

# **OBN News Review, 23 August 2000**

## **Headlines**

- The US Ambassador Thomas Miller visited Zvornik
- The Deputy Mayor of Banja Luka was appointed
- Pensioners' protests in the RS continue
- The Mourning Day was proclaimed in Russia

## **Zvornik**

The US Ambassador, Thomas Miller visited Janja. "What I saw in Janja is disgusting", Mr. Miller said, after he had seen burned Bosniac houses. He added that the High Representative should replace local authorities, if they do not do their jobs. Bosniac returnees in Janja will stay in their houses, Adis Saranovic reported.

## **Tuzla**

Three Bosniac returnees were injured in the Tuzla suburb, Divic. They were attacked by a group of Serb women. Reported by Amra Hadziefendic.

## **Banja Luka**

Omer Visic was appointed as the Deputy Mayor of Banja Luka today. Slobodanka Obradovic was appointed as the Secretary of the City Assembly. The report was produced by Sanela Zivkovic.

## **Banja Luka**

Halil Halilovic, a returnee to Banja Luka has faced numerous dramatic problems, trying to get his property back. He has been involved in several disputes with municipality authorities, in order to realise his rights on return and employment. Amarildo Gutic produced the report.

## **Banja Luka**

The RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik and the Chairman of the B&H Council of Ministers, Spasoje Tusevljak met in Banja Luka today. They discussed the following issues: exchange of tenancy rights, decision on tax collection for citizens of Yugoslavia and the current situation in B&H in general. They agreed that the RS completely fulfils its obligations towards the B&H budget. Reported by Dragan Stanimirovic.

## **Sarajevo**

The B&H Council of Ministers will discuss the decision on collection of additional insurance fees from Yugoslav citizens. The decision was made by the State Border Service on 17th August. The Director of the Border Service, Slavisa Vukovic said that the RS police did not implement the decision. The RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik insists on Vukovic's replacement, Svjetlana Celic confirmed.

## **Banja Luka**

Representatives of RS pensioners met the Chairman of the RS Assembly, Petar Dokic. "The Assembly cannot help pensioners at the moment, because of their obligations to the [IMF](#)", Mr. Dokic said. Sanja Srdic produced the report.

## **Sarajevo**

According to Article 51, after the proposed changes in the Law on Retirement and Social Insurance, adopted by the Federation Government on 1st August, pensions should be distributed once in 30 days. In case there is not enough money, pensions would be paid out in accordance with the available resources at the PIO Fund. The Pensioners' Association reacted severely to these changes, claiming that the article means reduction of pensions by 28-40%. Representatives of the Fund claim that pensioners misinterpreted Article 51. Reported by Mirna Sadikovic.

## **Mostar**

The Head of the OHR in Mostar, Finn Lingheim demanded urgent arrest of 5 Mostar Croats, the indicted war criminals, Ines Kajic reported.

## **Mostar**

The Council of the University of Mostar organised a session behind closed doors today, in order to discuss possible replacement of the Head of the University, Marko Tadic. The session will continue on Monday, and Mr. Tadic will be present. Reported by Blazica Kristo.

## **Zepce**

A fire which broke out on 15th August was localised today. About 300 hectares of forests burned in the fire, Ana Drmac confirmed.

## **World**

The day of mourn was proclaimed in Russia, because of the tragedy of the submarine "Kursk". The Russian Government announce help in \$7000 to families of the dead.

International forces in Kosovo arrested 4 members of the Liberation Army of Presevo, Bujanovac and Medveda.

KFOR soldiers killed one Albanian, and wounded one.

The British police arrested Johnny Ader, leader of one of the protestant paramilitary groups in Northern Ireland. Ader was released from prison last year.

Trial to the former Indonesian President, Suharto for embezzlement and corruption will start on 31st August in Jakarta.

Typhoon "Billys" devastated Taiwan. Mladen Maric reported on world events.

## **Sarajevo**

B&H is one of the transit countries of Balkans. Emigrants from Iran and Turkey are trying to enter countries of West Europe through our country, using the fact that they do not need entry visas for B&H. Reported by Vedran Persic.

## **Kakanj**

More than 50 people with Q-fever were registered in Kakanj. The disease was registered in 1998 in the town. There have been only two registered sick animals so far. Sevko Bajic produced the report.

## **Sarajevo**

One of the guests of the Sarajevo Film Festival is Steve Buscemi. Several of his films will be shown at the Festival. Reported by Gordana Frimel.

## **Sport**

Reports on local and international football were presented.