Sarajevo

16 European mayors signed a Declaration on Peace and Friendship in Sarajevo. The Declaration regulates protection of human rights, and advocates tolerance among peoples. Reported by Anes Alic.

Banja Luka

A round table was organised by the German foundation "Friedrich Evert" and "Media-prelom" in Banja Luka. "Restructuring of economy and better co-operation with surrounding countries are prerequisites for the economic prosperity of B&H and other countries from the area of former Yugoslavia", was the main conclusion of the round table. 23000 applications for emigration during the last year in the RS are the best indicators of the current situation in B&H. The report was produced by Sanja Srdic.

Sarajevo

The HDZ organised the 6th Assembly session in Sarajevo. Ante Jelavic was re-elected as the party Chairman for the next two years. 70% of delegates voted for Mr. Jelavic. He proposed Jadranko Prlic, Ivo Andric Luzanski, Zdravko Batinic, Bozo Ljubic and Dragan Covic as new deputy Chairmen of HDZ. They discussed the party's work in the period between the last two Assembly sessions. OBN journalist Sanjin Beciragic produced the report.

World

The Croatian Assembly decided to carry out Constitutional changes in order to turn the semi-presidential system into a parliamentary system.

KFOR announced that several bombs fell on the north part of Kosovska Mitrovica, mostly populated by Serbs. The <u>UN</u> Mission said that these events would not influence the elections that should take place in October.

Two Greek pilots died in a plane crash, trying to control fires in Greece. The piece on world events was produced by Zeljka Lekic.

Camp David

OBN journalist Mladen Maric produced a piece on the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations in Camp David.

Kljune

A religious gathering for Bosniac returnees was organised in the village of Kljune, for the first time in 9 years. A large number of believers attended the gathering. Sinisa Jokic produced the report.

Brcko

About 4000 Serb refugees gathered in front of the building of the Interim Government of the Brcko District. They protested against evictions, organised by the multi-ethnical Commission, claiming that 50% of them were irregular. According to poll results, 98% of refugees would like to stay

in Brcko. They scheduled the next gathering for 20th July.

Reported by Slobodanka Radojkovic.

Janja

Vesna Mladenovic produced a piece on frequent incidents with Bosniac returnees in Janja. "As the first step, IPTF and <u>SFOR</u> will increase their presence in Janja. IPTF will re-open a station in Janja", said the Head of the OHR in Bijeljina, Francois Peres. Citizens of Janja condemned all attempts to prevent the refugee return.

Sarajevo

According to the Article 143 of the Law on Work, the original severance pay amount was KM 2600- KM 6800. The MMF, the World Bank and the OHR insisted that the article should be changed, because companies were not able to pay such large amounts. The Federal Government prepared changes of the article. The severance pay should be in the amount of KM 500 – KM 1500. The Union and workers are not satisfied with this decision. The report was produced by Mirna Sadikovic.

Sarajevo

Because of the non-existence of a Law on Forests, B&H is faced with the problem of illegal felling of trees. Reported by Sevko Bajic.

Sport

Reports on international tennis, Formula I competition and the "Tour d' France" were presented.