

# OBN News Review, 16 November 1999

## Headlines

- [UN](#) report on the fall of Srebrenica, expected for a long time, submitted to the [UN](#) Security Council
- Minister of Defence of Federal Republic of Germany, Rudolf Scharping, visited BiH
- "Vikalo Case" – demand of the defence for the trial to be continued out of the Tuzla Canton, was rejected – the trial continued today
- Inhabitants of the Kopaci village submitted their appeal against the RS to the House of Human Rights
- International Media Commission forbade broadcast to TV station from Mostar, Erotel – Erotel did not comply with the decision today
- Workers of the Prijedor factory "Celpak" went on general strike

## UN Report on Srebrenica

United Nations admitted, for the first time in public, mistakes and misjudgements of the International Community regarding the fall of the "Srebrenica safe zone". In the [UN](#) Secretary General report, presented last night, it was said that [UN](#) and governments of key countries have to accept their part of responsibility for the crimes committed in Srebrenica. [UN](#) Secretary General added that the war leader of Bosnian Serbs, Radovan Karadzic, and his Commander, Ratko Mladic, was to blame most for the crimes. Today, the report was handed over to the representatives of the Srebrenica People Association by the Special Envoy of the [UN](#) Secretary General in BiH, Jacques Klein. The report was produced by OBN journalists, Zeljka Lekic and Sevko Bajic.

## Sarajevo

Minister of Defence of the Federal Republic of Germany, Rudolf Scharping, visited Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to inform himself about the current political situation and to visit German [SFOR](#) troops. Currently, there are approximately 2,500 German troops in BiH. According to the [SFOR](#) plan on the reduce of troops, there should not be more than 2,000 of them in April next year. Minister Scharping said that there were changes in the German position regarding international missions. German Government wanted to decrease costs of their foreign policy to the maximum in favor to their internal security, OBN reporter, Vedran Persic, confirmed.

## **Tuzla**

Today's continuation of the trial of in the Vikalo case lasted only for 15 minutes. New Chairman of the Court Council, Dijana Milic, introduced the defence on the moves of the Canton Court regarding the case. Demand of the defence for the trial to be continued out of the Tuzla Canton, was rejected. The continuation of the trial was scheduled for November 30th.

## **Zivinice**

Yesterday, OBN reported that the Zivinice Municipality Prosecution Office had demanded investigation to be conducted against Zivinice municipality officials Zijad Rahimic and Nail Hrustic due to irregularities regarding distribution of state-owned land. New information is that the Director of the agriculture company "Spreca" and the Head of the Zivinice Municipality had signed an agreement on providing a piece of land to the Zivinice Municipality. The question was how that could had happen when "Spreca" was not the owner, but user of the land. OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic, researched the issue. A story of the real owner, Mato Tadic, and illegal activities in the Municipality, followed.

## **Kopaci**

A piece on the inhabitants of the Kopaci village who submitted

their appeal to the BiH House of Human Rights against the RS. More than 560 inhabitants of the village, spent the last month in tents near the border line between municipalities Srpsko Gorazde and Gorazde. They think this was their last chance to return to their pre-war homes. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic.

## **Sarajevo**

A report on the session of the BiH Federation Government. The Government discussed several issues. The first issue, efficiency of the Government, was discussed behind closed doors. Information on the process of return to the RS and illegal charging for the costs of studding at the Sarajevo University, the Government will hand over to the Parliament. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Slobodan Maksimovic.

## **Turkey**

US President, Bill Clinton, visited areas in Turkey struck by the second disastrous earthquake for the last three months. In this second wave, 547 people was killed and 3,300 injured. Thousands of Istanbul inhabitants spent last night in the open because they were afraid of new earthquakes. Seismologists anticipate new earthquakes. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Istanbul, Jusko Bojadzic.

## **Skopje**

A report on peaceful protests of 30,000 followers of the opposition, Social-democratic Party last night in Skopje due to the second round of the presidential elections which, according to the Party, were irregular, OBN reporter from Skopje, Safet Bisevac, confirmed.

## **Zagreb**

A piece on the sixteenth day of the medical treatment of the Croatian President, Franjo Tudjman. Doctors announced that his

health state had improved. A report on the current political situation in Croatia and who could become President's political successor was produced by Goran Vezic for OBN from Zagreb.

This was followed by a report on the visit of the delegation of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the BiH Federation to Zagreb. During the day, the delegation met with the Croatian Minister of Internal Affairs, Ivan Panic, and his associates. Two delegations discussed annexes if the Agreement on Special Relations between BiH Federation and Republic of Croatia. BiH Federation Minister of Internal Affairs, Mehmed Zilic, said for TV INFO from Zagreb that he did not expect any obstacles regarding the adoption of annexes.

## **Mostar**

General Director of the International Media Commission, Krister Thelin, forbade broadcast to TV Erotel according to his mandate. The decision was made after Erotel's rejection of the provisional licence which would allow Erotel to use only 11 transmitters in BiH, instead of the current 41. However, Erotel continued to broadcast despite the decision, OBN reporter from Mostar, Denis Vila, confirmed. At today's seminar organised by IMC in Mostar today, the Head of the Licence Issuing Department, Dieter Loraine, said that that IMC had several options regarding solving of the Erotel broadcast issue. Those options included contacts with local authorities and [SFOR](#).

## **Prijedor**

A report on the difficult situation in the Prijedor factory "Celpak". 1,700 workers went on general strike due to unpaid salaries, OBN reporter from the area, Milena Letic-Joves, confirmed.

## **Sport**

A report on local basketball was followed by reports on NBA and international volleyball and tennis.