OBN News Review, 7 November 1999

Headlines

- Why the process of return in Podrinje did not have any results?
- Whether the reduction of <u>SFOR</u> troops would be stopped until the end of elections scheduled for next year, due to security?
- Company "Maglic" from Foca (Srbinje) every day becomes more successful
- Topic of TV INFO: Racket one type of organised crime
- Explosion occurred in Tel Aviv just before the negotiations between Israel and Palestine on the final status of occupied territories

Podrinje

Four years after signing of the Dayton Peace Agreement, aproximately one million of BiH citizens still have not returned to their pre-war homes. The most difficult situation regarding the process of return is in the Podrinje region (around the river Drina). Inhabitants of the area claim that both, the BiH Federation and the RS authorities, have been preventing them from returning to their homes. Some positive moves have been happening only during election campaigns. Demining of the region and reconstruction of infrastructure, two main preconditions for return, have not even been started yet. The report on this was produced by OBN reporter, Anes Alic.

Suceska (Srebrenica Minicipality)

Before the war, approximately 3,700 people lived in Suceska in the Srebrenica Municipality. Some 300 pre-war inhabitants visited their houses yesterday, OBN reporter from the area, Alma Hadziefendic, confirmed. Approximately 70 inhabitants submitted their claims for reconstruction of their pre-war houses to international organisations. The returnees said that the local authorities in the Tuzla Canton were against their decision to return to their homes.

Banja Luka

Board of refugees and displaced persons "Ostanak" from Banja Luka, has asked for an extraordinary session of the Town Assembly in order to a achieve permanent solution for the status of refugees in the town, OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Nedeljka Breberina, confirmed. The Board has been gathering signatures of citizens on the streets of Banja Luka.

Sarajevo

The Spokesman of <u>SFOR</u> in BiH said that restructuring of <u>SFOR</u> in BiH was progressing as planned. The restructuing will be made in the preriod between November this year and April next year. He added that people should not believe some texts from the press about stopping of <u>SFOR</u> troops' reduction until the end of elections scheduled for next year, due to security reasons. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Vedran Persic.

Foca (Srbinje)

A report on the biggest wood factory in the RS. The company "Maglic" from Foca (Srbinje) is the best example of a company which succeeded in overcoming problems and developing production. The General Director of the Company, Zdravko Begovic, said that they started with an aggressive break through to the market, including the market of the BiH Federation. The report on this was produced by OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic.

Brcko

One million eighty thousand KM were approved by the Eeuropean

Union's PHARE Program for the reconstruction of agricultural equipment in the Brko Municipality, OBN reporter from Brcko, Slobodanka Radojkovic, confirmed.

Sarajevo

A piece on the production and import of milk in BiH and problems the producers are faced with. Producers in BiH ask from the BiH Federation Government to pay them 12 phenning of bonus per liter while the government offers five. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Adis Saranovic.

Racket

Police unwillingly talk about blackmailing of mainly private businessmen. Individuals offer "protection" to companies or devastation of their premises. Exclusively for OBN, a blackmailed businessman, explained how a person, well-known to police, asked 20,000 DEM. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic.

Tesanj

The residential quarter, Tesanjka, has been divided between Tesanj and Usora municipalities. Although many of the things have been devided, market places are visited by Bosniaks and Croats. Ordinary citizens do not mind about politics and do not understand why two market places exist. They visit both of them. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the area, Muhamed Cabric.

World

Twenty nine individuals were wounded in a bomb explosion which occurred near Tel Aviv, a day before the negotiations between Israel and Palestine on the final status of occupied territories. This was followed by reports on fights in Sri Lanka and the Pope's visit to India. The report was produced by OBN journalist, Mladen Maric.

Sarajevo

A report on the visit of Jane Birkin, to Sarajevo. The reason for her visit was 120 year anniversary of the First Grammar School in Sarajevo. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Slobodan Maksimovic.

Sport

A report on the death of the President of the International Athletic Federation, Primo Nebiolo, was followed by reports on the local football matches, end of the World Championship in rugby and NBA.