

# OBN News Review, 20 August 1999

## Headlines

- The New York Times publishes the correction of their article about corruption in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- The State Department Spokesman, James Rubin, condemned The New York Times report
- According to Serbian TV, last night's protests against Slobodan Milosevic failed
- 3 rd day after the disastrous earthquake in Turkey – more than 7000 reported dead
- The editor of independent magazine " Slobodna Bosna ", Senad Avdic, arrested and then released in Sarajevo today

## Travnik

About 200 Bosnian Croats blocked the road M17 between Travnik and Novi Travnik. Main reason for the protest was construction of a mosque in Kalibunar, settlement with Croat majority. They announced new protests, if these issues remain unresolved. The report was produced by OBN reporter Amarildo Gutic.

## Washington

State Department Spokesman, James Rubin, condemned The New York Times report, emphasizing that there is no proof that the billion dollars are missing. The New York Times published the correction of their article about corruption, adding that the money has mostly been stolen from public funds in B&H or lost because of the inability of officials to gather taxes.

## Sarajevo

Prime Minister of the Federation B&H decided to sue The New York Times and their journalist Chris Hedges, for publishing

of incorrect information.

## **Turkey**

According to the official reports so far, more than 7000 people died in a disastrous earthquake in Turkey. Officials in Turkey fear that the final figure might be more than 40 000. [IMF](#) and [World Bank](#) allocated 500 million dollars of aid. Damage is estimated to more than 4 billion dollars. Reported by OBN reporter Mladen Maric.

## **Yugoslavia – Belgrade**

Protests against Slobodan Milosevic continued. Serbian TV estimated that the protests failed. According to Russian TV, this means a major change of the situation in Yugoslavia. Joska Fischer called the protests a success. Opposition parties announced a new, major protest on 21st September, if Milosevic stays in power.

## **Kosovo**

Russia announced the possibility to withdraw its forces from Kosovo, if KFOR doesn't change it's present policy. The report was produced by OBN reporter Duska Jurisic.

## **Sarajevo**

Chief editor of " Slobodna Bosna ", Senad Avdic was arrested in Sarajevo this morning. Reason for this was the hearing regarding the charges against him, brought by the Chief of Prijedor municipality. Avdic was then released, on the basis of new evidences. The report was produced by OBN reporters Slobodan Maksimovic and Vedran Persic.

## **Banja Luka**

Experts met in Banja Luka today, to discuss about the contents of school books. They are trying to avoid anything that might offend other nationalities. Reported by OBN reporter Sanela

Zivkovic.

## **World news – Dagestan**

Fights in Dagestan continue. According to the official information, 40 Russian soldiers died in these attacks.

## **Iraq**

USA attacks on Iraq continue. Bagdad says that 21 civilians died in these attacks.

## **Kongo**

Fights between Ruanda and Ugand continue. One of the leaders said that at least 200 pepole were killed.

## **West Coast**

Negotiations between Israel and Palestina are continued. The main issue is the release of Palestinian prisoners. The report was produced by OBN reporter Mladen Maric.

## **Jesenica – West Mostar**

40 Bosniack families who lived here before the war, returned to this place. Reported by OBN reporter Sinisa Jokic.

## **RS – Vecici**

35 Bosniacks returned to the village Vecici. The problem is whether their homes shall be repaired befora the winter. The report was produced by OBN reporter Zoran Popovic.

## **Sarajevo**

In suburb Grbavica, 21 flats have been repaired. The reconstruction was financed by Duch Government. The keys were delivered to the pre-war owners of the flats. Reported by OBN reporter Anes Alic.

## **Banja Luka**

At first auctions in RS, only 9 of 18 state enterprises have been sold. Some of the reasons are quality of enterprises and that the citizens haven't been properly informed. The report was produced by OBN reporter Suzana Vukcevic.

## **Sarajevo**

Fifth Sarajevo Film Festival has been opened this evening. The first movie, that opened the Festival was " Notting Hill ". Those who are in charge for the Festival say that movies from ex-Yugoslavia were not chosen because they didn't fulfilled the required criteria.

## **Sport**

Athletic championship started in Seviglia today. Reports on International fieldball tour in Doboј and Formula 1 championship.