

# OBN News Review, 5 January 2000

## Headlines

- The corner stone for the Sarajevo-Zenica high way laid
- The candidate for the presidential elections in Croatia is Mate Granic – the Acting President of the HDZ party is Vladimr Seks
- The High Representative in BiH, [Wolfgang Petritsch](#), gave his comment regarding the results of the parliamentary elections in Croatia – “This is a victory of democratic forces and will have a positive impact on the relations between BiH and Croatia”
- The final candidates lists for the municipality elections in BiH will probably be announced on January 17th
- At least 13 people were killed and 27 wounded in a bomb attack which occurred near the Office of the Shri Lanka Prime Minister in Colombo
- The presidential elections in Russia scheduled for March 26th

## Sarajevo

Today, the cornerstone has been laid for the European corridor through Bosnia and Herzegovina, the high way between Zenica and Sarajevo. The contract was signed on November 26th and the details should be developed by the end of April. The investment is worth 600 million DEM and the length of this road section is 74 km. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic.

## Zagreb

At midnight, the deadline for the nomination of candidates for the forthcoming presidential elections in Croatia expired. The

Main Board of the HDZ party decided that their candidate would be Mate Granic. Other parties announced names of their candidates earlier. The presidential election in Croatia is scheduled for January 24th. The report from Zagreb for TV INFO was produced by Gordana Simonovic.

This was followed by a statement of the Chairman of the BiH Presidency, Ante Jelavic, who congratulated the victory of Budisa and Racan in the Croatian parliamentary elections. Jelavic said that he was sure that the Sabor and the Croatian Government would continue their successful cooperation, especially regarding the responsibility for the protection of the constitutional and legislative position of Croats in BiH and their position as a constitutive people.

### **Banja Luka**

Serbs, refugees from the Republic of Croatia, who currently live in Bosnia and Herzegovina, had only partially participated in the elections for the Croatian Parliament. In some cases they were only observers of the elections. The President of the Association of Serbs, refugees from Croatia, Petar Dzodan, said that he was pleased with the defeat of the HDZ party in the elections in Croatia. He added that he was not too optimistic regarding the victory of the Coalition. He said that the preparations for the elections were not proper and because of that they can not be accepted as legitimate and fair. In the RS, only two voting stations were opened, although 60,000 Serbs, refugees from the Republic of Croatia, currently live in this BiH entity. The report from Banja Luka was produced by OBN reporter from the town, Milorad Milojevic.

### **Sarajevo**

The High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina, [Wolfgang Petritsch](#), said that the victory of opposition parties in Croatia will have positive, long-term results for the Croats in BiH. As far as the forthcoming elections in Bosnia and

Herzegovina are concerned, the High Representative said that he expected the victory of moderate forces. The interview with the High Representative was produced by OBN reporter, Sanjin Beciragic.

## **Mostar**

A report on the press conference held by the Head of the OHR Office, Gerhard Sontheim in Mostar today. Gerhard Sontheim said that the elections in Croatia had shown that the voters were ready enough to start changes through a democratic process. He also talked about the priorities for the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton this year. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Mostar, Mirsad Behram.

## **Sarajevo**

The Provisional Election Commission will confirm the final lists of candidates for the municipality elections in BiH probably on January 17th. For the time being, one sixth or 16% of nominated candidates do not comply with the [OSCE](#) conditions. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Vedran Persic.

## **World**

The presidential elections in Russia have been scheduled for March 26th. This was followed by reports on the continuation of fights in Chechenia, a bomb attack in Shri Lanka, negotiations in the USA between Syria and Israel and events in Norway after yesterday's train accident where 33 people were killed. A report on current events in the world was produced by OBN journalist, Zeljka Lekic.

## **Doboj**

Within the agreement on the decrease of [SFOR](#) troops, the Nord-Polish Brigade was transformed into the Nord-Polish Military Group. The Commander of the ex Brigade confirmed that on

December 25th, he was attacked by a naturalised BiH citizen from Sudan, in the Bocinja village. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Dobož, Svjetlana Celic-Ninkovic.

## **Bocinja**

This was followed by a report on the Bocinja village, the biggest Serb village in the Maglaj municipality. Currently, refugee Serbs from the village mainly live in other people's apartments in Dobož. Currently in Bocinja, besides refugees from Srebrenica and Kozarac, some 40 naturalized Arab citizens live there, who threatened Serbs who visited the grave yard in the village recently. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Biljana Arsic.

## **Sanski Most**

Representatives of two municipalities from the Krajina area, Sanski Most and Prijedor, have signed an agreement on property return. The representatives said that the return of property should be implemented fast and efficiently. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Milena Letic-Joves.

## **Sarajevo**

The Ministry of Agriculture in the BiH Federation announced that during this year, laws on the protection of local production would be adopted. The Minister of Agriculture, Ahmed Smajic, said that the veterinarian inspection on the BiH borders was doing a good job despite the fact that five million tons of food, without proper documentation, has been imported to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Several cases of food poisoning had been recorded. The report on the lack of food control in the BiH Federation was produced by OBN reporters, Anes Alic and Sevko Bajic.

## **Tuzla**

A report on the area near the Spreca and Tinja rivers

followed. At the end of the last year, flood in the Tuzla Canton caused a great damage. The damage was estimated on 800,000 DEM. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Alma Hadziefendic.

## **Banja Luka**

The Croatian Cultural Society "Napredak" donated 7,000 DEM to the Banja Luka "Caritas". The support will be given to those people who need the help most, regardless to their ethnic or religious background. 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 football matches and handball. A handball international tournament begins in Tuzla tomorrow. TV OBN is a media sponsor of the tournament.