OBN News Review, 21 December 1999

Headlines

- Severe consequences of the storm in BiH
- The BiH Federation Government announced they were not responsible for the decision of the USA Government to suspend their support for privatisation
- Managers of big companies and opposition parties claim that the Government is solely responsible for that
- The presidential elections in Croatia will be held on January 24th
- OHR and OSCE announced that those Croats who already have a post in BiH and are elected for the Croatian Parliament, will have to decide which position would keep
- Ante Jelavic in Zagreb reacted to the statement of the BiH Presidency member, Alija Izetbegovic, that Croats in BiH can vote for the Croatian Parliament in only five voting stations – Jelavic said that BiH Croats will vote in previously announced fifteen voting stations
- December 21st – the Day of Miners – Bosniak miners from the Ljubija mine celebrated in the "Sanus" hotel in Sanski Most

UN Mission in BiH

The UN Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina warned that some of the police and judiciary officials could be dismissed because they were using symbols which were not neutral or had an offending content. The deadline for the implementation of the High Representative on the usage of symbols expired on November 15th. The UN control teams found out that the instructions were not followed in Posavski, Herecegovina-Neretva, West Hercegovina and Livno cantons.

Sarajevo

Representatives of the BiH Federation Agency for Privatisation consider the suspension of the US Government support for privatisation for a serious pressure on the BiH Federation Government and the BiH Council of Ministers. They said that managers of companies are to blame for the lack of results in the process of privatisation. On the other hand, managers of big companies and opposition parties representatives claim that the Government is solely responsible for the decision on suspension. The Deputy Director of the Agency for Privatisation, Nedim Lulo, said for TV INFO that main reasons for the decision of the US Government was adopting of privatisation laws which lasted too long and failure in the establishment of the agency for privatisation in Mostar. The report was produced by OBN reporters, Sanjin Beciragic and Anes Alic.

Banja Luka

Today, the RS Government continued its session which started yesterday. The main topic of the session was the process of privatisation. The Government determined a list of strategic companies in this entity. The Government concluded that the up to date results of the process of privatisation was not satisfactory and that it should be speed up. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Tatjana Lajsic.

This was followed by a report on an illegal affair which disturbed the RS. The state company “Telekom” has been managed by three high officials of the “Srpski narodni savez” and “Socialisticki savez” parties, Branko Miladinovic, Mile Bajalic and Vlado Vasiljevic. The three of them are also owners of the private company “Audioteks” which deals with the similar business as Telekom. The RS magazine “Reporter” published a story about criminal acts of the above mentioned managers who denied accusations. OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Sanela Zivkovic, produced the report.

Zagreb

The Chairman of the BiH Presidency, Ante Jelavic, said in Zagreb today that fifteen voting stations will be opened in Bosnia and Herzegovina within the forthcoming parliamentary elections in the Republic of Croatia. This was his answer to the statement of the BiH Presidency member, Alija Izetbegovic, that Croats in BiH can vote for the Croatian Parliament in only five voting stations. The BiH Croats delegation, headed by Ante Jelavic, met with the Acting President of the Republic of Croatia, Vlatko Pavletic, and the Croatian Prime Minister, Zlatko Matesa. The Government of the Republic of Croatia decided that the presidential elections will be held on January 24th. The HDZ party will determine their presidential candidate after the parliamentary elections, scheduled on January 3rd. The report for TV INFO from Zagreb was produced by Gordana Simonovic.

This was followed by a report on the election of diaspora representatives in the Croatian Parliament. The High Representative in BiH and the Head of the OSCE Mission in BiH expressed their concern because of a great number of candidates for the diaspora representatives in the Croatian Parliament who already have posts in the BiH authorities. According to the rules of the Provisional Election Commission, if they are elected, they will have to decide which position would keep. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Vedran Persic.

World

A report on difficult situation in Venezuela after disastrous floods was followed by reports on continuation of Russian offensive in Chechenia, presidential elections in Shri Lanka and current events in China and Italy. The report on current events in the world was produced by OBN journalist, Gordana Frimel. This was followed by an analysis of the parliamentary elections in Russia which ended two days ago. The report was

produced by OBN journalist, Mladen Maric.

BiH Mines (Ljubija & Ugljevik)

The Day of Miners in the RS is December 17th. In the BiH Federation, December 21st is celebrated as the Day of Miners. This year, the Ugljevik mine celebrates 100th anniversary. Miners from the Ljubija mine, Bosniaks who were dismissed and expelled in 1992 have gathered today in Sanski Most. Their mine is on the edge of the economic survival. The report on the Ljubija mine was produced by OBN reporter from Prijedor, Milena Letic-Joves and a reporter from the area, Sreten Lazic.

Sarajevo

A report on the current situation with the electricity supply in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Information from the electricity supply system hub in Sarajevo is optimistic. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Slobodan Maksimovic.

Sport

A report on international skiing in Kranjska Gora, Slovenia, was followed by a report on NBA.