

# OBN News Review, 21 January 2000

## Headlines

- Medicines and flue – whether all those who suffer from flu can afford them?
- Who is in charge of the pension-invalid insurance fund in the BiH Federation?
- Up to 40,000 illegal workers in the RS
- From the signing of the Dayton Peace Agreement to date, only 400 million DEM foreign investments came to BiH
- Whether perpetrators of Zeljko Raznjatovic's (Arkan) murder hide in the RS?
- Reporter of the "Dani" magazine in Tuzla was threatened – this is another attack on independent journalism in BiH

## Sarajevo / Banja Luka

The flu epidemic process has been pronounced in BiH. The biggest number of those who suffer from flu is expected at the end of this month. However, the flu is a big problem for socially endangered categories of population. Many of the medicines necessary for the treatment are very often expensive for the BiH citizens. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Slobodan Maksimovic.

This was followed by an item on flu produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Suzana Vukcevic. Similar situation regarding medicines' prices is in both BiH entities. Citizens complain about the prices of medicines.

## Sarajevo

Association of Pensioners from the BiH Federation decided to block the roads in this BiH entity if the Government do not

implement 18 measures by March 15th necessary for the improvement of the economic position of pensioners. He Association expressed their dissatisfaction because the Parliament did not adopt the draft law on the pension-invalid insurance. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Mirna Sadikovic.

## **Banja Luka**

Up to 40,000 illegal workers in the RS. One of the main reasons is that the tax is 80% of the salary and because of that, many private businessmen have been trying to pay the tax to the state. Experts think that a lower salary tax would improve the general situation and the situation regarding the pension funds. The RS Minister of Soldiers Issues, Victims of War and Work, Tihomir Gligoric, said that they would initiate better control of companies in the RS. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Darko Savic.

This was followed by a piece on the RS Syndicate of Education. The Syndicate is not satisfy with the changes and annexes of the Law on Collective Work Agreement. They said that the RS workers, and especially teachers, did not get anything with this law. OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Tatjana Lajsic, confirmed.

## **Sarajevo**

A report on the BiH agriculture was presented. The start-up and development of activities in the field of agriculture has been generally based on international donations. The BiH Federation partners were not able to agree on the special taxes for the import of food and agriculture products, and the High Representative in BiH brought a decision on that. Today, the [UN](#) Department for Development and the BiH Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations signed an agreement on the financing of the project "Development of Village", worth 1,4 million KM. The project will be implemented in 16

municipalities by May. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Anes Alic.

## **Sarajevo**

At the last donor conference for BiH, experts said that BiH needed 20 billion dollars for development. Donors pledged 5,1 billion dollars and the rest should be provided through foreign investments in BiH. However, from the signing of the Dayton Peace Agreement to date, only 400 million DEM foreign investments came to BiH. Foreign investors, among other problems, are faced with a number of administration obstacles in BiH. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic.

## **Mostar**

An item on the example of investing in BiH followed. A delegation of the town of Mostar and the fish farm from Blagaj returned to Mostar from Norway where they successfully finished talks regarding the joint investing in the production of healthy food. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Mostar, Ines Kajic.

## **World**

Russian official news agency announced that Russian troops stopped Chechen attacks for opening of a corridor towards Grozny. In Moscow, diplomatic activities have been intensified. After his Italian counterpart, the German Foreign Minister visited Russian capital. This was followed by a piece on the explosion of two car bombs in Madrid. One individual was killed. The police believed that ETA organised the attacks. Reports on Germany and the Middle East followed. The report on current events in the world was produced by OBN journalist, Duska Jurisic.

## **Banja Luka**

Belgrade press announced that five perpetrators murdered Zeljko Raznjatovic (Arkan). There were some unofficial information that some of the perpetrators of Zeljko Raznjatovic's (Arkan) murder hide in the RS. The RS Ministry of Internal Affairs said that they did not receive any official claims from the Belgrade police, OBN reporter from the town, Milorad Milojevic, confirmed.

## **Mostar**

Today in Mostar, more than a thousand Croats from the town and Herzegovina protested against the verdicts made by the Hague Tribunal on the Croats who committed war crimes in the Ahmici village during the war in BiH. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Blazica Kristo.

## **Sarajevo**

A piece on the implementation and the results of the Sarajevo Declaration. The USA Embassy expressed their happiness with 20,000 of those who returned to Sarajevo within the process of return of minorities, but at the same time they invited authorities to speed up return to Banja Luka and Mostar. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Vedran Persic.

## **Tuzla**

Reporter of the "Dani" magazine from Tuzla, Hasan Hadzic, received several anonymous phone calls in which he and his family was threatened by death. The journalist suspects that the cause was a series of his articles in which he criticized the Tuzla Canton authorities. This is another attack on independent journalism in BiH. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Muhamed Berbic.

## **Sarajevo**

An item on the promotion of the Social-Democrat Party magazine in Sarajevo. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Adis

Saranovic.

## **Sport**

A report on international skiing was followed by reports on international tennis and NBA.