

Foreign Press Office - Mostar

MEDIA REPORTS

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Bosniaks control finances, Croats in court

Tax Administration in Herzegovina-Neretva Canton ethnically exclusive

Vecernji list

By Zoran Kresic

July 13, 2005

Financial and taxation oversight in the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton is completely in the hands of Bosniak officials, who use their superior position to hold certain cantonal and city institutions hostage. At the same time, coincidence or not, most of the companies in court because of alleged tax evasion are those owned by Croats.

Currently more than 75 percent of the cases pending in court deal with Croat owners charged with tax evasion.

Considering all personnel employed in the cantonal administration, from the inspection to the investigation office, the picture clearly illustrates that Bosniaks completely dominate this sector in the Canton and city, where Croats contribute almost 70 percent of the budget, yet funds are earmarked almost equally to both sides.
(Excerpt)

ICTY: Prosecution demands 20 years for Hadzihasanovic and 10 for Kubura

FENA

July 13, 2005

THE HAGUE – The Hague Tribunal Prosecution proposed a sentence of 20 years imprisonment for General Enver Hadzihasanovic and 10 years for Brigadier Amir Kubura.

As former BiH Army commanders they are charged based on command responsibility with failing to prevent crimes against Croat and Serb civilians in Central Bosnia in 1992 and 1993 and failing to punish the perpetrators that were under their command.

In his closing statement Prosecutor Darryl Mundis said that their failure to prevent and punish crimes resulted in more than 30 murders, abused of prisoners and the destruction of Croat and Serb houses.

“The fact that the 3 Corps of the BiH Army fought a defensive war and that it operated in a difficult situation should not have affected the readiness of the commander to conduct investigations and punish crimes”, the Prosecutor said and added that a number of crimes remained uninvestigated and unpunished, highlighting killings of Croat civilians in Dusina, Miletici, Maline and grave abuses in Kakanj, Bugojno and Zenica.

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The Prosecutor also said that the 3rd Corps regularly used “foreign fighters” in operations in the field, which is evident from documents of the BiH Army and statements of witnesses.

He cited the interview the mujahadeen leader, Abu Abdel Aziz, gave to one British journalist in which he said that he is fighting under the command of the Bosnian army.

According to agencies the defence remains to present its arguments by the end of this or early next week and the Trial Chamber should hand down verdicts in the fall.