

# OBN News Review, 29 October 1999

## Headlines

- German President received the BiH state delegation in an official visit
- Srebrenica – the center of interest of the International Community representatives
- [OSCE](#) Ambassador, Robert Barry, visited Banja Luka
- Russian troops only seven kilometres from Grozny
- Javier Solana, Chris Paten and Carla del Ponte finished their visit to Kosovo
- Four hundred and fifty citizens ask for the return of their savings from the “SAB” Bank which recently went bankrupt
- If the BiH Federation Parliament do not adopt the law on border police until the end of this year, the High Representative in BiH will impose it
- Tonight, the Miss of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the Miss of the World will be held – OBN broadcast the event live

## Germany

Members of the BiH Presidency and the BiH delegation that was in a two day visit to Germany, arrived at Sarajevo tonight. Today, the delegation met with the German President. Members of the BiH Presidency also met with the German Chancellor and the Foreign Minister. Some of the topics of the talks were implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement in BiH, membership of BiH in the [EU](#) and BiH refugees in Germany, Zdravko Lipovac confirmed from Berlin for OBN.

## Srebrenica

Deputy High Representative in BiH, Ralph Johnson, said clearly

during his visit to Srebrenica that the approach of OHR towards Srebrenica entered the new phase after the new property laws had been enacted. Ambassador Johnson announced the establishment of the Committee for Security and Reconciliation. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic.

### **Kopaci (Gorazde)**

A piece on the Bosniaks, expelled from Kopaci (in the Serb part of Gorazde) who still wait in their tents for the support to enter their fields in the village. The refugees were prevented twice by the Serb inhabitants from entering. The RS Ministry of Refugees and Displaced Persons issued an official decision that entering of the Bosniaks was illegal. Because of that, Bosniak refugees placed tents one kilometers away from the village. They say they will wait there until they return to their houses, OBN reporter from Gorazde, Alen Bajramovic, confirmed.

### **Banja Luka**

A piece on the visit of the [OSCE](#) Ambassador, Robert Barry, who visited Banja Luka today. The Ambassador visited recently injured Editor-in-chief of the "Nezavisne novine", Zeljko Kopanja, in behalf of the [OSCE](#) Chairman, Knut Vollebaek, OBN reporter from the town, Suzana Vukcevic, confirmed. The Ambassador express their support and said that this was a critical moment for the independent media in BiH.

### **Sarajevo**

Bosnia and Herzegovina is one of the countries with the highest rate of human rights breaching. A seminar of the human rights organisations, attended by the representatives from Norway, Poland, Albania, Russia, Serbia and Croatia, has been held from 28th to 31st October in Sarajevo. Some of the topics of the seminar are the South East Europe Stability Pact and the role of non-government organisations, and freedom of

media. The report on this was produced by OBN reporter, Sevko Bajic.

## **World**

A report on the further progress of Russian troops towards the Chechen capital, Grozny, was followed by reports on the visit between the USA and Nigerian Presidents in Washington, visit of the USA Deputy State Secretary to Moscow, establishment of the Government in Indonesia, current events in East Timor and leaving of last Indonesian troops from the island. A report on current events in Kosovo followed. The Montenegrin President, Milo Djukanovic, announced that within next few days, Montenegrin authorities will take over responsibilities for the monetary system. The report was produced by OBN journalist, Mladen Maric.

## **Banja Luka**

A piece on the continuation of the RS National Assembly session, which was interrupted last night. The representatives discussed suggestions for the second co-president candidates. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Tatjana Lajsic.

## **Sarajevo**

The "SAB" Bank currently owes to its creditors more than 18 million DEM. Four hundred and fifty citizens asked for the return of their savings from the bank which recently went bankrupt. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic.

This was followed by a report on the two day conference on the fight against organised crime held in Sarajevo. The participants emphasised the role of the border police which currently do not exist in BiH. If the BiH Federation Parliament do not adopt the law on border police until the end of this year, the High Representative in BiH will impose it,

OBN reporter, Vedran Persic, confirmed.

## **Banja Luka**

Approximately 11,000 claims for the property return have been submitted in Banja Luka to date. More than 4,000 of them have been the claims for the return of private property. Four hundred and five claims for the return of private property had been solved positively as well as seventy nine for the return of flats, OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Suzana Vukcevic, confirmed.

## **Ivanjska (Bosanska Krupa)**

A piece on the process of return to Ivanjska near Bosanska Krupa which had started a few months ago and recently intensified. The bridge over the Una River and the first twenty houses in the village were reconstructed with the support provided by the international organisations, OBN reporter from the area, Azra Bajric, confirmed.

## **Sarajevo**

BiH Presidency member, Zivko Radisic, said at Sarajevo airport, after their visit to Germany, that the entire delegation had a joint position regarding the key, strategic issues. He added that this meant that they were willing to develop BiH in accordance to the Dayton Peace Agreement principles. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Adis Saranovic.

## **Sport**

A piece on the UEFA Cup matches was followed by reports on the funeral of the USA golf player killed on Monday and Formula One.