

# OBN News Review, 2 November 1999

## Headlines

- The Hague Tribunal determined to continue implementation of it's mandate in BiH, the Main Prosecutor of the Tribunal, Carla del Ponte said in Sarajevo
- The [EU](#) Commissioner for International Relations, Christopher Patten, said today in Sarajevo that the European Union was determined to establish firm and lasting peace in BiH
- Number of [SFOR](#) in BiH troops will be decreased for one third within the next six months
- Trial of Hazim Vikalo began in Tuzla – the case exceeds border of the Tuzla Canton
- Will there be another affair in the "SAB" bank case?
- Unknown individual shot four bullets on the Head of the Zepce Municipality Council, Mato Zovko, last night
- Oslo – the Middle East Summit ended
- Montenegro introduced German mark as a parallel currency of payment

## Sarajevo

The Main Prosecutor of the Hague Tribunal, Carla del Ponte, said today in Sarajevo that all the parties in BiH have to cooperate completely and unconditionally with the Tribunal. For the first time since she has been appointed to the position, the Main Prosecutor said publicly that all those who want to escape the justice had to be arrested. The Main Prosecutor added that she demanded more active role of [SFOR](#) in arresting of those indicted for war crimes. The report on this was produced by OBN reporter, Zeljka Lekic. Tomorrow, the Main Prosecutor goes to Banja Luka. After that, The she will visit the Republic of Croatia.

This was followed by a report on the decrease of [SFOR](#) troops in BiH.

In October, [NATO](#) General Secretary and 19 Ambassadors of the North Atlantic Council had visited BiH and gathered information about the current security situation. After that, they reached a decision to decrease a number of [SFOR](#) troops in BiH for a third. Between November and April next year, restructuring of the stabilisation troops will be made. [SFOR](#) Commander in BiH, Ronald Adams, emphasised that their mandate in BiH did not change and that they would continue to help secure peace and security in the region. The report on this was produced by OBN reporter, Vedran Persic.

The [EU](#) Commissioner, Christopher Patten, said that the European Union would continue to support Bosnia and Herzegovina at the end of his first visit to BiH. He added that the [EU](#) invested approximately 1,3 billion EURs over the last three years. The Commissioner added that he the local authorities should take seriously the current situation in BiH. OBN reporter, Bakir Hadziomerovic, confirmed.

“Initiative for the Business Development in the South East Europe” is the name of the non-profit corporation which has been recently promoted by the ex US President Special Envoy for Economic Reconstruction of BiH, Claude Ganz. Director of the Corporation, Mr.Ganz, said that Bosnia and Herzegovina had to start their economic and technological progress with the simultaneous economic, market and political changes. The report on this was produced by OBN reporter, Sefko Bajic.

### **Papratnica (Zepce)**

In the town Papratnica in the Zepce municipality an unknown individual shot four bullets on the house of the Head of the Zepce Municipality Council, Mato Zovko, last night. Mato Zovko is the member of the HDZ party Presidency. No one was hurt and material damage was made.

## **Zvornik**

Bomb attacks which have occurred recently in the Zvornik municipality, when two bombs were thrown on the representatives of the International Community, are examples of terrorism in BiH. After the recent attack on the Editor-in-chief of "Nezavisne novine", Zeljko Kopanja, the situation threatens to escalate, member of the BiH Presidency, Zivko Radisic, said. The report was produced by OBN reporter Damir Kaletovic.

## **Tuzla**

A piece on the beginning of the trial of Hazim Vikalo and three other canton officials allegedly suspected for corruption and steeling of millions of KM from the canton budget. The actual beginning was postponed in seven days because Hazim Vikalo the defence claim that the trial was politically fixed. The report on this was produced by OBN reporter from Tuzla, Muhamed Berbic.

## **Sarajevo**

Hamdija Trbic, Director of the "Modern Administration" company from Sarajevo, was one of the arrested people within the "SAB" Bank affair. The bank recently went bankrupt. He was released after he spent eight days in prison. He was embittered because of this unnecessary arrest, Trbic decided to talk publicly about the "SAB" bank case. Hamdija Trbic said that he was betrayed by his political party SDA, whose member he had been for nine years. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic.

## **World**

A report on the current political situation in the Republic Croatia because the Croatian President, Franjo Tudjman, was operated yesterday. The medical team said that the health state of the President was good. This was followed by a report

on the last day of the Middle East Summit in Oslo. Reports on the continuation of the Russian offensive in Chechenia and introduction of German mark as a parallel currency of payment in Montenegro followed. First 90 students of the Police Academy in Vucitrn, Kosovo, were sent to their first tasks in Pristina and Prizren. The report was produced by OBN journalists, Mladen Maric.

## **Zenica**

Employees of the shopping center in Tuzla went on general strike today because they have not received their salaries for the past 17 months, OBN reporter, Nela Kacmarcik, confirmed.

## **Banja Luka**

A piece on the session of the General Council of the Association of RS Syndicates. The main topic of the discussion was recently adopted social stability program offered by the RS Government. The Syndicate stressed that the program had protect rights of workers in the process of privatisation. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Biljana Arsic.

## **Busovaca**

A report on the finishing of reconstruction of twenty houses in the Gusti Grab and Bukovci villages in the Busovaca municipality. Keys of the houses were handed over to the Croatian returnees to the villages. However, the returnees complain because the infrastructure has been still completely ruined. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Ana Drmac.

## **Mostar**

A piece on the "Hepok" factory of vines and drinks from Mostar. Good agriculture season enabled the factory to prepare itself for the export of their products, OBN reporter, Senada Malanovic, confirmed.

## **Sport**

A piece on the opening of the international tennis tournament Paris Open was followed by reports on international football and NBA.