

# OBN News Review, 21 March 2000

## Headlines

- Mladen Naletilic (Tuta) extradited to the Hague Tribunal
- The House of Peoples of the BiH Federation Parliament adopted the law on refugees
- At the end of her visit to BiH, Sadako Ogata said it was the right time for the return of refugees and displaced persons
- Sarajevo – the regional “Investment Forum 2000” began

## Zagreb

This morning, Mladen Naletilic (Tuta), indicted for war crimes, was transported to the Hague Tribunal. Since December 1998 his extradition was asked. The transport of Mladen Naletilic (Tuta) from a Zagreb hospital to the airport and further on was made in secrecy and no press was present. The report from Zagreb for TV INFO was produced by Gordana Simonovic.

## Sarajevo

A piece on the relations of BiH with the [EU](#) and the possibilities for the acceptance of BiH in the [EU](#) membership. A mix working group, consisted of [EU](#) and BiH experts, which was established in July 1998 in Brussels, concluded today that Bosnia and Herzegovina was not ready yet for the implementation of the Stability Pact goals. The Ambassador of the EC Office in BiH, Hans Kretchmer, speaking about the current situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, said that, for the European Union and the entire International Community, the integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina and other countries of South-East Europe in the [EU](#) was the final answer for the establishment of stability, peace and prosperity in this part

of Europe, OBN reporter, Sanjin Beciragic, confirmed.

This was followed by an item on the session of the BiH Parliament. The representatives discussed only one issue on the agenda: the proposal for changes and annexes of the law on the BiH Council of Ministers. Despite a discussion which lasted for a couple of hours, the law was not adopted. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic.

The House of Peoples of the BiH Federation Parliament adopted the law on refugees. The law was balanced with the BiH Constitution and the law on refugees. However, it is still not clear how the refugee return will be financed. OBN reporter, Anes Alic, produced the report for TV INFO.

A report on the press conference held by the [UN](#) High Commissioner for Refugees, Sadako Ogata, at the end of her visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo today. The High Commissioner stressed that it was the right time for the return of refugees and that this should be used because donors have been turning into other directions. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Zeljka Lekic.

The [UN](#) High Commissioner for Refugees, Ms. Ogata went to Belgrade to meet the Yugoslav Minister of Foreign Affairs and other officials. Sadako Ogata stressed that there are more than 600,000 refugees in Serbia, which is the biggest number of refugees in comparison to other countries in the Balkans. After that, Ms. Ogata will visit Kosovo. OBN journalist, Duska Jurisic, produced a report on the current situation with refugees in Kosovo. Ms. Ogata stressed that this was not the right time for the refugees to return to Kosovo.

## **World**

The US President, Bill Clinton, arrived at India. The US President invited India to restart the negotiation with Pakistan on the issue of Kashmir and to stop violence in the region. This was followed by a piece on the continuation of

the negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians in Washington. The main issue of the negotiations is the future status of Jerusalem. This was followed by reports on Chechnya and Taiwan. The piece on current events in the world was produced by OBN journalist, Gordana Frimel.

## **Sarajevo**

A two day regional "Investment Forum 2000" began in Sarajevo today. The organizer of the Forum is the Business Association for the International Economic Cooperation "Export-Invest". The Minister of Economic Relations of the BiH Council of Ministers, Mirsad Kurtovic, said that this Forum should determine economic priorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to start the development of the regional project. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Vedran Persic.

This was followed by a piece on the current relations between BiH Federation and the RS with the International Monetary Fund produced by OBN reporter, Sanjin Beciragic. The [IMF](#) determined a deadline, March 17th, until when BiH entities had to fulfil the conditions. However, the BiH Federation did fulfil the conditions and the RS did not. Because of that, a support worth 300 million dollars for the BiH entities' governments from the [IMF](#) is put under the question.

## **Banja Luka**

Yesterday, the RS National Assembly interrupted their session and suggested to continue it after the local elections scheduled for April 8th. Because of that, the President of the Assembly, Petar Djokic, addressed to the press. He said that the RS Government was to blame for the interruption. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Tatjana Lajsic.

## **Tuzla**

For the seventh day in a row, workers of the Tuzla factory "Polihem" have been on strike. Workers ask their unpaid

salaries and the resign of the board. Today, the strike board and the BiH Federation Government held talks regarding the strike. The Director promised to provide the funds for one unpaid salaries and the workers were not satisfied with the promise. The piece was produced by OBN reporter, Sabina Smajic.

## **Nova Bila**

This was followed by a piece on the strike of some 150 workers of the wood factory "Srebrenica" in Nova Bila. The workers are in a difficult economic position and announced they would come out in front of the Canton Government building and block the Vitez-Travnik road on Monday. The report was produced by Ana Drmac.

## **Sarajevo**

A piece on the end of the 16th International Festival "Sarajevo Winter" was produced by Meliha Hasanbegovic for TV INFO.

This was followed by an item on the presentation of Croatian Encyclopedia edition in the Croatian Culture Center of the Republic of Croatia Embassy in Sarajevo. The report was produced by Vanja Elezovic.

## **Sport**

Reports on local football and the half marathon race organised by both BiH entities were presented.