OBN News Review, 4 July 1999

Headlines

- NATO continues blockade of the Russian troops transfer in Kosovo
- Independent intellectuals from the "Circle 99" association discussed the South East European Pact of Stability
- Report on the Kurd issue and their leader
- Owner of the Promdei Bank, Ibrahim Dedic, murdered last night in Zagreb
- Topics of TV INFO: Return & Privatisation
- Soldiers in the military base Eagle, celebrated USA Independence Day

Kosovo

USA and NATO allies blocked the Russian attempt during the weekend to transfer hundreds of soldiers to Kosovo. Russia asked from Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria permission to use their air space for 10 planes with KFOR members but the countries rejected the proposal after consultations with the senior USA and NATO officials. NATO refused deployment of the Russian troops until conditions on the ground are fulfilled.

Sarajevo

As was previously announced, the Summit of the South East European Stability Pact was scheduled for July 30th in Sarajevo. The independent intellectuals association, "Circle 99", discussed the pact and its function as a turning point in European and world policy towards this region.

The Kurds

A few days ago, the leader of the Kurdistan Workers Party was sentenced to death in Turkey. The sentence has to be confirmed

by the Turkish Parliament and President. OBN journalist, Mladen Maric, made a report on two possible solutions for the status of Kurds in Turkey and their struggle for autonomy.

Zagreb

A report on the murder of the Promdei Bank owner, Ibrahim Dedic, one of the richest people in the region, last night in Zagreb. Details of the police investigation are not announced yet. Several times, Dedic informed police that he had been threatened with murder. The Promdei Holding Bank, established 10 years ago, consists of banks in Zagreb, Sarajevo, Mostar and Belgrade, with 82 branches in these towns.

Maglaj

A piece on the difficult position of the Maglaj paper factory, Natron. The syndicate has asked the BiH Federation Government to help them. However, the Prime Minister of the BiH Federation, Edhem Bicakcic, said that the only solution for the factory would be privatisation. Koraljka Kurcenberger sent her report.

Lopare

A piece on the return to the Gajeve village in the Lopare Municipality. The process has been followed by a number of problems and incidents. Now, inhabitants are faced with other problems. Only 19 out of 70 houses were reconstructed, and returnees lack water and electricity.

Sarajevo

An old people’s home in the Sarajevo Canton and the humanitarian organisation “AVO”, have implemented a project for securing 22 people, returnees from a refugee in Germany. The “AVO” will provide funds for their stay for two years.

TV INFO topic – Process of Return

This was followed by a report made by OBN journalist, Sanjin Beciragic, about the status and position of BiH refugees. The Kosovo Albanians waited three months to get back to their homes. The BiH refugees wait for three, four, even seven years to start returning.

Bihac

A report on the final evening of the Theatre Festival “Bihac’s Summer”. Authors from all over BiH presented their shows during the last ten days. OBN reporter from Bihac, Azra Bajric, produced the report.

Tuzla

A report on the celebration of USA Independence Day, July 4th, in the military base “Eagle” near Tuzla. There were several sport competitions.

Sport

A report on the “Intertoto” international football matches was followed by a report on the tennis tournament finals in Wimbledon and Latin American Cup matches.