

# OBN News Review, 23 November 1999

## Headlines

- Health of the Croatian President, Franjo Tudjman, is very difficult
- US President, Bill Clinton, during his visit to Kosovo, promised an additional one billion dollars for reconstruction
- The BiH Federation Prime Minister, Edhem Bicakcic, confirmed that two late pension payments will be paid by the end of this year
- "I will not return to Srebrenica", one of the municipality officials, Munib Hasanovic, said, after attempted murder and new threats
- Instead of the Municipality or Canton, electricity bills in the collective accommodation center "Sjeverni logor" in Mostar have been paid by refugees

## Mostar

The Independent Media Commission asked [SFOR](#) to help them to implement the order for the stopping of Erotel's broadcast. The order was issued on November 15th. Erotel ignored it and continued to broadcast. The Managing Board of Erotel announced they were ready to accept previously offered temporary licence for eleven transmitters. They ask their television be allowed to cover all areas in the BiH Federation where Croats live. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Mostar, Pejo Gasparevic.

## Sarajevo

A report on the session of the BiH Federation Parliament, held today in Sarajevo. Information on the extremely low rate of employment was presented at the session. Only 170 individuals

got a job during the last year. Representatives in the Parliament blamed the Government for the situation. This was followed by a statement of the BiH Federation Prime Minister, Edhem Bicakcic, who promised that two late pension payments will be paid by the end of this year. Pensioners in the BiH Federation did not receive their pensions for July and August. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic.

Will a joint pension fund be established in the BiH Federation by the end of this year? The Office of the High Representative insisted that the agreement about this issue, made at the session of the Federation Forum, be implemented. The BiH Federation Minister of Finance, Dragan Covic, said that the final solution will be found soon.

### **Mostar**

In the collective accommodation center, "Sjeverni logor" in Mostar, Some 85 refugees have been placed in the collective accommodation center, "Sjeverni logor" in Mostar, mainly women, children and old people. Some of them have been there for years. Only few them work. They have to pay electricity bills despite their very difficult economic position. The report was produced by OBN reporter Sanjin Beciragic.

### **Sarajevo**

The US Government announced that the US will donate an additional 1,7 million dollars for spontaneous refugee returns to BiH. Today, the US Ambassador in BiH, Thomas Miller, handed over the keys of Zaharije Josilo's reconstructed house. Mr. Josilo is a returnee from Srebrenica who returned with his family to his pre-war house in Sarajevo after four years in Srebrenica. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Vedran Persic.

### **Kosovo**

A report on the visit of the US President to Kosovo. The

President addressed the Kosovo Albanians in Urosevac and invited them to be tolerant. During his visit to the military base in Kosovo, he said US soldiers should be an example of tolerance. He promised an additional one billion dollars for the reconstruction of Kosovo, OBN reporter, Nikoleta Milasevic, confirmed from Pristina.

## **Zagreb**

For the first time, the medical team announced: "The state of the President's health worries us". Today, the work group, consisting of parliamentary parties, discussed the law which should regulate the proclamation that the President has been temporarily unable to perform his duties. Tomorrow, a special session of both parliament houses will be held, Gordana Simunovic confirmed for OBN from Zagreb.

## **Sarajevo**

Today, the Representative House of the BiH Parliament has ratified several international agreements, including the Agreement on free transit of goods between the Ploce harbour in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Representatives of the RS asked for a more liberal approach regarding the entrance of neighbouring countries' citizens to BiH. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Bakir Hadziomerovic.

## **Tuzla**

Fifty days ago, the Secretary of the Srebrenica Municipality Assembly, Munib Hasanovic, was attacked. The police have not found yet the perpetrators. Recently, Mr.Hasanovic received a letter, according to which, the organisation "Serb Sons", allegedly from Belgrade, took responsibility. Because of that, Mr.Hasanovic said for OBN, that he gave up his decision to return to Srebrenica. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic.

## **Sarajevo**

A piece on the two day conference of de-miners which started in Sarajevo today. The number of mine victims in BiH decreased in comparison to the post-war period. Today, participants of the conference discussed safety of de-miners, OBN reporter, Sevko Bajic, confirmed.

In two days time, BiH will celebrate it's 56th birthday. On November 25th 1943 in Mrkonjic Grad, BiH gained sovereignty. The RS Independent Social Democrats Party announced today they did not support November 25th as the BiH State Day. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Slobodan Maksimovic.

### **Banja Luka**

A piece on the signing of an agreement on the establishment of the cross entity council of health care in Banja Luka today. The participants were Ministers of Health and Social Care from the RS and BiH Federation. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Dragan Stanimirovic.

### **Mostar**

This was followed by a report on the two day meeting of medical experts in Mostar. The main topic of the meeting was mental health. Suggestions of the experts support development of a plan for the next two years, OBN reporter from the area, Blazica Kristo, confirmed.

### **Sport**

A report on NBA was followed by reports on the English football league matches and international car race currently held in the UK.