

# OBN News Review, 27 December 1999

## Headlines

- The RS National Assembly held a session today
- The BiH Federation Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Energy and Mining held press conferences evaluating their activities in this year and announcing what they plan for the next
- Topic of TV INFO: Pension payments in the BiH Federation
- Chechenia: Rebels resist severely – Russian troops achieved small progress
- Unprecedented storm which struck Europe, took more than 60 lives

## Banja Luka

The RS National Assembly held a session today. The main topic of the session was the budget for 2000. However, the representatives only adopted the agenda during seven hours of discussion. The RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik, and the SDS representative, Dragan Cavic, discussed the issue of privatisation in the RS. Cavic claimed that the process of privatisation in the RS was not transparent and that only members of the Sloga Coalition were included in the process. The Prime Minister denied the accusation and said that SDS hampered the process of privatisation. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Tatjana Lajsic.

## Sarajevo

The BiH Federation Minister of Internal Affairs, Mehmed Zilic, said that the general security in the BiH Federation improved from last year. This was said at the last press conference of the BiH Federation Ministry of Internal Affairs in this year. Although the percentage of business crime was decreased by

32%, misuse of drugs increased. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic.

This was followed by a report on the press conference held by the BiH Federation Ministry of Energy and Mining. The Ministry announced their plans for next year. The Ministry confirmed that the price of fuel would be increased and that some miners would be dismissed. The Ministry explained the decision with the lack of market. The question is, who is responsible for finding a market: miners or their employers? The report was produced by OBN reporter, Anes Alic.

### **BiH Federation Pensioners**

A piece on the pensioners in the BiH Federation. They have not yet received their pension payments for August. As from today, pensioners in the Sarajevo Canton started receiving their pension payments. However, only those who receive their money through banks because only 16% of necessary funds were provided. Pensioners from Gorazde received payments on Saturday. The rest of pensioners in the BiH Federation will receive it only next month. Pensioners are embittered. The BiH Prime Minister, Edhem Bicakcic, promised at the end of November that all pension payments would be paid by the end of the year. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Sanjin Beciragic.

### **Cazin**

This was followed by a report on the pensioners in the Una-Sana Canton. Pensioners have received only seven pension payments for this year. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Azra Bajric.

### **Tuzla**

A piece on pensioners in the Tuzla Canton. There some 54,000 pensioners in this Canton and they have been in a very difficult economic position. The report was produced by OBN

reporter from Tuzla, Sanela Fazlic.

## **Mostar**

A piece on the similar situation in Mostar due to late pensions. A report on how Mostar pensioners felt about that was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Alisa Dzebo confirmed.

## **World**

[NATO](#) General Secretary, George Robertson, said that the Russian operation in Chechnia has to be replaced with a political solution. In the meantime, the Russian Prime Minister, Vladimir Putin, said that the military action in Grozny has been going on according to the plans. However, agencies reported that Chechens resisted severely to Russian attacks. This was followed by a report on the continuation of a drama of hijacked Indian plane currently in Afghanistan. Not even three days after, the solution has not been found. Reports on current events in Ivory Coast and elections in Guatemala followed. The report on current events in the world was produced by OBN journalist, Mladen Maric.

## **Sarajevo**

A piece on the apartments which belonged to the "army fund" and were purchased before the war. According to the decision of the High Representative, the contracts signed before the war, are valid. However, some problems occurred. The BiH Federation Ombudspersons recommended to the Federal Ministry of Defence to respect regulations without imposing additional conditions. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic.

## **Capljina**

A report on the damage made in the Struge village near Capljina. Returnees who just returned to their pre-war homes

have found themselves in the most difficult position. Again, they were left without anything. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Sinisa Jokic.

### **Banja Luka**

A report on an orphanage, Dusan Bjelac, who lived in a car wreck. Nada Kulundzija from Banja Luka took temporarily the boy although not even she had a permanent accommodation. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Nedeljka Breberina.

### **Sarajevo**

A report on the press conference held by four non-governmental organisations: Council of Bosniak Intellectuals Congress, Serb Citizen Council, Croatian People Council and the Association of Independent Intellectuals "Circle 99". The representatives emphasised that until all citizens in BiH get equal treatment regardless to place of living, the human rights and the international conventions will be not respected. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Sevko Bajic.

### **Sport**

A report on the UK football matches was followed by a report on NBA.