

# OBN News Review, 24 March 2000

## Headlines

- Stjepan (Stipe) Mesic finished a two days official visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Trial of Mladen Naletilic Tuta began before the Hague Tribunal – the sentence to Aleksovski increased on seven years in prison
- The RS Government discussed the construction of 10,000 apartments
- Four companies from Ljubuski and Posusje evaded 3,5 million DEM of tax, the Ministry of the Hercegovina-Neretva Canton announced
- The world day of fight against tuberculosis
- The [EU](#) Summit in Lisbon finished – Javier Solana got greater authorizations for
- the activities in Kosovo and the Balkans
- Topic of TV INFO: Polarization of Montenegro

## The Hague

Today, charges raised against Mladen Naletilic (Tuta), who was arrest on Tuesday, were read before the Hague Tribunal. He pleaded not guilty. In the afternoon, a new verdict was pronounced to Zlatko Aleksovski by the Hague Tribunal Appeal Council. The report for TV INFO was produce by Vjera Bogati from the Hague.

## Sarajevo

The President of the Republic of Croatia, Stjepan Mesic, finished his two days official visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina. OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic, produced a short interview with the Croatian President at Sarajevo airport. The Croatian President said that his visit was an excellent,

friendly mission.

This was followed by an analysis on the current relations between the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. There are a lot of issues which have not been solved between the two countries. Some of them are trade agreement, property and legal relations, social security, double citizenship, customs. Signing of an agreement on the border railroad traffic between the two states marked a new era in the good-neighbors relations. A joint statement on the refugee return was also adopted. The report was produced by OBN journalist, Sanjin Beciragic.

## **Montenegro**

A piece on the current situation in Montenegro, and a division between its citizens, was produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic, visited the area. He confirmed that there is an equal number of those who would like Montenegro to be independent and those who want to stay in Yugoslavia. Most of the local politicians agree that the decision on the waging of war in Montenegro depends on Milosevic and his supporters in Montenegro.

## **Kosovo**

This was followed by a piece on the first anniversary of the beginning of [NATO](#) strikes against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The [NATO](#) Secretary General, George Robertson, said that there was no doubt that the action was justified. The State Department Spokesman, James Rubin, said that a lot of things have been done in Kosovo, and that no one could expect a miracle for nine months to happen. OBN journalist, Gordana Frimel, produced the report.

## **Banja Luka**

Last year's [NATO](#) strikes against Yugoslavia had negative economic and political consequences for the RS, Nedeljka

Breberina confirmed for TV INFO from Banja Luka. The export of the RS products to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was reduced for a half.

## **World**

The [EU](#) Summit in Lisbon was finished. The participants reiterated their position on the strengthening their relations with the Serbian opposition parties. The High Commissioner for Foreign Policy and Security, Xavier Solana, got greater authorizations for the coordination of the international support in Kosovo and the Balkans. This was followed by reports on the pre-election campaign in Russia, the US President visit to India and the Pope's visit to Jerusalem. The piece on current events in the world was produced by OBN journalist, Zeljka Lekic.

## **Prijedor**

An association "Ostanak" organised protests against evictions in the town of Prijedor. They blame the RS authorities for doing nothing for the refugees and displaced persons. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Milena Letic-Joves.

## **Banja Luka**

The RS Government discussed the construction of 10,000 apartments for refugees, soldiers and their families. The RS Government think that the project can be implemented using partially local funds, OBN reporter from the area, Tatjana Lajsic, confirmed.

## **Tuzla**

A piece on the soon finalising of the trial of the ex Tuzla Canton Prime Minister, Hazim Vikalo, and three other canton officials, indicted for the misuse of their authorities. The final words of the defendants and the prosecution were

presented. The piece was produced by OBN reporter from Tuzla, Muhamed Berbic.

## **Mostar**

A piece on the illegal import of cars in the Hercegovina-Neretva Canton, and issuing of false certificates on invalidity. One of the perpetrators was arrested, other two have been searched. Also, the Ministry of the Hercegovina-Neretva Canton announced that four companies from Ljubuski and Posusje evaded 3,5 million DEM of tax, OBN reporter from the area, Blazica Kristo, confirmed.

## **Sarajevo**

A piece on the collective work agreement which should be signed between the BiH Federation Government and the Trade Union. The OHR is not satisfied with the proposed content of the agreement. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Mirna Sadikovic.

This was followed by an item on the world day of fight against tuberculosis. 1,800 people who suffer from this decease were registered in BiH during last year, OBN reporter, Adis Saranovic, confirmed.

## **Sport**

Reports on Formula One and the European football matches were presented.