

# OBN News Review, 4 January 2000

## Headlines

- Big defeat of the HDZ party in the elections for the Representative House of the Croatian Sabor – opposition parties celebrate the victory
- HDZ party in Bosnia and Herzegovina surprised – however, they think that a high number of votes the party got in BiH would guarantee their survival in this country
- Diaspora gave 65% of their votes to HDZ
- Alija Izetbegovic congratulated Racan and Budisa, convinced that relations between the two states would enter a new stage
- The High Representative extended the deadline imposed on municipalities on handling state owned land
- Difficulties in the negotiations between Syria and Israel
- Russian attacks on Grozny continued

## Zagreb

The Coalition of the Social-Democrat Party, led by Ivica Racan, and the Croatian Social-Liberal Party, led by Drazen Budisa, started celebrating their victory in the parliamentary elections in Croatia. Out of ten election constituencies in the Republic of Croatia, this coalition has won in eight of them. The only voting constituency where HDZ had a bigger number of votes was the Brodsko-Posavska. The Coalition of the above mentioned parties, SDP and the HSLS achieved the best result in the Zagreb voting constituency, receiving more than 50% of votes. In BiH and the Diaspora, the biggest number of votes was received by the HDZ party. This was announced last night when the latest unofficial results were presented. The report for TV INFO from Zagreb was produced by Gordana

Simonovic.

This was followed by a live interview with the Vice President of the Social-Democratic Party, Zdravko Tomac, from Zagreb for TV INFO. He said that the Coalition of the SDP and HSLs parties had formulated their positions towards BiH years ago and that they wanted and hoped that BiH would improve its democracy, and would be a multi-cultural, multi-national and multi-religious country and that all citizens would be equal all over BiH. He added that they wanted Croats in BiH, together with the other two peoples in BiH, to establish such a Bosnia and Herzegovina. Zdravko Tomac added that the strong democratic changes in the Republic of Croatia would certainly enhance democratic changes in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

A report on the first reactions of the defeated, HDZ party followed. The Vice President of the party, Mate Granic, announced a need for a special congress of the party. He said that any party which loses the elections has to call a special congress and choose a new leadership. The winners were much more optimistic. The President of the Social-Democratic Party, Ivica Racan, said that citizens of Croatia supported those who offered the country necessary changes.

A poll made on the streets in Zagreb and Kiseljak on what the citizens think about the victory of the Coalition was presented.

## **Mostar**

The Spokesperson of the HDZ party in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Zoran Tomic, said that the results of the elections for the Sabor were a surprise for them. Tomic added that they were expecting much better results in the elections. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Pejo Gasparevic, from Mostar.

## **Sarajevo**

The Vice President of the of the SDA party in BiH, Halid

Genjac, said that the reasons for the defeat of the HDZ party could be found in direct or indirect consequences of the wrong Republic of Croatia foreign policy, especially their relations towards Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## **Banja Luka**

The President of the Serb People Association (SNS), Biljana Plavsic, said that the preliminary results of the victory of opposition parties on the parliamentary elections in the Republic of Croatia, were a good news. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Biljana Arsic.

## **Guest of TV INFO**

The guest of TV INFO was the President of the New Croatian Initiative (NHI), Kresimir Zubak. He explained the victory of the HDZ party in BiH with the concern of voters in Bosnia and Herzegovina whether they would receive material, financial and political support from Croatia. He added that the HDZ party defeat would be a positive change in the Republic of Croatia and in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## **World**

This was followed by a report on the reactions regarding the preliminary results of the parliamentary elections in Croatia. The CNN made an analysis reporting that the victory of the opposition parties in Croatia would increase chances of this country to become a member of the [EU](#) and [NATO](#), and make weaker Croatian separatists in BiH. The report was produced by OBN journalist, Slobodan Maksimovic.

This was followed by a report on the beginning of a new round of negotiations between Syria and Israel currently held in the USA. The negotiators could not agree upon the agenda of the negotiations and the priorities. This was followed by a report on the continuation of fights in Chechenia. Reports on Indonesia and Norway followed. The report on current events in

the world was produced by OBN journalist, Zeljka Lekic.

## **Sarajevo**

The High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina, [Wolfgang Petritsch](#), extended the temporary suspension of the municipality authorities' authorisations in both BiH entities to handle the state owned land. The new suspension will last until June 30th. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Sanjin Beciragic.

## **Banja Luka**

A piece on the refugees from Banja Luka who live in very difficult conditions waiting to return to their homes and can not return because eviction orders had not been implemented. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic.

The ex prisoners of German concentration camps in the Second World War will receive compensation. The deadline for submitting the claim for compensation is not limited. This was announced by the Red Cross in Banja Luka. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Nedeljka Breberina.

## **Sport**

A report on NBA was followed by a report on international tennis.