

# OBN News Review, 8 February 2000

## Headlines

- New Croatian President, Stipe Mesic, said: "Bosnia and Herzegovina is a neighbouring, sovereign country and should no longer be afraid of unpleasant surprises from Croatia"
- A murdered Yugoslav Defence Minister, Pavle Bulatovic, was under the investigation of the Hague Tribunal because of the crimes allegedly committed in Kosovo
- The Managing Board of the Council for the Implementation of Peace in BiH held its session in Brussels – the High Representative in BiH, [Wolfgang Petritsch](#), informed the Council on the situation in the country
- The Government of the Prime Minister Dodik will continue to perform its duties until new elections – this was decided by the RS Assembly today
- A hijacked plane from Afghanistan is still in London
- The fourteenth Olympic Winter Games in Sarajevo had been held on the same day, 16 years ago

## Zagreb

The new President of the Republic of Croatia is Stipe Mesic. After the first results were announced, the new Croatian President said that Croatian citizens waits opening towards Europe, further democratisation and especially improvement of life standard. The report from Zagreb for TV INFO was produced by Gordana Simeonovic.

## Mostar

At today's press conference of HDZ party in BiH, the General Secretary of the party, Marko Tokic, said he did not expect changes in the Croatian state policy towards Croats in BiH,

OBN reporter from the town, Mirsad Behram, confirmed. As far as some announcement on the decrease of financing the Croatian component of the BiH Federation Army are concerned, Marko Tokic said that he did not believe that Croatia would stop the financing completely.

## **Portrait of Stipe Mesic**

At the beginning, Stipe Mesic was a close associate of Franjo Tudjman, In time, he turned to his great political critic. Also he was the last President of ex-Yugoslavia. He has never agreed with Tudjman's concept of BiH division. The piece was produced by OBN journalist, Mladen Maric.

## **Live Phone Conversation with Stipe Mesic**

OBN presenters, Danijela Bozic and Stipe Mesic, talked to the new Croatian President. Stipe Mesic said that his first step as a new President would be to initiate implementation of Croatian interest and to go for the membership in the European Union and [NATO](#) Pact. He said that he would be very glad to visit Bosnia and Herzegovina as soon as he receives an official invitation.

## **Belgrade**

Last night, the Yugoslav Defence Minister, Pavle Bulatovic, was murdered last night in Belgrade in a restaurant of the Football Club "Rad". The Yugoslav Government said that the murder was as a "terrorist act". The report from Belgrade was produced by OBN reporter from the town, Danica Ilic.

## **Podgorica**

This was followed by a reaction from Montenegro on the murder of the Yugoslav Defence Minister, Pavle Bulatovic. The President of Montenegro, Milo Djukanovic, said that he was sorry that happened, despite misunderstandings they had with Pavle Bulatovic and his party, OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic,

confirmed from Podgorica.

## **The Hague**

This was followed by a piece on the reaction of the Hague Tribunal on the murder of the Yugoslav Defence Minister. It was announced that he was under the investigation of the Hague Tribunal because of the crimes allegedly committed in Kosovo in 1998 and 1999. This was confirmed by the Hague Tribunal Deputy Main Prosecutor. The report was produced by OBN journalist, Gordana Frimel.

## **Brussels**

Managing Board of the Council for the Implementation of Peace in BiH held its session in Brussels. The High Representative in BiH, [Wolfgang Petritsch](#), informed the Council on the situation in the country. The High Representative, in a phone conversation from Brussels, said to TV INFO that the meeting was very productive and that they met with the representatives of the International financial institutions. Some of the main issues addressed were the process of privatisation and development of private sector.

## **Sarajevo**

The ex High Representative, Carlos Westendorp, visited Bosnia and Herzegovina six months after his mandate expired. Carlos Westendorp attended the regular session of the BiH Council of Ministers as a Chairman of the European Parliament for Industry, Trade, Researches and Energy. Although he said he supported the work of the Council of Ministers, he noticed that there were no bigger changes in the comparison with the period when he was the High Representative in BiH. The piece was produced by OBN reporter, Vedran Persic.

## **Interview with the Turkish President**

OBN reporter, Sanjin Beciragic, who recently visited Turkey,

produced an interview with the Turkish President, Sulejman Demirel. The Turkish President was convinced that BiH could become a member of the [EU](#) only as a member of the Stability Pact for the South East Europe. A 30 minute interview with the President was broadcast after TV INFO.

## **Banja Luka**

The RS Assembly held its session in Banja Luka today. The Government of the Prime Minister Dodik will continue to perform its duties until new elections. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Dragan Stanimirovic.

The new Vice President of the RS Government is the ex Minister of Education, Nenad Suzic. He was appointed by the Prime Minister Dodik today, Sanela Zivkovic, confirmed.

## **World**

A hijacked plane from Afghanistan is still in London. Concrete demands of the kidnappers have not been announced yet. Last night, 18 civilians were wounded during an attack of Israeli planes on power plants in Beirut. Russian troops continue their search for the rest of Chechen soldiers in Grozny. The report on these and other current events in the world was produced by OBN journalist, Gordana Frimel.

## **Sarajevo**

A report on the visit of religious communities heads from Kosovo to BiH was produced by OBN reporter, Anes Alic.

Nine police officer and two administration officers of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Sarajevo Canton returned keys of apartments they were using illegally. The piece was produced by OBN reporter, Mirna Sadikovic.

This was followed by a piece on the promotion of "Iz pozadine" by Sead Fetahagic held in Sarajevo today.

## **Sport**

Reports on Olympic Winter Games in Sarajevo and NBA were presented.