

# OBN News Review, 16 August 1999

## Headlines

- Newly appointed Chief of USAID, Braddy Anderson, announced that reconstruction in Bosnia is urgent
- OHR inspects the decision of the Constitutional Court on non-constitutionality of the functions of co-president and vice-premier of the Council of ministers
- Russian Duma confirmed appointment of the new Prime-minister Vladimir Putin
- Topic of the programme- Change in school books
- During this year in B&H three times more hashis was confiscated than during the last year
- Croat refugees from Zenica ask for help

## South Africa

Thokoza Memorial is a memorial for 1,200 people who were killed at the beginning of the 90's. Former South African president Nelson Mandela said that this was the scene of the most brutal fights during the political conflict that lasted for three years. Khosi Twala is the leader of a new project whose aim is to remove the differences between people. Graem Simpson is at the head of the Centre for study of terrorism and reconciliation. He speaks of differences in the process of reconciliation in Bosnia and South Africa. "There is a great need for the reform of the police forces", said Mr. Simpson. The wounds of the conflict are now beginning to heal. The report was produced by OBN reporter Vedran Persic.

## Braddy Anderson

Newly appointed Head of USAID, Mr. Braddy Anderson, has expressed his disappointment with the process of privatisation in B&H. During a period of four fiscal years U.S. Government

will set aside more than 1 billion dollars. USAID intends to set aside more than 7 billion dollars of humanitarian, and economic help for more than a hundred countries of the world. "USA has committed to the full implementation of the Dayton Accord here in B&H and we continue to work very hard to help Bosnia and Herzegovina", said Anderson. Anderson also said that there was a time limit as well as resource limit. As long as the government here is committed to reform USAID will continue to be its partner.

## **Yugoslavia**

KFOR has announced that the level of violence in Kosovo is diminishing, but the situation there is still very difficult. Serbs and Albanians have reached agreement on the return of 25 Albanian families to Kosovo every day. Bajram Redzepi, mayor of the Albanian part of Kosovska Mitrovica, declared that the Albanians would return mostly to the northern parts of the city under KFOR protection. According to a report of [UNHCR](#), the position of minorities is getting worse. General Pavkovic has asked for the return of VJ . He also asked for KFOR to leave the province. Tomislav Nikolic, vice-president of the government of Yugoslavia, has declared that the army would prevent any kind of separation of Montenegro. The report was produced by OBN reporter Mladen Maric.

## **Constitutional Court**

Constitutional Court has announced that the functions of Co-president and Vice-Premier are non-constitutional. In the next three months the assembly should adopt the changes in Law on Council of Ministers. "Government should be made according to the election results", said Haris Silajdzic, Co-President of the government. The report was produced by OBN reporter Amarildo Gutic.

## **Decision of the Ministry of culture and education**

Ministry of Culture and Education in the Federation and in RS

have coordinated the announced revisions to school books. All that is insulting must be removed from the books. Although all is settled, books will not be ready before the official beginning of the school year. Until new books are printed students will use those from 1994. The report was produced by OBN reporter Mirna Sadikovic.

## **World News**

Russian Parliament has confirmed the announcement of the new Prime-Minister Vladimir Putin. Russian forces continue their attacks in Dagestan. President of Checenia announced a state of emergency for this month after 280 rebels were killed by Russian forces. Palestinian leader, Arafat, has been in Egypt for talks with the Egyptian president Mubarak. They talked about the implementation of the new Izraeli-Palestinian peace talks. A Special Commission comprised of [UN](#) experts and representatives of the Cambodian government will start an investigation on the brutalities of Kmers Rouges. Referendum on independence of East Timor is scheduled for August 30th. The report was produced by OBN reporter Damir Kaletovic.

## **Drugs in B&H**

This year Ministry of Interior of Federation confiscated a larger amount of drugs than last year. On September the first in Sarajevo an offensive against drugs will begin. For the first time Ministers, psychiatrists and sociologists will be involved in this kind of programme. The report was produced by OBN reporter Sevko Bajic.

## **Kozarac**

"New details of the killings on August the 13th in Kozarac will be known", said Minister of the Interior Novic. Police of RS confiscated 4 tanks of oil intended for the oil bosses in Bijeljina. According to the Minister Novic, police will fight against all sorts of black-marketing with oil in RS. Regarding the latest incident in Kozarac when Rifat Bakonjic killed two

people, Minister pointed out that the motive for this act was still unknown.

### **[SFOR](#)'s medical evacuation**

On Saturday [SFOR](#) reacted immediately after receiving a request from the RS army for medical evacuation.

### **Croat refugees from Zenica**

Many of the Croat refugees from Zenica don't want to return to their houses. From the total number of 7,000 Croats that lived in Lasva valley before the war, now there are only 2,500 Croats there. Croats that don't want to return to Zenica should be allowed to stay in Middle-Bosnian Canton. They demand that Bosniaks who committed atrocities against Croats in Zenica should be punished. The report was produced by OBN reporter Suzana Vukcevic.

### **Road Kresevo-Tarcin**

With the planting of the corner stone in Kresevo, construction of the Kresevo-Tarcin road has started. This will significantly shorten the road between Middle-Bosnia and Herzegovina. From Zenica OBN reporter Olivera Komsic.

### **Security in traffic**

During this year a number of accidents in Zivinice region has significantly increased. 2 people were killed and 83 were wounded in these accidents. The main reason for this is disrespect for traffic rules, but also increased intensity of traffic. From Zivinice OBN reporter Dejan Hadzic.

### **Turkish Battalion in Zenica**

Turkish Battalion in Zenica helps with reconstruction of roads and schools. They also provide significant donations of food. Commander of the Turkish Battalion in Zenica has finished his term of office and departing Zenica he left a present, a

fountain. This fountain of friendship will become a symbol of friendship between people of Zenica and people of Turkey. From Zenica OBN reporter Koraljka Kurcenberger.

## **Sport**

Friendly basketball match between FRY and B&H held in Skenderija. Sampras beat Rafter at ATP championship. World chess championship continues. Report produced by OBN reporter Mustafa Radonjcic.