OBN News Review, 21 August 1999

Headlines

- Over 10,000 dead in earthquake in Turkey
- Fire officers from Sarajevo travel to Turkey in order to help victims of the earthquake
- War veterans from Dubrovnik blocked border crossing between Dubrovnik and Trebinje
- General Rasim Delic talks for TV INFO about decrease of military budget and possibilities for establishment of the joint army at the state level
- Russian troops came to Orahovac despite disapproval of the Kosovo Albanians
- Established official exchange rate for KM and Yugoslav dinar in the RS today
- Sarajevo everyday life of Gypsies from Yugoslavia and parts of BiH

Turkey Another day of counting of victims of the earthquake in Turkey. Search for another 40,000 people trapped in ruins continues. A report on this was produced by OBN reporter from Turkey, Fikret Fazlagic.

This was followed by a piece on fire officers from Sarajevo who travel to Turkey in order to help victims of the earthquake. Sarajevo Fire Section was pronounced for the best in the world in 1993 by the American Congress of fire officers.

Kosovo Two thousand Serbs in Orahovac threaten they would fled the area because of the yesterday's arrest of four Serbs, indicted for war crimes against Kosovo Albanians. At the same time, Russian troops came to Orahovac. KFOR said that the two events were not connected. Sarajevo The decision to reduce military expenses and units in BiH was welcomed at the South East European Stability Pact held in Sarajevo last month. Currently, 100,000 troops serve at the territory of the entire state. The Commander of the Joint Headquarters of the BiH Federation Army, General Rasim Delic, said in his interview for OBN that this number should be decreased for two thirds. A report on this was produced by OBN journalist, Vedran Persic.

Banja Luka The official exchange rate of KM and Yugoslav dinar is 1 KM for 12 dinars. This would help further decrease in usage of Yugoslav dinar in RS. OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Sanela Zivkovic, produced the report.

Ivanjica This morning, approximately a thousand people from Croatia blocked the border crossing in Ivanjica, between Dubrovnik and Trebinje. They protested because the border crossing has been recently opened and no one informed them.

Sujica (Tomislavgrad) Six private saw-mills have been reconstructed and reopened in Sujica near Tomislavgrad. All of them are faced with the same problem – disloyal competition. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Mirela Pehar.

Nova Bila Government of the Netherlands invested two million NLG in the livestock project in the BiH Federation, called Pilot Farms. Through this project, livestock and equipment were donated and training about practical issues was organised.

Travnik Yesterday in Travnik, a meeting between representatives of the political parties from the RS and Srednja Bosna Canton was held for the first time. The meeting was organised by <u>OSCE</u>. According to OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic, currently in Travnik live less than 1% of the pre-war Serb population. Hosts of the meeting promised to provide conditions for their return.

Tuzla A report on the "Tehnograd" Hotel in Tuzla where

refugees found contemporary accommodation. Approximately, one and half million DEM is needed for reconstruction of the hotel.

Sarajevo A piece on Gypsies who currently live in four devastated buildings in the Sarajevo residential quarter, Grbavica. Some of them came from Yugoslavia, others from other parts of BiH. They live in very difficult economic conditions.

This was followed by a report on the Fifth Sarajevo Film Festival. The Festival that was opened last night will continue until August 29th.

Sport A report on the local football matches was followed by reports on the Handball TV Tournament "Doboj 99", international tennis tournaments in the USA and the World Cup in volleyball for women. This was followed by a report on jumps to the Neretva River from the destroyed Stari Most (Old Bridge) in Mostar.