OBN News Review, 28 December 1999

Headlines

- Deadline introduced by the Constitutional Court on the restructure of the BiH Council of Ministers expired — as from tomorrow, BiH will have illegal government
- The RS Assembly adopted budget for 2000 worth 621 million DEM
- Fifteen candidates will be removed from the SDA party election list because of a manipulation in the process of registration
- Russian troops captured a suburb of the Chechen capital
- Indonesia and Portugal reestablished their diplomatic relations after 24 years
- Storm struck Europe for the second time new victims in France and Spain
- Workers of the Banja Luka company "Incel" announced blockade of roads for tomorrow

Sarajevo

Bosnia and Herzegovina is threatened by floods. Rain and melting snow increased water level of the most rivers in BiH. First, the river Bistrica in the Sarajevo Canton flooded the banks. Very difficult situation is in the Neretva, Una, Bosna and Vrbas rivers' areas. However, the highest water level was measured in the Sana river, 335 centimeters. Traffic in some parts of the Sarajevo Canton roads has been stopped. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Anes Alic.

Doboj

<u>SFOR</u> brigade closed a bridge over the river Spreca, between Petrovo and Gracanica, because of a high water level. If the water level persists to rise, big damages on the bridge can be

expected, OBN reporter from the area, Svjetlana Celic-Ninkovic, confirmed.

Storm in Europe

Last night, strong wind, rain and snow struck Europe again. Last weekend, 97 people killed in a storm which struck West Europe. Damage was estimated to be hundreds million DEM. In the West part of France, 13 people were killed last night. Several people were injured. Speed of the wind was 150 km/h. Plane, train and passenger traffic has been stopped in the areas of France which were struck by the storm. Some two million households do not have electricity supply. The storm struck North of Spain as well. During last 24 hours, six people were killed. The report was produced by OBN journalist, Gordana Frimel.

Sarajevo

As from today, BiH has the Government which is against the BiH Constitution. The Constitutional Court of BiH proclaimed 21 out of 52 provisions of the Law on Council of Ministers illegal and against the Constitution and ordered the restructure of the Council to be made by December 28th. The biggest problem occurred regarding the position of the Chairman of the BiH Council of Ministers. An agreement on this issue could not had been achieved by the BiH Council of Ministers nor by the BiH Presidency. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic.

Banja Luka

A piece on the RS National Assembly session which adopted the RS budget for next year after a two day discussion. The budget of the RS will be approximately 621 million DEM. With the international support, the budget will be some one billion and eighty five million DEM. The SDS party was against the adoption of the budget. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Suzana Vukcevic.

Sarajevo

Last year war proclaimed for the year of return. This year, some concrete results have been expected. That did not happen. A small number of one million and two hundred thousand refugees from both BiH entities returned their pre-war homes. Reasons for the lack of results in the process of return are obstruction of both BiH entities' authorities and misdirected international support, the President of the BiH Association of Refugees and Displaced Persons, Mirhunisa Komarica, confirmed. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Sevko Bajic.

This was followed by a report on the current situation in the BiH economy. Although there is a big number of unemployed people in BiH, the BiH Federation Prime Minister, Edhem Bicakcic, is optimistic regarding the economic policy for next year. "Elektroprivreda" (electricity supply) and "PTT" (telecommunications) companies are among those who are first on the list for investing in next year. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic.

Banja Luka

The RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik, said that people in this BiH entity do not have right on making mistakes any more. He expressed his hope that next year would allow the election of best people to the positions in the RS, and not to make mistake as in the case of Nikola Poplasen, the ex RS President. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Tatjana Lajsic.

Sarajevo

Fifteen candidates will be removed from the SDA party election list because of a manipulation in the process of registration. This was announced by OSCE today. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Zeljka Lekic.

This was followed by a report on the new BiH Federation Prime

Minister. Ejup Ganic will take over the position from the current Prime Minister, Ivo Andric Luzanski, as from January 1st, OBN reporter, Slobodan Maksimovic, confirmed.

World

Reports on current events in Afghanistan where the hijacked Indian plane is located, fights in Chechenia, events in Indonesia, Kosovo and Macedonia were presented by OBN journalist, Gordana Frimel.

Banja Luka

Workers of the Banja Luka company "Incel" announced blockade of roads for tomorrow because their demands were not fulfilled by the Managing Board. More than five hundred workers did not receive their salaries. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Nedeljka Breberina.

Sport

A report on international skiing was followed by reports on the international basketball matches and football.