OBN News Review, 27 August 2000

Headlines

- The Chairman of the International Commission for Missing Persons, Senator Bob Dole arrived in Sarajevo
- Kidnappers in the Philippines released 5 hostages
- Fires in Europe are still raging
- Shooting of the film “Mlijecni put” started in Sarajevo

Sarajevo

Senator Bob Dole met the Chairman of the B&H Presidency, Alija Izetbegovic today. Mr. Izetbegovic paid tribute to the ICMP and their work.

The Hague

Trial to 5 B&H Serbs, indicted war criminals continued before the ICTY.

World

3 Israeli soldiers died, trying to arrest one of the “Hammas” leaders in the West Coast.

Kidnappers in the Philippines released 5 hostages. Allegedly, $1 million ransom were paid for each hostage.

Rebels in Sierra Leone captured 12 British soldiers.

The state of emergency was proclaimed in south of Croatia.

China announced opening of their Embassy in Montenegro. Adis Saranovic produced the report on current world events.

Belgrade

The former Serbian politician, Ivan Stambolic is still

missing. He was one of the first politicians in Serbia who publicly condemned nationalism of Slobodan Milosevic. The public media in Serbia did not broadcast any information on Stambolic's disappearance, Mladen Maric reported.

Kotor Varos

About 10% of the pre-war citizens returned to Kotor Varos. Most of them live in damaged houses, waiting for international help in reconstruction. According to USAID, reconstruction of water supply system and electricity was completed. Returnees emphasised the need for construction of school in the area. Dragan Stanimirovic produced the report.

Brcko

8412 requests for restitution of property have been submitted to the RS Ministry for refugees and displaced persons in Brcko. 1814 requests have been realised so far. Almost all houses in the area around the former front line in Brcko were reconstructed. The OHR and UNHCR approved 3000 applications for return to this area. Reported by Slobodanka Radojkovic.

Brcko

Lives of citizens in the RS became even more complicated after the start of collection of additional insurance fees on border crossings with Yugoslavia. Many drivers stopped crossing the border for this reason. The Yugoslav Association of Insurance Companies says that they will consider abolishment of insurance fees, if the B&H Border Service officially abolishes collection of additional insurance fees, Vesna Mladenovic reported.

Neum

Tourist agents in Neum are very satisfied with this year's number of tourists who visited the town. According to them, the situation is much better than last year. Misijana Brkic

produced the report.

Banja Luka

The traditional cultural manifestation “Kocicev Zbor” started today. However, there were many problems in organisation of the event. Some politicians used the gathering for their pre-election campaigns, and the planned bullfight was cancelled. Reported by Sanja Srdic.

Sarajevo

RS and Federation Ministers of education signed a declaration on introduction of lectures on religion in schools, starting on September 2001. Classes on religion will not be obligatory, Meliha Hasanbegovic confirmed.

Sarajevo

The third International Festival of electronic music “Futura 2000” took place in Sarajevo last night. 10 000 young people from B&H and neighbouring states danced the whole night. Reported by Slobodan Maksimovic.

Sarajevo

Shooting of the B&H film “Mlijecni put” started in Sarajevo. The director, Faruk Sokolovic hired actors from all parts of the former Yugoslavia, Gordana Frimel confirmed.

Sport

Reports on local football and volleyball, and Formula I were presented.