OBN News Review, 5 April 2000

Headlines

- A bridge across the river Sava has been reconstructed
- The French terrorist, Mulude Bougelane, has been transferred from Zenica to a French prison
- The entity Ministries of Defence discussed the issue of military flats
- The new IPTF Commander arrived in B&H
- The second day of Carla Del Pontes visit to Zagreb

Zenica

Mulude Bougelane, the French citizen, has been sentenced to 20 years in prison because of an act of terrorism. He was transferred to France today. Bougelane spent 2 years in Zenica prison. He still claims that he is innocent, and that everything was plotted against him. Reported by Amarildo Gutic from Zenica.

Strasbourg

The High Representative, Volfgang Petrich, addressed the Council of Europe today. He said that B&H should fulfil the 3 main conditions for membership of the Council: the normal functioning of state institutions, adoption of an Election Law and a significant progress in implementation of the decisions of the institutions for human rights protection. Petrich feels that B&H politicians are not ready for compromises yet. Reported by Branislav Milosevic, the "Sense" correspondent.

Bosanski Brod

A bridge across the river Sava was opened today. The reconstruction was financed by the Agency for International Development. The bridge is the shortest link between B&H and Croatia. The B&H Foreign Minister, Jadranko Prlic and the

American Ambassador in B&H were also present. Reported by Svjetlana Celic-Ninkovic.

Sarajevo

Robert Berry, the Head of the <u>OSCE</u> mission feels that the attitude of B&H parties improved in comparison to previous years. The date of the announcement of voting results is still unknown. Berry said that they would be announced immediately after the completion of counting. The report was produced by Slobodan Maksimovic and Vedran Persic.

Visegrad

The <u>OSCE</u> organised a meeting of political parties. They discussed refugee return and the situation in the economy. The meeting took place in Visegrad. The situation is tense there, because citizens are unsatisfied after the arrest of Momcilo Krajisnik and Mitar Vasiljevic. The report was produced by OBN reporter Damir Kaletovic.

Zagreb

The main Prosecutor of the Hague Tribunal, Carla Del Ponte met the Croatian Prime Minister, Ivica Racan, and the Minister of Judiciary, Stjepan Ivanisevic. They discussed Serb crimes in Croatia, but also Croat crimes during their military actions. Croatia wants to co-operate with the ICTY, because they want to stop collective guilt, and find the individuals responsible for crimes, said the Croatian President, Stipe Mesic. Reported by Gordana Simonovic from Zagreb.

World

12 soldiers of KFOR were injured in an incident during Serb demonstrations in Kosovo. 14 protestors were injured as well.

Russian planes continued strikes on the rebels' strongholds in Cechenian mountains. The new Russian President won 52, 94% of votes in the elections.

The Turkish Parliament has not adopted the package of constitutional changes.

Joshiro Mori, the Secretary General of the ruling Liberal-Democratic party, is the new Japanese Prime Minister after the resignation of the former government.

About 2000 people were evacuated after a collision of two trains near Oslo, because of a possible explosion.

Sarajevo

The second meeting of the representatives from the Ministries of Defence of the RS and the Federation of B&H took place in Sarajevo today. They discussed the issue of military flats. All flats should be returned to their owners, but the problem of families of the killed soldiers was not resolved. The report was produced by OBN journalist Sanjin Beciragic.

Banja Luka

A seminar on borders took place in Slatina, near Banja Luka. The participants talked about the authorities of the border service. The representatives of the <u>UN</u>, IPTF, the RS Internal Ministry and the International Centre for the Migration Policy Development Participated at the seminar. The newly established border service will control a 1611km long area. The officials of the service will have a 4-year-mandate, and will rotate every 8 months. The report was produced by Nedeljka Breberina.

Sarajevo

Vincent Coverderoy was appointed as the new IPTF Commissioner in B&H. The former Commissioner, Delef Buwitt has retired, and he is going back to Germany. Reported by Vedran Persic.

Mostar

8 years of the existence of the HVO was celebrated in Mostar today. The report was produced by Pejo Gasparevic.

Sarajevo

A book on treatments for the blood by Dr. Mirza Begovic was promoted in Sarajevo today. Experts said that this was a useful scientific manual. The report was produced by Sevko Bajic.

Sport

Reports on local and international football were presented.