OBN News Review, 6 December 1999

Headlines

- Turkish President Demirel in two day, official visit to BiH
- Warning protest of Breze miners the deadline for fulfillment of their demands is December 12th
- Workers of the Prijedor "Celpak" factory continue with the strike
- Owners of private fuel stations in the BiH Federation warned they would raised the price of oil derivatives and stop paying tax to the state on their own
- Banja Luka Independent Social-democratic and Socialliberal party united

Sarajevo

Turkish President Sulejman Demirel came for a two day visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Turkish President met with the highest BiH officials. Some fifty businessmen came with the Turkish President. The Chairman of the BiH Presidency, Ante Jelavic, said that Turkey was a strategic partner of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Turkish President said that BiH should take advantage of the economic benefits Turkey offers to BiH. The Turkish President gave his, long waited, support for BiH to become a member of the European Council. Tomorrow, the Turkish President will visit Mostar and Turkish members of <u>SFOR</u> with the headquarters in Zenica, OBN reporter, Vedran Persic, confirmed.

Breza

Miners of the Breza mine held a warning protest today. They demand more coal to be purchased from them. If their demand is not fulfilled, they will go on strike on December 12th. The miners ask the BiH Federation Government to force the power plant "Kakanj" to purchase more coal from Breza to the same quantity as six months ago. Some 25% of miners currently do not have a job. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Anes Alic.

Prijedor

This was followed by a report on the continuation of strike in the Prijedor factory "Celpak". The Steering Board of the factory accepted the resignation of the Geeral Manager, Stojan Baltic. Members of the Board offered the RS Government to resign as well. The Syndicate ask from the management to pay two late salaries, starting of a part of the production and dismissal of the management who were not able to fulfil their demands. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Prijedor, Milena Letic-Joves.

Zenica

Oil derivatives supply has been problematic in the biggest part of the BiH Federation. Owners of private fuel stations in the BiH Federation stopped selling of oil derivatives on December 3rd. They have been unsatisfied with the BiH Federation Government decision not to increase the fuel price. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Zenica, Koraljka Kurcenberger.

Mostar

This was followed by a report on the fuel supplay in Mostar. OBN reporter from Mostar, Alisa Dzebo, reported that gas stations in East Mostar had sufficient supplies of fuel of all types. A similar situation is in West Mostar. The problem is that owners of gas stations throughout Herzegovina have been losing 3 - 7 phening per liter of fuel because of the difference in the purchase and selling price, OBN reporter from Mostar, Blazica Kristo, confirmed. Tomorrow, representatives of the fuel stations owners from Herzegovina will meet with the BiH Federation Government officials in order to discuss the problem.

Tuzla

A piece on the fuel supply in Tuzla followed. Selling of fuel on "INA" stations has been restricted because of limited fuel supplies. Selling of fuel on the biggest private fuel station in the area, "Kopex", was not restricted. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Tuzla, Sanela Fazlic.

Sarajevo

Recently, the BiH Federation Government made a decision not to decrease price of fuel in this year. Private owners in the BiH Federation were disatisfied with the Government's decision. One of them is Becir Cengic, one of the biggest private owners in BiH. He said that those who want to have legal business and to pay all taxes to the state found themselves in an impossible situation because of the current prices on the market. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Sanjin Beciragic. The BiH Prime Minister, Edhem Bicakcic, will explain the position of the Government regarding the issue in a special show on OBN on Tuesday night.

Ilidza (Sarajevo)

The Slovenian Government is trying to support the development of the BiH agriculture. Slovenia provided 1,5 million DEM for the construction of the Agriculture Institute in Ilidza near Sarajevo. The Government also provided funds for 12 farms which will start working next year. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic.

Conference in Seattle

A delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina attended the ministerial conference of the World Trade Organisation held in Seattle, USA. The delegation had a status of an observer. The aim of the delegation was to provide status of a full member to BiH throgh bilateral meetings, OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic, confirmed.

World

Russian offensive in Chechenia continued. This was followed by a report on the results of the elections in Macedonia where Boris Trajkovski won the presidential race. During the last seven days, 22 people were killed in Kosovo which is seven times more than two weeks before. The health state of the Croatian President, Franjo Tudjan, did not change. The report on current events in the world was produced by OBN reporter, Gordana Frimel.

Banja Luka

Independent Social-democratic and Social-liberal party united in Banja Luka today. The founder and the first President of the RS Liberal Party, Miodrag Zivanovic, refused to join the new party because he thought this was not a party which could implement civil society ideas.

Bugojno

A report on the reconstruction of houses in the Bugojno area. Currently, the final stage in the reconstruction of 136 hoses in Bugojno, Trvnik, Kiseljaku, Jajcu, Fojnici and Novi Travnik has been implemented. This should provide conditions for the return of 640 returnees to the area. Today, 25 Croat and 7 Serb families received keys of their reconstructed houses in Bugojno. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Vanja Elezovic.

Kozarac

This was followed by a report on the return process in the Kozarac area. Some 700 Bosniaks have returned to the area while 300 houses have been reconstructed. A German

humanitarian organisation reconstructed another 30 houses and handed over keys to their owners. The report was produced by Milorad Milojevic.

Sarajevo

A piece on a new light signalisation was produced by OBN reporter, Slobodan Maksimovic. The funds were provided by the italian Government.

This was followed by a report on the three children with health problems sent to the treatment in Bologne. This was an initiative of Italian members of <u>SFOR</u>. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Sevko Bajic.

Sport

A report on the European Chess Chapionship, NBA and the European football matches followed.