OBN News Review, 19 October 1999

Headlines

- The BiH Presidency finished a two day visit to Slovenia
- The issue of the Ljubljana Bank will be solved in the forthcoming period
- Moscow BiH Foreign Minister met with his Russian counterpart, Igor Ivanov
- The Hague charges for genocide against Goran Jelicic dropped; he is still indicted for crimes against humanity
- Number of peace troops in Pristina and Kosovska Mitrovica increased due to the escalation of criminal and ethnic violence
- East Timor the first mass grave found
- Mostar the Ministry of Internal Affairs confiscated 19 personal vehicles that had been stolen in West Europe
- The Spanish Ambassador in BiH as guest of OBN

Sarajevo

After a two day visit to Slovenia, the BiH Presidency arrived at Sarajevo airport this afternoon. There were no announcements for the press. Some details were given by the Co-President of the BiH Council of Ministers, Neven Tomic. The Co-President said that the Slovenian Prime Minister, Drnovsek, express willingness to start solving the issue of pre-war deposits of BiH citizens in the Ljubljana Bank. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Slobodan Maksimovic.

This was followed by a report on details of the BiH Presidency visit, produced by Damir Dumitrovic (Kos) from Ljubljana. Two delegations signed an agreement on the cooperation in the fields of culture, science and education between the two states.

Moscow

The BiH Foreign Minister, Jadranko Prlic, met with his Russian counterpart, Igor Ivanov, within his three day official visit to Moscow. Today they discussed the possibility for Russian involvement in the reconstruction of BiH. New premises of the BiH Embassy in Moscow were opened.

The Hague

The Court Council of the Hague Tribunal dropped charges raised against Goran Jelisic for genocide allegedly committed in Brcko in 1992. Vjera Bogoti produced the report on this issue for OBN from Brussels.

Sarajevo

A report on the continuation of the eighth session of the BiH Federation Parliament Representative House. The suggestion for changes of the banks privatization law was not adopted today. The rest of the session was mainly about problems that the Ministry of Education is facing at the beginning of a new school year. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic.

Banja Luka

The delegation of the European Council met with the political leadership of the RS today in Banja Luka. Delegations discussed the entry of BiH into the EC membership. The Envoy of the EC Parliamentary Assembly, Peter Bletser, said that in respect to the compliance with conditions necessary for entering the EC, both BiH entities were on the same level. The report was produced by OBN reporters from Banja Luka, Sanela Zivkovic and Nedeljka Breberina.

Brussels

Javier Solana, the new <u>EU</u> Co-ordinator for foreign policy, announced a strategy regarding the foreign and security policy

for the current 15 members of the \underline{EU} . The report for OBN from Brussels was produced by Zekerijah Smajic.

World

This was followed by reports on the continuation of fights between Russian and Chechen troops, meeting of foreign ministers from seven most developed countries and Russia in Moscow and detection of the first mass grave in East Timor. Reports on current events in Pakistan, visit of the Chinese leader to the UK and events in Middle East followed. The report was produced by OBN journalist, Mladen Maric.

This was followed by a report on the escalation of violence in Kosovo and the forthcoming increase of peace troops in the area due to violence. Approximately 10,000 protesters were on the streets in Sebia, protesting against Slobodan Milosevic last night, OBN journalist, Gordana Frimel, confirmed.

Banja Luka

Representatives of the Republic of Croatia and the RS met today in Banja Luka in order to discuss property and legal relations and possibility for the return of Serbs to Croatia. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Valentina Knezevic.

Sarajevo (Mostar)

At today's press conference in Sarajevo, representatives of the HNS (Croat People's Association) said that the last week's action of <u>SFOR</u> in West Mostar was necessary because HDZ had not been co-operating with the International Community. The report on this was produced by OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic.

This was followed by a report on the confiscation of 19 luxury, personal vehicles in the Hercegovina-Neretva Canton by the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Pejo Gasparevic.

OBN Sarajevo

A piece on the visit of the Spanish Ambassador in BiH, Jose Angel Lopez Jorrin, to the OBN premises in Sarajevo. The Ambassador promised further help of his Government to the OBN Network. The report was produced by OBN journalist, Duska Jurisic.

Banja Luka

A report on the USAID projects of support to private companies in the BiH Federation and RS. Approximately 2,000 new jobs have been opened in the RS through these projects to date. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Suzana Vukcevic.

Sarajevo

A report on the fifth day of the International Theatre Festival in Sarajevo "MESS 99" and the performance of a theatre group from France. The report was produced by Mirela Pehar.

Gornji Vakuf (Uskoplje)

A piece on the exhibition organised by the Croat Culture Association "Napredak" was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Olivera Dimac.

Sport

A report on Formula One was followed by reports on the European basketball matches and international football.